



The Messenger

Beaver Memorial United Methodist Church
42 South Third Street, Lewisburg, PA 17837
www.beavermethodist.org / 570-524-0809

"To welcome, to nurture, to serve, to love in the name of Christ."

Monthly Newsletter Volume 2 February 2012

Inside February Issue

Footnote Notes: Preparing for Ash Wednesday	2
Birthdays, Wedding Anniversaries	3
Property Report & Social Concerns Matters	4
Beaver Memorial Teams in Action	5
Celebrating 200 Years of Methodism	7-9
Beaver Memorial News, Mailbox	10
Assisting with January Worship; Dec. Attendance, Nov. Financials	11
Health & Wellness	12
Tidings from Pastor Tim	13

February Sermon Series

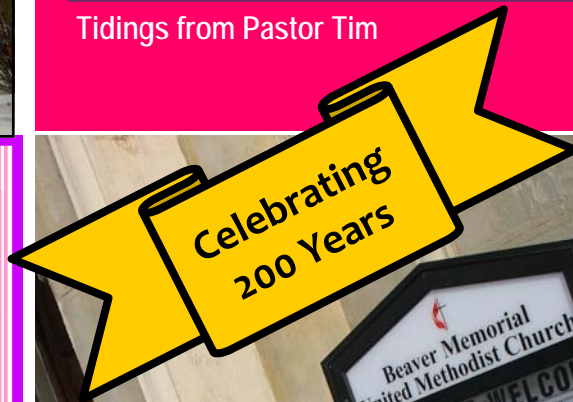
February 5: Testify!
Mark 1: 29-39

February 12: Shhhhhhhhh!
Mark 1: 40-45

February 19: *Great Expectations*
Mark 9: 2-9

February 22 (Ash Wednesday):
Service of Imposition of Ashes;
7 p.m.

Feb. 26: *Father, Forgive Them*
Matthew 9: 2, 6



Foote Notes: Preparing for Ash Wednesday February 22

Dear Church Family:

I am looking at the February calendar of events and cannot believe that we are in the second month of the New Year AND that I am planning for the Ash Wednesday service, the beginning of Lent which leads to EASTER!!!! Why, didn't we just take down the Christmas decorations?

Thinking about Ash Wednesday, the children's little ditty, "Ring Around the Rosie," came to mind—the part about *ashes, ashes, we all fall down*. Some say that this most familiar song came from a poem associated with the Great (Bubonic) Plague of London in 1665. The symbolism is lost on us if we do not know the references made. It is said that "ring around the ro-sie" is referring to the actual bright rose-colored rash encircled by a red ring that people would see on those with the plague. "Pocket full of posies" is either the posies or herbs that were carried for medicinal protection from the illness, or the flowers that one carried to place on the many dead bodies left on the streets. And, lastly, "ashes, ashes, we all fall down," of course, was a commentary as to the result of the plague with so many deaths that ended in burning the bodies for the protection of the living. If one believes this interpretation of the song, it appears to be a bit gruesome. . .but we do not usually base the singing of it on this particular meaning.

Having said all of that, I still come back to "ashes, ashes, we all fall down" because it calls to mind that on February 22, we will be using ashes to symbolize death. We will be placing ashes on our foreheads reminding us of our mortality—that we will die, as Jesus certainly did, but, thank God, Jesus was resurrected, and so shall we be. The message we get from the ritual with ashes is two fold: earthly death is inevitable. . . we only have a short time in this world to be in right relationship with each other and God; but eternal life—life beyond the ashes--is ours also, continued relationship with our God, and that's the Good News.

We will fall in life, many times, and be resurrected, made new, be recreated, start again with God's help, AND we will fall at the end of this life on earth, and again be made new, resurrected, recreated, start again by God's grace. So, the Christian's song is joyous and hope-filled. And the Christian's song does not begin and end on Ash Wednesday--but continues to be sung through Easter and all the other Sundays (little Easters) of the year, because that is when we celebrate and recognize our New Life in Christ!



Senior Pastor
 Rebecca Foote



February Birthdays

1 Cody McKibben	6 Jordan Dustin
7 Rev. Emerson Abram	9 Erin Purcell
10 Chloe Albright	11 Lois Purcell
12 Betty Bowen, Phyllis Close Lois Remer	14 Jeremiah Todd
15 Ruth Welliver, Tom Nickles	16 Betty Marlow
19 Fred Greenawalt, Emma Hopkinson	20 Hood Johnston
23 Ashley Terrell	26 Edna Schott
27 Clayone Tweed	28 Priscilla Lanks, Margie Sturm Ruth Abram

February Wedding Anniversaries

February 23	Kevin and Bobbi Sue Dustin
February 26	Richard and Amy Armstrong

Congregational Birthdays & Anniversaries

If your birthday or anniversary was somehow overlooked, please call Marcia and let us know at 524-0809 or email at bmumc@dejazzd.com.



Happy 90th Birthday
Arlene Zeiber



*with daughter Ginny by her side

Happy 5th Birthday
Troy Tyson



Happy 101st Birthday
Dorothy Carter



Beaver Memorial United Methodist Church Retreat 2012



Leaders of every team serving BMUMC in 2012 joined together for the Annual Retreat held at Christ Lutheran Church in Lewisburg on Saturday, Jan. 19. After reviewing the initiatives of the United Methodist Church, members committed to four goals in 2012, including: developing leaders; new places for worship/programs; the poor; and global health.

BMUMC's own Amy and Richard Armstrong (2nd and 3rd Row L) join the Lycoming Choir as they sing the benediction for the Bicentennial Celebration Concert on January 29th. Amy and Richard are 1992 Graduates of Lycoming College and former LCC members.



Lycoming College Choir sings during the churches first Bicentennial Celebration on Sunday, January 29, 2012.

Team Work at Beaver Memorial

Property Team

Property Committee lays out plan for 2012 and beyond

**Article Contact: Chuck Root/Chip Palazzo
Property Team Co-Chairs**

The Property Team met on Wednesday, January 18, 2012. Recently completed and ongoing projects were reviewed. The main part of the meeting involved creation of a long list of projects, great and small, that are worthy of our consideration.

“Over the next month, we will try not only to categorize each project related to its urgency, we will also respond to the Trustee’s request to develop a comprehensive list of the most capital intensive projects as they and the Finance Team determine the necessity for a Capital Campaign to support Beaver’s ongoing ministry,” said Property Team Co-Chair Chuck Root. “The resulting, prioritized list will be reviewed at our next meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, February 15 at 7 p.m.”

The team will determine how to proceed with the list, and will share it with the Congregation. The Property Team is most grateful for the volunteer help that has come from the congregation in the past year, particularly in the completion of the renovation of the Parsonage.

If you would like to participate in any way, please contact Chip Palazzo or Chuck Root, co-chairs of the Property Team.

Social Concerns Team

Who Owns the Earth?

**Article Contact: Walt Everett
Stewardship Chair**

We typically think of humankind as being given “dominion” over all of creation. (See Genesis 1:26). The problem comes when we misinterpret the word “dominion”.

We hear all kinds of suggestions, from responsible stewardship to the thought that “we own the earth and can do whatever we want with it.” Thus we see the irresponsible use of earth’s resources with little regard for future generations, or, for that matter, other people today who are adversely affected by our careless use of that God has given us to “tend and care for.”

Theodore Heibert, a professor of Hebrew Scriptures, adds a further dimension when he points out that the Genesis 2 account of creation depicts humans not as stewards of all that is, but as *an integral part of and servants of nature*. Humans are not the crowning achievement of Creation; rather, they are formed out of the fertile earth, just like other forms of life. (See Genesis 2:4-9). This vision emphasizes human interrelatedness with nature and the need to serve it, rather than using nature to serve human needs.

[Adapted from an article in *The Christian Century*, Jan. 11, 2012]

Members of Beaver Memorial’s Property Team 2012

**Co-Chair Chuck Root
Co-Chair Chip Palazzo
Judy Albright
Lori Bartholomew
Rev. Rebecca Foote**

**Kevin Gilmore
Steve Leauber
Kerry Shirk
Andy Voter
Dave Wagner**

Members of Beaver Memorial’s Social Concerns Team 2012

**Chair Karen Nicholson
Erin Brown
Cliff Brown
Nancy Everett
Walt Everett
Fred Greenawalt**

**Kerry Shirk
Linda Swan
Sophia Peterson
Betsy Pullen
Margie Torres
Kameryn Westling**

Team Work at Beaver Memorial

Mission Outreach

Summer Mission Trip: Ready?

*Article Contact: Susan Jordan
Mission Outreach Chair*

The Mission/Outreach Team has again planned a trip for those interested in working outside of our own community in service to others. July 8-14, 2012, representatives from BMUMC will spend time helping and getting to know the community comprised of PeeDee and Lumbee Indians in Pembroke, North Carolina.

These Native Americans, who migrated in the 1700's from South Carolina and live along the Lumber River, are not on a reservation, but populate a community that has made strides in their work for civil rights and education. However, many in the area are poor. According to a Children's Defense Fund analysis, about 1/3 of North Carolina's American Indian children live in poverty, and the tribe's efforts to secure services that other recognized tribes receive have not been successful.

Accommodations for that week will be sleeping bags on the floor of the Pembroke UMC, and meals will be a part of our group's task. So, if you have the desire to work hard, meet new challenges, and enlarge your understanding of a people and culture in another place, please stay after the 10:30 a.m., worship service on Sun., Feb. 19, for information about the trip and to let us know your interest.

Beaver Memorial's Mission Outreach Team 2012

Chair Susan Jordan
Judy Albright
Jane Amacher
Rev. Rebecca Foote
Pastor Tim Hogan
Retta Lincicome
Ralph Hibbs
Anna Jordan

Jane Jordan
Eustacia Muir
Chuck Root
Joanne Semanick
Jessie Starr
Barb Wagner
Carolyn Wuerdeman

Thank you, BMUMC!

Thank you to our BMUMC family. This past week, Rev. Rebecca and Pastor Tim prepared reports for the Annual Conference on statistics of Beaver Memorial United Methodist Church for the year ending December 31, 2011. It became clear that you, each of the members, friends and family of BMUMC (as well as the saints that have gone before us), have done some amazing things and allowed this community to do some amazing things this past year.

In 2011:

- 146 people in Christian formation (education) groups
 - \$2,013 was sent by the UMW for Missions locally, nationally, and internationally;
 - 106 persons were served through daycare and community education programs;
 - 24 events were held for outreach, justice and mercy;
 - 5 Baptisms performed;
 - 41 New Members received;
 - 162 average attendance (an increase of 62);
 - 141% increase attendance in Christian Ed Programs;
 - 21 1st time volunteers in mission on week-long mission;
 - Over 1,000 people served by community ministries for outreach, justice and mercy!
- You have done much and there is much work ahead to do!**



Beaver Memorial's Health & Wellness Team 2012

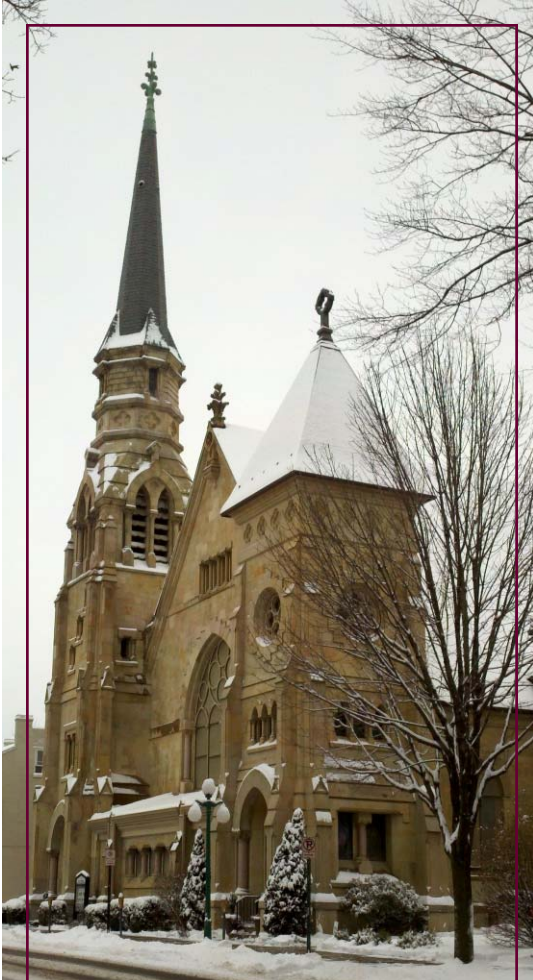
Co Chair Barb Wagner
And Niki Hockenbrock
Barb Dramozos
Jane Yorks

Nick Klose
Doris Pottios
Sandy George
Steve Steinhubl

2012: Celebrating 200 Years of Methodism in Lewisburg

Rev. Rebecca Foote
Senior Pastor

On May 25, 1812, the Methodist Episcopal Church in Lewisburg was first organized in the home of John Gordon. The Rev. John Hazard and James S. Lent were in charge of what was then the Lycoming Circuit, Susquehanna District, Genesee Conference. In that year, there were 480 members in the Circuit without a single church building. Lewisburg contained about 50 families. The town was well supplied with hotels and taverns; had one distillery and one brewery. There were two school houses, but no church buildings.



Beaver Memorial United Methodist Church as it stands today, in a coat of wintry white. Methodism celebrates 200 years in Lewisburg in 2012.

By 1814, preaching services were held in a large stone building on the corner of 4th and St. John's Streets. The building had been a hotel, and its ballroom was used for the services.

In 1818, James Kelly, a trustee of the Methodist group, bought a lot on the northeast corner of Front Street and St. Louis Street. In the deed, the title was traced back through the original warrantees and patentees to the Penn family, through them to the Six Nations and on back to Adam and Eve and Almighty God! Also in this year the first Methodist Church was built on the lot. It was a one-story, wood frame building, measuring 30 by 40 feet. The Rev. Marmaduke Pierce dedicated the church which for a long time was the only church in Lewisburg.

On January 6, 1833, a new meeting house on Third Street was dedicated where Beaver Memorial United Methodist now stands. The total cost of the larger, 60 by 40 feet, structure amounted to \$1535.78. The census showed the population of Lewisburg during this time was 1,220.

In 1853, a building committee was elected to supervise the construction of the New Brick Meeting House on the site of the existing church. Its size was 75 by 50 feet, and contained a vestibule and basement. This third structure was dedicated on July 2, 1854, by the Rev. Thomas Sargent. Membership in the church had increased to 230 and the offering at the dedication was \$4,160.

During the Civil War the Church lost many members because of the outspoken manner in which the ministers discoursed on political subjects. But after the war, the church was repaired, frescoed, painted, carpeted. And the membership was on the rise.

Now in 1888, Thomas Beaver was a merchant in Millerstown, Pa. He later became associated with a wholesale firm in Philadelphia, and

eventually moved to Danville. He became quite wealthy and philanthropic and made large donations to different institutions outside his own Presbyterian denomination. Stories are told of Thomas Beaver passing the brick Methodist Church on Third Street one day when he noticed some of the women going into the church.

Probably in the course of subsequent conversation it was stated that the women had gathered to do some fancy work to help raise funds for a new church, or perhaps for repairs to the existing church. Here, Thomas Beaver saw an opportunity to erect a fitting memorial to his father, a devoted Methodist minister, and shortly after, the trustees accepted his offer to provide funds for a new memorial church. **The corner stone was laid on August 20, 1888, and the Beaver Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church was dedicated on May 14, 1890.**

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(Continued on page 8)

Celebrating 200 Years *(Continued from page 7)*

The bell that was placed in the steeple weighs 3,052 pounds, is 53 inches in diameter and about the same height. Its inscription reads:

***I SUMMON ALL PEOPLE TO COME AND
HEAR MY FATHER'S GLAD TIDINGS OF MERCY.
HE BEING DEAD YET SPEAKETH,
THOMAS BEAVER, A.D. 1891***

Lewisburg grew and so did the membership of the church. Later additions were made to enlarge the building for the continued mission and ministry that was established.

Lewisburg grew and so did the membership of the church. Later additions were made to enlarge the building for the continued mission and ministry that was established.

Today, Beaver Memorial UMC continues a tradition of inclusivity—***Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors***. All are welcome to worship in our building that is unique and has a rich heritage. The reason, though, that we are here in Lewisburg, is not the building. **It is a calling To Welcome, To Nurture, To Serve and To Love in the name of Christ.** And it is to that end that we call ourselves a community of faith, a family of God, a church, and celebrate Methodism's 200th anniversary in our town of Lewisburg.



Welcoming nearly 300 Lewisburg residents, Beaver Memorial members, friends and guests, a full service led by Rev. Rebecca Foote and Associate Pastor Timothy Hogan included traditional holiday music from the Beaver Brass, the Beaver Chancel Choir, and the Jordan Family, who sang the French carol, "In the Bleak Midwinter." Above, Beaver Memorial in full candlelight glow during the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

Celebrating 200 Years of Methodism in Lewisburg:

Beaver Memorial plans year filled with music, memories



In February, our year-long celebration of the beginning of Methodism in the community of Lewisburg 200 years ago - which eventually came to be known as Beaver Memorial United Methodist Church - continues!

“Our goal is not only to celebrate but to educate us all in our church heritage,” said **Beaver Memorial’s Senior Pastor Reverend Rebecca Foote**. “It’s important for us to remember our reason to be the church that we are.”

Listed below you’ll find events we are planned to highlight this historical occasion. And with every newsletter, in 50 year increments, our history will be chronicled. Invite family and friends throughout this year to be a part of the concerts, reenactments, special services and the fellowship:

Sunday, April 29, 2012, 10:30 a.m. - *True Heart* - Southern Gospel Quartet Concert



Sunday, May 13, 2012, 10:30 a.m. - Peter Beaver will bless us with his presence and speak the Good Word!



Sunday, May 20, 2012, 10:30 a.m. - Bishop Jane Allen Middleton will preach and previous pastors will return.

Thursday, September 27, 7:00 p.m. - Concert by Susquehanna Conference Choir, Chi Rho Singers, led by John Dromazos.

Stay tuned for further information about Beaver Memorial’s 200th Birthday Celebration as we move through the year!

Beaver Memorial News

Rejoicing Spirits: Worship Services for Folks with Disabilities

The ecumenical worship service created for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities will be held at St. Paul's UMC on Thursday, Feb. 9, 6:30-7:45 p.m.

Join us there!

Beaver Memorial Alter Flowers: Surprise someone in February!

Consider sponsoring flowers or a live plant to grace the Beaver Memorial sanctuary in honor of a loved one's birthday or in memory of one who has passed.

The flower arrangement or plant you sponsor may be picked-up after the 10:30 am service - or donated to a shut-in or someone special in your life. Call the Church Office for details!

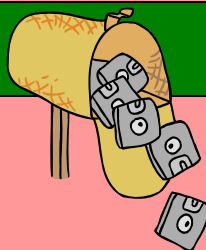


Soup and Scripture Series: Begins Ash Wednesday

Article Contact: *Retta Lincicome*

The Soup and Scripture series will begin February 22. The service is at noon at Christ Lutheran Church every Wednesday through Lent. The last one is on April 4. Beaver will serve lunch on March 7. We will be responsible for dessert.

From the Mailbox



Friends of Beaver Memorial:

A huge thank you to all who participated in our special program of gifts for boys and girls at Christmas.

Twenty people purchased gifts which were then distributed through Union

County Children and Youth Services.

I apologize for the lateness of this thank you. It was scheduled to be published in the January issue, but the "print gremlins" got into the mix.

Walt Everett,

Outgoing Social Concerns Team Chair

UMW head to Costa Rica: Come along on Chair Tour

The United Methodist Women invite you to participate in a "Chair Tour" of Costa Rica with Lois Huffines and David Vernon as our tour guides. In addition to the beautiful countryside, we will see exotic birds, flowers and animals native to this part of the world.

The luncheon and tour will take place on Monday, February 27, 2012, at RidgeCrest, Creative Arts Room. We will begin gathering at 11:30 a.m. with our meal at noon.

Reservations, including your payment of \$13.95 per person for lunch (tax and tip included) must be received by February 20th. The luncheon menu includes Beef Stroganoff over noodles, cole slaw, lemon cream cake and beverage.



Please mail your check to Loella Bishop (260 Applewood Drive, Apt. #3, Lewisburg, PA 17837. (570-523-1365).

Everyone is welcome.

Assisting with February Worship

Feb. 5	Lector:
	Greeters/Ushers: Fred Greenawalt, Loella Bishop, Fran Halvorsen, Carrie Rampp, Heidi Scheurger, Betsy Pullen, Lori Bartholomew, Cliff and Erin Brown
	Nursery: Emily Haussmann; Preschool: Pam Garrett; Youth: Alyssa Brown; Acolyte: Rebecca Brown

Feb. 12	Lector:
	Greeters/Ushers: Fred Greenawalt, Loella Bishop, Fran Halvorsen, Carrie Rampp, Heidi Scheurger, Betsy Pullen, Lori Bartholomew, Cliff and Erin Brown
	Nursery: Rachel Smith; Preschool: Retta Lincicome; Youth: Bryana Lopes; Acolyte: Xavier Lopes

Feb. 19	Lector:
	Greeters/Ushers: Fred Greenawalt, Loella Bishop, Fran Halvorsen, Carrie Rampp, Heidi Scheurger, Betsy Pullen, Lori Bartholomew, Cliff and Erin Brown
	Nursery: Lisa Tranquillo; Preschool: Bridget Black; Youth: Quinn Black; Acolyte: Tucker Black

Feb. 22 (Ash Wednesday)	Greeters/Ushers: Fred Greenawalt, Loella Bishop, Fran Halvorsen, Carrie Rampp, Heidi Scheurger, Betsy Pullen, Lori Bartholomew, Cliff and Erin Brown
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Feb. 26	Lector:
	Greeters/Ushers: Fred Greenawalt, Loella Bishop, Fran Halvorsen, Carrie Rampp, Heidi Scheurger, Betsy Pullen, Lori Bartholomew, Cliff and Erin Brown
	Nursery: Eustacia Muir; Preschool: Heidi Gilmore ; Youth: Sophia Peterson; Acolyte: Bryana Lopes

February 2012 Counters & Recorders

Date	Recorder	Counter	Counter
Feb. 5	C. Root	A. Zuch	K. McKibben
Feb. 12	A. Armstrong	B. Wagner	B. Adams
Feb. 19	C. Root	J. Albright	C. Schworer
Feb. 26	C. Schworer	L. Roberson	K. McKibben



December 2011 Financials

Below is the most current report from the Trustees.
(Parentheses indicate a negative balance.)

	ORGAN FUND	BOILER FUND
Beginning Balance	\$29,836	(\$59,294)
Income	\$0	\$2,344
Expense	\$0	\$0
Ending Balance	\$29,836	(\$56,950)

Unified Budget Summary: December 2011 (as of 12/31/11)

Income	Current Month	Year to Date	YTD Budget	Over YTD
Total Income	\$20,709	\$227,435	\$200,329	\$27,106
Expenses	Current Month	Year to Date	YTD Budget	Over (Under)
Total Expenses	\$19,410	\$210,622	\$200,329	\$9,978

Giving and Attendance for January 2012

Jan. 1 Attendance=	104	Offering \$6,847.50
Jan. 8 Attendance=	167	Offering \$4,643.60
Jan. 15 Attendance=	168	Offering \$5,188.50
Jan. 22 Attendance=	163	Offering \$3,535.40
Jan. 29 Attendance =	215	Offering \$3,871.00

Flowers for February

Date	Flowers given by
Feb. 5	George and Ann Wright
Feb. 12	Phyllis Close; Jane and Emad Wahba
Feb. 19	Walt and Nancy Everett
Feb. 26	Barbara and Roger Allison

Beaver Memorial Contact List

Church Phone: 570-524-0809

Sr. Pastor Rev. Rebecca Foote . . . [.Rfoote@susumc.org](mailto:Rfoote@susumc.org)
 Assoc. Pastor Timothy Hogan . . . JPastortim@beavermethodist.org
 Church Administrator Marcia Thomas . . . Office@beavermethodist.org
 Youth Director Addie Lopes . . . Youth@beavermethodist.org
 Busy Beaver Director Addie Lopes. . . Busybeaver@beavermethodist.org
 Kinderfolk Dir. Andrea Diebler-Gorman...Kinderfolk@beavermethodist.org
 Choir Director Matthew Poremsky. . . Choir@beavermethodist.org

Walk By Faith starts Feb. 5

It's here! Beginning Sunday, Feb. 5, Beaver Memorial's partnership with the five University study, "Walk By Faith," will begin. The kick off will be marked with a healthy food potluck, information session, as well as sign-up and privately conducted measurements for the program.

"Walk By Faith" program will include free giveaways and area discounts, private, computerized tracking of individuals' progress in the program, as well as access to a special website designed to offer support, recipes, local retail offers and information about how to meet and obtain your healthy lifestyle changes.

Penn State University, The Ohio State University, The University of Kentucky, West Virginia University and Virginia Tech have collaborated to do a multi-year study on the connection between faith and improved health and fitness as well as cancer research.

BMUMC has been chosen as one of two churches (each program has two churches per state) in the study.

"The program "Walk By Faith" offers us as a community a way to improve our physical health and diet as well as providing the church with a printer, paper, and all supplies needed to run the program," **said Beaver Memorial United Methodist Church Associate Pastor Timothy Hogan.** "Please consider joining this effort as our goal is to have 60 persons participate in the program for the coming year."

Included will be monthly informational/educational sessions led by several area medical professionals as well as others from the area. It's an amazing opportunity for us as a community, which also speaks to our mission as we work toward better health globally for all.

Let's do this together for a great cause: for our own health and for the health of others.

Miss Mae Haussmann donates her hair to "Locks of Love"

Hi Pastor Tim,

It was so sweet of you to ask about Mae. And so, here is the story of her hair.

For well over a year, Mae didn't want to cut her hair because she wanted to be like Rapunzel (from the recent Disney movie called Tangled) and have really long hair.

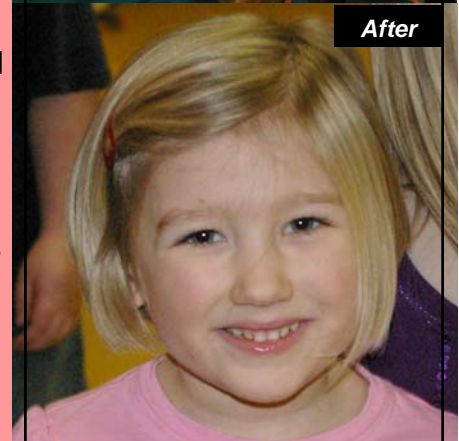
If she would be unhappy about the tangles, we'd say she could get it cut, but she was adamant about being like Rapunzel.

Recently, we noticed her hair was getting almost too long so we started telling her how Rapunzel's hair gets cut in the end of the movie to help her sick friend, Eugene.

We then showed her the "Locks of Love" website and told her about other kids who didn't have hair, mostly because they were sick.

This really moved her. So, one morning, she said she was tired of the tangles and wanted to give her hair to other kids who didn't have hair. I asked her what made her decide to cut it and she said, "Too many tangles deserve a haircut."

Now that it is so short, she says she really "likes how much easier it is to clean and it stays out of my face better." Thanks again!



Above, the progression of Mae Haussmann's hair-cutting and donating experience, as documented by Mae's mother, Emily.

**Mark & Emily Haussmann
(Parents of Mae)**

Tidings from Pastor Tim:

An Every Day Life... in Lent?

Dear Church Family:

As our 2012 Church Planning Retreat came to a close on Saturday morning, Jan. 8, Rebecca read from Paul's letter to the Romans, Chapter 12 (as recorded in *The Message*)¹⁻²: So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday life – and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for God. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what God wants from you and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.³ I'm speaking to you out of deep gratitude for all that God has given me, and especially as I have responsibilities in relation to you. Living then, as every one of you does, in pure grace, it's important that you not misinterpret yourselves as people who are bringing this goodness to God. No, God brings it all to you. **The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is and by what God does for us, not by what we are and what we do for God.**

Eckhart Tolle wrote in his book *"A New Earth: Awakening to Your Life's Purpose"* "Man made God in his own image..." So what do you do? What do we do in our everyday life, do we live it in God's image or try to mold God in to our image?

Do we come to church on Sunday for ourselves or out of thanks to God for the life we have been given? To see who we can see or recharge our spiritual batteries? Do you live each day contemplating how God is using us in the moment or do we live thinking we are the ones in control of each moment?

I used to get upset if I was running late and missed a turn or wondered why I drove a certain route when I knew that wasn't the quickest or most direct and suddenly find myself driving a different direction. Have you ever missed a turn, forcing you what seems to be out of your way to get where you are going? I also have to admit, I am not patient with traffic, I would rather be moving at a slower speed through a back way than sitting in traffic. Do you get frustrated sitting in traffic?

Then, and I don't know when exactly this changed, but then I began to think when either I missed a turn, went a different way or got stuck in traffic, maybe God had other plans, maybe I wasn't as fully in control as I thought I was. Maybe by driving a different direction, I avoided an accident or would be in a place where I could be used by God differently than what I had planned. Maybe when I am stuck in traffic, I needed to just spend the time not frustrated but in prayer. Whenever I remember those things, I become calm and thankful. I try to remind myself of who is in control often. Often praying "God rescue me from me."

So, as we head toward Lent, some questions I have are these: Who is really in control, us or God? Do we create God in our image of what we want God to look or act like or do we search for God all around us in images and ways we don't readily think of taking us a different direction or a different way home as Rev. Foote reminded us of over the Christmas Season?

I believe we are to follow Paul's word to the Romans, we need to be placing our everyday life, our eating, sleeping working, living before God. We need to not be fitting in without even thinking about what we are doing? Let us keep Paul's words close this Lenten season: **"The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is and by what God does for us, not by what we are and what we do for God."** See you in church Sunday. Peace,



Associate Pastor
Timothy Hogan

Pastor Tim

Weis Cards at BMUMC

For those of you who shop at Weis Markets, your shopping experience can be made simpler by using gift cards at the check-out counter. In addition, if you buy a Weis Card through Beaver Memorial, the church receives 5 percent of the proceeds.

We sell cards in denominations of \$100, \$50, \$25 and \$10 each Sunday morning after the 8:30 a.m. service and before or after the 10:30 a.m. service. You may also purchase them during the week at the Church Office.

Weis Cards make great gifts to celebrate many special occasions.



Did you remember? Looking for something to take on during Lent? Try one of these ministries.

Choir Meets weekly 7:30 PM Room 204 and would love to have you join them!

Bible Studies continue...

Tuesdays 10:00 AM Word at the Woods
River Woods Private Dining

Room

Tuesdays 6:30 PM Pub Grub and Theology

Purcell's Irish Pub



New Member/Disciple Bible Study: 2 Classes Begin Feb. 12

New Members Class: Want to learn more about Beaver Memorial UMC, the heritage of this congregation, the United Methodist Church, our beliefs, doctrines and work in the world? Come to the new members class beginning February 12th in the Fellowship Hall at 9:15 each Sunday for six weeks. The class will be lead by Rev. Foote and at the end of the class if you choose to join in membership of this community of faith you will have the opportunity to do so. So, whether you are interested in membership or just want to find out more about this congregation, just let the Church Office or one of the pastors know and we would love to have you join the class. PS: Rumor has it that Rev. Foote brings refreshments every week.

DISCIPLE I Bible Study, lead by Rev. Foote and Pastor Hogan begins Sunday, February 12th, 4:30 to 6:00 PM running weekly for 17 weeks, covering the Old Testament. This is a major commitment with daily readings and weekly studies which are designed to cover 80% of the Bible, when both the first and second sessions are completed. A break between the Old and New Testaments will be taken over the summer and in late Summer we will begin the New Testament studies with the second 17 week study.

If you have little knowledge of the Bible and want to have some understanding of the scriptures or if you have been in church all your life and are interested in a comprehensive study of the scriptures, this is the Bible Study for you. Please contact the office by February 6th to register for the course and ensure enough materials are ordered for the class. office@beavermethodist.org or 524-0809.

The Messenger
Beaver Memorial United Methodist Church
42 South Third Street
Lewisburg, PA 17837-1908

PERIODICAL

THE MESSENGER of Beaver Memorial United Methodist Church, USPS No. 591-380 is published monthly. Postmaster: Send change of address to THE MESSENGER of Beaver Memorial United Methodist Church, 42. S. Third St. Lewisburg, PA, 17837-1908. Periodicals postage paid at Lewisburg, PA, 17837-1908.



Messenger - February 2012

February Activities

(all team meetings 7:00 PM unless otherwise noted)

- Feb. 1 Council Meeting Team**
- Feb. 2 Health & Wellness Team**
- Feb. 7 Stewardship Team**
- Feb. 14 Social Concerns Team**
- Feb. 14 Trustees Team**
- Feb. 15 Property Team**
- Feb. 20 Mission Team**
- Feb. 20 Finance Team**
- Feb. 21 Membership & Nurture**
- Feb. 22 Ash Wednesday Worship**
- Feb. 27 UMW Luncheon 11:30 AM @ River Woods.**

The Creed of Beaver Memorial United Methodist Church

We believe the Church is people. We believe our purpose is to love God and one another. We show our love for God through worship and prayer. We study the Bible, striving to interpret and relate its message to ourselves and others. we believe the basis of our faith and work is our commitment to God in Jesus Christ continuing through the Holy Spirit. To express our love for others, we work at sharing ourselves, accepting each other and ourselves. We seek to meet the self-defined spiritual and physical needs of people in our congregation, community and through the world. We seek to grow in our faith and to bring others to share in the experience of the love of God and companionship with fellow Christians.