

Wayside Presbyterian Church Of Erie

1208 Asbury Road
Erie, PA 16505-1304

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Wayside Presbyterian Church

Inside Wayside

VOLUME 47, NO 3

MARCH 2008

FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Our congregation sure stepped up to the plate on the Sunday that Jim passed out during the early service. I was in an airport coming back from my study leave in San Diego at the time so I was out of the picture. In the void of pastoral leadership, there were folks who took care of Jim; a teen called 911 from his pew; others directed the end of the worship hour; others yet lined up leaders for the second service; several families spoke to visitors; and then another team of volunteers made sure that our children had a Sunday School experience that day. Only Confirmation Class was canceled that afternoon.

All the stories I heard reminded me of the juxtaposition of two Chinese symbols floating around a few years ago in CE circles. One character meant "crisis" and the other meant "opportunity." There was an interruption in the normal life at Wayside and individuals were called upon to offer themselves for service in unexpected ways.

What are the chances that something like this could happen? This is not a crisis that pastors could possibly have created to test the health of the congregation they serve. Although, now that it has happened (and Jim is recovering from his bout with the flu) I can not imagine a more wonderful opportunity.

The test to my way of thinking was for everyone present to hear the Spirit. The Spirit, who speaks daily, spoke that day of opportunities to reach out to others, to welcome strangers, to be attentive to children, to provide ministry where there were voids, to tend to the sick, and to pray for one another. For some I imagine the crisis enabled them to confirm that they do hear God and respond quickly and well, while others may have been surprised at how directly God can speak to them. The trick is to hear the Spirit's whisper each day. I have a hunch that those who heard the Spirit that morning are tuned in.

Peace, Keith

This month at Wayside:

- Lenten Inter-Generational,
- Lenten Luncheons every Thursday at St. Paul's Lutheran
- Soup Sunday,
- Talent Auction

Inside this issue:

Music News

Family News

Worship in March

March Calendar

WOW & WaYouth Schedule

Organ Notes

Financial Report
Financial Statement as of
January, 2008:
Receipts:
Expenses:
Month.....
Month.....

If this is your anniversary month, have you returned your pledge card?



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1208 Asbury Rd.
Erie, PA 16505
James Haas, Senior Pastor
Keith Sundberg, Associate Pastor
Conrad Steinhilber, Pastor Emeritus
Dawn Webor, Director of Music/Organist
Ernie Enssle, Sexton
Sally McCulloch, Anne Shenk, Sally DeWitt, & Shirley Diller,
Newsletter Coordinators

WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"MISSION STATEMENT"
Wayside Church is a welcoming, caring community of God's people committed to developing Christian disciples.
We gather for worship, study, fellowship, and prayer. We seek to reach out with Christ's love to our community and the world.

MANY THANKS

The Board of Trustees would like to express its genuine gratitude to several people who have gone out of their way to meet one of the specific needs of the church. Special thanks to:

- Shawn Babcock, who continues to do excellent work as our Church Treasurer and recently agreed to another one-year term
- Kitty Menges and her helpers, who regularly prepare our soup on Deacon sponsored "Soup Sundays" and get it delivered to the Emmaus Soup Kitchen

There are many others who contribute generously of their time and efforts in support of the church; we are grateful to all of them.

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

The West Millcreek Ministerial Association annual Lenten luncheons and worship services continue through March 13. This year they are being held at Christ United Methodist Church, 2615 W. 32nd St., The short service begins at 12:05 p.m. with lunch following, on the Thursdays during Lent. The lunch is \$3. This year's theme is "The Path of Discipleship".



OGHS

For years Wayside has been a generous contributor to the One Great Hour of Sharing. The Offering supports the work of the Presbyterian Hunger Program, the Self-Development of People Program, and the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.



Last year our gifts totaled more than \$6700, with the bulk of that coming through the annual Talent Auction. The Outreach Committee has set an unofficial target of \$7000 for this year with the hope that we can do even more to alleviate suffering and grant hope to more of God's children.

There will be several "minutes-for-mission" during worship services to help raise up the needs. Please give as you are led.

MOTHER CHILD BANQUET

Come celebrate at the Mother-Child Banquet Monday, April 28th. All women of the church are invited to this celebration. Whether you are a mom with sons or daughters, a mom whose family no longer lives in the area, or a woman with a nurturing friend, COME....bring those wonderful someone's and celebrate the unique role of the "many hats" women wear. Save the date...

MUSIC NEWS

We have several weeks until Easter and the Chancel Choir always welcomes new members. Reminder: Sunrise Singers rehearse at 8:00 a.m. the first Sunday of each month.



GULF COAST RELIEF TRIP

Nine members and friends of Wayside headed to Pearlinton, Mississippi on February 24th for a week of Gulf Coast rebuilding. Gary Popson, a member of the initial crew, headed up this trip and did an excellent job of making all the arrangements.

The needs of hurricane victims remain great. It is anticipated that our workers would primarily be doing sheetrock work and other projects to help homeowners put their dwellings back in order. And, thanks to the generous contributions, \$1675 in Lowes gift cards were taken along to make sure that materials needed to do the job would be available.



LUNCH BUNCH IN MARCH

The Lunch Bunch will meet Saturday, March 8th at the Yacht Club, at 12:30 p.m. To make reservations please call Peggy Bules, 836-0096 or Annette Rothschild, 836-0835. Wear your Lunch Bunch T-shirt if you wish.

"STAMP OUT HUNGER"

All ladies are invited and encouraged to come to this fun gathering on Sunday, March 2nd here at the church. Debbie Paterson will be making us appetizers that are quick, easy and delicious. It will start at 6:00 and be done by 7:00. Please bring a can or box food item and \$1.00 that we will donate to the food pantry and enjoy a fun hour of fellowship.

WEST MILLCREEK FOOD PANTRY

Suggested items for March:

Baked Beans, Bar Soap, Tuna, Fruit, Spaghetti Sauce, Cereal, Peanut Butter, Mac & Cheese, Soup, & Toilet Tissue

All non-perishable items are always welcome.

NURSE'S NOTES

IT'S A FACT:

Heart disease will affect one out of three adults during his or her lifetime.

IT'S A FACT:

The leading cause of death in women is heart disease.

IT'S A FACT:

Important factors in developing heart disease are cholesterol and blood pressure.

Most physicians will recommend that cholesterol be checked yearly, including the LDL (bad) level and the HDL (good) level.

Blood pressure should be checked routinely or at least once month by your friendly Parish Nurses (last Sunday of the month)

Stay happy and well.

Georgi

MARTHA MOMENT

The Yoke of Joy

"I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore..."

Revelation 1:18

"Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!" The voices of the full St. James Church soared up mightily at the start of the Easter sunrise service. Standing in my place in the choir stall, I gazed upward seventy-five feet to the peak of the chancel. There elegantly carved in the rich, dark wood of the words ran heavenward: "I am he that liveth, and was dead." I remember that the word *dead* was hard to read because it was almost lost in the lofty shadows. But out of those same shadows, coming downward toward earth, was the rest of the verse, marvelous words of assurance: "And, behold, I am alive for evermore." Reading them always set my heart aglow.



Schedule for Wayside on Wednesdays (2nd—5th grade)

4:00 Snack & Check in Time
4:15 - 5:15 Choir
5:15 - 6:00 WOW Club Program
6:00 Dinner

March 5: Tour of Allburn's Florist

March 12: Plant Flower Seeds for the Church Gardens

March 19: No Club

March 26: Bowling Day - bring \$5.00

March WaYouth Middler Calendar

March 2	<i>Skating & Lunch</i> , 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Bring \$15.00
March 5	"Evil, the Devil, and Hell"
March 12	Prepare for Eggs-perience Party
March 19	No Club - Holy Week
March 26	"Better Choices than Suicide"

March WaYouth Senior High Calendar

4:00 p.m. Choir with Middlers
5:00 p.m. Dinner with Middlers

March 1	Hosting Kenyon Choir for dinner - servers
March 2	Choir only today
March 9	Care Packages for College Students (1:00 p.m. Sunday)
March 16	Erie Homes for Children and Adults - make Easter Decorations (1:00 p.m.)
March 22	10:00 a.m. Eggs-perience



"EGGS-PERIENCE"

Annual Easter Egg Hunt and activities for children in 2nd grade and younger and their parents, Saturday, March 22, from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. at the church. Invite your friends and their children.

THEME BASKETS FOR TALENT AUCTION

The Congregational Development and Nurture Committee is once again encouraging families, groups and organizations within the church to sponsor and supply a theme basket to be auctioned during this year's event. Members of the sponsoring organization or family will contribute a variety of items related to the theme of the basket and prepare the basket for auction. For Instance, a basket with a movie theme might include movie tickets, microwave popcorn, a gift card for movie rentals, candy, soft drinks, etc.

Theme suggestions include but are not limited to: Gardening, Cooking, Coffee, Movies, Candle, Chocolate, Italian Dinner, Breakfast, Books. The baskets will be auctioned at the Talent Auction on Saturday, March 29th. Please sign up now at the Information Table in the Lobby.

FAMILY NEWS

HOSPITALIZED:

Evelyn Wright,
Eleanor Mathias

12th Susan Harris
13th Gary Christensen,
Eva Duska

Miller, Richard
Warnaka

BIRTHDAYS:

1st Peggy Bules, Alice
Edwards, Elaine
Glass, Ken Haag

14th Morgan Anderson,
Barb Richardson,
Bethany VanHelden

24th Marcy Goodwin, Joey
Kocan, Nolan Martin

2nd Heidi Utley

15th Neil Harris
16th Chris Hoyt, Joan
Moore, Justice

26th Jeff Brinling, Alice
Duer, Matt McGill,

3rd Dick Cross,
Bob Henderson

17th Karen Sewell

28th Scott Jackson, Aaron
Garrity

4th Colleen Abbott

19th Matt Popson, Cheryl
Sealy

29th Bonnie Tansey, Riley
Lorah

5th Jan McEllroy, Tom
Momeyer

20th Jennifer Taylor
21st Zachary Dulabon,
Erik Hamza, Ian

30th Pam Weaver
31st Mike Anderson

6th Rita Weaver

22nd Ramon Watkins,
Carie Bastow

ANNIVERSARIES

8th Rachel Martone

23rd Jane Hamza, Don
Lasher, Mardy

1 Jim & Mardy Marsh

9th Harry Eighmy, Hal
Harrington, Char

Marsh, Betsey

2 Bill & Linda Bremmer

10th Mary Marsh, Jack
Tower, Ken Tyson

14 Ed & Bonnie Tansey

19 Judd & Dot Smith

26 Richard & Marilyn
Spensley

SECOND SATURDAY PROJECT IN MARCH

Wayside has had a long-standing relationship with the House of Healing, and have arranged to help them with a move on March 15th. We will meet at Wayside at 8 a.m. and plan to work until noon.

If you would like to be part of our work crew, please sign up in the Lobby.

MISSION WORK OFF TO A GREAT START!

.Our semi-annual Potato Dinner was held in late January and was a wonderful success! In addition to contributing many yummy toppings, participants made generous contributions resulting in over \$1200 going to Heifer International, a non-profit organization whose goal is to help end world hunger and poverty through self-reliance and sustainability. We selected the following animals to be purchased with our contribution: 1 heifer (\$500), 2 water buffalo (\$250 each), 1 llama (\$150), 1 group of honeybees (\$30), and a flock of chicks (\$20). These gifts bring promise to hungry families and opportunity for a better living for the less fortunate. We appreciate the extra effort giving that made this mission such a success!

PRESBYTERIANS WOMEN'S SPRING GATHERING

April 25th - 26th OLMSTEAD MANOR, LUDLOW, PA.

On Friday evening, there will be great entertainment by the Kane Ecumenical Guitar Choir. On Saturday, we will gather with fellow women from around the Presbytery. The guest speaker is Pastor Sue Montgomery from Nickleville.

Costs: overnight stay is \$34.00, breakfast \$7.00, lunch \$8.00, dinner \$13.00. You are encouraged to come for all or part of the weekend. An informational brochure will be available soon. Please look for it at the Information table in the church lobby.

WORSHIP IN MARCH

Sunday, March 2

Scripture John 9:1-41 Communion Meditation

These stories are an optometrist's nightmare. No one can agree on anyone else's eyesight. Are they really blind or just appear to be blind? Did the treatment of Jesus actually enable them to see or was the whole thing a scam? We are left wondering if those who say they can see actually do.

Sunday, March 9

Scripture: John 11:1-45 Sermon Title: "Two Stories in One"

Although the story of Lazarus appears to be a resurrection narrative, it isn't technically. Lazarus is not resurrected, he is resuscitated. In other words, he comes to life again and will some day die again. The story is *about* the resurrection of Jesus, however. It helps us understand that in Him is our hope for life.

Sunday, March 16 Palm Sunday

Scripture: Matthew 21:1-11 Sermon Title: "Turmoil"

What does it mean that the presence of Jesus in Jerusalem brought turmoil? Here is a clear distinction from our Christmas stories we read a few months ago when the Prince of Peace was born. Maybe we need to rethink our image of the Son of God as meek and mild.

Sunday, March 23, Easter Sunday

Scripture: John 20:1-18 Sermon Title: "Christ on the Loose"

The linen wrappings lay in the tomb. The head covering was carefully rolled up and lay apart from the other. Mary feared that someone had stolen the body. The angels told her otherwise and Jesus, unencumbered by shroud or death, began to appear where he willed.


Sunday, March 30

Scripture: John 20:19-31 Sermon Title: "Eye Witnesses"

"Doubting" Thomas started centuries of debate about faith and belief. He is a literary metaphor for our disappointment of not being there. But the eye witnesses of the resurrection actually didn't see anything. The tomb was empty. There was nothing to see. Yet they believed.



MARCH 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 6:00 p.m. Sr. Highs Host Dinner 7:30 p.m. Kenyon Choir
2 8:30 a.m. Early Celebration of Worship 9:30a.m.Chancel Choir 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Celebration of Worship 12:00 Fellowship 12:30 Confirmation Class 5:00 p.m. Bell Choir 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. "Stamp Out Hunger"	3 7:00 MEDS	4	5 Noon - Naomi Circle 4:00 p.m. WOW 6:00 p.m. Soup/Salad 6:30 p.m. Primary Choir 6:30 p.m. Middler Wayouth 6:45 p.m. Adult Study 7:30 p.m. CDN	6 12:05 p.m. Lenten Service and Luncheon, Christ United Methodist Church 7:15 P.M. Chancel Choir	7	8 12:30P.M. Lunch Bunch,Yacht Club
9 8:30 a.m. Early Celebration of Worship 9:30a.m.Chancel Choir 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Celebration of Worship 12:00 Fellowship 12:00 Confirmation Class	10 Noon - Trustees 7:00 p.m. MEDS 7:30 p.m. Outreach	11 7:30 P.M. Martha Circle	12 4:00 p.m. WOW 6:00 p.m. Soup/Salad 6:30 p.m. Primary Choir 6:30 p.m. Middler Wayouth 6:45 p.m. Adult Study 7:30 p.m. Session	13 7:15 P.M. Chancel Choir 7:30 Prayer Shawl	14	15 Second Saturday Work Project- House of Healing
16 8:30 a.m. Early Celebration of Worship 9:30a.m.Chancel Choir 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Celebration of Worship 12:00 Fellowship 5:00 p.m. Sanctuary Bells	17 	18	19 NO WEDNESDAY DINNER OR PROGRAMS	20 6:00 Maundy Thursday Dinner 7:00 p.m., Maundy Thursday Service	21 7:00 P.M. Easter Prayer Vigil Begins	22 10:00 a.m Eggs-perience
23 :30 a.m. Early Celebration of Worship 9:30a.m.Chancel Choir 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Celebration of Worship 12:00 Fellowship 5:00 p.m. Sanctuary Bells	24 OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 p.m. MEDS	25 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	26 4:00 p.m. WOW 6:00 p.m. Soup/Salad 6:30 p.m. Primary Choir 6:30 p.m. Middler Wayouth 6:45 p.m. Adult Study 7:30 P.M. W,M.& F.A.	27 Noon - Elizabeth circle	28	29 4:15 p.m. Talent Auction
30 8:30 a.m. Early Celebration of Worship 9:30a.m.Chancel Choir 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Celebration of Worship 12:00 Fellowship	31					