

October 2011

The Monthly Newsletter of Forks United Church of Christ  
*No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey...  
you are welcome here!*

# TIDINGS



*“I never saw a moor,  
I never saw the sea:  
Yet know I how the heather looks,  
And what a wave must be.*

*I never spoke with God,  
Nor visited in Heaven;  
Yet certain am I of the spot  
As if the chart were given.”*

The above poem was written by the famous American poet, Emily Dickinson. It speaks evocatively of faith, and hope, and imagination, and trust in what we cannot see. Did you know that, despite the fact that she is now regarded as one of the most important and influential of American poets, during her lifetime Emily Dickinson only published a handful of poems. After her death, her younger sister, Lavinia, found over sixteen hundred poems packed away in her closets. It wasn't until almost one hundred years after her death that the full extent of her literary accomplishments were realized.

How sad. She had a wonderful gift to share with the world and she kept it packed away in a closet. Here at Forks U.C.C., we have several committees that are in need of members and energy and enthusiasm. What gifts might you have to share with our community? What gifts have you kept packed away in the closet for years? Now is the time of the year to get involved.

*“so I was afraid, and I hid your talent in the ground” – Matthew 25:25*

Pastor Bob



## ICE CREAM FESTIVAL THANK YOU

**THANK YOU** TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED IN ANYWAY TO MAKE THE ICE CREAM FESTIVAL A HUGE SUCCESS!!

TO MINDY HAHN FOR A GREAT JOB IN RUNNING THE KIDS GAMES. TO ALL THE CAKE WALK DONORS, (AND THEIR WERE PLENTY OF ITEMS), COOKERS, TICKET SELLERS, TICKET BUYERS AND EVERYONE WHO HELPED IN ANY WAY. IT WAS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

A BIG THANK YOU GOES OUT TO OUR DONORS;

SCHMIDT FUNERAL HOME P.C., (JANE FOLLWEILER, PATTI WERNER) FOR PROVIDING THE ICE CREAM

FORKS U.C.C. ADULT FELLOWSHIP FOR PROVIDING THE D.J. (TERRY CRESSMAN)

SCOTT'S AUTO BODY ( SCOTT DEWALT) FOR PRINTING OF RAFFLE TICKETS

LEHIGH FUEL COMPANY FOR PROVIDING THE SODA AND WATER

RAY KROMER FOR PROVIDING THE "ICE" TO CHILL OUR DRINKS

CHARLES CHRIN COMPANY, READY SET GO PRE SCHOOL AND ALL OTHERS WHO MADE ANONYMOUS MONETARY DONATIONS.

THE NET PROFIT WAS \$ 3200. A DONATION WAS GIVEN TO SAFE HARBOR, AND "AUTISM SPEAKS". THE BALANCE TO:

**"BARRELS OF OIL"**

RAFFLE WINNERS WERE: BUTCH LANCE, CARL REMEL, PAUL KEISER, KEVIN SCHULTE, RONDA SHOOK, AND RAY KROMER.

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR, MARK YOUR CALENDAR, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2012. OUR 200TH ANNIVERSARY!!!!

BOB AND DAWN TRIMBLE



## ADULT FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup> From 9AM – 4PM & Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> From 9AM – 2PM

This is the largest church rummage sale in the area.

Help & Donations of Rummage, Bake Goods, and Soup are needed

We will accept your items from Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 4PM – 7PM, Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10AM – 7PM. We accept items in excellent and good condition. Please, no torn, stained clothes; no broken toys, etc. The Forks UCC Rummage Sale is known for its **quantity and quality**.

For more information see Barbara Huff, Joan Mumaw or Sandy Schaadt.

## Stewardship & Finance

~COUNT YOURSELF BLESSED~

### **An Inconvenient Truth**

**How many times have you heard church members say “All they talk about is money!” Why do you suppose the subject of money in church makes some people so angry?**

Ministry is the reason pastor’s and finance committees constantly talk about money, because when more is given, more can be done. Hearing undisguised truth, like financial realities, can jar people into avoiding the issue by directing their frustrations toward the messenger.

The desire to be comfortable in church is not a contemporary phenomenon.

*Do not prophesy to us what is right; speak to us smooth things, prophesy illusions, leave the way, turn aside from the path, let us hear no more about the Holy One of Israel (Isaiah 30:11).*

Perhaps we are just embarrassed that all we believe we can give is such a small amount. There are so many examples in scripture of Jesus taking something small and using it to do something great. Small faithful gifts can make all the differences. Or perhaps we give small gifts out of our abundance because we are afraid there won’t be enough for us. Have we lost our faith in the GOD who tells us, “Do not be afraid for I am with you”?

The Stewardship & Finance Committee would like to remind everyone to take time and ponder what Forks Church really means to you and then mark your Pledge Card accordingly and return it to the Church by Stewardship Sunday, November 6, 2011. Thank you!

*Mission & Action*

**Food Bank – An ongoing outreach**

Thank you one and all as you remember the urgent needs which our food banks seek to address. Canned goods and other non-perishables are always in demand. Please keep you cans coming and place on the table by the elevator.

**HELP WANTED...**

**Soup Kitchen @ Trinity Episcopal Church**

**Spring Garden St in Easton**

Can you donate 2 hours of your time?

Volunteers needed to cook and/or serve ~ Donations also accepted

Please contact a member of the Mission & Action Committee or Sharon Merluzzi @ 610-252-7085

2011 Date:

November 12<sup>th</sup>

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**COFFEE HOUR FELLOWSHIP**

We are in need of volunteers to host the coffee fellowship on Sundays after the 10 AM service. If no one volunteers, there will be no coffee hour after service on those Sundays. Sign up on the bulletin board in the back of the Social Hall.

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**Greeting Cards:**

Please remember that there are greeting cards on the Evangelism Bulletin Board for the congregation to use. Remembering those who could use some uplifting words doesn't take a lot of time and certainly will be appreciated. Our committee continues to send cards to those in the congregation we know about. Let Sherry Prutzman know if there is someone you think would appreciate a card.

*Evangelism*

**“Helping Hands” Ministry**

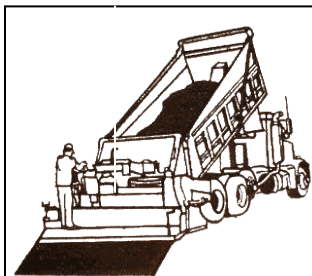
Our “Helping Hands” ministry is still active. Do you know someone who might need help? Fill out a card on the Evangelism Bulletin Board and we will try to be of assistance.

## *Christian Education*

It's going to be a great autumn! Sunday School runs each Sunday during the 10 AM Worship Service. If you are willing and feel the call to help teach our children about Jesus, call the church office, Pastor Bob or any member of the Christian Education Committee. Thank you!

### **200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History Committee Logo Challenge**

**PLEASE REMEMBER:** The Logo challenge is coming to an end soon. The due date for all Logo entries is October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The logo can be submitted to any member of the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History Committee. It cannot be larger than an 8 ½ X 11 sheet of paper, and must be scalable. Please submit your design with your name in a sealed envelope on the back. The winner will be announced by November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011!



### **Forks Church Renovations:**

Forks UCC's Consistory has decided to use a portion of the Renovations Fund formally known as Cornerstone to pave the front driveway. Soon we will be able to drive through our driveway again without all the holes!!!!

### **U.C.C.O.G.H.S.P.N.E.C.O.C.W.M.N.I.N**

#### **NOT JUST A BUNCH OF INITIALS!**

Every organization has their own shorthand, or "short-voice" for communicating. The problem is that many times only members of the group understand the meaning of the shorthand. Our denomination uses a shorthand for many of the boards, instrumentalities and special offerings that are part of our life together. Although it helps those in the know, this shorthand can also foster confusion. Below is some clarification of three of the initials so that you can be part of the "in group." We want the entire Forks Church Family to know more about all the ways we are working with brothers and sisters in Christ to help heal a hurting world. Let's look at the last three letters from above, **N.I.N.**

**N.I.N stands for Neighbors-In-Need.** This offering supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States and Puerto Rico, including the council for American Indian Ministries, justice and advocacy, and direct service projects supported by Justice and Witness Ministries. You will find a **Neighbors-In-Need** offering envelope in your boxed set for **October 2**. Now you're 'in the know' and know more about N.I.N., I mean Neighbors-In-Need. Thank you.

**A Note From:  
Patti O'Donnell  
& Raven**

I just wanted to make sure people know since the whole church for years has helped me through God to enable me to finish this long cross country race for my doctorate in spring 2011. (I was a cross country and track runner and coach at Lehigh before I got hurt at Lehigh, so my journey to wellness, not better, but well, was like a cross the country cross country race that Forks church was a big part in helping me accomplish my goals. I know this is long, but I just wanted people to know and Thanks to the people of Forks who all supported me in many ways to finish this long cross country race to finish my doctorate while disabled.

**Thank You**

Forks UCC would like to thank Kitti-Jo Hughes for all her time and effort in serving as editor of our Tidings Newsletter for the past years. Thank You Kitti!!

We would like to also thank Cindy Moczulski for her years of service as the Webmaster for Forks UCC. Thank You Cindy!!

**SHUT-INS**

- Elwood Ayers .....Village at Sullivan Trail
- Alberta Brown .....Saucon Valley Manor  
1050 Main St.  
Hellertown, PA 10855
- Emily Clemis .....In Directory
- Betty Kaniper .....Fellowship Community  
3000 Fellowship Dr.  
Whitehall PA 18052
- Ferne Keiper .....Gracedale
- Charles Kessler .....In Directory
- Dorothy Kortz .....In Directory
- Helen Mumaw .....Gracedale SW 2
- Jane Rader .....In Directory
- Christine Weiland .....In Directory Moravian Hall
- Evelyn Werkheiser .... Manorcare, 2600 Northampton  
Street, Easton PA 18045
- Ruth Reed .....Rm 208, Traditions of Hanover  
5300 Northgates Drive  
Bethlehem, PA 18017
- Harvey Thatcher.....Gracedale, Tower 3



**TEEN PRAYER LIST**

Cody Allen, Jacob Allen, Jordan Allen, Tyler Avery, Katie Barrick, Kelsey Beers, Larissa Bernecker, Shawna Bernecker, Sara Billiard, Alex Borger, Elyssa Burd, Abbey Chesney, Justin Chesney, Dylan Deleon, Ashley Delserro, Sean Delserro, Kelvin Dewalt, Shelby Does, Katlyn Ehrich, Abbey Fehnel, Alicia Fehnel, Kayla Flyte, Alek & Emily Gerstenberg, Miranda Harden, Nicholas Hendricks, Alyssa & Amanda Knitter, Leigh Ann Lively, Shelby McCollian, Laura Moczulski, Ciarra & Sergio Ottaviano, Casey Polkowski, Alexandria Pump, Georgia Pump, Brian Schneebeli, Zachary Shook, Jessica Simanton, Brian Wahlgren, David Warner, Connor Zehnbauer

CELEBRATE WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY



**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

02 Mindy Does	13 Laraine Kresge
02 Sheri Gaul	13 Jennifer Stecker
02 Kelsi Burnhauser	14 Matt Ackerman
03 Melanie Delserro	15 Mackenzie Sikora
03 Brian Schneebeili	17 Audrey Berger **
05 Ruth Rinaldi	18 Madysen Hughes
05 Samuel Jones	20 Steve Dewalt
06 Raymond	20 Sergio Ottaviano
Bartholomew*	21 Jaye Balkenbush
06 Makayla Fleming	22 Leigh Ann Lively
07 Ray Kromer	22 Ashleigh Gaul
07 Linda Fleming	23 Christopher Flyte
09 Sarah Happel	24 Isabel Ringhoff
09 Cheryl Hahn	25 Charles Avery
10 Shelly Flyte	26 J. R. Mitch
10 Hunter Gares	27 Shelby Does
11 Glenn Borger	28 Deb Ackerman
12 George Burkos	31 LeighAnne Does
12 Bill Dreisbach	31 Alexandria Wood

\* Raymond is celebrating his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday!  
 \*\* Audrey celebrates her 86<sup>th</sup> birthday!



**OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES**

Carol & Dallas Labar	10/05/1972
Cindi & Dale Wilson	10/06/1979
Sandy & Brett Fehnel	10/06/1990
Susan & Sean McCollian	10/10/1992
Diane & Steve Dewalt	10/22/1983
Diane & Gregg Hriniaak	10/23/1976
Linda & Gary Fleming	10/23/1982
Rhonda & Joe Herres	10/28/1995
Dawn & Bob Trimble	10/30/1965

**Donate your  
 blood and  
 make a  
 difference**

Forks UCC had 46 donors for 2011 thus far. Please call Miller-Keystone at 800-223-6667 to make your appointment and to serve our community.

**Call the Church Office when...**

- A member of your family is admitted to the hospital so the proper people are notified.
- Your home phone, email address or mailing address has changed. An addition to your family has occurred. You want your birthday and/or anniversary added to our newsletter list. You feel the church can help you in any way.

**NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

If anyone wishes to submit any articles for the Newsletter, please have all items emailed by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month to:  
[jacob.e.allen@gmail.com](mailto:jacob.e.allen@gmail.com)

**Webmaster**

For all questions and updates concerning the Website; please contact:  
[jacob.e.allen@gmail.com](mailto:jacob.e.allen@gmail.com)

THOSE SERVINGOffering Leaders

- October 2 Betsy Warner  
 October 9 Bob Trimble  
 October 16 Youth Representative  
 October 23 Burton Ackerman  
 October 30 Carole Steckel

Offering Collectors

- October 2 Elsie & Elwood Lambert, Cheryl Johnson, Vic Zeeman, Sandy Schaadt  
 October 9 Diane & Steve Dewalt, Melvin & Laraine Kresge, Joan Jud  
 October 16 Youth / Children Representatives  
 October 23 Chuck Givler, Ron & Joan Mumaw, Sarah Happel, Ronda Shook  
 October 30 Dawn & Bob Trimble, Betty Stocker Marguerite Obulaney, Shirley Thatcher

Altar Guild:

- October 2 Jean Cooper  
 October 9 Jean Cooper  
 October 16 Deb Ackerman  
 October 23 Deb Ackerman  
 October 30 Joan Jud

Ushers

- October 2 Jean Cooper  
 October 9 Kim Starner  
 October 16 Sam & Jane Kemmerer  
 October 23 Jim Milham  
 October 30 Joan & Ron Mumaw

Greeters

- October 2 Sandy & Robert Perrine  
 Debbie & Steve Chesney  
 October 9 Jen & Mike Zabe  
 Robert & Margaret Zabe  
 October 16 Children's Sunday  
 October 23 Bob & Brenda Egolf  
 Mike & Kathy Boushell  
 October 30 Sandy & Glenn Borger  
 Tracy, Brandon & Ashley Cressman

**"MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE  
TO THE LORD..."**

Psalm 100: 1

.....with singing....and ringing....and the  
 playing of instruments!



## GREETINGS FROM THE CHOIR CORNER.

**About our choirs and rehearsals:**

As always, the Senior Choir usually meets one Wednesday evening a month and on Sundays after worship (the Sundays when they have the anthem). We sing a variety of music and rehearsals are very important (*that's why they sound soooo good*).

The Handbell Choir also meets on Wed. evenings (weekly) at 6:15 pm. We **STILL** need a dedicated, committed person to fill position # 2. I must admit, 'commitment' is a high priority with ringers. *The most productive rehearsals are when everyone is in attendance (no 'open' positions or 'holes')*.

My sincere thanks to the few who have helped and "substituted" so the handbell choir could move forward and, in fact, stay together and ring the caliber of music we all enjoy listening to. We are in need of a "regular" ringer to fill position # 2. Trust me, you will enjoy both the fellowship with the other adults and the experience of ringing handbells. 'Reading' music not a necessity, but definitely helpful. Any available musicians out there? Contact Cheryl with any questions.

The Men's Choir meets as listed in the monthly newsletters (watch this Choir Corner column and also for communication by personal letter). So guys, *consider this your invitation* and let Cheryl know if you are interested.

Commitment is short-term with this group and we'd love having you singing with us.

The Choir Corner door is always open if you are thinking about singing or ringing. Stop by for a visit and give it a try. Not a professional? That's what rehearsal is for. Give me a call.

**TENTATIVE ANTHEM SCHEDULE**

Oct. 2	Senior Choir	To all those
Oct. 9	Handbell Choir	involved with
Oct. 16	Youth / Children	the music,
Oct. 23	Senior Choir	WELCOME
Oct. 30	Senior Choir	BACK!

**TENTATIVE REHEARSAL SCHEDULE**

Senior Choir–Wed., Oct. 12 at 7:02 pm.  
 Wed., Oct. 19 at 7:02 pm.  
 H'bell Choir – Wednesdays at 6:15 pm.

*Continued Blessings, Cheryl*

Oct. 2	Sunday	8:00 am	Meditative Communion - Led by Pastor Bob.
		10:00 am	Worship / Communion / Children's Sunday School / Anthem: Senior Choir Neighbors-In-Need Offering: You will find a Neighbors-In-Need offering envelope in your boxed set. This fund supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States and Puerto Rico, including the council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM), justice and advocacy, and direct service projects supported by Justice & Witness Ministries.
Oct. 3	Monday	6:30 pm	Music & Worship (Christian Ed. Committee attending this meeting.)
Oct. 4	Tuesday	6:30 pm	Evangelism
		7:00 pm	Spiritual Council
Oct. 5	Wednesday	1:30 pm	Bible Study - Led by Pastor Bob
		6:15 pm	Handbell Choir
		7:00 pm	Bible Study - Led by Pastor Bob
Oct. 7-8	Fri.-Sat.	9:00 am	Annual Rummage / Bake Sale
Oct. 9	Sunday	8:00 am	Meditative Communion - Led by Pastor Bob.
		10:00 am	Worship / Children's Sunday School / Anthem: Handbells
Oct. 10	Monday	7:00 pm	Stewardship & Finance
Oct. 11	Tuesday	7:00 pm	Consistory
Oct. 12	Wednesday	6:15 pm	Handbell Choir
		7:00 pm	Senior Choir
Oct. 13	Thursday	1- 3 pm	Knitters / Stitchers Group
Oct. 16	Sunday	8:00 am	Meditative Communion - Led by Pastor Bob.
		10:00 am	Worship / Youth & Children's Sunday / Children's Sunday School Our Youth & Children participate in morning worship. Collection of non-perishable food items. (Part of our 'Reverse Offering Project'.)
Oct. 17	Monday	6:30 pm	Adult Fellowship Covered Dish / Meeting
Oct. 18	Tuesday	7:30 pm	Mission & Action
Oct. 19	Wednesday	6:15 pm	Handbell Choir
		7:00 pm	Senior Choir
Oct. 23	Sunday	8:00 am	Meditative Communion - Led by Pastor Bob.
		10:00 am	Worship / Children's Sunday School / Anthem: Senior Choir
Oct. 24	Monday	6:30 pm	Parish Life
Oct. 26	Wednesday	6:15 pm	Handbell Choir
Oct. 27	Thursday	6:30 pm	Knitters / Stitchers Group (two hours)
Oct. 30	Sunday	8:00 am	Meditative Communion
		10:00 am	Worship



Happening  
This Month!



**FORKS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

4500 SULLIVAN TRAIL  
P.O. BOX 158  
STOCKERTOWN, PA 18083-0158

DATE MAILED:

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit # 1  
Stockertown, PA 18083-0158

**Your Consistory Members**

Consistory President..... Gregg Cressman  
Vice President..... Jean Cooper  
Consistory Secretary.....Kim Starnier  
Spiritual Council.....Joan Guthrie  
Spiritual Council.....Glenn Borger  
Spiritual Council.....Amy Knitter  
Spiritual Council.....Kevin Schulte  
Christian Ed.....Tammy Uhler  
Evangelism.....Bobbi Ricci  
Mission & Action.....Denise Polkowski  
Music & Worship.....Sue McCollian  
Parish Life.....Beth Schatzel  
Property.....Jack Sales  
Finance.....Bob Trimble  
Jacob E. Allen  
Personnel.....Brenda DeLong  
Adult Fellowship.....Joan Mumaw  
Ready Set Go Advisory.....Carol Hartway  
(Convener)

**Staff Members**

Ministers..... Every Member of the Church  
Pastor.....Bob Gutekunst  
Music Dir/Office Mgr.....Cheryl Hahn  
Groundskeeper.....Frank Mengel, Jr.  
Housekeeper..... Loretta Seruga  
Nursery Attendant .....Dianne Paolicelli

**About Fork's UCC:**

We carry on the traditions of the faithful who founded this church in 1812. A landmark along Sullivan Trail, the congregations have been proclaiming the Lordship of Jesus Christ for nearly 200 years.

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

*God calls and empowers us to minister to the physical and spiritual needs of all people, through our gifts of love, support and compassion revealed in the gospel of Jesus Christ.*

**Forks UCC**  
4500 Sullivan Trail  
P.O. Box 158  
Stockertown, PA 18083

**PHONE:**  
(610) 759-5676

**WEBSITE:**  
[www.forkschurch-ucc.org](http://www.forkschurch-ucc.org)

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**  
MON, TUES, WED, THURS  
8:15 AM TO 3:30 PM

**Newsletter Editor:**  
Jacob E. Allen

**Webmaster:**  
Jacob E. Allen