



The Messenger



Chalfont United Methodist Church * 11 Meadowbrook Lane, Chalfont, PA 18914-2810
Phone: (215) 822-2807 * e mail: office@chalfontumc.org

Feb/Mar 2014

WHEN TWO WORLDS COLLIDE!

Our theme at Chalfont for 2014 is “The Dwelling Place of God.” We are spending time each week in worship talking about various ways God interacts with God’s people. “What if anything happens when our world and God’s world collide? What happens when heaven and earth meet?”

One of the great things about our Christian faith is that we serve a God who refuses to be confined to heaven. In John 3:16 we read, “*For God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life*” (NRSV).

Christians use the word – Incarnation to describe this event. It is often used at Christmas – God coming to earth through the baby Jesus. In other words, God through Christ moved into the neighborhood! But the story doesn’t stop with a baby. The Incarnation is the whole story of Jesus. It includes not only his birth, but also his life and teachings, his death, his resurrection, his ascension to heaven and ultimately the promise of his return.

On March 5th we will begin the Holy season of Lent. Lent is a forty day period (Sundays are not included since each Sunday is a celebration and remembrance of Christ’s resurrection.) These forty days are a time of personal reflection and spiritual renewal as we join Christ on his walk to the cross.

This year as we journey with Christ we will be paying attention to the people he met along the way. And what we’ll discover is that when their world met God’s world- things happened. It was not a static encounter. Instead, the blind could see, the deaf could hear, the lame could walk, the outcast and forgotten were brought back into community and false teachings were exposed.

God promises the same for us today. God still refuses to be confined to heaven. God continues to interact with God’s people. The Almighty meets each of us right where we are and invites us along on the journey of helping to bring the Kingdom of Heaven to earth.

This Lenten season, let’s put our skepticism and doubts on hold. Let’s gather with an attitude of expectancy that God is in our midst. Who knows what might happen if we come prepared to meet God and to listen to God’s word in a new way, to think new thoughts and live them out in unexpected ways. We might just find that the boundaries of our world and God’s world are shattered and that God is far more active in our world than we ever imagined.

The poet, Mary Oliver sums it up for us in her poem “*Sometimes*” from *Red Bird: Poems* © 2008 **Instructions for living a life: Pay attention. Be astonished. Tell about it.** Pastor Barb

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|---------------------------|--|
| March 5 (7:30 pm) | Ash Wednesday Service includes communion/ receiving of ashes |
| March 9 | Matthew 4: 1-11 “The Temptation of Christ” |
| March 16 | John 3: 1-17 “Jesus has a Nighttime Visitor” |
| March 23 | John 4: 5-30, 39-41 “Come to the Well” |
| March 30 | John 9: 1-41 “I Can See” |
| April 6 | Matthew 9: 18-26 “If Only....” |
| April 13 | Matthew 27 – “It is Finished” |
| April 17 (7:30 pm) | Holy Thursday Service – Drama “Take This Cup from Me” |

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

In Remembrance: of long time member **Maria Morgan**, who recently passed away.

Baptism: of **Rhys Richards**, son of **Karen** and **Scott Richards**.

THANK YOU

Thank you from the Kokemor Family for the 56 toys that were donated to the Toys for Tots gift drive during the holidays.

Thank you to the congregation from the Pastors and Staff of CUMC for your generous Christmas gifts we received during the Christmas Eve services.

Thank you from UMCOR for the \$230.00 for Red Bird Mission, which provides spiritual, educational, health and outreach ministries for the people of Appalachia.

Thank you from the Food Larder for the 20 bags of food we received from CUMC on November 25th; also for the \$250.00 and \$200.00 donations you have recently sent us.

GIANT GIFT CARDS UPDATE

I would like to thank all those who participated in purchasing Giant Gift Cards last year. Over \$45,000 worth of cards were purchased by our congregation that netted a *profit of \$2,255* to be put towards our General Budget. It is simple! Purchase a \$50 or \$100 card at church and 5% automatically goes to the church. If you shop at a Giant Food Store and don't already buy these cards, try it

Eric Jensen

CALENDAR

3/1 - United Methodist Women's Rummage Sale

3/5 - Ash Wednesday Prayer Vigil (7:00 am to 7:00 pm)

Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary (7:30 pm)

3/8 - Boy Scout Spaghetti Dinner (4:00 pm to 7:00 pm)

4/5 - United Methodist Men's Hoagie Sale

4/12 - Music Department Roast Beef Dinner (4:00 to 7:00)

4/13 - Palm Sunday Services

4/17 - Maundy Thursday Service in the FLC (7:30 pm)

4/18 - Good Friday Community Service (7:30 pm)

4/20 - Easter Sunday Breakfast (8:00 am)

9:30 Easter Service.

Easter Egg hunt for children between services

11:00 Easter Service.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

As we start 2014, the ladies of the UMW would like to thank everyone for supporting us in 2013.

With your help and support, we can continue to have functions and fund raisers to help with our mission work within the church and in the community.

Our first meeting was on January 18, with the installation of officers. On February 15 we held our "Churchmade" Chicken Soup sale.

Mother's Day will be here before you know it. Our Community Tea will be held on Saturday, May 10. The first seating will be at 12:00 noon and the second seating will be at 3:00 pm. The cost will be \$17.00 per person. More information will be available as the date gets closer.

You can help keep kids warm by donating yarn to make hats. (*Nora Polgar is knitting year round to help fill the UMW Mitten tree in December, and to support other organizations with needy children. See her at church to donate your extra yarn.*)

All women of the church are invited to join us as we continue to do the Lord's work in mission.

RUMMAGE SALE

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

7:00 am to 2:00 pm

Computer/electronic/metal scrap recycling will take place from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm in the parking lot

Lunch and snacks available

Drop off times:

Monday, February 24 thru Thursday, February 27

10:00 am to noon

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

February 28 - 10 to noon only

(there is no drop off after church)

Do a little early "Spring Cleaning" and fight the winter gloom by supporting the UMW.

HOAGIE SALE

Mark your calendar... on April 5th the Men will once again be hosting a hoagie sale. You will have the choice of Turkey or Italian at the price of \$6.00 a hoagie.

This will be our 3rd year and each time it gets bigger and better. The proceeds have been used for various projects in the church. So keep watch for the order form we won't disappoint you.

*Thanks for your support,
Chalfont United Methodist Men*

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Bible Study meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month. They meet at 2 Deerpath Road in Chalfont at 7:00 pm. All women are welcome!

LOOKING BACK

This is the first chance we've had since the holidays in December to reflect on the outstanding program that was presented in the Family Life Center by all of the musicians of CUMC supported by guest singers and orchestra.

"A huge, very heartfelt thank you to everyone who worked and attended the Sounds of the Season Concert. It was a huge undertaking and would not have been possible without each and everyone's efforts - both behind the scenes and on 'stage.' A very special thank you to everyone who helped setup, break down and make all of the technical effects just occur. Even with the fresh snow (a foreshadowing of the rest of our winter), we had over 165 people attend. This event wouldn't have been a success if it wasn't filled with such amazing heart, and it's my great privilege to get to work with you. Cris"

We would also like to acknowledge the watercolor exhibition that was placed in the hallway for the concert. The paintings are primarily the work of students in the watercolor class that is taught by Marcia Weikert on Monday evenings throughout much of the year. Three church members, Emily Paynter, Gail Schnell and Louise Peardon are also represented in the exhibit.

THE CHURCH MOUSE

It sure has been white and cold outside since the big green trees left the building. There were strange lights on in parts of the church building for a few days and it really got cold inside. Mom said that the power had gone off and the funny lights were emergency lights to light our way in the church.



If you get a boobo and need a band-aid, do you know where to go for one when you are at church? Can you find me at the first-aid box? This month, you should ask your friends at church if they know where to go for a band-aid, and see if they can find me on their own. Don't forget to let Pat know that you found me.

WHEELS FOR JESUS

Even though the winter is well along (*we hope*) we need to remind you that there are people in the congregation who are willing to provide you with transportation to and from church during the cold weather.

All you need to do is contact the church office (215) 822-2807 or one of the volunteers listed, and transportation will be arranged. (*Elwood Hippel, John Paynter, Jim Reece, Ed Schnell or Jeff Warren*).

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES

Cadette 21309 and Junior 2285 troops will alternate Sundays selling cookies at 10:30 (between services) in the Family Life Center for the next few weeks.

Please help support the girls with their main fund raising event. The cookies are \$4.00 a box.

BOY SCOUT SPAGHETTI DINNER

On Saturday, March 8 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm our Boy Scout troop will serve their annual Spaghetti Dinner. Be sure to support this well attended event.

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Web Page: www.chalfontumc.org

STAFF DIRECTORY

REV. BARBARA SEEKFORD	Pastor
REV. KENNETH L. BEALE, SR.	Pastoral Care Minister
REV. ERIN MAURER	Deacon, Worship Leader
CRIS FRISCO	Director of Music
PATRICIA L. KERR	Administrative Assistant

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IMPORTANT DATES

Saturday, March 1

(UMW Rummage Sale)

Wednesday, March 5

*(Ash Wednesday prayer vigil;
Ash Wednesday Service - 7:30 pm)*

Saturday, March 8

(Boy Scout Spaghetti Dinner; 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm)

Sunday, March 9

(1st Sunday in Lent)

Sunday, March 16

(2nd Sunday in Lent)

Sunday, March 23

(3rd Sunday in Lent)

Sunday, March 30

(4th Sunday in Lent)

Saturday
MARCH 1

RUMMAGE SALE

7:00 am to 2:00 pm
(Family Life Center)

**Computer, Electronic and Metal
scrap Recycling**

8:00 am to 1:00 pm
(Parking Lot)

Bake Sale
Refreshments