



The Rock

"Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, 'Thus far has the Lord helped us.'"

1 Samuel 7:12

Are You Connected?

We are living in an age in which electronic gadgets make our lives easier and portable. There are smartphones, iPods, GPS devices and netbooks. We no longer go to the store to buy our music, but instead download it instantly from the internet. We watch TV programs on our HDTV and record programs using our DVR. If we miss a program, we go to our computers or laptops and watch it online. Instead of talking to each other, we text each other. If we want to know what is going on in the world, we can check out thousands of web sites online. No longer is it sufficient to have one web site. We must be on Twitter and Facebook and YouTube and MySpace and... I'm sorry. I just received an e-mail on my BlackBerry, and I had to see who sent it. Where was I????????

Is it any wonder we get easily distracted? While all of this technology is nice to have around, it does distract us from things we need to do. It distracts us from working on relationships with people around us. Most importantly, it distracts us from our relationship with God. We need to be good stewards of God's abundance. Sometimes we just need to step back, leave the technology behind, and go to a quiet place with our Bibles. We need to connect with God the old-fashioned way: through prayer, meditation, and reading some scripture. Don't let technology keep you from connecting to God. Amen.

A Moment with Pastor Susan

"For the Beauty of the Earth", how well the words to this familiar hymn came to life as we worshiped outside together the other Sunday morning. We praised God in song with only the accompaniment of the birds, the candles were blown out by the gentle breeze. There was no need for lights as the sun was shining brightly, and many of you know just how bright it was as it was right in your eyes. All of the chairs were full, even the front row!

I don't know about you, but I felt so blessed when I left the service and can't wait to experience this again. This is a perfect reminder that as long as we are together, we can worship everywhere.

*Blessing to you and yours,
Pastor Susan*

Special Announcement

A decision was made at the August Administrative Board Meeting that the sanctuary furniture would be refinished and cushions be added to the pews. The project is scheduled to begin on Monday, October 5 and will take two weeks to complete. The sanctuary will be available for use for Sunday services during this time.

Funds from the Memorial Fund will be used in part to pay for this project with the remainder to come from the Building Fund. A dedication service will be planned in the next few months to honor those individuals for whom funds were donated: Donald and Celia Miller, Ted Eckroth, Russell Whitenight, and Arlene Shaffer.

Inside this issue:

Upcoming Special Offerings	2
Youth Fellowship	2
Fall Festival	2
Do You Know Your Hymns?	2
Offering & Ministry Expenses	3
Missions Update	3
Calendar of Events	3
Birthdays	4
Anniversaries	4
Prayer List	4

Stewardship Committee

- ♦ Susan Knorr
Pastor
- ♦ Karen Slusser
Lay Leader
Membership Secretary
- ♦ Kent Slusser
Treasurer
- ♦ Carol Wall
Assistant Treasurer
Missions Coordinator
- ♦ Janet Naugle
Financial Secretary

Upcoming Special Offerings

- ✠ October 4, **World Communion Sunday** - Impacting a life, church, community and nation at one time is no easy task. However, the World Communion Sunday offering does just that by nurturing students to lead, today and in the future. World Communion Sunday gives Christians a time to share in the sacrament and then to serve God through scholarships for U.S. (racial- and ethnic-minority) and international students.. These scholarships enable people from around the world to serve and lead in their home churches and communities by making higher education a reality. Fifty percent of the offering goes to World Communion Scholarships of the General Board of Global Ministries. This program provides scholarships for students of mission partner institutions in advanced studies (master's or doctoral) preparing them for leadership in church and society. Priority areas of mission include elimination of poverty, expansion of global health, leadership and congregational development. We can make a difference for the future by preparing and nurturing the students of today. World Communion Sunday is integral to making a difference.
- ✠ November 15, **World Hunger/Harvest Home Sunday** - Hunger is a global problem, but it is also a national and local problem. At the local level, each of us can help. Every cent you give goes to alleviate hunger across our annual conference.
- ✠ November 29, **United Methodist Student Day** - Every year, we hear: "Tuition costs are increasing." For many United Methodist students, the continuous increase places an enormous financial burden that many cannot assume. However, through the United Methodist Student Day offering, we can prepare students to unite faith with knowledge. Each year, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry awards scholarships and loans to students attending United Methodist and other accredited colleges and universities through the United Methodist Student Day offering. In addition, a portion of the United Methodist Student Day offering is returned to annual conferences for merit scholarship awards to students of their choosing. For many students, this financial assistance is critical to attaining higher education. Each year the number of applicants continues to rise – furthering the need for more financial assistance. Imagine being able to provide assistance for everyone. That is the goal of United Methodist Student Day. Invest in the future of our church through the United Methodist Student Day offering. We can help students unite faith with knowledge.

Youth Fellowship



Car Wash
Saturday September 12
11am - 3pm

The Youth will hold a car wash at Melonie's Kold Kup. Proceeds will benefit Operation Christmas Child.

Fall Festival

Saturday October 25
Starting at 5 PM

Join us for our VBS follow-up program, Back to the Bayou!



Do You Know Your Hymns?

Dentist's Hymn: Crown Him with Many Crowns
 Weatherman's Hymn: There Shall Be Showers of Blessings
 Contractor's Hymn: The Church's One Foundation
 Tailor's Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy
 Golfer's Hymn.: There's a Green Hill Far Away
 Politician's Hymn: Standing on the Promises
 Optometrist's Hymn: Open My Eyes That I Might See
 IRS Agent's Hymn: I Surrender All
 Gossip's Hymn: Pass It On
 Electrician's Hymn: Send The Light

Shopper's Hymn: Sweet Bye and Bye
 Realtor's Hymn: I've Got a Mansion Just Over the Hilltop
 Doctor's Hymn: The Great Physician
 AND for those who speed on the highway - a few hymns:



45mph.....God Will Take Care of You
 65mph.....Nearer My God To Thee
 85mph.....This World Is Not My Home
 95mph.....Lord, I'm Coming Home
 100mph.....Precious Memories

Offerings* & Ministry Expenses

June

Offerings: \$5,049.83

Expenses: \$3,024.70

July

Offerings: \$3,979.00

Expenses: \$3,834.16

August

Offerings: \$6,791.10

Expenses: \$5,333.50

* Does not reflect special offerings for Building Fund or Memorial Fund

Missions Update

UM Home for Children in New Orleans

An offering of **\$225.80** was taken during the "Crocodile Dock" VBS to help in the rebuilding of the UM Home for Children in New Orleans.

Orangeville Area Food Bank

In July we were made aware that the Orangeville Area Food Bank was in desperate need of help. A special offering in the amount of **\$337.00** was received. At the August Administrative Board meeting a decision was made that we will continue to support the food bank on a quarterly basis for **\$100.00**.

Raise the Roof Campaign

Thank you for your donations totaling **\$202.00** for the "Raise the Roof Campaign" to help replace the roof of Mission Central.

WGRC Radio

Don Casteline from WGRC Radio in Lewisburg was our

speaker on August 30. The donation for WGRC was **\$1,427**. More information about WGRC may be found at www.wgrc.com.

Operation Christmas Child

We will be once again taking part in this special ministry. Shoe Boxes will be collected **Sunday, November 15**. More information will be available soon.



Brighter Christmas Fund

Are you taking part in Brighter Christmas 2009? We will be collecting envelopes on **Sunday, November 29**. **Envelopes are still available in the church vestibule.**

**Next Mission Sunday
November 29 - AGAPE**

Calendar of Events

All events at Ebenezer unless otherwise noted.

September

- Sunday, **September 6** - Special Missions Envelopes
- Sunday, **September 13** - Food Bank Sunday
- Sunday, **September 27** - Fellowship After Worship
- Sunday, **September 27 @ 10:00 AM** - Orangeville Nursing & Rehab Center

October

- Sunday, **October 4** - Special Missions Envelopes
- Sunday, **October 4** - World Communion Sunday Offering
- Tuesday, **October 6 @ 6:30 PM** - Trustees Meeting
- Sunday, **October 11** - Food Bank Sunday
- Saturday, **October 24 @ 5:00 PM** - Fall Festival
- Sunday, **October 25** - Building Fund Sunday
- Sunday, **October 25** - Fellowship After Worship

November

- Sunday, **November 1** - Special Missions Envelopes
- Monday, **November 2 @ 6 PM** - Administrative Board
- Sunday, **November 8** - Food Bank Sunday
- Sunday, **November 15** - World Hunger/Harvest Home Offering
- Sunday, **November 22** - F.R.A.N. Sunday
- Sunday, **November 22** - Fellowship After Worship
- Sunday, **November 29** - Mission Sunday
- Sunday, **November 29** - United Methodist Student Day Offering

**Do you have items for the
Winter Issue of "The Rock"
DEADLINE: November 22, 2009**

**Ebenezer United
Methodist Church**

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

687 State Route 93
Berwick, PA 18603



www.EbenezerUMCofBerwick.org

Birthdays

9/2 Ed Knorr
9/10 Sharon Fester
9/11 Austin Slusser
9/13 Dianne Mordan
9/16 Gena Slusser
9/18 Kelly Knorr
9/18 Erma Jeanne Young
9/21 Jolene Shaffer
9/21 Donna Livzey
9/30 Karen Slusser
10/3 Kent Shelhamer, Jr.
10/3 Mike Oman
10/7 Eli Slusser
10/14 Leon Eckroth
11/2 Linda Wintersteen
11/9 Leroy Wintersteen
11/13 Nicholas Fester

11/26 Trent O'Neil
11/27 Carol Wall
11/28 Paula Samelski
11/30 Kent Shelhamer, Sr.

Anniversaries

Kurt & Wendy Slusser 9/22/2001
Kent & Karen Slusser 10/5/1991
Gene & Sylvia Powlus 10/11/1952
Kermit & Mavis Heller 10/11/1952

Prayer List

Earl Dohl
Kermit Heller
Rev. Charles Hess
Ed Knorr
Rev. James Kremer
The Family of Arlene Shaffer
William Slusser
Ray Starr
Erma Jeanne Young
Pastor and Leaders of Columbia
Circuit

***Is your birthday/anniversary
incorrect or missing?***

Let Us Know!

***Please remember to pray for
Steve Livzey and his family while
he is deployed to Kuwait on the
day of the month that you signed
up for.***