

BOWER HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH

BOWER HILL NEWS

MAY 2007

THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTORS...

Our thoughts this month have been particularly focused on gratitude. For some reason, we seem to be living in a time and place where complaints flow easier than words of praise and thanksgiving. Even our prayers are more filled with words of petition and requests for things instead of words of gratitude. The massacre at Virginia Tech. wrenched our hearts with grief, but also served as a reminder of just how fragile life is and how important it is to tell our family and friends how much they mean to us. We know that in our own family, the day to day living and need to get things done, sometimes distracts us from noticing the good and commenting on it.

Paul had this wonderful way of starting most of his letters, "First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you,..." (Romans 1:8); "I give thanks to my God always for you..." (1 Corinthians 1:4); "In our prayers for you we always thank God..." (Colossians 1:3).

Consider this...wouldn't the world be a more pleasant place and wouldn't our relationships be much improved if we spent more time letting each other know how grateful we are more regularly? Someone gave us a newsletter article from another church whose pastor

challenged the congregation to spend the 30 days after Easter as "Complaint Free" days. It's an interesting challenge we should all consider taking up.

Even if we can't quite give up complaining, it would be a good spiritual practice for each one of us to take time to notice all the things we have to be thankful for and to express our thanks to God and one another more regularly.

With that in mind...we are grateful for the support this congregation has shown and continues to show for the Autism Walk. We are grateful for our children and the way they have overcome so many challenges. We are grateful for your prayers and words of concern for our family. We are grateful for the many volunteers who give their time so generously to this community of faith. We are grateful to Elliot and Tom and the choirs for their music leadership. We are grateful for the opportunity to worship together this summer with blended worship. We are grateful for our wonderful teachers. We are grateful for our staff and their dedication. We are grateful for each committee and the leadership of the session and deacons. Thank you.

Rev. Laurie & Rev. Leonard

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STAFF CHANGES



We have been experiencing a time of transition here at Bower Hill. We have appreciated all the patience and help that has been given in the past month as we have managed without a secretary in the office. Our Financial Secretary, Dianne Scott has really helped in this time of transition. Things are

changing again in May as Jim Kline will be leaving us to take another job. We wish him well as he takes on this new opportunity.

We will also be saying goodbye soon to Tom Flynn who has been such a blessing to us as the Search Committee has been working to find a new Director of Music

Ministries. We are delighted that Jessica Baier will begin her ministry with us in June. Words cannot express our gratitude to Tom and Jessica Flynn for their help in our time of transition. While we are sad to say goodbye, we are excited about the new possibilities and talents that Jessica brings to us.

MEET JESSICA BAIER



Hello! I am thrilled to be Bower Hill's new Director of Music Ministries. I hope to get to know everyone soon!

I am a native of the North Hills of Pittsburgh, I have lived in Bellevue my whole life. I come from a Christian family who has supported me in all I have done, which I am truly thankful for. Every member of my family has been involved with music at one time or another, which has helped my passion for music grow. I also have members of my family involved in ministry; my grandfather is a retired Presbyterian minister and my sister is planning to attend the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary after graduation. Growing up I played a number of instruments, my main

interest being the piano. I didn't actually start playing the organ until my senior year of high school. The organist at my home church, Bellevue United Presbyterian, had been a student at Duquesne University. She was enrolled in a class called Organ Pedagogy, in which she was being taught how to teach others, and needed a guinea pig. She asked if I would be willing, since I already knew the piano so well, and I agreed. I fell in love with the instrument immediately, and have been studying since. I have completed 2 years of my music degree at Duquesne and I intend to return in the fall to complete my degree on a part-time basis. For my love of the instrument I also am thankful for my father, who was also an organist.

On the side I work at JC Penney's, selling shoes. I have been there a little over a year, and I have to say that I enjoy it very much. I enjoy being around the people I work with, the customers, and of course, I enjoy shoes. I am also part of the Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis, where I serve on the Chrysalis board. I am very involved with the youth there, providing music for retreats and also being an adult leader in the community. In my spare time I try to spend as much as possible with my family and friends, I also enjoy reading, cross-stitching, and biking.

I sincerely thank you for already making me feel welcome at Bower Hill. I pray that God will bless us as we minister together.

JESSICA WILL
BEGIN
WORKING AT
BOWER HILL
ON JUNE 1ST!

THANK YOU TEACHERS & CHOIR MEMBERS!

It's hard to believe that we have come to the end of another program year at Bower Hill. On Sunday May 20th we will conclude the year and our teachers and choirs will take a well deserved break for the summer. It has been a good year! We are so grateful for the gifts that have been shared. They have truly blessed this community of faith. Please make sure that you take the time to thank our teachers and choir members. Our wonderful teachers this year were: Betsy

Hohlfelder, Carolyn Westerhoff, Kirsten Bruder, Linda Johnson, Dawn Kane, Doris Olinger, Mary Beth Waine, Debby Hayes, Brian Hayes, and Tom Hayes. Our talented Chancel Choir members are: Glenna Creaves-Karkaria, Lee Ferrero, Rick Jacobs, Pat Jacobs, Sue Mangold, Jean Miewald, Anne Mitchell, Gordon Mitchell, Bill Wegener, Lynne Wohleber, Phyllis Yohe, Margaret Zabo, Joan Zakor, Pam Emanuel, and Jessica Flynn. Our gifted

Bower Hill Bells are: Debbie Boisvert, Joan Bridges, Lee Ferrero, Betsy Hohlfelder, Anne Mitchell, Gordon Mitchell, Luanne Pattison, Ginny Star, Donna Williams, Lynne Wohleber, and Margaret Zabo. Our delightful King's Kids Clappers are: Hallie Baker, Madeline Drexler, Morgan Kohler, Cameron Schofield, Connor Schofield, Marne Shaw, Natalie Shaw, and Amanda Vosburgh. Thanks to all for sharing your talents!



SUMMER SCHEDULE

BEGINS
SUNDAY MAY 27

WORSHIP WILL BE
HELD AT 9:30 AM

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School is just around the corner! This year our theme will be Avalanche Ranch: A wild ride through God's word! Plans are already underway for the big week, which will be June 25-29 from 9:30am-12pm. Every year

we are delighted by the wonderful volunteers that come forward to help out. If you've never helped before, perhaps this is the year God is calling you to try something new! We promise it will be an unforgettable experience.

Whatever your schedule, we'll find a valuable job for you, so see Rev. Laurie or Pam Maniet to sign up to help! Oh and if you have any western stuff to loan us...we'd love to use it!



SHIM BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT

The Shim Back to School Event is Friday, August 3rd. This year Bower Hill Community Church has been asked to help by donating calculators! Not just any 'ol calculator but the ones the high school kids use! The TI 83! This is a big ticket item for

families of SHIM. The Texas Instrument-TI 83 is the one used in high school and in early college or tech. school. They can be purchased at any office supply place, Kmart, and Walmart. The cost is around \$90. BHCC has always come through for

these families in need! If this item is too big, please consider a "Fraction" of the cost and make a donation towards the purchase of a TI 83. If you have any questions, you can contact Betsy Hohlfelder at 412-341-1029 or Darena Lease at 412-854-4481.





PITTSBURGH WALK FOR AUTISM RESEARCH

by Joan McAnulty

The Eighth Annual Pittsburgh Walk for Autism Research will take place Saturday morning, June 2, 2007 at Heinz Field, 900 Art Rooney Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15212. Registration and other activities begin at 8:00 am and the Walk will begin at 10:00 am. The distance of the walk is three miles.

For the third year there will be a Bower Hill Community Church Team walking to help raise public awareness about Autism by joining the Autism Speaks Walk for Autism Research. Autism Speaks is a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing hope

to all who struggle with autism spectrum disorders. The primary goals are to raise public awareness about autism and to fund biomedical research that will lead to better treatment and, ultimately, a cure.

Thirteen years ago, 1 in 10,000 children was diagnosed with autism. Today that number has risen to 1 in 150 and with 1 in 97 boys given that diagnosis! Every 20 minutes another child is diagnosed. Money for research is vital to address this crisis. In our congregation, the pastors' two boys suffer from a mild form of autism called Asperser's Syndrome.

There are many others just in our locality.

To join the Bower Hill Community Church walking team, contact Jim and Joan McAnulty at 412-833-8450 or jhmcanulty@comcast.net

To donate to Autism Research, make your check payable to BHCC with the memo of Autism Research, then place it in the collection plate or send it to the church office. The funds collected will then be given as one check to Autism Research.

Let's show Leonard, Laurie, Andrew and Joshua we care by walking for and/or contributing to Autism Research.

"EVERY 20
MINUTES
ANOTHER
CHILD IS
DIAGNOSED!"

EAST LIBERTY HEALTH CARE CENTER

The East Liberty Family Health Care Center, which Bower Hill has supported for many years, is having a 25th anniversary celebration on Friday, June 8th. There will be dinner at the Renaissance Hotel downtown at 6pm; then an

8pm performance at the nearby Byham Theater by the Grammy Award winning Acapella Soul Artists TAKE 6. Tickets for the entire dinner/concert are \$100 per person, concert tickets alone are available for \$30.

Jim & Joan McAnulty have already organized one table. If you are interested in attending or have any questions, please contact the center at: 412-361-8265.



FOOD PANTRY

The food pantry appreciates your donations for May! This month's donations will be collected

on Sunday, May 13th. Donations of low sugar cereal and laundry detergent are suggested.

Please contact Jason Rising at 412-851-1503, jaydr@adelphia.net, for more information.



CHURCH DIRECTORY

by Jean Miewald

On the wall by my computer as I write this article is a beautiful portrait of me with my arm around my first dog, Sheena. This photo was taken by Olan Mills for my first BHCC directory in 1991 and I smile every time I look at it. The Evangelism and Membership committee has begun planning for a new church directory to be made this fall. We have again contracted with Olan Mills to make our directory for us. The directory consists of individual family

photos take by Olan Mills photographers, an address and phone listing of our members, and pictures of our congregation in action. There can also be a special section for those serving in the military if we have an interest in that. We have scheduled family photographs to be taken on August 9th and September 14th from 3 to 9:30 PM and September 15th from 10 AM to 5 PM. Please make plans to participate in the family portion of the directory. The more families that participate, the more pages of

congregational pictures we are allowed. If you have photos of church events, please share those with us so that we may consider including them in the congregation section. There is no charge to the church or to you for participating. Of course Olan Mills hopes that you will consider purchasing prints of the photos for your personal use. Each family that participates will receive a free directory and a free 8X10 family photo. More information will be forthcoming as August approaches.



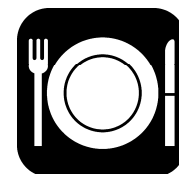
WE HAVE SCHEDULED FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS TO BE TAKEN ON AUGUST 9TH AND SEPTEMBER 14TH & 15TH.

THE BOWER HILLERS

The Bower Hillers will meet for their May luncheon on Wednesday, May 23 at noon at Café Euro (former Colony

Restaurant), located at the corner of Greentree and Cochran roads. John and Phyllis Yohe will be the hosts. The guest speaker

will be the Rev. James Bailey. Watch your mail for further information soon.



BOOKWORMS

Bookworms is the name of the women's book club at Bower Hill. Each month, women gather at someone's home for a book discussion and fellowship. Newcomers are always welcome! The May meeting has been moved to Wednesday, May 16. We will discuss the book: *Water For Elephants*, by Sara Gruen, at the home of Nina Helbling. In June, we will meet on June 19, to discuss the book, *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls. Location: TBD.



COMMUNION

During the Summer (May 27-September 2) we will worship together at 9:30am. Communion will be celebrated by the common method in June & August and by intinction in July and September. Communion servers for June 3rd are: Mary Good, Theresa Child, Steve & Debbie Boisvert, Dan Zabo, Gordon & Ann Mitchell, and Bill Spangenberg. Remember, if you are unable to serve communion, please find a substitute! Thank you!



MISSION UPDATE



The \$193 that our youth collected for the Souper Bowl has been sent to Second United Presbyterian Church of Wilkinsburg to help start their vegetable garden on the church property to supplement the church's food bank for residents of the community.

Thanks to all who have donated money to the Malawi water well project. Crafton Heights Presbyterian has joined us in this effort and, with their help, we will soon be sending a check for approximately \$5,000 to drill the well. This will be our third well in the past

two years. Thanks for helping to provide clean drinking water to so many in Africa, for making a difference.

Thanks also to all who donated diapers, for the SHIM diaper drive. Diane Leeson and Dave Stewart took several carloads.

ADULT EDUCATION



May 6th - A representative from Washington City Mission

May 13th - A representative from the Veteran Affairs Dept.

May 20th - Rev. Thomas Johnson, Head of School, The Neighborhood Academy

The summer schedule will begin on May 27th. We will worship together at a combine service at 9:30 am! Thanks to all who contributed to making this a great year of learning!

LET'S KEEP THE COMMUNICATION FLOWING



For those of you who have given the office your email address, we hope you have found the monthly communication of events and other special communication useful. We realize some of you may

have changed your email address, since we last validated email addresses. You should be receiving an email around the beginning of each month detailing the events at Bower Hill. If you do not receive the email, then either we don't have

your email address or it is incorrect on our records. If you fit into this category, please send the office (office@bhccml.com) your email address and we will update our records.

YOUTH NEWS

What a wonderful evening the Spaghetti Dinner was! The youth department is still recovering from all the hard work that went into the dinner, but we especially want to thank everyone who contributed to making the event a success! We are well on

our way to funding the work trip! Thanks to all who helped with preparations, serving, clean up and a special thank you to those who attended and spread the word. Looking ahead, the Middies will be going to the Wildwood Highlands on May 6th from 2-6:30pm and they will be

working on our next big fundraiser, a Pancake Breakfast on Saturday May 19th from 9am-1pm. The High School youth will be doing some prep work on Monday May 14 from 7pm-10pm (we'll also play some games) and they will also be working hard at the breakfast on the 19th.

CONGRATULATIONS
GRADUATE!

JENNIFER GARDNER

CARE LIST

Lois Conley, 1150 Bower Hill Rd, 1116A, Pittsburgh, PA 15243
 Matt Dunfee, 966 Worthington Woods Blvd, Worthington, OH, 43085
 Kenn Fetterman, 2236 Kingridge Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15237
 Verna Rose, c/o Gretchen Rose, 134 Grove Avenue, Woodridge, NJ 07095
 Loretta Schweinbratten, 2960 Bethel Church Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15102
 Morris Standfest, 921 Old Hickory Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15243
 Peggy Craig, 714 Bower Hill Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15243
 Catheryn Deemer, Broadmore Assisted Living #205, 3275 Washington Pike, Bridgeville, PA 15017
 Harry Dunfee, Manor Care, 1848 Greentree Road #323 Pittsburgh, PA 15220
 Ruth Fenton, Asbury Place, 700 Bower Hill Rd., #3737, Pittsburgh, PA 15243
 Bob Gavett, Asbury Heights, 700 Bower Hill Rd., #6443, Pittsburgh, PA 15243
 Marcia Maley, Marian Manor, 2695 Winchester Drive, #216C, Pittsburgh, PA 15220
 Pat Metheny, Asbury Place, 760 Bower Hill Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15243
 Harry Retzer, 493 Castle Shannon Boulevard, #520, Pittsburgh, PA 15234

LET US PRAY FOR
 LOVED ONES OF
 THOSE WHO
 HAVE DIED:
 BILL NUERNBERG
 4/14/07
 ED SLOTTERBACK

WELCOMED INTO
 THE FAMILY OF
 FAITH THROUGH
 THE SACRAMENT OF
 BAPTISM ON APRIL
 15TH
 ETHAN RIDGEWAY
 KENDRA GIBBONS

CHURCH LEADERSHIP: ELDERS & DEACONS

Administration & Personnel:	Chairperson, Woody Hughes; Pat Jacobs
Buildings & Grounds:	Chairperson, Matt Maniet; Phil Johnson
Christian Education:	Chairperson, Pam Maniet; Debby Hayes;
Adult Education Subcommittee:	Chairperson, Nina Helbling; Dan Zabo
Evangelism & Membership:	Chairperson, Glenn Child; Jean Miewald
Finance & Stewardship:	Chairperson, Kurt Kerner; Dick Junker
Mission:	Chairperson, Dave Hicks; Diane Leeson; Lou Mazzini
Nominating & Presbytery:	Chairperson, Curt Philson; Bill Cadwell
Music & Worship:	Chairperson, Anne Mitchell; Margie Sewall
Youth Ministries:	Chairperson, Christine Henney; Jason Rising

Deacons Class of 2007

Bob Bridges
 Nancy Green (Sanctuary Flowers)
 Theresa Child (Sanctuary Flowers)
 Dave Stewart
 Cindy Waller (Special Flowers)

Deacons Class of 2008

Marian Brannan (Feed My Sheep)
 Betty Chidlow
 Barbara Hughes (Ministry at time of death)
 Kathy Philson (Moderator)
 Carolyn Westerhoff

Deacons Class of 2009

Ben Hohlfelder (Special Flowers)
 Mary Good (Secretary)
 Margaret Zabo (Welcome Baby)
 Elaine Dalmaso
 Phyllis Yohe

GREETERS AND COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Greeters for May:

May 6: 9am:

Chuck & Janis Shaw

May 6: 10:15am:

Bev & Don Lamb,
Barbara Prunchek,
The Lease Family

May 13: 9:00 am:

Jamie Sonnie

May 13: 10:15am:

The Mazzini Family, Ivan
and Kohar Shnorhokian

May 20: 9am:

Christine & Ray Henney

May 20: 10:15am:

Chan Ketchum, Julia Snead,
LuAnn McNickle

May 27: 9:30am:

The Olinger Family

Coffee Hour Hosts:

May 6:

Natalie Shaw

May 13:

Marne Shaw

May 20:

Nancy Andrews

May 27:

Jane & Truman Kohman

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Tom Flynn, Interim Director of Music Ministries

to@bhccml.com

Brian Hayes, Director of Youth Ministries

br@bhccml.com

Elliot Roth, Contemporary Music Leader

jabinmusic@yahoo.com

Dianne Scott, Financial Secretary

di@bhccml.com

Rev Laurie Sponaugle, Co-Pastor

la@bhccml.com

Rev Leonard Sponaugle, Co-Pastor

le@bhccml.com

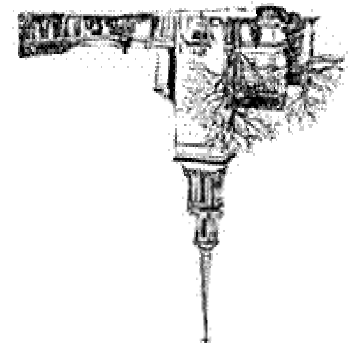
THE CHURCH OFFICE

[412] 561-4114

Monday - Thursday 9:00am—3:00 pm

Friday 9:00am—1:00 pm

BOYER HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH
A PLACE TO BELIEVE, BELONG & BECOME



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Phone: 412-561-4114

Pittsburgh, Pa 15243

70 Moffett Street

CHURCH

BOYER HILL COMMUNITY

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