

BOWER HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH

# BOWER HILL NEWS

## THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTORS...

JULY 2007

Rev. Laurie & Rev. Leonard

### Bubbling!

I want to tell you about some promising signs / things here at Bower Hill. I hope you were as delighted as I was hearing the Surfing the Edge Teams report during worship.

Both teams are being drawn to consider how people foster their connection with God. Even though one team is focused on children and the other on adults I think it is evidence of the in-breaking of the Holy Spirit here at Bower Hill that both teams are struggling with how Bower Hill helps its present and future participants draw close to God. In this pastor's view we in the Church business have gotten so good and dependent, on creating and running programs that we have too easily let programming become more of a focus than how we help ourselves and others draw close to God. So I think S.T.E. is getting to the right things – I just wish it were faster!

Another promising sign here at Bower Hill was the reformation of the session. Each year we reconfigure the leadership of the committees as elders come and go. As part of that I ask each elder what committee they would like to lead and serve. This year two elders asked about committees that we don't have. A clear sign that we are not frozen in the past and that new thinking is coming to the surface. Specifically, one elder wondered about a green practices committee and the other elder asked about a committee focused on encouraging spiritual practices. What good things are happening here at Bower Hill that are allowing these kinds of notions to slip in?

So I am pleased and heartened that S.T.E. is starting to work and that new and faithful things are bubbling up. I hope you see good signs as well.



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## AVALANCHE RANCH

It was a rowdy week at Vacation Bible School! Rowdy in a good way that is! We had so much fun all week and we learned some important lessons. We learned that God is Real, from our friend Buc, the horse. We learned that God is with us from our friend Shadow, the cattle dog. We learned that God is Strong, from our friend Ranger, the bison. We learned that God is Awesome from our friend Skye, the eagle. We learned that God is in Charge, from our friend Boss the bull. We heard stories about Rahab and Joshua and Jesus and a man named Naaman who had leprosy. We made some wonderful crafts like prayer bears, some of which will be sent to Africa so that children there will know that God loves them too! We learned some amazing songs like Forever, Awesome God and Wild Ride. We played some cool games and ate yummy snacks which we made each day! The highlight of the day was always the Spotlight Drama which a different group got to star in every day. Some drama's told stories and other celebrated the songs and scripture passages. We collected an offering each day for Heifer International, which supplies animals to help people in need. Our offering totaled over \$360.00 and were able to collect enough money to buy a flock of chicks, a flock of ducks, a flock of geese, a goat, a llama and a hive of honeybees! Our God is an awesome God! And God did great things through this church and love the was shared at Vacation Bible School! Special thanks as always to those who helped coordinate: Dawn Kane who recruited an amazing number of youth helpers! Pam who handled things so calmly and coolly in the kitchen! Debby Hayes and Joan Bridges who created masterful dramas each day! And Lori Schofield who brought in a number of volunteers and families to participate! Thanks for your generous gift of time and talent!



## HAT'S OFF!

Every year I am overwhelmed by the generosity of the volunteers who give their time to make Vacation Bible School so memorable. This year we had more volunteers than any other year and it was wonderful to see how folks were able to demonstrate God's love through their caring, teaching and reaching out.

So, hat's off and a great big thank-you to all ya'll who made Avalanche Ranch a rousing good time! We couldn't have done it without you! Thanks for sharing God's love and

touching the hearts of all who attended.

Dawn Kane,  
Pam Maniet,  
Dottie Carter,  
Margie Sewall,  
Lori Schofield,  
Katy Williams,  
Jenifer Fagan,  
Theresa Child,  
Joan Bridges,  
Kiri Rising,  
Carol Knox,  
Cynthia Gissin,  
Bev Lamb,  
Diedra Pitt,,  
Jean Miewald,  
Betsy Hohlfelder,  
Ann Mitchell,  
Lauren Baker,  
Glenn Child,

Steve Boisvert,  
Mary Beth Pharner,  
Jessica Baier  
Doris Olinger,  
Sally Child  
Debby Hayes  
Natalie Savage



### Youth Helpers:

Tyler Kane,  
Michael Teti,  
Megan Frennier  
Maura Teti  
Brittany Maniet,  
Alyssa Hess,  
Marissa DeAngelo,  
Emilia Ricuitti,  
Lauren Heilbling,  
Sean Rieger,  
Brianna Scott,  
Josh Darges,  
Caitlin Kemmler

## CALCULATOR DRIVE

The SHIM Back to School Event is quickly approaching and we are in desperate need of calculators! So far we have collected 1 calculator and donations of \$455 and we are still in need of calculators and donations to reach our goal of 50 calculators!

Please bring your TI 83 to the church by July 10 or you can let us do the shopping and make a financial donation. Calculators cost about \$100.

Also, remember helpers are still needed for the event on August 3rd from

3:30-6:30. Jobs include helping to run games, guide kids through the school supplies, scoop sno-cones and make a craft. If you are interested, please call either Betsy Hohlfelder (412-341-1029) or Darend Lease (412-854-4481.)

## FOOD PANTRY

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

on Sunday, July 8th. Donations of detergent, low sugar cereal, and toilet paper are suggested.

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





## JULY & AUGUST WORSHIP PLANS

July 1: VBS Sunday;

Rev. Laurie Sponaugle

July 8: Rev. Karen Battle

July 15: Rev. Pat Albright

July 22: Kate Fletcher from  
Hekima Place, Kenya

Erin Hohlfelder who  
worked with Kate in the  
spring. writes: On July

22<sup>nd</sup>, you are all invited to  
attend church and meet  
Kate Fletcher, a woman  
who selflessly impacts the  
lives of 43 female AIDS  
orphans in Kenya each day.  
Kate, a former Mt.  
Lebanon resident, was  
moved by the plight of  
female orphans in Africa,  
and in 2005 started Hekima

Place, a home for girls  
affected by the pandemic.  
For more information, see  
the June newsletter.

July 29: Rev. Pat Albright

Aug. 5: Rev. Laurie

Aug. 12: Rev. Laurie

Aug. 19: Rev. Leonard

Aug. 26: Rev. Leonard

## REMEMBERING LOVED ONES

Have you ever noticed the  
beautiful flowers at the  
front of the church during  
the Sunday services? They  
are donated by different  
members of the church  
each week in honor or  
memory of loved ones and  
then delivered by the  
Deacons to members of the  
church who are sick, in the  
hospital or just in need of a  
pick me up.

Beginning in September  
there will be a second  
option for the people who  
donate the flowers. This  
option will give the  
opportunity to make a cash  
donation to a charity in lieu  
of live flowers. Donations  
may be made to one of the  
many organizations  
supported by the church  
for example Washington  
City Mission, Sojourners  
House, South Hills  
Hospice, etc or for causes

such as the BHCC Youth  
Group Work Trip or the  
Margaret McKee Fund. On  
the weeks we have live  
flowers the Deacons will  
continue to deliver them.  
When we do not have live  
flowers, we will use silk  
flowers in their place. We  
have arranged for Donati's  
florist (who do our  
beautiful arrangements  
each week) to make us two  
silk flower arrangements  
one for summer made with  
bright colors and one for  
fall made in reds, oranges  
and yellows. Thank you to  
Dave and Nancy Green,  
Glenn and Sally Child, and  
Theresa and Cary Child for  
donating the summer  
arrangement and thank you  
to Jamie Sonnie, Pete and  
Elaine Dalmaso, and  
Chuck, Janis, Marne and  
Natalie Shaw for donating  
the fall arrangement.  
Sometime in the future we

will be looking for  
donations for the purchase  
of a third arrangement for  
the spring made with pastel  
colors.

Each donor donates once a  
year, typically at the same  
time each year. We do  
have two open dates  
available if you are  
interested in becoming a  
donor. The corresponding  
dates for 2008 will 5/18  
and 7/13. There are a few  
people who don't mind  
switching dates, so if you  
have a different date you'd  
be interested in donating  
flowers for, it can't hurt to  
ask. Anyone interested in  
becoming a donor or who  
has any questions regarding  
the new flowers policy can  
call Theresa Child at 412-  
429-9519.

## MISSION ACTION TEAM #2 UPDATE

Those of you in worship on June 3 heard Betsy Hohlfelder summarize the direction of our group is taking with this challenge: How can we attract the busy, overcommitted typical people of our community to BHCC?

We found that Bower Hill members need to feel excited about our church in order to spread that enthusiasm in the community. God is alive at Bower Hill. Many of you have experiences of God working through you or for you. And that's always exciting!

So let's tell one another those stories. Why? Because when we remember all that God has done through us already, we are inspired for more. We start looking for God working now among us at BHCC. We want to be part of where he is leading us. We start realizing, "This is the church as Christ intended it to be." And then perhaps those "busy, overcommitted" neighbors of ours will start thinking, "I want to be part of BHCC too."

On September 9 you'll

have the opportunity to share memories of when you saw God at work through our church. There will be time to tell your stories both during the service and immediately afterwards during a catered brunch. So mark your calendars. You are part of BHCC's history and its future. With God let's move forward with a greater sense of purpose, unity and hope. (Team members: Betsy Hohlfelder, Mary Good, Rick Jacobs, Tim Lease, Jean Miewald and Lori Schofield)



## 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 July meeting will be held on July 17, and the discussion will be on the

book *Spot of Bother* by Mark Haddon. Location: Margaret Zabo's. Come and join us! You'll be glad you did!



## GREETERS FOR JULY

### Greeters:

July 1: The Schofield Family

July 8: Carol Swed

July 15: Ginny Starr

July 22: The Vosburgh Family

July 29: Cindy Waller

### **Summer Greeters Be Aware**

We messed up, (I messed up) when sending out the letter for the summer greeters. I forgot to change the time for the combined service. Please change the time of the service on the list of greeters to 9:30 am and arrive before that time to greet. Thanks.—Glenn Child

## COMMUNION SERVERS

### Communion Servers for August:

August 5:

Jason Rising

Kiri Rising

Lou Mazzini

Wendy Mazzini

Matt Maniet

Pam Maniet

Glenn Child

Sally Child

## CHURCH DIRECTORY



### **Dear Friends,**

We are excited to announce that we are going to create a new pictorial directory of our church family. The directory will help us to connect names with faces. It will be an ideal outreach tool and will capture the history and mission of our congregation.

Please participate! All we ask is that you have your picture taken by the professional Photographer and meet with a Portrait Consultant at the church. For the next several weeks, starting on July 8<sup>th</sup>, we will be making appointment after the worship service. Please sign up as soon as possible to get the best appointment to fit your schedule.

Every participating family that selects a pose for the directory will receive a free directory and a complimentary 8 x 10 Custom Natural Portrait.

You will come to the church only once for photography and for portrait viewing.

This directory program has no cost to the church budget.

You will have the opportunity to order additional portraits during your scheduled appointment time.

If you wish to purchase extras, the portraits come with a 100% Satisfaction Guarantee.

Whether you decide to dress formal or casual, you will want to make the most of this opportunity.

### **The Scheduled Dates for Photography and Portrait Viewing Are:**

**Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 PM to 9:00 PM**

**Friday, September 14<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 PM to 9:00 PM**

**Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM**

**If you have questions, please contact Jean Miewald at (412) 221-2114.**

We look forward to seeing everyone in the directory.

Our new pictorial directory just won't be complete without you!

Sincerely,

The Evangelism and Membership Committee

## 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  
 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  
 Tooie Sharkey, Asbury Heights, 700 Bower Hill Rd, #7338, Pittsburgh, PA 15243

In June we welcomed  
 Richard Haden Kohler  
 into the family of God  
 through the  
 Sacrament of Baptism.

In July we welcomed  
 Carter Pitt  
 into the family of God  
 through the  
 Sacrament of Baptism.

## CHURCH LEADERSHIP: ELDERS & DEACONS

### Elders Class of 2008

Christine Henney  
 Pat Jacobs  
 Matt Maniet  
 Pam Maniet  
 Margie Sewall  
 Jason Rising  
 Dan Zabo

### Elders Class of 2009

Bill Cadwell  
 Debby Hayes  
 Nina Helbling  
 Phil Johnson  
 Lou Mazzini  
 Jean Miewald

### Elders Class of 2010

Steve Boisvert  
 Glenn Child  
 Denny Geis, Jr.  
 Alan Hohlfelder  
 George Vosburgh  
 John Zoll

### Deacons Class of 2008

Marian Brannan  
 Betty Chidlow  
 Barbara Hughes  
 Kathy Philson  
 Carolyn Westerhoff

### Deacons Class of 2009

Elaine Dalmaso  
 Mary Good  
 Ben Hohlfelder  
 Phyllis Yohe  
 Margaret Zabo

### Deacons Class of 2010

Theresa Child  
 Nancy Geis  
 Tom Hayes  
 Kate Junker  
 Linda Johnson



**"Those of you who helped with Vacation Bible School –  
you know who you are – deserve special thanks."**

**OUR CHURCH STAFF**

Jessica Baier, Director of Music Ministries

je@bhccml.com

Brian Hayes, Director of Youth Ministries

br@bhccml.com

Brad Manison, Custodian

Dianne Scott, Financial Secretary

di@bhccml.com

Rev Laurie Sponaugle, Co-Pastor

la@bhccml.com

Rev Leonard Sponaugle, Co-Pastor

le@bhccml.com

Kimberly Shetter, Secretary

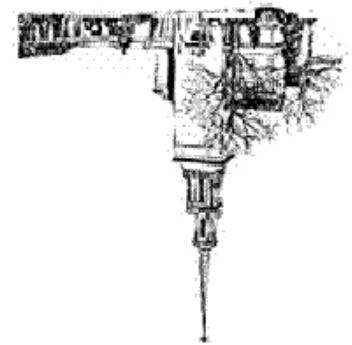
ki@bhccml.com

THE CHURCH OFFICE

[412] 561-4114

Monday - Friday 9:00am—3:00 pm

**BOVER HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
A PLACE TO BELIEVE, BELONG & BECOME



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CHURCH

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