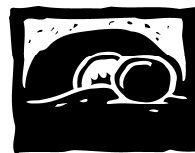
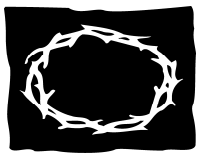


BOWER HILL NEWS



Dear Friends,

At the extreme northern point of Norway, people of that country live so far north that their winter is consumed in weeks of perpetual night. On January 18 they gather to catch an impressive glimpse of the first sign of spring: a thin rim of light which drives away the perpetual night.

Women came to the tomb at the dawn of the third day of Jesus' burial (Luke 24:1-12), but there was no dawn in their lives. Their hopes were dashed, their dreams dissipated, their aspirations defeated, their little company of followers dispersed. They came not to watch the light come from darkness but to embalm the entombed. The disciples didn't come at all. The One whom they had thought to be the Messiah had been crucified and had left their expectations emaciated and their aspirations emasculated. The disciples were in the darkest day of the *winter of their discontent*, the winter of their perpetual night. Any word of an empty tomb could seem nothing more than an idle tale, cruelly taunting their dark despair. The immortal longings they had experienced in the transcending presence of Jesus of Nazareth were now finite, futile.

A striking, memorable phrase emerges from a sea of images in Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*. As Act IV concludes, Antony has fallen on his sword, asks to be taken to Cleopatra, and—reconciled with the Queen—dies in her arms. In the conclusion of Act V, Cleopatra dresses in the queenly robes she first wore when she met Antony and takes a deadly asp, applies it to her breast, and dies after this request: *Give me my robe, put on my crown; I have Immortal longings in me.*

The women came to the tomb at dawn, engulfed in darkness of despair only to discover the body of Jesus gone and two angels in "dazzling apparel" standing by them. Resurrection light had driven out perpetual night. Jesus was alive. Their immortal longings were restored.

In John Masfield's drama *The Trial of Jesus*, Procula, the wife of Pilate, receives a report that Jesus rose from the tomb. She excitedly asks Longinus, a Roman soldier, "Do you think He is dead?" "No, I don't," Longinus replies. "Where then is He?" Procula asks. "Loose in the world, lady," says Longinus, "where neither Jew nor Roman nor anyone else can stop Him!" This is the heartbeat of Christianity, the center of our faith. Christ is loose in the world, out and moving among us, involved in our personal lives, inspiring us to faith and action, freeing us to live and move as liberated, forgiven, exuberant people of God.

As the light of Easter Day dawns upon our hankering hearts, let us *bend up every spirit to his/her full height* and declare with confidence and exuberance the most hope-filled words this world has ever heard: *Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!* . . . for we have immortal satisfactions in the Risen Christ.

Yours, faithfully and gratefully,
Calvin C. Wilson

APRIL 2009

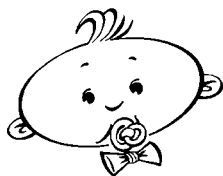
INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

COMMUNITY NOTES: BRUDER BABY SPAGHETTI DINNER FOODBANK BOOKWORMS NEIGHBORHOOD ACADEMY BRUNCH NOTICE HOLOCAUST OBSERVANCE HANDBELL CONCERT	2
COMMUNITY NOTES: SURVEY NOTICE ONE GREAT HOUR JAY HITT CONCERT	3
WORSHIP PLANS FOR APRIL	4
ADULT EDUCATION IN APRIL MUSIC PLANS FOR APRIL	5
WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS CARE LIST	6
OFFICER NOMINATION FORM	7
HUMOR	8

COMMUNITY NOTES

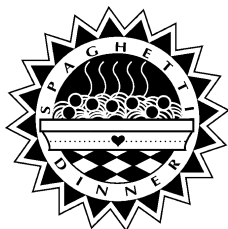
IT'S A BOY!

Please welcome
to the BHCC family



CHRISTOPHER JAMES BRUDER

7 LBS. 6OZ., 21 INCHES

**SPAGHETTI DINNER**

**Support the youth Work
Trip by having dinner at
BHCC on April 19th from
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.**

FOODBANK STILL NEEDS YOU!

On Sunday, **April 12th**, we will have our regular collection for the Wallace Food Pantry. The food pantry is in particular need of pasta, dry cereal (prefer healthy varieties like Cheerios) and peanut butter.

SPRING BRUNCH

Join the women of Bower Hill Church at the Spring Brunch which will be held after church on Sunday, May 3. We will be celebrating fellowship, friendship, food and the beautiful new surroundings in the Friendship Room. So mark your calendar and please RSVP to the church office by April 29.

**30TH ANNUAL HOLOCAUST OBSERVANCE**

April 26, 7:30 p.m.

Westminster Presbyterian Church

This year marks the 30th time that members of the South Hills community have come together to remember the Holocaust. Our commemoration continues to be one of the few interfaith services in the country. Sadly, these past few years have brought the loss of many survivors and witnesses to this dark period in the world's history. If we do not come together to recall and learn, these voices of the past will be silenced. It is time to emphasize that the acts of the individual make a difference...so that this history is not repeated.

HANDBELL CHOIR TO PARTICIPATE IN CONCERT

Handbell Concert Handbell Choir.

The North Hills Handbell Association presents the Thirty-Second Annual Festival, at Marshall Middle School, April 25. Please try to attend the 5:00 p.m. public concert to support the Bower Hill

Directions from I-79 South:

Take Exit 75 (old 23) to Warrendale, Rt. 19. When you reach Rt. 19, turn right. Shenot Road will be at the next stoplight. Turn right onto Shenot Road. Continue until you come to a stop sign (a T in the road). It is about a mile, then turn right on Wexford Run Road. Go up the hill until you see the sign for Marshall Middle School on the right. Marshall Middle School is on the left. The other school is an elementary school.

BOOKWORMS

Bookworms meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m., in the home of a member, for fellowship and discussion of a chosen title.

April 21st

The Shack

by William P. Young

Hostess: Nancy Green

May 19th

Dreams of My Father

by Barack Obama

Hostess: Margaret Zabo

NEIGHBORHOOD ACADEMY BENEFIT

Join friends and fans of the Class of 2009 to celebrate The Neighborhood Academy's 5th Annual Faces of the Future benefit Gala which the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette has called "The party to watch in 2009". The event will be held Friday, May 19th. For ticket prices and more information call 412-362-2001.

OFFICER NOMINATIONS

On page seven of this issue of the Bower Hill News, you will find a nomination form for the Offices of Bower Hill Community Church. Please make your suggestions known to the Nominating Committee by completing this form and returning it to the office via the collection plate or by mail.

COMMUNITY NOTES

NOT ANOTHER SURVEY!

Yes, we are going to ask you to participate in another survey but this one is only two questions. We realize the last survey was long and time consuming, but the analysis of the responses to the questions in the survey was very useful. That survey has reduced the time for creating the Church Information Form, which is required for the PNC to start receiving resumes from interested pastors. Russ Crabtree, the creator the previous survey, has recently developed a simple two-question survey called The Family Tree. The Family Tree is a tool for helping a pastor to better understand both individuals and relationships in a church. It provides a number of maps that can provide insight on how a leader can better care for his or her church family. We have been given the opportunity to utilize it at no cost. Session and both pastors have looked at the sample output generated by the survey and have agreed that this would be useful information. Our plan for implementing the survey is to include the information to complete the survey as an insert in the May newsletter, which will keep costs of conducting the survey to a minimum. Please look for it and consider participating.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Enclosed with this issue of the Bower Hill News is an offering envelope for the One Great Hour of Sharing drive. Funds from the One Great Hour of Sharing offering are given to help those in need. The offering is divided equally between

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, The Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self-Development of People Program. All three programs help people address the results of past injustice or misfortune by looking to the future with hope and creativity. Together they witness to the love that Jesus Christ has shared with all and that he asks us to share with one another.

Contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing make a difference in the lives of people. Whether they take the form of immediate relief to people experiencing a time of crisis or of partnerships with communities, focused on long-term solutions to chronic problems, those gifts are a powerful, tangible witness to the healing love of Christ for all people. —From www.pcusa.org. The need is great. Please give generously this year.

**CONCERT TO BENEFIT FOOD PANTRY**

Throughout Lent, Bower Hill has been collecting food for Wallace Food Pantry and SHIM, proving that hard work and caring can make a difference. But can a love story help feed the hungry?

It can if you come to Fellowship Hall on Saturday April 4th from 7:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. for a "Stock the Food Pantry" Concert featuring the music of Jay Hitt. When Jay played at Bower Hill several years ago, he charmed the audience with his vivid storytelling combined with crisp and delicate acoustic melodies. Also featured will be the new book *Tracy Loves Ray* by church member Theresa Child, based on a song of the same name (written by Jay). Copies of the book and Jay's CDs will be on sale, and a portion of the sales will go to the food pantries.

The concert is free and coffee and dessert will be served. Attendees are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items. A free-will offering will be received. Transportation assistance is offered for those who need a ride to this event. A sign-up sheet for ride assistance is located in the Narthex or call the church office at (412) 561-4114.



SUNDAY, APRIL 12

Easter / Resurrection of the Lord
John 20:1-18

Sweeping Up the Heart

The Rev. Calvin C. Wilson, preaching

Please join us for Easter Breakfast
at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Special Music will be provided by
The Slippery Rock Brass Quartet
during the Easter Worship Service.

WORSHIP PLANS FOR APRIL

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

Palm Sunday

Isaiah 46:1-9; Matthew 21:1-11



God on a Donkey

The Rev. Calvin C. Wilson,
preaching

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

Maundy Thursday

Agape Feast in the Fellowship Hall
6:30 p.m.



Holy Communion
Matthew 26:36-46

The Human Pendulum

The Rev. Calvin C. Wilson,
preaching

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

Good Friday Noon

Three-hour Good Friday Service
12:00 Noon to 3:00 O'clock
BHCC at approximately 2:10
Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church



*The Seven Last Words
of Christ from the Cross*

The Rev. Laurie Sponaugle,
preaching on "It Is Finished"

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

Good Friday Evening

Tenebrae Service in the Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.



Cantata: The Shadow of the Cross

Jessica Baier, Director of Music
John 18

The Outcry

The Rev. Calvin C. Wilson,
preaching



SUNDAY, APRIL 19

Second Sunday of Easter

Confirmation Sunday
John 20:19-31



"Believing!"

The Rev. Laurie Sponaugle,
preaching

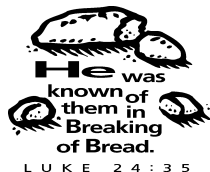
SUNDAY, APRIL 26

Third Sunday of Easter

Luke 24:13-37

Always Another Beside You

The Rev. Calvin C. Wilson,
preaching



ADULT EDUCATION IN APRIL

Adult Education



April 5

Maureen Haggerty, Vice President of Development at Family Hospice and Palliative Care, will speak about hospice and the Center for Compassionate Care. For the past three and a half years, Maureen has been managing the organization's first capital campaign to transform the former Ward Home into the Center for Compassionate Care. This is an excellent opportunity for us to get to better know our neighboring agency.

April 12 Easter

No class

April 19

"The Jesus Seminar"

Who was Jesus? Is it possible to agree from the various accounts of His life? The Jesus Seminar is a group of Biblical scholars who are notable in the field of religion. Their account of what Jesus said and did has stirred a controversy which is ongoing. Our discussion will focus on the findings of the Jesus Seminar and the criticism which has followed their publications of "The Five Gospels", "The Acts of Jesus" and "The Gospel of Jesus". Marian Brannan will guide us through this controversy.

April 26

The Rev. Calvin C. Wilson
 THE LEGACIES OF D'WOLF AND VESEY:
 Traces of the Trade.

MUSICAL OFFERINGS FOR HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday

Anthem: *All Glory Laud and Honor*, arr. J. S. Bach
 Chancel Choir
 Soprano, Lynne Wohleber



Maundy Thursday

Anthem: *Christ Our Master*, by J. Michael Thompson
 Chancel Choir
 Cello, Rev. Cal Wilson



Good Friday Community Service

Anthem: *O Perfect Life of Love*, by Robert Wetzler
 Chancel Choir

Good Friday Tenebrae Evening Service

The Shadows of the Cross

A Contemporary Tenebrae Service, arranged and composed by Lloyd Larson
 Chancel Choir

Incorporating traditional hymns such as *Near the Cross*, *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*, *I Need Thee Every Hour* and contemporary songs such as *I Come to the Cross*, *How Beautiful*, and *You Are My All in All*

Easter Sunday

Anthem: Concertato on *We Know that Christ is Raised*, arr. Hal H. Hopson
 Chancel Choir
 The Slippery Rock Brass Quartet

COMMUNION SERVERS

Bev and Jim Burke Dave Stewart
 Judy Delestienne Choir:
 Bev and Don Lamb Anne and Gordon Mitchell
 Kiri and Jason Rising

GREETERS

April 5 Bob Winnett Betty Winnett Betty Mancini
April 12 George Freas Eleanora Freas Julia Snead
April 19 Curt Philson Kathy Philson Jeanne Olsen
April 26 Bill Cadwell Linda Szyslowski Margie Sewall

LECTORS

April 5 DJ Geis
April 12 Mary Good
April 19 Abby Waine
April 26 Sally Child

USHERS Steve and Debbie Boisvert, Bob Bridges, Chuck and Mary Laufer, Bob Winnett

CARE LIST



BHCC CARE LIST

- Margie and Roll Beatty**, 1300 Bower Hill Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15243
- Matt Dunfee**, 966 Worthington Woods Blvd, Worthington, OH, 43085
- Kenn Fetterman**, 2236 Kingridge Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15237
- 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**, 1648 Sillview Drive, 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
- Evelyn Mason**, Health center at Friendship Village, 1290 Boyce Road, Upper St. Clair 15241
- Jim Redmond**, Country Meadows, 3570 Washington Pike, Apt. 52, Bridgeville, PA 15017
- Barbara Prunchak**, c/o Crestwood Commons, 100 Crestwood Court #223, Wheatfield, NY 14304
- Lee McCauley**, 2076 Borland Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15243
- Paul Frock**, 1300 Bower Hill Road, Apt. #1212, Pittsburgh, PA 15243
- Truman Kohman**, 1300 Bower Hill Road, Apt. #1430, Pittsburgh, PA 15243
- Pete Hoffman**, friend of Erin Hohlfelder, battling cancer

POSITION DESCRIPTIONS FOR THE OFFICES OF
BOWER HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH

TITLE OF THE POSITION: The Office of Elder

The purpose of an Elder as set forth in "The Book of Order" of The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA) is..."together with ministers of the Word, they exercise leadership, government, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of a particular church as well as the church-at-large, including ecumenical relationships. They shall serve faithfully as members of the Session."

"The Book of Order" also assigns specific responsibilities to Elders serving on the Session which include individually and jointly strengthening and nurturing the faith and life of the congregation, teaching, motivating, guiding and encouraging the congregation for their task within the church and their mission in the world, actively participating in all activities in the life of the church, i.e. worship, education, fellowship, etc, visiting, comforting and caring for the people, with special attention to the poor, the sick, the lonely and the oppressed, informing the pastors, appropriate committee area, or support staff of persons who may need special attention, serving communion when assigned and maintaining the confidentiality of Session meetings.

TITLE OF THE POSITION: The Office of Deacon

The focus of the Board of Deacons is to reach out to church members by parish zone, cultivating new relationships, exploring member's needs and supporting them however possible. Individually, each deacon has been in touch with those in their zone by way of a visit, a phone call and/or cards. Deacons have provided meals for church members and made many home, hospital and phone visits.

TITLE OF THE POSITION: The Nominating Committee

This committee is responsible for organizing the search and presentation of nominations for election for any open Session and Deacon positions as a result of end of term or resignation. At the end of the Church year, the committee also presents nominations for the congregation representation positions on the Nominating Committee. The two Session members on this committee also are responsible for attending the Presbytery meetings. This committee is a good opportunity for fellowship and to be involved in the direction of selecting the congregation leadership.

After giving thought to the above position descriptions,

I would like to suggest _____ for the office of:

(circle all that apply):

Elder

Deacon

Nominating Committee

Please return this form to the church office



OUR CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Calvin C. Wilson, Interim Pastor
ca@bhccml.com

Rev. Laurie Sponaugle, Pastor
la@bhccml.com

Jessica Baier, Director of Music Ministries
je@bhccml.com

Dianne Scott, Financial Secretary
di@bhccml.com

Emily Kerr, Secretary
em@bhccml.com

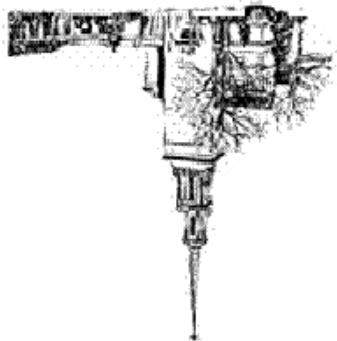
Michael Bergen, Custodian

THE CHURCH OFFICE

[412] 561-4114

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m.— 2:30 p.m.

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



E-mail: office@bhccml.com
Fax: 412-561-2252
Phone: 412-561-4114
Pittsburgh, Pa 15243
70 Moffett Street

BOWER HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH

WWW.BHCCML.COM
WE'RE ON THE WEB
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 2335
Pittsburgh, PA