

BOWER HILL NEWS



November 2010

~Being Thankful~

One of my children recently asked, "What's your favorite holiday?" It took me a while to come up with an answer. As I rummaged around my memory, searching for holiday joys from years gone by, my thoughts kept coming back to Thanksgiving. Oh, I'm sure it wasn't my favorite holiday as a child. How could it be? Thanksgiving Day is usually pretty gloomy around these parts, overcast and forty degrees. Darkness falls by 4:30 p.m. Of course, there's football on Thanksgiving Day...but have I mentioned that I'm not a huge fan? There are no Thanksgiving gifts to open, no bright Thanksgiving decorations, and only very little commercial hype. (Maybe you recall one Thanksgiving advertisement that was on TV many years ago: A testy Puritan wife complains to her Puritan husband about the Thanksgiving turkey. "Thou shouldst have bagged a Butterball.") Nobody sings any sentimental Thanksgiving carols.

But I like the fact that we have a holiday wholly dedicated to gratitude. The older I get, the more I come to learn that "giving thanks" is really what a life of faith is about: the recognition that my happiness is not something I manufacture for myself. Like all the best gifts—the ones I never had the wisdom to request—my happiness comes from outside of me. Being thankful is a worldview; it recognizes God's hand in the good things in life. And when we live thankfully, our perspective begins to shift from pride to humility, from anxiety to patience, from fear to trust. So, in this Thanksgiving Season, I share with you some thoughts about "being thankful." ~Brian

I say to myself: Be thankful.

Be thankful for the happiness you have known in times past, the moments of mirth and ecstasy, the years of health. How many of your dreams have come true; promises, long deferred, have so often at last been made good. Be thankful for the dearness of your loved ones, the fidelity of your friends, the courtesy and kindness repeatedly shown you by total strangers.

Be thankful that your fears have again and again proven groundless, that you have survived so many close calls, so many narrow escapes; and that the same good fortune has generally followed your children in their misadventures, and your friends likewise.

Be thankful not only for the joys that have accompanied your way, and the unnumbered gifts of a kindly providence. Master the harder art of gratitude for life's sterner lessons. You have known pain, pain that has given you warning of unseen dangers. You have known failure, failure that shattered false hopes of easy victory, and toughened your spirit for renewed efforts. Having made mistakes, you have learned important lessons. Having encountered obstacles, you have found courage and endurance to surmount them. Having known sorrow and loneliness, you have discovered that even these have quickened your sympathy, and taught you your need of others.

Be thankful, then, that so much you have not sought and would have by-passed if you could, nonetheless has proved enriching to your experience. Even in life's dark labyrinthine ways and bitter moments, the person of faith and hope can trace the workings of a mysterious wisdom, and impartial providence, a more than human love.

(Arthur Foote II)



COMMUNITY NOTES

Want to be included on this page?
Submissions are due the 15th of every month
for the next month's publication.
412-561-4114 or office@bhccml.com

LAST CALL FOR FLEA MARKET DONATIONS!



Last Call!

Please bring any donations for the flea market to the church by Sunday, November 14th.

PLEASE do not include clothes.

All items must be clean and in working condition. Items can be dropped off Monday through Friday during office hours or Sunday before or after worship. If you are able, please take all items directly upstairs to the loft; otherwise, leave items on the benches outside Fellowship Hall.

The Flea Market will be held
Saturday, November 20th, from 8:30 a.m. -3:00 p.m.

SENIOR MEN'S BREAKFAST FALL SCHEDULE CHANGE



Senior men's breakfast will meet on the first Wednesday of each month in November through April. The next meeting is on November 3. The group convenes at 8 a.m. at King's Restaurant on Rte. 50, Washington Pike near the end of Greentree Road, in Scott. We normally have eight to twelve men attend. There is no agenda other than good fellowship and interesting conversation. No invitation or reservation is needed. We meet in the room to the left of the cashier.

BOOKWORMS



Bookworms is our ladies' book discussion group. It 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.

November book is *Zeitoun* by David Eggers. The hostess is Lee Ferrero.

CHILDREN'S BOOK DRIVE

Please continue bringing your generous contributions of books to the church office, and your Mission Committee will make sure that they get to The Neighborhood Academy. Many thanks!

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS ALWAYS IN DEMAND



If you haven't done coffee hour hosting in a while, please consider signing up on the poster in the Friendship Room. Don't want to do it yourself? Sign up with another member. Don't know how to do it? On our web site, www.bhccml.com click on Ministries, click on Worship and you will find guidelines and complete instructions on how to do it. Donna Williams or Glenn

Child will be happy to show you where everything is located. For those who prefer or don't have the time to bake, the first Sunday of the month can be as easy as ordering and picking up a sheet cake from a bakery.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

The Christian Ed. Committee is seeking volunteers to assist with Sunday School duties on a rotating basis. This will permit our current teachers to join in worship periodically. Come and be a blessing to our youngest members! If you are interested in participating in serving our youth in this way, please contact Susan Hicks. Thank you!

EECM SAYS THANK YOU TO BOWER HILL



The East End Cooperative Mission sent a letter of thanks to the congregation of Bower Hill Community Church for their donation of household supplies for individuals served by their Safe Haven program, which serves homeless men with mental illness. The letter is posted on the community bulletin board outside the BHCC office.

FLEA MARKET HELPERS NEEDED

There will be lots of opportunities to help out with the set-up of the flea market as well as on the day of the sale. Here's what's happening:

BAKERS NEEDED

We need a few bakers to make some items for the snack bar. We're looking for mini muffins, cookies, brownies, or rice krispie treats. Please sign up in the Narthex or let Theresa know what you are making. Please bring all baked goods to the kitchen Friday, November 19th, sometime between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

FLEA MARKET STAFF NEEDED

Sunday November 7th and Sunday November 14th: Final pricing days
Stop by the loft after coffee hour or after adult ed. Snacks will be provided.

Wednesday November 17th 7:00 p.m.: Bringing Down the Boxes
We'll bring the boxes down from the loft to Fellowship Hall.

Thursday November 18th 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. :Unpacking the Boxes
Help us unpack for an hour or two or stay all day and really get a workout. We've got lots of stuff, so we'll need lots of help to unpack it all. Snacks will be provided, but if you're planning on staying all day, you may want to bring a bagged lunch.

Friday November 19th 9:00 a.m. -?
Typically we get most of the unpacking done on Thursday, so Friday will probably be an early day.

Saturday November 20th 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.: Sale Day
The Flea Market opens at 8:30 a.m. and we usually have some shoppers arriving early. We'll need the most help the first two or three hours.

DON'T FORGET FLEA MARKET HELPERS GET FIRST CRACK AT ALL MERCHANDISE!



Flea Market

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH
FROM 8:30 A.M. -3:00 P.M.

QUESTIONS?
CONTACT THERESA CHILD
412-429-9519
TREETOOWON@YAHOO.COM.

YOUTH GROUP SCOOP FROM YOUR DIRECTOR DAN GETKIN



Dan Getkin
can be reached
via email at
da@bhccml.com

As the days get shorter and shorter, it has begun to feel even more distinctly like Fall. School rolls along, summer has faded away, and the colors have changed.

In October, our students went apple picking and served by raking leaves. How much more 'Fall' can you get? Last month was a lot of fun! Even as we revel in our current season, our attention also begins to turn to winter.

Thank you for supporting our 2011 Work Trip by pre-ordering your wreaths. I know it is difficult to think about your decorating plans for December in October, but we are grateful that you signed up to help send our students off this summer.

The Work Trip is such an integral part of the Youth Ministry at Bower Hill Community Church, so your continued support shows our students how committed you are to their spiritual development. More on the work trip to come soon, but until then, blessings!

TIPS FOR USING THE BHCC LIBRARY

- If you are looking for a specific book by an author, title or subject, go to the BHCC home page from your home computer. At the bottom of the home page, find the **Helpful Information** section.
- The search screen that appears allows you to enter the information that you know, *i.e. title of the book, the author or keyword*. Fill in one of these boxes and hit **Enter**.
- Then click on **Search Our Library**.
- A list of book titles should appear if you enter a keyword, *i.e. prayer*.
- If you enter a specific title or author, an alphabetical list should appear, with the title or author included. If it does not, it usually means we do not have it in the library.
- The **Catalog number** listed for each book is the key to finding the book on the shelf. Write down the number and the next time you are at the church, look for the book.
- To sign out a book, just leave the book card in the basket near the door. Please leave the book near the basket when you return it.
- Any questions, assistance or suggestions, call Carolyn Westerhoff at 412-921-9008.



MUSIC NOTES FROM JESSICA BAIER

November is bursting with days of importance, days of remembrance, days of thanks, and days of anticipation. We're celebrating All Saints' Day, Veterans Day, Christ the King Sunday, Thanksgiving, and the First Sunday of Advent.

The BHCC ensembles are eagerly anticipating the upcoming holidays and are preparing special music to share in worship. In addition, they are working hard for the special services we take part in for Thanksgiving and Christmas. (Please keep an eye on the bulletin for announcements!) I give thanks for the hard work, patience, and energy the BHCC choirs give to honor the gifts the Lord has provided.

Handbell Choir
Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Chancel Choir
Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.



**BHCC will once again
offer poinsettias for sale
in honor or in memory
of loved ones.**

**Watch the bulletin
for order forms
in November!**

NOVEMBER WORSHIP & EDUCATION INFORMATION

SERMON & SCRIPTURE

November 7

“Not Far from the Kingdom,”
Mark 12:28-34
(All Saints observed)

November 14

“A New Thing,” Isaiah 65:17-25

November 21

“Bread without Scarcity,”
Deuteronomy 8:7-18
(Christ the King Sunday, Thanksgiving observed)

November 28

“Anticipation,” Matthew 24:36-44
(1st Sunday of Advent)

LECTORS *

Nov. 7: Josie Sheldon
Nov. 14 : Amanda Vosburgh
Nov. 21: Tim Lease
Nov. 28: Jean Miewald

**Interested in serving as Lector? Contact Joan Zakor.*

GREETERS

Nov. 7: Phil & Linda Johnson, Dawn Kane
Nov. 14 : Dave & Shelly Saba, Keith Mason
Nov. 21: Jennifer & Bob Foster, Josie Sheldon
Nov. 28: Dick and Kate Junker, Kurt Kerner

USHERS

Bob Bridges, Chuck and Mary Laufer, Bob Winnett

SOUND BOARD OPERATORS

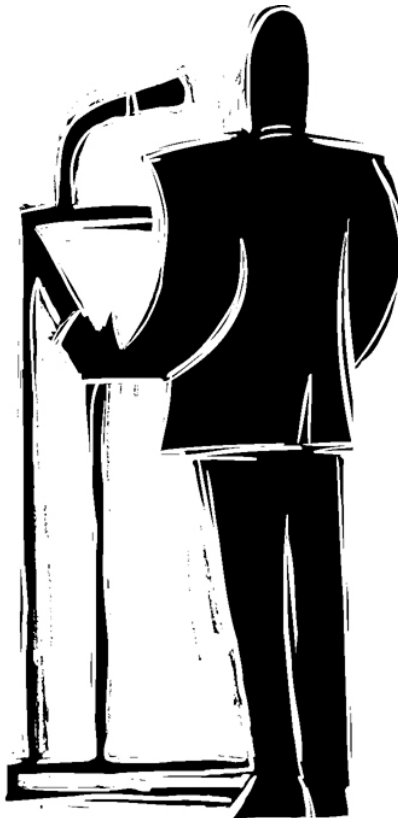
Glenn Child, Bill Andrews, Evan Schardt, Dylan Lease,
George Freas

COMMUNION SERVERS

Bob & Joan Bridges, Dick & Kate Junker

ADULT EDUCATION IN NOVEMBER EXPLORES AMERICAN GOSPEL, JACOBS'S MISSION TRIP TO KENYA AND HUNGER ADVOCACY

Adult Education



Bower Hill Adult Education continues in November with three diverse programs. On Sunday, Nov. 7, Dave Green will review “American Gospel -- God, The Founding Fathers and the Making of a Nation” by Jon Meacham, former editor of Newsweek and author of “American Lion -- Andrew Jackson in the White House” and other historical books.

On Sunday, Nov. 14, Pat and Rick Jacobs will report on their mission trip to Hekima Place, the shelter school for orphan girls in Kenya. Hunger advocacy will be the subject on Nov. 21 when a speaker from Just Harvest will speak. This program is co-sponsored by the Bower Hill Mission Committee.

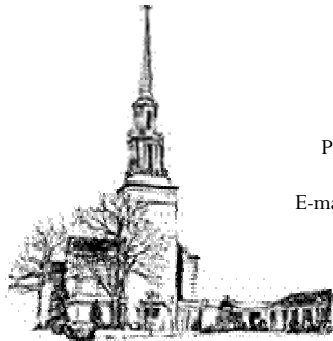
There will be no adult education presentation on Sunday, Nov. 28, due to traditionally low attendance on Thanksgiving weekend.

Adult education sessions are held in the church library at 10:45 a.m. each Sunday unless otherwise announced. Dave Green is chair of the adult education committee. Phone 412-531-2205. Email davegreenpgh@aol.com.

BOWER HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

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OUR CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Brian Snyder, Pastor
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Rev. Susan Shira Nilsen
Rev. John Yohe

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je@bhccml.com

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da@bhccml.com

Dianne Scott, Financial Secretary
di@bhccml.com

Emily Kerr, Secretary
em@bhccml.com

Jim Askins, Custodian

THE CHURCH OFFICE

[412] 561-4114

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m.— 2:30 p.m.

CARE LIST

Margie 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

Peggy Craig, 714 Bower Hill Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15243

Catheryn Deemer, 300 Kane Blvd. Room 314, Pittsburgh, PA 1524

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

Barbara Prunchak, c/o Crestwood Commons, 100 Crestwood Court #223, Wheatfield, NY 14304