

FACEBOOK AND FACETIME

*“Technology is good, but humanity is better.  
People need more ‘facetime’ than we’re getting.”*

Dear Friends,

I woke up at 2:20 this morning thinking about the comb dispenser in the men’s room of the roller skating rink that we frequented as kids. I don’t know if kids still roller skate today. But do you remember how teens used to pack into those large rooms, called “rollerenas,” with bare wood floors? We would rent boots with wheels on the soles, and roll around beneath a disco bulb to songs like “Love Will Keep Us Together” and “I Will Survive.” When you consider that there were rotary dial payphones in the lobby and cigarette vending machines in the snack bar, a comb dispenser in the restroom doesn’t seem out of character. After all, rollerenas were romantic hotspots. Boys and girls alike sported long hair in those days, and flying around the rink at 15mph could tangle a guy’s coif. So they sold combs out of shoe-box-sized dispensers, mounted to the bathroom wall. The boxy lettering of bygone days announced: *Pocket combs! 20 cents. Have you one?*

I thought the anglophile word order (“Have you one?”) seemed a little pretentious for a rollerena. But the question spoke to me...because I never did have one. And in those days I typically needed one. Now, of course, decades later, my combing days are long since past. And that’s just as well, for I could no longer hope to buy a comb from a dispenser in a men’s room. You just don’t find guys wearing those high-maintenance hairdos of old. I really don’t even know where you might find a roller skating rink.

But think how the world has changed in so short a time! Do you remember being impressed when local drug-stores started developing our rolls of film within the hour? We no longer had to send our film away and wait a week or two before getting our pictures back. But now everyone uses digital cameras. You don’t have to be a senior citizen to remember how fax machines revolutionized our lives. But now, except in certain legal circumstances, we just attach our documents to emails. You don’t have to be a caveman to recall the days when a portable phone weighed four pounds and came in its own purse-like carrying case. Now we have iPhones that can access the Internet, take quality photos, give you directions to any street address, and sing your favorite songs.

These advancements are good; they have the power to bring people together. But they also have the power to make us lonely. After Michelle finally convinced me to get Facebook—about two years ago—I logged onto it one morning to see how all my old college friends were doing, only to discover that one of them was doing poorly. She was having a very difficult pregnancy, and along with it, a mental health crisis of epic proportions. The worst part of all: Instead of sharing her grief and fear with a real, present, flesh-and-blood person, she made the mistake of sharing it with Facebook, a choice which only frightened and worried her “Facebook friends.” Many wrote in to beg her to go talk to a living, breathing human being—not her computer screen. Technology is good, but humanity is better. People need more “facetime” than we’re getting.

The world is changing fast, but nothing can replace real life relationships. It’s those relationships that make life meaningful and sweet. Bower Hill Church is a place where community happens. Kickoff Sunday begins with breakfast at 8:30 a.m. on September 11. The newly reconstituted Parish Life Committee has been working hard to bring us opportunities to get to know each other. There are new faces in worship every Sunday. I’m excited about the future of Bower Hill Church. Remember to invest some time in building relationships here. And—that being said—don’t forget to “like” our page on Facebook! Just go to your Facebook page and punch in “Bower Hill Community Church” to find us.

~Brian

## 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

### PRODUCE TO THE PEOPLE



Bower Hill will again be a coordinating congregation for Produce to People on September 17 and December 17. Produce to People provides healthy food, produce and fellowship to individuals and families at risk in the North Side. Please consider joining us for this worthwhile and rewarding Mission Project. Physical strength and agility are not necessary. All that is needed is a desire to share Christ's love and compassion with those most in need. A sign-up for the September distribution is in the Narthex. Please see Keith Mason if you have any questions.

### FOODBANK STILL NEEDS YOU!

On Sunday, **September 11**, we will have our regular collection for the Wallace Food Pantry. High-protein foods like peanut butter and tuna, baby items of all types (diapers, formula, food), are always deeply appreciated. Specifically in September, the food bank continues to request boxed cereal and hearty soups.

### SENIOR MEN'S BREAKFAST FIRST TUESDAY MORNINGS



Senior men's breakfast will continue to meet on the first Tuesday of the month in September and October. The next meeting is on September 6. The group convenes at 8:00 a.m. at Kings 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. Look to the bulletin for information on upcoming hostesses. Come and join a lively discussion. All are welcome!



**September:** *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova

**Hostess:** Nancy Green

**October:** *Crossing to Safety* by Wallace Stenger

**Hostess:** Carolyn Phillippe

**November:** *State of Wonder* by Anne Patchett

**Hostess:** TBA

### HAITIAN STUDENT NURSE SPONSORS WANTED

Bill Wegener would like to partner with one or two people who are interested in sponsoring a Haitian student nurse at the Leogane Nursing School, which was built in part by the efforts of the PC-USA. This program is under the direction of the Haiti Nursing Foundation, whose board member, Dr. Donna Mart-solf, made a BHCC Adult Education presentation on HNF functions. This would most likely be a four-year commitment of \$3,000 per year. If two or more people sponsor a student, they will share the \$3,000 cost equally. It may also be possible to make a one-year commitment. Please contact Bill directly at church or via email at [wegener.william@yahoo.com](mailto:wegener.william@yahoo.com) with any questions or to participate.

### NEW DISHWASHER

For a more efficient kitchen and to comply with Allegheny County Health Department requirements, we recently installed a new dishwasher at a cost of \$2,881.40. Before anyone uses it, please contact Bill Andrews for operating instructions. Thank you.

### HOOKS & NEEDLES: KNITTING AND MORE!



You might think it sounds like torture, but we just call it fun. If you knit, crochet, needlepoint, or anything related, consider coming on the first Saturday afternoon of every month. September's meeting is the 3rd at 1:00 p.m. in the Lounge. If you don't do any of those things but would love to learn, you're welcome too. We have experts, amateurs and everything in-between so come and give it a try. Those who are first-timers may want to contact Trisha Eliason or Susan Nilson to see what basic supplies you should acquire.

### STORYCORP: RECORDING AND REMEMBERING



Come scrapbookers, archivists, and historians alike. A group is forming that is interested in recording memories. For some, that is in the form of pictures. For others, it is in the form of written word and recorded history. But both share the same goal of keeping memories alive. If you are interested in participating, the next meeting of this group will be on Saturday, September 17th, at 1:00 p.m. in the lounge. For more information, contact Betsy Hohlfelder or LuAnn McNickle (regarding scrapbooking) or Marian Brannan (regarding memory books).



# UPcoming EVENTS

## COMMITTEE PLANNING FUN AND FELLOWSHIP FOR BHCC!

Under chair Michelle Snyder,  
our newly revitalized Parish Life Committee is busy planning a  
whole host of fun activities for members and friends of BHCC.

*Please note that finances should never stand in the way of those who wish to participate in Parish Life activities. Assistance is available. Please feel free to speak confidentially with chair Michelle Snyder if financial assistance is needed.*



### Miniature Golf Outing: Saturday, September 10, 3:30 p.m.

Join us for a fun afternoon of mini golf at Cool Springs Golf Center in Bethel Park. Popcorn, ice cream and soda will be provided. Don't miss out on the fun!

Please call Sheri Geis at 412-571-1642 with any questions.

### *We are excited to bring back the Bower Hill Women's Retreat!*

We will gather in the church parking lot off the portico entrance at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 23, to carpool to the Villa Maria Retreat Center, located outside of New Castle approximately one hour north of Pittsburgh. Friday night, we have planned a relaxed mixer complete with refreshments, get-to-know-you fun and an introduction to the weekend plans. Saturday's program will focus on the weekend theme, *Putting Together the Pieces: Growing Together in Faith, Reason, Service and Love*.

Saturday will also include time for leisure activities and an evening worship service. Sunday after breakfast you are welcome to stay and enjoy the grounds or carpool back to the church. All meals and food are provided by Villa Maria staff and are included in the cost of the weekend. Most rooms have two single beds; there are a small number of private rooms. Linens are provided. Please note that the choir will not be singing on this Sunday in order to allow choir members to enjoy the full retreat. The cost of the retreat is \$100 and financial assistance is available. Contact the church office to register. If you have any questions, please call Michelle Snyder: 412-221-5423



### SAVE THE DATE! THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES ARE IN PLANNING STAGES...

#### All-Church Events

- 10/15: Fall Festival
- 11/19: Thanksgiving inspired progressive dinner
- 12/3: Snyder's Christmas open house
- 01/14: Pool Party in Upper St. Clair!
- 02/25: Seven Springs ski trip (day trip)

#### Young Families Group

- 11/3: Picnic at the Snyder's
- 02/04: Event to be announced

#### Forming soon...

- **Seniors, Let's Talk**, meeting on a semi-regular basis at Panera bread
- **Friends of the Arts**, a group that will attend various cultural events together within the Pittsburgh area.

## KICK-OFF SUNDAY IS SEPTEMBER 11. PLEASE JOIN US!

Breakfast in Fellowship Hall.....	8:45 a.m.
Worship service in the Sanctuary.....	9:30 a.m.
<i>Pres-school and Elementary Christian Ed. participants are invited to their Christian Ed. classes after the children's sermon.</i>	
Fellowship Time in and around the Friendship Room.....	10:30 a.m.
Adult Education Forum in the Library.....	10:45 a.m.
Youth Education in the Youth Director's Office.....	10:45 a.m.

### SEPTEMBER WORSHIP PLANS

**9/11: Kickoff Sunday and Communion:** Romans 4:1-12 & Matthew 18:21-35

**9/18:** Philippians 1:21-30 & Matthew 20:1-16

**9/25:** Matthew 21:28-32 & Philippians 2:1-13

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### SEPTEMBER ADULT EDUCATION REVISITS 9/11/01; INTERFAITH HOMELESS HELP AND WAR VETERANS CONCERNS

Adult education resumes at Bower Hill Church on Kick-Off Sunday, **September 11**, with a program revisiting the terrorist attacks on the USA on September 11, 2001. A book of essays entitled "In The Aftermath, What September 11 Is Teaching Us About Our World, Our Faith and Ourselves" will be summarized by Dave Green for group discussion.

On **September 18**, The Interfaith Hospitality Network of Southwestern Pennsylvania will be described by Laura Vincenti, executive director. At our last Faith in Action Day, Bower Hill Church volunteers made blankets for homeless families being sheltered by churches in the network.

Two consecutive programs on war veterans are scheduled. On **September 25**, representatives of the Patriot Guard Riders will tell us how this group of motorcyclists carry out their mission of attending the funeral services of fallen American heroes as invited guests of the family to show respect for our fallen heroes, their families, and their communities and to shield the mourning family and their friends from interruptions created by protestors. On **October 2**, Mary Frances Pilarski, Homeless Veterans Program Coordinator, will discuss the special needs of recent veterans of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The new Form of Government (nFOG) ratified by the presbyteries of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. will be explained by our Clerk of Session, Bill Cadwell, on **October 9**. Later in October, Pat and Rick Jacobs will discuss their participation in the Haiti Water Project, and Dr. Dale Allison of the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary will return to answer our questions and engage in dialog with us as a follow up to his presentation on the historical Jesus last spring.



### MUSIC NOTES

BY JESSICA BAIER

je@bhccml.com

September starts a month of new beginnings, especially in Music Ministry at Bower Hill! We are excited for the start of another program year.

We have the regular ensembles, the Handbell Choir and the Chancel Choir. We are always delighted to welcome new members! If you are unsure if you'd like to make the commitment, please see Jessica or any of the members of either choir. We'd love to talk to you!

The Handbell Choir, which plays in Worship about once a month, meets on Wednesdays in the music room at 6:00 p.m. Rehearsals resume September 7. We plan to participate in another Handbell Festival in the spring. We are also planning a Christmas Concert and a concert at Condordia of the South Hills.

The Chancel Choir sings during Worship every Sunday. We rehearse on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the music room, and meet again at 9:00 a.m. every Sunday before worship. Rehearsals resume September 7. Both ensembles will prepare for some special services during November and December, including the Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service (which is back at Bower Hill), and the second annual 'Ring Out the Sounding Joy—a Service of Music through Worship' (Date TBA).

Please take a moment to thank Glenn Child and Bill Andrews for their services in being Sound Board operators during Worship. They have been rotating every other week for several months to make sure that the Sound System doesn't cause any problems during the Worship service. Thanks, Glenn and Bill!

Also, please consider joining the team of operators for the Sound Board. The responsibilities include: a training session with either Glenn or Bill, attending the Sunday morning Worship starting at 9:15 for the sound check, and making sure that all can be heard during Worship. The perks: getting to sit in the back! Please see Jessica, Glenn, or Bill if you are interested!

### NEW ACOLYTE PROGRAM FOR BHCC YOUTH

We are starting an Acolyte program for children ages 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade! An Acolyte leads the procession into Worship during the first hymn, lights the candles on the Communion Table, then goes back to sit with their families. During the last hymn, the Acolyte comes back up to the Communion Table, extinguishes the lights, and leads the procession out of the church.

If you are interested in having your child participate, please speak with Jessica. We are hoping to start this in October, with an information/training session on a Sunday in September.



Youth Director Chelsea Leitcher

ch@bhccml.com

Office Hours: Friday  
11:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

I am so happy to have joined the BHCC faith community and am very excited for the upcoming events this fall. The youth group recently went on a mission trip to Busby, Montana, to do home repair on a Native American reservation. The trip was a wonderful experience and we would like to thank everyone for their prayers and support. In August we had a youth BBQ and fellowship time.

For September, we will begin a few fundraising projects to help support next year's mission trip and will be involved in working at the food bank and hopefully beginning to clean and redecorate the youth room. We invite everyone to support our upcoming "hoagie sale" which helps to fund the youth's mission work for the upcoming year. For more information, please contact Youth Director Chelsea Leitcher.

**September 11:** Youth will sell hoagies after worship  
**September 18:** Youth will sell hoagies after worship  
**September 25:** Pick up hoagies

**RECENT NEW MEMBERS OF BHCC**

The Evangelism and Membership Committee of Session is resuming its practice of presenting "bios" of new members, so that we may get to know them better. Following are the results of several interviews.

**Maria and Geoff Sherman**

Maria and Geoff Sherman became members of BHCC this year. They have three children: Bryan (13), Katelyn (10) and Ethan (8), who attend school in Bethel Park. Also residing with the Shermans is Maria's grandmother, Mary (90). Geoff is employed at Gatan, Inc. in Cranberry Twp. He enjoys participating in Cub Scouts with Ethan and hockey with Katelyn. Maria works at a gift shop, "Delightfully Different", in Peter's Twp. She enjoys reading in her spare time. They all enjoy the company of their pet dogs and cats. The Shermans "discovered" BHCC when they attended a baptism here. Maria had at one time lived in Mt. Lebanon and is friendly with Adam and Missy Kerner and Kirsten Bruder.

**Edgar and Sarah Steinmark**

Edgar and Sarah Steinmark reside at Providence Point, Scott Twp. They moved to this area from Bath, Ohio. Edgar retired from a career in chemical sales in 1985. He enjoys bowling, pool and spectator sports. Sarah was a stay-at-home mother. Her hobbies are playing bridge and reading.

**Richard and Nancy Salvante**

Richard and Nancy Salvante have lived in Mt. Lebanon for about two years. They moved here from Glenshaw in the North Hills. However, Nancy had lived in the South Hills and grew up with the children of Rick and Pat Jacobs. Richard and Nancy met in Boston and resided there for a while. They are the parents of Madelyn (8), Julian (6) and Gavin (3). Madelyn and Julian attend Jefferson Elementary School. Richard teaches music (strings) in the Franklin Regional School District and enjoys yard work and landscaping in the spring and early summer; he also likes to go hiking and backpacking. Richard shared his talent by playing the violin as part of the Lenten worship services this spring. Nancy has taken up ice hockey in the winter with a women's group and is an avid reader. She is a speech-language therapist (early intervention). She currently works with seven children. Nancy also very graciously took time to go on the Senior High Mission trip this year as a chaperone. She sometimes helps out with Sunday School. Richard and Nancy and their family have been active in the Parish Life programs that have been offered recently.

# Baptisms

*Noah Grafton Eliason,*  
son of Trisha and Grafton Eliason, 03-06-11

*Geoffrey Sherman,* new member, 04-10-11

*Ainsley Faith McDonough,* daughter of Jennifer and Michael McDonough, 01-17-11

*Vanessa Roberta Shwallon,*  
daughter of Lisa and Jason Shwallon 06-26-11



**THE BIRTHDAY BLESSING** is changing. Instead of inviting you to the front of the church on the month when your birthday is celebrated, we will list your name in the first worship bulletin of that month and in the monthly newsletter. Please take a moment to read through the names, pray for them, and offer them your best wishes!

- 01 Dottie Carter
- 03 Emily Philson
- 05 William Westerhoff
- 08 Erin Hohlfelder, Margie Sewall
- 09 Eric Williams
- 10 Julie Nydes
- 11 Anne Colquitt, Scott Criswell,  
Linda Szyslowski
- 12 Doris Olinger
- 13 Andrew Snead
- 15 Missy Kerner, Dave Gallagher
- 17 Carol Knox
- 18 Chloe Snyder
- 19 Marilyn DeVandry  
Jonathan May
- 21 Susan Puhlman
- 22 Kim Williams
- 24 George Vosburgh
- 26 Chan Ketchum
- 27 Kirsten Romanias, Michael Waine
- 28 Gordon Mitchell
- 29 Ruth Foltz, Ethel La Barbera



### WEB SITE REDESIGN

The church website has been upgraded as part of an effort of the Communication Committee to improve and be consistent in our communication. While we have tested the new site as much as possible, each PC's monitor and type of Internet Browser can affect the display. Please report any problems including typos, inconsistencies, bad links, etc. to Glenn Child by phone or email [gstchild@yahoo.com](mailto:gstchild@yahoo.com). With your help, we hope to eliminate most of the problems by the start of the fall season.

### CHANGES YOU WILL SEE

**Navigation** – The use of home page buttons, a new menu, breadcrumbs, footer help and tabs should make organizing and finding information easier. While there are details in the organization of information that differ from the current site, we believe the navigation will be easier for members in the long run.

- \* **The Buttons on the home page** are those items we feel a visitor would most likely want to examine first.
- \* **The Menu** is organized with those items a visitor needs to find located toward the top of the menu.
- \* **The Breadcrumb Trail** at the top of the page helps you to see how you got to the page and mimics the menu structure.
- \* **Footer Help** – We added a **Site Map**, **New Features/Content** and **Help** to the footer on each page. The Site Map is an easy way to see what items are in the menu categories. The New Features/Content will list major features or content so you can see what has been added since you last visited the site. The Help item contains hints on using the site.
- \* **Tabs** are used on many of the pages to make organization and navigation easier. This allows us to reduce the number of menu levels and menu items.

**Look and Feel** - There is a more consistent look and feel for all pages.

**Header Pictures** – Each change of a page will display a randomly selected picture at the top of the page. We especially want visitors to see the various activities in which we are involved.

**Links to Our Facebook Page** is on the front page, and links to the youth blog and youth Facebook page are on the Youth Group page.

### HELPFUL HINTS FOR USING THE SITE

**Sizing** – The web site was designed for the resolution on the majority of display monitors. Depending on your monitor, you may need to set the view and zoom settings higher to fill the page. Note: If you go too high in the zoom percentage, the menu items may not display properly.

**Menu** – Click on the menu category to expand the options, then click on the item you wish to see.

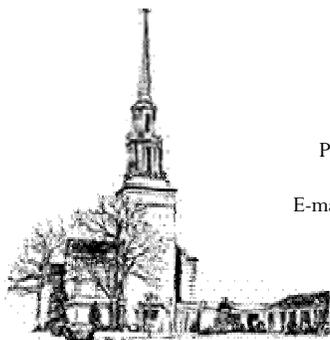
**Breadcrumb Trail** – Most pages have a breadcrumb trail at the top of the page so you can see how you got to the page. You can click on underlined items to go back to higher level pages rather than use the menu.

**Tabs** – On pages with tabs, click on tabs you wish to look at.

# BOWER HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH

*Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

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## OUR CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Brian Snyder, Pastor  
[br@bhccml.com](mailto:br@bhccml.com)

Company of Pastors  
Rev. Grafton Eliason  
Rev. Susan Shira Nilsen  
Rev. Betty Sykes  
Rev. John Yohe

Jessica Baier, Director of Music Ministries  
[je@bhccml.com](mailto:je@bhccml.com)

Chelsea Leitcher, Youth Director  
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Dianne Scott, Financial Secretary  
[di@bhccml.com](mailto:di@bhccml.com)

Emily Kerr, Office Administrator  
[em@bhccml.com](mailto:em@bhccml.com)

Jim Askins, Custodian

## THE CHURCH OFFICE

[412] 561-4114

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m.— 2:30 p.m.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CARE LIST

**Margie Beatty**, 1300 Bower Hill Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
**Peggy Craig**, 714 Bower Hill Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15243  
**Catheryn Deemer**, 300 Kane Blvd. Room 314, Pittsburgh, PA 1524  
**Matt Dunfee**, 966 Worthington Woods Blvd, Worthington, OH, 43085  
**Ethel La Barbera**, 50 Vanadium Road, #130, Bridgeville, PA 15017  
**Velma Noonan**, 50 Vanadium Road, #1119, Bridgeville, PA 15017  
**Barbara Prunchak**, c/o Crestwood Commons, 100 Crestwood Court #223, Wheatfield, NY 14304  
**Tooie Sharkey**, Asbury Heights, 700 Bower Hill Rd, #7338, Pittsburgh, PA 15243



### **THANK YOU BILL WEGENER**

The Buildings and Grounds Committee extends its special thanks to Bill Wegener for all of his volunteer efforts in improving areas at Bower Hill Church.

On numerous occasions, Bill has painted areas in the church with expert craftsmanship: ceilings, sanctuary, windows, outside lamp posts, wrought iron railings, cabinetry and many others. Thank you, Bill, for your efforts! They have helped to make our Church a more beautiful place and saved us thousands of dollars.