

~THE DOG-EARED PAGE~

“Thus it is written that Christ should suffer,
and die, and rise from the dead.” ~Luke 24:46

Members and Friends,

Sad truth # 208 for anyone who works with words: Sooner or later, you will end up filling empty space with words that don't really matter. You can always tell when a songwriter has done this; some songs are clearly from the heart, and others are meant to make the album long enough to sell. Novelists do it. Take a dip into the unabridged text of *Les Misérables* sometime! Teachers sometimes run out of lesson material before the class is over. And I must admit that preachers will occasionally step into the pulpit with a ten-minute truth and an eighteen-minute time slot. These extra moments can be used wisely and well, or they can be stuffed with so much fluff. *The Sun* magazine used to fill up left-over pages nicely with an occasional article entitled “The Dog-Eared Page.” Here, the editors simply reprinted memorable excerpts from their favorite books and called it “The Dog-Eared Page” because it's good stuff, worthy of being re-read.

My father once told me that he had never read the same book twice, with the exception of *Far from the Madding Crowd*, by Thomas Hardy. (I slogged through it once and easily decided never to read it again!) And yet, most of us do have stories that speak to us in special ways, and we return to them now and again. You surely have your own collection of dog-eared pages: books, or stories, or movies that you revisit every once in a while. Each time we reread a favorite book—or re-watch a favorite film—we are seeing it through a slightly different lens because our life circumstances are not exactly as they were the last time. We gain new insights on familiar storylines, identify with characters we used to hate, or come to dislike characters we formerly admired. We notice details that were wasted on us until the third or fourth go-around.

Long ago, as a single man in Africa, I discovered James Salter's wistful tale of marriage and family life, *Light Years*. It's an earthy, insightful commentary on failed hopes and changing relationships. Its poetic quality moved me. Since being married and taking on a mortgage, I've read it again twice, and I find that it speaks to me in new and different ways each time...teaching me anew to cherish the people I love more closely.

The same old room—or forest, or garden—can seem like many different places, depending on the season, shadow and light, and the presence or absence of people. The best truths, like the best places, are worth revisiting. Some realities are so precious that they need constant revisiting. Many of our churchly words are pretty much the same each week, but you are a slightly different person every time you hear them.

Such is the joyful proclamation of Easter. It's the same old story every time, but you are not the same old person. Since last you heard it, you've undergone a year's worth of surprises and regrets, a year's worth of gains and losses, a year's worth of making coffee, writing checks, commuting to work, falling asleep in front of the TV. It's been a year full of unexpected changes, illnesses, perhaps even deaths. A year of births and new beginnings. You will bring a new lens to the message of new life this year.

The Scriptures—or at least the gospels—have very little “filler material.” Their prose is lean and to-the-point. As we return to the dog-eared page of the Christian faith—that ancient story of Jesus' passion, death, and new life—how will it speak to you this time around? What new suffering, and dying, and rising do you bring to it? What new light will infuse our old, old story for you this year?

In Christ's Peace,

~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

DON'T PANIC! DINNER'S IN THE FREEZER

On Saturday, April 6, from 9:00 a.m. to noon, we will host our second freezer meal cooking session. Held in the church kitchen, any interested folks will meet to cook together, drink coffee, eat pastries, talk and laugh. At the end of our time together, each participant will go home with three healthy casseroles: **white chicken chili, lasagna and jambalaya**. These can then be frozen and pulled out on a busy night. The ingredients will be pre-purchased and then costs will be divided evenly among participants. Recipes will be sent early to all those who sign up and attempts will be made to accommodate all variety of food aversions or preferences. The deadline for sign-up (which will be on the community bulletin board) will be March 24. Childcare may be made available. For questions, or if you have ideas, please contact Betsy Hohlfelder, Kiri Rising, or Michelle Snyder.

SENIOR MEN'S GROUP: WEDNESDAYS

Senior men's breakfast will meet on Wednesdays: March 6 and April 3. The group convenes at 8:00 a.m. at Kings Restaurant on Rte. 50, Washington Pike near the end of Greentree Road, in Scott. The gatherings will continue to be on the first Wednesday of the month through April. The meeting day is scheduled to change to first Tuesdays beginning in May. 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.

SUNDAY TRANSPORTATION

Need a ride to worship? The deacons would like to provide a ride to worship for members who need one. If you find yourself in need of a ride, you may call your parish deacon prior to Sunday to arrange a ride. Not sure who to call? Contact the church office for assistance.

COLLECTION FOR THE SPRING FLEA MARKET HAS BEGUN

The Spring Flea Market will be held Saturday, April 27, from 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. If you're doing some "pre-spring cleaning," please bring any donations for the flea market to the church now through Sunday, April 20th. **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. Any questions? Contact Theresa Child at 412-429-9519 or at tree-toowon@yahoo.com.

BOOKWORMS

Bookworms is our ladies' book discussion group. It meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Friendship Room at BHCC, for fellowship and discussion of a chosen title. Everyone is welcome to read the book for the month and join the discussion. The title for **March 19** is *Language of Flowers* by Vanessa Diffenbaugh

LUNCH TO PUNCH UP YOUR WARDROBE

Please plan to attend the lunch and fashion show on Saturday, March 16th, at noon in Fellowship Hall. After the delicious lunch, Chico's will show you how to "punch up" your spring wardrobe based on the black pants or dark jeans you already wear. Afterward, Chico's welcomes attendees to shop at their Galleria store with 10% off your purchase. Tickets are \$20. There will be reserved seating for tables of eight. Invite your friends for a fun afternoon. Please contact Mary Good or Kathy Philson if you would like to get involved with this fundraiser.

SCARVES FOR HAITI

Have you noticed the pretty ruffle scarves some of the Hooks and Needles members have been wearing around the church lately? Here's your chance to get one and support the Haiti Water Project. Scarves in various color combinations will be available for sale at the Luncheon on March 16. Prices will be \$15 and \$20. Proceeds will be given to the Haiti Project. If you can't attend the luncheon and would like to see the scarves and even learn how to make one yourself, come to a Hooks and Needles meeting. Next one is March 2 at 10:00 a.m. in the lounge.

CPR CLASS REPORT

On Saturday, February 9th, thirteen "students" attended a CPR class in the Lounge. The class was taught by Ceil Kitchen, a Bower Hill Volunteer Fire Department member and board secretary who also works for MRTS (Mt. Lebanon Rescue Team South). Besides CPR, we learned how to use the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) on both adults and children. The Heimlich Maneuver was also taught. The AED is located in the Narthex of the church, near where the offering plates are kept. The lidded container is marked and also contains a plastic bag of supplies which are needed to help with the process.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Lenten Dinner Series:
Take-out & Eat-in Video Discussion**
Thursdays, March 7, 14, 21

Haiti Lunch & Fashion Show
Saturday, March 16, noon

Newcomer's Lunch
March 17, 10:45 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Easter Breakfast
Sunday, March 31

Don't Panic! Dinner's in the Freezer
Saturday, April 6, from 9:00 a.m. - Noon

BHCC Youth Spaghetti Dinner
Sunday, April 21

Cinco de Mayo Potluck Lunch
Sunday, May 5

Quench: 5k Run Haiti Fundraiser
Saturday, June 8

BHCC Women's Retreat
September 20-22



**Please welcome new
and returning members:**

Monette Shuttleworth

JoAnn Goode

NEWCOMER'S LUNCH

On March 17 from 10:45 –1:00 p.m., Pastor Snyder will offer a membership class in Room 103, across from the church office. A light lunch will be served. Childcare will be provided. Anyone interested in learning more about Bower Hill Church is encouraged to attend this two-hour lunch with the pastor.

Those who choose to join the church will be received into membership the following Sunday, March 24. Please contact the office to confirm attendance. See Pastor Snyder with any questions or concerns.

THE BIRTHDAY BLESSING



March 01 Phil Johnson
Jay Reisinger

March 02 Dan Zabo

March 04 Genie Ferrell

March 05 Anna Mezyk

March 06 Betty Jonosy

March 09 Chuck Blumenschein
Kevin Kelly

Mach 11 Betty Mancini

March 12 Ed Steinmark
Megan Henney

March 13 Ronald Linaburg

March 14 Florence Spangenberg
Beth Ruh

March 16 Lynne Wohleber

March 18 Jeanne Olsen
Cindy Waller
Megan Gardner
Christopher Bruder

March 19 Everett Good
Todd Westerhoff, Jr.

March 20 Beth Chester

March 21 Lucille Heckman

March 22 Moody Johnson
Kristen Kantner

March 23 Alice Cantalupo

March 25 Bill Ewing
Gavin Salvante

March 26 Cynthia Gissin

March 27 Bob Winnett
Darenda Lease

March 28 Peter Morgan
Gabriel Mezyk

March 29 Donna Williams

March 31 Judy Delestienne

Please take a moment to read through the names, pray for them, and offer them your best wishes!

If your name is not listed, it is because the church office does not have your information.

**HOMELESS FAMILIES, *LIVING THE QUESTIONS*,
URBAN GARDENS ALL TOPICS IN MARCH ADULT ED.**

We will resume our study of the *Living the Questions* DVD with a discussion on "The Lives of Jesus" on **Sunday, March 3**. This is the fifth sequential episode in the series.

The Bower Hill Mission Committee will do a presentation on Family Promise, a program to offer shelter and care for homeless families, on **March 10**. Several Bower Hill members participate monthly by interacting with families in the program.

Our own Steve Boisvert will present a program on urban gardening on **March 17**. Bower Hill Church will dedicate part of our property to garden space this year.

Our Palm Sunday **March 24** program will return to the *Living the Questions* DVD series for a discussion on "Evil, Suffering and a God of Love."

There will be no adult education program on Easter Sunday **March 31** because of an extended church program on that special day.

Adult discussion 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.

OPEN SPACES: ADULT DISCUSSION

Everyone is welcome to join Open Spaces which meets in the Friendship Room during the adult education hour—10:45 a.m. -11:45 a.m. Each week we will have a focused discussion on a relevant faith topic. It's a great opportunity for questioning and spiritual growth in an open environment. Child care is provided.



WORSHIP PLANS

March 3: 3rd Sunday in Lent:
Luke 13:1-9

March 10: 4th Sunday in Lent:
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

March 17: 5th Sunday in Lent:
John 12:1-8

Please see page 5 for Holy Week Scheduling.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

COMMUNION SERVERS, MARCH 3

Woody & Barb Hughes, Bill & Nancy Andrews

LECTORS

March 3: Susan Hicks
March 10: Kirsten Bruder
March 17: Bill Cadwell
March 24: David Cameron
March 31: Dave Green

ACOLYTES

March 3: Leo Geis, Graceann Foster
March 10: Julian Salvante, Sydney Saba
March 17: Nate Rising, Madelyn Salvante
March 24: Chloe Snyder, Sage Williams
March 31: Lindsay Bruder, Ellie Rising

GREETERS

March 3: Lisa Shwallon, Mike & Jen McDonough
March 10: Christie Cole, Dave & Connie May
March 17: Betty Ewing, Jim & Joan McAnulty
March 24: Donna Williams, Abby Waive,
Amanda Vosburgh
March 31: Cindy Waller, Lynn & Mark Mezyk

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS

March 3 The Rising Family
March 10 Keith Mason
March 17 The Robbins Family

Problems? Please call the office or call:
Greeters, Communion Servers: Margaret Zabo
Acolytes: Jessica Baier
Lectors: Joan Zakor
Coffee Hour: Michelle Snyder

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT BHCC

March 24: PALM SUNDAY~ PASSION SUNDAY

In decades past, Palm Sunday was treated almost like a mini-Easter celebration. It was a joyful, festive occasion to mark the beginning of Holy Week. In the past twenty years, Presbyterian congregations have rediscovered the ancient tradition of "Passion Sunday." This moving service of worship journeys with Jesus from his triumphal entry into Jerusalem all the way to his passion and death. Texts: Luke 22:14-23:56.

March 28: MAUNDY THURSDAY

This solemn communion service is celebrated at tables in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 p.m. After the sacrament, participants will move silently to the sanctuary for the remainder of the service. This movement echoes the disciples' journey from the Upper Room to the Garden of Gethsemane on the night of Jesus' arrest.

March 29: GOOD FRIDAY

Bower Hill Church will participate in the community Good Friday service at Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church. The service begins at noon. Our choir and pastor will lead worship from 2:10 until 2:35 p.m. This is a service of "The Seven Last Words" that Jesus uttered from the cross, and Bower Hill has been invited to reflect upon the sixth word, "It is finished" (John 19:30).

March 31: EASTER DAY

Our all-church "Awakening Breakfast" begins at 8:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. We celebrate the resurrection in worship at 9:30 a.m.: Luke 24:1-12. Special music is provided by our own saxophonist, Jason Robosky.



MUSIC NOTES BY JESSICA BAIER
je@bhccml.com

Office Hours

Sunday: 7:00 a.m.— 12:00 p.m.
Monday: 10:00 a.m.— 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday: 10:00 a.m.— 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 11:00 a.m.— 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, Friday, Saturday as needed

HANDBELL CHOIR: WEDNESDAYS AT 6:00 PM

CHANCEL CHOIR: WEDNESDAYS AT 7:15 PM

The Handbell Choir will perform at the Coraopolis United Methodist Church as part of their Lenten Concert Series. This concert will be on Wednesday, March 13, at noon, followed by a luncheon provided by the church. The Handbell Choir will perform a variety of pieces, including an arrangement of Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Pie Jesu" from his "Requiem," "Just a Closer Walk with Thee," and a suite of pieces from the Virginia Highlands. Please try to attend to support our Handbell Choir!



Youth Director Chelsea
Leitcher

Office Hours

Monday: 9:00 a.m.— Noon

Friday: 9:00 — Noon

ch@bhccml.com

The BHCC Youth Group is gearing up for spring activities. We would like to thank everyone who donated canned goods for "Souper Bowl to End Hunger." We were able to donate 150 non-perishable food items to South Hill Interfaith Ministries. Also we would like to thank all those who purchased hoagies in February to support future youth mission work. In February the youth group went bowling and out to brunch and continued our Bible study. Upcoming events in April will include the "Spaghetti Dinner" ticket sales to begin soon. We would like to thank everyone for all your prayers and support and look forward to what God has in store for us.

GIANT EAGLE GIFT CARD UPDATE: SUBMITTED BY GEORGE FREAS

Our 2013 Gift Card sales look very encouraging so far. Let's keep it up!
Here are some changes and reminders of the rules involving Giant Eagle cards:

- The **Grocery Savings Plan** tied to fuel purchases ended February 13, 2013.
- **Fuelperks** savings continue at the rate of ten cents/gallon for every \$50 of grocery purchases.
- **February 4, 2013** — Giant Eagle began offering 3 cents/gallon off fuel purchased when Advantage Cards are scanned at GetGo gasoline pumps. However, the discount doesn't apply if the customer is redeeming Fuelperks rewards.
- Giant Eagle Gift Cards may be used to purchase gasoline at GetGo stations.
- The Bower Hill Church Gift Card Program will continue to produce additional revenue for the church.

Participation in this program benefits our church budget while providing members with a very convenient shopping tool. We appreciate your help in this project.

**On February 25, Session approved
a new Firearms and Weapons Policy.**

The text is as follows:

FIREARMS AND WEAPONS POLICY

Firearms and weapons, concealed or not concealed, are not permitted, with or without a concealed weapon permit, while upon properties owned or controlled by the church. Law enforcement officers certified by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, federal law enforcement officers, and security officers for armored vehicle services contracted with the church, on official duties, may carry a firearm on church property.

Kitchen knives, utensils and tools and maintenance tools used by church members or employees in furtherance of church business or affairs shall not fall within the parameters of this policy. Knives used in conjunction with the Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts (blades not to exceed 4 inches), shall also not fall within the parameters of this policy.

SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER FOR SERVICE DOG

**Saturday, April 6 from 11:00 a.m.—7:00 p.m.
Crossroads Ministries— Library Baptist Church
81 Walter Long Road, Finleyville, PA 15332**

Joshua Elm is the toddler son of Ryan Elm, who is a friend of the Hicks Family via the Rotary club.

Joshua has been diagnosed with Glycogen Storage Disease Type 1a, which is a rare, genetic liver disease. He has to be awakened every three hours to have his blood sugar tested. If his levels rise too much, he will die.

Joshua's family has been selected to receive a service dog, trained by Warren Retrievers, a non-profit organization. The service dog will be able to sense Joshua's blood sugar levels and alert an adult when intervention is necessary.

A spaghetti dinner and basket auction is being held to offset the cost of this dog and its training.

**For tickets to the dinner or to donate,
please call Annalhees Elm at 412-901-6106
or via email at annalheeseelm@gmail.com.**



Easter

**Easter flowers will be \$9 this year,
Proceeds support the Youth Work Trip.**

Flowers are to be taken home after the service on Easter.

Deadline for orders is NOON on Monday, March 25.

For Office Use Only
Cash _____
Check Amount _____
Check Number _____

Name: _____

___ I will take my flowers home

Phone: (____) _____ - _____

___ Please deliver my flowers as a gift to those who cannot attend church

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

EVENING LENTEN SERIES

**“Embracing a Life of Meaning,”
by Kathleen Norris**

Lent is a time for reflection and introspection, as we ponder Jesus’ journey toward the cross and its meaning in our life of faith. Our evening Lenten series will be “Embracing a Life of Meaning,” a DVD discussion with the well-known author, Kathleen Norris, who has written poetry and such bestselling books as “Dakota: A Spiritual Biography” and “The Cloister Walk.” Despite her fame, Norris is a “lay pastor” in our denomination who integrates ancient spiritual practices into her Presbyterian faith.

The weekly Thursday evening events will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Lounge; childcare will be provided. We will discuss five ingredients to a life of meaning, dealing with one per week.

For the sake of simplicity for busy families, this year's Lenten dinners will be 'take-out & eat-in.' We will charge \$5.00 per person or \$10 per family for anyone who signs up to eat. Of course, you may always come to the event and not eat, or “brown bag it,” which is free of charge.

The meals will be:

March 7
Eat N' Park chili & salad

March 14
Kings broccoli cheese soup & salad

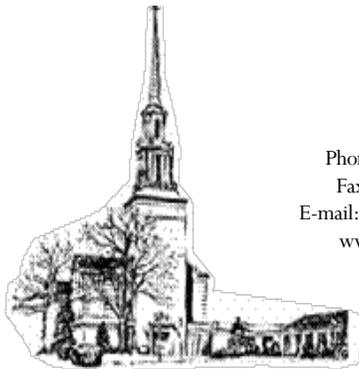
March 21
Olive Garden salad & chicken gnocchi soup

Sign-ups (on the bulletin board near the Narthex) the Sunday prior to the event are a must, as we will only order enough food for those who plan to eat.

BOWER HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

70 Moffett Street
Pittsburgh, Pa 15243



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OUR CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Brian Snyder, Pastor
br@bhccml.com

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

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

Chelsea Leitcher, Youth Director
ch@bhccml.com

Dianne Scott, Financial Secretary
di@bhccml.com

Emily Kerr, Office Administrator
office@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

Matt Dunfee, 966 Worthington Woods Blvd, Worthington, OH, 43085

Ethel La Barbera, 50 Vanadium Road, #130, Bridgeville, PA 15017

Moody & Alma Johnson, 13 Charles Street, Dravosburg, PA 15034

Velma Noonan, 50 Vanadium Road, #1119, Bridgeville, PA 15017

Pat Nuernberg, 619 Friendship Circle, Pittsburgh, PA 15241

Jeanne Olsen, 3800 Oak Leaf Rd., Room 40-M, Pittsburgh, PA 15227

Tooie Sharkey, Asbury Place, 760 Bower Hill Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15243