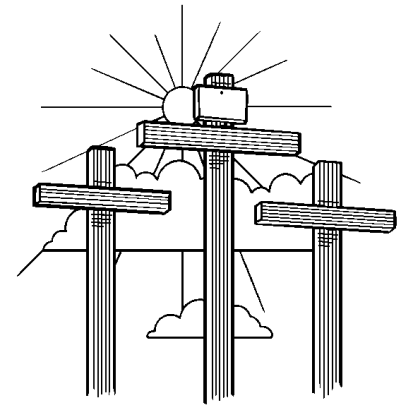




THE PRESS...BYTERIAN

A Publication of the Presbyterian Congregation
Union and Water Streets
Middletown, PA 17057

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April, 2007

Church School and
Adult Forum-
Sundays at 9:15 A.M.

Worship Service-
Sundays at 10:30 A.M.

Rev. Donald E. Potter, Minister

Rev. and Mrs. Caleb Johnson
Kykotsmovi, Arizona
Personal Interest Partnership

Greeters:

- April 1** John McDonald and Stephen Frommell
April 5 Gloria Elberti and Carol Waple (Maundy Thursday)
April 8 Tony, Karen, Rachel and John Potter (Easter)
April 15 Vivian Kilroy and Glenice Marsala
April 22 Keith, Linda, Matt and Lauren Eppley
April 29 Pat Ingersoll and Virginia Olsen

Bulletin Dedications:

- April 1** In honor of Kristin Swartz's birthday by Betty Fisher.
April 8 To the Glory of God by Karen and Tony Potter.
April 15 In loving memory of "Prof." Miller's birthday by his daughter, Donna, and grandson, Mike.
April 22 In loving memory of our parents and grandparents by Max and Erika Lauffer.
April 29 In honor of the 65th Wedding Anniversary of Jim and Anne Baker by their daughters and families.

The Chancel Flowers are presented by:

- April 1** Gloria Elberti in loving memory of Lorraine and George Elberti, Sr., George Elberti, Jr., and Gretchen Everitt.
April 8 Easter Flowers
April 15 Edie K. Beard in loving memory of her husband, Paul Beard, Jr.
April 22 Lucille Gardner in loving memory of her husband, David "Scotty" Gardner.
CENTERPIECE presented by Heidi and Dave Tobias in honor of their daughter, Kelsey.
April 29 Myrna Matesevac and Carol Wilsbach in loving memory of their mother, Maxine Bastress' birthday.

Nursery Duty:

- April 1** The Yeich Family
April 8 EASTER
April 15 The Stillwell Family
April 22 The Packheiser Family
April 29 The Akakpo-Martin Family

Acolyte: Tony Ortiz

Ushers: Gary Shank, Dottie Stanley, Marlin and Judy Biesecker.

Maundy Thursday Ushers: Spencer and Chris Bevins, Margo Mathias, Gary Shank

Join us in Fellowship Hall for **SOCIAL HOUR and the kids' Easter Egg Hunt** following worship on **April 1**. Hostesses for April are Margo Mathias and Patrice Stillwell. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Food Pantry Collection Sunday is April 1. Please bring a non-perishable food item to the worship service that day and the Deacons will see that it gets donated to the Middletown Food Pantry. **THANKS!!**

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ADULT FORUM * April, 2007

You are invited!

Sunday mornings before worship in Fellowship Hall *
9:15-10:15 a.m.

If nursery is needed, please call Erika Lauffer
at 944-4713 a week in advance.

=====

April 1: Palm-Passion Sunday

"Who is this?" This question is from the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem as recorded in Matthew 21:1-11. A video of the triumphant entry of Jesus will be shown, including scenes from the Last Supper and the events leading up to the trial of Jesus. *All are welcome* to join us for this moving presentation as we begin our Holy Week journey. Class leader will be **Virginia Olsen**, member of the Adult Forum Planning Committee and a Deacon in the church.

April 8: EASTER SUNDAY -- no class

April 15: God's Politics, Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It. We will be exploring key ideas from this book by **Jim Wallis**, an evangelical and founder of Sojourners, a nationwide network of Christians working for justice and peace. Wallis presents a new vision for faith and politics in America. *God's Politics* offers a clarion call to make both our religious communities and our government more accountable to key values of the prophetic, religious tradition.

Leader: **Dr. Judson (Judd) McConnell**, former Associate Professor of Religion and Dean of the Chapel at Westminster College, former Interim Associate Pastor, Market Square Presbyterian Church and currently candidate for the board of the Lampeter-Strasburg School District.

April 22- May13: Presbyterianism 101. What burning question do you have about what it means to be Presbyterian? This video/discussion series will help answer such questions as, "Who are we Presbyterians?", "What do we believe?", "Why do we govern the church the way we do?", "Where is our church going?" The four week series will be team taught by our **Pastor Don Potter** and by **Pat Ingersoll**, member of the Adult Forum Planning Committee.

Thank You...

Dear Friends,

03/18/2007

A note to thank you so much for the beautiful bouquet of flowers I received today.

I miss not being at church today. Hope to get back to normal and be there next Sunday.

It's nice to know we have such a caring congregation.

Many thanks again,
Gwen Callison

DEACON MINISTRY

The Deacons would like to thank members who have already contributed to our annual "Deacon Appeal" and remind all others that the appeal continues throughout Lent. Your financial support enables us to fulfill our ministry of sympathy, care and service to our local church as well as other local and world communities.

We would like to make members of our church family aware of two special programs provided by the Deacons. Each Sunday the entire Service is carefully recorded on tape. These tapes, along with four easy to operate tape players, are available for the use of our members. Any individual who would like to hear the Sunday Service may borrow the tapes and tape players from the church office. If you are interested in this program please contact the church office, Nancy Shank (986-1563), or Stephany Davidson (939-6861). A member of the Deacons will make sure that the tapes and tape players are delivered.

The second program involves food. Do you enjoy cooking and have one or two crowd pleasing recipes in your collection? Then perhaps you might be interested in sharing one of your meals with members of our church family. Periodically, members in the congregation become ill or are temporarily unable to prepare their own meals. When this occurs the Deacons prepare and deliver homemade meals to those individuals in need. If you would like to prepare a tasty meal or know someone in need of this service please contact Nancy Shank or Stephany Davidson at the numbers listed above.

Music Notes...

The following are opportunities for members who simply "like to sing" to make a short term commitment to our music program. Everyone is welcome!

April 1: Church School Singers join the Chancel Choir for a special Palm Sunday anthem.

Easter: Singers from the congregation are invited to join the Chancel Choir to sing the "Hallelujah Chorus" as the benediction response.

April 15: Men's Ensemble rehearsals begin (in the choir room following worship). Rehearsals continue each Sunday through May 6. The ensemble will sing during worship on May 13.

* * * * *

News From Mary's Circle...

There are church note cards with envelopes for sale in the back of the sanctuary. They are in a box on the back window sill by the poster for Mary's Circle. The picture on the front of the cards was done by our member and artist, Peg Freeborn. Cost is \$1.50 for 5 note cards with envelopes.

Another notice for everyone...our Yard Sale will be Saturday, April 21, 2007. So...anyone sorting out items that they want to donate for the sale, we are accepting the items now! Just place on the stage of if you cannot get them there, please call Rose Ann Yeich at 939-6834 or Judy Packheiser at 657-2535.

All volunteers for the sale, please try to save Friday, April 20, 6PM or as soon as you can get there, to help set up! We also need volunteers to help break down the sale on Saturday, April 21, starting about 1:45PM. All bakers, we can use your help in donating baked goods for that table!

For all the ladies to have a great dinner prepared by the Men's Group, mark May 5, 2007 on your calendars for the All Daughters Banquet!

The remaining meeting dates for this year are as follows: April 17, May 15, June 19, July 17, August 21, September 18, October 16 and November 20.

Our church will be hosting the April birthday party at Frey Village. The date is April 18 at 1:30PM. Anyone who would like to help or if you have ideas for fun games or songs or anything for the residents, please call Judy Packheiser at 657-2535. The birthday party includes all residents at Frey Village who have a birthday in April.

A FEW REMINDERS:

Please send payments for **Chancel Flowers** to the church office. Make checks payable to The Presbyterian Congregation. THE COST OF CHANCEL FLOWERS IS **\$22.50 PER ORDER**. THANK YOU!

Deadline for articles for the **MAY/JUNE** issue of the Press...byterian is **APRIL 19**. Please place your articles or information either in the offering plate (mark it "newsletter"), in the church mailbox marked Newsletter, or Email patricestillwell@hotmail.com.

* * * * *

The Jelly Bean Prayer

Red is for the blood He gave.
Green is for the grass He made.
Yellow is for the sun so bright.
Orange is for the edge of night.
Blue is for the sins we made.
White is for the grace He gave.
Purple is for His hour of sorrow.
Pink is for our new tomorrow.
A bag full of jelly beans colorful and sweet,
Is a prayer, is a promise, is a special treat.

* * * * *

CALLING ALL MEN...

Come to the next Men's Breakfast on Saturday, April 14 from 8-9 A.M. at the Brownstone Cafe, Middletown. This is a "Dutch Treat" event and we hope to see YOU for good conversation and food.

Invite someone to come along with you!
The more the merrier!

All children are welcome to participate in the Easter Egg Hunt following the worship service on Palm Sunday, April 1st in Fellowship Hall!!!



Holy Week Worship Opportunities

For Christians everywhere, Holy Week is the most sacred season of the church year. You are encouraged to attend Maundy Thursday worship, April 5 at 7:30 P.M. As a community of faith, we unite on the occasion of Jesus instituting the Sacrament of the Last Supper. Worship will include choral music, scripture, the spoken word, the Last Supper and the stripping of the chancel, symbolizing the death of Jesus.

The Middletown Good Friday Service at noon on April 6 will be hosted by Geyers United Methodist Church, 1605 Geyers Church Road. Worship will include special music and short homilies by area clergy. An offering will be received for the Human Needs Fund of Middletown in assisting the needy with rent, utilities, medicine and other life survival needs. The service lasts about an hour and we hope you will be present for this solemn observance remembering Christ's death for us.



Easter Worship

Plan to attend worship on Easter Sunday, April 8 at 10:30 A.M. as we celebrate the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ over sin, death and the grave. Worship will include brass, organ, choir music, as well as scripture and the spoken word. Do what you can to invite a neighbor, family member or co-worker to join us on this joyous day. Let's fill the sanctuary as we gather to offer our praise to God!!

Christ Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!

JUST A REMINDER:

Your financial commitment is essential as we seek to fulfill our mission to the community and world in Christ's name. We depend on the regular, systematic giving of our members and friends throughout the year. If you have fallen behind, we urge you to do what you can to "catch up". We thank all who have been faithful to the general fund and benevolence causes of the church and the Improvement Fund (indebtedness from the 1999 improvements to the building and sidewalks and stairs). Together, we can make a difference!



Parents are reminded to get the registration in NOW to Krislund Camp so your son/daughter will be part of the summer fun and learning. Krislund Camp is our Presbytery owned camp in Madisonburg, outside Centre Hall, PA, near State College. There are week-long camps for older youth and mini camps for younger children. Our church pays \$50 towards tuition for each mini camper and \$100 for each camper enrolled in the week-long camp. Additional flyers about the whole program are on the bulletin board near the church office.

* * * * *

SAGE April Meeting

All retirees and others who are interested are welcome to come and join the Senior Adult Group Exchange in Fellowship Hall for its first 2007 lunch and program on Wednesday, April 18. We will enjoy a hot catered meal of ham loaf, scalloped potatoes, vegetable, tossed salad, rolls and butter, beverage and dessert all for \$7/person, payable to the church by Monday, April 16. Be sure to give your reservation and check to Pastor Potter.



After lunch, Mr. John Fortino, Hershey Garden Butterfly House Coordinator will be with us and share a slide show. John has been at the Butterfly House for five years and has spoken throughout the area. We look forward to having him with us and invite you to sign up today.

++++
SAGE April 18 Lunch and Program
 Yes, I/We plan to attend the lunch and program

Print name _____ Phone _____
 (Reservations and money due by April 16.)

MISSION PROGRAM

The Mission Committee coordinates the distribution of benevolence monies and helps to interpret to the congregation the purposes of the mission programs and activities locally, nationally and worldwide. Mission is a joyful and grateful response to all that God has provided in our lives. This article is intended to share the Mission story of our church.

In 2006, the Mission Committee distributed monies, which were received through Benevolence giving. The following organizations and causes received those monies during the year:

Carlisle Presbytery (pledge):	\$9,400
Meg Shoeman's Education:	2,000
Oikocredit:	1,000
Presbyterian Disaster Relief: (Darfur, Sudan)	300
Middletown Human Needs:	300
Sheldon Jackson College:	300
Miscellaneous:	211
Palestine Christian Child:	468 <i>(will be paid in 2007)</i>
	\$13,979

The following "special offerings" were received in 2006:

One Great Hour of Sharing:	\$1,125.15
Pentecost:	681.00 <i>(40% donated to Big Brothers/Big Sisters)</i>
Blanket Sunday:	1,064.00
Peace:	616.00 <i>(25% donated to Dauphin County Prison Ministry)</i>
Christmas Joy:	797.00 <i>(will be distributed in 2007)</i>
	\$4,283.15

As you can see from the above information, over \$18,000 has been contributed to various ministries. Our hope is the more you know about the mission program and its related activities the more you will want to give. Mission is a response to everything we receive from the Lord.

We thank you for your joyful giving!

Alleluia!

REJOICE!



On Palm-Passion Sunday, April 1, we will dedicate our gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing during worship. Parents are reminded to have their children return their fish banks that day. Fish banks also will be brought forward in worship as part of our gifts given to help the homeless, sick and the hungry of our community and world. In 2006 we received \$1,272 for OGHS, including the children's fish banks. Your generous response will enable others to receive the material and spiritual assistance so desperately needed.
THANK YOU!

* * * * *

Women's Association



Saturday, April 21

Bake Sale

subs

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS...

We are very happy to welcome into the life and ministry of our congregation the following new members. The eleven listed were part of a 3 week Inquirers' Class on Sunday mornings in the Pastor's office. We extend a cordial WELCOME to each of them as they join the church.

Mikel and Jody Coble live on Ann Street with their 2 sons, Austin age 9, and Brandon age 5. Jody enjoys reading, travel and children's activities. She is employed at the Feaser Middle School as a cook, and The Appraisal Firm as a bookkeeper. Mikel is an electrician with McClure Mechanical. Welcome, Mikel, Jody, Austin and Brandon!!

Nicholas Miller comes to us from Jackson, California. He has lived in Middletown for 1 1/2 years. He currently lives on West Emaus Street and in his spare time enjoys video games, RC Cars and building things. He is currently employed at Hardees. Welcome, Nick!!

Marilyn Pearce has lived in Middletown for 5 years. She comes to us from the Camp Hill United Methodist Church. She is currently retired and enjoys traveling. Welcome, Marilyn!!

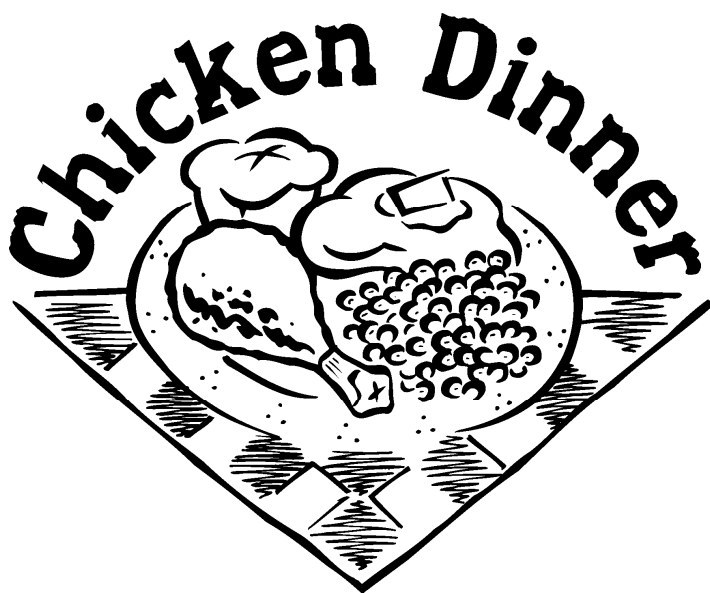
John Quinn enjoys fishing, camping and stock car racing. He has lived in Steelton for the past 2 years, and has previously lived in Texas and Florida. John has 2 grown sons. He has been a painter for 28 years. Welcome, John!!

Peter and Rachel Strella were married last October in Harrisburg. They currently reside on Main Street in Middletown. Rachel is a manager for the Pennsylvania Newspaper Association and has been in Middletown for 3 years. Pete is a reporter for the Press and Journal and has also been in Middletown for 3 years. He enjoys sports, playing the guitar, pro wrestling, and reading books and newspapers. Welcome, Pete and Rachel!!

Ruth Sweigart lives with her husband, Richard (Rick) on Orchard Lane. They have 2 grown daughters, Debra and Barbara. Ruthie is retired from Nationwide Insurance where she worked as an administrative assistant. She has lived in Middletown for one year, moving here from Newport. Ruthie enjoys reading. She would like to share that she has been blessed by surviving 3 unrelated types of cancer. She also discovered 5 brothers and sisters in Washington State 2 years ago who were previously unknown. Welcome, Ruthie!!

Ronald and Sandra Sweigert live on Heathglen Road in Middletown. Ron is a manager with the Residential Warranty Corporation—Integra Tech LLC. He enjoys golf and softball. Sandra is also a manager with the Residential Warranty Corporation. She enjoys swimming, being with friends and enjoying time with her family. She would like to share that her step-father received a heart and kidney transplant 3 years ago and with God's will he is here with us today. Ron and Sandra's daughter, Madison is in first grade at Kunkel Elementary School. Welcome, Ron, Sandra and Madison!!

Jamie Thomas has lived in Middletown for 6 1/2 years. She has a son, Kordell, who is 5 years old. Jamie was born in Sewickley, PA, and has also lived in North Carolina. Welcome, Jamie and Kordell!!



On Thursday, April 26, the Fellowship Committee will be hosting a Baked Chicken Dinner. This dinner is a fund raiser for the Committee and is open to the public. Please spread the word so that we have a great turnout! Be sure to come and invite your friends, too!!

The menu will be Baked Chicken, Baked Potato, Applesauce, Vegetable, Dessert and Beverage for \$6/Adults and \$3/Children.

SEE YOU THERE!



Mrs. Ruth Sweigart
2972 Orchard Lane
Middletown, PA 17057
944-4292

Miss Jamie Thomas
(Kordell Thomson)
163 West Emaus Street
Middletown, PA 17057
944-1263

CHURCH DIRECTORY
ADDITIONS
APRIL, 2007

Mr. and Mrs. Mikel Coble (Jody)
(Austin D.)
(Brandon L.)
320 Ann Street
Middletown, PA 17057
702-4461

Mr. Nicholas Miller
163 West Emaus Street
Middletown, PA 17057
944-1263

Ms. Marilyn Pearce
1132 Chestnut Street
Middletown, PA 17057
944-6558

Mr. John Quinn
501 Mohn Street, Apt. 501
Steelton, PA 17113
939-5473

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Strella (Rachel)
28 East Main Street, Apt. 2
Middletown, PA 17057
350-6083 (Pete)
856-1183 (Rachel)

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Sweigert (Sandra)
(Madison R.)
2 Heathglen Road
Middletown, PA 17057
939-2404

APRIL 2007

Birthdays and Anniversaries

We would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to the following members:

Nansi Grabill	4/1
Earl Balmer	4/2
Mary Ellen Baer	4/2
Jane Zimmerman	4/4
Kristin Swartz	4/5
Louise Maxwell	4/5
Erika Lauffer	4/6
Kylie Dixon	4/7
Jane Clendenin	4/14
Steve Meashey	4/17
Linda Hickoff	4/22
Karen Potter	4/22
Becky Holman	4/23
Kelsey Tobias	4/23
George Price	4/27
Brooke Eberhard	4/28



*We would also like to wish a
Happy Anniversary to:*

Frank and Carol Waple	4/2
Ed and Tina Shireman	4/4
Don and Judy Packheiser	4/12
Greg and Beth Wilsbach	4/13
Warren and Tamie Dodson	4/16
John and Pat Herrold	4/17

News from the Kitchen Mouse

Hi there! Remember me? I'm Oscar, the kitchen mouse. I chatted with you last month and am here again to fill you in on all the interesting stuff I hear in the kitchen. These people must like what they are doing because there is a lot of laughing going on in that kitchen. It looks like fun. I listened carefully and heard a lot of chatter also. This one lady said she wanted to thank all the people who came to the spaghetti dinner (boy, those bread sticks were good) and hoped they had a good time. She also said she was a bit disappointed in the turn out (whatever that is) but appreciated the ones who came. Maybe next time. She also wanted to thank all those who helped to cook, serve and clean up. Thanks, everyone!



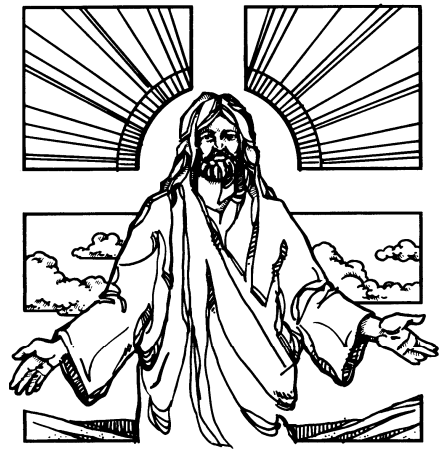
I also heard them talking about a yard sale??? Seems that on April 21st, the Women's Group will have all kinds of neat stuff for sale (the one lady said that there was enough here for two yard sales) and will also have a bake sale. I will have to poke around and see if I can find some stuff for my mouse house. It's kind of bare in here. Well, back to my story... The Fellowship Committee is adding to the fun with a sub sale. I hear there will be four kinds of subs (Italian, Ham and Cheese, Roast Beef and Turkey), and the price is \$3.50 per sub. I hope there are some crumbs for me.

I also heard they are having a baked chicken dinner on April 26. They said because it is on a Thursday night, they are hoping to have LOTS of people attend. Baked chicken, baked potatoes, applesauce, a vegetable, desserts and drinks for \$6/adults and \$3/children. Mmmm yummy. Sounds good to me. I also hear they are serving the dinner. Hmm, maybe they will let me be a waiter. I could serve the desserts!!! Come out and see your friends. That's an idea - invite your friends and neighbors to come! What fun that would be! Well, hope to see you next month - maybe at Social Hour.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CONGREGATION
UNION AND WATER STREETS
MIDDLETOWN, PA 17057

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



*"Why do you look for the living among the dead?
He is not here but has risen."
Luke 24:5*

