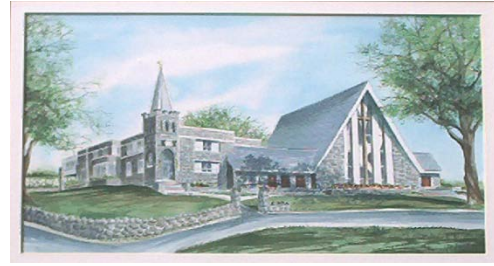


Word of Hope

Mount Hope United Methodist Church

March 2012



Rev. McGill Writes:

Dear Church Family:

I want to take this opportunity to encourage so many of you who have been struggling with unemployment and the announced closing of Conoco Phillips and Sun Oil in Marcus Hook. This has the potential of creating a severe hardship on so many in the Church Family and the surrounding communities. If you are facing unemployment or have been unemployed for some time, it is easy to get depressed and struggle with your faith.

A text that comes to mind is 1Peter 5:7 AMP which reads: "Casting the whole of your care (all your anxieties, all your worries, all your concerns, once and for all) on Him, for He cares for you affectionately and cares about you watchfully."

Having been in this situation in past years of my life, I know how easy it is to feel that no one understands what you are going through and at times even cares, including God. However, this text in 1Peter 5:7 reminds us that God does know about

your situation and wants you to trust Him to bring you out of this trial of no work and no money. He wants you to understand that He is your source and desires for you to cast your concerns, cares and anxieties on Him, believing that He is able to provide for your every need.

He didn't say it would be easy and that you would not have to make some hard decisions, but He is there with you watching over you, providing a way for you to overcome and be victorious. It may take some time, but He has a good plan for your life. He needs you to trust Him to get that plan through to you.

Remember, He is the Loving God who gave His Son for you so that you are forgiven and have the gift of eternal life. If He would give you His only Son, He will not keep any of His goodness from you. He is the one who takes what satan meant to destroy you and turns it for good. Note, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with

whom there is no variation or shadow of turning" (James 1:17). It may seem odd in the midst of what you are going through at this time, but Jesus is the answer to every trial you will ever face. Your victory is in Him. He has a better job and life in His plan for you.

Spend time with Him in the Word each day.

My prayer for you is this: "I ask God, the Master of our Lord Jesus Christ, the God of Glory make you intelligent and discerning in knowing Him personally. May your eyes be focused and clear so that you can see exactly what it is that He is calling you to do. May you grasp the immensity of this glorious plan that He has for good in your life as a Christian. May your spirit be so attuned to Him that you will see as He sees, think as He thinks, and speak as He speaks to you through His Word and the still small voice of the Holy Spirit saying: "This is the way; walk in it" (Isaiah 30:21)."

Pastor McGill

New Preaching Series

Church family, I personally invite you to come and share with me in a series of messages that will sharpen our understanding of who we are as believers in Jesus Christ. My prayer through this series of messages is that God would open the eyes of our hearts to understand our identity and riches in Christ and the greatness of His power available to all of us!

The church today needs a revelation of the grace of God concerning who we are in Jesus Christ. We need to know what we believe and be able to share it clearly with someone who asks what makes you different. What is it about you that is different? You have something I don't have, what is it?

Come and let's clarify our thinking on subjects like

repentance, the goodness of God, the need for revival in the church, God won't let you have more than you can bear, and Christians are just sinners saved by grace, just to name a few. You won't be disappointed if you come. The Holy Spirit wants to set all of us free from some of our stinking thinking that is contrary to the Word of God.

Pastor McGill

Lenten Worship Schedule

February 26th ***First Sunday in Lent***

Pastor McGill's message:

"Salvation: What Is It?"

John 3:16; 2 Corinthians 5:19;

1 John 4: 10

March 4th, ***Second Sunday in Lent***, Communion

Pastor McGill's message: *"Are Christians Just Sinners Saved by Grace?"*

Eph. 2:4-5; 2 Cor. 5:17; Gal. 2:20

March 11th, ***Third Sunday in Lent***

Pastor McGill's message: *"What Price Must be Paid for Us to be Used by God?"*

John 6: 28, 29; Eph. 2: 10

March 18th: ***Fourth Sunday in Lent***

Pastor McGill's message: *"God is Good all the Time"*

1 Cor. 10:13; 2 Cor. 1: 8-9

God won't put more on you than you can bear!

March 25th: ***Fifth Sunday in Lent***
Confirmation

April 1st: ***Palm Sunday***

8:15 & 11:00 Traditional

9:30: the Contemporary Worship Band will be presenting, *"Journey of Hope."* Join us as we flashback to the accolades which were given to Christ upon His triumphant entry to Jerusalem. Would we have started this journey, if we had realized the pain along the way? When hope seems most elusive, it may be just around the corner.

April 5th: ***Maundy Thursday***,

7:00 p.m. worship service with communion, followed by the Candle Cross in Habbersett Hall.

April 6th: ***Good Friday Service***

Noon – 3:00 p.m. The worship time will be divided into approximately 25 minute segments. Plan to join in as we rediscover the meaning of the sacrifice of Jesus for us on the cross.

April 8th – ***Easter Sunday***

6:30 Worship on The Hill by the Cross weather permitting (in the Sanctuary, if not). Pastor Ealy preaching.

7:15 a.m. – Breakfast in Habbersett Hall for those attending the Easter Sunrise service

8:30 a.m. Traditional worship in the Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Contemporary worship service with the praise band

11:00 a.m. Blended service of traditional and contemporary worship. Pastor McGill

preaching: *"Our God Reigns!"*

Confirmation Class

The confirmation annual field trip to Old Saint George's in Philadelphia is scheduled for Saturday March 10th. If you would like to join the class for this informative morning to one of our oldest practicing congregations you are certainly welcome. Each year the program gets better and better as actors reenact events of 200+ years ago. You do not have to be a

young person to attend. It is a tradition that the class has lunch at either Geno's or Pat's Steaks following. The church van will leave at 9:30am and will return at 1:30pm. Please see Pastor Phil if interested.

Confirmation Class 2012 will be graduating on Sunday March 26th at the 11am service. Following

this special service to welcome our 5 students into membership, we'll have a short reception with refreshments in Habbersett Hall. Please plan to join us as these young people take this important step of faith in their lives.

Pastor Ealy

Mount Hope Children's Center

March Bible Verse:

"God keeps His promise."

Genesis 9:13

We have a busy and fun month planned this March. While we wait for spring the children are learning about the food pyramid and healthy eating. Dr. Seuss' Birthday, March 2nd will find us eating "green eggs and ham". March 2nd is also "Read Across America Day", and we encourage

everyone to read to a child that day.

We will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day by the wearing and the eating of the "greens". "Community Helpers" come to school and explain their jobs to the children. Spring begins and we learn about Noah and the Ark. The Fruit of the Spirit this month is "faithfulness." Chapel will be on Thursday, March 29th and Friday, March 30th at 9:30AM.

Next month we'll begin registrations for our summer camp. We are continuing our registration, and still have some openings in our afternoon classes. Please call me at 610-558-0442 for more information or stop up to see and feel our daily joy.

Kris Leary

MHCC Director

A Holy Season

Palm (Passion) Sunday

Palm Sunday is celebrated on the Sunday before Easter. Another name for this Sunday is Passion Sunday which changes the mood from one of triumph at Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, to one of somberness as the knowledge of the events of the coming week unfold.

The early Christians did not celebrate Palm Sunday until about the fourth century when worshippers began holding up olive twigs during the procession. The use of palms in the service did not begin until about 400 years later. By the tenth century, it was common practice to use palm branches in the processions and they are still in use today.

Palm Sunday will be celebrated at all 3 services on April 1. The choir will sing excerpts from the cantata, "*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*" by Bradley Knight, at the 8:15 and 11:00 a.m. services to help us prepare our hearts and minds for the events of the coming week.

Maundy (Holy) Thursday

The Thursday before Easter has traditionally been called Maundy Thursday. The word *maundy* comes from the Latin word *mandatum*, meaning

"commandment." The focus of this day is on the new commandment Jesus gave to His disciples to love one another just as He loved them.

Maundy Thursday also recalls the last supper Jesus had with his disciples. We remember the last supper as the event when Jesus instituted Holy Communion. The last supper took place during Passover, the commemoration of God's delivering the Hebrew people out of slavery in Egypt (Exodus 12). Passover is still observed by Jewish people the world over during the seven-day celebration. Part of the present-day Jewish Passover is the Seder, a special meal that came into practice more than 1000 years ago. Not to be confused with Communion, the Seder is a Jewish ritual. However, the Seder is a Jewish celebration of freedom that can help Christians understand Judaism and gain a deeper respect for our Old Testament roots.

Maundy Thursday is April 5th with one service at 7 p.m. Come relive the events that took place that night.

Good Friday

The Friday of Holy Week was most likely first known as "God's

Friday." This day is a worldwide commemoration of Christ's suffering and death on the cross and has been remembered that way since the fourth century. Many churches hold a service of *Tenebrae*, a "service of shadows," as they remember Jesus' final hours.

We will be having services from 12-3 p.m. on Friday, April 6th, as we remember the three hours Jesus hung on the cross.

Easter:

Resurrection Sunday

Easter Sunday is the greatest day of the entire church year, for without the resurrection, everything else would have no meaning. The days of fasting and reflection in Lent are over. The celebration is just starting!

Easter Sunday is April 8th: Sunrise service at 6:30 a.m. on The Hill, followed by a light breakfast in Habberset Hall (for those who attended the Sunrise service!) You may also join us for Easter services at 8:15, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. The Sounds of Delco will also be helping us as we rejoice in Jesus' resurrection.

Pulse: Youth Notes

YF HOAGIE SALE RESULTS

The Mount Hope Youth Missions Team would like to thank the congregation for all their support for our hoagies fundraiser. Thanks to you, we sold 303 hoagies. We beat our total from last year from 258 to 303. Thank you all so much.

Hope you enjoyed your hoagies!!

Musts for Your Reading List - Updated

I highly encourage you to read the following books. You will be amazed at the impact they will have on your life. Your walk with Christ will change, your understanding of the ***LOVE*** of God the Father for you will be transformed, and your life lived by the empowering Holy Spirit within you will amaze you!

Spring Cantata

Looking ahead.....
the cantata "*Remember*" by Jay Rouse and Randy Vader will be

The Church Family

Baptisms:

Brenda Lynn Carrow, born July 13, 1998, and ***Elaine Rose Carrow***, born November 16, 2004, daughters of Kathy Jo Carrow

Thank You!

I want to thank you for the very generous Christmas gift you sent to me. It was so thoughtful of your to remember me in that way.

It is a joy to be in ministry with you and to serve as your District Resource Assistant.

Best wishes in the New Year and may God bless you and your ministries. Lin George

Our family would like to extend our deepest appreciation to our Church Family and to Pastor McGill for all of his love and

YOUTH MISSIONS

The Mount Hope Missions Team will have its next meeting March 10th @ 10:00am in the Senior High Room, we will be doing team building activity, such as building bookshelves and a closet. Also I need your \$50.00 non-refundable deposit by then and if you would like to add \$25.00 for each monthly down

"The Power of Persistent Prayer"

by Cindy Jacobs

"Dressed to Kill" by Rick

Renner. This is a scriptural look at what it means to be dressed in the Armor of God based on Ephesians 6:11ff. This is a must read for anyone who desires to understand the purpose of the use of spiritual armor in their life.

presented on April 29 at the 8 and 11 a.m. services by the Sanctuary Choir and instrumentalists.

Alexa Noel Herbus, born December 28, 2010, daughter of Robert and Crystal Herbus

James Douglas Smith III, born July 5, 2011, son of James and Kimberly Smith

support for our family with the loss of my mother on August 11, 2011 and recently with the loss of my father on December 23. Our family has been through a very tough and stressful year losing both parents.

As a family we have had to rally around each other for support and I believe Pastor McGill has provided us the guidance we needed to get through these difficult times. He has a truly wonderful way of putting your mind and heart at ease and making you feel better.

payment you can for January and February. We will be talking about our next couple of fundraiser's also. These meetings are mandatory!

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 610-715-0200. Elaine Faulkner

The truths contained in this book will help you discover both your ability and your responsibility to enforce satan's defeat at Calvary so you can walk out God's perfect plan for your life.

Both of the books can be ordered through Amazon.

Pastor McGill

Please mark this date on your calendar! More information will follow in next month's newsletter.

Death

William F. Worriow, January 23, 2012

His personal dedication and devotion to our family have been heartfelt and appreciated by all. I have received many compliments and praise about him personally as well as the way he conducts his services. I am personally very pleased he is my pastor and would like to thank him for the work he has done for me and my family. I believe we are all blessed to have him in our lives and I thank God for that every day.

Sincerely,

Bob and Jean Rickel

Education Grants

The Education Society of the Eastern PA Conference (UMC) will be offering a number of grants to assist students to defray the cost of higher education for the 2012-2013 school year.

Applications, guidelines, and instructions for applying are available on the literature cabinet in the rear of the Sanctuary. Grants apply only to undergraduate study. If that

applies to you, please take an application. Filing deadline is May 31st. Return your complete application to Pastor McGill for his signature.

A Testimony of God's Goodness

I have to express myself. I have been so blessed lately I cannot contain it. The prayer we have for the offertory has come true so many times. I have found money in different ways. Went to a seminar for my therapeutic massage business and found a check crumpled up on the grass outside the hotel of the seminar. I carried it thinking I would give it to the hotel clerk. What would they do with it? I then mailed it to the address on the check with a note explaining.

Two days later I am walking out of the grocery store

and see a \$10 bill. Thought about going to customer service but who would claim it? I dropped it in the Salvation Army kettle.

I have several friends who are hurting and I cannot contain my joy for Jesus so I had to let them know about Jesus and what I have been through also.

Over Christmas Mike and I got news that a debt of ours was no longer. He had tears in his eyes telling me that.

I am an animal lover and got an idea that I would ask my vet if anyone was in need. She told me that she had a couple who

were both diagnosed with terminal cancer and had been fostering cats. We donated some money and she said they cried upon learning that.

Praise Jesus.

I am NOT tooting my horn but relaying the grace and wonderfulness of Christ. The prayer we do at offering is true. I told that to Mike.

Thank you so much for being my wonderful church.

Joanne Hennessy Glawter

March 2012 Calendar of Events

This Update Printed: Wednesday, February 15, 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Every Sunday: Worship at 8:15 and 11:00 a.m. Traditional 9:30 a.m. Family, Praise Band 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages</p>				<p>1</p> <p>1:00 PM Ladies Bible Study (L) 7:00 PM Emmaus mtg (L) 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir (216)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>World Day of Prayer</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00 AM Confirmation Class (L)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Youth Leader's Retreat</p>
<p>4</p> <p>Communion Lent 2nd Sunday Rev. McGill preaching Blood Pressure Screening (HH) 7:45 AM Library open 8:45 AM HSTS Choir (104) 8:45 AM Youth Handbell/Chime Choir (101) 6:30 PM YF (HH, 6)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:15 PM Ark BS (Owsley) 7:30 PM Selah Bible Study</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00 PM Baptism Sem (L) 7:00 PM Kelli Girls BS (6) 7:00 PM Prayer Shawl (Digging)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:30 AM Staff Mtg (L) 1:30 PM Education (L) 6:30 PM 930 Reh (S) 7:00 PM Muddy Boots Bible Study (6) 7:00 PM Trustees (L) 7:00 PM Bells of Hope (101)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>11:00 AM Busy Beavers (Kit) 1:00 PM Ladies Bible Study (L) 4:00 PM WOH Dine (Ofc) 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir (216)</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00 AM Confirmation (Old St Georges Phila) 10:00 AM Confirmation Class (L) 10:00 AM YF Mission Tm mtg (6)</p>
<p>11</p> <p>Lent 3rd Sunday Daylight Savings--set ahead one hour before bedtime Rev. McGill preaching 7:45 AM Library open 8:45 AM HSTS Choir (104) 8:45 AM Youth Handbell/Chime Choir (101) 6:30 PM YF (HH, 6)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00 PM Men's Fellowship (L) 7:30 PM Fuzzie Slippers Girls Bbl Study (6)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:00 PM Ad Bd (HH) 7:30 PM 20's Bible Study (Halls)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:30 AM Staff Mtg (L) 6:30 PM 930 Reh (S) 7:00 PM Muddy Boots Bible Study (6) 7:00 PM Bells of Hope (101)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>1:00 PM Ladies Bible Study (L) 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir (216)</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day 10:00 AM Confirmation Class (L)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Youth Retreat (Innabah)</p>
<p>18</p> <p>Lent 4th Sunday Rev. McGill preaching One Great Hour of Sharing 7:45 AM Library open 8:45 AM HSTS Choir (104) 8:45 AM Youth Handbell/Chime Choir (101)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Youth Retreat (Innabah)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:15 PM Ark BS (Owsley) 7:30 PM Selah Bible Study</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7:00 PM Circle of Friends Bbl Study (McIntyres) 7:00 PM Kelli Girls BS (6) 7:00 PM SPR (L)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:30 AM Staff Mtg (L) 6:30 PM 930 Reh (S) 7:00 PM Muddy Boots Bible Study (6) 7:00 PM Bells of Hope (101)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:30 AM WOH Mailing (HH) 1:00 PM Ladies Bible Study (L) 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir (216)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>5:00 PM MH Bread of Life serv (HH)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00 AM MH Bread of Life dist (HH) 9:00 AM Confirmation Rehearsal (S)</p>
<p>25</p> <p>Lent 5th Sunday Rev. McGill preaching Camping Sunday 7:45 AM Library open 8:45 AM HSTS Choir (104) 8:45 AM Youth Handbell/Chime Choir (101) 11:00 AM Confirmation Class Joins 12:00 PM Confirm Class Reception (HH)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:00 PM Men's Fellowship (L) 7:30 PM Fuzzie Slippers Girls Bbl Study (6)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:00 PM Worship Com (L) 7:30 PM 20's Bible Study (Halls)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:30 AM Staff Mtg (L) 6:30 PM 930 Reh (S) 7:00 PM Muddy Boots Bible Study (6) 7:00 PM Finance (L) 7:00 PM Bells of Hope (101)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>1:00 PM Ladies Bible Study (L) 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir (216)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Community Events: Sundays—6 pm, Cub Den 4 (104) Mondays—7 p.m., Boy Scout 292 (FH) Tuesdays—8 p.m. AA (FH) Thursdays—6 p.m., AA (FH) Fridays—7 p.m., Cub Den 2 (FH) 6 p.m., Pack 77 (FH)</p>	<p>31</p>