

# Word of Hope

**MOUNT HOPE**  
United Methodist Church



## Pastor McGill Writes. . .

### *Following Jesus Can Lead You Onto Uncharted Paths*

Any time you step out and obey God's direction for your life, at some point in your journey of faith you will probably experience feelings of uncertainty and mixed emotions about your future. But when you are walking by faith and trusting God to direct you step by step, you won't always see the whole picture at once. You will probably only see glimpses of the plan God has for you like pieces to a puzzle. In the Old Testament, God led His people, but they had to trust Him and obey Him every step of the way in order to fulfill His will for them and receive His blessing. For example, God instructed the children of Israel to carefully follow the Ark of the Covenant so He could lead them into their Promised Land, a land of prosperity and rich blessings. The Israelites were given these instructions: "When you see the Levitical priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord your God, move out from your positions and follow them" (Joshua 3:3). Joshua commanded the people not to follow the Ark too closely, nor to lag behind, "...since you have never traveled this way before, they will guide you."

The children of Israel traveled paths uncharted as they journeyed by faith toward their destiny. They had to depend solely on the Lord for direction because they had not gone that way before. Similarly, under the New Covenant, God had set a course before each of His children. But in order to fulfill our destiny in Christ, we must obey God and trust Him to guide us step-by-step in our walk with Him. As you follow the Lord's direction for your life, the future won't always seem clear to you, and God's plan for your life will not unfold overnight. Payday in God's Kingdom doesn't always come every Saturday night. But it does come! In the long run, obedience to God and His Word always pays. In your walk with God, you will travel paths you haven't traveled before – paths that are new or unfamiliar to you. But they are not new or unfamiliar to God. The Bible says God knows where you are going (Job 23:10), and that darkness and light are the same to Him (Psalm 139:12). You may not know the future, or the way out of a particular circumstance, but God does! He has a plan for your life, and He knows how to

successfully lead you in order to accomplish His plan.

When we consider the current events of our day, there is no question that we are living in a time of uncertainty in regard to prosperity for us and future generations; however, as a Christian, you do not face the future alone. Jesus is with you, and He will not lead you on a path where harm will overtake you. Rather, He promises to gently lead you on right paths if you will trust and obey Him.

The Lord may lead you on a path where the enemy seems to lurk on every side, trying to steal your joy and get you out of faith. But as you faithfully follow the inward leading of the Holy Spirit, you will receive your promised reward and feast at the table of blessing God has prepared for you (Ps. 23:4,5).

The challenge for Christians living in the uncertain times of 2011 will be to choose to follow God's leading and direction for our lives and NOT our own! When we seek to do what seems right in our own eyes, we miss God's good plan for us. We may not know everything

*(continued on page 3)*

February 2011

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#### Special points of interest:

- ◆ *1st: Baptism Seminar*
- ◆ *5th, 12th, 19th, 26th: Confirmation classes*
- ◆ *6th: Transfiguration Sunday, Communion*
- ◆ *11-13th: JrHi Retreat*
- ◆ *12th: EPC Mission Training*
- ◆ *13th: Boy Scout Sunday*
- ◆ *18th: Boy Scout Banquet*
- ◆ *19th: Angel Food pickup, Sweetheart Banquet*
- ◆ *20th: Baptism Sunday*
- ◆ *21st: Presidents' Day*



**MARRIAGE**

*Marian Erle and Ken Horton,*  
December 26, 2010

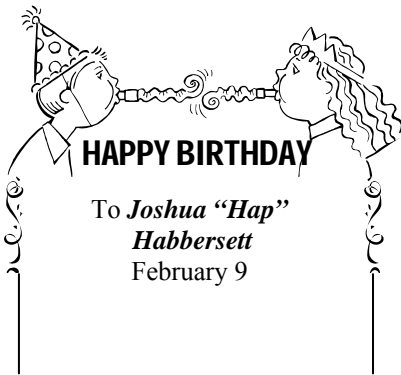
**BIRTH**

*Zachary Daniel Vickers,* January 18, 2011, son of Daniel and Jennifer Vickers

**DEATHS**

*Alice C. Salmons,* December 24, 2010

*Donald V. Malik,* January 9, 2011  
*William W. Dickerson,* January 15, 2011



**Mount Hope Church Staff**

- Rev. Dr. Thomas C. McGill, Senior Pastor
- Rev. George S. Rigby, Jr., Pastor of Visitation
- Pastor Philip G. Ealy, Family Life Ministry
- Cynthia Babiak, Youth Director
- Kristine Leary, Director, Children's Center
- Sharon Kope, Director of Music
- Donna Kelly, 9:30 Worship Coordinator
- Eileen McIntyre, Handbell Director
- Larry Bakey, Cemetery Director
- Lin Heintz, Secretary
- Joan Bear, Asst. Secretary
- Leo Volmer, Building Superintendent
- Larry Miles, Asst. Bldg. Superintendent
- Bud Bostwick, Security Guard

**Sweetheart Banquet**

February 19<sup>th</sup> in Habbersett Hall bring your Sweetheart for a lovely dinner. On this evening the men will be in charge of providing the meal and our Mount Hope Youth will help to serve as we celebrate our relationships together on this Valentines week. It matters not if you are dating or have been married for 50 years; all

couples are invited to share in this night together. Following the meal we will share in the viewing of the inspirational movie **Secretariat** ©. There is no cost for the evening, other than the men are in charge of supplying food for the meal. Note men, that even if you do not cook, you can still buy your food item.

A sign up sheet will be available in the Narthex for the various food items needed. This is necessary because to some men a three course meal consists of ribs, hot wings and Twinkies.

Please mark your calendars –Saturday, February 19th at 5:30—and plan to attend this special evening with your sweetheart!

Pastor Phil

**Christmas Giving Tree**

Praise God that the total amount the Mount Hope contributed for the World Vision Giving Tree was \$4,473.50! We would like to thank everyone for

their effort and support of this ministry. Imagine what it will be like in Heaven when someone whom you have never met before comes up to you and says, “Thank

you so much for giving to the Lord! We were hungry and you fed us, thirsty and you gave us drink, sick and you gave to our hospital.” To God be the Glory!

**Vacation Bible School**

Scheduled for June 20 – June 24, 2011. We need an individual or a team of people to

coordinate this year's event. Contact Carolyn at 610-494-1267 or [aston-](mailto:aston-)

[barb@comcast.net](mailto:barb@comcast.net) to volunteer or get additional information.

**Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant**

Congratulations to Debra DePrinzio on the super article in Town Talk. Debra and Carson (her Red Cross-trained therapy dog) posed for the camera before their next outing to Drexel Univer-

sity to teach Photoshop; off on their next mission trip or HIS Ministry visit; or coordinating disaster response for our UM Conference. Both have a heart for people, and a love for God.

Check them out at [http://www.delconewsnetwork.com/articles/2010/12/14/media\\_town\\_talk/news/doc4d08303cdda8f378681084.txt](http://www.delconewsnetwork.com/articles/2010/12/14/media_town_talk/news/doc4d08303cdda8f378681084.txt)

**Children's Center News**

February's Bible Verse: **“We love because He first loved us.”**  
John 4:19

This year is turning out to be another cold and snowy winter, but that has not slowed us down much! This month the children will learn about all types of love, especially about our Lord's love for us.

The older children will visit the Giant supermar-

ket, enjoy a Valentine's card exchange and party in the middle of the month, and learn about the color red, the heart shape, and the five senses.

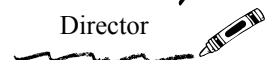
“Goodness” is our Fruit of the Spirit this month. Chapel will be on February 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:30AM.

The teachers are testing the older children for kindergarten readiness, the younger ones for their progress reports and preparing

for parent conferences.

September 2011 in-house family registration started the first part of January. We are filling up quickly! We still have some openings for our afternoon Pre-k and 3- year old programs. If you are interested in finding out about our program, please stop up to see us or call 610-558-0442.

*Kris Leary*  
Director





### Prayer Shawl/Scarf Makers Needed

Winter is a good time to knit and crochet. Please contact Dawn Diggins if you could help knit or crochet a scarf or shawl for the ministry. Our February

meeting is Tuesday, FEBRUARY 1ST, at 7:00 pm. We are learning to crochet at this meeting, besides prayer and fellowship. Come join us!

We would like to reach out to others. If you know someone who would benefit from a scarf or shawl, please let us know.

### Friends Bible Study

We are studying Marion Stroud's book, "Dear God, It's Me and It's Urgent: prayers for every season of a woman's life."

We will meet in Sunday School Room 104 on Tuesday, February 22 at 7:00 pm. Please contact Dawn

Diggins if interested in joining us.

### Following Jesus Can Lead You Onto Uncharted Paths

(Continued from Page 1) the future holds for us, but if we will trust Him and obey

His leading every step of the way, we can step into the future knowing He will direct

our paths and fulfill His plan for our lives.

Pastor McGill

### The Bible Talks About Life

**Cast All your anxiety on Him because He cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7**

#### AGITATION

"Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:27

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philipians 4:6, 7

#### ANGER

"In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold. Ephesians 4:26, 27

My dear brothers, take not

of this: Everyone should be quick to listen slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that Go desires. James 1:19, 20

#### DEPRESSION

I waited patiently for the Lord; He turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; He set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.

He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord. Psalm 40: 1-3

The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; He delivers them from all their troubles.

A righteous man may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from them all; . . . Psalm 34:17, 19

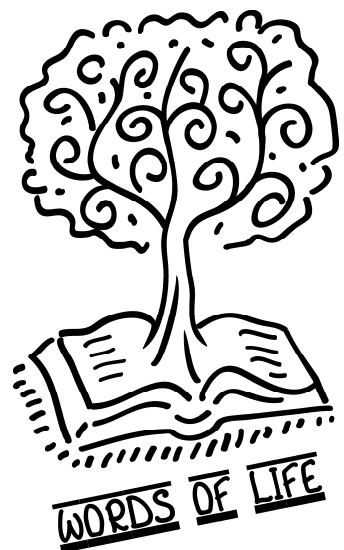
#### DISCOURAGEMENT

"Do not let your hearts be troubled; trust in God; trust also in Me. In My Father's house are many rooms; If it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." John 14; 1-3

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you." Deuteronomy 31:6



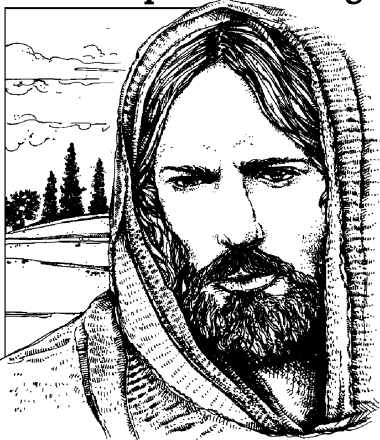
Don't forget to order your Angel Food. Log onto their web site or stop by the church for February's menu and to order your meals. See the calendar on page 5 for the order dates. Call 610.459.2521 if you would like more information.



# THE Final WORD



I am the Alpha & the Omega,



the beginning & the end.  
Revelation 21:6

## The Greatest Key You Will Ever Have: Jesus

*His Presence doesn't cast any shadow because He is the Light that lights the Heavenly City. He is the Light of the world and the Giver of life.*

*He is the Door, the Way, and the Truth.*

He is the Treasure, the Pearl of great price, and more precious than the finest gold.

He was the Rock of Ages before any mountain peaks were formed.

*He was the Bread of life before there was any grain. He was the Lily of the Valley before there were any flowers on the earth.*

He is the Eternal Intercessor. He is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, higher than the Heavens; He makes His enemies His footstool, and laughs at His adversaries.

*He is the Tree of life; He is consecrated forever, and makes us sanctified forever by His precious Blood.*

He is the Minister of the Sanctuary, and He is the Mediator of the New Covenant.

*He is the High Priest of GOOD THINGS to come; He's the Lion of Judah; and the Lamb that was slain. He is the New and Living Way.*

He was born contrary to the laws of birth. He lived contrary to the laws of life. He healed contrary to the laws of medicine.

*He was tried and condemned contrary to the laws of justice, and He arose contrary to the laws of death and the grave.*

He ascended contrary to the laws of gravity, and He is coming back again contrary to the expectation of the world!

*He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He is the Great Shepherd of ALL THE SHEEP.*

**HE IS THE HOLDER OF THE KEYS; HE IS THE AMEN; AND HE IS THE FINAL WORD...**

*He is qualified to open the Book, and He is the expression of the Heart of the Father.*

His love has no limits; His grace has no measure; His power has no boundaries known unto men; out of His infinite riches, He gives and gives and gives again.

*He is our nearest Kinsman, and is qualified to redeem us.*

*He is THE WORD MADE FLESH and the Honey in the rock.*

He is high and lifted up; He is the Bright and Morning Star, and the fairest of 10,000.

*He is more precious than gold, and He's the glory and lifter of our heads.*

He is the righteous Judge; He is a refuge for the oppressed; and He doesn't forget the cry of the humble.

*He bore our sorrows and our grief; He was despised and rejected of men; and now He controls the destiny of the nations – the kingdoms of this world are going to become the Kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and forever.*

He is our portion and our inheritance; His garments smell of sweet myrrh; and His

breath is as sweet apples. He is a very present help in trouble.

*He hides us under the shadow of His wings and keeps us as the apple of His eye.*

He is our High Tower, and He makes the hills shake, the mountains melt, and the Heavens bow.

*He pulled back the curtain of eternity and stepped out on the stage of time for one brief moment, and then stepped back again into eternity; but in that one brief moment of time, He sealed the fate of every man and woman and fixed their destiny.*

He is the bright Candle in the darkness because He is the Light of life.

*He is the Branch, and the Root of Jesse.*

**HE IS THE GREAT WAVE MAKER FROM GALILEE.**

He makes the crooked paths straight and the rough places plain.

*He split history and divided the ages.*

He is the greatest Teacher the world has ever known, and He is the Baptizer in the Holy Ghost.

*He preserves the faithful, and He is the resurrection and the life.*

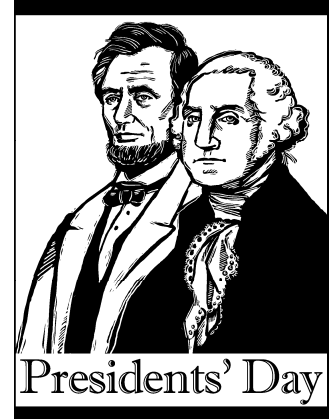
He spoke and framed the world; He makes our way perfect and makes our feet like hinds' feet, and He causes us to walk in high places. He is able to comfort, guide and bless.

By Kathy Walters  
(Continued next month)



## George Washington Quotes

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Constitution is the guide which I never will abandon.</li> <li>2. The foolish and wicked practice of profane cursing and swearing is a vice so mean and low that every person of sense and character detests and despises it.</li> <li>3. To be prepared for war is one of the most effective means of preserving peace.</li> <li>4. Truth will ultimately prevail where there is pains to bring it to light.</li> <li>5. It is far better to be alone than in bad company.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. It is impossible to rightly govern a nation without God and the Bible.</li> <li>7. Let us raise a standard to which the wise and honest can repair; the rest is in the hands of God.</li> <li>8. Let your heart feel for the afflictions and distress of everyone, and let your hand give in proportion to your purse.</li> <li>9. Observe good faith and justice toward all nations. Cultivate peace and harmony with all.</li> <li>10. If the freedom of speech is taken away, then dumb and silent we may</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>be led, like sheep to the slaughter.</li> <li>11. Guard against the postures of pretended patriotism.</li> <li>12. Happiness and moral duty are inseparably connected.</li> <li>13. The very atmosphere of firearms anywhere and everywhere restrains evil interference; they deserve a place of honor with all that is good.</li> <li>14. Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire, called conscience.</li> </ol> |
|--|---|---|



February 21st, 2011

## Abraham Lincoln

Down thru endless ages,  
 Came a soul from others apart—  
 Incased in a body of awkward appearance;  
 But in a true heavenly made heart.  
 He was born in a hewed log cabin,  
 Grew up simple and plain;  
 This life—on earth a sacrifice,  
 To remove from liberty a stain.

No pen can give him due credit—  
 No words the good of his mind;  
 But his love is forever burning,  
 In the hearts of all human kind.  
 The world now bows to his honor,  
 And hail this emancipator' name;  
 Columbia is proud of his memory,  
 He lives in everlasting fame.

His life of bitter sorrow,  
 Hard work and saddened tears,  
 Has made happy millions of humans,  
 And will for the future years.  
 O, Father, hear us in heaven!  
 May his reward increase ten-fold!  
 To repay for the great good he did us,  
 While his clay on earth lies cold.

His life is a lesson for the living,  
 Shows democracy is strength and sand,  
 That a good mind no matter how humble,  
 Can spread peace and love o'er the land.  
 "In God we trust"—our nation all—  
 Our reward was grand and kind,  
 For we'll always live and never fall!  
 By following this wonderful mind.

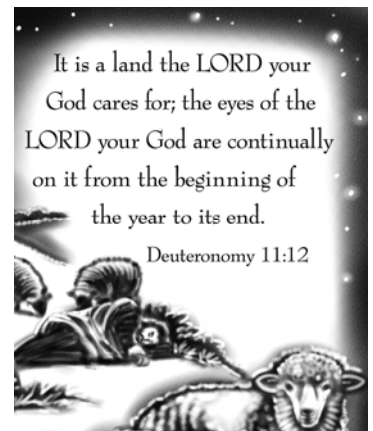
Berton Bellis, 1919

## The Extravagance of God

Have you ever thought about the extravagance of God?  
 More sky that man can see  
 More sea than he can sail  
 More sun than he can bear to watch,  
 More stars than he can scale

More breath than he can breathe  
 More yield than he can sow  
 More grace than he can comprehend  
 More Love than he can know.

Anonymous





# PIECES OF LOVE



Send special reminders of your love by creating messages that people can assemble and enjoy.

### What you need:

- Large wooden craft sticks
- Tape
- Permanent markers
- Scissors
- Zippered sandwich baggies

### What you do:

1. Make a rectangle out of seven craft sticks by placing them next to one another, long side against long side.
2. Tape the sticks together.
3. Turn the sticks over and draw a special picture or message. You can include this Bible verse: "We love because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19, NIV).
4. Cut through the tape to separate each craft stick.
5. Put all the sticks in a baggie.
6. Give your special messages to family members, friends or teachers — along with directions for viewing them.



# A LOVE LETTER

In the New Testament, John writes a letter about God's love and the love we should show to other people.

**DIRECTIONS:** Working from left to right, write down all the 1's in the word blanks. Continue with the 2's and finally the 3's. Then read about love, from 1 John 4:11-12, NIV.

lives 3	in 3	us 3	Since 1	and 3	God 1	so 1	loved 1	his 3
us 1	love 3	we 1	If 2	also 1	is 3	made 3	we 2	ought 1
to 1	love 2	love 1	one 1	complete 3	one 2	another 1	in 3	us 3
another 2	God 2							

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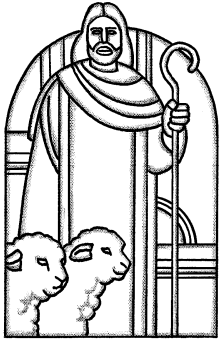
1 John 4:11-12, NIV

Answers: Since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. If we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.



This Update Printed: Tuesday, January 18, 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>Every Sunday:</b>  <b>Worship at 8:15, 9:30 &amp; 11:00 a.m.</b>  <b>Sunday School at 9:30</b></p>		<p><b>1</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Open                      7:00 PM Kelli Girls BS (6)  <b>7:00 PM Baptism Sem (L)</b>                      7:00 PM Prayer Shawl (Digging)</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>Groundhog Day</b>                      9:00 AM Library Open                      9:30 AM StaffMtg (L)  <b>11:30 PM Education (L)</b>                      6:30 PM Muddy Boots Bbl Stydy (2, 6)                      6:30 PM 930 Reh (S)  <b>7:00 PM Trustees (L)</b>                      7:00 PM Bells of Hope (101)                      8:00 PM 20's Bible Study (6)</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Open                      1:00 PM Bible Study (L)                      6:30 PM Emmaus mtg (L)                      7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir (216)</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Open</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Confirmation Class (L)</p>
<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>Communion</b>  <b>Transfiguration Sunday</b>                      Blood Pressure Screening (HH)                      9:15 AM - 10:45 am. Library open                      9:30 AM Angel Food (HH)                      10:30 AM Angel Food (HH)  <b>11:00 AM HSTS Choir (103)</b>                      6:00 PM YF PULSE (HH, 6)</p> 	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>7:15 PM Ark BS (Owsley)                      7:30 PM Se lah Bible Study (Brownhill)</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Open  <b>4:00 PM WOH Da dine (Ofc)</b>  <b>7:00 PM Ad Bd (HH)</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Open                      9:30 AM StaffMtg (L)                      1:00 PM Angel Food or dr (HH)                      5:30 PM Angel Food or ders (HH)                      6:30 PM 930 Reh (S)                      7:00 PM Bells of Hope (101)                      8:00 PM 20's Bible Study (6)</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Open  <b>11:00 AM Busy Beavrs (Kit)</b>                      1:00 PM Bible Study (L)  <b>7:00 PM Transportation (L)</b>                      7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir (216)</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Open</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p><b>Lincoln's Birthday</b>                      8:00 AM EPC Youth Missions Training (Kit, HH)                      10:00 AM Confirmation Class (L)</p>
					<p>6:00 PM YF JrHi Retreat (Innabah)</p>	
<p><b>13</b></p> <p><b>Boy Scout Sunday</b>                      9:15 AM - 10:45 am. Library open                      9:30 AM Angel Food (HH)                      10:30 AM Angel Food (HH)  <b>11:00 AM HSTS Choir (103)</b>                      6:00 PM YF PULSE (HH, 6)</p> <p>6:00 PM YF JrHi ...</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p><b>Valentine's Day</b>                      7:00 PM Men's Felwshp (L)                      7:30 PM Fuzzie Slippers Girls Bbl Stydy (6)</p> 	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Open                      7:00 PM Kelli Girls BS (6)  <b>7:00 PM SPR (L)</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Open                      9:30 AM StaffMtg (L)                      6:30 PM Muddy Boots Bbl Stydy (2, 6)                      6:30 PM 930 Reh (S)                      8:00 PM 20's Bible Study (6)</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p><b>8:30 AM WOH Mailing (HH)</b>                      9:00 AM Library Open                      1:00 PM Bible Study (L)                      7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir (216)</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Open</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Angel Food pick-up (HH)                      10:00 AM Confirmation Class (L)  <b>5:30 PM Sweetheart Banquet (HH)</b></p> 
<p><b>20</b></p> <p><b>Baptism</b>                      9:15 AM - 10:45 am. Library open  <b>11:00 AM HSTS Choir (103)</b>                      6:00 PM YF PULSE (HH, 6)</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p><b>President's Day</b>  <b>Office Closed</b>                      7:15 PM Ark BS (Owsley)                      7:30 PM Se lah Bible Study</p>  <p>MHCC Closed</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p><b>Washington's Birthday</b>                      9:00 AM Library Open                      7:00 PM Friends Bible Study (104)  <b>7:00 PM Worship Com (L)</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Open                      9:30 AM StaffMtg (L)                      6:30 PM 930 Reh (S)  <b>7:00 PM Finance (L)</b>                      7:00 PM Bells of Hope (101)                      8:00 PM 20's Bible Study (6)</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Open                      1:00 PM Bible Study (L)                      7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir (216)</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>9:00 AM Library Open</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Confirmation Class (L)</p>
<p><b>27</b></p> <p>9:15 AM - 10:45 am. Library open  <b>11:00 AM HSTS Choir (103)</b>                      6:00 PM YF PULSE (HH, 6)</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>7:00 PM Men's Felwshp (L)                      7:30 PM Fuzzie Slippers Girls Bbl Stydy (6)</p>	<p><b>Holding a meeting or event at the Church?</b>                      Please remember to call the office to schedule the use of a room.</p> <p><b>Community Events:</b>  <b>Sundays</b>— 5:30 p.m. Cub Den 5 (104)                      6:00 p.m. Cub Den 4 (103)  <b>Monday</b>—7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Trp 292 (FH)  <b>Tuesdays</b> – 8:00 pm AA (FH)  <b>Wednesdays</b> - 7:00 pm Post Prom (FH)  <b>Thursdays</b> – 6:00 pm AA (FH)  <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Friday</b> – 6:30 pm Pack 77 meetings (FH)</p>				



*God made him  
who had no sin  
to be sin for us...*

*2 Corinthians 5:21*

## *The Greatest Key You Will Ever Have: His Name is Jesus! by Kathi Walters*



Jesus is altogether lovely; He saves us, and He keeps us by His power from sin and death.

*He has given to us His robe of righteousness. He extends His mercy, longsuffering, loving-kindness, tenderness, healing and compassion.*

He is our Shield, our Defender, our Rock, and our Hiding Place.

*He is our Provider, Counselor, Great Shepherd, our Friend, who is closer than a brother, and He is our Love. He is the Husbandman, the Keeper of the vineyard. He is the Source of all blessing.*

*He restores, rescues, forgives and redeems.*

He is our Victor, the Captain of Hosts, Mighty in battle. He is our Banner, and our Standard, and He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

*Jesus is crowned with glory and honor; He is our Savior, Sanctifier, Redeemer, and the merciful and faithful High Priest.*

He is the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. He was dead, but now He is **ALIVE** forevermore, and He is seated at the right hand of God – it is finished!

*He destroyed death and He led*

*captivity captive.*

He is the Great Apostle of our faith; He is the Supreme Sacrifice; and the spotless and blameless Lamb.

*He is our Anchor and our Strong Tower; our Shield and our Defender; and He was the Ancient of Days before the first day began.*

He is the Forerunner, the Firstborn among many brethren. He is the surety of a better testament; He comes from the unchangeable priesthood; and He is able to save to the uttermost.

*(continued on page 4)*



# YF PULSE

## Retreat!!!!

February 2 011

Homework, mid-terms, sports, facebook, texting, instant messaging, parents, friends, part-time jobs, college shopping, social life....

It's exhausting just reading all of these things, but the truth is that if you are a teen in today's society; all of these things are a very real part of your day. In fact, they consume most of your time; leaving little room to nurture the most important relationship you will ever have...your relationship with God.

Think about your best friend. If you don't set aside time to spend with that friend, you will cease to grow together, and will likely grow apart— and the friendship can become just a distant memory.

The same is true with God. He is always there and He wants to spend time with you, but if you don't set aside time to spend with Him, you will not grow closer to Him—and you may even grow away from Him.

How tragic would that be—for we are created to have a relationship with Him.

I encourage you to carve out some time each day to spend with Your Creator. He longs to meet with you. Find a period of time when you can shut out all of the noise and distraction of the world around you and listen to what God wants to tell you. Pray, do a devotion, read your Bible, or just spend time quietly listening for Him.

Another way to connect with God is to go on retreat. A retreat is a period of time when you leave all of the distractions of the world behind and focus on God. It's a time to say, "Here I am, Lord! You are more important to me than Facebook or my iPod and I want to be with You."

Each year, our youth group attends a retreat in the winter time. God always does wonderful things when we leave the world behind and focus on Him!

**Junior High will be going to Camp Innabah February 11-13 and Senior High will go to Camp Innabah March 25-27. We would love to see you there!**

*My heart has heard You say, "Come and talk with Me."*

*And my heart responds, "LORD, I am coming." Psalm 27:8*

# Upcoming Concerts!!

Our youth group has the opportunity to attend two awesome concerts this winter:

**WINTERJAM:** featuring the Newsboys, David Crowder Band, Kutless, and speaker, Tony Nolan. March 17, 2011. This concert is at the Sovereign Center in Reading, Pa. It is a great outreach opportunity, so feel free to invite your friends. They will be rocking with some great bands, plus will hear an awesome message!

Tickets are \$10 and must be reserved by 2/27/11.

**Chris Tomlin with Louie Giglio:** March 18 at the Giant Center, Hershey Pa. Tickets are \$32. and must be reserved by 2/27/11.

We will depart the bus garage at Mount Hope at 4:00pm on both days and we will not be home till around Midnight. Please take this into consideration as Winterjam falls on a school night. We would love to see you at the concert, but be sure to plan a nap in advance!!

Bring money for dinner—we will stop and eat on the way!



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## Mission Team Update:

It's not too late to sign up!! If you're entering 9th grade through 12th grade you are eligible to attend the mission trip to Mississippi July 29-August 7.

We will be working with Next Step Ministries to do housing repair for victims of Hurricane Katrina who are not yet back in their homes.

You can check them out on the web at [www.nextstepministries.com](http://www.nextstepministries.com)



The cost is \$500 per person and can be offset through fund raising. We will be having lots of opportunity for fund raising between now and July.

A \$50 deposit is due right away. Please contact Cindy Babiak 610-659-3697 or [cbabiak@comcast.net](mailto:cbabiak@comcast.net) if you would like further information.