

Word of Hope

MOUNT HOPE
United Methodist Church



Pastor McGill Writes. . .

Mother's Day

Mother's Day is a special day to all of us, but it had some humble beginnings in getting started. That fame is often fleeting, and the memories of most men and women short, has once again been brought home by the humble story of Anna M. Jarvis, who is the founder of Mother's Day.

It was over 100 years ago that Miss Jarvis got the idea of having a day set aside when men and women throughout the nation pay special honor to their mothers. Anna Jarvis' own mother, Mrs. Ann Reaves Jarvis, had died on the second Sunday in May 1905. This is why the second Sunday in May has been designated as Mother's Day.

The first celebration was held in a tiny church in Grafton, WV, the town

where Anna was born. It was Anna's mother Ann who initiated this service. Anna was ten at the time and attended the church with her parents, brothers and sister.

At the age of twenty, Anna was graduated from Augusta Female Seminary at Staunton, Virginia, and returned home to teach in the public schools. She also taught with her mother in the Sunday school of Andrews Methodist Church. It was during this time that her mother laid plans to set aside a day in honor of the mothers of the world, but never lived to see her work completed.

On December 31, 1902, Anna's father died. Mrs. Jarvis and her children moved to Philadelphia to live with a son, Claude. Three years later on May 9, 1905, Mrs. Jarvis died. A

year later on the anniversary of her mother's death, Anna announced plans to make Mother's Day a national observance on the second Sunday in May.

Next, Anna wrote L.L. Lear, Superintendent of Andrews Sunday school, with the suggestion the church celebrate a Mother's Day in honor of her mother. On Sunday, May 10, 1908, the first Mother's Day church service was held at Andrews Church. Two years later, Governor William E. Glasscock of West Virginia officially proclaimed the first Mother's Day.

Although a sincere devotion and a deep realization of her loss undoubtedly was behind the movement, the real beginning of Mother's Day might be said to go back to the time just after the Civil War when Anna's own

(Continued on page 5)

Tidbits from Trustees

The housing transaction to sell the Convent Road parsonage to Neumann College has been approved by the district and Neumann has already settled on the property where Pastor Phil

and his family will be moving.

The Chancel window is completed at the manufacturer. The steel frame for the window was refurbished April 18-20, and the

window is scheduled to be installed after April 23. PENNDOT has been contacted about a crosswalk between Mount Hope and Aston Elementary School.

The Trustees

May 2007

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Special points of interest:

- ◆ **3rd-5th: Pictorial Directory photo sessions**
- ◆ **6th, 10:30: One service of worship; Noon: Past Pastors dinner at Kings Mills**
- ◆ **13th: Mother's Day**
- ◆ **27th: Pentecost**
- ◆ **28th: Memorial Day, office closed; MHCC closed for the su**



DEATH

John Erle, April 23

ADDRESS CHANGES

Todd, Holly and Hayley Astheimer
401 Eden RD Apt X1
Lancaster PA 17601-4260

Anne Biddle
1844 SW 23rd ST
Miami FL 33145-3826

Kelly Gerard Bonhage
Stephanie, Melissa, Michelle,
Cherish and Tina
104 Thames DR
Lincoln University PA 19352

Adam and Andrea Gastonguay
417 Cherry ST
Pottstown PA 19464-5927

Ben and Julia King
908 Skyview DR
W Carrollton OH 45449-1636

Jaime and Briana Powers
806A Birney HWY #4
Aston PA 19014-1404

Gail Rezzonico
361 Magneta Loop
Auburndale FL 33823-9791

Timothy Taylor
2105 Broomall ST
Boothwyn PA 19061-3308

If you know addresses for the following members, please call the church office: William, Susan, Billy and Ashley Jirak; Daniel and Linda Hallermeier Pastor; Sherry Voorhees.

May Highlights

Sunday, May 6

May 6th will feature our senior pastors who have served Mount hope Church. On that Sunday we will have only one service at 10:30 a.m. Following the service, we'll be taking an outdoor photograph of the Church Family. This photographic record will remain as part of our history.

Following the photo shoot, we'll gather at the Kings Mills for the ALL

CHURCH dinner, when we can fellowship with one another and have some informal time with the pastors who have served Mount Hope Church. This will also be an historical event that you will not want to miss.

May 13th is Mother's Day

As you know, we always celebrate this Sunday with a presentation to all mothers who are in attendance. This is a special Sun-

day and one you will want to be present. Mark your calendar now!

This Mother's Day, as part of our ongoing 200th Anniversary celebration, we will be honoring Dorothy Smitham and Joshua and Kathryn Habbersett, who are our longest-standing members. Dottie, Hap and Kit united with Mount Hope Methodist Episcopal Church on February 4, 1932.

Missionfest 2007

WHEN: Saturday May 19th 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM

WHERE: Mount Hope Upper level parking lot

WHAT: All day worship and praise through the ministry of music and

God's Word.

All proceeds will go towards the mission fund.

Time is short and there is much to do. This is your chance to be God's Hands and Feet.

Will you be part of the

Great Commission?

Please contact Frank McCollum at 610.420.9197 or thebigmac5@verizon.net or

Ken Donaberger at 856.340.1433 or kdonaberger@ghbuchanan.com.

Confirmation Class Joins

Welcome to our newest members of Mount Hope Church. Our Confirmands united with the Church in full membership on Sun-

day, April 22. They are: Melissa Bailey, Scott Bailey, Mollie Bohlander, Elizabeth Burgess, Renee Fenner, Corey Klauder,

Ryan Lee, Eric Lewis, Sean O'Brien, Kelsey O'Brien and Brett Serekis.

God Will Fill You Up

There has been some talk of how much weight the Pastor of Family Life Ministries has lost since his diet in December; well, the total so far is 60 lbs. I have no magic tricks or diet pills; I simply am watching what I eat and trying to exercise every day. My main fear when I began my diet was that with the lack of food, I would not be filled at meals. The Lord has made our bodies, however, in a way that our stomach will shrink and we will feel full with less food. Before dieting I sim-

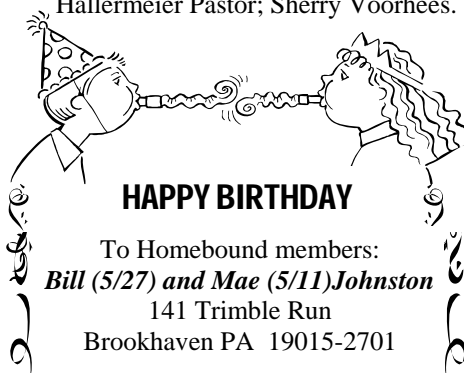
ply did not have faith that I would be satisfied.

Scripture often compares our desire for God with hunger. Psalm 81 talks about God's longing for the Israelites to turn from idols and be satisfied with Him. When the Israelites worshiped idols they were saying in essence that they did not have faith that God alone could satisfy their needs. Verse 10 states, "I am the Lord who brought you up out of Egypt, Open wide your mouth and I will fill it." God is saying that He desires to meet our needs if only we would open our mouths to

Him. When I read this Psalm I was convicted. So often when I sin I am telling God that He alone is not enough for me. We need to feed on what the Lord has for us and not the junk food of the world.

We all need to "Taste and see that the Lord is good" (Psalm 34:8). God knows our needs and what is best for us. We need to feed on His word and be satisfied in Him. Because God will fill you up.

Pastor Phil



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To Homebound members:
Bill (5/27) and Mae (5/11) Johnston
141 Trimble Run
Brookhaven PA 19015-2701



Planning Ahead: Summer Sunday School

In order to give our dedicated Sunday school teachers some well deserved time off, a volunteer is needed to coordinate this year's sum-

mer Sunday school. This involves choosing the curriculum and recruiting teachers. Summer Sunday school begins the first Sun-

day in July and runs up until the Sunday before labor day. If you are interested, please contact Kathy Simonds at 610-558-3253.

Thank You...

To everyone who helped to make our Easter celebration special: choirs, bell choirs, and directors; all of you who

worked behind the scenes to prepare the services; our staff who worked especially hard in preparation for all the ser-

vices; and to our Church family, who participated in the giving of lilies and attending worship.

200th Anniversary Celebration Event and Dinner

Mount Hope has been blessed with many members who allow us to worship at our favorite choice of three different services each week. May 6th should prove to be a very exciting day as we will have just one worship service at 10:30 AM. This will permit us to greet members that we don't normally see and to worship together as one body to praise the Lord.

Following the 10:30 service, we will gather to have a group church photograph taken to include all those who are in attendance or who want to stop by for the picture. The picture will be hung in the Habbersett lobby alongside of the vin-

tage group pictures hanging there now. Just imagine – in a hundred years from now, future Mount Hope members will be able to look at us, comment on the different clothes and hair styles, and possibly architectural changes, and wonder just how life was in 2007! You don't want to miss being a part of Mount Hope's visual history!

After the photo shoot, we will be off to Kings Mills for an afternoon of extraordinary fellowship and a delicious meal. A few past Mount Hope Senior Pastors and their wives will be our guests for this special event day. How exciting it will be to visit with them

again or meet them for the first time if you were not a member when they served Mount Hope! The day is expected to be a blessing to each of us – a great meal and memories to last a lifetime! The dinner is reasonably priced: \$20 / per adult, \$15 / per child 10 & under. No charge for a "lap child". We know you won't be disappointed so please call Jan Duryea (610-361-8231) to make your dinner reservations.

We Hope to see you there!

*The Anniversary
Committee*



Vacation Bible School

Get ready to kick up your heels in an exciting celebration of Jesus' love! Join us as we head to Avalanche Ranch on a wild ride through God's world with Wild Bible adventures, lively music at Sing & Play Stampede, creative crafts at Cowpoke Crafts & Missions, and yummy snacks at Chuck

Wagon Chow! This year's VBS will be held the week of June 18 through June 22 from 9:00 AM to 11:45 AM.

There are plenty of volunteer opportunities available so get ready to rustle up some fun! A volunteer sign-up table will be located in the Narthex on Sunday, May 13 and Sunday, May 20, or you

may register to volunteer by visiting our website at www.groupvbs.com/myvbs/?churchid=999. Student registration will begin the week of June 3rd, or you may pre-register online by visiting the website. Questions may be directed to Kathy Simonds at 610-558-3253.

Word of Hope

Church News

New Members Class

A membership class for post-high school age individuals will be held on Saturday, June 16th from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in the Lounge. Please call the church office (610.459.0248) to sign up.

Altar Flowers

After many years of faithful service ordering the altar flowers, Christmas poinsettia and Easter lilies, Dottie Smitham has passed

the bouquet (so to speak) to Laura Taylor and Joanne Johnston. It takes two to fill Dottie's shoes!

Each Sunday the altar in the sanctuary is adorned with at least two bouquets, which are given in memory of or in honor of loved ones. If you would like to do this for someone, call Joanne at 610.872.2864 to order and to give the inscription as you want it to appear in the Sunday *Messenger*.

We'll remind you of Laura's phone number closer to Christmas as she'll now take the orders for poinsettia and also the Easter lilies.

Missions

Please continue to give your prayer and financial support to both mission teams: Youth Fellowship to Memphis (7/7-15) and Conference Youth to Mississippi (7/20-29).

Children's Center News

Our May Bible Verse:

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord."

Psalm 100:1

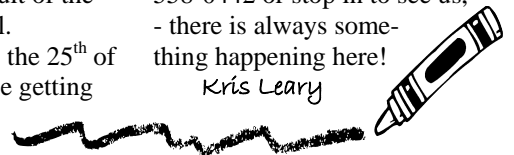
Our Children's Center is always filled with joy! We are so blessed with our staff, you can almost see the children's glimmer of delight to be here. I never tire of hearing them laugh, sing, (even yell) and stomp their feet. None of us can believe that the school year is almost at an end.

May is our busiest month of the year. We will be hosting our Mother's Day Teas, going to Neumann to see a play, our end of year picnics the last week of school, and having our end of year shows. Our last chapel for the year will be on May 17th and 18th. Mrs. Caris' class will be teaching us about our final "Fruit of the Spirit", self-control.

Our last day is the 25th of May, but we will be getting ready for our sec-

ond year of summer fun, beginning July 9th through the 24th of August. We all had a wonderful time last year and hope to repeat it this year. Please keep us in your prayers this year so that we may continue to teach our Lord's love to the children. If you would like any more information, please call 610-558-0442 or stop in to see us, - there is always something happening here!

Kris Leary



What's New In the Library

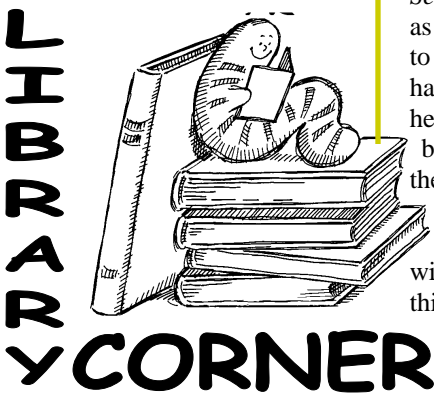
The library has recently received a donation of many family videos. *The Secret* stars Kirk Douglas as a man who never learned to read, whose grandson is having the same problems he did in school. Does he break his silence after all these years? *Windrunner* centers around a high school student who is willing to do almost anything to get on the football team. *A Piece of Heaven*, with Kirk Cam-

eron and Cloris Leachman, is about what happens to a young man and his handicapped younger sister when their parents die suddenly. He's trying very hard to do everything right, but will it be enough? Robert Mitchum stars in *A Family for Joe*. Joe is a homeless man who rescues four children from hoodlums, and as he struggles to care for them they find they are becoming a family.

There are some new

children's videos, too. *Franklin and the Green Knight* -- Everybody's favorite turtle is worried about whether he'll still have a place in his family after his baby brother or sister is born. And, *The Mouse and the Motorcycle*, based on Beverly Cleary's classic children's book -- Ralph is lonely and bored on his family vacation until he meets Ralph, the mouse, and they start having adventures together.

Lynn Ward Librarian





Mother's Day (continued from the first page)

mother organized the union and confederate mothers of her little community in an effort to get the boys in blue and the boys in gray to be friends again.

Anna related this memory: In those early days in Philadelphia, Anna Jarvis paid out of her own pocket to have carriages take old people and those who were invalids to church on Mother's Day. She bought and gave away hundreds of carnations—the emblem she herself had designated.

There followed expensive trips abroad to spread the custom of Mother's Day in Europe. Anna wrote personally to editors, ministers, presidents and even to kings. Gradually, as she got more and more wrapped up in the thing she'd created, she lost contact with most of her friends and her only close companion was Lillie, the blind sister with whom she lived alone in a rambling Philadelphia house. There the two aging women kept the furnishings as they had been during their mother's lifetime.

The years went by and

Anna's money dwindled. It was all spent on the cause that seemed to have become her one interest in life.

Claude Jarvis, a bachelor brother and a shrewd businessman, thought that he had



left both of his sisters well-provided for in his will when he died in 1926. But as a result of various legal and technical complications, the Jarvis sisters failed to receive the inheritance the brother had intended for them. They struggled

along as best they could until the day when Anna's eyes began to dim. Finally she was nearly as blind as her sister. By this time few people remembered that this shriveling little old lady once had been internationally known.

No one paid any attention to the comings or goings of the women anymore. But the doctor she finally consulted about her eyes was worried after he'd sent her home without hope of ever regaining the full use of her sight. He asked a welfare worker to go around to find out if Miss Jarvis was getting proper care—not realizing that it was her responsibility to do the caring for someone who was worse off than herself. There, in a big chilly house, the investigator found a true case of the blind lead-

ing the blind. And the two invalid sisters were near starvation when found. Anna Jarvis, spinster who founded Mother's Day over 100 years ago, seemed doomed to a lonely and penniless old age. Anna suffered a nervous collapse and was sent to the city hospital. Lillie was cared for by social services until her death in 1941.

And there the story might have ended with the woman who had devoted so many years of her life to honoring the world's mothers eventually dying alone and friendless. But God does not forget his own. God's word in Jeremiah 31:3 is: "I have loved you with an everlasting love." Jesus said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." "Whatever a man soweth that shall he also reap."

Word of Miss Jarvis' unhappy situation finally came to a lawyer who had known her from the time when he was a little boy. He called together the few men and women who still felt a friendly regard for the now helpless old lady, and digging down into their own pockets, they built up a fund large enough to move her to a luxurious private room in a sanitarium where her every whim would be provided, for the rest of her days.

When word got around

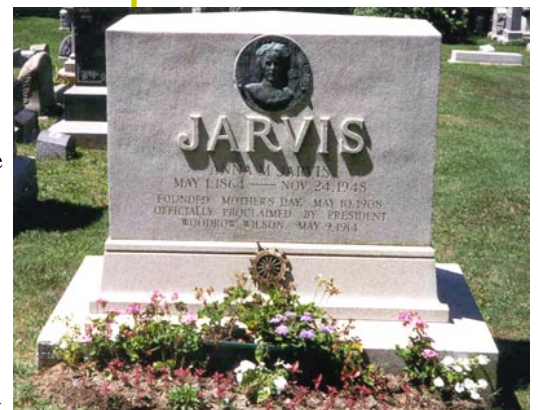
(Continued on page 6)

Ann Maria Reeves Jarvis



The Inscription reads:

Jarvis
Anna M. Jarvis
May 1, 1864—Nov. 24, 1948
Founded Mother's Day
May 10, 1908
Officially proclaimed by
President Woodrow Wilson
May 9, 1914



West Laurel Hill Cemetery
Bala Cynwyd PA

Word of Hope

Laugh!

Little John received a parrot who had a bad attitude and an even worse vocabulary. Every word out of the bird's mouth was rude, obnoxious and laced with profanity. John tried and tried to change the bird's attitude by consistently saying only polite words, playing soft music and anything else he could think of to "clean up" the bird's vocabulary. Finally, John was fed up and he yelled at the parrot. The parrot yelled back. John shook the parrot, and the

parrot got angrier and even ruder. John, in desperation, threw up his hands, grabbed the bird and put him in the freezer.

For a few minutes the parrot squawked and kicked and screamed. Then suddenly there was total quiet. Not a peep was heard for over a minute. Fearing that he'd hurt the parrot, John quickly opened the door to the freezer. The parrot calmly stepped out onto John's outstretched arms and said, "I believe I many have offended you with my rude language

and actions. I'm sincerely remorseful for my inappropriate transgressions and I fully intend to do everything I can to correct my rude and unforgivable behavior."

John was stunned at the change in the bird's attitude. As he was about to ask the parrot what had made such a dramatic change in his behavior, when the bird continued, "May I ask what the turkey did?"

Submitted by Pastor Rigby



In observance, the Church office is closed on Monday, May 28th

Mother's Day (continued from page 5)

about the way these sons and daughters of Philadelphia had rallied to help the founder of Mother's Day, other people started sending contributions for her welfare. Florists from every state in the nation, including Hawaii, made voluntary gifts of money. Even the makers of Mother's Day cards contributed to the cause.

Some years ago, when I realized that Anna was from Philadelphia and a Method-

ist, I called The Reverend Robert Curry, the Pastor of Old St. George's in Philadelphia. Bob told me that Anna and the family attended Old St. George's but had not joined there. They do have, however, the historic picture of Anna's mother for which Mother's Day was established. It was in 1914 that Congress made Mother's Day a national holiday. Woodrow Wilson was the president who made the proclamation.

It is indeed appropriate to have a day set aside as one on which we can pay tribute to the mother who brought us into the world and nursed us through childhood and who loves us even into old age. On this Mother's Day may we be reminded of the tender love of Jesus for His mother and may we be moved to have deeper respect for our own.

Pastor McGill

Ponderings (continued from the back page)

sensed that in order to carry out God's work in the world, he would have to give his whole heart, mind and strength to the task.

This is still true today! We will never accomplish anything for the Lord by shuffling our way through the motions of faith, knowledge and love. We must set our

will against the current of the world and the pull of our sinful nature. But that can't be done if our service is hardly done heartily! See you in church Sunday!

Pastor McGill



A Message
from the
Pastor



The Pastor's Ponderings

Do you sense a difference in your outlook on life now that we have once again been reminded of Christ's love for us through the events of Easter? In other words, do you have the Easter afterglow? Psalm 119: 2-3 states, "*Happy are all who search for God, and always do His will, rejecting compromise with evil, and walking only in His paths.*"

These verses give us the key for keeping the glow of Easter all year. How? In an issue of "Our Daily Bread," this little story appeared. Employees in a Detroit business office

found the following notice on the bulletin board:

"The management regrets that it has come to its attention that workers dying on the job are failing to fall down. This practice must stop, as it becomes impossible to distinguish between death and natural movement of the staff. Any employee found dead in an upright position will be dropped from the payroll."

This situation finds a parallel in our daily walk with the Lord. Like hollow people we often go through the motions of obedience without any real heart involvement. Others may not sense anything different at

first, but sooner or later they'll see that behind our business-as-usual appearance is a lack of enthusiasm for serving God.

This is where Psalm 119: 2-3 makes it clear that we can receive the benefits of happiness only if we remain intense in our desire to please the Lord. This is why this scripture is a real key to keeping the glow of Easter all year. It is a prayer that expresses the desire of one who didn't want to settle for a casual religious experience. He longed for a total commitment to what God loves and hates as found in the law. Furthermore, he

(continued on page 6)