

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

139 N. Fourth Street
Emmaus, Pennsylvania

March 20, 2011
Daffodil Sunday

Second Sunday in Lent

8:00 & 10:30 AM

The People of God Gather For Worship

Thought for Meditation: *“God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost isn’t a consulting firm we bring in to give us expert advice on how to run our lives. The gospel life isn’t something we learn about and then put together with instructions from the manufacturer; it’s something we become as God does his work of creation and salvation in us and as we accustom ourselves to a life of belief and obedience and prayer.”*

- Eugene Peterson in “Leap Over a Wall”

Organ Prelude

...All May Stand...

Processional Hymn: *“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”*

#65

...Please Be Seated...

Welcome and Announcements

...All May Stand...

Solemn Declaration

Call to Worship: Psalm 46

Leader: God is our refuge and strength,

People: **a very present help in trouble.**

Leader: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,

People: **and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;**

Leader: though its waters rage and foam,

People: **and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.**

Leader: The Lord of Hosts is with us;

People: **the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

Leader: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

People: **the holy habitation of the Most High.**

Leader: God is in the midst of the city, it shall not be overthrown;

People: **God shall help at the break of day.**

Leader: The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken;

People: **God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.**

Leader: The Lord of hosts is with us;

People: **the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

Leader: Come now and look upon the works of the Lord,

People: **What awesome things he has done on earth.**

Leader: It is he who makes war to cease in all the world;

People: **he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.**

Leader: “Be still, and know that I am God;

People: **I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

Leader: The Lord of hosts is with us;

People: **the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

The People of God Confess Their Sins

Act of Confession:

Leader: Let us come before our loving God and seek his comfort and forgiveness, remembering that he is always with us.

People: **Father of Mercy, we need your grace and compassion. Sin has brought turmoil to our lives and the lives of others. Forgive us where we have sinned either intentionally or unintentionally, either through our actions or by ignoring those in need. May your Spirit work in us so that we willingly are involved in bringing your healing and comfort to all in need. Amen.**

A Time of Silence to Personally Confess Your Sins

Receive God’s Forgiveness:

Leader: Jesus says, “Come to me, you who are weary, you who feel like the weight of the world is on your shoulders, you who are facing difficulties. I give you peace that rises above every situation. Shalom, peace be with you.

The peace I give you will comfort you during times of trouble and strength during difficult times. Your sins are forgiven, I give you my peace.

Sung Response: “*Amazing Grace!*” Verse 2 #546

**‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
grace my fears relieved; how precious did that
grace appear the hour I first believed.**

...Please Be Seated...

The People of God Share the Word of God

A Time to Pass Our Faith Onto Our Children (10:30)

The Holy Scripture:

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 12:1-4a Page 8

Epistle Lesson: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 Page 916

Gospel Lesson: John 3:1-17 Page 863

Sermon: “Our Connection and Our Response to Japan”
Rev. Dr. Paul W. Knappenberger

Litany:

Leader: For the people of Japan who are suffering the affects of the earthquake,

People: O Lord, we cry out to you for your mercy.

Leader: For those still clinging to life beneath the rubble,

People: O Lord, we cry out to you for your mercy.

Leader: For each and every man, woman, boy, and girl who are looking for loved ones and hoping to find them alive,

People: O Lord, we cry out to you for your mercy.

Leader: For the workers from all over the world who labor to rescue, keep peace, minister and heal.

People: O Lord, we cry out to you for your mercy.

Leader: For the ministers and laypeople who are with the suffering, ministering to them your Presence,

People: O Lord, we cry out to you for your mercy.

Leader: For the memories of your children who lost their lives in this tragedy,

People: O Lord, we cry out to you for your mercy, your strength and your grace.

Leader: For the people of Japan, and for all who suffer in any place this hour,

People: O Lord, we cry out to you for your mercy. Amen.

Hymn: “*My Hope Is Built*”

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The People of God Pray

Celebrations of Joy and Moments of Concern

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Pastoral Prayer

Silent Prayer

Lord’s Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy Kingdom come.

Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.

Amen.

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings

Invitation

The Offering

The Offertory Organ Offertory (8:00)

Senior Choir Anthem: “*The Garden Path*” (10:30) arr. Martin

...All May Stand...

The Offertory Response: “*Doxology*”

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication and Commitment

The People of God Go Forth In Mission

Commission
Benediction
Threefold Amen
Recessional Hymn: “*Be Still, My Soul*” #566
Silent Moment
Postlude: “*Voluntary*” Selby

Preparation for Worship

As we progress in our journey through Lent, dear Savior, help us remember that we don't live by bread alone but by every word that comes from you (Matthew 4:4).

Welcome

Proverbs 18:24 (NRSV) says that “a true friend sticks closer than one's nearest kin.” We appreciate your presence today and encourage you to welcome one another now.

Stewardship Moment

Be Grateful for Your Tributaries

“If the life of a river depended only on the rain that falls within the confines of its own banks, it would soon be dry. If the life of an individual depended solely on his own resources, he would soon fall. Be grateful for your tributaries.” [*Up Words*, William Arthur Ward]

Children's Bulletins are available for age groups 3 to 6 and 7 to 12.

Large-print Bulletins are available for anyone who requests one.

Church Time Nursery is across the hall from the Family Room.

Please ask our ushers to assist you with any of these needs

TDAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

8:00 AM

Acolytes: Joshua Dillman, Alexis Hanna
Lay Reader: Curt Fehr
Greeters: Bill and Jackie Knappenbeger
Ushers: Glenn Shingler, Matthew Beck, Curt Fehr, Steve Heck
Sound System: Brian Dillman, Jr.

10:30 AM

Acolytes: Joscelyn Hengeveld, Renee Martin
Lay Reader: Diana Holland
Greeters: Bonnie, Keck, Ben and Carolyn Powell
Ushers: Larry Delhagen, Dave Davis, Jim Gardner, Linda Gardner
Sound System: John Hill
Nursery: Sue Kibrik, Kris Wentz
Tape Ministry: Floyd and Doris Schmoyer
Hospitality: Ben and Carolyn Powell

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Paul W. Knappenberger, Senior Pastor,
pstpaul@stjohnsuccemmaus.org
Rev. Curt Sandrock, Assisting Pastor
Patrice DiCarne, Minister of Music
Colleen Bernini, Administrative Secretary
Diane Ritter, Financial Secretary, dedemarit@juno.com
Pat Dillman, Director of Christian Education
Kayli Freeman, Seminarian
Keith Draves, Youth Group Advisor
Cheryl Clauser, Sexton
Church Office Hours: 8:30 to 11:30 & 12:30 to 3:30
Phone Number: 610.965.9158.....Fax Number: 610.967.5380
Email: office@stjohnsuccemmaus.org
Website: www.stjohnsuccemmaus.org

ST. JOHN'S CALENDAR

Sunday, March 20

Second Sunday in Lent

8:00 am Worship Service
9:15 am Sunday School for all ages
10:30 am Worship Service

Monday, March 21

6:30 pm Jr. Girl Scout Troop #6197

Tuesday, March 22

9:00 am Quilts For Kids
6:00 pm Daisy Troop #61130

Wednesday, March 23

10:00 am 10-2 Club
6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop #25
6:30 pm Bell Choir
7:00 pm Lenten Bible Study (Parlor)
7:45 pm Senior Choir

Thursday, March 24

10:15 am Women's Bible Study
6:00 pm Cherub Choir
6:30 pm Junior Choir
6:30 pm All Dens
6:30 pm Jr. GS Troop #6123

Saturday, March 26

8:30 am AA
8:30 am Al Anon

Sunday, March 27

8:00 am Worship Service
9:15 am Sunday school for all ages
10:30 am Worship Service

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Church Announcements for Sunday, March 20, 2011

March Mission – One Great Hour of Sharing

2011 Japan Earthquake and Tsunami

The initial support sent to the United Church of Christ in Japan comes from One Great Hour of Sharing. Also, anyone in the congregation who desires to give directly in support of the Japan earthquake/tsunami response, please mark donations for the “Pacific Earthquake & Tsunami.” You will receive more information from the Mission Committee here at St. John’s. One Great Hour of Sharing, as part of Our Church’s Wider Mission (OCWM), is one of the four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. The offering provides hope to people in more than 80 countries. The UCC works with international partners and together we provide support for health, education, refugee, agricultural, and emergency relief initiatives.

Sign the Pew Register

To encourage fellowship at St. John’s, please sign the pew register found at the center aisle of your pew. Pass the register on for others to sign it. As it is passed back, read the register and learn the names of those worshipping with you this morning!

Easter Lilies

The Easter Lily sale starts today and continues until Sunday, April 10th. A representative will be at the Hospitality Desk in the narthex before and after each service each Sunday morning. An Easter Lily plant or a Memorial Fund listing costs \$10.00. The last day to place an order for flowers or a memorial listing is 11:00 AM on Monday, April 11, 2011. If you want to avoid lines at the Hospitality Desk, complete the form in this morning’s bulletin and place it along with your payment in any of the envelopes in the pews and put it in the offering plate. Write on the outside of the envelope “Easter Lily/Memorial Fund” form enclosed. You can also send or deliver your order to the Church Office.

Easter Candy Donations

The Board of Christian Education is collecting wrapped candy (no gum or chocolate please) items small enough to stuff inside plastic Easter eggs for the children’s Easter Egg Hunt. Place the candy in the Easter basket located in the narthex or drop off in the church office.

Spaghetti Dinner

Christian Education and Youth Ministries presents an all you can eat Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, May 14th from 4 to 7:00 PM. The menu includes spaghetti with Italian style sauce, meatballs or white clam sauce, Italian salad, garlic and cheese toasted rolls, dessert and beverages. Adults are \$10.00, children 4-12 are \$5.00, children under three each free. Tickets will be sold before and after each service and in the church office until the event.

Golf Tournament

St. John's Golf Tournament will be held on Wednesday, May 25th at Shepherd Hills Golf Club. \$70.00 per player includes gold, cart, lunch, drinks, prizes, and fellowship. Sponsor a hole for a minimum donation of \$40.00. For more information, contact Carl Wieder at 610-965-5295 or Jack Marsh at 610-965-5189.

Raise the Roof

On May 1st, Anniversary Sunday, we will be inviting back to our pulpit Reverend John Snyder-Samuelson. Pastor John was the Associate Pastor here from 1998 to 2003. As we did last year, collecting \$15,000 for the Building Fund, we will be trying to collect \$10,000 for a new roof! Please give generously to this campaign, and please worship with us on May 1st.

Allentown Disaster – Banking for the Future

Last month's gas explosion that our neighbors on 13th Street in Allentown experienced has left many of us asking, "What can we do?" The Mission Committee would like to give St. John's members who feel so-moved an opportunity to give to this local emergency. On this Sunday, March 6th, and Ash Wednesday, March 9th and throughout the week, monetary donations will be accepted. Please use the mission envelope in the pew box or your own church envelope and designate "Banking for the Future." All monies will be sent to the Keystone, Nazareth Bank & Trust (KNBT) and they will forward ALL of the donations to the organizations that are handling the gifts for the survivors. The deadline has been extended to the end of the month. Thank you.

Relay for Life - May 13-14, 2011

May 2011 will mark the Relay for Life of Macungie's 10 year anniversary. Relay was started in 2001 by Judy Hoch in honor of her son, Colby. **Relay for Life of Macungie 2011, 10 Years and \$1 Million Dollars!!!!!!** To commemorate hitting this milestone donation benchmark of \$1 million dollars, the relay committee is attempting to collect 1 million pennies. St. John's will again be participating in the Relay for Life and we are asking for your penny donations. If you can spare a few pennies, please place them in the purple containers found all around the church. Also, please consider joining our team. The weekend of the event is a fun time and you will be part of the fight to cure all cancers. Stay tuned for meetings to discuss fund raising, team name and decorating our campsite. I hope you will join us. If you want more information about Relay, please contact Carl Wieder or Teri Demmy.

Chicken Pot Pie Dinner

Emmaus Masonic Lodge #792 is hosting an all you care to eat chicken pot pie dinner April 9, 2011 in Fellowship Hall of St. John's UCC. Tickets are available from Frank Flamisch, Carl Frantz or Fred Bartholomew. Adult tickets are \$8.00, children under 12 \$5.00 and those under 3 years of age eat free. The menu includes chicken pot pie, buttered string beans, pepper cabbage, dessert, and beverages.

AARP Tax-Aide

Free tax help is available at the Emmaus Moravian Church every Tuesday from 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM through April 15th. This is a walk-in service, no appointments are needed.

B-I-N-G-O!!!

It's that time of year again! Time for our Spring Basket Bingo! It will be held on Sunday, April 3rd (snow date, really!) of April 10th. Doors open at 1 PM and bingo starts at 2 PM. Tickets are \$20 for 20 games, with special games available for purchase at the door. Food will be available for purchase in the kitchen. We are in need of basket sponsors, donations for our Chinese auction, bakers, committee helpers, and bingo players. Tickets are available for purchase after the 8:00 and 10:30 worship services or by calling the church office at 610-965-9158 to reserve tickets.

Lenten Bible Study

Pastor Curt will lead a Lenten Bible study called "*Jesus for the 21st Century.*" It's an adult Christian education series designed by Lancaster Theological Seminary. We will meet in the church parlor from 7 to 8:00 PM on March 23, 30 and April 6, 13. Please bring your Bibles.

Keystone-Miller Blood Drive

Although the blood drive hosted by St. John's was cancelled due to lack of donors, we wish to thank those that did sign up to donate. The blood bank is in critical need of donors, so please call any of Keystone Miller's blood donor sights and give the gift of life.

Friendly's Restaurant in Trexlertown

Tuesday, March 29th – 4:30 to 7:30 PM - St. John's is sponsoring a “**Family Fun Night**” to benefit BOFFT. Mark your calendar, tell your friends and relatives to meet you at Friendly's and help support our Building Fund. Gather up your family, friends and neighbors and come to Friendly's for supper, dessert, etc. **10% of all sales** during that time will go to St. John's Building Fund. (Also includes take-out!) Friendly's will be open to the public; there's no need to mention St. John's.

Confidentiality

It is important that we honor the rights to privacy of medical information for our St. John's members. If someone in the congregation shares a prayer concern, a medical issue, or hospitalization information with you, **please ask their permission** before sharing that information with the pastors, Undershepherd Ministry, Prayer Tree or church office, or for announcement in worship. If you are hospitalized or are sharing any prayer concerns, the pastors will ask your permission before disclosing information to anyone beyond the pastoral staff.

Church Hospital Code Number is 466!

The pastors visit our hospitalized members. If you, or a member of your family enters the hospital, please ask the hospital to place the patient's name on church code #466, St. John's UCC, Emmaus or call the church office to inform us at 610-965-9158.

Recently Hospitalized – Margaret Hackman

Greeting Cards

The Undershepherd Ministries give us the opportunity to sign greeting cards for folks on our Home Visitation List, for members of the congregation who need a lift, or just to say “hello”. All cards are in the Narthex. Please take a minute to sign the cards and send these folks our Christian greetings. Today we are signing cards for:

Ardella Guth, Larry Hummer & Family, Miriam Gair, Fred and Sandra Bartholomew & Family

The Altar Flowers are sponsored by Suzanne Weida and Gary Smullin in honor of their children and grandchildren.

The Organ Flowers are sponsored by Carl and Lois Frantz in memory of parents, sister and brother.

Church Attendance – Sunday, March 13, 2011: 8:30 – 62 10:30 AM - 109

Income Report for Sunday, March 13, 2011:

Mortgage Account (BOFFT, Building Blocks, Building Fund) – \$6,653.00
General Fund - \$4,816.60