

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

139 N. Fourth Street
Emmaus, Pennsylvania

May 15, 2011
Teacher Appreciation Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:00 & 10:30 AM

The People of God Gather For Worship

Thought for Meditation: *"The heart has reasons which the reason cannot understand."*

Prelude: *"The Solid Rock"* arr. Mason
"Come, Though Almighty King" arr. Peterson

...All May Stand...

Processional Hymn: *"There Is a Balm in Gilead"* #501
...Please Be Seated...

Welcome and Announcements
...All May Stand...

Solemn Declaration

Call to Worship:

Leader: How awesome to gather before God!
We are here to celebrate with wide-eyed wonder.

People: **The God of all worlds is with us.**
Praise God for this season of Easter.

Leader: Praise God for all the signs of new life.
Praise God for all we can do together.

People: **Praise God for the life and ministry of Jesus.**
Praise God for all who share that ministry today.

Leader: Christ came to offer us abundant life.
We are here today to reclaim that gift.

People: **We gather in the name of Jesus Christ.**
We want to follow in the steps of Jesus.

The People of God Confess Their Sins

Act of Confession:

Leader: The Scriptures compare us to sheep who have gone astray. As sheep seem not to see beyond the next tuft of grass, we seem to be attracted to the immediate temptation. We become ravenous consumers rather than good stewards of God's abundance. Christ calls us to respond to the Shepherd's voice.

People: **O God, we do not want to admit that our possessions possess us. Yet we do seem captive to all the things we have acquired and all the things we want. We are reluctant to share too much, lest we be deprived of the comforts we cherish. We do not want to suffer for our faith. There are limits to our willingness to follow Jesus. O God, help us trust you beyond these limits. Amen.**

Silent Confession

Kyrie:

Leader: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Leader: Christ, have mercy upon us.

People: **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Leader: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Assurance of Forgiveness:

Leader: God provides for us as a good shepherd provides for a flock of sheep, seeking green pastures and still waters for us even in periods of famine and drought. In fearful times, amid loss, the Shepherd's care is always available. Surely God's goodness and mercy will restore all who give up their own pretensions in order to live in community, with glad and generous hearts.

Sung Response: *"Gloria Patri"*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

...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: Acts 2:42-47 Page 886

Epistle Lesson: 1 Peter 2:19-25 Page 984

Gospel Lesson: John 10:1-10 Page 872

Sermon: "Where's The Community?" Rev. Dr. Paul W. Knappenberger

Order of Baptism:

Russell Daniel DeLong, Kali Rose and Nolan Jake Foster

Invitation and Welcome: Lighting the Baptismal Candle

Pastor: Members and friends in Christ, we gather now to celebrate the gift of grace in the sacrament of baptism.

All: **There is one body and one Spirit. There is one hope in God's call to us.**

Pastor: There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Creator of us all.

All: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ.

Address:

Pastor: Jesus came to John to be baptized by him. But John tried to make him change his mind. "I ought to be baptized by you," John said, "yet you have come to me!"

People: **Jesus said, "Let it be so for now. For in this way, we shall do all that God requires." So John agreed.**

Pastor: As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. Then heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and lighting on him.

People: **Then a voice said from heaven, "This is my own dear Son, with whom I am well pleased."**

Pastor: At another time Jesus said: Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. Inasmuch as the promise of the gospel is not only to us but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their

acceptance into the care of Christ's church, the sign and seal of their participation in God's forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

People: **This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ's body.**

Questions of the Candidates

Pastor: Tyler and Amy, do you desire to have your child baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Parents: **We do.**

Pastor: Tiffany, do you desire to have your children baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Parents: **I do.**

Pastor: Parents and Sponsors, will you encourage these children to renounce the powers of evil and to receive the freedom of new life in Christ?

Parents and Sponsors: **We will, with the help of God.**

Pastor: Will you teach these children that they may be led to profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Parents and Sponsors: **We will, with the help of God.**

Pastor: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciples, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ, as best you are able?

Parents and Sponsors: **We do, with the help of God.**

Pastor: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow with these children in the Christian faith, to help these children to be faithful members of the church of Jesus Christ by celebrating Christ's presence, by furthering Christ's mission in all the world, and by offering the nurture of the Christian church so that they may affirm their baptism?

Parents and Sponsors: **We do, with the help of God.**

Congregational Assent

Pastor: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love,

support, and care to these children who are about to be baptized, as they live and grow in Christ?

People: We promise our love, support, and care.

Affirmation of Faith

Pastor: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

Do you believe in God?

People: I believe in God.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

Prayer of Baptism

Pastor: Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Act of Baptism

Pastor: Tyler and Amy, by what name will your child be called?

Parents: Russell Daniel DeLong

Pastor: Russell Daniel DeLong, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor: Tiffany, by what names will your children be called?

Parents: Kali Rose Foster and Nolan Jake Foster

Pastor: Kali Rose Foster and Nolan Jake Foster, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Prayer for the Baptized

Benediction

Pastor: Go in the peace of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn: *“This Child We Dedicate to Thee”*

This Child we dedicate to Thee,

O God of grace and purity!

In Thy great love its life prolong,

Shield it, we pray, from sin and wrong.

O may Thy Spirit gently draw

Its willing soul to keep Thy law;

May virtue, piety, and truth,

Dawn even with its dawning youth. Amen.

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.

Prayer Response:

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

#259

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings

Invitation

The Offering

The Offertory (8:00)

Senior Choir Anthem: “*Let Us Serve Him*” (10:30) Besig
...*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.**

Offertory Prayer

The People of God Go Forth In Mission

Commission and Blessing:

Leader: You have been claimed by God, our Good Shepherd.
Know God, not as stranger, but as friend.

**People: God is our shepherd; we shall not want.
God leads us daily and restores our souls.**

Leader: Easter continues, for Christ lives in us.
Jesus came that we might have abundant life.

**People: Daily we receive God’s goodness and mercy.
Our cups overflow with God’s generosity.**

Leader: Let us devote ourselves to the apostles’ teaching.
Let us pray and break bread together.

**People: We find our lives in giving them to others.
In Christ, we discover the joy of service.**

Threefold Amen

Recessional Hymn: “*They’ll Know We Are Christians*” #494

Silent Moment

Postlude: “*Postlude on Beecher*” arr. Morgan

Preparation for Worship

Restore our souls, Good Shepherd, and surround us with your goodness and mercy. May our worship be a glimpse of how it will be when we “dwell in the house of the Lord forever” (Psalm 23:6, NIV).

Welcome

Welcome, flock of sheep who know the voice of Jesus the Shepherd. Let us follow him together!

Stewardship Moment

To Give or Not to Give...

Giving money to God does not mean that God will insulate us from all of life’s troubles. But not giving money to God guarantees that we are not likely to escape the small box of self-concern and connect with God’s life-changing Spirit.

Baptism

We welcome into the faith and family of Jesus Christ our newly baptized members:

Rusell Daniel DeLong, March 7, 2011; son of Tyler and Amy DeLong,
Nolan Jake and Kali Rose Foster, born February 1, 2011, son and daughter of Tiffany Foster.

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

TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

8:00 AM

Acolytes: Joshua Dillman, Harrison Ike
Lay Reader: Tom Capehart
Greeters: George Baver, Kimberly Ike
Ushers: Glenn Shingler, Steve Heck, Don Keck,
Randy Weidner
Sound System: Brian Dillman, Jr.

10:30 AM

Acolytes: Amber Koehler, Shania Koehler
Lay Reader: Harold Huber
Greeters: Marty Beers, John Hill, Floyd Schmoyer
Ushers: Larry Delhagen, Dave Davis, Kyle Heck,
Leon Hemperly
Sound System: Drew Labenberg
Tape Ministry: Harold Huber
Nursery: Sue Kibrik, Michaela Hill
Flower Delivery: Frank and Betty Flamisch
Hospitality: Carl and Nancy Wieder

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, May 15

8:00 am

9:15 am

10:30 am

Tuesday, May 17

9:00 am

6:00 pm

Wednesday, May 18

6:30 pm

7:00 pm

7:45 pm

Thursday, May 19

6:00 pm

6:30 pm

6:30 pm

6:30 pm

6:30 pm

Saturday, May 21

8:30 am

8:30 am

10:00 am

Sunday, May 22

8:00 am

9:15 am

10:30 am

Teacher Appreciation Sunday

Worship Service

Sunday School for all ages

Worship Service/Baptisms

Quilts For Kids

Daisy Troop #61130

Boy Scout Troop #25

Journeys Through Grief (Parlor)

Senior Choir

Cherub Choir

Junior Choir

Cadettes #6678

Jr. GS Troop #6123

Cub Scouts – All Dens

AA

Al Anon

Cemetery Clean-Up Day

Worship Service

Sunday school for all ages

Worship Service

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Church Announcements for Sunday, May 15, 2011

May Mission - Strengthen the Church

During the month of May, we will be receiving this special mission offering for the United Church of Christ. It grows the UCC by funding new church starts and invigorating existing congregations by nurturing lay and pastoral leaderships and builds youth and young adult ministries. All gifts are directed to activities and programs of your local conference as well as the UCC's national ministries.

Penn Northeast Conference Work Camp, Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi

On September 10, 2011, thirty-four people representing eight UCC churches will travel to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, MS to participate in a work camp that will continue the work of rebuilding homes and hearts after the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina. Edgar and Linda Roosa will be representing St. John's Church. The group is responsible for all costs, including: transportation to and from Biloxi, food while there, gas and vans used for transportation to and from the work areas. To help off-set the costs, three fundraisers have been organized: an electronic recycling event, June 4, a benefit fundraiser during the month of July at McDonald's in Hellertown and in May the sale of Wixon shoo-fly pies. If you have any questions, please contact Ed or Linda Roosa at 610-966-1459 or leroosa@ptd.net.

Shoe-fly Pies Benefit PNEC Biloxi Workcamp

The pies are from Wixon Bakery. The cost is \$4.00 for an 8" wet-bottom shoo-fly pie. Orders will be taken in the church narthex on the following Sundays: May 8, 15 & 22. Delivery is June 5 in the church narthex.

Hot Water Heater Dedication

After both services this morning, we will be dedicating the new hot water heater in memory of Woody Weidner. All are invited.

Re-Creation

Re-Creation singers will return to St. John's on Sunday, June 19th at 9:15 AM to conduct our worship service. They were here in September of 2008 to lead us in worship and many members have asked when they will return. The SACRED PROGRAM is designed as a worship service and features both traditional and contemporary styles, sing-a-long hymns and children's songs. This year's program, "Stand Strong", is a live worship experience unlike any other! These college age young singers devote at least one year of their life to travel with Re-Creation at no compensation. Re-Creation operates on a free-will offering all of which is used to present their program to our Hospitalized Veterans throughout the United States at no cost to the hospital or veterans. The Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge cited the young people of Re-Creation as "America's Ambassadors to Hospitalized Veterans" for providing the only program of its kind in America. For more details, please read the enclosed flyer about the group.

St. John's Nursery

There will not be an attendant in the nursery during summer hours starting June 19th. The nursery will be open and available for parents to use and watch their own children.

Cemetery Reminder

Clean up date and Veteran Flag placing date is set for Saturday, May 21st, 2011 at 10:00 AM. All Easter flowers will be removed at this time, except for artificial flowers, unless they are in poor condition. Memorial flowers are not to be touched unless this occurs by accident. If this happens, these flowers can be retrieved at the shed and replaced by you, with our apologies. We will have hopefully around 60 volunteers. Many are youth from both St. John's UCC and St. John's Lutheran Churches. Please come out and help!

Cub Pack 25 Chick-fil-A Fund Raiser

Help support Emmaus Cub Pack 25 on Friday, May 27th at the Chik-fil-A in Trexlertown between the hours of 4 and 8:00 PM. Dine-in, Carry Out or Drive-Thru. Please inform cashiers you are there to support Cub Pack 25 and put your receipt in the "Pack Night Box." The Pack will receive 15% of sales earned for the evening. So go ahead and enjoy the night out while helping the Pack!

A Note from the Garden Committee

If parishioners would like to donate flowers they'd like to see in God's church garden, the Garden Committee would be happy to receive them. In the past we planted marigolds, impatiens, snapdragons, and geraniums. If interested, please contact Mary Ann Held.

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.

Kiwanis Club of Emmaus Breakfast

The Kiwanis Club of Emmaus is hosting its 38th Annual Pancake & Sausage Breakfast on Sunday, June 5th from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Emaus Fire Company #1, 6th & Broad Streets. Tickets are \$5.00 per person and children 10 & under eat free.

"Think Sauerkraut"

It's time to start thinking about our annual Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner! Mark the following dates on your calendar: Sauerkraut Production – Sunday, September 11, noon until?, Applesauce Production – Monday, November 7th at 9 AM, Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner – November 12th, doors open at 3 and close at 7 PM. Ticket sales will start September 11th. The cost is still \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12. Toddlers eat free.

Carnival

On Saturday, June 25, there will be a special carnival at Jordan UCC to benefit the soup kitchen. Crafters and artisans interested in renting a table to sell items, please call Sue at 610-435-5054.

White Rose

The White Rose placed on the altar this morning is in memory of **June Bokeko** who passed away on May 7th. We offer our prayers and support for her family and friends.

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 – Lawrence Delhagen, Sr., Ronald Koch, Jacob Kleppinger

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:

Miriam Gair, Jay & Melinda Snyder, John Kissinger, Thomas Durich, Sr., Frank Bokeko

The Altar Flowers are sponsored by Joseph and Sarae Quinn in honor of their wedding anniversary.

The Organ Flowers are sponsored by wife Jean and son Charles in memory of husband and father, Joseph M. Bednar.

The Chancel Table Flowers are sponsored by grandsons Bryan, Kevin and Scott to the glory of God and in memory of grandfather, Joseph M. Bednar.

The Bulletins are sponsored by Shirley Weidner in honor of her children and grandchildren.

Church Attendance – Sunday, May 8, 2011: 8:30 – 71 10:30 AM - 109

Income Report for Sunday, May 8, 2011:

Mortgage Account (BOFFT, Building Blocks, Building Fund) – \$1,088.00
General Fund - \$4,714.35