



Volume 8, Issue 2

February 2008 newsletter of First United Church of Christ, Easton
27 North 3rd St.

(Mailing address: 229 Church St., Easton, PA 18042)

e-mail: firstucc2@verizon.net • www.firstucceaston.org

God so loved the world...



Happy Valentine's Day

February 2008

Weekly Worship Schedule

Join us Sunday
mornings for...

Adult
Bible Study meets
in the High School
Room at 9:15 a.m.

Worship & Kids
Sunday School at
10:30 a.m. in our
Sanctuary

Sunday School begins
at 10:30 a.m. with the
children joining us for
the beginning of the
worship service &
proceeding to their
classes after the
announcements.

Lent begins on Ash
Wednesday, February 6th. Please join
us at 6:30 p.m. as
we share a pot-luck
dinner. Our Ash
Wed. Communion
service begins at
7:30 p.m.

**Everyone is invited to
all our worship
services!
(And bring a friend!)**

A Valentine's Message to You from Jesus

((John 15:9-16a))

As the Father has loved me, so have I
loved you; abide in my love.

If you keep my commandments, you will
abide in my love, just as I have kept my
Father's commandments and abide in his
love.

Th e s e
spoken to
joy may
and that
be full.



things I have
you, that my
be in you,
your joy may

“This is my commandment,
that you love one another as I have loved
you.

Greater love has no man than this, that a
man lay down his life for his friends.

You are my friends if you do what I
command you.

No longer do I call you servants, for the
servant does not know what his master is
doing; but I have called you friends, for all
that I have heard from my Father I have
made known to you.

You did not choose me, but I chose you

Pastoral Care & Prayer

Please keep in your prayers... The Wrights,
The Orsos, Willie Wagner, Carol Fournier &
all those in your hearts.

If you or someone you know is in need of
Pastoral Care, please call the church office at
610-258-3361.

Upcoming February Events...

Sun., Feb. 3rd - MORNING WORSHIP in the Sanctuary at **10:30 a.m.** Youth “Soup Pot” collection for the Soup Kitchen
SUNDAY SCHOOL with children & youth meeting in the Sanctuary for the beginning of worship at **10:30 a.m.**
ADULT BIBLE STUDY at **9:15 a.m.**

Ash Wed., Feb. 6th - Pot-Luck Dinner at **6:30 p.m.**
Worship Service with Communion at **7:30 p.m.**

Sun., Feb. 10th - First Sunday in Lent ~ MORNING WORSHIP with Holy Communion in the Sanctuary at **10:30 a.m.**
A.C.S.Daffodil Days order deadline
SUNDAY SCHOOL with children & youth meeting in the Sanctuary for the beginning of worship at **10:30 a.m.**
ADULT BIBLE STUDY at **9:15 a.m.**

Mon., Feb. 11th - Consistory meets at **7:30 p.m.**

Fri., Feb. 15th - Steeple News Deadline

Sun., Feb. 17th - Second Sunday in Lent ~ MORNING WORSHIP in the Sanctuary at **10:30 a.m.**
SUNDAY SCHOOL with children & youth meeting in the Sanctuary for the beginning of worship at **10:30 a.m.**
ADULT BIBLE STUDY at **9:15 a.m.**

Sat., Feb. 23rd - Wine & Cheese Party at Janet Caka’s **7 p.m.**

Sun., Feb. 24th - MORNING WORSHIP in the Sanctuary at **10:30 a.m.**, Mike Smith is preaching!
SUNDAY SCHOOL with children & youth meeting in the Sanctuary for the beginning of worship at **10:30 a.m.**
ADULT BIBLE STUDY at **9:15 a.m.**
Meatball Sandwich luncheon at **11:30 a.m.**



ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

Church "Business" News

- **Your year-end statements** have been prepared & you should have received them either at church or via US Mail. If you did not get yours, or if you have any questions, please call the church office (610-258-3361).
- **All Committee Reports are due in the church office by Sun., March 2nd.** Please submit them via e-mail, on disk or leave hard copy on the desk.
- **Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sun., March 30th, 2008** with the "snow date" scheduled for April 6th. As a congregation, we will be making some extremely crucial decisions about the future of our church, so please plan to attend.

Please watch the bulletins & newsletter for information about the upcoming slate of officers & other info about the meeting

- **Cancellations due to weather can now be found on the WFMZ website, and also on the church office answering machine.** Just phone the office to find out if services have been cancelled, or for you computer savvy people, check on WFMZ.com.
- **"Bulletin Reminders"** We have begun sending 'reminders' to those of you who sponsored bulletins. In our attempts to ascertain if payments were made in 2007, we may have sent some reminders to folks who have already paid. We apologize if this is the case. As our weekly contributions make their way through our accounting system, sometimes they are separated from the envelope or note stating it is for the bulletin. Please make sure you clearly note on your envelope or check that the payment is for a bulletin sponsorship.



Ash Wednesday is February 6th

Please join us for our Ash Wednesday Pot-Luck Supper followed by our Ash Wednesday Communion Service. All are welcome! The Pot-Luck Supper begins at 6:30 p.m. & the service at 7:30 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet in Memorial Hall so you can let everyone know what you will be bringing (just so we don't have 15 pans of macaroni & cheese!).

Musical Notes ~ Preparing for Easter

Thursday
Evenings We
Practice...

Youth Hand Bells at 6:30 p.m.

Adult Hand Bells at 7:00 p.m.

Senior Choir at 7:30 p.m.



Sunday
Mornings We
Practice...

Children's Chorus 10:15 a.m. in
the Primary Class Room

Senior Choir 10:00 a.m. in the Arts
& Crafts Room

Preschool children sing in the
Kindergarten Room during the
Pastor's message.

Praise Choir after worship (11:30
a.m.) in the Arts & Crafts Room

*Everyone is invited to join any of our choirs,
no experience is necessary. Please see Sheila Cooke for more info.*



Unsung Angels at First UCC

Do you ever wonder who it is that reaches out to our members with birthday cards on behalf of our church family? Well, that beautiful touch is given by Elaine Hrymack.



Elaine looks through our birthday list every month and makes sure we all get that special card so we know how special we are to each other.

And Elaine is furnished with cards which are made especially for us by David & Kim Kmetz & family.

So we thank these special angels for the TLC they give us on our birthdays!



First Ladies "Bah- Humbug to Winter Party "

On Saturday, January 19, Barbara Dailey's home was a warm and welcoming place to hold our second annual Bah Humbug to Winter Party. A lively (and hungry!) group of ladies gathered to have some good fellowship, and eat, play some games, and eat, catch up on some news, and surprisingly....eat! There were egg casseroles of several different descriptions, delicious french toast, assorted muffins and pastries, and for the health conscious (ha! ha!), fresh fruit and yogurt. Top all of this off with Barbara's yummy fruit punch, coffee, tea and cocoa, and it made for a very happy and satisfying morning. Now for some of the juicy info gathered at the party. Did you know that one of our most revered members will turn 90 on February 3rd, and is as pretty as ever, and sharp as a tack? Did you know that one of our esteemed group has been parasailing? Did you know that one of our distinguished First Ladies, actually ate the worm in the bottom of the tequila bottle? When you play some of our games, it is just fascinating what you learn about each other! Join us for our next gathering and see. A special thanks goes out to our hostess for her warm hospitality on a cold winter day.

First Ladies First Book Club Meeting!

Then, on Monday night, January 21, Janet Caka was our hostess for our first book club meeting. Our book review was about "Shepherds Abiding" by Jan Karon, and the discussion was certainly a lively one. The book is about a minister, Father Tim, who finds an old nativity set, which he sets about restoring for a Christmas gift for his wife. The story weaves through the lives of many characters who reside in a small southern town, and makes for some good reading. Now I know this will be a surprise to all of you, but we were treated to some yummy desserts all throughout the evening, and everyone just enjoyed being together. Watch for our spring book club selection in the Steeple News and bulletin.

A special prayer was offered by Barbara Dailey, asking our Lord to be with Jim and Linda Wright and their family, throughout Jim's hospitalization. We really missed Linda, and hope she knows how many prayers headed her way tonight from our group. Prayers were also offered for Agnes Carhart, Jeannette Orso, and Carol Fournier, who also need our love and support. We love you all, and hope to have you all back with us soon.

Nancy Amore
President, First Ladies

More First Ladies Sponsored Events for Everyone!...

By Popular Demand...They are Back!

We have had requests for our “**Famous Homemade Meatball Sandwiches**”, so we will be having a sale on Sunday, February 24th. The cost per generous sandwich is \$4.00, and you can stay for lunch in the parlor, or do takeout. Our First Ladies will also have a bake sale that day, with lots of homemade goodies for you to eat along with your lunch or take home for snacking later. There is a signup sheet in Memorial Hall, and a form in this Steeple News. Please support our ladies, and join us for some fellowship.



Need A Healthy Snack?

First Ladies recently received a small shipment of dark chocolate covered cranberries, which are high in antioxidants and low in fat, and make wonderful snacks. The cost for both our delicious “no peanut” nuts, and our cranberries is \$7.50, and they can be purchased from Bev Lambert in the Narthex before church. Please help support the First Ladies in our many projects.



Wine & Cheese Party! Sat., Feb. 23rd

Janet Caka has graciously opened up her home for our Annual Wine and Cheese Party on February 23rd at 7pm. Bring a generous appetizer or dessert, and a bottle of your favorite beverage to share. There is a signup sheet in Memorial Hall. Guaranteed...a great time will be had by all!



“These Days” Devotionals

Our quarterly devotional booklets, “These Days” will be coming again soon! Watch for them in the Narthex

February Bulletins

3rd- Mrs. Agnes Carhart in loving memory of her husband, Fred, for his February 5th birthday.

10th - Mr. & Mrs. William Karl Arnold, Jr. in loving memory of his father, W. Karl Arnold, Sr.

17th - Mr. & Mrs. Fred Finken, Jr. in memory of loved ones.

24th - Mr. Albert Kuebler in loving memory of his wife, Janice, for her march 5th birthday.

If you would like to sponsor the bulletins for one of our services, please call the church office at 610-258-3361..

Church Women United's Tuesday Lenten Meditations

C.W.U.'s Tuesday Lenten Meditations will be held on Feb. 12, 19, 26 & March 4 & 11 at 11:15 a.m. at St. Paul's Third Lutheran Church, 2561 Newburg Rd.

Please bring a bag lunch. Dessert & beverages will be provided.

February Flowers

3rd- Agnes Carhart in memory of her husband Fred Carhart, whose birthday anniversary was February 5th.

10th - The Matilda Butz Chidsey circle of Kings Daughters. We honor the memory of those women who served their King so faithfully, and honor those still serving on the occasion of the 117th anniversary of the founding of the circle.

10th - *Single Arrangement* ~ The single arrangement in front of the altar is given by Brian Lunger in memory of his brother.

17th - The Foss family in memory of loved ones.

24th - Albert Kuebler in memory of loved ones.

If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, please call the church office at 610-258-3361..



February Birthdays

- 2 - Janice Hilsenbeck
- 3 - Helen Rapp
- 4 - Keith Tone
Carl Geiger
- 8 - Rev. Martin Duffy
- 10 - Denise Cardinalli
- 11 - Robert Crozier
- 14 - Jean Rothermel
- 17 - Ruth Miller
- 21 - Alison Brunner
- 23 - Tyler Roseberry
- 28 - Sheila Cooke



PLEASE NOTE:

If we have omitted a birthday, anniversary or other special day from our newsletter, please call the church office & let us know. We may not have your special date in our records!



February Anniversaries

February 15th, 1963
Barrie & Carol Fournier

February 25th, 1995
Joseph & Jennelle Geisberger

Troop News



Our own Josh Dailey is stationed in Taji, just north of Bagdaad, and he has several requests for our troop boxes. They don't need any toiletries at this time, but **do want any kind of snacks... candy, chips, pretzels, crackers or TastyKakes. They also ask for Tootsie Roll Pops for the children of Iraq, and dog biscuits for the wild dogs in the area, as they want to keep them friendly.**

Donations to our troop boxes have not been good the last few months, so please give generously to these brave, young men who keep us safe, and are far away from home. Let them know you care.

They also welcome letters and cards from their friends & church family...

Please call the church office at 610-258-3361 for updated address info for our soldiers.

Please keep all of our soldiers & their families in your prayers & continue to pray for peace.

February Greeters, Readers & Ushers

February 3rd -

Greeters - Bob Arnold & Helena Rapp

Ushers - Gary & Mae Rapp, Bob Arnold & Carl Cooke

Reader - David Kmetz

Acolyte - Matt Ashton

February 10th -

Greeters - Bill & Linda Arnold

Ushers - Bill & Linda Arnold, Ken Amore and Kris Skillinge

Reader - Janet Caka

Acolyte - Brad Corr

February 17th -

Greeters - Marjorie Arnold & Bob Lynch

Ushers - Beverly Lambert, Janet Caka and Daelyn & Warren Corr

Reader - Dan Redington

Acolyte - Brynn Hilsenbeck

February 24th -

Greeters - Agnes Carhart & Keith Hilsenbeck

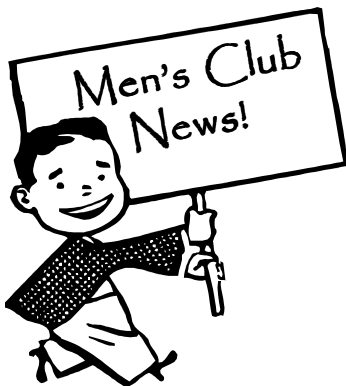
Ushers - Agnes Carhart, Keith Hilsenbeck, Denise Cardinalli &
Jill West

Reader - Beverly Lambert

Acolyte - Christian Kmetz



ATTENTION PARENTS! If you have children interested in serving as Acolytes, please contact David Wandersee at 908-859-4880.



Our very own First UCC Men's Club has donated \$300 to ProJect of Easton, \$200 to our Youth Group, and \$1500 to the church's General Fund. Not only did we all thoroughly enjoy your dinner and picnic, but the money certainly went to some good causes. Keep up the good work, and keep that food coming! Special kudos to President Bob Arnold and Treasurer Gary Rapp for a job well done.



Sunday School "Subs" Still Needed!

Hallelujah! Having Sunday School begin with the children joining us in worship at 10:30 seems to be a hit with our students and their families! After a short break over Christmas which allowed our families to worship together for the entire service, we are returning to our 10:30 Sunday Morning Sunday School schedule.

We are looking for volunteers "Subs" to help out with teaching Sunday School so our dedicated teachers can attend church services one in a while. The lessons can be planned for you and are very easy to follow. Anyone interested can check out the calendar in the hallway by the Arts & Crafts Room to sign up for a day. All age groups are available. Thanks for your support!

Our "Member of the Month"

Our spotlighted "New Member of the Month" for February is Brenda Liscinichia, who joined us in December. Brenda lives in Forks Twsp. with her husband Sal, and has a grown son, Evan, who is an attorney in Philadelphia. In her spare time, she loves to ski, and is an instructor in the Poconos. She is also a substitute teacher at Easton High School. Brenda was a former member of St. Marks, but decided to join our First UCC congregation, and we certainly do welcome her, and hope she will become an active member of our church family.

Angel Food Ministries at St. John's on Morgan Hill

The **Feb. menu** is available in our narthex, in the office or on-line at: www.stjohnsmorganhill.org.

Please note that the price for the regular unit is now \$30.

If you have been financially blessed & don't have to watch your pennies, perhaps you know of a family that could use a food box? With additional heating costs now, AFM can be a special blessing. Buy a box & give it away!

February order dates are:

Wed., Feb. 13th - 4-6 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 16th - 9 a.m. til noon

**Sun., Feb. 17th - 10:30 a.m. til
12:30 p.m.**

**Feb. distribution date is Fri.,
February 29th -
6:30-8 p.m.**

**Cash, Money Orders or
Food Stamps are accepted.**

(Food Stamp orders must be placed in person at St. John's.)

**Cash orders can be taken by
Margaret in the church office
anytime by Fri., Feb. 15th, or
call her with any questions.**