



The PVEM Happenings

Volume 1, Issue 1

Published by the Stewardship Commission

May 2004

Stewardship Commission to Publish The "Happenings"

"Communications" is the key

A new look as well as a "staff"

PVEM Stewardship and Communications Commission

The Stewardship Commission will be publishing the "Happenings" beginning with the May issue. What our objectives are:

1. By having the commission as the publisher we will have a built in staff to reach more people and generate a good information flow within the church.
2. Identify the needs and thoughts of the congregation and publish the results.
3. With the members of the commission working as a team the paper will have a wider variety of styles and make it a ready source for all the congregation.

The Stewardship Commission would like to thank Amy, the church secretary, for the fine job she has done in the past. It has been a tough job for one

Stewardship Commission

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Insert ----- Another Youth dinner and concert. "GREAT"

The Rummage Sale

PVEM Rummage Sale Makes History!

John Jurena

Did you know this was the first time in the history of the church, so I am told, that the men of the church ran the rummage sale? It is about time we got involved with such a worthwhile cause. Not only does this sale provide a source of income to our church, but we also provide a service and mission to our local community.

Day one of the sale we were met with about 35 people lined up outside the door; starting as early as 8:00am, remember the doors did not open until 9. Two people wanted to get a head start on the sale, so I let them in, just to preview the merchandise. As a newbie to this whole process, I was surprised to hear their excitement and anticipation level. I was not sure what to expect. The first few hours were the busiest, but after our lunch break I believe we had the most fun. From Jane Nichols testing out a jump rope to my testing a skateboard, it brought out the youth in us all...oh to be young again.

Day two was "bag day", where anything you can fit in a bag is sold for \$3. What a bargain to already discounted prices. We did not have as many in line as the day before, but sales were very steady all morning. By noon our cleanup crew arrived and we started packing the remainder of the goods for the Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Hackettstown. They will be holding their own rummage sale in the next few weeks. The trash that was left also was taken care of, as it was Allamuchy's spring cleanup day and a truckload was dropped off. By 1:30 fellowship hall was ready for the blood drive set for Sunday.

Rummage Sale

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person and we realize that is true. Therefore, we are willing to take on the job.

In our efforts to make this a quality newsletter, we will be actively seeking articles to enhance the enjoyment as well as the information aspects of the paper; therefore, you may be asked to contribute to the "Happenings". ❖

Floral Recognition

The Worship Commission is going to provide a corsage to the "oldest" mother in attendance at worship service on Mother's Day, May 9. We want to provide a little extra recognition on this very special Sunday.

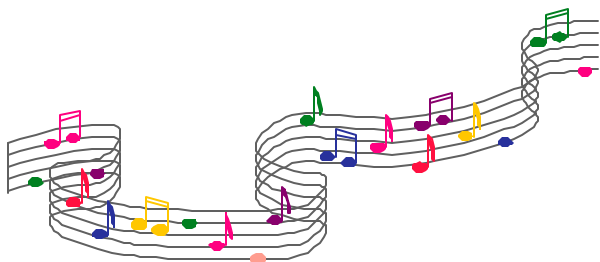


Hat's Off To....

The people who joined the choir to provide the beautiful Easter music we all enjoyed.

Promises, Promises

We could have top-quality, beautiful music every Sunday morning if we just had about six more voices. The choir practices at 9:00 AM Sunday before service and again at 11:30 AM after service. Two hours a week is not a lot for the enjoyment it brings to the congregation and the nice warm inner glow it provides to you, the singer.



Please join us for the next nine Sundays, so we can make beautiful music, then you can have July and August off for choir vacation.

2-1-1 for information

Got questions? Get answers!

An article from NORWESCAP.

Where to get information

Warren County, along with five other counties in the state of New Jersey, has adopted the 2-1-1 information line. Presently it is only available between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.. This number doesn't replace the 9-1-1 emergency number but, when you need information, 2-1-1 is the number to call.

information is available for:

- Housing
- Utility Assistance
- Food Programs
- Legal Assistance
- Emergency Services
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Counseling
- Education
- Employment
- Holiday Assistance
- Child Care
- And much, much more



Flowers?

The youth will have extra flowers on sale, May 2. So, come prepared to plan for your garden. There will be a nice variety.



The High Cost of Death

Do you think you will need thousands of dollars for a casket? And for a cemetery plot? And for a gravestone? Just the use of the funeral home for a service is costly!

Come to PVEM after service on May 16 to hear Carol Titus from the Morris Memorial Society. She will enlighten us re the subject of planning for the future with planning guides and discs concerning "Are Your Affairs in Order?" She will also show a video about area Memorial Gardens.

The latest book by Jessica Mitford, "The American way of Death Revisited" is a "**must read**" for anyone interested in why the funeral industry has so much power and influence in our nation. The book is in our own library. It is filled with helpful information.

Don't miss this informative and valuable presentation. **Prepare Now** for the future. Questions? Call Jeanne Bateman, 850-0687.

USHERS WANTED!

An important job

Rick Wilson

Usher Coordinator

Have you ever thought about ushering on Sunday morning? The usher's role is critical to the behind the scene worship service experience. There is not much to do and detailed instructions are provided. The ushers have the added benefit of greeting everyone as they enter the sanctuary on Sunday morning. Please consider ushering and call Rick Wilson (908-850-3805) or the Church Office if interested.

Thank you.

Rummage Sale

Continued from page 1, column 2

A few lessons were learned this week while organizing the sale.

- Lesson one: if you wear a tie or jacket to church, be sure to hang it in a safe location. The Sunday after church, we finished setting up for the day, I saw my tie I was wearing earlier hanging on the rack to be sold.
- Lesson two: women do not zipper their pants in the front; the zipper is on the side.
- Lesson three: when it comes to dress shirts, a woman's shirt buttons differently than a mans shirt, the buttons are on the left.

I just thought to pass this along to other men of the church...it may come in handy someday.

Another tidbit that was useful to me. I asked my volunteers to conduct an exit poll to the shoppers of the sale. The question was..."How did you hear about our rummage sale? The overwhelming response was, "we come every year", followed by our road signs, then newspaper advertisements, and lastly word of mouth.

All said and done the sale generated \$2,812 of which \$2,500 will go toward the operating budget and the remainder to the Christian Outreach Commission for their continuing support of the mission work of our church.

I want to thank my co-chair, John Pflugfelder Jr. and all of the men and women who helped make this sale a great success. I look forward to working with them again in October for the next PVEM rummage sale.

Yours in Christ,
John Jurena

See page 5 for photos

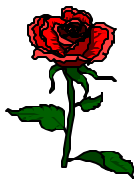


Successful Sunrise Service

The second annual Sunrise Service was a bit nippy, but enjoyed by the 31 worshippers that attended. Rev. Taylor provided an inspiring message with the three crosses and Easter sunrise as the backdrop. Ron McIntyre accompanied the singing on the keyboard. The early morning service was the only one in our area and attracted some potential new members.

Worship Commission members planned and set-up the service and would like to especially thank Commission members Gail and Greg Werner for again planning and executing the "gourmet breakfast" served to the 25 who attended. The chefs in addition to the Werners were Jeanne Bateman, Kathy Pflugfelder, Marilyn Schaeffer, and Pat Schaars. It was a culinary delight.

Thank You, Moms



We tend to take for granted the many things our mothers do to make our everyday lives better. They remind us of deadlines we need to keep, find important things we've misplaced, provide a hug when things don't go our way, a wink of encouragement when we're feeling intimidated...and they're there when we need someone to talk to. It doesn't matter if we're 10 or 50, mom's on the job. So THANK YOU mom from all of us.

C. Kirk Hattaway has just published a new book entitled, Behold I Do A New Thing-Transforming Communities of Faith". His thesis is both simple and yet radical. He states his belief, after many years of doing research about local churches and what makes them tick, that the church is simply about the transformation of individual lives, of its community life, and is called to transformation in the world outside.

His understanding of this transformation is stated very succinctly: "To change people or transform them begs the question of what they should be changed into. The obvious answer is that they should be changed into disciples who are open to the spirit of God and live a life of faith, vocation, and reconciliation in God's realm. Thus, the transformation is intentional and directed, rather than haphazard. It also is embodied and incarnational. People change, because all things change, but in most cases the church isn't much of an ingredient for personal change, much less the catalyst.

The church can be both a catalyst for transformation, as people experience God through transcendent worship, and place of formation, as people become part of a community of faith".

C. Kirk Hattaway's insights into the church in our day and time are very helpful as this local church considers its future and the call of a new pastor.

Peace,

Harry Taylor: Interim Pastor



A Conspiracy?
Jeanne Bateman
Gail Werner
Jane Nichols



By lunch time things were really jumping at the rummage sale.
Jeanne Bateman
Jane Nichols
John Jurena



Just checking out the products?
Jane Nichols



Are these the right prices?
John Jurena, John Pflugfelder, Millard Branch



John keeps things rolling right along.



Nolan Michael found the perfect talking book.



Austin Van Dongen investigates a new treasure as he holds on to the Barney movie he has already found.

Blood Drive

A very special Thank You to the 20 people who donated blood and, a special thanks to Greg and Gail Werner for the special banner and advertising.

Quotable

Nobody stands as tall as when they bend over to help a child.

Anonymous

Turn Beauty Inside Out

Girls of all ages are invited to become a part of an exciting international campaign started by girls to "turn beauty inside out" by focusing on who we are and what we are -- not what we look like on the outside!

This workshop offers girls an opportunity to look at the way beauty is portrayed by the media and celebrate an alternative definition of inner beauty – the beauty of conviction, caring, and action. We'll celebrate the inner beauty in ourselves and others and honor girls who have overcome difficulties, created something new, stood on their own, reached for their dreams, or fought for what they believe in.

We'll prepare to celebrate the official turn beauty inside out day on May 19, 2004 by brainstorming ways for girls to become advocates for change within their families, communities, and themselves. Come be a part of this exciting adventure!

*Presented by Dari Dyrness-Olsen, M.A.,
LAC., Professor of Psychology
at the College of St. Elizabeth*

- 4-6PM Wednesday May 12, 2004
- To be held at PVEM
- Pre-registration is required. Space is limited!
- Call (973) 769-2991 to register now!
- \$10 fee

Parish Nurse Update

Gail Werner

May --TBD-- AARP Safe Driving Class
\$10.00 checks are made out to AARP. Instructor Don Kelly will lead the two-day course.

May, 12 3:30 PM-5:30 PM

West Morris Central High School Free Student ~ Senior Dinner Dance, featuring performances by two WMCHS Choral Groups and a DJ. Call (908) 876-5941 for your reservation. Be there or be square!

May, 15

PVEC will host the North Jersey Parish Nurse Network Spiritual Renewal Program complete with activities led by a pottery artisan. All PVEM Parish Nurse Members are invited to come. Please contact Gail Werner with your response before May 5, Cinco de Mayo, (908) 852-5444 the pottery supplies need to be ordered. This is a wonderful opportunity to participate with other parish nurses, boost your spirituality, share TLC and make new acquaintances or friends. We were requested to host this program due to our new active program; also this is the furthest West the group has ever traveled. Folks will be raveling 1-2 hours to come! Let's demonstrate our hospitality by showing up and sharing ourselves with others.

May, 16

Blood Pressure Screening in office after Worship.

Late May

Next Safe Sitter Babysitting Class, call for details.

June, 9 10:30 AM

WORLD-CLASS Orthopedic Surgeon, Dr. Steven Meier, associated with Overlook Hospital will lead a computer Power Point Presentation about his most recently developed techniques to treat osteoarthritis of the knees and shoulder problems, such as rotator cuff involvement. **Mark your calendar, you don't want to miss this!** He will be returning from two international trips where he has taught other surgeons.

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September Survey

by **Betty Schultheis**

Communication is the cornerstone of a healthy, growing, viable ministry. Now that we have a permanent pastor, we are ready to plan for the future of our ministry. In order to do that effectively we need to know what you, the members of the congregation "expect" your church to be.

The Stewardship and Communications Commission is sponsoring the U.S. Congregational Life Survey to be administered during Sunday Service in September.

The Survey is designed to take a picture of our congregation:

- to find out who our worshippers are and what they value
- to consider new missions or programs
- to renew and re-evaluate our strategic plan
- to help our new pastor learn more about the congregation
- to deal with change when our congregation is growing

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The survey asks questions about the four fundamental building blocks of congregational life: spirituality and faith development, involvement in groups and leadership roles in the congregation, community involvement, and future directions.

The next issue of *Happenings* will provide some background concerning the survey: who developed it, who has/is using it, and how and when the results will be received. ❖



If you have an article that you would like to submit, please give it to Amy or, email it to hppnings@mindspring.com