

GREENSKY HILL TIDINGS- MARCH 2009

Pastor's Pondering

Lent is a time when we are invited to increase our capacity to receive the love of Jesus Christ. A time when we can reflect and examine our lives in a manner in which our lives are transformed by the resurrected Jesus Christ - becoming lives lived more fully and abundantly. Our worship theme for Lent is, "Journey into Radical Renovation!" Some of the questions we are asking of ourselves are: What aspects of my life need renovating? How can I cooperate with God to allow God to renovate me? What might a new life in Christ look like after renovation?

I encourage you to actively participate in this journey through participation in worship, by daily setting aside time to spend with God, and by participating in special Lenten ministries being offered during Lent that are highlighted throughout this newsletter.

May you find new life in Christ on your Journey in Radical Renovation.

Pastor Tim

Christ in the Passover

Sat. March 28th at 6:00pm at Horton Bay UMC What do the Jewish Passover and Jesus' Last Supper have in common? Sergio Danan, speaking on behalf of Jews for Jesus, will answer that question in a presentation called "Christ in the Passover" at Horton Bay United Methodist Church, on Saturday March 28 at 6:00pm.

Using a visual display of traditional Passover accouterments, the "Christ in the Passover" presentation enhances the Christian's understanding and appreciation of the Jewish background of the Christian Communion. Ancient and modern Jewish customs are discussed and described with an emphasis on the aspect of redemption which Christ accomplished at Calvary.

A table is set with the traditional Jewish Passover items, including representative foods which are explained, but not eaten. The ceremonial seder plate, the three-compartment pouch in which the matzo (unleavened bread) is kept, as well as the traditional cup of Elijah are presented, and new insights to their christological significance are provided.

The presentation was originally written by Moishe Rosen, the founder and former executive director of Jews for Jesus. Dr. Rosen contends that some of the most important elements of Christian doctrine, such as the Trinity, the principle of substitutionary atonement and salvation through a personal relationship with the messiah, are implied in the Seder (Passover feast) as observed by Orthodox Jews even today. "The Christ in the Passover presentation is one way Jews for Jesus can help churches appreciate the Jewish roots of the Christian faith."

The program is open to everyone and Sergio Danan will be available to answer questions those attending might have.

Grand Traverse District's Bishop's Day III

We are excited to announce to you the **Grand Traverse District's Bishop's Day III**, set for Saturday, March 7th at the Kalkaska United Methodist Church. The theme for the day will be "***The Renewal of Christ's Church.***" We are especially blessed to have

Bishop Jonathan Keaton *in person* as our preacher for the day. There are 12 small group-learning opportunities:

- 1. Clergy Conversations with Bishop Keaton (AM) / Pastor Parish Training with Robert Mayo (PM)**
- 2. Unleashed Ministry for Young Adults with Matt Bistayi**
 - Raising up, nurturing, and unleashing those in their 20's and 30's for leadership and ministry
- 3. Spiritual and Physical Benefits of Fasting with Ken Nash**
 - Spiritual disciplines designed to break our addiction to food and increase our intimacy with God
- 4. Crafting Openness to Change with Ken Vanderlaan**
 - Helping congregations move past resistance to engage positive change for the cause of Christ
- 5. Growing Existing Churches using New Church Ideas with John Scott**
 - New church strategies that can fuel momentum and result in growth
- 6. Worship that Connects with Gary Step**
 - Worship options that enable a sense of divine presence and connection with God
- 7. Simple Church with Brad Kalajainen**
 - Proven strategies to focus your church on what's really most important; doing less to accomplish more
- 8. Designing Effective Family and Children's Ministries with Becky Scott**
 - Ways to connect families and children in a changing culture to your church's ministries
- 9. Practices of Effective Youth Ministries, with Eric Falker, Zachery and Sarah Wessels**
 - Effective practices that will stimulate interest and grow your congregation's youth ministries
- 10. Resurrecting Passion for Connectional Ministry with Rachel Harvey and Deb Harmon**
 - Igniting passion for second mile giving through Advance Specials and local mission projects
- 11. Spiritual Well-being for All God's People with Devon Herrell and Bil Chu**
 - Crafting moments in worship which enable faith communities to experience spiritual healing and wholeness
- 12. Growing the Small Membership Church with Mike Riegler**
 - Reaching up and reaching out to create a great small church

Care has been taken to include groups that will strengthen and empower ministry for your local congregation. We are again incorporating District Conference with Bishop's Day III. The expense for the day is only \$7 per person, and includes a box lunch for all those who pre-register. Mark your calendars now and plan to bring a carload to celebrate God's goodness and receive the inspiration of practical encouragement.

"Prayer - Does It Make Any Difference" by Philip Yancey.

Wednesdays @ 7:00pm at Horton Bay UMC The award-winning author Philip Yancey probes the very heartbeat — the most fundamental, challenging, perplexing and deeply rewarding aspect of our relationship with God: prayer. What

is prayer? How does it work?

PRAYER REQUESTS

OUR MILITARY: Phillip Slocum, Joshua Gloria, Courtney Marulli, and Brittany Shute.

George & Marcie DeGraeve	Dan Pardee	Tammy Speigl
Rose Greane	Katie	Elizabeth Koski
Luke Ray Calhoun	Kim & Mary	Rose Kassube
Phyllis John	Marsha	Rosemary &
Russell & Karen	John	Howard
Lucy Funk	Rosaura Pajol	Chris & Libby
Margo & Kala	Don & Carol	Marsha S.
Dan McCreery	Matthew B.	Janice Smith
Carol Satori	Little Nicole	Shirley Oldman
Calvin Hill	Matthew Cross	Mildred Speigl
Trimper Family	Linda Tezak	Ty Russell
Kevin & Emily Calhoun	Jane Bailey	Debra Bellamy
Glen & Linda	Fran Tollas	Border Patrol
Jackie Wassenaar	Harry & Betty P.	Molly Tate
Dave Wassenaar	Tim Baker	Kay
Sara Sheaffer	Tim McClellan	

Homeless and oppressed people throughout the world.

LITURGISTS

MARCH

1 Albert Colby, Jr.
8 Mike Marchewitz
15 Sue Bice
19 Jim Ledahl
22 Inge Ledahl
29 Ray Bice

APRIL

5 Alice Harvey
12 Richard Tunison
26 Wendy Sloan

BIRTHDAYS

MARCH

4 Carol Roznoski
9 Ryan Willis
9 June Cross
12 Brett Perry
14 Toni Drenth
16 Kala Kalilimoku
16 Lori Willis
29 Harper Johnson

APRIL

8 Nancy Acker
8 Rene Demanaeus
9 Mary Black
12 Mitch Kalilimoku
15 Mike McCreery
16 Quintin Walker
16 Sam Black
17 Tom Sutton

31 Ivan Byard

19 Nicole Swadling

21 Hunter Johnson

24 Bob Peterson

25 Kim Marchewitz

25 Joyce McClellan

27 Dale Willis

28 Paul Johnson

ANNIVERSARIES

MARCH

13 Carole & Roger Tally

APRIL

19 Mike & Kim Marchewitz

30 Craig & Carol Adams

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE AT GREENSKY HILL (APRIL 2009)

The Holy Week Schedule at Greensky Hill Church will be as follows:

Palm Sunday- April 5th

9:00AM-Worship

5:00PM- Worship with Sam McClellan

Maundy Thursday- April 9th

7:00PM Worship at Greensky Hill

Good Friday- April 10th

The Good Friday Service is a Community service starting at 12:00 Noon.

Location will be announced in the April newsletter

Easter Sunday- April 12th

7:00AM- Sunrise Service at Greensky Hill.

8:00AM – Breakfast/Potluck in Susan Hall (please bring a dish to share).

9:00AM- Easter Service at Greensky Hill

5:00PM - Easter Service with Marshall and Mary Collins(tentative)

WHAT DOES THE CROSS MEAN?

I have several lovely crosses.... some are gifts, some I have purchased for myself, and some were my mother's. I often wear them when I go out.

Someone asked me one time “ What does that cross around your neck mean to you?” I thought that was a rather “dumb” question, but I answered “ It is a symbol of Jesus death upon the cross... His life given for my sins.”

I thought that was a pretty good answer! And then the person asked, “Do you tell people about Him? Do you let them know that you wear it because you are a Christian?”

I felt the fact that I had it on pretty much spoke for me, but I replied, “ I hope they know I’m a Christian”.

When I got home I replayed this conversation in my mind. Do people really know I’m a Christian? Do I live in such a way that they don’t have to ask? Does just wearing the cross around our necks make us a Christian? Does it profess our Christianity when we are doing something perhaps that is not quite as Christian as it should be? WOW! Did that one conversation ever bring up a lot of questions in my mind.

I have seen many crosses on T-shirts, many cross tattoos, hanging in windows, bumper stickers, etc. and never gave it a thought as to whether the person wearing or showing this emblem ever thought of why they were wearing or displaying it.

I guess the next time I wear one of my lovely crosses, I will remember the reason I have that cross, and what it stands for, lots more than I ever have before. I hope you will, too.

This is the “season of the Cross”, and it is a good time to wear yours, and display it, and remember the reason we have this symbol.... To remind ourselves of the sacrifice Jesus made upon a crude wooden cross, that we might have life, and have it more abundantly.

Manton First Christian Church newsletter

IT'S YOUR DESIGN by Judy Dos Santos

It's Your design of love for me,
 That overwhelms my heart,
 And keeps my mind agape in awe,
 That I be deigned a part-
 Of such a great miraculous plan
 On this Your mighty earth.
 Amidst Your timeless scheme for man
 My soul, You'd find, of worth.

SWISS STEAK DINNER/ VARIETY SHOW

The Greensky Hill Men's Group Swiss Steak Dinner/ Variety Show will be held Saturday, March 21, 2009 in Susan Hall starting at 5:30PM. The menu for the dinner will be Swiss steak, mashed potatoes, corn, salad, dessert, coffee, or punch. Starting at approximately 6:30PM, the variety show will consist of several different individuals and groups to entertain the diners. Tickets will cost \$10 each. This is a fund-raiser project for the Men's Group- your support is deeply appreciated.

17TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 17th annual Greensky Hill Church Benefit Golf Scramble will be held at the Antrim Dells Golf Course in Atwood, Michigan on Sunday, May 17, 2009. The event will start at 1:00PM.

The cost is \$ 70.00 per person (4 person team only); no handicap scramble. **ALL ENTRIES ARE SECURED BY ADVANCED RESERVATIONS ONLY**, with a deadline to register by Friday, May 15th 2009. All U.S.G.A. rules apply.

There will be contest holes, prizes, and a dinner buffet immediately following the tournament. Prizes will be given in 3 divisions- Men's, Ladies, and Mixed Play. For more information or to register your team, please call Mike McCreery at (231) 487-9146. All proceeds support Greensky Hill Native American Methodist Church, Charlevoix, Michigan.

IMPORTANT TIDBITS

1. Congratulations to Debby Slocum for being selected Greensky Hill's Lay Person of the Year for 2009. Debby will be honored with other

laity from West Michigan churches, at the Grand Traverse District's Bishop Day Workshop/Worship in Kalkaska UMC on Saturday, March 7th, 2009. (Ed. Note: more info. next month about Debby.)

2. Congratulations to Jared Willis for winning the Spelling Bee Championship at the Boyne City Middle School. Jared is an eighth grader and the son of Dale and Lori Willis.
3. Charlevoix Food Pantry- donations for the Pantry can be placed in the large basket inside the door of Susan Hall. Thank you for your donations.
4. Women's Resource Center- please help with our donations to the Resource Center; there is a tub for donations in Susan Hall.

EVER WONDER WHY?

-Swiss cheese has holes? Swiss cheese is made by heating cow's milk at high temperatures and then lifting the curd from the whey in one mass in a fine-mesh net. This mass is then shaped into blocks, salted with strong brine, wrapped to prevent drying, and stored for six to eight weeks to ferment at 80 degrees Fahrenheit. The holes are formed during this latter part of the process when bubbles of carbon dioxide gas are liberated by bacteria used to promote fermentation.

HEALTH CORNER- Part II AVOIDING ALZHEIMER'S

WAYS TO REDUCE YOUR RISK OF DEVELOPING ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE:

1. Eat plenty of low-fat, low cholesterol foods. Some of the best are blueberries, blackberries, Concord grapes, red wine, fish oil or flax seed oil, dark green vegetables, walnuts, almonds and cumin.
2. Maintain your overall health. Keep your blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar in check.
3. Exercise. Physical activity keeps the blood flowing and encourages new brain cells. The activity doesn't have to be strenuous- walking 30 minutes a day can keep both your body and mind active.
4. Avoid head injury. It might sound as a no-brainer, but take precautions to protect your head by wearing seat belts or helmets during activities like cycling.

5. Keep your mind active. Engaging your brain increases its vitality and builds reserves of brain cells and connections. Do activities that stimulate your brain like reading or word puzzles.
6. Be social. Stay involved in social activities by taking a new class or joining a club.

Alzheimer's Association
Michigan Great Lakes Chapter
St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, U-M

REMINDER

Anything that has brought a smile to your lips, joy to your heart, or a lightness to your step is a blessing. Anything that has made your life more comfortable, has lightened your burden, or has brought warmth to your home is a blessing. Anything that has supported your body, increased your endurance, or opened your heart is a blessing. Anything that has made you look deeper, has expanded your understanding, or has increased your compassion is a blessing. Anything that has tested your strength, fortified your commitment, or forced you to grow is a blessing. Anything that has reminded you of how precious life is and has taught you to treasure your Relations is a blessing.

The Creator reminds us that blessings are counted in the way that we choose to look at them.

Jamie Sams

BRAIN PAIN

Can you solve the following:

A knife weighs as much as two spoons, three spoons weigh as much as a knife and a fork, and a plate weighs as much as a knife and a spoon. If a fork weighs 4 ounces, how much do the other items weigh?

Answer will be found in the April 09 issue of Greensky Hill Tidings.