

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2008

Issue No. 6 Published Monthly

The Presbyterian Church

100 White Street

Brookville, PA 15825

814-849-2413 www.brookvillepresby.org



Laurel Festival Events Scheduled

Laurel Festival is an exciting time in Brookville. This year our church will sponsor two activities during the week.

Thursday evening, June 19th, 6:00-9:00 p.m. the youth will sponsor a booth to provide a variety of activities for the young people attending the festival. Activities and games are being sponsored by the Continuing Education Committee.



Friday evening, June 20th, 5:00-7:00 p.m. the Session is sponsoring a cookout for the community. The event will feature food, fellowship, and entertainment provided by Gary Bickerstaff. Come be part of the fun! Spend some time sharing hospitality and a nice summer evening.



Vacation Bible School

June 23-27 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Sign up today for VBS on line at brookvillepresby.org or by calling the office at 849-2413.

Be part of the best
week of summer!



Summer worship schedule begins June 1st and continues through August 31st. Adult Sunday School will begin at 9:00 a.m. with worship beginning at 10:00 a.m. Anyone who would like to host coffee hour during the summer can do so by signing up using the sheet located in the Education Building or calling the office. There will also be children's church during worship. Children will move to the education building after the Children's Time for activities.

Church Picnic June 15th 10:30 a.m. Memorial Park

Worship will be held at the park at 10:30 a.m. Bring a covered dish to share. Chicken, drinks, and table service will be provided.



Thanks to all who pitched in to set up risers, usher, do the supper setup for the choir, and serve and clean up for our coffee and cookie time that evening. The 4th Annual Choir Celebration was just that - a celebration of the joy music creates. Carole Briggs

Community Action Seminar Held

On April 26th, the Presbyterian Church of Brookville hosted a presentation by members of Community Action discussing programs that are available in our local area to benefit folks going through difficult times in their lives. Executive Director Susan Fusco gave a brief overview concerning Community Action and then introduced each of the speakers. Suella Himes spoke about the Crossroads Domestic Violence Program. Laura Beatty spoke about the many types of childcare assistance which are available through the Child Care Information Services program. Melissa Ellenberger offered insights into the many ways that people can enhance their chances of securing work through the assistance and referral programs available under the Comprehensive Self Sufficiency Program. Alicia Reitz spoke about New Choices New Options, which has the goal of assisting in developing career goals and obtaining employment through an intensive five week course. Citizens who may wish to inquire about Community Action's programs can call toll free at (800)648-3381 or (800)997-7661.

***** *Many thanks to the Acts Initiative participants for all their hard work in making this event happen.* *****

Applying Bible Principles

" . . . ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you" (Luke 11:9).

God has a wonderful "system" by which we as His children are to get our needs met. It's a very simple "system," but somehow, we fail to utilize it as we should. Here's the plan: God says we are to ask Him. Is that simple or what? We are to call unto Him, to cry out our needs before Him, to bring our petitions before His throne. But somehow, we must think His plan is too complex, for with most of us, asking God is the last thing we do when we have needs.

Oh, we'll tell our friends. We'll discuss our needs with any and all who have the patience and courtesy to listen. We'll frequently complain about our problems, even to the extent of sometimes holding God responsible for His seeming failure to provide for us. But ask God? Usually we'll do that only as a last resort.

The result is a sad state of affairs among Christians. "You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures" (James 4:2-3). So our needs go unmet because either we do not ask or we ask with wrong motives.

J. Irvin Overholtzer was a pastor who was greatly used by God as the founder of Child Evangelism Fellowship. His philosophy of providing for the financial needs of this worldwide organization was this: "Ask God . . . and tell His people." Yes, we need to share our needs with others. We ought to make others aware of opportunities for them to get involved in being used of God to meet those needs. But the first step in the entire process is this: "Ask God."

And when we do, we can claim His promise stated so clearly in Jeremiah 33:3 < "Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known."

Say, do you have needs in your life today? Why not "ask God"? Why not come boldly to His throne? Why not take Him at His Word and "call" unto Him? That's God's plan for His children: " . . . ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you" (Luke 11:9).

Or as Eliza Hickock wrote a century ago, "I know not by what methods rare, but this I know: God answers prayer!"

Upcoming Worship

The lectionary readings for June are listed below. Join us for worship Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

June 1

Genesis 6:9-22, 7:24, 8:14-19 Displeased with what creation has become, the Lord God decides to bring a great flood that will “destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life.”; **Romans 1: 16-17, 3:22b-28(29-31)** Paul speaks of the universality of human sin and the great grace embodied in the work of God in Jesus Christ.; **Matthew 7:21-29** Jesus tells a parable about a wise person who built a house upon a solid foundation, saying this is like the person “who hears these words of mine and acts on them.”

June 8 Senior Recognition

Hosea 5:15-6:6 The prophet Hosea tells the truth to Israel about its collective waywardness and calls Israel back to steadfast love for God. **Romans 4:13-25** Paul writes to the church at Rome that Abraham was made “righteousness” (that is, right with God) through his faith, not by his righteous adherence to the law.; **Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26** When Matthew the tax collector is called to be a disciple of Jesus, Jesus’ critics accuse him of fraternizing with sinners.

June 15 Church Picnic

June 22

Jeremiah 20:7-13 Fresh from being persecuted for his unpopular prophecy, Jeremiah complains to God. However, Jeremiah is able finally to conclude his lament with praise to God.; **Romans 6:1b-11** Paul emphasizes that because we are united with Christ in his death and resurrection, we have new life and freedom from sin.; **Matthew 10: 24-39** Jesus gives warnings to his disciples of the difficulty and disruption that they will experience in working with him.

June 29

Genesis 22:1-14 In a strange and frightening episode, Abraham is commanded to sacrifice his son Isaac on Mt. Moriah. Yet before he is able to do so, God provides a ram caught in a thicket as an offering.

Romans 6:12-23 Paul continues the theme of sacrifice and offering by urging Christians in Rome to offer themselves as an offering to God to be used as God’s instruments of righteousness.;

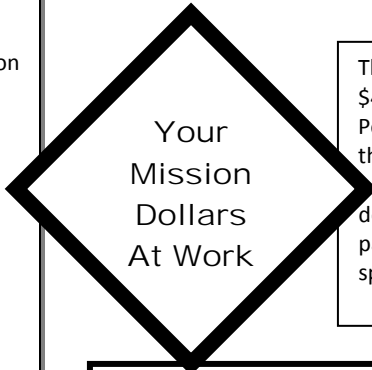
Matthew 10:40-42 Jesus calls on his disciples to practice the ministry of hospitality, welcoming ordinary everyday people in his name.



Summer Adult Sunday School

The C.E. Wilson and W.J. Jenks Sunday School Classes will combine for summer study. Everyone is welcome to meet in the W.J. Jenks classroom at 9:00 a.m. Sessions will be led by:

June 1	T.J. Parlette
June 8	Bill Kutz
June 22	Don Musgrave
June 29	Paul Gray
July 6	Ed Kelso
July 13	Jerry Paden
July 20	T.J. Parlette
July 27	Bill Kutz
August 3	Don Musgrave
August 10	Joyce Johnson
August 17	Paul Gray
August 24	Ed Kelso
August 31	Jerry Paden



Thanks to your kind donations \$470.00 was collected for the Pentecost Offering. That means that \$188.00 will be sent to the Brookville YMCA to ensure deserving young people can participate in the activities sponsored there.

Classifieds

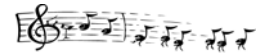
WANTED: Church bell ringers, going into 6th grade, to ring the church bell before service . Interested parties should contact the church office or meet T.J. by the front door at 9:45 am.

ANNOUNCEMENT: We celebrated the baptism of Natalie Kiera Himes, daughter of Tara and Stephen Himes on May 25th. Natalie is the great-granddaughter of Ruth Jolley.

CONGRATULATIONS: We recognize the accomplishments of our high school graduates Greg Sobol, Andrew McMurray, D.J. Dennison, Matt Bojalad, and Alex Kerr.

IN MEMORY

Joan Matson
May 22, 2008



Notes from the Choir Loft

"June is bustin' out all over." The choir is bustin' out of the loft for a well earned hiatus. I am actively seeking singers and musicians for the "Offering of Music" for the summer. June is filled but there are Sundays open in July and August. If you would like to sing or play an instrumental piece, pick a Sunday and write it on the calendar in the choir room or email me at the address below.

As we are looking ahead to the fall and holiday seasons, I would like to tell you of some of my plans. I plan to do a fully staged children's Christmas musical. All the children in the congregation from kindergarten and up are invited to take part in this musical. The one I have chosen requires no costuming and only minimal scenery. I have not done a children's musical for a while and am looking forward to this one. I also plan to do an adult cantata for Christmas. It is one the choir has done before and it just so happens to be one I have done before and is by my favorite composer, Joseph Martin. If you are a former choir member or have been thinking about joining, this will be the perfect time to throw caution to the wind and jump in!

I want to thank everyone, singers, musicians and all of you for a wonderful first year here. It is hard to believe this first season has come and gone already. Keep in touch over the summer. If there is something you would like to hear, please let me know. Or if there was something you absolutely hated and never want to hear again, let me know that, too. Have a wonderful summer! See you in September.

Elaine
ethomas123@windstream.net

Arts and Drama Camp Scheduled

July 21st-25th

9:00-11:30 a.m.

Hey Kids!!

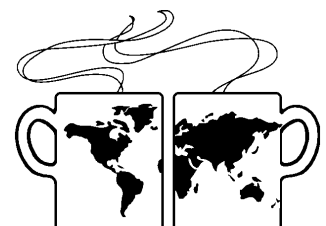
Want to make some noise? Want to have a mid-summer break that lets you try new things and be with your friends? Be part of the Art and Drama Camp here at the church. Make a drum! Learn to play it! Learn about drama! Call the office to register or sign up on our website at www.brookvillepresby.org. There is a \$5.00 fee for this event.



Visit us online at brookvillepresby.org

The Outreach Committee is partnering with the Land of A Thousand Hills project in Rwanda and has coffee available for sale. This cooperative agreement with farmers in Rwanda is creating several positive economic benefits for the participants. By purchasing these specialty coffees you are strengthening the economy of the people in Rwanda, and the proceeds we receive will be used to buy school uniforms for children in our partner church, Buha.

So, see you at
Coffee Hour!



A Message from our New Coordinator of Youth Ministries

My name is Kody Witt. I am currently a student at Clarion University and graduate of Brookville Area High School. After completing my B.A. in History, I plan to attend seminary to obtain a Master of Divinity degree.

I've been a member of this community for the majority of my life and I'm excited to take part in God's ministry in this town. I feel that growing up in Brookville gives me an advantage in understanding what the youth are experiencing living here. I believe that an active youth group focused on building relationships and creating a safe environment for the youth is very important. I also feel it is important that we teach and instill Christ's teachings into the youth and also into our own lives. I know that God is doing great work in Brookville and I am blessed to be given a position to take part in that work.

Since I graduated from high school, God has given me many opportunities to learn about Him, myself, and our relationship. I spent my freshman year in the Philadelphia area attending West Chester University as a Music Education Major. The past two summers I was blessed with the opportunity to work at Jumonville United Methodist Camp and Retreat Center as a Christian Counselor. This work meant a great deal to me, because it was there, as a camper many years earlier, my life as a Christian began. Those two summers had a greater impact on my life than any other experiences. It was during the first summer that I was called back to Brookville to take part in ministry here, and shortly after that I met Tim McConville, the pastor at the Evangelical United Methodist Church of Brookville. At the end of the summer, I transferred to Clarion University. I moved back to Brookville, contacted Tim, and began working for him as a music intern. I continued in this position through this past December.

I have several interests and skills that I hope will support me in this position. I enjoy sports of all kinds and have played several throughout my life. I also enjoy the outdoors and all recreational activities, especially camping, hiking, rock climbing, rafting, and kayaking. While working with the camps I had the opportunity to gain a lot of experience not only participating in these activities, but also facilitating them. I also have a great appreciation for the arts. I myself love to participate in music. Singing is my favorite thing to do, but I also play a little guitar and piano. I also love to have opportunities to participate in the creative arts (drawing, painting, etc...) and dancing, even though I myself don't have great abilities in these areas. I feel, however, these are very important ways to connect with youth and also very important tools in ministry and worship.

I look forward to getting to know everyone in the Presbyterian Church and am very thankful for the opportunity to work with you all. I ask that as I step into this position that you all continue to pray for me and also for the works of this church. I have high expectations for myself and trust that through hard work, faith and prayer, God will do amazing things in the lives of this community.