

PARK RIDGE connection

The Newsletter for Park Ridge Free Methodist Church

March-April 2009

Journey to the Cross

Next week begins our Easter Series that will focus on Jesus' journey to the cross. On Sunday, March 22 we will look at how the road to the cross was marked out well in advance. Sunday, March 29 will focus on how Jesus came to serve and His example of servanthood when He washed the disciples' feet in the Upper Room. April 5 is Palm Sunday and on that day we will focus on how the Triumphal entry was truly triumphant for all mankind and what the 3 crosses of Calvary mean for us. Then on Resurrection Sunday, as we celebrate Easter, we will not only end one series, but begin a new series talking about death and life after death. Begin to plan to join us on this journey by praying and encouraging family and friends to come along.

There will be a Senior Luncheon on Friday, March 20th, 12:00 at the Old Country Buffet in Greece. The cost is \$7.00 per person and includes full buffet, beverage, dessert, and gratuity. Please pay Carolyn Stiffler in cash at the event in order to get this special price. RSVP to the church office by Thursday, March 19th before noon.

"Walking in the Steps of Jesus" - Lenten Gallery

The Lenten Gallery, opening on March 25, will feature written and visual artwork. All are welcome and encouraged to participate! Elsa would like to have your work, ready to hang, before March 25. Please contact her for more information at 293-9474 or by email at kevin.elsa5@gmail.com.

"Meet Me at the Fair!"

Sunday, March 29, something very exciting is happening here at PRFMC - THE FAIR IS COMING! This is not the kind of fair you may be thinking of - it's a Ministry Fair. Our church has many different opportunities to serve one another and many different ministries available for you and your family. So, immediately following the morning service which will focus on Servanthood, everyone is invited to attend the Fair in the Fellowship Hall. Every ministry area will be displaying the different elements and highlights of that ministry. You will have opportunity to ask questions, get information, as well as sign up to get involved in participation or service. For the kids, the different ministries for the summer will be displayed and they will have an opportunity to register early and see some of the exciting things being planned. There will also be some fun games as well as prizes and goodies. Other ministries will include Youth and Children Ministries, Adult Ministries, Bible Quizzing, Small Groups, Missions, Choir, Building and Grounds, Multimedia, Fellowship, and so much more. In fact, there will be almost 20 displays. There will also be a great lunch provided. Plan now to make this day a priority. Plan to stay and eat and greet. Why not invite a friend to come and learn more about the Park Ridge Church and the many opportunities that are available. See you at the Fair!

Bible Quiz Meet

The Genesee/Susquehanna Conference will hold its April quiz meet here at Park Ridge from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday, April 4. Please pray for the students attending and encourage the Park Ridge quiz members: Alex Davis, Gabrielle Kettinger, Juliana Kettinger, Meghan Kettinger and Bethany Pulice. Their focus chapters for this meet are Luke 23-24.



COME CELEBRATE THE PASSOVER

You and your entire family are invited to join us on Wednesday, April 8, at 7:00 pm in the church Fellowship Hall as we participate in the Passover Seder Meal. Come and experience through sight, taste, and sound the retelling of the Passover of Exodus and how Jesus the Messiah became our Passover Lamb. See what the disciples must have experienced in the Upper Room on the night Jesus shared the Last Supper with them. Please sign up by Palm Sunday April 5. This special event is for the entire church body as well as family and friends you may want to invite. This is a free event but a love offering will be accepted the night of the dinner to help cover the cost. If you would like to host a table, please call the office and let Pastor Deano know.

"Women of Faith"

It is time to start thinking about Women of Faith again this year. The event will be June 5-6th at the Blue Cross Arena. This year's theme is "A Grand New Day" featuring Patsy Clairmont, Marilyn Meberg, Nicole C. Mullen, Sheila Walsh, Allison Allen, Sandi Patty and Steven Curtis Chapman. More information will follow. If you are interested in going or want more information, contact Debbie Heberger at hmpo@rochester.rr.com or 298-8948.

PreSchool

Our preschoolers are learning All About Me in March. They made personal posters for decorations (check our room out). In addition, they are learning how God made each of us special yet different. They will also be learning about fire safety rules and taking a field trip to Greece Ridge Road Fire Department at the end of the month.

On March 3 we had our annual Open House. We purchased a great new sign and boy, did it pay off! We normally have between 3 and 6 families show up to our Open House with about a 70% enrollment rate. This year we had a whopping 21 families attend our Open House. Out of the 21 families that attended, we had over half enroll that night with more coming in the next day! We are pleased to report that our current enrollment is 11 three year olds and 12 four year olds for the 2009-2010 school year. It is only March and we are nearing full capacity! Praise God for this wonderful news!

We are also happy to report our newest fundraiser Imagine It - Fundraising through Recycling! Don't throw away that printer cartridge, cell phone or any portable electronics. Please bring them to church and put them in the large recycle box in the Narthex. We receive money for every item recycled. You can also sign up your company! Imagine It makes it easy! Encourage family and friends to sign up their place of business. Imagine it will pick-up for free and New Day receives all the funding! Don't forget our other on-going fundraiser. Use www.goodsearch.com or www.goodshop.com as your browser, or when purchasing items online and the preschool will receive money! We thank you all for your support!

Powerhouse

The Powerhouse Winter Retreat was fantastic. For those who hadn't been there in three years it was the excitement of old memories. Some seniors were so psyched that they got it back for their final year with Powerhouse. This retreat is so powerful because it is literally that - a retreat. When you get up into the "boonies" as the customs officer said, "What would you want to do way out there?", and you have no cell phone usage, you have nothing to do but get to know each other and your God well.

This group of kids was hysterical. They kept everyone laughing all the time. Kids we thought were quiet are definitely not quiet now and there were a lot of new nicknames earned. Like "Sugar Shane" Pye, who know he was a sugar freak or that he could talk. He does and so does Kyle, a lot!

We had six Canadian kids join us up there and it was fun to see how they saw Powerhouse from their point of view. They'd be cheating in games or talking and Powerhouse kids would be shushing them because they knew if they didn't stop somebody was going to lose.

All the games and activities carried a message and the college youth leaders really stepped it up. Rob Rebstein designed an awesome John's Jeopardy on PowerPoint using questions from the Book of John. Ashley Eason ran a tight ship with the Disney Sceneit game and Peter Abee and Mike Richard set up a Capture the Flag game called "God and Generals" in the woods two miles from the retreat center. The weather was perfect for it all.

The theme of the weekend was "Collision". I think we all have a good visual of Lance taking his left hand and bringing it down to meet his right hand in a fist and saying, "When God's story meets your story, it's a beautiful collision."

But all were in anticipation for the last night of teachings. It is the consummation of all the teachings for the weekend and the Spirit was definitely there. It didn't matter what the message was about - teens started dealing with some hard issues and they were open and honest. If adults had this kind of honesty and humbleness before their God and brothers and sisters in Christ, we would see a revival in our day. Keep praying for these kids as they committed to some major life changes, and the weeks following have been admittedly difficult, but they are remaining faithful to staying in fellowship and asking for help.

The ride home was decidedly quieter. I think the bus driver even felt drowsy. Good thing we had a week off to recuperate. The winter retreat is not an event to be cancelled or missed again; it has always been and continues to be a time of seeing God move.



CHURCH CALENDAR (LOOKING AHEAD...)

March

- 20 Senior Luncheon at Old Country Buffet - 12:00 Noon
- 21 Debra Heberger-Christopher Wolff Wedding
2:00 pm
- 24 Choir Practice
7:00 pm
- 25 Opening of the Lenten Gallery
"Walking in the Steps of Jesus"
- 28 Men's Saturday Breakfast
8:00 am - Elmgrove Restaurant
Needlework Group Meeting
See bulletin for time
- 29 "Called to Serve Sunday" - Ministry Fair
Immediately following service - light lunch provided

April

- 4 Bible Quizzing at PRFMC
- 5 Palm Sunday
Worship at 10:30 am
- 7 Choir Practice
7:00 pm
- 8 Passover Celebration
7:00 pm
- 12 Easter Sunday
Easter Breakfast - 9:00 am
Followed by Easter Egg Hunt
Celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ - 10:30 am

Kettingers Leading Missions Team

Kirk and Michelle would appreciate your prayers as they prepare to lead a Missions team of Roberts students to Dublin, Ireland this May. Financial support is also needed to help with costs and to buy needed supplies to donate. Any support can be placed in the offering labeled "Ireland Missions Team".

FYI

Michelle Trost is offering private instrumental lessons in the Brockport and Greece areas, at a cost below the area's "going rate." Please contact her at joyfulnoise_bkpt@yahoo.com or 202-8475 if you are interested.

Church Webpage

Remember to check out the church webpage for upcoming announcements and resources to help you grow in faith and podcasts of Sunday's sermons: www.parkridgefmc.org

A Note From the Trustees

If you see something in the church building that needs to be fixed, please send an email to maintenance@parkridgefmc.org. If it is urgent, contact Mark Sakulich directly at 317-1766.

March/April Anniversaries and Birthdays - *If you see someone whose birthday or anniversary has already occurred, please wish them well.*

March Anniversaries

- 2 Dick and Joyce Gallagher
- 3 Jeff and Joanne Bocach
- 10 Michael and Carol Lynn Keiling
- 11 Jack and Margaret Juzwiak

March Birthdays

- 1 Chelsie Johnson
- 3 Janet Bratt, Michael Bratt
- 4 Doug Williams
- 5 Melanie Bratt
- 7 Liza Huff
- 9 Jeff McIntyre
- 10 Pastor Laverne Bates, Elliott Rodwell, Ashley Triolo
- 11 Jolene Bowser
- 14 Vinnie Triolo
- 18 Bret Matthews
- 19 Sharyn Johnson
- 19 Jack Juzwiak
- 23 Steve DeHollander, Ethel Williams
- 26 Sue Solt
- 29 Mary Jane Strong

April Anniversaries

- 1 Pastor Laverne and Lynn Bates
- 3 Floyd and Ethel Williams
- 15 JR and Liza Huff
- 29 Jeff and Jolene Bowser

April Birthdays

- 1 Jim Lunden
- 2 Jared Kaminski, Bethany Pulice
- 3 Luke Strong
- 6 Isaac Trost
- 7 Chris Abram
- 8 Sandy Rodwell, Karina Strong
- 9 Bert Buettner
- 12 Marlene Chapman, Crystal Hawley, Tammy Hoffman
- 16 Sally Luce
- 17 Gail Abbey, Larry Dearstyne, Don Henry
- 18 Olivia Buettner
- 21 Ed Randolph
- 24 Bob VanGraafeiland
- 26 Ashley Eason
- 27 Sally DeHollander
- 28 Laurie Buettner, Jared Kettinger
- 30 Meghan Kettinger, Reagan Mitchell, Nathan Sakulich