



The Beacon



WEST CHARLTON UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

882-9874

www.westcharltonupc.org

2010

Pastoral Reflection

Pentecost is an amazing and celebratory Sunday in worship and ministry. At Pentecost, we acknowledge the coming of the Holy Spirit, which transforms human life and all of creation. Through our participation in the Pentecost Offering, we send forth God's powerful, curative love to children at risk, youth, and young adults. This year's offering theme, "*Send forth your spirit!*" Psalm 104:30. The passage describes the glory of a creation that is filled with God's holy and life-giving Spirit. With assurance, we celebrate the abundance of our blessings and know that God's love and care for us know no bounds. What joy and comfort this gives us every day! With love and confidence we turn outward and share this with others!

The Pentecost Offering is a tangible way to demonstrate that Spirit within us! It gives us the opportunity to use **Forty percent** of the amount we receive to minister in our own community on behalf of children at risk. Through General Assembly ministries, the Pentecost Offering supports, guides, and nurtures the faith of Presbyterian young people, calls forth a new generation of church leadership, and advocates for children at risk on a national level.

The General Assembly programs are advocating for children and providing leadership development opportunities for our youth and young adults. Since 1998, Presbyterians of all ages have raised over \$7 million for these ministries that benefit younger members of God's family.

The other sixty percent of Pentecost Offering receipts are forwarded to General Assembly ministries for children at risk, youth, and young adults; and its split between:

Ten percent supports General Assembly Child Advocacy ministries to facilitate the denomination's ongoing emphasis, the Decade of the Child; develop an interactive Web site to connect congregations and groups who have committed to Presbyterians in Covenant with Children, a virtual covenant community; facilitate the work of the Human Trafficking Roundtable around child trafficking; make available a new DVD resource, *And How Are the Children?* to help churches develop skills in making a difference for children. In partnership with the Children's Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study, continue to develop Kids4Kids, a Web site to engage children in action on behalf of other children.

Twenty-five percent supports General Assembly ministries with youth to: develop and maintain the ww.d365.org Web site, this new online resource is a timely, theologically thoughtful, and diverse daily devotion written especially for youth; designed with engaging youth-friendly graphics and music, it is available to any young persons seeking to prayerfully consider their life and faith; support thousands of Presbyterian adult youth workers through the Presbyterian Youth Workers' Association; create "*Quick Sheets*" a youth ministry quick reference resource; addressing such issues as faith, friendship, looming adulthood, vocation, and Christian discipleship, this new resource is invaluable to parents, youth leaders, and young people.

In 2009, six "Pathways" events were created and Pentecost funding allowed youth ministries staff to recruit nationally known leaders, grant scholarships to youth and adult youth workers and create promotional materials and take-home resources for the hundreds of youth attending the seminars.

Launch the 2010 Presbyterian Youth Triennium Web site. The site allows churches and presbytery delegations to get information quickly, register youth for Triennium online, manage information, and pay in installments. All this in a paper-LESS manner!

Twenty-five percent supports Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) opportunities, which in 2010 will: prepare and help to pay travel and living expenses for Young Adult Volunteers (YAVs) in the United States and overseas. Offering funds are matched with funds that YAVs raise to allow them to participate in this year of mission involvement. These young adults serve in communities of need within the United States and abroad and explore their call to the work of Jesus Christ. This work provides a life-changing opportunity for young people to experience and share God in new and different ways.

Thank you for your support of the Pentecost Offering on May 25th. Your gifts will have an impact now and in the generations to come!

Pentecost Prayer: Almighty God, we your children pray: let your glory come down. Let the Fire fall on us gathered here as on that first Day of Pentecost. Revive our spirit and fill us with new excitement, with joy unspeakable and compassion for a dying world. Empower us to speak your Word; to utter your words of life using a variety of languages to bring the good news to the poor. Lord, let your fire fall once again on this church, on this community, on this country, and on all the families of the earth. In Jesus name and in the power of your Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

**Session Meeting Highlights
April 20, 2010**

- In Tom's absence, the Session meeting was called to order at 7PM with scripture and prayer by Rev. Marie King.
- March minutes were read and approved.
- Motion made and carried that Glenville Garden Club be allowed to use church dining room on November 15, 2010.
- Report of the Clerk read.
- Treasurer's report was reviewed and approved.
- New Choir robes were ordered and should arrive the end of June.
- Deacon's report was read and approved.
- Baptism approved for May 2, 2010.
- John King & Fred Lachtrupp attended the Presbytery meeting. The theme was Mission and there was a presentation on Ghana. John stated there is a lot of mission work that the Presbytery is involved in.
- Children's Sunday will be June 13th. The Church picnic will follow immediately after worship the same day.
- Discussion of Marie King teaching an adult education class in the fall immediately after worship on Sundays. It would involve watching a short video with a 30 minute discussion.
- Facilities group working out details of having a day time group of people helping with work around the church.
- Meeting closed with prayer at 8:10 PM.

Treasurer's Report		
Local Fund:		
Balance	3-1-10	-\$4,538.31
Receipts:	11,888.00	
Expenses:	10,537.20	
Balance 4-1-10		-\$3,187.51

MAY 2010

2ND - 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:00 AM - Choir Practice

9:30 AM - Adult Bible Study

10:30 AM - Worship Service, Sunday School & Child Care

5TH - 7:00 PM - Deacon's meet

6TH - National Day of Prayer

7TH - May Friendship Day

9TH - 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (MOTHER'S DAY)

9:00 AM - Choir Practice

9:30 AM - Adult Bible Study

10:30 AM - Worship Service, Sunday School & Child Care

11:30 AM - Fellowship Hour

11TH - 9:30 AM Louise Smith circle meets

13TH - 6:00 - 8:00 PM Work Night

16TH - 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:00 AM - Choir practice

9:30 AM - Adult Bible Study

10:30 AM - Worship Service with Sunday School & Child Care

FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY

18TH - 7:00 PM - Session meets

19TH - 7:00 PM - Helen Killough circle meets

23RD - PENTECOST SUNDAY - COMMUNION

9:00 AM - Choir practice

9:30 AM - Adult Bible Study

10:30 AM - Worship Service with Sunday School & Child Care

29TH - 2:00 PM - Maplewood Manor

30TH - TRINITY SUNDAY - COMMUNION

9:00 AM - Choir practice

9:30 AM - Adult Bible Study

10:30 AM - Worship Service with Sunday School & Child Care

May

Lay Worship Leaders

- 2 GERALYN De La Fleur
9 Holly McConchie
16 Bonnie Donnan
23 Chris Nelson
30 John M. King

Greeters: Monika Gonzales
Ute O'Brien

Ushers: Judy Knowlton
Mary Jane Armer
Marilyn Miller
Christine Nelson

Happy Birthday to all those who have a birthday in May including the following:

Bryan Pustalka, 3rd	Rebecca Wood, 22nd
Bill Morlock, 4th	Jonathan Wood, 22nd
Fern McConchie, 9th	Rev. Thomas Gregg, 24th
Michelle Michaels, 11th	Betty Denison, 27th
Michael Flinton, 14th	Stephen Thomas, 27th
Mark McConchie, 15th	Marian Clark, 29th
Brooke Quandt, 16th	Rachel Jones, 29th
George Weed, 16th	Lynn McConchie, 31st



If your birthday is not listed and you would like it to be, contact Marcie Page.

Would you like to be in the Pride Parade on Sunday, June 13, in Albany?

Each year, Presbyterian Rainbow sponsors a float and marchers from Albany Presbyterian churches to witness to our welcome to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender folks in our community. You do not need to be a GLBT person or family member to participate, but you do need to be able to walk for a half hour at a moderate pace. You will find it an uplifting and fun experience. People will cheer you and thank you for showing up, and there's a great festival in the park as well.

If you can get to First Presbyterian Church of Albany at State and Willett Streets across from Washington Park by 11:45 a.m. you can be in the parade. Come earlier at 9:30 a.m. and you can help decorate the float and then join the parade groups assembling in the park. You also are invited to worship at First Presbyterian Church in Albany services are at 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. If you are interested, please call or e-mail Judy Moyer (283-7663, moyer.Judith@gmail.com) or Margaret Zettle (439-1431, mrz56@verizon.net). They will be delighted to answer questions, provide more details, and help you to connect with the parade group.

BEACON

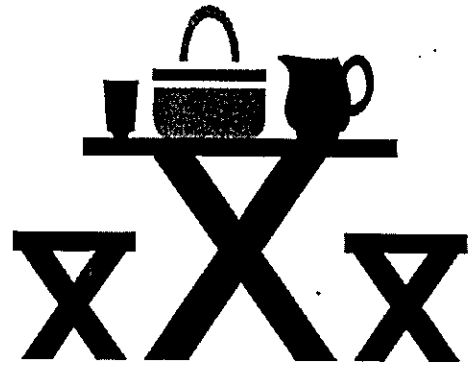
Just a Reminder... To give us time to put the *Beacon* together and to mail it out:

Please try to have articles for the *Beacon* submitted no later than the 15th of the previous month. Any article should be Emailed to Joan Wade at jwade005@nycap.rr.com or placed in the *Beacon* mailbox which is in Tom's office above the copier. If the door is not open, tape it to his door marked for the *Beacon*. If you are running late with an article, give Joan a call (882-5522) and if possible it will get in.

Chancel Flowers for May

- 2 Georgia and Lou Haller: In memory of their parents.
- 9 OPEN
- 16 OPEN
- 23 OPEN
- 30 Linda McConchie: In honor of her husband
- 31 Lynn McConchi's Birthday

Church Picnic Sunday, June 13
Details to follow



Flowers for the Chancel

If you are interested in giving flowers to be placed on the chancel on a Sunday during the year—please contact Sonja Greenhill at 882-9462. Sonja has a list of local florists that will deliver to the church. Please fill out the form and give it to Sonja or mail it to her. Please check with her to make sure no one else has chosen the Sunday you would like to give. The flowers can be taken by the person giving them, or they can be given to a person who is a shut-in or someone not feeling well.



Flowers for the Chancel

I _____
Would like to have flowers placed on the Chancel

On (Date) _____

Any special celebration or memorial for which you are providing these flowers:

Please cut out and give to Sonja.



Food Pantry

Items needed: Cereal, pancake mixes and syrup, soups, peanut butter and jelly, juices, cake mixes and frosting to bring to school, canned meat, side dishes, coffee, and personal care items.

Cut Out And Use As Your Shopping List.

