

Peckville and Bradley Memorial United Methodist Charge Easter 2009 News Letter

From The Pastors' Pen

Greetings,

My wish for you is a blessed Easter as we travel through the Lenten season. Do you know the real meaning of Easter? The meaning of Easter is Jesus Christ's victory over death. His resurrection symbolizes the eternal life that is granted to all who believe in Him. The meaning of Easter also symbolizes the complete truth of all that Jesus preached and taught during His three-year ministry. If He had not risen from the dead, if He had merely died and not been resurrected, He would have been considered just another teacher or Rabbi. However, His resurrection changed all that and gave final proof that He was really the Son of God and that He had conquered death once and for all.

Following the spirit of Easter, we are called the people of Easter or Halleluiah people. It simply means that we enjoy a spirit of happiness and of joy. Now we have to share this joy and happiness with our church life and community. All of us want our church to grow and more and more people to come and participate in the service. How will it happen? It will happen only by our welcoming attitude in the church. No one should feel unwelcome for the Sunday service. Everyone has a place in our community. Also we should welcome the families with little children. They should feel that they are loved and taken care of. Well I have just described the church families at both Bradley Memorial and Peckville United Methodist churches. Won't you come to church and let these families welcome you?
Let us be the family of Jesus Christ.
Blessings,
Pastor Sharon and Fred

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. ISAIAH 53:4-6

GRADUATES

If anyone knows of college or high school students who will be graduating in the spring, please let Pastor Sharon know. Thank You.

Scranton District Lay Academy

The lay Academy has announced that the spring Lay Academy will be held at the Hawley UMC . Friday April 24 – 6:00pm to 8:30 pm and Saturday April 25 and Saturday May 2 8:45am to 3:30pm.

For more information please see Pastor Sharon or Beth Taylor. Pamphlets are also available on table in back of both churches.

EASTER MEMORIALS

Peckville's Easter Memorials and honoriums should be in by Sunday April 5(Palm Sunday). Gifts and information should be given to the following people.

Memorial Fund – Bill Llewellyn

Organ & Renovation – George Kinback Jr.

Warring-Fendick Scholarship Fund – George Kinback Jr.

Music Fund – Bonny Taylor

(To insure your memorial or honoriums will be in the booklet please have them in by the 5th. This will be a great help for the secretary. Thank you.)

Bradley Memorial UMW News

Greetings from the Bradley UMW. Since our last newsletter, we have been extremely busy with projects and fund raisers, all to benefit our church. In October, we honored George Parker, and his father, Roland Parker by submitting their names to the District UMW in the booklet distributed at the Fall District meeting. We also conducted a candle sale, and held our first (of many) Welsh cookie bakes, both of which were very successful. Our projects within the church included the lighting of the cross (which had been dark way too long) and the painting of the basement walls, floor, and ceramic tiling of the bathroom floor. Security lights have been installed, both in back of the church, and on the side of the church to make our Parking lot safe

and secure. Electrical outlets have been installed to enable us to properly bake our Welsh cookies with no hassle. Our chairman of the Board, Norm Barrett, has been instrumental in implementing and following through with these major undertakings.

Our UMW has recently purchased new Pew Bibles for our Sanctuary. These Bibles were placed in the pews for our Christmas Eve services, and will be dedicated on Easter Sunday by members of our congregation in memory/honor of loved ones. We would like to announce that if anyone who previously dedicated the old Bibles (to loved ones) and would like to have theirs back, please contact the church by leaving a message, including your name and telephone number, and Joan Barrett will get back to you. The church number is:
489-5875.

Not all news is good, however. Unfortunately, we are in desperate need of a new roof. We have had water damage in the nursery when it gets extremely cold, and then thaws, thus creating the water damage. Our UMW organization was able to donate a substantial amount to the "roof fund" which is in the process of being established.

We wish to express our sympathies and condolences, to the family of Len Hoeffner, on his passing. We truly lost a special member of our church family. He will be missed!

We would like to thank each and every one of the congregation who have so graciously donated their time and efforts to our church. We pray that you will have a Blessed Lenten season and a Spiritual, and Glorious Easter. Nancy McLain, president, UMW

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE & BREAKFAST
Our sunrise service will be with our brothers and sisters of The First United Presbyterian Church of Lackawanna Valley, Main St. Peckville Pa at 6:30am. Breakfast will follow at the Peckville United Methodist Church. Please make

reservations with Bonny Taylor by Palm Sunday April 5.

TENEBRAE SERVICE AT PECKVILLE

The Tenebrae Service and Holy Communion will be Maundy Thursday April 9 at 7:30p.m. at the Peckville UMC.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE'S

The Good Friday Service will be held on Friday April 10 at 7:00p.m. at the Bradley Memorial UMC. There will also be services at the Blakely Baptist church from 12:00 noon until 3:00p.m.

Passion Week Concert

The Pocono Community Chorus of Churches will present their 30th Annual Passion Week Concert "Journey to the Cross"

Palm Sunday – 3:00pm Belvidere United Presbyterian Church 224 Mansfield St., Belvedere, New Jersey.

Tuesday, April 7 – 7:30pm Canadensis United Methodist Church Intersection of Routes 390 &447, Canadensis, Pa.

Wednesday, April 8 – 7:30pm Saint Paul Lutheran Church Fish Hill Road, Tannersville, Pa.

A Message from Peckville's Finance Chair

Spring is probably one of the most enjoyable times of the year. The trees and the bulbs in the ground are starting to show new life. The days are one hour longer with daylight savings time and it seems everyone is anxious to start cleaning the yards and around the house. Our church services will be moving upstairs to the sanctuary for the Palm Sunday Celebration and the rebirth of Christ will be celebrated on Easter. This is truly an exciting time of year.

Once again we will have a memorial bulletin on Easter for those wishing to honor or pay a tribute to those who have passed away. Easter Lilies, tulips, or other flowers will adorn the altar or memorials may be given for several funds. These are very important in the life of the church.

Please try to attend some or all the holy week services available and reflect on the true meaning of the Easter season: God's gift of Eternal Life. Respectfully yours, Bob Elvidge, Finance Chairman

EVENING OF MUSIC

The Peckville Choir will present their annual Evening of Music on Sunday evening April 26 at 7:00p.m.

*We must alter our lives in order to alter our hearts,
for it is
impossible to live one way and pray another --
William Law*

Renewal

I need to thank each and every one of you for your patience waiting for this newsletter. I have had a lot on my plate and have been putting too much pressure on myself in some areas of my life and not enough in other areas of my life. Because of this some things have suffered. This Lenten season has been a season of renewal for me. I have used the past few weeks of Lent to look at myself. I have spent time with our brothers and sisters throughout the valley at our weekly Lenten services, time in study and time in prayer talking things over with God. He has helped me put my priorities back in order and I am catching up on some things I have let go. This newsletter being one of them. Again I say thank you for your love and patience and wish each and every one of you a blessed Easter Holiday.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Bible study at PUMC every Tuesday at 7:00pm

Choir Rehearsal at Peckville every Thursday at 6:45pm.

4/5 – Palm Sunday (reservations for Easter Breakfast and all memorials in today)

4/9 – Holy Thursday service at Peckville UMC at 7:30pm

4/10 – Good Friday services Blakely Baptist 12:00 to 3:00 and Bradley Memorial at 7:00pm

4/12 – Easter Sunday service's – Sunrise service at 6:30 at Presbyterian Church (Breakfast following) at Peckville UMC, Bradley worship 9:00am and Peckville service at 11:00am

4/24-25 & 5/2 – Scranton lay Academy at Hawley UMC

4/26 – Peckville Choir Evening of Music at 7:00pm

***TO HERE GOD'S VOICE TURN DOWN THE
WORLD'S VOLUME.***

***AN EASTER PRAYER
O God of Easter,
God of resurrection power,
Bring heavenly life to our
Earthbound souls;***

***Thou, who did'st call Lazarus forth
From his tomb,
Call us forth from dead works, and let our hearts be
aglow
With immortal glory and power.
Call us out of the tomb of hollow profession,
Of cold creeds, and wordy ritual,
And let Thy life abundant permeate and
Saturate our stagnant souls.
Bring joy where there is heaviness of heart;
Bring peace where there is confusion;
Bring love where there is bitterness;
And may we henceforth live in
The glorious glow of The Life
Which that first Easter poured
Forth upon a world of darkness.
And may we always be mindful of the
Source of this life-giving power,
And come to Thee regularly to be fulfilled.
In the Savior's name. Amen.
Author Unknown***

Because the hospitals no longer call a pastor because it interferes with the patient's right to privacy, the pastor asks that the family of anyone in the hospital please call her. It will be the only way she will know. Thank You.

Pastor Sharon is in her home office Monday thru Thursday 10:00am to 1:00pm. The phone number is 489-0713. She can also be reached at home anytime at 282-0104.

You may reach the charge secretary (Beth Taylor) at 383-2119, edt1157@yahoo.com

The Peckville United Methodist Church is now on the World Wide Web at www.peckvilleumc.org with updates made weekly.

**The mission statement of the Peckville and Bradley Memorial Churches:
To Glorify God by sharing
The Gospel of Jesus Christ,
Nurturing disciples,
And reaching out to a world in need.**

