

*Welcome to
Mt. Hope Community Church!
Celebrating our life together in Christ*

THE LORD'S DAY -- February 24, 2008

***Those who are able are welcome to stand.**

THE PEOPLE GATHER

(Please sign and pass the Ritual of Friendship pad.)

Welcome/Recognition of Visitors/Special Events

Pastor Carmen Cox Harwell

Prelude

Aaron Wheeler, Organist

Bringing in the Light of Christ

Acolytes

Silent Meditation

“Jesus answered, It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’”

Luke 4:8b

****Call to Worship*** *(Psalm 150:1-2,6; Rev. 7:12)*

Elder Ashleigh Kuhn

L: *“Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty firmament!*

P: ***Praise God for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His surpassing greatness!***

L: *Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!*

All: ***Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen!”***

****Hymn of Praise***

“This Is My Father’s World”

No. 293

****Invocation***

Elder Kuhn

You gift us beyond what we deserve, O Lord! Your blessings and Your mercy are new every day. For the struggles we endured this past week, and for the joy that was

ours to share with others, we come ready to worship You with deep gratitude for who You are, and for who we are because of You. Speak Your words of life and love and forgiveness, and teach us how to speak those same words to those who have not heard of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus the Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen!

(You may be seated.)

TO CONFESS OUR SIN

Call to Confession (Ezekiel 18:30, 31b-32)

Elder Jack McGinn

“I will judge you. . . all of you according to your ways,” says the Lord God. ‘Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise, iniquity will be your ruin. Why will you die? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone,’ says the Lord God. ‘Turn, then, and live.’”

In silence, let us repent and turn from all of our transgressions. . .

Silent Prayer of Personal Confession

“For Your name’s sake, O Lord, pardon [our] guilt, for it is great,” but You are **“Our Father. . .”** (Psalm 25:11)

Elder McGinn

Kyrie

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

No. 316

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 103:8-12

Pastor Carmen

Children’s Chat

Elder Hamner Williams

(Children ages 4-Grade 2 exit to Children’s Worship.)

If this is your child’s first time, please accompany him or her.

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn of Preparation

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

No. 298

If you have a prayer request, fill out a blue card and pass it toward the center aisle.

New Testament

John 8:2-11 (Page 757)

Pastor Carmen

Sermon

“Just a Stone’s Throw Away”

Pastor Carmen

Worship kits are available in the Kids' Korner of the Narthex for children age pre-school through 6th grade. The kits are color-coded: pink is for pre-school and kindergarten; blue is for children in grades 1-3; and white is for children in grades 4-6. Please do not take the kits home, but feel welcome to take any papers with you, and return the kits to the Narthex following worship.

The “**Young Children in Worship**” story today is *Jesus and Bartimaeus*, led by Helene Mauser and assisted by Gretchen Hiller and Chris Dick.

Greeters: the Dawson family: Tim, Diana, Jonathan, and Katie
Liturgists: Elder Ashleigh Kuhn and Elder Jack McGinn
Flowers: are given by Beth Howard in loving memory of her father, Thomas B. Howard.

Mt. Hope Community Church, Presbyterian, USA
12106 Frankstown Road, Penn Hills, PA 15235 - 412.793.0227
email: mthope@mthope-church.org **website:** mthopechurch.org
Rev. Carmen Cox Harwell, Pastor
Mr. Aaron Wheeler, Minister of Music
Mrs. Cathy Mowery, Administrative Assistant

ANNOUNCEMENTS - 2.24.08

Thanks to the **Fellowship Committee** for providing the beverage and snacks for fellowship time today.

Beverage and snacks for fellowship time in the Narthex will be provided by the Trustees on Sunday, March 2.

The Flower Chart Notebook for 2008 is in the Narthex. The costs are: 1 arrangement - \$15.00; 2 arrangements - \$30.00. You may have the following options: buy one or two arrangements or two can share the flower arrangements. The following dates in March are open: 2nd, 9th, and 30th.

What is One Great Hour of Sharing? It started in 1949 when a lot of Christian leaders, seeing the devastations that World War II had left in the world, recognized a responsibility and an opportunity to witness to a loving God. Over the years, the offering's mission has grown from simply emergency relief and rebuilding after disasters to addressing many kinds of human suffering, from the sudden – like an earthquake or flood – to the chronic. Within the PC(USA), this evolution was accomplished by the addition of self-development of people, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. The Mission Team invites you today to join this great tradition of sharing your resources, so lives can be changed and the witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ will be a tangible witness. Please take a “FISH.” Use the insert to guide your giving. Return your “OVERFED FISH” on Palm Sunday.

Remember how beautiful our sanctuary looked last year as we celebrated our Risen Lord on Resurrection Sunday? We need your help to make the sanctuary look just as beautiful this year. If you are interested in **ordering spring flowers** for this display, see Marie Fowler in the Narthex immediately following the service. TODAY IS THE DEADLINE FOR ORDERING!

Lenten dinner and study led by Pastor Carmen, Wednesday, February 27, starting at 6:30 p.m.: the theme of this year's study is “*Evil and Sin – Is There a Difference?*” This week is a potluck dinner, hosted by the Trustees. A donation of \$1.00 is requested to defray the cost of paper products.

Attention: The youth will be selling two different kinds of homemade soup (by Emmett) – chicken pastina and beef barley. Please place your order by filling out a reservation card and placing it in the offering plate, indicating what kind and how many quarts. The cost is \$7.00/each. Orders will be ready for pickup on Sunday, March 2, after worship. Deadline for ordering is Wednesday, February 27. Thank you.

We will celebrate Holy Communion on Sunday, March 2, 2008.

Friday, March 7, 2008, is World Day of Prayer. It will be hosted by the Zion Lutheran Church in Penn Hills at 1:00 p.m. All are invited to attend.

Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday, March 8.

Plans are being made to hold a Flea Market on Saturday, March 29. We are also hoping to have a pancake breakfast at the same time. Watch for more information in the next few weeks. Please bring your items to the church, as we have an area set aside for this purpose. If you need to have your items picked up, please call Doris Kuhn at 412.795.2149.

The date of the 2008 Mt. Hope Desert Classic is Monday, June 16. Once again we will be playing at Alcoma Golf Club on Saltsburg Road in Penn Hills. Mark your calendar and look forward to more information coming soon. Our goal this year is to have 80 golfers participating in this event to support Mt. Hope and the youth.

The annual Mt. Hope Pirates Game will be Thursday, August 14. This is sky-blast night! We have purchased 60 tickets in Section 331 for this event. The ticket cost is \$9.00/each. A tailgate will be planned; details and cost will be given later. If you are interested, see Eric Schramm to reserve your tickets with payment.

All bulletin information must be in the office by Wednesday at 4:30 p.m.

We are now recording the church service to CD. If you want a copy of the service, please contact the office. The cost is \$1.50.

If you know of any persons who are in the hospital, a nursing home, or shut-in,

kindly call the church office and let us know.

There is a basket in the Narthex to collect toiletry items (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, toothbrushes, razors, shaving cream, etc.) for the **Men and Women Shelters**.

We continue to collect food for the **Penn Hills Service Association**. They need **hardy meals**. Please bring pasta, cereals, pb&j, and canned meats or fish. Thank you very much, the Mission Team.

In order to keep disturbances at a minimum during the worship service, **if you must leave**, please use the rear door exit.

CELL PHONE FUNDRAISER – Don't throw away that old cell phone. There's a box in the Narthex where you may place that old phone. When the box is full, we will send them in for cash that will be used to help the **Youth Programs**.

One of our own is serving in Iraq and would appreciate hearing from his Mt. Hope family: Cpl. Gary J. Bolbat, Jr., HMH 461, Det. A, MTAD, Unit 77001, FPO, AE 09503-7001.

Attention young people between the ages of 18-31 with a high school diploma: the Federal Aviation Association is taking applications for Air Traffic Controller School. Please check out the website for more information: [www.faa.gov/jobs/job_opportunities/air traffic controllers/](http://www.faa.gov/jobs/job_opportunities/air_traffic_controllers/).

The **Mt. Hope church directory** has been updated, and copies are in the **Narthex** for pickup.

Are you interested in joining Mt. Hope Church, or would you just like to know what a Presbyterian really is (what do we believe, how do we govern ourselves)? Then please call the office and let us know! The Session will offer a **New Members Class** for those who are interested! Thank you.

Parents, has your child(ren) gone through **Confirmation Class** at Mt. Hope? If not, please call the office and let us know. The Session will offer a Confirmation Class for those who are interested! Thank you.

Thirty-Hour Famine - On Saturday, February 9, and Sunday, February 10, 16 youth of Mt. Hope Community Church participated in the **World Vision - 30-Hour Famine**. On Saturday, February 9, from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., the youth performed house work for a few church members as requested.

The youth want to thank Mt. Hope Community Church for allowing us to hold this fundraiser in the church; and to thank all of the members of the congregation for their prayers and financial support of our efforts. **Thanks to you** and your sponsorship of the youth, assorted chores, volunteering to share your time with us on Saturday, and participation in the Spaghetti Dinner, we were able to raise \$2,000.00 for **World Vision – 30-Hour Famine**.

Participating youth were Kelsie Nury, Alexandra Newby, Shannon Dillman, Nicole Geibel, Helene Mauser, Christopher Dick, Alaina Napolitana, Colin Newby, Gretchen Hiller, RJ Geibel, Corey Williams, and Nick Nury.

We thank you so much for your support! The Mt. Hope Youth

And when the night is cloudy, there is still a light that shines on me. Shine until tomorrow. Let it be!!

If you want to make an **appointment with the Pastor**, you may do so by calling the church office with the day and time according to the following schedule:

Tuesdays between 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Wednesdays between 12:00 noon-2:00 p.m.

HOSPITAL

Margie Baur.....Seneca Place, 5360 Saltsburg Rd., Verona 15147
Cecelia Bossert.....Rouse Home, Room 412, 701 Rouse Ave., Youngsville 16371
Hilda Kerr..... “ “ “
Dottie Knight.....recuperating at home: 613 Idaho Dr., Verona 15147
Melba Seaman.....recuperating at home: 234 Crestview Road, Pgh. 15235
Betty Sundin.....recuperating at home: 409 Lavender Heights Ct., Pgh. 15235

THIS WEEK AT MT. HOPE

Today - 6:00 p.m.....Youth Group – Youth Room
Tues., Feb. 26 - 5:00 p.m.....Logos – *Jesus Washes His Disciples’ Feet*
7:00 p.m.....Adult Youth Leadership Meeting
Youth Room
Wed., Feb. 27 - 11:00 a.m.....Stroke Survivor Group – Conf. Room
6:30 p.m.....Ash Wed. Dinner & Service
8:00 p.m.....Narcotics Anonymous - JKH
Thurs., Feb. 28 - 7:00 p.m.....Chancel Choir
Sat., March 1 - 2:00 p.m.....Gamblers’ Anonymous – JKH

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, March 2 9:30 a.m. - Deacons’ Meeting
after worship - soup pickup
6:00 p.m. - Youth Group
Tuesday, March 4 5:00 p.m. - Logos
7:00 p.m. - Adult Leadership Meeting
Wednesday, March 5:
11:00 a.m. - Stroke Survivor Group
6:30 p.m. - Lenten Dinner & Study
8:00 p.m. - Narcotics Anonymous
Thursday, March 6 7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir
Friday, March 7 1:00 p.m. - World Day of Prayer
Saturday, March 8 2:00 p.m. - Gamblers Anonymous