

March 3, 2009

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*The Newsletter of
Ark and Dove
Presbyterian Church
www.arkanddove.org
410 674-6400*

From the Pastor...

Dear Friends,

At our recent meeting of Session, we encouraged the Mission Ministry of our church to move forward with plans to host the winter Relief Homeless Shelter in our building next year. We realize that this will take much planning and discussion and training and thought; but our recent experiences spoke to our collective hearts and we feel like we should take this next step in mission. I see a trend here. We are a covenant church with Habitat for Humanity. We have served meals at Sarah's House Homeless Shelter for years and now we will plan for hosting Winter Relief. Homelessness and decent housing have been our collective radar screens for quite some time. For a church that has in the last 13 to 17 years, built a home and expanded it twice this makes perfect sense. Thank you for supporting mission at Ark and Dove.

I am looking forward to the Thursday Shack discussion group. Small groups give you a chance to talk – sermons don't. We also get to create and deepen relationships with other disciples in our church. This year I think we have great material in The Shack from which to launch our talks. I hope you can be in one of the many groups we are offering.

I enjoy Taize worship. I enjoy the music, the prayer, the atmosphere and the chance to sit silently in our sanctuary to meditate and pray with other folks from Ark and Dove and the community. It's a third way worship in that it is so very different from 9:30 semi traditional and 11:00 semi contemporary. Wednesdays at 7:45 for five weeks starting tomorrow.

Good Friday is a problem. Oh yes it is a problem because on Good Friday Jesus was tortured and killed. We call that the Passion. But Good Friday is a church challenge. Years of church participation and leadership have taught me that most people want to skip Good Friday and Good Friday services. I agree that there is nothing particularly joyful about Good Friday, but my point is this Christ is crucified every day on our globe. To skip Good Friday is to ignore reality. To skip Good Friday is to say – nothing bad is happening in my world. Call it an Ostrich faith. To skip Good Friday is to gyp the alleluias of Easter.

For several years we had an ongoing row about Good Friday on staff. I would say that we even raised our voices every once in a while – mostly in the fun of teasing out a decent discussion. The row was about the relation of Palm Sunday to Good Friday. One position argued that if we read the passion on Palm Sunday people will figure what the heck – I heard the story – I am skipping Good Friday service. The other position stated that if we say that we are intentionally not reading the passion on Palm Sunday and tell people they need to hear the Good Friday story, then surely they will come on Good Friday.

Well last year we had only Palms on Palm Sunday – no Passion. And we were very intentional about inviting people to Good Friday. And we told them no Passion on Palm Sunday. And well we did have 90 people at Good Friday service - that was ten more than 2007. On the other hand worship attendance was up 7 people at every service in the church on average; so 10 more than 2007 was nothing to raise a chant about.

And so the row continues. What should we do about Palm Sunday? Should we read the Passion to the 220 to 240 people that attend? Or should we just experience the Passion on Good Friday with 89 other people? Join the row – send me an e-mail or speak to Spencer Keyes our Worship Ministry elder chairperson. For some stubborn people – this issue will not be settled until we have 220 people in church on Good Friday.

And in case you are interested, Good Friday is April 6.

From the Mailbox



Dear Friends,

Thank you all so much for participating in the Arundel House of Hope's Winter Relief homeless shelter at Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer. Our congregation is dedicated to this ministry and we welcome the chance to share it with you. Whether you staffed, transported or brought food to church, your efforts are truly appreciated. If we can be of any help as you contemplate and pray about becoming a part of Winter Relief, please feel free to contact us. Again, thank you for your help.

Marsha Urban, site coordinator



A Sound Faith

Notes from our Music Directors

Curious about the Choir? Have you always wanted to be a part of a Choir, but are afraid of the time commitment? Here's your chance!! Ark and Dove is now presenting "**Choir for the Curious**"! Come join the choir for a Thursday evening rehearsal at 7:00pm and sing with the choir during the following 9:30am Sunday service. If you love to sing, come try it out- end your curiosity!

- Rebecca

Discover and Connect Team

The Discover & Connect Team is hosting a Wine and Cheese Get-Together at Linnie Girdner's home on Saturday, March 7th from 7 – 9 p.m. The theme is **Brainstorming Beyond Gift Inventories – How to Integrate Gifts and Call into Our Church Culture**. Anyone who is interested can come. Please RSVP by calling Linnie at 410-672-5050 or e-mail her at Lkgirdner@comcast.net.

We are thankful that many of you recently picked up gift inventories and hope to see the completed sheets turned into Linda Girnder's mailbox at church.

Christian Education Ministry

Nursery News

We are pleased to introduce **Ginger Melchor** to the Ark and Dove staff!

Ginger is our new nursery care provider and is also a student at AACC in the elementary education program. Please take a moment to welcome Ginger to Ark and Dove!

Parents are reminded to please sign your child in when you bring them to the nursery. It is important that we have all of the information filled out on the sign in sheet so the nursery staff can attend to the needs of your child. We appreciate your cooperation with this!

Spaghetti Dinner/Silent Auction Fund Raiser

On Saturday, March 28th, the Senior High Youth are presenting a Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction as a fundraiser for the LOGOS Conference and the Mission Trip. Tickets are \$5 for kids 12 and under, and \$10 for adults (2 and under free). Tickets will be on sale on Sunday after each service. There will be two seatings, at 5:30 and 7:00. The Silent Auction will start on Sunday the 22nd and continue the night of the Spaghetti Dinner and finish on Sunday the 29th. Hope to see you there!



Silent Auction Items include: hand made jewelry, gift certificates to local businesses, and various services offered by the youth. For more

Facilities Ministry

I am excited for this opportunity to serve you as the new Facilities Elder. I am currently compiling ideas and taking suggestions for things we can do together to allow our facilities to better serve our congregation. If you have any ideas, feel free to share.

I find it very exciting that there are so many activities going on at Ark and Dove this spring. In fact, there is so much going on, that our Spring Clean up will be a bit later than usual. We are scheduled to have our **Spring Clean up day on Saturday APRIL 25**. Put it on your calendar now!

I hope that you will consider joining us-- there will be plenty to do. Feel free to email me with any suggestions or questions at rubarb72@verizon.net. I look forward to the things we can accomplish in the coming year!

- Rob Yeager

Prayer Concerns **Please keep the following people in your prayers this week:** Kirsten Seidler and her parents as they continue to test for heart problems; Arlene Gere; The family and friends of Mike McGraw who died this last week; Pat Stanton's mother, 3 friends of Ronnie Marchand who are dealing with breast cancer issues; Alicia and Dan; Johanna Kreyenbuhl who is in the last stages of cancer; Roy Wellington; Ron Fudge's mother in the hospital after surgery; St. Paul Lutheran and Pasadena United Methodist Church will host the Winter Relief homeless shelter this week. Please pray for the volunteers and the homeless men and women for whom they will provide safety and shelter.

**Interim Interludes --
Lenten Taize Services Begin This
Wednesday – though April 1**

**7:45-8:15 PM TAIZE - SUNG PRAYER, SCRIPTURE,
SILENT REFLECTION IN CANDLELIGHT
This Year's Theme - GOD'S PROMISES**

The Lenten Sunday Old Testament Readings will be highlighted in this year's Taize Services. These readings remind us that our lives are based on the covenants (promises) we make with God and with others. We make commitments to our families and our friends saying we will be there for each other when needed. We make a promise to our spouse that we will love and cherish one another in all faithfulness. We make promises to God, to worship together, to love and share resources with others, to live faithful lives. We make promises with our family to care for one another as we build strong and close relationships.

Each Wednesday we will reflect on what it means for our lives in 2009 that the promises we make each day came from the early Covenantal Promises God made with us, God's people. On March 4th The Covenant God Made With Noah will be the worship theme planned by the team of Erica Kreyenbuhl, Eliza Foster, Tricia Franklin with music team Becca Debus and Pastor Corinne.

On March 11th The Covenant God Made With Abraham and Sarah will be the worship theme planned by the team of Kati Gaurin, Allison and Matt Ellis, and music team of Lauren Ivanac and Pastor Corinne. The Media Team for both services is Joe Gray and Debby Cowell.

Invite a Friend or Neighbor to Join You

**William P. Young's "THE SHACK"
is the book chosen for the 2009
Lenten All-Congregational Book
Discussion and Sermon Series**

**Last Call to sign-up for a discussion group!
Groups have just begun to meet for the 5 weeks
of Lent – call the office or sign-up!**

Pastor Tim's Sermons began March 1st, with "THE GREAT SADNESS", Mack's journey into his wilderness as we remembered Jesus' Journey into his wilderness where he was ministered to by the angels. (Check it out on the web if you missed it!)

Join us by reading the novel with us, through Pastor Tim's Sermons or by joining a discussion group. We will examine our own lives through the lens of Jesus' journey to the cross and of Mack's journey as he questions his relationship with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Mack's courage & faith enable him to grapple with guilt, forgiveness, acceptance, and love – which we can identify with in our own lives.

The Ark and Dove Community has a unique opportunity once a year during Lent to celebrate our oneness in Christ. We do this together as we experience group discussions on a book (this year, *THE SHACK*,) Sunday worship/sermon themes, Wednesday Taize Services and Holy Week services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday culminating in the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus on Easter!

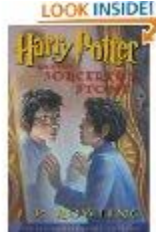
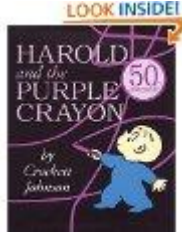
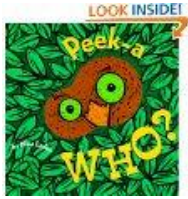
May this Lent enable you to approach Christ more openly as you develop a deeper relationship with Him!

In Christ's love, Corinne

Mission Ministry



Book Collection - Ark and Dove will be collecting new and gently used books for children and youth for the Hau Kola youth summer camps in South Dakota through March. See the box in the church lobby for more info. The books may be the only ones these children own. Lets send them some great ones!



Annual Youth Mission Trip, June 14-20

Project: Salem County, NJ, Habitat for Humanity (approx 100 miles away by carpool)

Accommodations: Likely the same church as last year

Showers: In a community center near the work site (and better than last year)

Age Requirement: 14 and above

Cost: Approximately \$225 (to be offset by participation in team-building fundraisers)

For information/registration contact any of the adult advisors:

Bill Gaurin, Team Leader
Anne-Marie Rosenthal, Team Leader
Pastor Tim Stern
Ed Barrett
Ambyr Acton

Spring Forward
Daylight Savings Time
Begins March 8
The Sunday!

Ark and Dove
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Deacons Deeds

Deacons are called to serve as an extension of the Pastoral Care in the church. Their defined role, as set forth in Scripture, is one of sympathy, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ. At Ark & Dove, our Deacons maintain a strong connection to all members & friends of the congregation through the following activities:

- Prayer Partners (a dedicated group who pray for concerns shared)
- Prayer Requests and Praises during worship
- Delivery of meals to members in need
- Provide the Gift of a Bible to children newly Baptized
- Contact and visitation to members in need
- Maintain contact with less active members
- Welcome new members to the congregation
- Coordinate transportation to those in need

The Deacons want to be sure to include all of the college students in our ministry, so we're looking for some help from you! If you have a student in college (whether living at home or living away) please let us know. We would like the following information so that we can let them know that our congregation is thinking of & praying for them:

Your student's name *His/Her email address*
His/Her college address *His/Her phone number*

Any special treats they love

Please email (kellyb327@aol.com) or call (410-544-5779) Kelly Burnett with this information at your earliest convenience.

Deacon Contact List

Kelly Burnett	410-544-5779 Kellyb327@aol.com	Moderator of the Deacons, Prayer Partners, & All Saints list	
Vania Lauer	410-451-6691 rlauer@aol.com	A - B	Care Contacts
Judy Quigley	443-975-7245 jquigley@umd.edu	C - E	Meals Coordinator
Scott Howe	410-674-6035 Scottspe1@comcast.net	F - G	Secretary
Wes Gordon	410-551-4405 Wgordon_88@yahoo.com	H - K	New Member Liaison
Cathy Debus	410-451-4489 smcw@debus.name	L - O	Communications
Martha Anderson	410-305-0877 donmartha@aol.com	P - S	Memorial/Life Services Coordinator
Sarah Salkeld	410-729-0129 sarahjsalkeld@yahoo.com	T - Z	Baptism Coordinator

Discipleship Ministry

Do You Think We Need a New Ark and Dove Picture Directory?

All you need to do is take a look at the old directory and see our current teenagers as elementary school kids to know that it's time for an update. It's been several years since Ark and Dove published a picture directory in conjunction with Olan Mills. While many of us might like our younger faces, it would be great to have a new directory with photos of all our members and friends, new staff and information on our ministries and programs. To publish a new directory we need a team of 4-5 people to work on this project. Is this something you'd like to work on? If so, please contact Donna Anderson at 410-674-7742 or joshdonna@aol.com.

Fellowship Folks to Meet for Coffee and Dessert

Have you worked on fellowship events at Ark and Dove in the past--the picnic, craft fair, pot luck dinners? Would you like to help brainstorm and plan our fellowship events for the year? Louise Sharrocks and the Fellowship Events team is hosting a coffee and dessert at the home of Donna Anderson (486 St. Barbara Lane, Gambrells) on Sunday, March 22 from 6:30-8 pm. Come and have fun and share your ideas for fellowship for Ark and Dove. Please RSVP to Louise or Donna so we can have enough goodies for everyone.

