

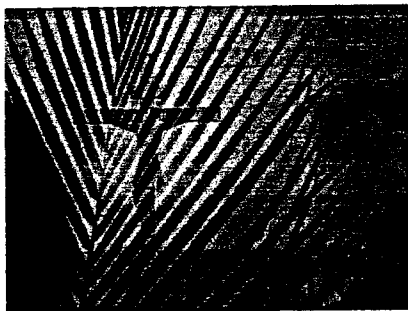
SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

SPRING OF 2011

www.eastguilfordpc.org

www.unadillapresbyterian.org

PASTOR'S CORNER



FEBRUARY 2011

DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST,

THOUGH IT'S STILL COLD OUTSIDE, AND WE STILL HAVE OUR FAIR SHARE OF SNOW ON THE GROUND, IT'S CLEAR THAT SPRING IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER. A TIME OF RENEWAL AND GROWTH FOR GOD'S CREATION, WE TURN OUR ENERGIES AND OUR SPIRITUAL REFLECTION TO LENT, WHICH STARTS ON MARCH 9TH, OUR ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES MARKING THE BEGINNING OF THIS MOST HOLY TIME OF YEAR.

DURING ADVENT, WE STARTED ASKING QUESTIONS ABOUT THE NEXT STEPS GOD MIGHT BE LEADING US TO, AND AS YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED FROM THE BULLETIN INSERTS,

BOTH SESSIONS HAVE STARTED ANSWERING THE QUESTION, "WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?"

AT EAST GUILFORD, THE MEN'S BREAKFAST AND BIBLE STUDY GROUP IS HOSTING A DINNER TO RAISE MONEY FOR JAARS (JUNGLE AVIATION AND RADIO SERVICE). JAARS IS A GROUP THAT WORKS IN CONCERT WITH THE WYCLIFF BIBLE TRANSLATION GROUP TO TRANSLATE SCRIPTURE INTO ALL LANGUAGES AND DIALECTS SO THAT EVERYONE IN THE WORLD MIGHT HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO READ GOD'S HOLY WORD IN THEIR OWN LANGUAGE. MARTIN LUTHER AND JOHN CALVIN WOULD HAVE APPLAUDED THIS EFFORT, BOTH ESPOUSING THE BELIEF THAT WORSHIP AND THE BIBLE SHOULD BE IN THE LANGUAGE OF THE PEOPLE HEARING THEM, SO THAT THEY TOO COULD TAKE GOD'S TEACHINGS INTO THEMSELVES, BUILDING UP THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOD AND EACH MEMBER OF THE CHURCH. WHILE DISTRIBUTING THE PRINTED BIBLES, JAARS ALSO TRANSPORTS MUCH NEEDED MEDICINE AND FOOD TO THE REMOTEST AREAS OF THE GLOBE IN AN EFFORT TO DEMONSTRATE CHRISTIAN VALUES AS WELL AS PREACH THE GOSPEL.

AT THE SAME TIME, BOTH SESSIONS HAVE STARTED COMPILING A "WISH LIST" OF LOCAL AND GLOBAL OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES THAT MIGHT SHED SOME LIGHT ON HOW WE ARE DISCERNING GOD'S CALL TO US. AMONG THE SUGGESTIONS ARE: FOOD PROGRAMS FOR THOSE IN NEED LOCALLY, "HOSPITALITY MISSIONS" TO SENIOR CITIZENS IN THE AREA, AND AFTER-SCHOOL AND WEEKEND PROGRAMS FOR LOCAL SCHOOL CHILDREN WHO MAY BE HOMELESS, ALONE WHEN BOTH PARENTS ARE WORKING, OR IN DANGER OF BECOMING (OR ALREADY ARE) ADDICTED TO DRUGS AND/OR ALCOHOL. AMONG THE SUGGESTIONS FOR GLOBAL OUTREACH ARE JAARS MISSION TRIPS AND THE HEIFER INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM. IN SUGGESTING THESE POTENTIAL OUTREACH PROGRAMS, BOTH CHURCHES ARE LOOKING TO "FILL GAPS" IN THE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE LOCALLY FROM FEDERAL, STATE, AND/OR OTHER CHURCH EFFORTS. ANY AND ALL OF THESE IDEAS WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIAL JUSTICE AND PEACE IN OUR AREA, AND IN THE WORLD.

AS I MENTIONED TWO YEARS AGO, WHEN WE FIRST STARTED HAVING ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES, THE HEBREW AND GREEK BIBLES DO NOT NECESSARILY SUPPORT THE IDEA THAT LENT SHOULD BE A TIME OF GUILT RIDDEN SELF-DENIAL. RATHER, THE HEBREW "SHUV" AND THE GREEK "ME-TAH-NO-EH-O" (BOTH USUALLY TRANSLATED AS "REPENT") INDICATE A DECISION TO CRITICALLY EVALUATE ONE'S ACTIONS, AND EITHER TURN AWAY (HEBREW) OR CHANGE ONE'S MIND (GREEK), AND GO IN A DIFFERENT DIRECTION; A DIRECTION THAT LEADS BACK TO GOD'S TORAH.

FROM THE PAGES OF SCRIPTURE, JESUS REMINDS US THAT THERE IS ALWAYS MERCY AND FORGIVENESS WITH GOD. NO MATTER WHERE WE ARE, NO MATTER HOW FAR WE HAVE STRAYED, NO MATTER WHAT OUR FEARS OR APPREHENSIONS, THE GOOD SHEPHERD COMES LOOKING FOR US, FINDS US, AND BRINGS US JOYFULLY HOME. THIS LENTEN SEASON, PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL ECUMENICAL LENTEN PROGRAM AS WE REFLECT ON THE CALL TO US ALL TO CHANGE OUR DIRECTION, AND MOVE CLOSER TO OUR FELLOW BROTHERS AND SISTERS, AS WELL AS OUR LORD AND SAVIOR, JESUS THE CHRIST!

MUCH LOVE IN JESUS' NAME,
PATTY



Adult Christian Education

Tuesday Men's Breakfast and Bible Study @ 6:30 A.M. at East Guilford (For the men of both parishes)

- Tuesday, February 22, 2011
Proverbs 24:30-34 and 1 Kings 3
- Tuesday, March 1, 2011
Proverbs 25:1-3 and 1 Kings 4
- Tuesday, March 8, 2011
Proverbs 25:4-5 and 1 Kings 5
- Tuesday, March 15, 2011
Proverbs 25:6-8 and 1 Kings 6
- Tuesday, March 22, 2011
Proverbs 25:9-10 and 1 Kings 7
- Tuesday, March 29, 2011
Proverbs 25:11-12 and 1 Kings 8
- Tuesday, April 5, 2011
Proverbs 25:13-14 and 1 Kings 9
- Tuesday, April 12, 2011
Proverbs 25:15 and 1 Kings 10
- Tuesday, April 19, 2011
Proverbs 25:16 and 1 Kings 11
- Tuesday, April 26, 2011
Proverbs 25:17 and 1 Kings 12
- Tuesday, May 3, 2011
Proverbs 25:18 and 1 Kings 13
- Tuesday, May 10, 2011
Proverbs 25:19 and 1 Kings 14
- Tuesday, May 17, 2011
Proverbs 25:20 and 1 Kings 15
- Tuesday, May 24, 2011
Proverbs 25:21-22 and 1 Kings 16
- Tuesday, May 31, 2011
Proverbs 25:23 and 1 Kings 17
- Tuesday, June 7, 2011
Proverbs 25:24 and 1 Kings 18

JOIN US FOR THE BEST BREAKFAST IN TOWN ON A TUESDAY MORNING!



Harmony Circle –
Presbyterian Women
of Unadilla
@ 1:00 P.M.
First Tuesday of the
Month

Tuesday, March 1, 2011 @ 1:00 PM @ the Agnes Hoffman's home

Tuesday, April 5, 2011 @ 1:00 PM Location: TBD

Tuesday, May 3, 2011 @ 1:00 PM Location: TBD

Wednesday, June 8, 2011 @ 1:00 PM
Location: TBD

Unadilla Provides COM Dinner on Tuesday
June, 7, 2011

Bible Study: The Book of Revelation *from*
Horizons

**Presbyterian Women of
East Guilford @ 10:00 A.M.
First Thursday of the Month**

Thursday, March 3, 2011 @ 10:00 AM @
the Manse

Thursday, April 7, 2011 @ 10:00 AM @ the
Church

Thursday, May 5, 2011 @ 10:00 AM @ the
Church

COM Dinner Preparation on Tuesday, 5/3/11

Bible Study: The Book of Revelation *from*
Horizons

Ecumenical Lenten Program

The Hymnody of Lent

The Theology Expressed In Our Lenten and Easter Hymns

Mid-Week Program Beginning on Wednesday, 3/16/11

6:00 PM – Covered Dish 7:00 PM Service/Program

Wednesday, March 16, 2011 @ **Unadilla United Methodist Church**

Hosted by Sidney Center United Methodist

Hymn: Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing

Thursday, March 24, 2011 @ **East Guilford United Presbyterian Church**

Hymn: My Song Is Love Unknown

Thursday, March 31, 2011 @ **St. Matthew's Episcopal Church**

Hymn: O, For A Thousand Tongues To Sing

Thursday, April 7, 2011 @ **Unadilla United Methodist Church**

Hymn: My Life Flows On (How Can I Keep from Singing)

Thursday, April 14, 2011 @ **First Presbyterian Church of Unadilla**

Hymn: Ain't-A That Good News and Other Spirituals

Tuesday, April 19, 2011 @ **St. Matthew's Episcopal Church**

Hymn: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Be Kind to Others

Session Information

Please watch the inserts for meeting locations!

Spring Session Meetings - East Guilford

Monday, March 14, 2011 @ 7:00 PM
@ the Manse

Monday, April 11, 2011 @ 7:00 PM
@ the Church

Monday, May 9, 2011 @ 7:00 PM @
the Church

Monday, June 13, 2011 @ 7:00 PM
@ the Church

Spring Session Meetings – Unadilla

Tuesday, March 15, 2011 @ 7:00 PM
@ the Manse

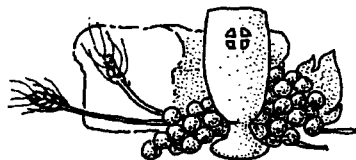
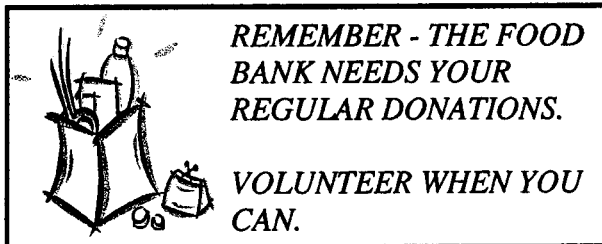
Tuesday, April 12, 2011 @ 7:00 PM
@ the Church

Tuesday, May 10, 2011 @ 7:00 PM
@ the Church

Tuesday, June 14, 2011 @ 7:00 PM
@ the Church

Fall Personnel Committee Meetings

None Planned



2011 Communion & Home Communion Schedule

East Guilford (1st Sunday of the Month)

Sunday, March 6th

Sunday, April 3rd

Sunday, May 1st

Sunday, June 5th

Unadilla (3rd Sunday of the Month)

Sunday, March 20th

Sunday, April 17th

Sunday, May 15th

Sunday, June 19th

Special Services

Ash Wednesday Services w/ The Imposition of Ashes

Unadilla

Wednesday, March 9, 2011 @ 7:00 AM

East Guilford

Wednesday, March 9, 2011 @ 7:00 PM

Time Change Sunday

Sunday, March 13, 2011

Joint Worship @ Unadilla @ 11:00 AM

Palm Sunday Services

East Guilford

Sunday, April 17, 2011 @ 9:00 AM

Unadilla

Sunday, April 17, 2011 @ 11:00 AM

Holy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 21, 2011

Joint Worship @ Unadilla @ 7:00 PM

Ecumenical Good Friday Service

Friday, April 22, 2011

Sidney Center United Methodist Church @ Noon

Presbytery Gatherings & Events

(www.susvalpresby.org)

Spring Gathering

Saturday, March 5, 2011

Location: Nineveh Presbyterian Church

8:30 AM – Registration

8:45 AM – Walk Through the Docket

9:00 AM – Call to Order

Summer Gathering

Tuesday, June 14, 2011

Location: Dryden Presbyterian Church

4:00 PM – Registration

4:15 PM – Walk Through the Docket

4:30 PM – Call to Order

Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery - Spring Gathering

(www.susvalpresby.org)

Spring Gathering

Saturday, April 9, 2011

At First Presbyterian Church of Unadilla

9:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Ending Poverty: A Workshop on

“The End of Poverty:

Economic Possibilities For Our Times”

by Jeffrey D. Sachs



Browse the East Guilford Church Library List:

By the time you receive this, the East Guilford Church website, www.eastguilfordpc.org/, will contain a link to the book list for our new church library. Browse our titles at home, and come to church ready to select a new book to read. And once you have read the book, share some inspiration with others!

Meshach's Facts



Dear Fellow Camel Lovers,

Hello! And Happy Spring! I bet you don't know where the Christian tradition of imposing ashes came from! Well, I intend to tell you!

As it turns out, the imposition of ashes is a very ancient sign of repentance. In early Israelite culture, ashes were often placed on the body or clothing as a sign of purification. (Numbers 19:9) This means that the Jews probably used ashes as a sign they were sorry for their sins as early as the Exodus (approx. 1350 BCE), and perhaps even earlier. In the book of Job (2:8), Job “sat among the ashes” after he was afflicted with sores and lost all of his wealth and family, as a sign that he was sorry for his sins – even though he didn't know what they were. The book of Leviticus provides atonement for unknown sins, as well as for those known and intended, so it would make sense that Job, seeing his own misfortune, would assume he had sinned against God, albeit unwittingly.

While the early church continued to use ashes as a sign of penitence, the formal rite of making the sign of the cross on the forehead of a person on Ash Wednesday did not start until about 1100 AD (CE). In the ritual, each person receives the ashes to remind him or her that we were formed, by God, from the dust of the earth (Genesis 3:19), and that one day, our bodies will return to that dust, while our souls go home to be with God.



Winter - before the rebirth of Easter –
We are reminded that all fall short of God's
glory.

Yet, as we look to our Savior
His dying frame on the cross
- whereupon we ourselves have hoisted him

We hear his tortured voice say,
"Father forgive them, they know not what
they do!"
Once and for all time
The road back has been paved with bloody
stones.

Easter dawns – and the warm fire of resur-
rection –

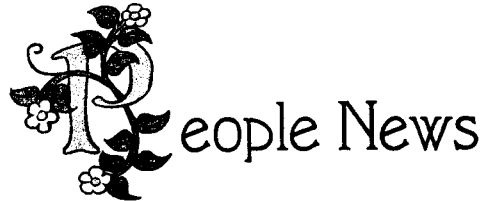
Pierces our souls.
Asleep beneath the ground like ancient ru-
ins,

We are unearthed year after year;
Breathing again - like our risen Savior
Our lives a clean slate,
a fresh palette,
vibrant with the colors of love.

Over and over we will walk that road!
Turning, turning, again and again;
Changing – in the true spirit of *shalom*:
Guiltless, whole and unafraid,
No atonement this,
But a divine pronouncement –
"Even your worst cannot drive me away."

Until our Christ returns to find us imaged in
Him,
and He in us.

- Pastor Patty 2/2011



- Thanks to all who sent words of comfort at the time of my mother's death. She is deeply missed.
Linda Bickos
- Thanks to all who have kept Dan Rickard in your prayers and have sent him words of encouragement. Please keep them coming. Joann Rickard
- Please keep all of our college students, those in the military and our members in extended care in your prayers.

St. Patrick's Day

Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

Unadilla First Presbyterian Church
THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2011
4:40 - 7:00 PM.

MENU

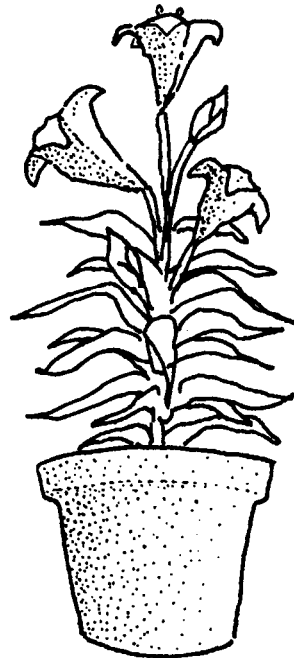
Corned Beef Cabbage Potatoes
Carrots Onions
Dessert
Beverage

Take-outs available

Prices: Adults - \$8.00
Children (6-12) \$6.00
Children (5 & under) FREE
Church is handicapped accessible

Share Some Inspiration

The church family at East Guilford has been busy this winter cataloging existing books and receiving and organizing new books for the church library. The idea behind this work is to share books that have inspired us and that can help us to grow as Christians. Our collection includes books of devotions, books that interpret the Bible, religious novels, and children's religious books and Bible stories. We also have several versions of Bibles, including one that appears to be a Church Bible from the 1800's. Anyone is welcome to browse our bookshelves and borrow any books from us. And when you are finished reading an inspirational book, please consider sharing it with others by donating it to our library. If you have any questions, contact Jan Lafayette.



SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES

The church has just received a mailing for opportunities at Camp Whitman for Summer 2011. There are applications for all type of camps this summer: Family Camp (May 27-30, June 26-July 1 & September 2-5); Camp Quest for 3rd grade; Adventures Camp for 4th & 5th grade; numerous camps for the 6th-8th grades and the 9th-12th grades (sports & games, water recreation, creative arts & photography, bike & Kayak, discovery camp, sailing, music & drama, wilderness survival, to name a few); Leadership Camp for 11th -12th grades; camp for Adults & Youths with Developmental Disabilities. The Presbytery may have camp scholarships available for campers as well.

There are also employment opportunities for anyone interested in being a camp counselor, an aquatic director.

More information will be available in the church narthex.

This spring the Sunday school children and youth have been invited by the Stewardship and Mission committee to work together promoting a 3 month mission effort supporting the *Heifer Project*. Each month the children will choose to promote the donation of money for a particular animal, group of animals or gift basket through the Heifer Project, beginning March 6. Throughout that month the contributions will go to the purchase of the choice of the month. Beginning April 3, another collection will start and finally, through the month of May the collections will go toward the animal or basket of the month. The children will creatively show how the collections of each month will progress. The church family is encouraged to support this church wide mission effort. During their Sunday school hour, they will be following lessons that relate to the Heifer project.

On March 18, there will be an *Invite a Friend – Dinner & a Movie night*. The children and youth (and the young at heart) are encouraged to invite a friend and bring a veggie or cheese to build tacos for dinner or a favorite dessert at 6 p.m. A sign up list will be available to avoid duplication. When dinner is over, we will enjoy the movie, “The Sorcerer’s Apprentice”. The evening will conclude around 9 p.m.

In April there will be an *Easter Egg Hunt* on Saturday, April 23, from 10-noon at the church. All are invited to bring a friend. There will be games, a crafts and of course, the egg (or goodie) hunt. Contributions of candy or Easter type trinkets to hide for the hunt will be gratefully accepted.

Please contact Christian Ed chair, Louise Lesh (369-9579), or Stephanie Frazier (369-3292).

The following Saturday, April 30, we will gather to make May baskets to be distributed on Sunday, May 1st, after church.

Throughout the spring, the youth of the church will be having fundraisers for their efforts for Relay for Life. Please support our youth in this effort to raise money to fight cancer. Stephanie Frazier will be announcing the upcoming fundraisers as they occur.

Also, sometime in May the youth will be having a “plant potting” party, but the date and time is yet to be determined. Everyone is invited to bring a plant to be potted and will also be decorating the pots we will be planting them in. If anyone would like to donate a plant or pot to be decorated, please contact Louise Lesh (369-9579) or Courtney Kleeschulte (369-4870).

On June 12, Pentecost Sunday, the youth will lead worship for Youth Sunday. More details will follow as the time gets near.

Love your **Neighbor**



Lenten Program @ Sidney Center UM (Firehouse - Tentative)

Mid-Week Program Beginning on Wednesday, 3/16/11

6:00 PM - Covered Dish 7:00 PM Service/Program

The Hymnody of Lent

The Theology Expressed In Our Lenten/Easter Hymns

UNADILLA FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED

Items needed include; cereal, canned fruit, juice, canned pasta (such as Spaghettios), canned stew, Progresso or Chunky style soups. Please bring them to church and Joann Rickard will see that they are delivered to the food bank.

The East Guilford church library is looking for donations of the following types of books:

Share The Inspiration!

- _ Books that interpret the Bible**
- _ Books on topics that are relevant to Christians**
- _ Novels that are religious allegories**
- _ Children's Bible stories or books with religious themes. If you have enjoyed such a book and would like to share it with others, please leave it in the box in the narthex. See Jan if you have questions. Thanks!**

Blankets, Sheets and Towels

Desperately Needed

St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Sidney

Clean, Donated Items May Be Left @ The Rectory Porch - Next to the Church



The First Presbyterian Church of Unadilla
P.O. Box Z
Unadilla, NY 13849

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Unadilla, NY 13849



Spiritually Speaking

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Roy Straka - 563-8932 / Louise Lesh - 369-9579

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shavens002@stny.rr.com

All contributions are welcome!