

GOOD NEWS from the hill

John Knox Presbyterian Church - March 2010

Patton's Pen

Snow! What comes to mind? Does the word delight you or depress you! I happen to enjoy snow! I relish the quiet when I shut off the snow blower and simply "listen to the cold" which in the early morning hour include the singing of birds starting their day! At Night it reveals the magnificence of our moon and the stars!

I've always enjoyed snow except the few times when I had to dig out of a snow pile or stop to put chains on the car (explain that to those under 50 please).

One thing most all of us share in common..."we All don't like the UGLY snow!" we probably are in agreement that a fresh dusting of snow that covers up the ugliness is welcomed!

So too our sin is ugly – but the saving grace of God's love falls fresh on us and cleanses our sin. The prophet Isaiah declared long ago "*Come now, let us reason together,*" says the LORD. "*Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.*" Isaiah 1:18

Unlike snow that only covers the landscape with its beauty, God's love does far more than simply cover the ugliness of our sin: God's love penetrates our heart and in His forgiveness convicts us, cleanses us and converts! Nothing else can bring about the transformation and renewal that love – God's love accomplishes as we open our hearts to Him. Let us be faithful to reflect often on the cry of the Psalmist "Create in me a pure heart, O God (and new) heart!"

All of us would benefit by echoing the words of the Psalmist! May the final snows of our winter remind us of God's great love that transforms our lives. May the Lord complete the transformation of our church family as well as our own life!

May the following song we sing at 11:00 worship speak to your heart, that it may be renewed!

White as snow, white as snow
Though my sins were as scarlet
Lord, I know, Lord, I know
That I'm clean and forgiven

Through the power of Your blood
Through the wonder of Your love
Through faith in You
I know that I can be
White as snow

Pastor Doug Patton

Welcome Pam Kerr

We welcome Pam Kerr as church Administrator! Pam joined John Knox in 1982, is married to Scott and they have two daughters, Melissa Danzy and Michelle Kerr. Pam & Scott are members of the Praise Team, and are volunteers at Faith Ranch.

If you haven't met Pam, please stop in the office to say hello!

Pam's email address is kerrp@jkpc.org. Please begin sending your notices for the bulletin and newsletter to Pam at the above email.

Game Night

The Fellowship Committee is sponsoring a Game Night on Friday, March 19 at 6:30 P.M. There will be a light supper followed by activities. Bring a dish to share or snacks and your board games and come join the fun.

Maundy Thursday

Mark your calendar to come for Soup & Bread Meal on Maundy Thursday, April 1 at 6:00 P.M. The Sacrament of Holy Communion will also be celebrated.

Easter Sunday

8:00 AM Youth Sunrise Service
9:00 & 11:00 AM Worship Services
10:05 AM Sunday School

Plan on having dinner at the church on Easter Sunday! Prepare your favorite Easter dish and come fellowship with others at the church for an Easter Sunday Pot-Luck. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall following the 11:00 Service. Beverage will be provided. Bring your family and friends.

John Knox Presbyterian Church

5155 Eastlake St NW
North Canton, Ohio 44720

Worship at John Knox Presbyterian:

9:00 am	Traditional Worship
10:05 am	Sunday School for all ages
11:00 am	Contemporary Worship

Church Office hours are: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Church Office telephone: 330-494-9479

Parking Lot Reminder:

Buildings & Grounds Committee is asking all to be mindful of the handicap parking space rules. If you have a handicap authorization, please make sure it is visible when parking in a handicap space. Please, do not park in a handicap space unless you are authorized.

Thanks, Vicki Vinci

Also: Please do not park in front of the mail box.

Mission News

Book Barn

The "Book Barn" which is to benefit the Habitat for Humanity ReStore is now here at John Knox in the back hallway coatroom area. It has been built to receive your books that are in good used condition, and your CD's and DVD's that you no longer want to keep. As we fill it up, the barn will be emptied from time to time, and the items will be taken to the ReStore to resell to the public to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity of Greater Stark County. The "Book Barn" was created by a local area Boy Scout as part of his Eagle Scout Award Project.

Weekend to Remember Conference

Mission Group has a voucher donated by Karen and John Winkelman with Family Life for their Weekend to Remember Conference which is for married couples. The regular registration fee per person is \$129 and the voucher is for \$39 per person. Dates in Ohio this year are March 5-7 in Cincinnati and March 12-14 in Cleveland. It is also help in many other cities across the United States.

Please contact Alison Blondheim if you want to use the voucher and learn how to manage some of the issues of marriage in today's hectic and fast paced world.

Update on Laurel Kehl

Laurel has had a new experience the past month as a "caregiver" to her parents upon her return from Spain in mid-January. Her dad is in rehab recovering from the aorta aneurysm he suffered in early January and is progressing well. Her mother who suffers from Alzheimer's Disease has had a rough month as well with all the mental and emotional upheaval of her husband's sudden illness.

Laurel serves as Missions Coordinator at her church in Philadelphia where she resides. They are forming a partnership with World Harvest in Granada, Spain where she visited in January. They have a team of 20 who will be going to Spain in July to put on an English Camp for 8-12 and 13-16 year olds. She visited with two of the Campus Crusade staff serving in Kazakhstan while dropping in at the Midyear Conference for International staff held in Spain. She sends her thanks for being part of her support team.

Easter Flowers

Flowers to beautify the chancel on Easter Sunday may be ordered for \$8 each. Place your order along with payment, payable to Board of Deacons, in the box in the Parlor. Flowers may be picked up after the services or donated to plant on the church grounds.

_____ Tulips _____ Lilies _____ Daffodils

Name _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Statistical Report

Gifts	Attendance	Gifts
2/7	238	\$11,650.50
2/14	164	\$ 4,682.86
2/21	183	\$ 5,155.00

Needed Weekly: \$9,770.00

Pennies and dimes are still being collected to pay off the John Knox Mortgage.

Looking Ahead

On Maundy Thursday, April 1 there will be a Soup and Bread Meal at 6:00 P.M. followed by Holy Communion. Come join us.

The Youth will have a Sunrise Service at 8:00 A.M. on Easter Sunday. Worship Services will be at 9:00 and 11:00 A.M. with Sunday School at 10:05.

Easter Sunday: after the 11:00 service bring your favorite Easter dish and join others for a time of good food and fellowship. Come together in the Fellowship Hall at noon. Contact Ann Ballinger if you have any questions.

Red Cross Blood Drive - April 8 from 3:00 to 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Sympathy Extends To...

Sandy Langley Family on the death of their friend, Mr. John Berner, on February 7.

Rod Hurless and Roxanne Korte Family on the death of their wife and mother, Janet Hurless, on January 28.

Congratulations To...

Jonathan Beels on receiving his 1st Class 1st Year Boy Scout Award!

Thank You!

To the John Knox Congregation,
Thank you all for the retirement wishes, the cards, the gifts and most of all your many kind words and expressions of love! Thank you for the support you've shown me these 29+ years. You are all so special to me. I've always felt lucky to have a job I enjoyed so much plus being surrounded by caring Christian friends.

Love,
Shirley Cheyney

Vacation Bible School

Our journey embarking on a High Seas Voyage is going to begin soon and we need a few chaperones (teachers/helpers). We also need a ship to shore crew/travel agents/jungle guides (woodworkers and other artistic, crafty, fun people) to help us get ready!

Supplies needed are:

Butcher paper	Refrigerator boxes
Markers/Paint	Appliance boxes
Fabric/Tulle	

Our first workday will be Saturday, March 13 at 9:00am.

Please contact the church office, Ryan Johanning or Jennifer Morrison 330-875-4145.

Boy Scout Rose Sale

Boy Scout Troop 15 of Louisville, Ohio is having a rose sale. 1 dozen roses can be purchased for \$15 to be delivered the weekend of May 1, 2010. If anyone is interested, please contact Brandon Morrison at 330-875-4145. (This is the weekend before Mother's Day.)

A Posture of Blessing

New believers need to be shown how to embrace a second posture, a posture of blessing. Christianity is based on the premise that we are to give our lives away. Jesus came to serve, not to be served. Following Christ must be shown in our actions as well as our words. A fallen world is aching to be affirmed, to be loved, and to be shown the transforming power of the Gospel.

From day one, a new disciple should be encouraged to lay his or her life down for others. Being a blessing to others is a privilege and a sacrifice. Jesus made it clear to His followers that dying to self was the only way to truly "live." A posture of blessing opens up a new disciple to a world of ministry opportunities and to learn what it means to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

Studies have shown that new Christians are far and away the most effective evangelists. They still have a social network of unbelievers and they have had a fresh encounter with God. Faith communities must do whatever they can to empower new disciples to boldly take the Gospel into their webs of friendships and contacts. The Gospel travels powerfully through lines of relationships and young Christians have unlimited potential in advancing the Kingdom of God. The simple question for a new disciples must be, "Who does God want you to be a blessing to by sharing the Good News?" In this, we sow seeds of the Great Commission that if watered and nurtured will grow roots of great depth. These fledging followers of Christ will become men and women who want to be laborers in the harvest and to help rescue others from the Kingdom of Darkness.

Investing in God's Work at John Knox

A blessed "Thank You" to all who attended Sunday afternoon's congregational meeting and resoundingly accepted the new budget for the first six months of 2010 as we commit ourselves to investing in God's work, financially as well as through volunteering and sharing of our talents.

God has placed challenges before us as our staff is changing, and we must meet those challenges with caring hearts, strong will and our belief that God doesn't ask us to do anything that isn't possible through our love and commitment to Him.

In 2009, we needed just over \$8,900 weekly to meet our operating and building fund budgets. Because of the added costs of seeking and finding a new pastor, hiring a new administrator and bringing our youth leader's income more in line with others doing similar work in our area, we now need \$9,777 weekly, according to Treasurer Walter Schwabe.

By investing in God's work and our many programs at John Knox, our challenge is not insurmountable as we honor the one to whom all that we have belongs. As we worship and honor Him with our gifts, know that the church leadership is doing everything possible to control costs while providing outstanding programming for all age levels.

Bless all of you for your generous gifts and investments of time, talents and money to show the Lord how much we truly believe in Him and his plan for us and our church.

George Davis,
Fiscal Group and Linear Stewardship chairman

Youth News

During the month of February, the youth came together for a retreat at Malone University, joined with the congregation for the annual "Family Fun Night," and gathered at John Knox Presbyterian Church for a Saturday retreat. On February 5 and 6, the youth from John Knox plus teens from other churches journeyed to Malone University for a retreat about being a rebel. The teachings were

focused on the book of Daniel. We learned how Daniel and his three friends were rebels for God even while in captivity in Babylon. Then, on February 14, the youth helped with the "Family Fun Night." They enjoyed announcing the winners for the door prizes, leading the children's games, playing the Wii on the big screen, participating in the cake walk, etc. The Fellowship Team did a tremendous job in leading another successful "Family Fun Night." Lastly, the youth took part in a winter retreat at the church. We enjoyed outdoor activities in the snow, as well as, a great discussion regarding the Biblical issue of bearing fruit.

Upcoming Youth and Children's Events in March

March 5 (Friday)- Youth in grades eight through twelve will view a concert and movie by the Christian artist, Rebecca St. James, at Malone University from 6:00-9:45pm.

March 7 (Sunday)- The youth in grades six through twelve will conduct a cookie dough fundraiser, as well as, help in preparing for the children's Easter event on April 3 from 12:00-2:30pm. We will be selling cookie dough, gourmet popcorn, and fudge cakes. Each unit will cost \$12. Payment will be collected as orders are placed. The money raised will go toward the weekly programs for the youth and the monthly programs for the children.

March 12, 13 (Friday and Saturday) The youth in grades six through twelve will participate in a thirty hour famine with Christ Presbyterian Church. This will take place from 5:30pm on Friday night until 11:30am on Saturday morning.

March 21 (Sunday) The children in preschool through fifth grade will go bowling and then come back to the church for pizza. We will meet at Park Centre Lanes at 12:30pm and then head back to the church at 1:45pm for pizza. This event will end at 2:30pm.

March 28 (Sunday) The youth in grades six through twelve will celebrate Easter with a party from 12:00-2:00pm.

Ryan Johanning Youth Director

“Night Out”



John Knox Presbyterian Church is eager to begin a journey with folks who are interested in learning more about parenting. We have recently held numerous parenting seminars with qualified and uplifting presenters. Now, we want to go a step further and provide a night where people can get together and have a “Night Out.”

When: Friday, March 26 from 6:00-8:00pm

Who: Anyone who has an interest in learning more about parenting

Where: Perkins Restaurant (4896 Everhard Rd in Canton)

Why: To enjoy great fellowship with discussion regarding the book, The Five Love Languages of Children by Gary Chapman. Please read as much of the book as you can prior to our gathering.

Note: Childcare will be available at the church

Please RSVP by March 19 so I can prepare for this evening with regard to childcare and reservations at Perkins Restaurant. Simply, email or call Ryan Johanning (Head of Youth Ministries at John Knox Presbyterian Church).

Email- RyanJohanning@yahoo.com Church office- (330) 494-9479

I look forward to this excellent opportunity as we grow deeper in our knowledge and love for parenting

Annual Children's Easter Event



The youngsters will hear an Easter story, find Easter eggs, win prizes, eat snacks, create a craft, get their faces painted, and of course, meet the Easter bunny!

When: Saturday, April 3 from 2:00 to 4:00 P.M.

For: Preschoolers through fourth graders

Why: To come together and celebrate our Lord Jesus Christ rising from the dead! We want to enjoy a great afternoon of fellowship and fun with all of our activities and prizes.

Note: Each child is encouraged to bring his/her own Easter basket. If a child does not have one, a bag will be provided.

Parents: Feel free to stay with your children for this program. Be sure to bring your camera because the children will have the opportunity to sit on the Easter bunny's lap.

If you have any questions please contact Ryan at ryanjohanning@yahoo.com or 330-494-9479