

The Historical Labaska
United Methodist herald

Newsletter of the Labaska United Methodist Church
2491 Street Road, Labaska, Pennsylvania 18931

"With God all things are possible"

--Matthew 19:26

Thoughts from the Pastor's Pen

This year we will celebrate the 300th birthday of Charles Wesley. Charles Wesley is the brother of John Wesley and together they started the Methodist Church in 1700 in England.

Charles Wesley was born just before Christmas in 1707. He was premature and neither cried nor opened his eyes. His mother, Susanna, who had 17 children in all, kept him tightly wrapped in wool until his actual due date, whereupon he opened his eyes and cried. At age 8, he was taken to London to attend Westminster School. At 13, he became a King's Scholar at Westminster, and upon graduating later on, Charles enrolled in Oxford next. He was 19 and full of life. He later said, "My first year in college I got lost in diversions."

During his second year at Oxford, he grew serious about spiritual things. Neither he or his brother, John had yet received Christ as Savior, but they began seeking to live the Christian life so methodically that they were dubbed "Methodists" by fellow students. Their studies completed, the brothers volunteered to go to Georgia, a new colony in America for those in Britain's debtors' prisons, founded by Colonel James Oglethorpe. As a missionary though, Charles was an utter failure. He was demanding and autocratic. One angry woman fired a gun at him! Charles left America ill and depressed. Some time later, John also returned to England in low spirits. Finding themselves in spiritual crisis, the brothers began attending meetings led by the Moravian Christian, Peter Bohler. Finally, on Sunday, May 21, 1738, Charles, now age 31, wrote, "I now found myself at peace with God, and rejoiced in hope loving Christ. I saw that by faith I stood." Charles wrote in his journal, "I began a hymn upon my conversion." The hymn was, "And Can It Be That I Should Gain?", found on page 527 in our hymnal. Charles became the most famous hymn writer of his time, writing over 6,000 hymns. Many are found in our hymnal.

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Charles noted in his journal that he had gained victory over both his temper and his unfortunate drinking habit. "I was amazed to find my old enemy, intemperance, so suddenly subdued when I accepted Christ that I almost forgot I was ever in bondage to that demon." Charles began to spread the Good News through preaching and singing. He was called "the sweet singer of Methodist". He found a fruitful arena for ministry at the infamous Newgate Prison, and allowed himself to be locked up with condemned men on nights before their executions, that he might comfort and witness to them during their final hours.

On the first anniversary of his conversion, Charles wrote an eighteen stanza hymn describing his praise to the Lord. It was titled, "For the Anniversary Day of One's Conversion", verse 7 began "O for a thousand tongues to sing." (Page #1 in our hymnal.) Charles wrote the words to the hymns, and then sang them to the popular tunes of the day. We are blessed to have his hymns, because in his poetry and music we find the basic beliefs and theology upon which the Methodist Church was founded.

During July and August we will celebrate Charles Wesley's life and his hymns. He wrote:

"My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread throughout the earth abroad,
The honors of Thy name."

Methodists and now *United Methodists* have always declared their faith through singing.

Pastor Roy

Worship Schedule & Events

June 10: Choir Recognition Sunday:

It is wonderful to have a choir to listen to each Sunday with the inspiring music that they bring. On Sunday, June 10, we will recognize the choir. During the Sundays from June 17 to September 9, we will have Special Music. If you would like to participate in this, please speak to our Music Director, Ginnie Hall.

June 17: Father's Day will be celebrated on this Sunday. Come join us and help us celebrate fathers and grandfathers at the morning worship.

August 26: Church Picnic will be held on Sunday, August 26. Save the date! We will meet at Pat Livezy Park in Solebury at 12:30 for lunch together. We will meet to enjoy fellowship, lunch, food, food, and more food! Games will be available for all ages and a special fellowship service will be held. Come and join us for the fun and fellowship!

***A Picnic Committee is needed with volunteers to help set up and brainstorm activities.** Please see Pastor Lewis if you can serve on this committee to help out.

Additional News from the Pastor:

Charge Conference: Wednesday, October 17, 2007. This will be held with the United Methodist Churches of Lahaska, Penn's Park, and Solebury. Place and time to be determined. See future bulletins and the September Newsletter for more info.

Hospital Notification:

Let the Pastor know if you or your family members go to the hospital. It is important during times of illness for us to care for ourselves in body, mind, and spirit. We are clearly called upon to visit the sick, care for the injured, and pray for those who are suffering. In order to do this, we need to know what your needs are. At this time, several people in our church are part of the church's **Prayer Chain**. If you are not on the prayer chain and would like to be, please let Pastor Lewis know.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Remember, think about what Sunday would be a good Sunday for you to place FLOWERS on the altar. Be sure to sign up on the Flower Calendar in the Narthex. Cost is \$35.00, payable to Lahaska United Methodist Church. Flowers are provided by Carousel Flowers in Doylestown. Special envelopes are provided marked, "Flowers" for your payment. Our Flower committee is chaired by **Grace Bedine** and **Lillian Porter**.

****Anyone signing up for flowers on a particular Sunday can take them home after the Sunday service that day.**

Sunday School Information

There is no information to report at this time. Stay tuned for the September Newsletter for "Back to Sunday School" events. Classes will resume on September 9th.

United Methodist Women Information

June 11: Meeting at 11:30am at the church. Bring a bag lunch. Strawberry shortcake dessert will be served.

Book Club: *The Mermaid Chair* will be discussed. Date and time will be announced in the church bulletin at a future time.

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TRUSTEES & ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL INFORMATION

The **Trustees** of the United Lahaska Methodist Church oversee and are responsible for the church property. They meet monthly and make decisions regarding our church home. **Paul Balderston** is the President of the Trustees, and if you have any questions, concerns, or affirmations please let him know. Other members of the Trustees include: Tom Hopkins, Jean McGlynn, Paul Farthing, Ed Cox, Sarah Brundage, Larry McGlynn, and Ginny Bradfield. You are welcome to attend any of their meetings.

The **Administrative Council** is the governing body of our church. They oversee the programs, finances, education, and committees of the church. **Jim Murray** is the Lay Leader of the church and chairs the Administrative Council. His job is to manage the Church and work with the Pastor in providing and fulfilling our mission. You are always welcome to attend any of these meetings.

TRUSTEES & ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING DATES & TIMES:
TRUSTEES MEET AT 7:00pm; ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL AT 8:00pm on these
Wednesday evenings: June 6 and Sept. 12, 2007.

Acolyte Information

Robin Heebner would like to extend a big "Thank You" to all the children who participated as Acolytes this year!

Volunteers for the summer are needed. When you arrive, please let the usher/greeter know you are available. A new acolyte list will be mailed to you in late August for 2007-2008. Have a great summer!

--Robin Heebner

MORE CHURCH NEWS/INFORMATION

Operation Helmet:

Operation Helmet has been a wonderful success! So far, \$980.00 has been collected as of May 13th! There were 9 helmet liners paid for by 5 individual donors. One donor contributed funds for five liners! Thank you so much! This Memorial Day, a final tally will be made and a check for the total amount will be sent to the Quakertown Moose. On behalf of our troops, Thank you, again! ☺

Sincerely,
Connie Hopkins, UMW

Choir Information: Choir practice will resume on **Tuesday, September 11** at 7:30pm. Have a great summer off!

Growing Families:

This group is for families who have newborns up through elementary school age children. The group is very informal and usually meets the third Sunday of every month right after church and at various members' homes, church, or family-friendly venues. Please contact Karen Hopkins at (215) 230-9343 for more information. The group is also has a Family Reference Library that will be at the church. If you have books that you would like to donate, please give them to Karen.

****The Growing Families group will be taking the summer off, but will resume meetings and outings together again in September, 2007. Be sure to check out our Family Reference Library and have a great summer!**

Happy Birthdays to Celebrate!

June: 1: Grace Ewer; 4: Lee Meyers; 8: Nancy Lewis; 11: Carolyn Farthing; 12: Virginia Bradfield, Ellnor Buckner; 15: Dotty Mazzone; 18: Richard Schimpf; 20: Lorraine Wachstetter; 27: Courtney Lynn Kenderdine; 28: Sharon Bolitho, Viola Caswell; 29: Maxwell Dilks.

July: 5: Grace Bedine; 11: Dottie Masters; 15: Robin Heebner; 16: Ellen Balderston-Karp; 21: Joseph Bradfield; 23: Sue Stotz; 25: Sam Schwander; 27: Gilbert Bolitho; 29: Raneé Ponniah; 31: Sean McGlynn.

August: 2: Chris Anderson; 6: Denise Kuferschmidt; 10: Mabel Getz; 12: Fern Phillips; 13: Lindsey Farthing; 16: Joyce Kentopp; 22: Lee Irvin; 25: Mary Phillips, Catriona Law; 26: Paul Balderston.

Thoughts of Inspiration from the Editor

Profound Points to Ponder...

Phone vs. Bible

I wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?

- What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?
- What if we flipped through it several times a day?
- What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?
- What if we used it to receive messages from the text?

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What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?
What if we gave it to kids as gifts?
What if we used it when we traveled?
What if we used it in case of an emergency?
This is something to make you go...hmmm...where is my Bible?
Oh, and one more thing. Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry
about our Bible being disconnected, because Jesus already paid the bill.
Makes you stop and think, "Where are my priorities?"
And...no dropped calls!

More Profound Points....

**God wants spiritual fruits, not religious nuts.
Growing old is inevitable, growing UP is optional.
There is no key to happiness, the door is always open.
Silence is often misinterpreted, but never misquoted.
Do the math...count your blessings.
Faith is the ability not to panic.
Laugh every day. It's like inner jogging.
If you worry, you didn't pray. If you pray, don't worry.
As a child of God, prayer is like calling home every day.
The most important things in your house are the people.
When we get tangled up in our problems, be still so God can
untangle the knot.
A grudge is a heavy thing to carry.
He who dies with the MOST TOYS is *still* DEAD.**

Have a great day!! The SON is shining and He can certainly use you!

Sincerely,

Sarah M. Brundage, Editor ☺

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT L.U.M.C. NEWSLETTER:
SUNDAY, August 12, 2007**

Please e-mail or submit in writing any items you would like printed to: SAASHA1@comcast.net