

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
THE REVEREND JUDITH K. MARLOW

The Reverend Judith K. Marlow, age 68, of Howard, Ohio, passed away on Monday evening, February 9, 2009, in the Palliative Care Unit of Knox Community Hospital in Mt. Vernon, Ohio surrounded by her children. She was born on July 29, 1949, in Algona, Iowa, the daughter of the late William and Esther (Junkermeier) Kading.

Pastor Judy was a 1994 graduate of Wittenberg University and was awarded a Masters of Divinity degree from Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Bexley, Ohio, in 1997. She was ordained as a Lutheran minister at St. John Lutheran Church, Springfield, Ohio, in 1998. She served the congregations of both Messiah Lutheran Church in Moundsville WV and Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in New Martinsville WV for ten years until her retirement in June, 2008.

Pastor Judy opened Judy's Place, a transitional home where women and their children are lifted out of domestic violence, in 2007. She was an avid gardener and a seamstress who made beautiful quilts. She was a caring friend to many, many of us.

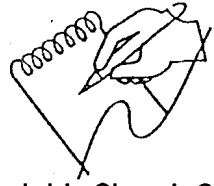
Pastor Judy was preceded in death by her husband, Leon.

She is survived by her loving children: Julie (Steve) Davis of Athens, Ohio; Jesse (Jane) Marlow of Mt. Vernon, Ohio; Jack (April) Marlow of Warren, Michigan; Allen (Lisa) Marlow of Mt. Gilead, Ohio; and David of Birmingham, Alabama; and eleven grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 59 East Benjamin Drive, New Martinsville, WV. Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of your choice.

Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.snyderfuneralhomes.com.





Council Notes

Messiah's Church Council met on February 9 with Lois Gray presiding. Donna Nichols opened with devotions. Also present were Chuck Okel, Jr. and Mila Corrick. Excused were Jodi Sandvik, Pastors David and Beth Westphal.

Minutes of the January meeting were approved.

Council voted to receive Morgan Ruckman-Wells along with the rest of her family (voted on last month) into our congregation. The Ruckmans will be officially received on February 22 with a reception to follow.

Treasurer's Report showed a balance of \$10,722.74. Financial Secretary's Report showed us at minus 58% of budget for January.

The men of our congregation will provide a Pancake Supper prior to the Ash Wednesday Service on February 25. Everyone is asked to bring a package of plain rice to be donated to the St. James Lutheran food pantry.

Letters to inactive members to determine membership status were discussed.

We will handle our own Wednesday Lenten services. Leaders are needed; see Lois if you are interested.

Publicity will be placed in the Echo regarding our Lenten services.

Council approved continuing our contract with the YWCA, as is, for this year.

Chuck will work on necessary corrections indicated on the last fire inspection report.

Messiah's Call Committee meets this week and Joint Call Committee meets next week.

Chuck has volunteered to be on the Audit Committee; one more person is needed; then date will be set.

Lois and Marvin will attend the Synodical Assembly in June.

Our next Council meeting will be on Monday, March 9, at 7:00 p.m.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

MARCH WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

- 1 CA John Bryan
L Mila Corrick
A Kyle Corrick
- 4 Mid-Week Lenten Service 7:30
Light Supper 6:15
- 8 CA Martha C. Grimes
L Linda Fisher
A Rachel Fisher
- 11 Mid-Week Lenten Service 7:30
Light Supper 6:15
- 15 CA Jodi Sandvik
L Harriett Bryan
A Josh Lisovich
- 18 Mid-Week Lenten Service 7:30
Light Supper 6:15
- 22 CA Vicki Tomich
L Michal Holt
A Evan Lightner
- 25 Mid-Week Lenten Service 7:30
Light Supper 6:15
- 29 CA John Bryan
L Mila Corrick
A Kyle Corrick

GREETERS Donna Nichols
Karen Yoders

ALTAR CARE Karen Yoders

This newsletter of Messiah Lutheran Church is published the last weekend of each month and is distributed to members and friends of Messiah. Name and address additions, changes and corrections are requested.

Editor Karen Yoders 845-8744
Distribution



birthdays

HAPPY, HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS TO:

- 8 Windy Dorsey
- 9 Morgan McCool
Jason Yoders
Vicki Yoho
- 10 Pastor Paul Schafer
- 13 Martha Carol Grimes
- 18 Dennis Fisher
- 24 Jodi Sandvik
- 31 Lois Gray
Ethel Okel

ANNIVERSARIES

HAPPY MARCH ANNIVERSARY TO:

- 7 Terry & Sherry Wood

KEYS TO THE CHURCH

We need your help and cooperation in another matter. Several years ago we had a key log made.. This was and is VERY IMPORTANT FOR OUR INSURANCE AND SECURITY. In order to update our forms and key count, and since keys have been handed down to each during a change in position, we are in need of each of you to help us update our list. We may have to change our lock system and this could be very costly. PLEASE LET LOIS OR KAREN know if you have a key to the church. AND if you no longer hold a position in need of a key, please return it to them at that time. Your help in this matter ASAP is appreciated. We were issued a number of keys when we had the new doors installed, and now we have new persons on council and no keys to issue them. Thanks again.

Church Council

Messiah's Women of the ELCA met on February 18 in the Fellowship Hall.

Lois Gray led the Bible Study and furnished refreshments for the evening.

Treasurer's Report showed a balance of \$293.12. Audit for 2008 will be completed. \$121 will be given to World Hunger (from Thankoffering) through the Souper Bowl donation to Tour de Revs (with some matching money from Thrivent).

Mary Yeater, Margaret and Martha Carol Grimes continue to send cards to members and friends.

We will lead a litany on February 22 for Bold Women's Sunday.

Donna will order cake for the Ruckman reception also on February 22.

We will again provide soups and desserts prior to the mid-week services - at 6:15 p.m. Please sign up to provide soup/dessert.

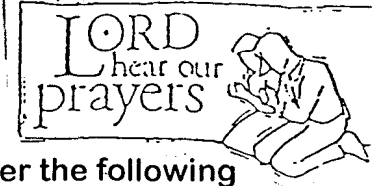
ALTAR GUILD MEETING FOR MARCH 1 IS CANCELED. If anyone has any concerns, please see Donna or Vicki.

If anyone is interested in greeting cards or gift items, see Donna Nichols. She has one Cheerfulness House gift catalog.

Messiah will provide chicken, various fruit dishes, and rolls for Pastor Judy's Memorial on March 7. Other covered dishes are requested.

There will be a brunch on Palm Sunday.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 18, following the mid-week service.



We ask that you remember the following members and friends of Messiah in your prayers and focus, please, your daily prayers on each member/family noted on the attached calendar:

Vicki Tomich	Marlow Family
Lovelace Family	Dorsey Family
Pastor Steve Gerhard	Margaret Grimes
Nancy Claypool	Charles Lowe
Marvin Gray	Ethel Okel
Terry Wood	Sally Romano
Veterans	Mary Yeater
Family & friends in care facilities	Members of the military

Our college students

Those living in poverty and/or abusive situations

MAY THE HEALING PRESENCE AND THE POWER OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST, TOUCH THE LIVES OF ALL IN NEED.

Listed below are prayer concerns as previously listed in our bulletins (additions or deletions to editor by 3rd Sunday of each month):

Mike Frazier	Ron Wood
Justin Kennedy	Charlene Kisner
Ossie Brown	Paul Holliday
Robin Livson	Eleanor Baker
Clara & family	Fran Popp
Patty Stackpole	Glenna William
Catherine Kallender & family	
Steve, Sarah & Jacob Day	
Arlene Anderson	Allena Miller
Rev. Ron McCoy	Keisha Blake
Donna Moloski	Hoover Junco
Sandy Stewart	& Sisters
Dad Toler	Rosie Haley

Patty McKeever	Kermit Cox
Ruey Ziegler	Tina & Daniel Blake
Angel Allen	Michael Matheny
Mary Donnelly family	Sherri Steele
Joseph & Paula Planey family	
Ed Essig	Barb Cox
Ann Myers	Ed Beecher
Chris Rommel	Todd Hupp
Michael D'Allesandro	Valorie Morrocco
Rev. Joseph Bryne family	
Judy Watkins	Mrs. Chas. Adams
Demetrio & Eileen D'Allesandro family	
Estelle, Anne & Sid Fox	Ann Vaughn
Amanda Belton	Joan Stiles
Freda & Bob Shernisky	Sharon Glanzer
Beverly Palmer	Szablewski family
LuLu & family	Chance Fution
Mary Stone & family	
Alvin Schneid & family	Jody Schmid
Rhonda Robertson	Marthanne Pyles
Doctor, Mother & family	Cathy & children
Isaac Jobes	Marlene Persinger
Belmont County CSP group families and friends in need of prayers and support	



Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family of Margaret Dorsey who passed away on February 20. Margaret was a former member of our church, along with her husband Howard (Mel), sons Tom and Bill, and their families (present members).

Our condolences are also extended to the family of Warren Lovelace who passed away recently. He and his family belonged to Messiah many years ago. Warren had recently lived in Virginia. One daughter, Anita, resides in the Wheeling area.

We ask that you remember these families in your thoughts and prayers as they grieve the loss of their loved ones.

THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS
OH, WV, PA TRI STATE CHAPTER
MARCH NEWSLETTER 2009

We now know what our allotment is for the year. As with everything else, all funding was decreased by 20%. We will receive \$1020 for activities this year.

Great news, the chapter was once again given The Chapter of Excellence Award for 2008. More on this later.

The first thing we have planned is the Ash Wednesday pancake, sausage, and egg dinner which will be put on by the men of the congregation at 6:00 PM on that day at the church. The COST will be for each adult to bring a box of plain rice which will be donated to the food pantry at St. James Lutheran Church in Wheeling.

The Bowl a thon was a success with the collection of \$300 which will be matched with \$100 from Thrivent for Disaster relief supplies to be used by the WVU Lutheran Campus Ministry Youth on their next trip to help those in need.

The World Hunger Project also netted \$300 which will be matched with \$100 from Thrivent. This will be given to the Tour de Revs to add to their collection on their quest for funds for World Hunger.

Thanks to all who have supported these projects.

NEWS FROM THE CALL COMMITTEE:

The committee met on February 12 to go over the plans as suggested by the bishop. When and if we have a candidate interested in our churches, we hope to be ready for the task of interviews etc. An outline was made as to who would do what. Questions were reviewed to ask and many of our own. Council decided to mail out a request to the congregation for questions that they may wish answers to. These will be incorporated into the call committee list and we hope all will respond to this request. Questions were reviewed as to what a candidate may ask of us, so we are prepared with answers.

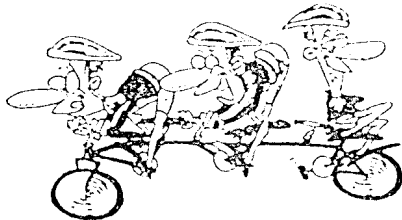
The call committee will include the congregation in several ways with this process; it is a joint decision, not for just a few to decide.

The shared call committee met on February 16 to compare what has been done. Both are looking at the 2009 Benefit package now for a combined decision and will get together on this issue soon. **KEEP THIS NEED IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS.**

A **Safeguarding God's Children** workshop will be held at **St. Mark Lutheran Church** in Wheeling on **Saturday, March 14**. It will begin at 10:00 a.m. Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. Pre-registration by March 10th is required. To pre-register please email or call Sherri Schafer (RPaulSchafer@aol.com) or 304-242-5012. A \$20 per person fee is due on the day of the event. Please make checks out to "WV-W MD Synod."

Tour de Revs

100 Days for Hunger and Wellness



Revelation → Revolution → Revenue

WORLD HUNGER

The Tour de Revs trip is shaping up and we think they are on a roll getting ready for the big trip. Lois and Ron are working to get insurance coverage on our church van for their use. Charity First our synod insurance is assisting us with that coverage. Keep this group in your prayers that all plans go well.

Signing Up Can Help People with Developmental Disabilities

If you are interested in learning what you need to know to impact the lives of people with developmental disabilities the Lutheran Services in America Disability Network (LSA-DN) has a site for you.

The interactive Web site features a blog, discussion forums, videos, articles and other resources to help you learn about the importance of Medicaid-funded services and support for people with developmental disabilities. It makes advocacy easy.

To join, visit www.lsadnadvocacy.org and sign up

SEARCHING FOR A PASTOR

Our committee would like to match possible candidates' knowledge of the world outside of our congregation with what you feel is important in your daily life. You can help our committee by completing this survey and returning it to Chuck, Karen or Lois.

Name (optional)

Date:

An ethical dilemma I face regularly at my work, school or home:

What I would want my pastor to know about my kind of daily work or hobby:

Thanks for your input, we need to know what you would like us to ask and find answers to.

RETURN BY MARCH 8, 2009
The Call Committee

In my school, work, or home, this is a question or comment I hear way too many times:

What a pastor could learn from visiting me at my work, school or home:

To understand people in my work, school or home, a pastor should be:

If I were on the committee to call a new pastor, I would ask him/her:

Pastor's Letter

"For God alone, my soul in silence waits." Psalm 62:1

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The Psalms are the prayer book of the Bible. As we sing their words, we are lifted up beyond ourselves – carried off by words and phrases into greater union with the Almighty. Throughout the ages, people have raised their hearts to the Lord through these words. Even in silence, the Lord hears. The Psalms are our prayers risen aloft on the voice of song.

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want" (Ps 23:1)

Comfort is offered. In the midst of our troubles and turmoil, the words of the psalmist bring relief. Like a cup of cool water, a restive brook or a gentle nap in the grass, we trust in the Lord to provide consolation, hope and peace. Our sung prayers raise our need; God responds with grace.

"I said I will confess my transgressions to the Lord; and you forgave the iniquity of my sin." (Ps 32:5)

Confession is also prayer in the hands of the psalmist. Admission of sin leads to repentance, and repentance to the reception of God's forgiving grace. Once that grace has been acknowledged, relationships are healed and community is restored. As our hearts are raised in contrition, we hear immediately the words of absolution and release.

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Ps 22:1)

In the midst of our heartbreak, pain and sorrow, like Jesus himself, we feel God's absence. Unlike those times when God seems near, now the Lord is far off. Loneliness grows, abandonment increases, we feel forsaken, and we lay our lament before the Lord. God hears our petition; God honors our words; God heals our wounds.

"Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation." (Ps 95:1)

In comfort and consolation, lamentation and anticipation, we raise our hearts and souls to the Lord in prayer. The Psalms serve as a vehicle, always both ancient and new. They are the sung prayers of the people of God from every age. They are their prayers; they are our prayers. With the people of God in every time and place, may the words of the Psalms be on our lips and in our heart always.

Pastor Dave

