



Many of you have probably already noticed that Easter falls so late this year. Having Easter occur on April 24 is one of the latest dates possible for this church celebration. For those who could use a refresher (as I did) in how the date of Easter is determined, here is the answer:

Easter is always the first Sunday after or on the first full moon, after the Spring (vernal) Equinox in the Northern hemisphere and the Autumnal Equinox in the Southern hemisphere. The date is determined by a combination of events centered around the lunar cycle, the solar cycle, the division of each year into 365 days and a 1,700 year old Church ruling.

The explanation starts with the fact that early Christians elected to link the date of Easter to the Hebrew calendar. The New Testament states that the Resurrection took place on the first day of the week following Passover. Sunday is the first day of a Jewish week; the Passover falls on the day of the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, which can fall on either March 20 or 21.

The first Ecumenical Council was held at Nicea in present-day Turkey in the year 325. It decreed that Easter would be celebrated on the Sunday following the first full moon that occurred after the Spring Equinox. This retained a lunar connection as a sort of "memory" of the Jewish calendar system, and ensured that the feast would be on a Sunday. Because lunar phases occur independently of the solar year, this means that there is a "window" of several weeks during which Easter may be celebrated. By this reckoning, in our calendar, Easter must occur between March 22 and April 25.<sup>1</sup>

A few years ago, when Easter fell on March 23 (as you can see, one of the earliest possible dates), I received a "complaint" from an active member at the church I was serving in Red Lion. She was frustrated that the events of Lent and Holy Week were conflicting with her filling out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) for her daughter's college enrollment, and that this was such a busy time for lots of other things in her life as well. I had to chuckle, since it sounded like she wanted me to take her concern to "The Big Guy Upstairs," as though I could do anything about it. I always think of this funny encounter every time Easter falls on one of the extreme dates of the possible spectrum. But, alas, we cannot blame it on pastors, we cannot blame it on church councils, we cannot even blame it on God, we must blame it on the moon.

Whatever your "preference" for the date of Easter -- whether it has to do with filling out FAFSA forms, or where Easter falls within the tax season, or whether you would like to wear a sleeveless dress and so you hope for warm weather on Easter Sunday -- the season leading up to Easter is one of the holiest times of the church year, the season that we call Lent.

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<sup>1</sup>[http://wiki.answers.com/Q/How\\_is\\_the\\_date\\_for\\_Easter\\_calculated\\_each\\_year#ixzz1EEZiWCxG](http://wiki.answers.com/Q/How_is_the_date_for_Easter_calculated_each_year#ixzz1EEZiWCxG)

Lent is a wonderful time to prepare for Christ's crucifixion AND resurrection by deciding to take on a particular spiritual practice (like devoting five minutes each morning to silent prayer, or reading a different devotional resource designed especially for Lent, or participating in our Thursday morning Lenten Book Study, or attending mid-week Lenten Community Worship), and Lent is a time of preparation unique to Christianity and the Church.

In Advent, we are so swept up in the secular Santa Claus-consumer Christmas that it is hard to carve away our time of Christian preparation for Jesus' birth. The secular world, however, does not have anything quite like Lent, and so it is a time to delve in spiritually, to see how we can grow as we journey alongside Jesus: through his time in the wilderness to the Garden of Gethsemane to his death on the cross.

Certainly this doesn't mean that the world does not offer competition for our time and energy, with spring sports beginning and preparation for graduation, and certainly warmer weather calling us outdoors instead of into the church building on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. But if we decide to take a Lenten journey, we may find our lives enriched so deeply that we will never want to be without a Lenten practice in the future. I pray that during the Lenten season, you will find activities that nurture your soul and feed you deeply, that you may walk with Christ during this sacred time, and find yourself also ready to be born anew on Easter morning, no matter when it falls on the calendar.

Many blessings,

*Pastor Sarah*



All services will begin at 7:00 PM and be followed by a time of refreshments and fellowship. For Wednesday evening services, the pastor of the host church will be the preacher.

Wednesday, March 9 – Mt. Zion UCC

Wednesday, March 16 - Trinity Roth's UCC

Wednesday, March 23 - St. Peter's Lischey's UCC

Wednesday, March 30 - Trinity Roth's UCC

Wednesday, April 6 - St. Peter's Lischey's UCC

Wednesday, April 13 – Mount Zion UCC

Thursday, April 21 – 7:00 PM

MAUNDY THURSDAY

St. Peter's Lischey's UCC

Friday, April 22 – 7:00 PM

COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

St. Peter's Lischey's UCC

Sunday, April 4 – 6:30 AM

EASTER DAWN

St. Peter's Lischey's UCC

Breakfast after Worship

## KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:



**Our members:** Maybelle Altland, Mabel Baer, Karen Bathgate, Becky Black, Ken Brown, Clara Eisenhart, Dale Farence, Kathy Flickinger, Allen & Evelyn Hoke, Edna Kemper, Delores Myers, Treva Myers, Dick Parks, Ken Ruby, Brenda Starner, **Friends of the congregation:** Janet Eichelberger, Eva Eisenhart, Gary & Vicki Friedman, Tracy Goodyear, Sue Hamm, Henry Korinth, Gene Krout, Don Laurence, Barry Markey, Carissa McComas, Dave Merges, Michael Potts, Barb Sauter, Diana Whisler, and Kenneth Wright; **all of our shut-ins** who we want to know are missed, yet are always in our hearts; and the **men and women who are proudly serving our country.**



**A PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** is being started here at Lischey's. We will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, at 9:00 AM. Everyone is welcome to attend. You do not need to know how to knit or crochet; we can teach you. We are also trying to plan an evening meeting time for those that are unable to meet on Wednesday mornings. Please join us if you are interested in helping. Hope to see you there!



**GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY** is March 6<sup>th</sup>. As a thank you to the members of Lischey's Church, the Girl Scout troops that meet at our church on Monday and Tuesday evenings will serve a light luncheon following the church service. Come with open hearts and empty stomachs. They will

also be bringing Girl Scout cookies to sell if you would like to purchase some, but forgot to order.

## DIRECTORY CHANGE

Brian & Melisa Altland  
1650 Pinetown Road  
Wellsville, PA 17365  
Home Phone 717-638-7006



Hoffman Homes for Youth

**DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH**, I will be collecting your gifts of \$2 (or more) for **Hoffman Home**.

The children living there are from our area and have been physically and/or emotionally abused or neglected for a period of time. It has become necessary to remove them from their homes for help and healing. It is our hope that they will be able to return to their communities to lead healthy, productive lives. Your gift of \$2 (or more) will help to provide things that show our love and care.

I also remind you to save your Campbell's labels and General Mills "Boxtops for Education" and place them in the basket in the bell tower vestibule.

Thank you for your consideration for Hoffman Home and the children living there. *Delphine*



**IN MARCH, THE WIMPS** will either be playing Bingo at Homewood or continuing to make some simple banners to be used as a visual reinforcement of our Lenten Theme this year. It is also that time of year when we begin to plan our annual tea that everyone has been waiting for almost two years since we missed last year. We are all excited about our newly remodeled social room and kitchen so this should be an especially fresh look for our "tea room" which will include some new round tables that were made possible by our Grandparents bulletins. Thank you! The date has been set for May 21<sup>st</sup>. So mark your calendars and tell your friends. There will be more news on this event in the next newsletter and bulletins.

Please join our group. We welcome all women of all ages!



**THANK YOU** for the thoughts, words, prayers, and visits concerning my last challenge and a special thank you to Pastor Sarah for her visit. *Dave & Donna Wiker*

**WE RECENTLY RECEIVED A THANK YOU NOTE** from the local family that received The Gifts for Baby Jesus: "I would like to thank all the members of your church for all the wonderful donations that Mrs. Cherry had brought to our family to help us during these tough times. Everything was greatly appreciated and much needed. Thank you all so much."

**SOUP KITCHEN – MARCH 29, 2011** beginning at 8:00 AM - As always, 6 turkeys need to be cooked before the 29<sup>th</sup>. If you will cook a turkey, please let Joan know as soon as possible. The turkeys need to be cooked and at the church on the 29<sup>th</sup> because we need to have the turkey pies ready for delivery to the Soup Kitchen no later than 10:30 AM. Help is needed on the 29<sup>th</sup> to peel potatoes and other jobs. Please consider helping in some way so that we can continue with this mission project.

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### *Birthdays in March*

\* - denotes 80 or older

March 2 Raymond Heindel IV  
March 4 Betty Thomas  
**March 6 Mildred Danner\***  
March 7 Julie Myers  
March 8 Blakelyn Sanders  
March 9 Stephanie Neiderer  
March 17 Katie Hankey  
Hyon Ho Hildebrand  
Sandy Lehman  
**March 18 Philip Baer\***  
**Gladys Leese\***  
March 22 Dennis Kimball  
Bev Kiser  
March 23 John Altland  
**March 24 Allen Hoke\***  
Vern Black  
March 25 Don Carl  
March 26 Skyler Brown  
March 28 Mike Neiderer  
March 30 Tammy Wetzel  
March 31 Owen Messinger



### *Anniversaries*

Bill & JoAnn Kirkwood	March 12, 1960
Jim & Joan Messinger	March 14, 1964
Donald & Marie Luckabaugh	March 17, 1956
James & Amanda Luckabaugh	March 17, 1979
Dennis & Diane Kimball	March 20, 1971
Brian & Melisa Altland	March 23, 1991



The new “Music Room” is up and running! Please stop in and see the internal workings of the music program all at one location except for the choir loft in the sanctuary. It is great! And I even have a window to watch the birds, especially the bluebirds.

The month of March will begin our Lenten season. Our sanctuary choir will join with other choirs from community churches for our combined midweek services. So all choirs will now be rehearsing Lent and Easter music during March and most of April since Easter is late this year.

The Sanctuary choir will again be doing a Maundy Thursday Cantata and we invite anyone who would like to join us for a short term commitment. Please see me and I will give you the music and our rehearsal schedule. Step out of your comfort zone and give it a try! It isn’t hard and I guarantee you will have fun at the same time! Did I mention that our alto section doubles as our comedy relief from time to time...not mentioning any names!

The Praise Choir is very excited! They have experienced a growth spurt, something that has not happened for a few years!! We welcome Kari Hamme to our small group! She has been recruited by Sara and Kayla. They have set a great example of what all of us should be doing within our church. Every one of us has a responsibility and are commissioned to go out and witness to others and bring them into the fold to hear and learn about our God! Let’s keep the ball rolling!

Some other news from our Praise Choir! We have another candidate for York County’s Junior Miss! Sara Behm will be pursuing the title this year. I think that speaks very loudly about our youth here at Lischey’s. It is a program that is supported by recommendation and invitation of candidates. Kayla was invited last year to participate and did an excellent job in her experience and this year Sara is now on the journey. Good luck, Sara! A little trivia for Lischey’s... our own Jenell McKowen was a past York County Junior Miss. Julie White was a candidate and our own Pastor Sarah was also a candidate!! Ask those two how they like to dance!! How about that info?!

Please continue to support our music program and pray for our music ministry that we are able to touch someone through our gift of music.

**March Rehearsal Schedule**

**Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
 6:15 PM Praise Choir  
 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

**Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
 6:30 PM Chime Choir

**Wed., March 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>**  
 6:15 PM Praise Choir  
 7:00 PM Lenten Services

**Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>**  
 6:30 PM Chime Choir  
 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir & Men’s Chorus

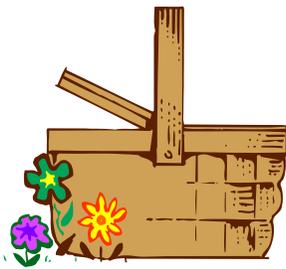
**March Special Music**

**March 6<sup>th</sup>**  
 Sanctuary Choir  
**March 13<sup>th</sup>**  
 Praise Choir  
**March 20<sup>th</sup>**  
 Chime Choir & Sanctuary Choir  
**March 27<sup>th</sup>**  
 Joyful Singers

*Darlene*

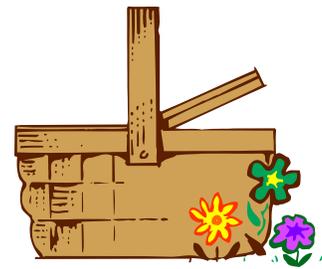
*P.S. nature report...I was looking out of our big living room window and spotted a new visitor to our yard. I quickly grabbed the binoculars, which are always handy by the window, and I had my first spotting of a pileated woodpecker! He is easily identified by his funny shaped head. He sort of reminds me of a prehistoric bird. His head is peak-shaped. I ran outside and just watched him fussing and chasing the other birds. I have since read that they patrol their territory. That’s a good sign for me. I’ll kindly share my territory with him! Upon reporting my discovery to my family, my son-in-law doubted me and reminded me that my eyes aren’t the best. How thoughtful of him!! But a few days later I was in the garage and heard a cackling noise that reminded me of a chicken. I ran to the window and yelled for Steve because I knew that was the same fussing I heard before. This time he grabbed the binoculars and he saw the woodpecker! I now had a witness and put an end to one mother-in-law joke!*

*I’m hoping that I may also see a mate in the spring. That would make for some interesting upcoming newsletter articles! It’s not music related but it sure witnesses to God’s amazing signs of creation and beauty everywhere! Keep your binoculars nearby this spring and enjoy God’s world!*



# Basket

## BINGO



**ON FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2011**, the Fundraising Committee will be holding their seventh annual Basket Bingo at New Oxford Social Club Pavilion in New Oxford. The doors will open at 5:30 PM and the bingo will start at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$12.00 in advance and \$15.00 at the door. There is a lot of work that goes into organizing and planning this event and we need lots of help in order to make it successful. Here are some ways that you can help:

The first thing, and the most important thing we need, is to get people to sponsor the baskets, make a contribution towards the purchase of the baskets or the filling of the baskets with goodies, or make donations towards door prizes. If you know of any individuals or businesses that might be interested in sponsoring or donating, please contact Chris DeGroft at (717) 229-9807. This is a tax write-off for any individual or business and also great advertising. The more donations we get, the less our expenses will be and the greater our profit will be.

Another important thing we need is people to buy tickets. Please try to help in this area by selling tickets to coworkers, friends, and relatives.

The night of the bingo, we will need help in the kitchen to prepare, serve, and sell food. We are planning on selling sandwiches, soup, snacks, soft drinks, and baked goods. Anyone who is interested in donating baked goods, please contact Chris. Also that night, we will need a bingo caller, people at the door to collect and sell tickets, runners to check the cards for bingo, someone to hand out the prizes, and someone to help with the raffles.

With the help of many people, this has been a very successful event for us, and we raised quite a bit of money for the Building for Service fund. Let's see if this year we can do just as well, or even better than last year. Anyone who is interested in helping with the Basket Bingo, please contact Chris DeGroft at (717) 229-9807. Thanks in advance for your support.

The Fundraising Committee  
*Chris DeGroft*, Chairperson  
*Brian Altland, Russ Bolden,*  
*Don & Wendy Carl, Jenn Lecrone*  
*Dick Myers, Connie Neiderer*





PROUDLY PRESENTS

OUR 14<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
COMMUNITY TREASURES  
AWARD PROGRAM

Information for Non-Profit Organizations.

- The Community Treasures Program will run from April 3<sup>rd</sup> through Oct 1st 2011.
- Customers may sign up any local non-profit organization. Kennie's reserves the right to exclude organizations outside our local communities and / or not registered with the Bureau of Charitable Organizations.
- Non-profit organization members need to sign up each year; they must use their Kennies Preferred Shopper Card each time they shop and spend at least \$300.00 (excluding milk, lottery, film processing, cigarettes, tobacco, pharmacy and tax) at their local Kennie's Market during the program for their purchases to be included.
- Any member of your non-profit organization may sign up until May 14th, 2011. Their totals will accumulate from the sign up period forward.
- Kennie's will rebate up to 1% of the purchases made in the charities' names with a maximum donation of \$25,000.00 to all enrolled organizations.
- If the amount to be rebated to all charities does not exceed \$25,000, each non-profit organization will receive 1% of their purchases.
- If the amount to be rebated to all charities exceeds \$25,000, your organization will get a pro-rated percentage of the \$25,000 based on the total spending of the organizations. Example: The total amount of purchases in all the charities is \$3,000,000 and Charity 1 has accumulated \$60,000 in purchases,  $60,000 / 3,000,000 = 2\%$  of all money purchases in all charities' names. Charity 1 will receive 2% of \$25,000 or \$500.
- Kennies will provide a status report to all its charities in June that will let each charity know how much has been purchased in their name. Due to our concern for customer privacy, Kennie's will not provide you with names of customers enrolled for your non-profit organization; however, we will tell you the number of members enrolled and total purchases made.
- Kennie's cannot give each individual a report of Kennie's donations in their name due to the large number of households involved.
- Our most popular event "The Check Presentation Party" will be held in October 2011. Invitations will be sent to each organization announcing this Presentation.**

**\$325,000.00 AWARDED TO DATE**

COMMUNITY TREASURES 2011  
ENROLLMENT FORM

Drop this form off at the Customer Service desk at your favorite Kennie's Markets or you may sign up On-Line @ [www.kenniesmarket.com](http://www.kenniesmarket.com).

CUSTOMER \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

KENNIES CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION NAME St. Peter's Dicheys U.C.C. # 255

ORGANIZATION CONTACT PERSON Joan Messinger

ORGANIZATION ADDRESS Po Box 152

CITY Spring Grove STATE PA ZIPCODE 17362

PHONE NUMBER 717-225-3932