



Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church News

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Our Mission:

To provide a spiritual home where people can gather as friends to worship and serve God.

Our Vision:

To follow Christ by opening our doors, our minds, and our hearts as our hands reach out to all people with compassion and love.

Fall / Winter - 2011

New Testament Study Wednesday Evenings 6:30pm



The Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church is offering a very ambitious 30 week course entitled "Discovering the Bible". The fifteen week Old Testament portion was completed in May. **The fifteen week New Testament study will begin on September 7th.** The Pastor, Mary Jessup, leads the class and encourages new participants to join the class this Fall. Workbooks are available at the Church or at the first meeting for \$30.



Potluck & Vespers at Funk's Grove

People from Buffalo Hart have been traveling to Funk's Grove for years to enjoy the beauty of God's creation in that special place. The pavilion and the Chapel in the Trees have been reserved for the evening of **Sunday, September 11th, 2011.** People can begin gathering at 4:00pm and the potluck will be at 5:00pm.

The first hour gives an opportunity to explore the beautiful grounds. After supper we'll reassemble for Vespers in the Chapel in the Trees.

On that day, there will be many opportunities to observe the tenth anniversary of 9/11. Gathering with Church Family for a good meal and Worship in a peaceful setting promises to be a very worthy way to remember.

Confirmation Sunday September 18th

Confirmation classes were held at the Church this Summer. Attending were Britton & Colin Ley, Kasey Lane, Bethany Daniels, and Madeline & Andrew Moody. The Presbyterian Book of Order explains...."The church nurtures those baptized as children and calls them to make public their personal profession of faith and their acceptance of responsibility in the life of the church."

During Worship on Sunday, September 18th, Britton, Colin, Bethany, and Kasey will be presented to the Congregation to be confirmed in their baptismal identity wherein they will be commissioned for full participation in the mission and governance of the Church and welcomed as confirmed members of our Congregation. Andrew and Madeline are active members of the Riverton Christian Church.

Additional classes will be offered to Junior High and Senior High students who were unable to participate in the Summer session.

Other Fellowship Opportunities

The **Fall Weiner Roast** will be held on Saturday, October 15th at 6:00pm. Doug & Guyla Stevens will again host the event at their home, 3751 Old Leka Road, East of Buffalo. This is always a wonderful evening of fellowship for people of all ages. Please bring a dish to share and a lawn chair.

The **All-Church Potluck & Christmas Lights Bus Tour** will be Sunday, December 11th. Plan to gather with people of all ages at the Church at 5:00pm for a potluck meal. We'll then board a rented school bus for a tour of area villages to enjoy the lights of Christmas. During our bus journey around the area we'll sing Christmas songs and enjoy the warmth and fellowship of the season.

Worship Services

During 2011 our Worship services have focused on the Gospel of Matthew. September through November will reflect on Chapters 18 - 25. The Worship experience is enriched when you prayerfully read the scripture prior to Worship on Sunday.

Communion will be observed on the first Sunday of each month.

Margaret Zinn has agreed to assist with scheduling special music to enhance our experience of Worship. The choir will sing on the second Sunday of each month and choir practices will be at the Church at 7:00pm on Thursdays, 9/8, 10/6, 11/3, and 12/8. Consider adding your voice to the choir. Additional musical specials, vocal or instrumental, are sought. Speak with Margaret if you have ideas or can help.

All Saint's Day reminds us that we are part of the universal church of saints, the everlasting communion of believers, past, present, and future. By lighting candles on Sunday, October 30th, we'll remember those who have gone before, especially those who have died in the past year.

The Children's Choir will sing on Sunday, November 6th.

Advent begins on Sunday, November 27th, with the first of an Advent sermon series entitled "Stories of Hope." Families of the Church will participate in the liturgy of lighting the candles of the Advent Wreath. The Hanging of the Greens will take place following Worship on the first Sunday of Advent.



Annual Christmas Program

Sunday - December 18th - 6:00pm - invite family and friends to Worship with you on this special night. It will be an evening of music, readings, candles, Holy Communion, and pageantry. A time of fellowship will follow.

Pictorial Directory

Copies of our pictorial directory will be available for distribution within the next few weeks. Special thanks to Janice Wray and Judy Shutt for all their good work on this valuable project.

Tri-City Food Pantry

In these tough economic times, many are finding it to be a struggle to provide food for their families. We can help by bringing non-perishable food items to Worship on October 30th that will be delivered, by the Deacons, to the food pantry at the Mechanicsburg Christian Church. Items of particular need are canned fruits & vegetables, macaroni & cheese, soups & detergents. A box for monetary donations will be provided as well.

UNICEF

Around Halloween each year, Church Women United provides our Congregation with an opportunity to collect for UNICEF. Collection boxes will be available at the Church for your donations. The "United Nations Children's Fund" (formerly the **United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund**) is a global organization that saves kids' lives in over 150 countries by providing clean water, nutrition, medicines, education, and aid in emergencies.

Women's Association

Monthly meetings are on Monday evenings at the Church.

9/19 7:00pm Hostess: Mary Jessup
Lesson: Ann Hughes
Revelation 17 - 18

10/17 7:00pm Hostess: Mary Moody
Lesson: Gayle Jennings
Revelation 21 - 22

11/21 6:00pm Hostess: Judy Shutt
The group will enjoy a soup supper & decorate the Fellowship Room for Christmas. Gift bags for those staying at the Helping Hands Homeless Shelter will be assembled.

Kemmerer Village will be the recipient of the annual Advent Project for the group. More details as they become available.

Contact Ministries has the following "wish list". Items can be placed in the blue plastic bin in the Fellowship Hall: diapers & pull-ups/wipes; cleaning supplies; tissues; toilet paper; paper towels; feminine hygiene products; laundry, dish, & body soaps; shampoo; conditioner.

Parish Nurse Report



Is my child's backpack too heavy?

If the backpack is more than 10% of the child's body weight it can cause neck & back pain. If it is more than 15%, it can cause severe neck & back pain and can aggravate existing sports injuries and scoliosis. Look for wide padded adjustable straps and perhaps even a lumbar strap. The bottom of the pack should be two inches above the waist and it should be carried on both shoulders.

Elaine Miller
Parish Nurse

Upcoming Faith & Health reports will be given during Worship by Guyla Stevens (The Blood Bank) and Chuck Smith (Hospice Care).

Praise Service

Alice Christenberry, the Director of Development at Kemmerer Village, a Presbyterian child care agency near Assumption will be with us during Worship on **Sunday, November 13th** to tell us about their work with children.

There will be a potluck following Worship. During that time Alice will address any questions individuals might have about the work of Kemmerer Village. Plan to bring a dish to share. Drinks and table service will be provided.

Strategic Planning Meeting

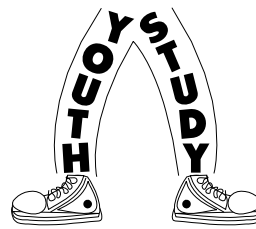
The Elders & Deacons of the Congregation will gather at the Church on **Saturday, October 22** at 9:00am to update the Strategic Plan for our Church. Your input into the governance of the Church is always welcome! If you have ideas you would like included in this discussion, please give them to one of the Elders or Deacons or to Pastor Jessup.

Honor Flight

An Honor Flight will leave Springfield's Capital Airport on Tuesday, Sept. 13th, and our Ross Webb, a U.S. Army Veteran of World War II, will be on that flight to Washington, D.C. where he and other veterans will visit war memorials. We thank Ross for his service and wish him well on

Gandhi Lecture

Rajmohan Gandhi, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi and author & research professor at the University of Illinois, will speak about compassion and the life and message of his grandfather at Laurel United Methodist Church in Springfield on Sunday, Sept. 18th, from 3-4:30pm. The lecture is part of Greater Springfield Days of compassion, an endeavor by the Prairieland Compassion Network to inspire specific actions to transform the area into a more compassionate community for all people. This group began as a response to the book "*Charter for Compassion*" by Karen Armstrong.



The Junior High & High School youth of the Church are meeting monthly for study, fellowship, and service. Their upcoming schedule:

Sept. 4 - following Worship:

The Group will plan the Worship service for Sunday, Sept. 18th when some of them will be confirmed. Barb Theobald will serve lunch. Thanks, Barb!

Oct. 2 - Crop Walk: After Worship the Group will gather for lunch at the home of Mary Jessup before heading to the Old State Capitol Plaza. The 10K walk begins at 1:30pm. Adults and children from the Church are encouraged to walk with the youth to raise money for hunger relief. Area food pantries that receive funds from the 2010 Walk include First Presbyterian Food Pantry, Grace Lutheran Church Food Pantry, Holy Family Food Pantry, Kumler Neighborhood Ministries, St. John's Breadline, and Chatham Food Bank. Walkers and sponsors are needed.

Oct. 30 - 3:30 at the Church: The youth will meet to prepare supper for those staying at the Helping Hands Homeless Shelter and at 5:00 all will go to Springfield to serve the meal.

Buffalo Hart Book Group

The Book Group meets monthly on the third Sunday at 4:00pm at the Church. However, the Group will not meet in September in order to attend the Gandhi lecture in Springfield.

The assigned book for October 16th is "*Amazing Grace: William Wilberforce and the Heroic Campaign to End Slavery*" by Eric Metaxas. If you enjoy reading you are encouraged to participate.



Join us for Worship & Fellowship
 Each Sunday
 Worship Service - 9:30am
 Sunday School - 10:00am

“In God We Trust”



Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church
 Return Address:
 11902 Cass Road
 Buffalo, IL 62515

Upcoming Dates To Remember

Sept. 7	New Testament Study Begins
Sept. 8	Gandhi Lecture
Sept. 11	Pot Luck & Vespers at Funks Grove
Sept. 18	Confirmation Sunday
Oct. 2	Annual Crop Walk
Oct. 15	Fall Weiner Roast
Oct. 30	Donate food to the Tri-City Food Pantry
Dec. 11	Potluck & Christmas Lights Tour
Dec. 18	Annual Christmas Worship Service
Sept. 19 - Oct. 17 - Nov. 21	Buffalo Hart Book Group
Third Sunday of each month	Women's Association Meetings

More information about each of these events can be found in this newsletter...but be sure to mark them on your calendar and plan to participate whenever you can. You are always welcome....and don't forget to invite others to participate with you!