

# The Messenger

Champion Presbyterian Church  
Warren, Ohio  
330-847-9614



We invite you to worship and  
learn with us this week.

Seek -- Teach -- Reach

Volume No. 52

March 2, 2010

Issue No. 5

## From Marvin Barney, Pastor

In the last *Messenger*, I encouraged us to participate in the 40 Days of Prayer for Trumbull County. I suggested a number of topics to focus our praying. In this *Messenger*, I want to continue to focus on prayer. The following are five principles for praying that I shared in worship on a recent Sunday morning.

**Pray spontaneously.** This includes being yourself when you pray. God made each of us to be special. When we approach God in prayer, he expects us to be the person He created. While we approach God with deep respect, we can also speak with Him as we do a friend. God knows you and He loves you. He enjoys hearing from you on a regular basis.

**Pray specifically.** I have noticed that many of us tend to be non-specific in our prayers. "*Bless our country.*" "*Bless our family.*" Pray for specific issues that face our country or for specific issues that your family is facing. The more specific we are, the more we know when God answers our prayers. Seeing answers to prayer encourages us to pray even more. This is all part of the relationship God desires to have with each of us.

**Pray in the right way.** In Matthew 7:7, Jesus teaches us this lesson on prayer: "*Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.*" In the original Greek language, the effect is this: *Keep on asking, keep on seeking, and keep on knocking.* God asks us to persevere in prayer. But be sure to pray with the right motives. God will only give us what is best for us.

**Pray with all your heart.** Ever try to carry on a conversation with a toddler? The toddler is easily distracted. So are we. We are surrounded with distractions. Do your best to find a quiet place. Write down your distractions, especially if they involve something you need to do. Some people have found it helpful to pray aloud. Others like to write out their prayers. Practice giving God your full attention. Approach Him with sincerity and love.

**Pray continually.** Obviously, we do not do this with our eyes closed and hands folded. This is about attitude and the recognition that God is with us 24/7. For Christians, prayer is like breathing. It keeps a vital relationship with God living and active as we live in an attitude of prayer. We face different challenges in life. As we come to them, take them to God in short prayers. Short prayers that are built upon longer, planned times of prayer are very effective. We receive wisdom and help in facing our daily challenges.

Take your prayer life to the next level. God promises to move as we pray. Take Him at His Word. I pray God will reveal Himself to you as you seek Him in prayer. I pray you will receive His wisdom at home, at work, or at school. I look forward to seeing you in worship this Sunday.

**Pastor Marv is in Brazil** through Saturday, March 6. If you need pastoral care, please call the church office or any of our elders. If a pastor is needed, one will be available. The Barney's **new home phone number** is 330-984-0332 and Marv's new **e-mail address** is [marv.barney@neo.rr.com](mailto:marv.barney@neo.rr.com).

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

**Marvin Barney, Pastor**

**9:00 a.m. -- Sunday School**  
**10:00 a.m. -- Worship Service**  
**10:00 a.m. -- Children's Programming**

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**Sunday – March 7, 2010**  
**Third Sunday of Lent**  
**Girl Scout Sunday**

**Sermon: "Journey to Acceptance"**  
**Acts 9:19-28**

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**Sunday – March 14, 2010**  
**Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
**Ordination and Installation of Officers**  
**Recognition of Outgoing Officers**

**Sermon: "Matthew: A Surprising Disciple"**  
**Matthew 9:9-13, 35-38**

We invite you to our monthly **Saturday Morning Prayer Service** on March 6 at 8:00 a.m. in the Conference Room. A time of guided prayer will be led by the Elders. Prayer is our life and breath! Join us as we turn to our precious Lord in praise and petition.

**A Prayer List** with the concerns of our church family on it is available on the Literature Table in the lobby where you can pick one up and pray for those concerns each day.

## Wednesday Night Supper Club!!

Dinner is served from 5:45 - 6:30 p.m.

There is no charge but donations are appreciated.

## Programming includes:

6:00 -- Junior-Senior High Youth Group

6:30 -- *KidzClub* for those in elementary and pre-school

Pastor Barney's 6:45 p.m. **Wednesday Night Bible Study in Hebrews** has been cancelled.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS – MARCH 7 THROUGH 13**

<b>DAY</b>	<b>HOUR</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>MEETING PLACE</b>
<b>Sun - 7</b>	9:00	<b>Sunday School</b>	
	10:00	<b>Morning Worship Service</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
	11:15	<b>Chime Choir - Drama Team</b>	
<b>Mon - 8</b>	11:15	<b>Confirmation Class #2</b>	<b>Youth Office</b>
	9:00	Women's Breakfast and Bible Study	Panera Bread, Elm Road
	6:30	Stephen Ministry	Room 27
<b>Tue - 9</b>	7:00	Personnel Committee	Conference Room
	<b>9:00</b>	<b><u>Bulletin Information due in the Church Office</u></b>	
	9:30	<b>Prayer Fellowship</b>	<b>Conference Room</b>
	10:00	<b>Deborah Circle</b>	<b>Parlor</b>
	6:30	<b>Teen Bible Study</b>	
<b>Wed - 10</b>	6:30	<b>Sing for Fun - Grades 3-6</b>	<b>Social Hall</b>
	7:00	<b>Session Meeting</b>	<b>Parlor</b>
	<b>9:00</b>	<b><u>Bulletin Insert Information due in the Church Office</u></b>	
	1:30	Pastor's Bible Study in Hebrews	Room 27
	5:45	Supper Club - open to all	Social Hall
<b>Thu - 11</b>	6:00	Youth Group	Sanctuary
	6:30	<i>KidzClub</i>	Social Hall
	7:45	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
	<b>9:00</b>	<b><u>Messenger information due in the church office</u></b>	
	10:30	<b>Ladies Aid Society - Sack Lunch</b>	<b>Social Hall</b>
<b>Sat - 13</b>	7:00	<b>Deacons Meeting</b>	<b>Room 26</b>
	7:00	<b>Trustees Meeting</b>	<b>Room 27</b>
	9:00	New Church Officer Training - <b><u>for all new officers</u></b>	Social Hall

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS – MARCH 14 THROUGH 20**

<b>Sun - 14</b>	9:00	<b>Sunday School</b>	
	10:00	<b>Morning Worship Service</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
	11:15	<b>Chime Choir - Drama Team</b>	
<b>Mon - 15</b>	11:15	<b>Confirmation Class #3</b>	<b>Youth Office</b>
	6:30	Stephen Ministry - final	Room 27
	<b>Tue - 16</b>	<b>9:00</b>	<b><u>Bulletin Information due in the Church Office</u></b>
<b>Wed - 17</b>	9:30	<b>Prayer Fellowship</b>	<b>Conference Room</b>
	6:30	<b>Teen Bible Study</b>	<b>Parlor</b>
	6:30	<b>Sing for Fun - Grades 3-6</b>	<b>Social Hall</b>
	7:00	<b>Missions Committee</b>	<b>Room 27</b>
	8:30	<b>18 to 20-Something Group</b>	<b>Youth Office</b>
<b>Thu - 18</b>	<b>9:00</b>	<b><u>Bulletin Insert Information due in the Church Office</u></b>	
	1:30	Pastor's Bible Study in Hebrews	Room 27
	5:45	Wednesday Supper Club - open to all	Outreach Center
	6:00	Junior-Senior High Youth Group	Sanctuary
	6:30	<i>KidzClub</i>	Social Hall
<b>Fri - 19</b>	7:45	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
	7:00	<b>Children's Ministries Committee</b>	<b>Children's Office</b>
<b>Sat - 29</b>	2:00	Women's Small Group Bible Study	Parlor
	10:00	<b>Go Teams</b>	<b>Parking Lot</b>

**New Church Officer Orientation**, for those Elders, Deacons, Deaconesses, and Trustees elected at the Congregational Meeting, will be held from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon on Saturday, March 13, in the Social Hall. **All officers are required to have training** so please plan to be here. If you cannot attend that day, let the church office know and there will be a make-up date for you.



**Officer Ordination and Installation** will be held on Sunday, March 14, during the worship service and new officers need to be present that day. Elders and Deacons cannot serve until they are ordained. Please call the church office if you are unable to be present that day.

**Outgoing Officers** will also be recognized that day and will be presented a small token of our **thanks** for their service.

The bi-weekly **Women's Breakfast and Bible Study** will meet next on March 8 at 9:00 a.m. at **Panera Bread** on Elm Road. All women are cordially invited and encouraged to attend.

**Deborah Circle** will hold its March meeting on Tuesday the 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Church Parlor. All women of the church are invited to attend. There will be a brief business meeting, Bible Study, and fellowship.

**The Ladies Aid Society** will hold its next meeting at 10:30 a.m. with a sack lunch at 12 noon on Thursday, March 11, in the Social Hall. All women of our church are invited to become a part of this busy group. Just bring a sack lunch.

**SOC** (Senior Outreach Citizens) will have a Spring Outing on April 5 instead of meeting here at the church. They will gather at Salvatore's Restaurant in Hunter's Square, Howland, at 12:00 noon for lunch (Dutch Treat) and then travel to the Butler Art Museum at 1:30 for a tour.

**In and/or Out of Hospitals:**  
 Alice Beckett Marge Thompson  
**Rehab:** Community Skilled Care - Katy Warren  
 Lake Vista, Cortland - Ruth Bernard

**Those in the Military**

**Iraq:** Billy McMahan - John Scott **Hawaii:** Michael Smith  
**Afghanistan:** Mike Scott -- Todd Cellars  
**Korea:** Matt Lamer  
**Stateside:** Chris Hatfield - MS Jimmy Leigh - MO

**Year-to-Date Income - \$50,160**  
**Year-to-Date Expenses - \$55,152**

**Quarterly Statements** will go out shortly after the first of April. We have a deficit for the year to date and we need to reduce that amount. Please check to see that your giving is up to date. We need your help in order to meet our church's financial commitments.

You will find an envelope with the word **Per Capita** on it in your **2010 Offering Envelope Box**. The amount per member for 2010 is **\$28** and this money goes to support the work of Eastminster Presbytery (\$18.67), Synod of the Covenant (\$3.18), and General Assembly (\$6.15). Please place that amount in the envelope to pay **for each member**.

Frances Russell has started **CPC Sing for Fun** for those in Grades 3-6 who like to sing. It is held on Tuesday nights at 6:30 in the Social Hall. Come out and join the fun!



Lovely **Easter flowers (lilies, hyacinths, and tulips)** to decorate our Sanctuary will be \$7.00 each and they may be taken home following Easter Worship. Due to IRS regulations, money given for flowers cannot be shown on your statement as a gift to the church. Call the church office to order

yours or see the order form in your bulletin insert on Sunday. **The deadline to order is March 28.**

**Session** held its monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 2. Pastor Marvin Barney, the Moderator, opened the meeting with prayer. Reports were received from the Clerk, the Financial Secretary, the Boards of Trustees and Deacons.

**Other issues and action items included:**

Approved

- \* the General Assembly 2009 Statistical Report which includes all of the important information about our church last year
- \* Children's Ministries and Youth Ministries upcoming activities
- \* Matching funds of \$100 from the Ladies Aid Society for the Steubenville Trip; matched by Bake Sale proceeds
- \* Missionaries of the Month with minutes for mission and special offerings to be: Mike and Nancy Mahon here on April 18; Mike and Irene Sivalee here on September 26; and Sandy and Cheryl Spangler here on October 17
- \* the establishment of a Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Fund with proceeds to go to aid and relief for the January Haitian earthquake victims
- \* Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 on February 17 in the Outreach Center—same format as last year
- \* Taize' Prayer Service in our sanctuary at 6:00 p.m. on the First Sunday of Lent, February 21.

*Thanks to the Deacons, SOC, and everyone who sent me the nice birthday cards. **Dick Pringle***

*Thank you all for the cards celebrating my 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday. It was so nice to be remembered. **Audrey McGee***

*I would like to **thank** all my Presbyterian friends who thought of me on my birthday and sent me all those beautiful cards. **Edith Fee***

*I would like to **thank** my family, my children, and my grandchildren, the Deacons, the SOC Group, the Ladies Aid Society and my church family for the beautiful cards, phone calls, and prayers I received for my 86<sup>th</sup> birthday. I appreciated all of them. It made my day brighter. I received 35 cards. **Love to all, Helen Miller***

*I want to say **thanks** to the church family for all the cards they sent me and for their prayers. Thanks to the SOC members and a special thanks to Ethel and Ralph Tranter who delivered the beautiful vase of wooden flowers from the Ladies Aid Society and spent time visiting with me--thanks to the Ladies Aid for remembering me in this way. Also, a special thanks to the Deacons of our church. I received so many cards and enjoyed every one of them. And I also thank God for our Pastor Barney and his wife, Arlene.*

*In Christian love, **Lucille Woolley***

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**Deadlines for Easter Publications**

The Church Office will close at noon on Good Friday, April 2, and not reopen until 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 6.

Information is due by 9:00 a.m. each time as follows for bulletins, bulletin inserts, and the *Messenger*:

- \* for the March 30 (Holy Week) *Messenger*--due not later than Thursday, March 25 (normal date/time)--next info will be due on Thursday, April 8, for the April 13 edition
- \* for the Palm Sunday bulletin by Tuesday, March 23
- \* for the Maundy Thursday bulletin by Wednesday, March 24
- \* the Easter Sunday bulletin by Monday, March 29, at 9:00 a.m.

Any of this information will also be gratefully accepted prior to the deadlines.

**"Upper Room"** daily devotionals for March and April (regular and large-print editions) are available on the literature table in the Narthex. They are \$1. **"Our Daily Bread"** devotionals for March, April, and May are also available there for \$1.

There is a **Prayer Book** available for prayer requests or praises on Sunday mornings. It is located in the hallway up the steps from the Reception Area—by the stained glass window. We will include praises or concerns in the morning prayer each Sunday. When writing in the book, **please write or print very clearly.**

**Purpose Statement**

**Champion Presbyterian Church, a community claimed by the love and grace of God through Jesus Christ, purposes to magnify God by:**

- \* **bringing people to a saving relationship with Jesus and to membership in his family**
- \* **developing them to Christlike maturity**
- \* **equipping them for their ministry in the church and life mission in the world.**

**THE MESSENGER**  
Champion Presbyterian Church  
4997 Mahoning NW  
Warren OH 44483

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
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WARREN OH

**March 2, 2010**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Time Sensitive Material!**  
**Please deliver by Saturday!**

*The Messenger* is published bi-weekly by Champion Presbyterian Church, a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA). **Sunday School for all ages is at 9:00 a.m. each week. Worship is at 10:00 a.m.** Staff includes Rev. Marvin Barney, Pastor; Kelly Adams, Director of Youth and Sports Ministries; Joan Watson, Director of Children's Ministries; Marilyn Emery, Administrative Secretary and Editor of *The Messenger*; Kathie Trowbridge, Treasurer; Cheryl Knowlton, Facility Manager; Shirley Hofmeister, Director of Music; Daniel McKinnon, Organist/Keyboardist. The church is located at 4997 Mahoning N.W., Warren, Ohio 44483. Telephone number is 330-847-9614; FAX number is 330-847-9134; e-mail is champres@aol.com. Visit our **website** at [www.championpres.org](http://www.championpres.org). Office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays. **All visitors are welcome!**



*In Memory of*

**WILLIAM E. ATKIN**

**Born -- September 29, 1916**

**Joined Our Fellowship -- March 30, 1958**  
**A 52-Year Member**

**Service to Our Church:**  
**Deacon -- Elder -- Trustee**  
**Evangelism Explosion -- SOC Group**

**Died -- February 23, 2010**

**"I am the resurrection and the life."  
John 11:25**

**A Memorial Fund has been established  
at our church in Bill's memory.**



*Our sympathy is extended to Louise and Dick Bush in the death of her brother, Barr Frampton, age 91, of California, also on February 23.*

*Congratulations to Emily Tuttle on her graduation from Mount Union College in December. She received a Bachelor of Arts in French with a minor in International Studies.*

*Gene Huntley will celebrate his 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday on March 27. His address is 5508 Mahoning NW, 44483. Congratulations, Gene!*

*Our thanks to the Youth Group and their advisors for leading us in worship on February 28. It is always a pleasure to have a Youth Sunday and to see how multi-talented our young people are!*

*Our thanks to the Ladies Aid Society for purchasing a new refrigerator for the Social Hall kitchen as well as 35 new chairs for the Social Hall. Another 15 chairs were donated by a member of the church for a total of 50 chairs.*

**Purchases were made from the Memorial Funds of:**

**Annis Anthony**  
**Luella Leathers**  
**Grace Sackett**  
**Mary McAllister**

## From Joan Watson, Director Children's Ministries

"We have different gifts, according to the grace given us . . . if it is serving, let him serve" - Romans 12:6-7. In this Scripture, the Apostle Paul admonishes us to use our gifts. Do you see your gift as "serving?" If so, keep your eyes open for where and how God wants you to use this gift.

It has been a long winter but we helped the kids avoid "cabin fever" by having an **Overnighter** for the 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Graders on Friday, February 12. A total of 32 boys and girls came and enjoyed swimming at the Holt's pool, then returned to the church for a night of food, fun, and games (and a little sleep). **Thanks to Amy Arnold and all of her volunteers** who helped make this such an enjoyable event.

A **Valentine's Swim Party** was held for the children ages 3 through Grade 3 on Saturday, February 13, at the Holt's. There were 15 children who came to swim and have a Valentine exchange. **Thanks to Sandy Wilson and Carol Cibella** who took charge of feeding the gang, and **to Gary and Anna Marie** for opening their home and pool to us for both events. Our church is blessed to have willing workers to join with the children for special times like these.

We are continuing to collect **Pocket Change for the Children of Haiti**. It is such a joy to see the children bring their money each Sunday. Coupled with adult contributions, we are able to do some small part in helping provide for the needs of hurting children in another part of the world.

**Mark your calendars for March 27**—the day we hold our **Easter Egg-Stravaganza** here at the church. We are in need of drivers to transport us to Windsor House at 11:00 a.m., where the children will entertain the residents. Helpers are also needed for all of the other events of the day. Donations of plastic eggs and wrapped candy are requested.

**Palm Sunday is March 28**—always an exciting time for the boys and girls as they are part of the procession that starts our worship time. They will wave their palm branches as children did so long ago when Jesus entered Jerusalem.

Children's Ministries will hold a **Bake Sale** immediately following worship on Palm Sunday, too.

**Donations of baked goods are requested.** Proceeds will help finance the many programs we have for the children here at CPC.

Even if you don't bake, you can be a part of this ministry by **purchasing** what others have donated.



**July 19-23** are the dates set for this year's **Vacation Bible School**. Group Publishing's *High Seas Expedition* has been chosen for our program. Through *God Sightings*, the kids learn to keep their eyes open for things God is doing all around them every day.

It's not too soon to be thinking of **what part you can play** in making this year's **VBS** a success. I will be asking for lots of help and donations in the near future, similar to what I did last year. Be sure to do your part.

Please continue to **pray** for the children and leaders as they carry on with this vital Children's Ministry in our church, our local community, and the world.

## Missionaries of the Month



**Ray and Marf Meister** continue to serve God with Campus Crusade for Christ. Ray is Director of Distribution for the *Jesus* Film Project and they live in Orlando, Florida. There will be a special Power Point Presentation about their work during worship on March 21. **A special offering will be taken for their ministry that day and all during March.**

## Unreached People Group The Aguaruna Indians of Peru

**Ways to Help in Haiti!!** A fund has been set up here at CPC to give to Haiti financial relief efforts through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. To do so, make your check payable to CPC and mark "Haiti" on the line marked "Other." Money will be sent to the PDA as it comes in. Also, Children's Ministries is collecting **nickels, dimes, and quarters** for Haitian relief. There is a basket on the literature table in the Narthex for your coins. Please help out in any way you can.

Our Children's Ministries **Penny Drive for Lorien Knapp's ministry in Tanzania** is an ongoing project so please bring in your pennies, knowing they will be put to good use. **We have a jar on the Literature Table outside the front doors of the Sanctuary for your ease in dropping pennies off.**

**The Greater Community Easter Food Drive** is sponsored again this year by the Church and Community Cooperative of Champion.

Please turn names into the church office by March 19 of families you know who could use some food assistance during this Lenten Season.

You may bring food contributions at any time from February 21 to March 25--put them on the table outside the sanctuary. The food will be transported to Champion Christian Church for distribution.

We need representatives from our church to help sort food on Saturday, March 27, at 9:00 a.m.

Food will be distributed to the families that same day from noon until 1:30 p.m.

Please see Kelly Adams or Judy Omweg if you can help on the 27th.

## Food Basket Items for the Warren Family Mission

Current needs—in family-size portions—are for: tuna fish, other canned meats, soup, baked beans, beef stew, ham, fruit, condiments, pasta with meat, (i.e., Chef Boyardee), juice, Kool-Aid, tea, and coffee (instant/regular). Note: Items can be dropped in the baskets in the church hallway near the Missions Map **anytime!**

**Ink Cartridge Recycling:** Please continue to drop off your used ink cartridges in the Children's Office.

## Valentine's Day Swim - 2010



## New Sanctuary Windows Project

