



## February 2012

### From the Pastor's Heart

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#### QUICK FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- ◆ February 12, New Member Sunday
- ◆ February 14, St. Valentine's Day
- ◆ February 20, President's Day - Office Closed
- ◆ February 21-24, Winter VBS
- ◆ February 28, Community Café
- ◆ February 29, Leap Day

February is a wonderful month, even though there are simply too many things to celebrate in such a short month. Growing up in PA, I always looked forward to Groundhog's Day with the hope that spring would soon arrive. *(As I write this from northern MN, it is -6° this morning and due to hit -15° tonight - it's great to feel the winter chill again!)* Saint Valentine's Day is another favorite holiday this month and though many people have forgotten the day is about a saint and his story, it is a great time to celebrate love with one another and for me to share with you St. Valentine's legendary story. This month, we will celebrate the Super Bowl or watch the most expensive commercials, even if we are not really watching the game.

There is also a winter break week from school and President's Day - so much in a short month!

Two other notable things happen this month and one only happens every four years - there will be a 29th day. A few very special people will get to celebrate their birthday on their birth date this year, but what about the rest of us? I propose that we do something special or significant that day. What would it be like to take a "leap of faith" on leap day? We could leap out of our comfort zone! Is there something that you have always wanted to do or try? I encourage you to take that leap. It may just start something new!

Another notable day this month is February 22 - Ash Wednesday, which marks the

beginning of the 46 days before Easter. You may have thought there were only 40, the number of days Jesus fasted in the wilderness, but the medieval church understood Sundays as little Easters and therefore, feast days, and fasting could not happen on feast days. So, Ash Wednesday begins 40 non-Sundays before Easter *(which will be on April 8 this year)*. Some people do not fast for the full 24 hours. Some just give up one meal a day or they give up desserts. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, remembering how Jesus hung on the cross on Good Friday from noon to 3:00 pm, fasted every Friday until 3:00 pm. Other creative ideas included giving up playing video games, watching television, or other pastimes.

*Continued on page 2*

## From the Pastor's Heart



*Continued from page 1*

A more recent tradition has been taking up something for Lent rather than giving something up. This could be a spiritual discipline like reading the Bible or a devotional, or an act of charity like a mission project or writing notes to people like those in the military or in nursing homes. For some people, the two types of practices are combined in the sense that as meals are not eaten, the money saved from the food budget can be given to help feed the hungry. If time in front of the TV or the computer are given up,

that time can be spent on other positive ventures and practices.

I invite you into some marvelous February experiences this year. I look forward to our mid-winter journeys together.

*Pastor Jeff*



### FEBRUARY SCRIPTURES AND SERMONS

**FEBRUARY 5**  
**Communion Sunday**  
 Mark 1:29-39  
 "In Word; In Deed"

**FEBRUARY 12**  
**New Member Sunday**  
 Mark 1:40-45  
 "What's Your Story?"

**FEBRUARY 19**  
**Transfiguration Sunday**  
 Mark 9:2-9  
 "Glimpses of Glory"

**FEBRUARY 26**  
**First Sunday in Lent**  
 Mark 1:9-15  
 "Wilderness Experiences"

#### Our Mission Statement:

*Making disciples – making a difference: gathering, growing, going into the world.*

We openly and officially seek and welcome all persons, including people of any race, color, national origin, marital status, age, gender, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability as full participants in our community of faith.

United Methodist Church

166 Main Street

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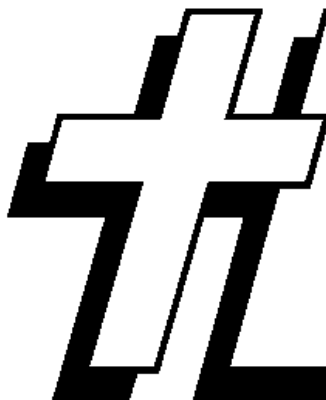
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#### Walking with God

**The essence of the Christian life is knowing God and walking with him. It's about sticking with him when the sky is blue and also when it's filled with clouds or choked with smoke. It's about walking with the Lord through thick and thin, and pressing on through every heartache and trial that happens to come our way.**

**- Greg Laurie**



#### Worship Services

**8:45 AM Sunday Break**

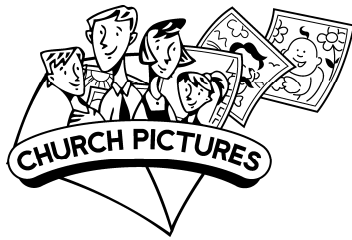
Sanctuary

**9:00 AM Sunday School**

**10:30 AM Traditional Service**

Sanctuary

March **Church Chimes** articles are due February 15, 2012



## Directory Pictures

As you probably all know by now, we are in the process of creating a new church pictorial directory. We are a third of the way completed, as we anticipate about 250 pictures when we're done. With so many snow birds down south right now, we will continue to take pictures until spring when they return. We will have the directories ready and available after Easter. If you have a photo you would like to submit, please email it to the church office at [PennYanUMC@verizon.net](mailto:PennYanUMC@verizon.net).

## Name Tags - Who's Who

Do you have trouble remembering peoples' names at church. We all do. So, new name tags on lanyards have been developed, along with holders to have them hanging by the three doorways in the Sanctuary. If you haven't received your new name tag yet, please write your name on a temporary tag and Pastor Jeff will create a new tag for you.

## Missions Minute

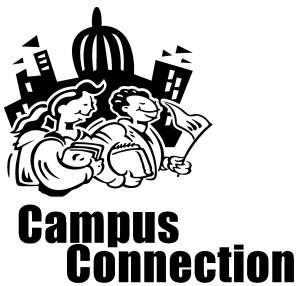
The Missions Team is planning several mission opportunities for you to participate in this year. The variety of opportunities include *hosting a guest speaker from African University, the Red Bird Mission trip, a Food Stamp Challenge, gleaning fresh produce for Food for the Needy, the Nome Auction, Habitat for Humanity dinner, Christmas for Jesus, and Costa Rica 2013*. Look for more information on how you can be a part of these mission opportunities in future issues of the Chimes and in the Sunday bulletins

### LIVING THE QUESTIONS

"Living the Questions" is a discussion/study for progressive Christians. It consists of written material and a DVD prepared by several biblical scholars and theologians. The titles of the seven sessions are: *An Invitation to Journey; Taking the Bible Seriously; Thinking Theologically; Stories of Creation; Lives of Jesus; A Passion for Christ: Paul; Out Into the World: Challenges Facing Progressive Christians*.

Jeanne Carley is willing to lead a repeat of the material which was offered last year. If you have any questions, please call Jeanne at (607) 243-8394 or email [carleyh2@asme.org](mailto:carleyh2@asme.org).

## Campus Connection



Just a reminder to keep our college students in your prayers. They have returned to school to begin their spring semesters. Be sure to check out the poster board that shows who we are supporting and where they are attending college. There are approximately 16 students from our

congregation, including:

- ◆ Kristen Anderson
- ◆ Christy Brennan
- ◆ Kaitlyn Castner
- ◆ Conner Cincotta
- ◆ Avary Elias
- ◆ Cara Elias
- ◆ Matt Parish
- ◆ Megan Gray
- ◆ Matt MacKerchar
- ◆ Haley Mangan
- ◆ Matt Mangan
- ◆ Allie Perl
- ◆ Taira Perrault
- ◆ Jake Potts
- ◆ Michael Salotto
- ◆ Christina Warren

Also, we will be sending out St. Valentine's Day cards to them, so keep an eye out for the cards so you can sign them!



## Christian Education

**FIFTH SUNDAY SERVICE** - Thank you to everyone who contributed in the many ways of making our intergenerational Fifth Sunday Family Service a very rewarding and spiritual experience. It's great to have so many adults and children worshiping and praising God together.

**ECUMENICAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
With the dual purpose of spreading God's word and fulfilling childcare

needs for parents, PYUMC, in conjunction with other area churches, are planning a full day Vacation Bible School right here at our church during the school winter break (*February 21-February 24*). We are looking for volunteers from each church to:

- ◆ Teach a group of children (*lesson plans provided*)
- ◆ Direct music (*CD provided*)

- ◆ Lead drama (*skit included*)
- ◆ Help with food (*breakfast, snack and lunch will be served*)
- ◆ Crafts instruction (*examples provided*)
- ◆ Record registrations
- ◆ General assistance

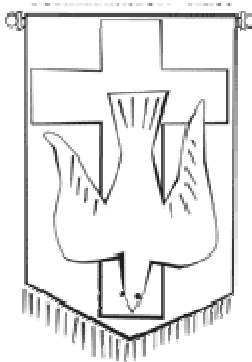
Please contact Linda Snyder (536-6711) or Stan Comstock (531-1982) if you have some time to share.

*I would like to thank my church family for the support following my fall in October 2011. I very much appreciated the cards, visits, phone calls and prayers. I hope to see you in church soon.*

*Viorene Sterling*



**"If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant; if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome."**  
- Anne Bradstreet



## Confirmation

Plans are underway for this year's confirmation class. Classes will be held on Sunday afternoons beginning in mid-February and ending in May. Sunday, June 3, is Confirmation

Sunday. Confirmation is offered to students from 7th to 9th grades. An informational meeting will be held on Sunday, February 12 at 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall for confirmation

students and at least one parent. So far it appears we might have a large class of about a dozen or more students this year!

## 2012 Financial Report



At the Charge Conference in November 2011, the 2012 budget of \$350,000 was passed. Our pledge money is the major contributor to meeting that budget of \$350,000. Unfortunately, the pledges received for 2012 do not meet the amount budgeted. The Finance Team has analyzed the results for 2012, as well as the results of recent history, all of which indicates a shortfall of around \$20,000 to \$30,000.

The Finance Team is looking at options for closing this gap without

cutting programs and/or staffing, as that is not a good way to fulfill the mission of the Penn Yan United Methodist Church, which includes making disciples for Jesus Christ. These options and ideas will be presented to the church body in the near future.

The good news is that all the bills for 2011 have been paid. Thank you for doing your part to keep the church solvent. And thank you for your pledges for 2012.

A friend tells the story of how he helped a co-worker solve a problem.

After the co-worker had finished explaining his problem, he said, "I know the solution!" My friend had said nothing. Let us say God is the friend and explaining the problem is our prayer.

I invite your prayers to help us work through this situation.

Thank you,

Harry Carley  
Chair of Finance Team



### Upcoming Events

◆ **NEW MEMBER SUNDAY**  
**February 12, 8:45 AM & 10:30 AM**

On **Sunday, February 12**, during both Worship services, we will be receiving new members into the church. For those people wishing to join the church, we have set up a couple of **orientation sessions**. Anyone wishing to join the church is asked to contact the pastor at 536-6711.

◆ **MEN'S GATHERING**  
**March 17, 8:45 AM - 4:00 PM**  
**Long Point, Seneca Lake**

Lunch and hot beverages will be provided. Bring your own personal coffee mug, sneakers (if you would like to play volley ball), and snacks. The theme is "Have You Found Jesus?" Bring a musical instrument and your love for the Lord! All men and senior high youth are welcome. The cost is \$15.00. Registration deadline is Sunday, March 11. For more information, please call Shafe Habeeb at 536-1963, Syd Kidder at 536-3284, Bob Warriner at 406-7900, or Stan Comstock at 531-1982. Please sign up early since space is limited.

◆ **MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND**  
**April 20-22**  
**Camp Asbury, Silver Lake, NY**

Marriage Encounter is the largest marriage strengthening ministry in the world and is a recognized resource of the General Board of Discipleship of the United Methodist Church. For more information and to sign up for the weekend, please visit [www.encounter.org](http://www.encounter.org) or contact: **Keith & Diane Sherwood at ksher1021@aol.com** or call **(315) 492-2372**.

## Kid's Page

# FORGIVENESS Game

Try this twist on musical chairs.

### What you need:

- 28 large index cards
- Black marker
- Two teams of people
- Radio or CD player

### What you do:

1. On index cards, write out *forgiveness*, one letter per card. Make two sets (two F's, two O's, etc.).
2. Mix up the cards and form them face up in a circle on the floor. (You'll have six blanks mixed in.)
3. Have teams mix themselves up and stand in a circle around the cards. Ask an extra person to turn the music on and off.
4. As the music plays, teams walk around the circle. When the music stops, players each pick up the card nearest them.
5. Team members take their cards to a designated area and try to spell forgiveness. Any double letters or blanks go back to the "music person," who reorganizes remaining cards, spacing them evenly into a fresh circle.
6. Play continues until one team spells *forgiveness*.

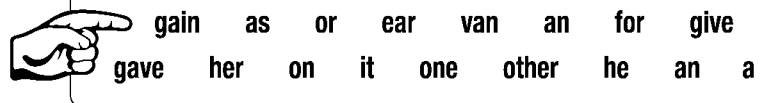


## FOLLOW GOD'S EXAMPLE

In a letter to the church in Colossae, the apostle Paul wrote about the importance of forgiveness.

### •••• DIRECTIONS ••••

To complete Colossians 3:13 (NIV), use the smaller words to fill in the larger words.



B \_\_\_\_\_ w \_\_\_\_\_ h each

ot \_\_\_\_\_ d \_\_\_\_\_ give

\_\_\_\_\_ e an \_\_\_\_\_ if \_\_\_\_\_ y

of you h \_\_\_\_\_ grie \_\_\_\_\_ ce

a \_\_\_\_\_ st some \_\_\_\_\_ .

For \_\_\_\_\_ as t \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_ d

for \_\_\_\_\_ you.”

COLOSSIANS 3:13, NIV

Answers: "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

Colossians 3:13, NIV



# FEBRUARY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>8:45 Sunday Break Worship</p> <p>9:00 Sunday School</p> <p>9:00 Middle School Sun Sch</p> <p>10:00 Joyful Noise Reh</p> <p>10:30 Traditional Worship</p>			<p>1</p> <p>10:00 Friendship Circle</p> <p>6:00 Conversations w/ God</p> <p>7:00 Sun Brk Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00 Memorial Ringers</p>	<p>2</p> <p>5:00 Long Pt Planning</p> <p>6:30 Gabriel's Bunch</p> <p>7:00 Evening UMW</p> <p>7:30 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>3</p> <p>11:00 Tai Ji Chuen Class</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:00 Saturday Night Alive</p>
<p>5</p> <p>8:45 Sunday Break Worship</p> <p>9:00 Sunday School</p> <p>9:00 Middle School Sun Sch</p> <p>10:00 Joyful Noise Reh</p> <p>10:30 Traditional Worship</p>	<p>6</p> <p>12:00 Bible Study</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:30 Finance Team</p> <p>7:30 Church Council</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:00 Friendship Circle</p> <p>6:00 Conversations w/ God</p> <p>6:00 Ell-D-Van</p> <p>7:00 Sun Brk Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00 Memorial Ringers</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:00 Oatmeal Club</p> <p>6:30 Sun Brk Planning</p> <p>6:30 Gabriel's Bunch</p> <p>7:30 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>10</p> <p>11:00 Tai Ji Chuen Class</p>	<p>11</p> <p>5:00 Saturday Night Alive</p>
<p>12 NEW MEMBER SUNDAY</p> <p>8:45 Sunday Break Worship</p> <p>9:00 Sunday School</p> <p>9:00 Middle School Sun Sch</p> <p>10:00 Joyful Noise Reh</p> <p>10:30 Traditional Worship</p> <p>1:00 Confirmation Info Mtg</p>	<p>13</p> <p>12:00 Bible Study</p> <p>4:45 Social Issues</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:00 Missions Comm.</p> <p>7:00 Immersion Series</p> <p>Bible Study</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00 Friendship Circle</p> <p>6:00 Conversations w/ God</p> <p>7:00 Sun Brk Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00 Memorial Ringers</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30 Gabriel's Bunch</p> <p>7:30 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>17</p> <p>11:00 Tai Ji Chuen Class</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:00 Bazaar Workshop</p> <p>5:00 Saturday Night Alive</p>
<p>19</p> <p>8:45 Sunday Break Worship</p> <p>9:00 Sunday School</p> <p>9:00 Middle School Sun Sch</p> <p>10:00 Joyful Noise Reh</p> <p>10:30 Traditional Worship</p>	<p>20 OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>12:00 Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 Grieving Parents Support Group</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:30 Winter VBS</p> <p>10:30 UMW</p> <p>7:00 Staff-Parish Rel.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:30 Winter VBS</p> <p>10:00 Friendship Circle</p> <p>6:00 Conversations w/ God</p> <p>7:00 Sun Brk Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00 Memorial Ringers</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30 Winter VBS</p> <p>6:30 Gabriel's Bunch</p> <p>6:30 Sun Brk Planning</p> <p>7:30 Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:30 Winter VBS</p> <p>11:00 Tai Ji Chuen Class</p>	<p>25</p> <p>5:00 Saturday Night Alive</p>
<p>26</p> <p>8:45 Sunday Break Worship</p> <p>9:00 Sunday School</p> <p>9:00 Middle School Sun Sch</p> <p>10:00 Joyful Noise Reh</p> <p>10:30 Traditional Worship</p>	<p>27</p> <p>12:00 Bible Study</p>	<p>28</p> <p>5:30 Community Café</p> <p>7:00 Immersion Series</p> <p>Bible Study</p> <p>7:30 Christian Ed Mtg.</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10:00 Friendship Circle</p> <p>6:00 Conversations w/ God</p> <p>7:00 Sun Brk Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00 Memorial Ringers</p>			

Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm \* Corner Main and Chapel Streets \* P.O. Box 242 \* Penn Yan, NY 14527

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