

Morning Worship
18th Sunday of the Year
10:30 a.m. at Beaver UMC August 1, 2010

**This Morning will be a
combined service of
Worship and Communion
10:30 a.m. at
Beaver Memorial United
Methodist
40 South Third Street
Lewisburg, Pa.
Please plan on joining us there.**

From the Pastor

Rugged Collectivism

Since the first Europeans stepped onto the North American continent, there has been an instinct to conceive life as communal. The earliest settlements in Massachusetts and Virginia were established as "commonwealths," as political entities consciously composed of shared obligations and benefits. The Pilgrims and the Puritans after them arrived as established communities, bound by a shared religious conviction. The degree of repression they practiced, in their church-dominated villages, was in the service of preserving the integrity of the whole--like the ancient Israelites on whom they modeled themselves, they felt that their collective covenant with God was imperiled by the crimes of individuals, and so putting offenders in the stocks wasn't just a way of suppressing wrongdoing--it was a means of enforcing a community ethos.

The most common basis for collective living has been religion. The Plain People are in our midst, and a handy example of a group which experiences and chooses its approach to life in group terms. When so many Plain People establish themselves in an area that

they begin to run out of farmland and opportunities, they don't begin to move on as families. They deliberately start a "colony" in another region, so that from its inception the pattern of social supports and obligations is present, and there always will be a larger group to which to be loyal.

The Balls Mills/Cogan Station region north of Williamsport was settled by a group of German Baptists who came together to this country and bought together, and farmed and lived together. Their tradition was connected to Walter Rauschenbush, perhaps the most famous Protestant crusader for national social reform at the beginning of the last century. His instinct that the only way for a people to live well was to establish a society in which everyone's welfare was important was part of his religious and social heritage.

Koinonia Farms in Georgia began as a deliberately Christian cooperative. Its practices anticipated reforms in racial attitudes long before the wider society began to move away from segregation. Koinonia, in turn, gave birth to the Habitat for Humanity movement, which adapts the greater-community method to getting people into good homes.

The Amana community also settled in this country from Germany. Their version of Biblical religion hewed closest to the shared life described in Acts of the Apostles, and even when industrial progress and financial realities made them change their course in the Great Depression, they retained a collective approach to their common possessions.

Every little church, this one included, counts on individuals but exists as a community. Our efforts to serve God require us to remember that a love-based enterprise, like Christianity, counts on social life to exist. In an era in which individualism has become so acute that persons ignore the very company they are in in order to pursue private conversations by phone or text with others far away, it is helpful to remember that part of our legacy as Americans is the opportunity always to be striving to create a better community for all.
Peace, Mac

Today

This Week

10:30 a.m. Service of Worship
Nursery provided

Tuesday

7:00 p.m. Prayer Group in Library



September 12 Regular Sunday Hours Resume

Beginning Sunday, **September 12**, Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Worship at 10:30 a.m. Coffee hour will follow starting Sunday, September 19.



Sunday School Resumes

Help get the regular church year ministries and activities off on the right foot by joining us for **Rally Day, Sunday September 12**. Classes for preschool to adult will begin at 9:30 a.m. You are never too old to learn.



Luncheon



Following Worship Rally Day, there will be a luncheon at the Church. **Everything will be provided and everyone is invited**, so please plan on joining us to start the year on a positive note.



Property Committee

The Property Committee will meet **Monday, August 9**, at 7:00 p.m.

Worship Committee

The Worship Committee will meet **Thursday, August 26**, at 7:15 PM in the Library.



Blood Drive

BZ Motors - 6801 West Branch Highway -
Thursday, August 12th 12:00 am – 6:00 pm
Playworld -1000 Buffalo Rd. – Thursday, August 19th
10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Call 542-0400 for appointment.



During September & October
American Baptist International Ministries,
organized in 1814, is the first Baptist mission agency
formed in North America. They serve more than
1,800+ short-term and long-term missionaries annually,
bring U.S. and Puerto Rico churches together with
partners in over 70 countries in cutting-edge ministries
that tell the good news of Jesus Christ while meeting
human needs.

Thank You

Ruth Blankenship would like to Thank You for the
prayers for her sister Mary Hollman, who is doing well
recoverating at home in Blacksburg, Va.

Brown Paper Bags for the Food Program

The Eastern Union County Supplemental Food
Program, distributes food from our basement the first &
third Friday monthly. The food is given out in full-size
kraft paper grocery bags. If you get your groceries in
full-sized paper bags and have no further use for them,
they may be donated at the church for this use.

Minister	Members of First Baptist Church
Pastor	The Rev. MacKenzie Scott 523-6979
Church Office	Mon.-Fri., 8:45-11:45 524-7438
Secretary	Mary Ellen Beaver 522-9121
Music Director	Ruth Blankenship 523-9202
Organist	Lloyd Wolf 286-2769
Sexton	Harry Yost 568-4663
web page	www.lewisburgbaptist.org
e-mail	fbclbg@lewisburgbaptist.org
denomination's web page	www.abc-usa.org

For Your Prayer

Ben Austin, Ken Bollinger, Peg Budd, Herman
Howard Jr., Irene Howard, Mike Lucas, Russ Mayberry,
Anne Murcek and Betty Siler are at home. Dick Budd is
in Rehab.

Bill Bobb and Janet VanBuskirk are at Riverview
Manor. Peg Bryan, Chet and Margaret Jump, and
Mary Jane Stevenson are at RidgeCrest. Beverly
Fisher and Evelyn Reed are at RiverWoods. Harriet
Littell is at ElmCroft. Gloria Miller is at Rolling Hills Manor

Prayer Chain

If you have a prayer request or are interested in
being notified when prayer requests are submitted,
please contact Jan Rolecki at 523-6074 or Kathryn
Morris at kmorris1@dejazzd.com

Worship Aug. 1 is at Beaver Memorial at 10:30 a.m.

The Calendar, August 1, 2010, No. 31 USPS # 763-320 Pub. wkly. &
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Lewisburg, PA 17837-1907. Postmaster: send change of address
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the "Archives" link in the sentence at the top of the page
presenting recent bulletins.*