

From the Pastor:

The Union County Civil War monument was dedicated July 4, 1901. That was thirty-six years after the end of the conflict which claimed the lives of the soldiers and sailors memorialized. The new National World War II monument was dedicated May 29, 2004. Fifty-nine years had passed since the end of the Second World War. Interest in the WWII shrine increased after the unveiling in 1995 of the Korean War Veterans monument, forty-two years after combat ended in Korea.

At least in the case of some war memorials, the aging of the generation which fought the war seems to influence the establishment of monuments. It is as though people fear the forgetfulness of ensuing generations, and provide for some durable witness to persist after the old warriors themselves all have died.

The gospel of Mark usually is dated to the year 70 A.D. The reasoning behind that is that the First Jewish Revolt, one of many nationalist risings prompted by political instability in Rome and competition among the legions to make their own generals emperor, created a crisis which threatened what had been ordinary, person-to-person transmission of the story of Jesus.

The revolt came forty years after the crucifixion and resurrection. Jesus' execution had been connected to the simmering political discontent of the Jewish population, and the gospels allude to several insurgent episodes which Rome had suppressed in Jesus' day. It is hard to know whether the generation which grew weary of the efforts of men like Barabbas to defy the occupying army had to die off before new firebrands could dominate debate.

Even without the Jewish Revolt, the generation of the first disciples and their junior converts was vanishing in the latter half of the first century. Life expectancy was not as long then, though there always were some who lived to be about as old as most people survive to be now. The need to capture for posterity the meaning of a heroic generation might itself have prompted the beginnings of the gospels.

John's gospel alludes to a disciple who had been expected to remain alive until the reappearance of Christ. That book's origins may have owed something to the old disciple's death. Elements of the Book of Acts seem a personal

narrative, written about Paul's travels by someone who refers to what "we" did. They are woven into Luke's history, but possibly represent an independent source. Whatever that writing was, it may have been gathered while there still was time to capture the recollection of a generation passing away, as might the presumed common source of parables and incidents (Q) which appear in Matthew and Luke.

Monuments and reminiscences evoke events of years before, and tend to make us ignore the intervening time. We associate the memorial down at the end of Third Street with the Civil War, and not with 1901. It is worth noting, however, how the passage of time influences the preservation and presentation of memory. All of us who live a while get chances to contribute to what succeeding generations will "know" of what has been important so far. What institutions and events and achievements matter enough to deserve consideration in the future? What legacies and lessons will help our grandchildren and their peers find

Peace? Mac

#### **BOARD OF DEACONS' MEETING**

The monthly meeting of the Board of Deacons was held at 7:30 p.m. on September 16, 2009, at First Baptist Church, with Moderator Joel Turrell presiding. Also present were Pastor Mac Scott, Financial Secretary - Judy Mickanis; Recording Secretary - Lucie Rivoire, and committee representatives as follows: Finance - Jack Pyper; Worship - Kathy Morris; Property - Bob Murcek; Watchcare - Anne Murcek; Discipleship - Curt Smith; Christian Education - Mark Bettner.

Opening devotions included singing of the Robert Lowry hymn, "I Need Thee Every Hour," followed by reflections on the meaning of the text.

The Pastor reported that his visits to shut-ins have been somewhat limited, due to concerns about flu contagion. The new church year began with enthusiasm last Sunday, with a return to regular Sunday School activities and the Rally Day picnic. Mac also remarked that First Baptist Church of Williamsport now has a new pastor. It was agreed that our church should send representatives, should we be invited to an installation ceremony.

WATCHCARE - Anne expressed thanks to all who assisted with the hospitality following last

month's funeral services. The committee was pleased to receive help from several first-time volunteers. Anne also noted that Lisa Scott now is arranging for nursery supervision on Sunday morning.

**FELLOWSHIP** - The Board acknowledged the successful efforts of Joyce Wilson and her committee to organize the Rally Day picnic.

In a general discussion of congregational concerns it was noted that, in addition to explicit prayer on their behalf, individuals often gain support indirectly through participation in general church activities. Members should be mindful of their role toward others when engaged in worship and fellowship.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** - Mark reported that Sunday School classes were well attended, with more than 20 students altogether. The Pastor's Class is underway, with 4-5 students expected.

**WORSHIP** - Kathy reported that the committee is working on a brochure describing their responsibilities, to inform potential members of ways to be of service. The committee's October meeting will include budget preparation.

**DISCIPLESHIP** - Curt reported that the church continues to maintain good visitor volume and retention. Last year, September brought many new faces to worship services, and it is hoped that the trend will continue this month. The redesigned church website was up and running on August 24, resulting in an immediate increase in website visitor volume. Efforts have made to filter out regular visitors when calculating traffic, to give a truer estimate of website outreach. Website development & improvement continues. The Board was reminded that, to make the website truly effective, it should become a communication center for many facets of church life, not just serve as a recruitment tool. The Discipleship Committee is continuing to deliver targeted direct-mail postcards to residents new to the area. They hope to find a more effective way of obtaining addresses of new residents in time for an October mailing.

**PROPERTY** - Responding to the committee's concerns about flu season, the Board recommended placing hand sanitizers at various church entrances. Bob remarked that Cathy Platusich has joined the committee, and other members have offered help on special projects. Bob Rapp will take charge of the kitchenette renovation. The committee's next major effort will be to redesign the steps to the Third Street entrance, doing away with the awkwardness of stepping directly up or down at the front doors.

**FINANCE** - Jack reported that the subscription drive will begin on October 1, with letters to be sent to the membership. Committees

are asked to submit budget requests for 2010 no later than November 1.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY** - Judy reported that subscriptions to date total \$66,239.94, while plate offerings amount to \$4,698.95.

Minutes of the August 19 meeting were approved as published. The Board will use e-mail to circulate the calendar for a final review; formal adoption will also be handled by e-mail participation so that the matter can be closed no later than the end of September.

Closing with a prayer, the Deacons adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Respectfully submitted,  
Lucie Rivoire, Secretary



**Lopez**

### **Landscaping Day October 3rd.**

The Lopez landscaping day will be held **Saturday, October 3rd**, with work beginning at 9 am. Wear your gloves, and bring your favorite shovel, (rain date Saturday, October 10th.)

A picnic celebration will follow, at noon. Even if you are unable to work, please come and enjoy the fellowship. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share, as well as their own paper goods and utensils. Meat will be provided.

If you have any questions, please contact Sallie Pyper (524-0470 or [pyper@bucknell.edu](mailto:pyper@bucknell.edu)).



### **October 4th**

The Lewisburg Area CROP Hunger Walk registration starts at 1 p.m. and the walk will begin at 2 p.m., **Sunday, October 4th**. Its 10 K (or 1 mile) circuits will begin and end at the New Hope Lutheran Brethren Church on South 14 Street.

Walkers are asked to bring a dozen cookies to share at the end of the walk.

CROP Walks are the chief fundraiser for the relief and development work of Church World Service, an international cooperative Christian agency.

### **SUBSCRIPTION DRIVE**

Letters for the Annual Subscription Drive will be mailed September 30, 2009. If you do not receive a letter please contact a member of the Finance Committee or call the office.

It is through our stewardship commitment that we have the opportunity to return the many gifts—financial, time, and talent—that God has given us. And, it is through stewardship that we are able to maintain and sustain our fellowship as a

church community. As we are all aware, we are a relatively small congregation, with this large inspirational worship facility, and with a rather large commitment to serve others. And as you know, too, it is difficult for our numbers to fully provide the annual financial resources necessary to fulfill our operations and our commitments.


We ask your help by filling out and returning your pledge card by November 1.



### 2010 Budget Requests

All committee budget requests for 2010 are needed by November 1st. Please submit these requests to Jack Pyper through the church office or via e-mail: [pyper@bucknell.edu](mailto:pyper@bucknell.edu)

**CHOIR NIGHT**



Choir Night will be Wednesday, **October 7th**, at 7:15 p.m.



### Congregational Meeting

The Quarterly Congregational Meeting will be **Sunday, October 11th**, following Worship.

### Discussion Group

The Discussion Group will meet Sunday, **October 11th and 25th**, at 7:00 p.m. in the Library. Copies of the article to be discussed are found on the desk in the Library



### Board of Deacons' Meeting

The Board of Deacons will meet Wednesday, **October 21st** at 7:30 p.m. in the Library.

### Worship Committee Meeting

The Worship Committee will meet **Monday, October 26th** at 7:00 p.m.



### Daylight Savings Time Ends

Before going to bed Saturday, **October 31st** turn you clocks **back** 1 hour as Daylight Savings ends. If you do not attend Sunday School this would be a good Sunday to start since you will be getting an extra hour's sleep.



### NEWS FROM THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH Children's Halloween Party

There will be a Halloween party for the Children of the Church on Sunday, **October 25** from 1 to 3 p.m. We'll have a fun filled afternoon with costumes, refreshments and games. For more information please contact Lisa Scott or Karen Roessler.



### Be Surprised by Walking in Different Shoes

There is still time to give to the Word Mission Offering if you have not. Our offering totals \$632.00, as of September 20th. The offering will be received during September and October.



### Picture – Which Thousand Words?

Dan Doyle, a retired professor from Pennsylvania College of Technology, will be giving a mini-series of his popular course “Visual Literacy” at First Baptist. No homework. No tests. The course deals with the subtle agendas that are often presented in photos in the media. Although we (the public) have been taught to think critically about the written word, we still tend to think “seeing is believing.” Dan’s course is designed to promote the development of the skills to help the student “see” and understand the ways in which “meaning” is often created in visual content. “What’s this photo trying to say?” “What’s going on in the background?”

Dan has agreed to present the mini-course in 3 evening sessions at FBC. The sessions will be held on Thursdays, October 8, 15, and 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the Friendship Room. Each session will last 1 to 1 1/2 hours. Everyone is welcome.

The topics for each evening will be:

- Oct 8: Signs and Symbols: An Introduction to Visual Literacy
- Oct 15: Gender Advertisements: Stereotyping from Past to Present
- Oct 22: Print and Television News: Filters that Limit Information and Understanding

Several First Baptist members met Dan and his wife when they attended last winter’s Wesley Forest Retreat. In response to the interest that was expressed, Dan agreed to offer this course as a part of the church’s Christian Education

offerings.

There will be no charge to attend, but Dan will accept contributions to PVS (Prisoner Visitation and Support), an organization that FBC already supports through its benevolence budget.

This course promises to be fun and informative, and may change the way you think about the media and how it can shape our decision-making. Students who have taken this course at Penn Tech say you will never look at media photos the same way again.



### Susquehanna Valley Chorale featuring Alzheimer's Stories

The Susquehanna Valley Chorale will perform "A Monument to Memory" Concert Friday, Oct. 9, 8:00 PM at Weis Center for the Performing Arts, Lewisburg, The Chorale will premiere "Alzheimer's Stories" by Robert Cohen and Herschel Garfein, a new choral/orchestral work commissioned by the Chorale, honoring Alzheimer's disease victims and those who love them. The spirit of this work evolved from over 75 personal stories shared with the Chorale. \$15 at the door, [svcmusic.org](http://svcmusic.org), or call 523-1041. A 52 piece art quilt exhibit, "Alzheimer's: Forgetting Piece by Piece", will be on display at RiverWoods in Lewisburg, Oct. 2, 3, 4.

### Health Fair

The 2009 Health Fair at RiverWoods Senior Living Community will be held on **Wednesday, October 7** from 10 am to 3 pm in Marlow Hall at the nursing care center. Sponsored by Evangelical Community Hospital and the Standard-Journal newspaper. For information, please call RiverWoods at 522-6234 or the Standard Journal at 742-9671.



### Blood Drives

There will blood drives **Thursday, October 8th** at Sacred Heart Church, from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. and on **Friday, October 16th** at Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 534-0400 for an appointment .

### Bucknell Brigade Nicaragua Homecoming

Bucknell Brigade veterans and supporters are welcome to Homecoming 2009 as they recognize a decade of distinguished service and accomplishment in Nicaragua. Friday, Oct 23rd 10-12 midnight Late Night Music at 7th Street Cafe; Saturday, Oct 24th 4:30 p.m. Mural Dedication & Reception; Sunday, Oct 25th 11 am Rooke Chapel Worship Service. Kindly RSVP by contacting Janice Butler at 570-577-3973, e-mail [kkengor@bucknell.edu](mailto:kkengor@bucknell.edu).



### ALL AROUND HANDYMAN

Will do auto repair, indoor, outdoor painting, yard work and minor house repairs. Free estimates. If interested please call Jerry Barrett at: (Home) 570-522-3700 (Cell) 814-553-8572. Jerry is Jesse & Ruth Blankenship's son-in-law,

### New Addresses

Nicola Manning's new address is 119 Timberhaven Drive, Lewisburg, PA 17837-6330  
Barbara Rowe's new address is 153 Beaumanor Road, State College, PA 16803



### November Newsletter

Please have information for the November Newsletter in the office by **October 23rd**. The busy fall season has started; don't forget God and the work of his church. Enjoy and beautiful colors of nature for winter will soon be upon us.

*Mary Ellen*

### Letter from LASD

More than three years ago we asked our residents to participate in a community forum to create the future of the Lewisburg Area School District. That event led to the development of our VISION 2020 Strategic Plan that is guiding our transition to become a Twenty-First Century Learning Community.

We are about to embark on completing a key component of VISION 2020 by creating a Master Facilities Plan to guide the district over the next decade. Once again, we are asking for the help of our community. We will define the goals, objectives, and the long-term needs of our buildings and facilities over the course of these meetings. Currently, the district does not have such a plan nor is there a proposed plan to review. As this will impact the entire community, we need input from all our residents to create the plan.

Please join us on October 27 at 7:00 PM in the High School Cafeteria for a Community Dialogue facilitated by DeJong Consulting to share your thoughts and ideas to help us create a plan for the future needs of our students.

In order to develop a quality plan, we will be discussing our educational programs, extra-curricular activities, and enrollment growth to determine how to organize and upgrade our facilities for the future. We hope to see you there!

Please forward this to any individuals you believe may be interested in participating in this process. For more information on VISION 2020 and the Master Facilities Plan please visit our web site at [www.lasd.us](http://www.lasd.us).

