



December 2010

A Message from our Pastor...Jim Carver

Through the history of the church, small groups have played a vital role. From the time of Christ to today, these values have changed countless lives and helped the church to grow and reach thousands while at the same time give the closeness of a well knitted community; giving the church the ability to grow larger and smaller at the same time! Here are just five of the many benefits of being a part of the small group.

- **It's the classroom for learning how to get along in God's family.**
It's a lab for practicing unselfish, sympathetic love. You care about others and share the experiences of others: *"If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it. Or if one part of our body is honored, all the other parts share its honor"* (1 Cor. 12:26 NCV). Only in regular contact with ordinary, imperfect believers can we learn real fellowship and experience the connection God intends for us to have (Eph. 4:16, Rom. 12:4-5, Col. 2:19, 1 Cor. 12:25).
- **A small group helps me develop spiritual muscle.**
You'll never grow to maturity just by attending worship services and being a passive spectator. One of the main tools of spiritual growth is participation in a small group, where your spiritual muscles get a regular workout. *"As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love"* (Eph. 4:16.) Over fifty times in the New Testament the phrase "one another" or "each other" are used. We're commanded to love each other, pray for each other, encourage each other, admonish each other, greet each other, serve each other, teach each other, accept each other, honor each other, bear each other's burdens, forgive each other, submit to each other, be devoted to each other, and many other mutual tasks! Who are you doing these with? We need more than the Bible in order to grow; we need other believers.
- **A small group confirms and affirms my identity as a believer.**
Jesus said, *"Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples"* (John 13:35 NLT). You're not the Body of Christ on your own. You need others to express that. Together, not separated, we are his Body (1 Cor. 12:27).
- **A small group is the best way to take my God-given mission to the world.**
When Jesus walked the earth, even he had a small group! Today the church is Christ's Body on earth. We're not just to love each other; we're to take that love together to the rest of the world. We're his hands, his feet, his eyes, and his heart. He works through us in the world *"He creates each of us to join him in the work he does, the good work he has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing"* (Eph 2:10 Msg).
- **The Body of Christ needs me!**
"Mind your own business" is NOT a Christian idea when it comes to helping each other! We're to be involved in each other's lives. *"Encourage one another daily ..."* (Heb 3:13). You have a background and experiences that other people can learn from and draw strength from! God has a unique role for you to play in his family. God has gifted you for this assignment. *"A spiritual gift is given to each of us as a means of helping the entire church"* (1 Cor. 12:7). The small group is the place God designed for you to discover, develop and use your spiritual gifts and talents.

Coming soon.... a special "focus on small groups" will be presented that will detail a plan for Sanctuary UMC to cultivate and implement small groups. At the center of why we will be doing small groups is to see changed lives. As it was with the early church, so it needs to be today so we will grow individually and as a body of believers. Please be in prayer about how God wants you to participate in small group ministry.

Pastor Jim

Women's Opportunities

Stitch 'n Knit-The Stitch 'n Knit team will meet on Wednesday, December 8, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the lounge. Please bring your lunch. Dessert and beverages will be provided. Looking forward to see you there! Sue Smith (215-536-5626) or (nanasue4343@hotmail.com)

Patricia Williams Circle will meet this month on MONDAY, December 13, at 12 noon at Liz Brehm's house. In February, we will return to the normal schedule of meeting the second Tuesday of the month. If you have questions about this circle or are in need of transportation contact Pat Wolf at 215-368-7865. NO JANUARY MEETING.

Circle of Friends-Circle of Friends will have Soup-ER bowl Soup signup sheet up December 26th. We will have four types of soup—Chili, Vegetable, Chicken Corn Chowder and Chicken Rice. Price--\$8.00 per quart and \$4.00 per pint. Pick-up Super Bowl Sunday.

Shawl Ministry - Do you like to knit or crochet? Be part of a caring group of women who meet once a month to make lap robes and shawls that are delivered to our friends and family when they need a little extra care. Call Laurie Knott at 215-699-7395 if you have questions about this ministry. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the lounge. Note: NO DECEMBER MEETING.

The Knit Wits—Invite you to join them at their monthly meetings on the third Monday of the month, (*New Time!*) 9:30 am to 1:30 pm in the lounge. If you are not sure what the Knit Wits do, they knit and crochet baby afghans and baby sets that they then donate to charity. So come along, bring a lunch, your knitting and or crocheting supplies and enjoy the fellowship! Questions? Call Kay Lehman, 610-584-8632. NO DECEMBER MEETING.

The Inspired View Book Club 2011

January 17 - **For Time & Eternity** by Allison Pittman

February 21 - **From a Distance** by Tamera Alexander

March 21 - **The Reason for God** by Timothy Keller

April 18 - **Charlotte Figg Takes Over Paradise** by Joyce Magnin

May 16 - **Her Mother's Hope (Marta's Legacy)** by Francine Rivers (paperback available 4/1/11)

More information to follow in the next newsletter!

Please feel free to attend any or all of our book discussions throughout the year. We meet the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m., at the Montgomery Barnes & Noble. All opinions welcome. If you have any questions about the book club, please contact Marty Johnston, Eileen Rueckert, or Bev Tucker.

No December Meeting.

Have a very Merry Christmas and hope to see you at the next meeting in January!

► Children's Ministry News ◀

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY CORNER

Submitted by Janis Zimmerman

Director of Children's Ministry

610-420-9392

December 19th—Our children celebrate the Birthday of Jesus with special goodies and games and gifts during the Sunday School hour, 10:30—11:30 a.m. in their Sunday School classes.

Ministry Positions available:

Child Care help for 2-4 year olds during the 9:00 a.m. worship service in Room 101.

Children's church coordinator during the 9:00 a.m. worship service.

Youth Sunday School teacher once a month from 10:30-11:30 a.m. in Bighouse room.

Please see or call Janis Zimmerman if you have a desire to help—610-420-9392.

***Anyone wishing to donate food to Bighouse youth for our Sunday evening dinners, please e-mail Lisa Nash at lplnash@verizon.net.*

Youth Sunday—December 26, 2010—One Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.

Youth/Children lead Worship!

No Sunday School—on the 26th—for children, youth or adults.

Please join us in worship at 10:00 a.m.

Nursery and child care up to age 4 will be available in the nursery with Miss Laura.

No Children's Church...because church is all about the kids!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR... On Sunday, January 19, 2011, 6:00—8:00 p.m.—Bighouse youth sponsor a pot-luck dinner/fundraiser for needy kids in Kenya. Come hear from our own Sarah Mansuetti.

CAMP INNABAH OPEN HOUSE/CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CRAFT DAY

On Saturday, December 11, young children are invited to the camp for an afternoon of Christmas craft-making. This event is from 1 to 5 pm and the cost is \$5.00 per person. To register, call or see Janis Zimmerman. Camp Innabah is located on Pughtown Road, near Rt. 23 and Rt. 100 in Spring City and is part of the United Methodist camp network.



Alpha Course for the Winter of 2011

"Is There More to Life than This?" The Alpha Course attempts to answer this question from a Biblical perspective. The harder we attempt to achieve wealth, fame or status, the more unfulfilled we become. The pay raise we sought quickly disappears and we hunger for more. When the new position we wanted brings increased pressures and demands, we become depressed and look for something else to fill the emptiness inside. Jesus said, "I am the Bread of Life". Feed on him, and you will never hunger.

As you make your New Year's resolutions, include attending an Alpha Course as one of them. Set aside three hours each week for ten weeks and join others in looking at the basics of Christianity from a different perspective. The course atmosphere is very relaxed, fun and non-threatening. On the evening course, we refer to it as dinner and a movie. It is a great opportunity to meet and make new friends, while strengthening your faith.

Not sure if it is right for you! Then join us for a combination Introduction & Celebration Dinner on Saturday, January 15, 2011, where we recognize and celebrate those people who have attended the course. Part of the evening will be a preview of the Alpha Course, using the video presentation, **"Is There More to Life than This?"** This experience provides an idea of an Alpha evening's feel, a flavor for the material and the presentation format.

The weekly evening Alpha Course for the winter of 2011 is on Thursday evenings, beginning January 20 and ending on March 31. The evening starts with a dinner each week at 6:30 PM, followed by the program at 7:15. We end no later than 9:15 PM and usually earlier.

Any questions, contact Frank Johnston at 215-527-1645 or alpha@sanctuarychurch.org.



Trinity Lutheran Code Blue Program:

Trinity Lutheran Church in Lansdale is again opening their doors to the homeless in the community during the winter when a "Code Blue" has been issued by the county. Anyone at Sanctuary with a heart for this Outreach program is encouraged to reach out to Trinity and offer their help. You may contact Marcia Murphy at heraldringer@verizon.net, or the Trinity Code Blue Team at codeblue@trinitylansdale.com for more information. There is also more information on our Volunteer Opportunities page on our website. The phone number for the church office at Trinity Lutheran is 215-368-1710.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Lauren Peterson	December 1	Hank Agersborg	December 2
John Ernst	December 2	Kanda Losch	December 2
Nancy Vignau	December 2	James Weil	December 2
Harry Borchers	December 3	Lieu Le	December 3
James Valentine Ashby	December 5	Madeline Franco	December 5
Nancy Penniman	December 5	Carolyn Clifford	December 6
Patricia Livezey	December 7	Matthew Michalik	December 7
James Ashby	December 8	Douglas Brown	December 8
Marley Capple	December 8	Mike Fogle	December 8
Carol Mattingly	December 8	Jade Nicole Rodeheaver	December 8
Camryn Samuel	December 8	Blake Bennett	December 9
Kevin Farrington	December 9	William Hardie	December 9
Rebecca Closs	December 10	Jeb Hague	December 10
Deanna Marcarelli	December 10	Owen Nakatani	December 10
William Pugliese	December 10	Larry Ward	December 10
Mason Jerry Giandonato	December 11	Samantha Blanchard	December 12
David Clift	December 12	Carol Maness	December 12
Gary Michalik	December 12	Marcia Murphy	December 12
Branden Parks	December 13	Braden Seeley	December 13
Marjorie Niece	December 14	Charlotte Russell	December 15
Erin Kathleen Guenst	December 16	Abigail Snively	December 16
Christy Gartner	December 17	Alex Hugue	December 17
Edward Keidat	December 17	Alexander Stewart	December 17
James Herbert	December 18	Marcelle Lukens	December 18
Douglas Buehler	December 19	Anne Garrison	December 19
Earl Garrison	December 19	Danny Adams	December 20
Sue McDermott	December 20	Matthew Brian Edwards	December 21
Bruce Kinsey	December 21	Kimberly Lindaberry	December 21
Wendy Catanzaro	December 22	Duane Deetscreek	December 22
Patrick Finley	December 23	Owen McClarren	December 23
Tom Work	December 23	Deb Burchett	December 24
Matthew Marcarelli	December 24	Gary Aafjes	December 25
Brian Drumm	December 25	Matthew James Franco	December 27
Laura Johnson	December 27	Melissa Nicole McKeown	December 27
Sandra Brace	December 29	Katelyn Lynch	December 29
Marissa Tyler Maueroeder	December 29	John Wilson	December 29
William Chiappa	December 30	Renata Gaughan	December 30
Sydney Catherine Lear	December 30	Elizabeth Kelly McClarren	December 30
Benjamin Raebiger	December 30		

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Bergman	December 1, 1956	Mr. & Mrs. James Weaver	December 1, 1973
Mr. & Mrs. George Johnson	December 3, 1988	Mr. & Mrs. Barry Hollinger	December 4, 1999
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Walter	December 4, 1993	Mr. & Mrs. Doug Keough	December 12, 2000
Mr. & Mrs. James Knott	December 14, 1963	Mr. & Mrs. Mike Fogle	December 18, 2004
Mr. & Mrs. Ron Hurry	December 19, 1992	Mr. & Mrs. William Roman	December 23, 1961
Mr. & Mrs. Tyler Housel	December 26, 1987		



Words of Appreciation



(Written late summer...)

Dear Sanctuary Family,

My family and I want to thank everyone for their loving kindness and support on the recent passing of Bill. A special thank you for Jim's visits to the nursing home, to the Pastoral care and Visitation Team, and to the woman who took care of the luncheon. Everyone was a wonderful support for me when I needed it the most and I am grateful to all of you.

Sincere Thanks, *Elaine Bell*

(Written late summer...)

Dear Sanctuary Family,

I want to thank you all for my get well cards, phone calls, and prayers, during my procedure on my back. The pain is gone, and I am on the mend. Thanks again.

Love, *Pat Wolf*

To Everyone at Sanctuary Church:

We want to express our sincere thanks for all the cards, messages and help we received from our friends at Sanctuary during our recent bout with health problems.

We were especially pleased with the shawl and lap robe which Frank brought to us (thanks to all the ladies for their fine efforts) and for the flowers Jim brought to Marie at Richland Rehab. Visits from these gentlemen helped raise our spirits and we were blessed by their prayers.

We are fortunate to belong to such a caring church.

In Sincere Appreciation, *Marie and John Volk*

Dear Friends of Sanctuary,

Thank you for your prayers and kind words in the passing of Edie. We are comforted knowing she is in a better place.

Denis, Pam, Mark and Carol Buchler

To my new friends at Sanctuary Church,

God has a way of making sure that we are just where we need to be—I've witnessed this over and over. I am very thankful and blessed to be the new administrative assistant for Pastor Jim and your church. And I thank each of you for your patience and understanding as I get settled in my new role as your administrative support person.

Also, thank you to the ladies of the Shawl Ministry for welcoming me in such a special way!

Peace and God Bless You—*Susan L. Zimmerman*

2011 Christmas Bazaar & Roast Beef Dinner

Christmas Bazaar and Roast Beef Dinner—It's that time again—time to start panning for the Christmas Bazaar and Roast Beef Dinner. Our 2009 event was a huge success, both financially and in terms of fellowship. This is a BIG event and it takes months of preparation and many hands to help organize and prepare.

An organization meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 25 at 7 PM. Please come out to share your thoughts and sign-up for committees. If you are interested, but unable to attend the meeting, please contact Pat Jula, 610-584-5013 or Barb Carlin, 215-699-1624.

Nor Gwyn Food Cupboard

The Nor Gwyn Food Cupboard would like to thank the community for their generous donations during the recent Boy Scout food collection. Estimated donations were in excess of 9,000 items. We would also like to extend our appreciation to the overwhelming support we received from the Sanctuary volunteers who graciously gave of their time in sorting and stocking the cupboard that day.

Sanctuary is responsible for stocking the cupboard for January. Items needed are 80 individual packs of dry milk, 72 rolls of toilet tissue, 28 cans of fruit, 22 bars of soap and 18 boxes of cereal. Please leave items in narthex. —Mike Jula



Kenny's Christmas Trees Spring House Village Center Spring House PA

Owned and operated by Janis Zimmerman's sister and brother in law, Joanne and Paul Kenny

A December fundraiser for Sanctuary United Methodist Church's mission and ministry!

Purchase your tree, wreaths, and supplies from **Kenny's Christmas Trees** in Spring House (corner of Sumneytown Pike and Bethlehem Pike).

10% of each sale will be donated to Sanctuary United Methodist and will be used for missions and ministries of the church.

Cut off this half page and bring this article with you to Kenny's Christmas Trees. Contact us at 215-628-4240 or at our website www.kennyschristmastrees.com

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!!

Recipe for Holiday Joy

Ingredients:

½ cup Hugs

4 teaspoons Kisses

4 cups Love

1 cup Special Holiday Cheer

3 teaspoons Christmas Spirits

2 cups Goodwill Toward Man

1 Sprig of Mistletoe

1 medium-size bag Snowflakes

Mix hugs, kisses, smiles, and love until consistent.

Blend in holiday cheer, peace on earth, and good will toward men.

Use the mixture to fill a large, warm heart, where it can be stored for a lifetime, (it never goes bad!)

Serve as desired under mistletoe, sprinkled liberally with snowflakes.

It is especially good when accompanied by family get-togethers.

Serve to one and all!

Submitted by Joan Guenther Candy

Sanctuary's Bedrock Beliefs

~It's never too late for a new beginning ~

~ Jesus meets us where we are and leads us where we need to go ~

~ There is power in prayer ~ The Word of God still speaks today ~

~ God loves people when they least expect it and feel they least deserve it ~

~ God is our constant companion ~ We are never alone ~

~ God knew it before it happened, He will see you through it ~

~ God gives hope when all seems lost ~ God created humor, you're allowed to laugh ~

~ Jesus takes my place so I have peace with God ~ The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing ~

Office Hours

Tuesday thru Friday—9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

E-mail Addresses

Pastor Jim Carver – jim.carver@sanctuarychurch.org

Church Office – susan.zimmerman@sanctuarychurch.org

Website – www.sanctuarychurch.org

Worship Service Schedule:

Traditional—9:00 a.m.

Praise and Worship—10:30 a.m.

Sunday School for all ages—9:00 a.m.



December 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>5-Capriccio Youth Bells—11:45 r.105 Junior Ch 5 r. 105 Bighouse 6-8:30 shall</p>	<p>6- Scouts 6-9 shall and r. 109,108, 101, 103</p>	<p>7-Missions 7 pm Chapel Praise band 7 pm gscouts 6-9-108- 109 Alpha—6:15- 7:15 Admin Team 7</p>	<p>1-Trustees 7 lounge Carol Ch 6:15 r. 105 Bells 7:30 r. 105 Star shall</p> <p>8-Carol Ch 6:15 r. 105 Bells 7:30 r. 105 Star shall Stitch 'n Knit—10 to 2.</p>	<p>2 Bells of Joy—6:30 Chancel Ens 7:30 Chancel Choir 8</p> <p>9- Bells of Joy—6:30 Chancel Ens 7:30 Chancel Choir 8</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10</p>	<p>4</p> <p>11</p>
<p>12 StageCoach Open House 2:00—4:00 Capriccio Youth Bells—11:45 r.105 Junior Ch 5 r. 105 Bighouse 6-8:30 shall</p>	<p>13 Scouts 6-9 shall and r. 109,108, 101, 103 Pat. Wms. Cr. 12:00 noon @ Liz Brehm's house</p>	<p>14 Praise band 7 pm gscouts 6-9 r 108- 109</p>	<p>15 Carol Ch 6:15 r. 105 Bells 7:30 r. 105 Star shall Charge Conference 7:00</p>	<p>16 Circle of Friends 9:30 lounge Bells of Joy—6:30 Chancel Ens 7:30 Chancel Choir 8 NS shall 9 to 12 noon</p>	<p>17 NS shall 9 to 12 noon</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 Men's BRUNCH Capriccio Youth Bells—11:45 r.105 Junior Ch 5 r. 105 Bighouse 6-8:30 shall</p>	<p>20 Scouts 6-9 shall and r. 109,108, 101, 103</p>	<p>21 Praise band 7 pm gscouts 6-9 r 108- 109</p>	<p>22 Carol Ch 6:15 r. 105 Bells 7:30 r. 105 Star shall</p>	<p>23 Chancel Ens 7:30 Chancel Choir 8</p>	<p>24 Christmas Eve</p>	<p>25 Merry Christmas!</p>
<p>26 YOUTH SUNDAY One Service— 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p>27 Scouts 6-9 shall and r. 109,108, 101, 103?</p>	<p>28 Praise band 7 pm gscouts 6-9 r 108- 109</p>	<p>29 Carol Ch 6:15 r. 105? Bells 7:30 r. 105? Star shall</p>	<p>30 Chancel Ens 7:30 Chancel Choir 8</p>	<p>31 New Years Eve Bruce Kinsey Wedding—8:00 Sanc & shall</p>	