EmmanueLife

Newsletter of Emmanuel United Church of Christ

Rev. Kenneth D. Peterkin, Pastor

From the desk of Rev. Ken ...

relcome to a beginning and to an end.

As each day provides to us a beginning and an end, we experience such the same in more grand and auspicious ways. In the passage of time –

seconds to hours, hours to days, and days to seasons, every three months a beginning and an end is presented. At transition, we usually we focus on one of these two seasons as we can pick favorites!

For example, the Winter to Spring transition has me virtually frolicking in fields of tall grass and a whisper of itsy-bitsy blossoms that are hardy yet tender looking. Expectation of what's to come has me in the Beginning frame of mind. Once the play of that has expired, the Ending trickles in and I realize in this instance that despite the strength of my Beginning fantasy, reality reminds me of the chill, the darkened snow piles, and the yet needed effort to carry on in the cold, the Ending.

Another example then can be offered in the Autumn to Winter transition, my ears attune to both soft and crunchy leaves under foot. In this Ending, I'm feeling the mix of warm sun and cool breeze, coupled with the fiery flash of gold and orange, green and red; my mind and heart are tendered by the depth of beauty. But then, after marinating in the joys of Autumn beauty, I foresee and begin to experience the Beginning of darkness, browns on the ground, and grays in the skies.

And so, we experience Beginnings and Endings in a feeling, in a pondering, in an experience, in both hopes and sorrows. Such as it is emerging in our Lenten journey, in Jesus' journey, in Jesus' life of hope and torment. We too then find ourselves in the walk to the cross, a place of both Ending and Beginning.

As in the change of seasons, Life and Death can be experienced with differing emotions. Perhaps in this "season" of Lent when questions of life and death are so topical, we can imagine or role play in our minds how we feel now about the Ending of our bodily life, followed by the Beginning of our spiritual life. As described earlier writing about seasons,

See Rev. Ken, Page 8

IN THIS ISSUE

Calendar Highlights

Saturday, March 2 LAST CALL! Spaghetti Supper RSVP by Feb. 29



Sundays, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 8:30 am—Adult Learning Hour 10 am—Worship in person and livestreamed on YouTube

Mondays, March 4, 11, 18, 25 1-4 pm—Compassionate Crafters

Sunday, March 10 Community Concert Series: 3 pm—Susquehanna Slide Express

Friday, March 22 Gift Card Bingo 5:30 pm—Doors • 7 pm—Games



Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 24 Maundy Thursday, March 28 Good Friday, March 29 Easter Sunday, March 31



March 2024





Holy Week and Easter

<u>Palm Sunday</u>: 10 am Service, 11 am Brunch, March 24 Featuring "The Palms" by the Chancel Choir. A Covered Dish Brunch will be held during Fellowship Hour. Please sign up to bring a dish or contact the church office.

<u>Maundy Thursday</u>: 6 pm, March 28 in King Auditorium Commemorate the Last Supper with a light meal and service of Holy Communion. A supper of soup, salad and bread will be provided. Sign up on the black clipboard or RSVP to the church office.

Easter: 10 am, March 31 Celebrate the resurrection of Jesus on this holy day! Special music will include anthems by the Chancel Choir.

Join us in person or view on YouTube.com/emmanuelucc. Find livestream links at emmanuelucc.org.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Are you called to serve?

There are multiple ways to help out at Emmanuel, even if you only have a little time to give. Are you called to contribute to the ministries of the church? Opportunities include:

- Altar Guild: Prepare communion once or twice per year.
- Fellowship Hour: Make your preparations as simple or as elaborate as you wish and volunteers may team up with others. Beverages are provided. As easy as coffee and cookies!
- Scripture Readers: You're already at church, so jump in the rotation about once a quarter! Selections are emailed in advance on Fridays.
- Greeters: Welcome members, friends and visitors and hand out bulletins.

Contact the church office for info.

Some Great Hours of Sharing

When did the first act of sharing happen? We read in Genesis that God wanted to share the natural world he had created, so he made humankind in His own image. God loved us enough to share His Son, who gave his life for our sins. God calls us, in turn, to share our blessings with those in need.

The One Great Hour of Sharing collection has been giving people the chance to share for 75 years. Denominations sharing in this work include the United Church of Christ and the Disciples of Christ. Global agencies such as Church World Service partner with local agencies. Immediate help goes to victims of disasters, poverty and conflict. Longlasting change happens through improved irrigation, sustainable farming, waste management, environmental protection and more.

From farmers in the Honduras to a community effort in Indiana that provides food and job training, One Great Hour of Sharing echoes the Apostle Paul's message to us: "Every time we get the chance, let us work for the benefit of all." (Galations 6:9-10)



Please consider how your donation could make a difference. The collection date for OGHS is March 10. Please make checks to Emmanuel UCC or use an offering envelope. ~*Carol Giesey*

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be March 10. Watch the bulletins for info.



Susquehanna Slide Express Trombone Quintet

3 pm • Sunday March 10

Get ready for some bold brass from this regional ensemble!

The concert will include a diverse program with pieces ranging from the Beatles to Big Band and from the Highlands to Broadway.

These professional musicians have an extensive repertoire incorporating jazz, marches, patriotic favorites, sacred pieces and music from the Renaissance, Baroque and Classical periods.

Admission is free.

EUCC Community Concert Series

25th anniversary season

E mmanuel has welcomed the community to enjoy music in our beautiful sanctuary for decades. Join us this 25th anniversary season for three more Sunday concerts featuring diverse programs from world-class musicians and regional performers. Stay after each concert for a dessert reception to meet the performing artists.

Concert Lineup

L'abri Trio Saxophone | Cello | Piano 3 pm, Sunday April 7 Enjoy a varied program from this world-class trio. Sponsored by Sam S. Lee

Grace EunHye Oh Organ

3 pm, Sunday May 12 Oh will perform on our magnificent 1930 E.F. Skinner organ.



Susquehanna Slide Express members include, from left, Greg Strohman, Nicola Burke, Doug Kulp, Tracy Burke and Gerald Heilner.

Thank you, concert sponsors!

Donor-Named Concert Sponsors The Alma Strings – Judy Morris 113th Annual Carol Sing – Linda & Steve McKonly Susquehanna Slide Express – Sandy Rebert L'abri Trio – Sam S. Lee

Sustainers

Estelle King Henry & Jean McLin Peter & Vicky Robinson Bill Wertzberger

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Summer camp open house



Both Camp Nawakwa near Ardentsville and Camp Kirchenwald in Lebanon County will host open houses on March 17 and April 14. Visit from 2-4:30 pm to take a tour and meet camp staff. In fact, summer camp registration is now open. All ages can enjoy spirit, adventure, growth and acceptance at camp. Camp brochures are available in the church office. For info about the open houses or details about summer camp, visit www.LutheranCamping.org or call the camp office at 717-677-8211.

Jazz Ambassadors to give free concert

Known as "America's Big Band," the U.S. Army Field Band Jazz Ambassadors will give a free concert at 7 pm, Monday, April 15, at the Eichelberger Performing Arts Center. This 19-piece premiere touring ensemble performs classic big band standards, patriotic favorites, contemporary jazz and original compositions.

Tickets are required and can be obtained at no charge online at theeich.org.

Events & Activities

Monthly Mindfulness

6 pm. March 3 Join Karen Jones every first Sunday for a free 45-minute Monthly Mindfulness



Drop-In session in Bowers Chapel. The stress-reduction practices are open to everyone. Use the courtyard door. For a Zoom link or questions, email Karen at kjones@ mindfulnessandmotion.com.

Coffee ER

9:15 am Friday & Saturday Join Rev. Ken for an informal gathering every Friday and Saturday from 9:15-10:30 am at The Reader's Café, 125 Broadway. Grab coffee, tea or breakfast. Coffee ER's name pays homage to Emmanuel's Evangelical and Reformed roots.

Afternoon of Games

1:30-4 pm, March 7 & 21 The group meets for Scrabble, cards and more games and snacks first and third Thursdays in King Auditorium. For info, call Carol Giesey at 717-632-2665.

Lunch Bunch

Second Sundays The group will gather for food and fellowship after worship at



11:45 am on March 10 at Bay City Restaurant, Eisenhower Drive, Hanover. RSVP to Sandy Rebert, 717-586-2136.

Compassionate Crafters

1-4 pm Mondays

All crafters are welcome to bring a project, swap techniques and enjoy fellowship. For info, call Sandy Rebert at 717-586-2136.

UCC Child Sponsorship Program Greetings from the Philippines

November 25, 2023

Dear Friends at Emmanuel UCC,

Hello and good day! How have you been? It's been a long time since the last time I wrote a letter for y'all. I hope you're all doing well there. Here, my family and I are doing well. It has been raining hard here in the Philippines lately. Despite that, I am still able to go to school safely, and I am very grateful for that.

Due to academic priorities, I wasn't able to attend Kalauman activities. On weekends, we have practice for our physical education requirement, which is to dance, do paperwork and more.

There is one subject that has been challenging for me since I am the leader of the group in the research paper. For me, it is a very big responsibility, and I was afraid I wouldn't make it or we wouldn't make it since my members are not so active. I spent the Halloween week doing our research paper, Chapter 1. There were only 2-3 people in my group that cooperated. I was worried about the outcome of our paper, but thankfully the paper and the presentation of Chapter 1 were very good according to our teacher.

Christmas is coming so fast. It is a time of warmth, togetherness and cherished moments with loved ones. I wish you a Christmas filled with wonder and delight. May the coming year bring you happiness, prosperity, and countless reasons to smile. Thank you so much for your continuous support of my studies. It has been a great help.

Sincerely yours,

Jin Marie

Jin Marie, 18, attended school at the Dumaguete Kalauman Center for Development in Dumaguete City, Philippines.

Homewood at Plum Creek Auxiliary

Wanted: Bingo prizes

The Homewood at Plum Creek Auxiliary thanks EUCC for recent donations of Bingo Prizes. We have delivered three baskets of items so far. This continues to be an ongoing project as the Skilled Care and Personal Care residents play Bingo twice a week, every week. Bingo is without doubt one of the most popular activities enjoyed by our Skilled Care and Personal Care residents, of which there are several members of Emmanuel represented.

Please donate **new**, non-perishable prizes. Suggestions include:

- Word Search Puzzle Books (circle a word)
- Costume Jewelry
- Over the head beaded necklaces and bracelets
- Dove soap bars
- Small hand sanitizers
- Small hand lotions
- Decorative scarves
- Small soft stuffed animals (like a Beanie Baby)

- Window clings (peel & stick)
- Small holiday trinkets (all seasons)
- Variety of greeting cards to send to family

A basket labeled "*Homewood Auxiliary Bingo Prizes*" can be found in King Auditorium, near the Opportunity Table for any items donated for this effort. See Peg Moulton for more information.

Thank You

From Homewood

Happy New Year! Thank you for making room in your hearts again this year for our residents at Plum Creek. Your thoughtful donations show how much time and effort you put into choosing just the right items for our residents to enjoy.

Thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely, Megan Schuman, Community Therapeutic Recreation and Volunteer Director

CONSISTORY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Consistory Minutes — January

January minutes were approved February 19.

- Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Alec Sivel and seconded by Judy Morris to accept the report subject to audit. Motion carried.
- Pastor's Report: Rev. Ken is beginning a Lenten study in February, he's planning a confirmation class beginning in February, he's heartened by the number of visitors and returning persons.
- Old business
- Bill made a motion and Judy seconded to ask the pastor to continue with providing announcements. Motion carried. Andy Crone has been asked to make the bulletin more accessible on YouTube. New business
- Establish officers: Secretary position remains vacant.
- Property: Sean Moore reported that Randy Brady (contractor for steps and courtyard changes) said on January 11 that renovations would begin in March or when the weather permits.
- The Diversity Alliance currently holds English classes at the library, which will be unavailable to them after March. They requested meeting space at Emmanuel Saturday mornings from 10-11:30 am for 5 to 15 people. Bill motioned and Judy seconded to allow the Diversity Alliance space for English classes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Church Growth Committee — February 13 Updates:

- Bulletin boards: The Birthdays theme seems to be a success. Jean will update monthly.
- Church Logo: Abe is still working on a concept.
- Spring Emmanuel Offering: Will skip March Main Street event; next 2nd Saturdays are in June, September and December.
- Current Advertising: Facebook, Instagram and social media need to be kept up to date. Multiple print and online event listings are appearing.
- Website/Google: Rev Ken. and Maria to meet regarding a redesign.

Missions Committee — February 7

- God's Meal Barrel served 163 families in January, a 50 percent increase over last year.
- On January 30 Emmanuel volunteers at PAL Lunch served 110 meals and packed 41 Meals on Wheels. Due to an additional need, we also volunteered on Feb. 6, serving 78 lunches and 41 Meals on Wheels. Our next date to volunteer is April 30. Contact Estelle King to volunteer.

Continued on next page

2024 CONSISTORY OFFICERS

PresidentChuck Siegel 717-969-5550
brassnblast@yahoo.comVice PresidentAlec Sivel 717-451-3450
alecsivel@hotmail.comSecretaryVacantCONSISTORY MEMBERS
Megan Alcott, Chuck Bauer, Sean Moore,
Judy Morris, Charlotte Pinette, Sandy Topper,
Bill Wertzberger

Ex officio

Treasurer

Brian Frederick 717-451-3977 brianfrederick44@gmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS						
Altar Guild	Mary Bair	717-870-5597				
Caring	Judy Morris 717-968-6998					
Christian Edu	cation Cheryl Fritz 7	tte 717-227-0262				
Church Grow		ette 717-227-0262 7-451-3450				
Fellowship	Mary Bair 71 Elaine Weave	7-870-5597 er 717-637-9015				
Investment	Brian Frederi	ck 717-451-3977				
Missions	Carol Giesey 717-632-2665 Estelle King 717-487-1906 Consistory Rep: Bill Wertzberge					
Pastor-Parish		717-487-1906				
Personnel	Megan Alcott	717-451-5401				
Property and		443-618-7481				

Stewardship Judy Morris 717-968-6998

Worship and Music Chuck Siegel 717-969-5550

Committee Highlights, continued from Page 6

- Dwight and Deb Dubs, our reps to the Hanover Area Council of Churches, attended a recent board meeting. The annual report indicated that HACC is financially doing well. When the dishwasher is replaced, plastic and foam containers for serving meals will be replaced with regular dishes. Clothing is needed, especially teens' and boys' clothing, both to sell and to provide to needy families. The Saving Lives Shelter is currently full.
- The final tally for the annual fall gala at Hoffman Homes for Youth is \$46,000. This year's Gala will take place at the Wyndham Hotel on Nov. 1. The Golf Tourney is scheduled for June 3 at the Hanover Country Club.
- A total of 24.4 pounds of food, plus hygiene items, was collected on Feb. 4 and delivered to local food banks. The next Communion Gifts collection will be March 4. For more info, contact Marilyn Van Lenten.
- The Crafters thank all who made and donated hats, scarves and gloves. They continue to be available through the cold months on the line in the courtyard. Contact Sandy Rebert.
- Missions continues to discuss how we can better respond to God's call to care for our earth. We welcome input from the congregation as to how we can do this as individuals, as a congregation, and as a community. Contact any member of the Missions committee.

Property & Safety Committee — February

- Work has begun on the courtyard between the church and the church office. Bricks were removed, various diameter stone and crushed stone was applied, and the surface was graded to allow for proper drainage, then bricks with family names were returned in place. Six-inch diameter thin wall drainage pipes that were too thin for this application were removed and replaced with four-inch diameter Schedule 40 drainage pipe.
- At the February 1 meeting, committee members reviewed product lines of adjustable podiums. Prices ranged from a low of \$1,000 up to \$3,000, not including shipping. After considering factors such as cost, and aesthetics, the committee came to a unanimous consensus that installing a secure railing would be a better solution.
- Repair of the brownstone steps will require warmer weather. Randy Brady Masonry has informed me that when weather permits, removal and replacement of the stairs will begin. Most likely, March weather will allow this to occur.



COURTYARD PROJECT

Workers from Randy A. Brady Builders and Masonry spread cement in the courtyard on February 9. The work continued for more than two weeks. The new concrete surface will improve drainage in the area and keep water from seeping into the basement. Old and new memorial bricks were installed near the door. Replacement of the office steps and sidewalk is expected to begin the first week in March.

Worship & Music Committee — February 6

- Discussions centered around the responsibility of seeking notification and publicity of events at Emmanuel and the upcoming events of the Easter season. It was also announced collection for One Great Hour of Sharing will be held during March. Arrangements will be made to do repair work on the piano in the choir's rehearsal room.
- The schedule of services and events includes:
 - ♦ March 2: Annual Spaghetti Supper.
 - ◊ March 3: Communion.
 - March 10: Concert featuring the Susquehanna Slide Express, a trombone quintet.
 - March 17: Rehearsal of "The Palms" for congregants wishing to participate.
 - ◊ March 22: Bingo.
 - ◊ March 24: Palm Sunday. A brunch will be held after church, replacing the Easter breakfast.
 - ♦ March 28: Maundy Thursday.
 - ◊ March 31: Easter Sunday. No coffee hour.

Conference merger talks continue

The Keystone Working Group met in February and discussed ongoing efforts to share information with all Pennsylvania UCC congregations through its website **psec.org/keystone**. This study, discernment and working group is proposing a merger of the four state UCC Conferences – Penn West, Penn Central, Penn Northeast, and Pennsylvania Southeast.

The Communications Team prepared a new video to share the creative process of a possible new unified Keystone Conference logo. In March, they will present the video on the website and a link available for all to share in our excitement, believing "Together We Are Stronger!"

Conference Ministers and Task Groups shared updates on their preparations and initial conversations:

- Staffing A Staff Retention Statement is being prepared in consultation with current staff of all four conferences.
- Governance Dates for a possible Transition Plan for Governance is being developed in anticipation of an affirming vote on a merger resolution in November 2024.
- Finance A consolidated baseline budget draft for 2025, a dream budget and what's "realistic" at current funding and resource levels, as well as a report of combined assets is being developed. Additional policy and possible budgets for 2026 and 2027 are also being drafted.
- Approval Process A draft resolution will be proposed in the March meeting, with prayer and editing considerations in April to present as part of the four conferences' combined gathering in June for our collective conversation and discernment.
- Legal This subcommittee has not yet met, pending Governance and Finance considerations.

Discussions will continue at a June 7-9 gathering in State College, with plans for combined plenary sessions and sharing of feedback from congregations all around the state.

Learn more at psec.org/keystone and share questions and comments by email at Keystone.Conference.Project@gmail.com.

Rev. Ken, continued from Page 1

pleasant emotions could be assigned to both Beginnings and Endings. The same goes with sorrowful emotions, being found in both Beginnings and Endings.

The painful loss of a beloved family member or friend always holds sorrowful feelings in the Ending of their life. Once appropriately experienced, those feelings of sorrow that we experience can give way to a Beginning. The Beginning of eternal life in God and Savior can bring a great relief for survivors of loss.

Lent is a time in the Christian practice when topics of life and death, joy and sorrow, trust and betrayal all are considered for personal growth. None of us can escape the pains of life nor can we prolong indefinitely the joys either. What this time of Lent offers are moments set aside to ponder and even experience the emotional and the intellectual quandaries that life inevitably serves each of us.

I hope that you can take advantage of this presented time in the practice of church season. If you need more explanation or want a path to follow until Easter, publeeeeeease(!) contact me ASAP so that I can assist you in making the most of this Lenten season.

Grace and Peace, Love and Blessings, *Rev. Ken*

Contact Rev. Ken

860-581-0869 • pastor@eucchanover.org Office hours: 10 am-1 pm Tuesday & Wednesday

Christian Sympathy and Heartfelt Prayers

Please extend sympathy and prayers to ...

The family of Arlene Marks, who died January 24, 2024, at age 95.

The family of Henry McKonly, who died February 7, 2024. He was the father of Steve McKonly.

The family of Jean Becker, who died February 20, 2024. She was the mother of Doug Becker.

The family of Patricia Sheaffer, who died February 22, 2024, at age 90.

The family of Gregory W. Bair I, who died February 23, 2024, at age 64.



The following members and friends of Emmanuel celebrate birthdays in **March**. We extend to each of you best wishes and many happy returns. May God bless you!

1-Jenny Myers

- 2—Dale Grimm, Christopher Garrett
- 4—Landy Grimm, Jeff Brady Jr.
- 5—Eva Garrett, Pat Conroy
- 7—Liz Pickering, Ben Connor
- 10—Dan Frock
- 14—Jean Gralley
- 18—Erin Groft
- 19—Ed Rohrbaugh
- 20-Anthony Moreno
- 21—Sandy Rebert, Sierra Rhodes
- 22-Cathy Reck
- 23-Sharlene Davis
- 24—Sandy Topper, Allen Bittinger
- 26—Easton Nguyen
- 27—Alex Brown

Remembering * Caring * Reaching Out

Terri Alcott (Care South) **Julia Greth** (Terrace E371) Homewood, 425 Westminster Avenue, Hanover PA 17331

Becci Little 2990 Carlisle Pike, Room 4528, New Oxford PA 17350

Doris Unger (Room 214A) Hanover Hall, 267 Frederick St., Hanover PA 17331

Consider Electronic Giving

Learn more at emmanuelucc.org/giving or contact the church office. Make a onetime donation or schedule regular offerings.



Have some news? New email? Change of address? Let us know! office@eucchanover.org 124 Broadway, Hanover PA 17331



March 2024

SUNDAY MONDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			February 29 6 pm—Hand bells 7 pm—Choir	1 9:15-10:30 am Coffee ER @ The Reader's Cafe	2 Coffee ER 42nd Annual Spaghetti Supper 5 or 6:30 pm	
3 8:30 am—Adult SS 10 am—Worship w/ Holy Communion Children's SS 6 pm—Mindfulness in Bowers Chapel	4 1-4 pm—Crafters in the Pastor's Parlor	5 4 pm—Worship & Music Committee	6 12-1 pm Bowers Chapel Open 1 pm—Missions Committee 7 pm-Lenten Book Study by Zoom	7 1:30-4 pm— Afternoon of Games 6 pm—Hand bells 7 pm—Choir	8 9:15-10:30 am Coffee ER @ The Reader's Cafe	9 9:15-10:30 am Coffee ER @ Reader's Cafe
10 8:30 am—Adult SS 10 am—Worship Children's SS 11:45—Lunch Bunch 3 pm—Concert Series	11 1-4 pm—Crafters in the Pastor's Parlor	12 12-Church Growth Zoom	13 12-1 pm Bowers Chapel Open 7 pm-Lenten Book Study by Zoom	14 1:30-4 pm— Afternoon of Games 7 pm—Property Committee meeting 6 pm—Hand bells 7 pm—Choir	15 9:15-10:30 am Coffee ER @ The Reader's Cafe	16 9:15-10:30 am Coffee ER @ Reader's Cafe
17 8:30 am—Adult SS 10 am—Worship Children's SS	18 1-4 pm—Crafters in the Pastor's Parlor 7—Consistory	19	20 12-1 pm Bowers Chapel Open	21 6 pm—Hand bells 7 pm—Choir	22 9:15-10:30 am Coffee ER BINGO 5:30 pm—Doors 7 pm—Games	23 9:15-10:30 am Coffee ER @ Reader's Cafe
24 Palm Sunday 8:30 am—Adult SS 10 am—Worship Children's SS Covered Dish Brunch	25 1-4 pm—Crafters in the Pastor's Parlor	26	27 12-1 pm Bowers Chapel Open	28 Maundy Thursday 6 pm—Service	29 9:15-10:30 am Coffee ER @ The Reader's Cafe	30 9:15-10:30 am Coffee ER @ Reader's Cafe
31 Easter 8:30 AM—Adult SS						,

8:30 AM—Adult S 10 am—Worship Children's SS

Emmanuel United Church of Christ 124 Broadway

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Emmanuel United Church of Christ, 124 Broadway, Hanover, PA 17331



Church Office 9 am-1 pm, Mon-Fri 717-632-8281 office@eucchanover.org

Visit Online www.emmanuelucc.org

<u>F. Y. I.</u>

■ <u>Holy Week & Easter</u> Reflect on the season and celebrate the resurrection. Join us in person or online ~*Details, Page 2*

■ <u>Concert Series</u> The Susquehanna Slide Express trombone ensemble will perform at 3 pm March 10 ~*Details, Page 3*





• Our church is an OPEN AND AFFIRMING congregation •