



**Pleasant Hill  
Church of the Brethren**

## **Brethren Visitor**

September 2009

### **Springs of Living Water**

A journey of spiritual renewal begins with a deep thirst for the things of God. This is true for individuals and also for churches. Considering the state of the Christian faith in our land today, one could hardly deny that we need spiritual renewal in our churches.

Our Pleasant Hill Church is planning to embark on a journey of spiritual renewal beginning this fall. This journey of renewal is called "Springs of Living Water," and explores the meaning of the experiences recorded in John 4 concerning the woman at the well. "Springs of Living Water" takes the great themes of spiritual formation and lives them out in the context of the local church.

I will be preaching on themes of renewal through the month of September. A Renewal Team will be called to help guide our church through the process and a District-wide training seminar will take place here at Pleasant Hill on Saturday, September 26. This journey of spiritual renewal may lead us on through several years yet to come. Only God knows where it may lead and we must be ready for his hand of correction and of guidance.

*Pastor Phil*

### **Update on the Rotation Model**

The Rotation model enjoyed a summer event in July. We met at the church, traveled to Westmont to the elementary school ground where the children spent time running, swinging and all the neat things that children do at a playground. We dined together enjoying pizza as we sat on the ground eating and chatting. From there we journeyed to the Church of the Brethren Home in Scalp Level to provide the residents with a bell performance and singing.

Our new unit is Building the Tabernacle; we are learning about the tabernacle that the Children of Israel built with God's instructions and about worshipping God. We learn about this through music, games, art, computer, movies, story, cookery and science. Stop by and visit us as we learn about the Bible truths.

*Amelia*

#### **Sundays in September**

##### **September 6**

Today's message is THIRSTY? and is taken from John 4. There is no evening service.

##### **September 13**

A Sunday School and Small Group Fair will take place in the chapel. Please take some time to visit the display boards. DIALOGUE is the title for today's message from John 4. The West End Hymn sing is here at Pleasant Hill at 7 PM.

##### **September 20**

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES is the title of today's message and draws from a book by Richard Foster. Our Covenant Bible Study begins today at 6 PM.

##### **September 27**

The message for today is SERVANT LEADERSHIP from the "Suffering Servant" passages of Isaiah. Covenant Bible Study at 6:00 PM.

## OUR SHUT-INS

**AT HOME:** Pauline Caton

Elsie Matula, Gladys Kovach, Mabel Rose,  
Janet Roberts, Bob & Anna Craft, June Berg

**AUTUMNS VIEW:** Mildred Rager

**CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN HOME:** Mildred  
Blue

**HARMONY HOUSE:** Agnes Mae Harrison

**PRESBYTERIAN HOME:** Belva Rager

## HOSPITALIZED SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER:

Shawna Kosakowski, Asher Kosakowski, Katty Miller,  
Faye Roberts, Ernie Johns, Gloria Rager

## NEXT COMMISSION & BOARD MEETING(S):

Monday, September 14, 2009

**NEXT BUSINESS MEETING:** Monday, October 26

**NEXT DEACON MEETING:** Tuesday, September 1

## DEACON(S) FOR THE WEEK

September 06 – Charles and Marsha Smith

September 13 – Pete and Donna Smith

September 20 – Greg and Patty Blue

September 27 – Terry and Bonnie Bouch

## 8:00 AM NURSERY CARE

September 06 – Shawna Kosakowski

September 13 – Carol Harrison

September 20 – Jessie Rager

September 27 – Janet Pudliner

## 10:30 AM NURSERY CARE

September 06 –

September 13 – Jim and Angela McKendree

September 20 – Heather Pudliner

September 27 – Jim and Angela McKendree

## 8:00 AM FRONT DOOR GREETERS

September 06 – Jack and Carol Harrison

September 13 – Keith and Claudia Rager

September 20 – Ed and Lisa Jones

September 27 – Jim and Cherie Kinsey

## 10:30 AM FRONT DOOR GREETERS

September 06 – Jim and Shirley Cameron

September 13 – Ray and Elisha Balog

September 20 – Bintrim Family

September 27 – Richard and Lori Denhard

## TWO CENTS A MEAL

The bucket will be in the back on Sunday, September 6, for your use as it is on the first Sunday of every month. The next day to give will be October 4.

## STEWARDSHIP STATISTICS

Date	8:00 AM	Sunday School	10:30 AM	Offering
7-5	87	109	126	\$5,092
7-12	100	105	141	\$5,820
7-19	88	102	147	\$5,323
7-26	102	101	118	\$3,868
8-2	94	102	123	\$5,344
8-9	244 (combined service for VBS Program)			\$4,566
8-16	91	98	164	\$6,293
8-23	86	109	137	\$4,118
8-30	107	110	147	\$5,402

## ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

September 06 – Aleah Dishong and Lauren Natta

September 13 – Chad Cameron and Jordan Schroll

September 20 – Hannah Cameron and Hannah Davis

September 27 – Chase Davis and Austin Pudliner

The Acolytes begin serving their church when they are willing and able. This is a very special way to represent “Jesus. . .The Light of the World!” If you are unable to acolyte on your scheduled day, please call April Mackell at 536-1589, so the change can be made in the bulletin.

## NEW ADDRESS FOR GWEN SWICK

215 Ottawa St. Apt B28 Bldg 1

Johnstown, PA 15904-2374

Phone: 814-410-3710

## SYMPATHY

Pleasant Hill Church offers its deepest sympathy to the family and friends of BEATRICE SELDERS, who went to be with her Lord and Savior on Monday, July 27, 2009.

Pleasant Hill Church offers its deepest sympathy to the family and friends of ROSS HUNTER, who went to be with his Lord and Savior on Thursday, August 13, 2009.

## LIVING/MEMORIAL TRUST FUND

A number of donations have been made in memory of Beatrice Selders.

Given by William and Janet Bloom

Given by the Gilkey Family (sister Loretta and family)

Given by Francis and Shirley Matten

Given by friends of the Selders family

Given by David and Louann Templeton

Given by Harry and Mary Louise Rombaugh

## GOD'S BLESSING

Asher Seth Kosakowski was born on Thursday, July 9, 2009. The proud parents are Rick and Shawna Kosakowski. Grandfather is Rob Rummel, uncle is Brock Rummel, and great-grandparents are Virgil and Val Rummel.

Nathaniel Richard Denhard was born on Friday, July 31, 2009. The proud parents are Richard and Lori Denhard. Grandparents are Snook and Sandy Tiffany.

Avery Grace Crynock was born on Saturday, August 1, 2009. The proud parents are Rob and Lisa Crynock. Grandparents are John and Janet Pudliner.

## THANK YOU

Pleasant Hill Church, Your kind expression of sympathy is deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged. The family of Mary Jane Dishong

Thank you to everyone for all the cards, prayers, words of concern, and thoughtful wishes for my good. Your kindness is appreciated. Forrest E. Rhodes

Thank you to everyone who helped during our recent church workday. Your help to clean and fix-up the building and grounds was appreciated. Everyone working together is what the church is all about.  
The Stewards

Thanks to everyone who helped during our church grove workday on July 25. Your time and efforts are greatly appreciated. Stewards Commission

We would like to thank our wonderful church family for all your support and prayers over these difficult weeks. Your cards, visits, gifts, and phone calls meant more to us than you could know. Asher is home and doing well. We love you all.  
Rick and Shawna Kosakowski

Dear Friends, We would like to say "Thank You" to everyone at the Pleasant Hill Church of the Brethren for letting us have the privilege of using your picnic grove for our annual picnic, not just this year, but all the years in the past. Our people, young and old, really enjoyed the afternoon and evening in your picnic grove on the mountain top. Only a few sprinkles of rain one time this year. To our knowledge, I don't believe we were ever rained out, Thank You, Lord! Again thank you, and may God continue to bless the wonderful people at the Pleasant Hill Church of the Brethren.

Cambria City Mission Director, Lois J. Smith

## THANK YOU

Pleasant Hill Church and Pastor Phil,

Thank you so much for all your prayers and support all through Mom's trials and tribulations. Our family deeply appreciated all our precious "Friends in Christ" who were there to help carry us through.

The Beatrice Selders Family

Dear Friends and Family, I am so grateful for the opportunity to thank you for choosing to remember my beloved husband Dean with a generous contribution to the Disabled Veterans. Your act of kindness will have a powerful effect on the lives of all the men and women who come home sick or wounded after defending our nation.

With my warm regards and gratitude, Delores Harrison

We want to extend a special thank you to all who helped with Vacation Bible School this year. Your help (whether through volunteering, monetary donations, or prayers) was very much appreciated. It is because of the dedication of our volunteers that Pleasant Hill's Vacation Bible School is such a success each year. We are blessed to have such selfless people in our midst.

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way at the Summer Picnic. We had approximately 200 in attendance this year, and we are so grateful for the success of this event and the dedication of our church family.

Thanks so much for all the prayers for my mom. She is now cancer free!  
Pastor Russ and Family

Pastor Phil and Congregation, I would like to thank you all for keeping our daughter Marie Rose, son-in-law Reggie, and granddaughter Raina Marie in your prayers. Raina, born at 29 weeks, is now weighing 3lbs 11oz and is still in the NICU, with a few set-backs but in very good care. Mommy and Daddy are learning how to care for a preemie when coming home...We have such wonderful friends and church friends, we could not have gone through this alone.

God Bless! Rosie and Ed Cernic Jr.  
(see entire Thank-You and photos on bulletin board)

Pleasant Hill Church would like to thank the family of Kathryn Bouch for a recent donation. Kathryn named the church in her will to the sum of \$300. This kindness is greatly appreciated.

### **FALL GOSPEL FESTIVAL**

This event at Camp Harmony, September 4, 5, 6, and 7 is one of the largest Gospel Music festivals in Pennsylvania and always takes place over Labor Day weekend. Family activities, good food, friends meeting friends, swimming, and music make this a must-attend event. See the bulletin board for more details.

### **BELL CHOIR**

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board if you are interested in participating in this year's bell choir. We need approximately 16 people to sign up. Practices will be held Thursday evenings at 7:00, beginning September 10. Please see Pastor Russ with questions.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL/SMALL GROUP FAIR**

Each Sunday School Class and Small Group here at Pleasant Hill will receive a tri-fold display board to be used at a special event planned for Sunday, September 13. Please fill this display board with photos and information about your class or group. These display boards will be set up in the Sunday School Chapel on September 13 so please spend some time walking among them and rejoicing in the work God is doing here at Pleasant Hill.

### **PASTOR'S CLASS**

Pastor Phil will teach a class during the Sunday School hour beginning September 6. This class is for those seeking baptism and membership here at Pleasant Hill. Anyone of any age may take this class and it may be taken without obligation of baptism or membership. However, those seeking baptism and/or membership should plan to take the classes. Baptism is planned for Sunday morning, October 4. We will explore the following topics:

- This is what it means to be a Christian
- Repentance, Baptism, and the Christian life
- Brethren among Christian denominations
- Participation in the life of the Church
- Brethren Ideals of Christian living
- Prayer, Bible study, and witnessing for Christ

### **BRETHREN HERITAGE FESTIVAL**

This festival will take place at Camp Harmony on Saturday, September 19 from 10:00 AM until 5:00 PM. Breakfast will be served by our Pleasant Hill Women's Fellowship in the dining hall from 7:00 AM until 9:00 AM (donations accepted). Music groups, including the Steel City Quartet, will perform at designated times throughout the day. A Children's Area will include fun activities and crafts. An auction of baked goods and an auction of quilts and baskets will take place during the day. See a complete schedule posted on the bulletin board.

### **GOOD GRIEF**

Butch Derr and Good Grief are available on the web by clicking on 1160WCCS.com or wdadradio.com, then click on GOODGRIEF. Butch will have audio messages of healing and hope on grief.

### **GIFT OF THE HEART KITS**

Hygiene kits, school kits, and baby kits are all being received at the District Conference of the Western PA Churches. If any Sunday School class or other groups or individuals are interested in doing kits, please see Ginny Babal, Witness Commission Chair, for a list of items for each. Also see Ginny for the cloth bags to make the school kits. Put completed kits on the table in the fellowship hall before Oct. 20th. Checks or money to cover the shipping (\$2.00 per kit) should be placed in the Witness Commission mailbox or given to any member of the commission.

### **DISASTER MINISTRIES**

Flood recovery work has opened in Johnson County, and there is considerable work still to be done in Chalmette, LA. Contact Herb Ewald at 814-539-8530. We are looking for crews of 10 or 11. The upcoming trips are: October 25-31 Chalmette, LA; November 15-21 Johnson County, IN

### **EAT-N-PARK COUPONS**

The Auxiliary of the Brethren Home is selling \$10 Eat-n-Park coupons. The Home will make \$1 profit on each one sold. We appreciate your support. See April Mackell (536-1589) or Jean Rager (322-1158).

### **SPRINGS OF LIVING WATER**

"Springs of Living Water" is a spiritual renewal effort of our church and many churches in the Western PA District. Pleasant Hill will become more involved in this important effort as we move into the fall months. Books that explain the process of "Springs" are circulating through the Sunday School classes. We will need to call a Renewal Team to serve as an ad-hoc committee under the Nurture Commission. The Renewal Team, along with our pastors, will lead our congregation through the "Springs" process of spiritual renewal. Pastor Phil will be addressing the topic of spiritual renewal in a series of messages this fall.

### **CAMP HARMONY PROJECTS**

- Bring 2 x 4 x 8 lumber to Camp to be used for building projects. These can be signed by families, Sunday School Classes, Churches, etc.
- Eleven picnic tables and 6 fire rings have already been purchased. Approximately 30 tables and 20 fire rings are needed.

## What's happening at the Emanuel Children's Home?

We interrupt this normally scheduled newsletter, to share a little information about the political crisis in Honduras.

Dear Friends:

I am not using this forum to pass on any personal views of Western Pennsylvania District Church of the Brethren, Hogar de Niños Emanuel, or myself. However, many of you are asking what is going on in Honduras? What is the political upheaval all about? Will it affect Hogar de Niños Emanuel?

Keep in mind that the Hogar de Niños Emanuel is not receiving any government money from Honduras. It never did and I doubt that it ever will. It is a privately-run institution that depends solely on donations from all of you to keep its doors open. Regardless, of what is happening politically in the country of Honduras, it is the children of that country who suffer the most when things go wrong. Please do not turn your backs on their need of your love, prayers, and support now. They need you more than ever!

I am not a political science major, in fact, I rarely follow politics at all, but this is a situation that we should all be concerned about—even as US citizens. I will try to explain in easy to understand language.

Manuel Zelaya is, or was, the President of Honduras. He wanted to change the Honduran constitution to allow him to run for office with no term limits (like Hugo Chavez of Venezuela.) To change the constitution in Honduras you have to convene a constituent assembly. The president cannot do that. The Honduran congress must approve a national referendum calling for the constituent assembly to consider changes to the constitution. Well, Zelaya didn't like the part about the constitution requiring approval of the congress before a national referendum could be called on his own. OK .. so here we have President Zelaya calling for a national referendum when he doesn't have the power to do so. He fired anyone who got in his way. Then based on the

Supreme Court's ruling, the Honduran attorney general said that the proposed referendum was illegal and said that he would arrest anyone attempting to carry out the election. Long story short — Zelaya was arrested by the military and was escorted out of the country.

The presidential elections set for November .. the election that Zelaya was trying to get around ... will go on as scheduled unless Zelaya is brought back into the country to continue his political agenda. Just which side is actually fighting for democracy? I'll let you be the judge of that!

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton met privately with ousted Honduran President Manuel Zelaya, on July 7th. She said the president of Costa Rica has agreed to serve as a mediator to help negotiate an end to the political stand-off, there.

Right now, the Honduran military is physically blocking Zelaya's return, cancelling all flights at the capitol airport.

CBN News spoke with Marco Cáceres, co-founder of Project Honduras, a network organization of hundreds of nonprofits organizations totaling more than 6,000 people who do volunteer work in Honduras, about Zelaya's meeting with Clinton.

*"Honduras is essentially a chess piece in my view," Cáceres said. "It is part of a broader strategy that is being pushed by Chavez and the leaders of other countries like Nicaragua, Ecuador, Bolivia and a few others. It is an effort to create essentially an alternative system in Latin America."*

On our website at [www.hogaremanuel.com](http://www.hogaremanuel.com), you can follow a link to read what Chet Thomas has to say. Chet is the cofounder of Hogar de Niños Emanuel and currently serves on its board of directors.

As of the writing of this newsletter, we don't know the outcome, but please pray for the country of Honduras. God knows everyone's deepest motives. May His will be done.

In His Service  
Roma

# September Birthdays

2 Tracy Demchak	13 Ed Hernandez	22 Clay Piper
3 Chad Cameron	14 Ron Covalt, Jr.	22 Mildred White
3 Lisa (Kehl) Burkhardt	14 Trista Lamer	22 Adam Ream
4 Lakyn Davis	15 Vicky Lonsinger	23 Zachary Toth
4 William Teeter, Sr.	15 Holly Hernandez	23 Michael Lonsinger
4 Bryan Williams, Jr.	15 Tamara Mackell	24 Trent Roberts
4 Tom Thomas	16 Rosalie Carney	24 Kristy Fulcomer
5 Ed Lewis	16 Jessica McKinney	25 Kevin Tomechak
5 Mary Beth Swick	16 Ryan Robertson	25 Terry Gindlesperger
6 Shari Harrison	16 Jessica Lambie	25 Laura Wade
6 Bob Hegedus	16 Judy Bowser	26 Adeline Rudge
6 Jodi (Rager) Beech	17 Steven Gossard	27 Bill Lewis, Jr.
7 Lindy Berg	17 Lauren Myers	27 Lloyd Mackell, Sr.
7 Art Harrison	17 Eric Kabler	27 Courtney Mathieson
7 Keith Rager	17 Lee Moore	27 Kathryn Saylor
8 Adam Rager	18 Vanessa Bouch	27 Jeff Horner
8 Rebecca Rhodes	19 Ethel Carney	28 Jamie Petrunak
8 Scott Williams	19 Amy Ratchford	29 Judy Rhodes
9 Angela McKendree	20 Marian Covalt	29 Ashley Fairman
9 Mildred Blue	20 Jack Harrison	29 Bradley Fairman
9 Randy Harrison	20 DeVon Saintz	29 Dolores Berg
9 Bill Teeter, Jr.	20 Nancy Williams	29 Gene Burkett, Sr.
11 Randy Browning	21 Ron Lonsinger	30 Stacy Serenko
11 Terry Wade	21 Jim Owens	30 Hannah Davis
11 Wendy Ryan	21 Jack Owens	30 Hope Hegedus
12 Robert C. Berg	21 Brandon Saintz	30 Jay Bouch
12 Kaytie Rhodes	22 Shirley Cameron	30 Craig Oaks
13 Craig Cernic		30 Gary Saintz

# Happy Anniversary!

1 Rick and Jean Brehm	14 Mike and Michelle Saintz
1 Jason and Alicia Miske	16 Gerald and Geraldine Bush
3 Dean and Joyce Thomas	18 Mike and Jessie Rager
6 Ed and Lisa Burkhardt	19 Greg and Patty Blue
6 Tim and Tawnya Plunkard	20 Jack and Carol Harrison
6 Terry and Becky Swick	20 Dallen and Taryn Spaugy
7 Rob and Lisa Crynock	24 Tim and Terri Davis
8 Randy and Cheryl Browning	28 Alan and Ethel Williams
10 Emerson and Daisy Carney	28 Loren and Connie Berg
13 Josh and Megan Illig	28 Richard and Donna Rhodes

# September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 7:00 PM Praise Team Practice 7:00 PM Deacon Meeting	<b>2</b> Volunteers to CoB Home 9 AM Quilters 6-8 PM Youth Small Grp	<b>3</b> Volunteers to West End Food Pantry	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 8:00 AM Service 8:15 Children's Church 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Service 10:45 Children's Church 6:00 PM C.B.Y.F.	<b>7</b> Labor Day	<b>8</b> 7:00 PM Praise Team Practice	<b>9</b> 9 AM Quilters 6-8 PM Youth Small Grp 7 PM Choir Practice	<b>10</b> Volunteers to West End Food Pantry 7 PM Bell Choir Practice	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Ministry Fair 8:00 AM Service 8:15 Children's Church 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Service 10:45 Children's Church 6:00 PM C.B.Y.F. 7:00 PM West End Hymn Sing at Pleasant Hill	<b>14</b> 6:30 PM Commission Meetings 7:00 PM Board Meeting	<b>15</b> 7:00 PM Praise Team Practice	<b>16</b> Volunteers to CoB Home 9 AM Quilters 6-8 PM Youth Small Grp 7 PM Choir Practice	<b>17</b> Volunteers to West End Food Pantry 7 PM Bell Choir Practice	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Heritage Day at Camp Harmony
8:00 AM Service 8:15 Children's Church 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Service 10:45 Children's Church 6:00 PM C.B.Y.F. 6:00 PM Covenant Bible Study	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 7:00 PM Praise Team Practice	<b>23</b> 9 AM Quilters 6-8 PM Youth Small Grp 7 PM Choir Practice	<b>24</b> Volunteers to West End Food Pantry 7 PM Bell Choir Practice	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 9AM—3PM Springs of Living Water Training at Pleasant Hill
<b>27</b> 8:00 AM Service 8:15 Children's Church 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Service 10:45 Children's Church 6:00 PM C.B.Y.F. 6:00 PM Covenant Bible Study	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 7:00 PM Praise Team Practice	<b>30</b> 9 AM Quilters 6-8 PM Youth Small Grp 7 PM Choir Practice			

Church of the Brethren Tapestry for September 2009 found at:

[http://www.brethren.org/site/DocServer/September\\_Tapestry.pdf?docID=4281](http://www.brethren.org/site/DocServer/September_Tapestry.pdf?docID=4281)