Session Notes

The Session met on March 20, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Academy.

Rev. Melissa Goodman opened the meeting with a reading from Psalm 51 and prayer.

Elders present were Cheryl Barnett, Connie Bussard, Sara Fike, William Fox, Mary Anne Lytle, Marlene Preteroti, Brenda Wadding, Melissa Wadding, Sheila Wadding and Clerk of Session Donna Neal.

The minutes of the February 20, 2014 Session Meeting were approved. Total membership to date is 209.

Rev. Goodman reported she had made three home visits, three hospital visits, one pastoral phone call and met with the Women’s Association. She conducted a Funeral Service for Patricia Barnett. She meets weekly with three college students for Bible study. She reviewed applications for a scholarship at West Shamokin High School as the clergy representative. She preached at Trinity UMC Lenten Service.

In March the Mission Committee distributed the following funds: $750.00 to Unified Mission, $100.00 to Mucabira, $150.00 to World Vision for the Youth 30 Hour Famine contribution, and $200.00 each to four different individuals in need.

The reports of the Treasurer and the Financial Secretary were reviewed and will be filed for audit.

The average attendance for February was 65 and the average attendance year-to-date 65. The Worship Committee is planning for the Easter Season.

Carson Boyer Funeral Home is donating two large planters for the front porch of the Church.

The meeting closed with prayer by Brenda Wadding. Due to Easter week the next meeting is April 24, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Academy.

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR A RECEPTION FOLLOWING WORSHIP ON APRIL 27TH FOR PASTOR MELISSA.

Worship Committee

The Worship Committee held a regular meeting on March 21st in the Academy. The focus of this committee is to plan various ways to enhance our worship services and fellowship times together.

Pastor Melissa will be away on Sunday, April 6th. Sheila will be leading us in worship that morning. Palm Sunday, April 13th, will be celebrated with the serving of Communion as we step into Holy Week. Communion will be served again, by intinction, on Maundy Thursday. We will then celebrate the resurrection of the Lord on Easter Sunday beginning with a sunrise service at 7:30 a.m. in the Academy. This will be followed with our Easter breakfast, Sunday School classes for all ages, and then our special morning worship service at 11:00.

The last Sunday of April will be a day of highs and lows. We will celebrate an infant baptism that morning and we will be led in worship by Pastor Melissa in her final service with us. A time of fellowship and refreshments will be held immediately following the service in the back of the church. Please join us in wishing her well in the next season of her life.

Beginning in May, we will be blessed to have a variety of pastors and speakers lead our Sunday worship services. Please keep our church leaders in prayer as we enter into a time of vision and discernment. And we know that God is always faithful!
A lot will happen in the month of April. On April 13th we will celebrate Palm Sunday in worship with the celebration of the Lord’s Supper. And as we leave the sanctuary that day, we will leave the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and the shouts of “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” and we will enter into the darkness of Holy Week with the shouts of “Crucify Him! Crucify Him!”

On Thursday April 17th we will gather in the sanctuary and celebrate the Lord’s Supper as we read through the Seven Last Words of Jesus. The Sanctuary will be veiled in black as we remember that dark night when Jesus was handed over to the authorities and crucified.

On Sunday April 20th we will be welcomed into the bright morning of Easter with both a sunrise service at 7:30 a.m. and our traditional worship at 11:00 a.m. On this morning we will celebrate with hymns, and prayers the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We will proclaim with loud voices, “Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed”

All of Lent leads up to this very day. We remember, because we can’t bear to forget all that Christ has done for each and every one of us. What a blessing it is to be a people whose God sent His very own Son to us, so that we might have everlasting life in Him!

And on Sunday April 27th we will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism during our worship service. It will be a day of both welcoming and of saying farewell, as this will also be my final day in the pulpit. It will be a day that will remind each of us of the faithfulness of God and the presence of Christ in and among the people of this Church and community.

What a rich and true blessing it has been to serve among you all this last year and a half. As we continue our journey through Lent these next few weeks and anticipate the joy of Easter morning may we all together, continually remember the faithfulness of God, and may we trust God with the days ahead, knowing and believing in the grace of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Be Blessed and Bless,

Pastor Melissa

“And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern which is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ to the glory and praise of God.”

~Philippians 1:9-11
MOVIE NIGHT
Movie night is Saturday, April 5th, at 5 p.m. with a covered dish dinner and an Easter Bible quiz. Our movie for this night is "Ring the Bell." Hope to see you there!

Women’s Association by Betty Lightner
Sixteen ladies met in the Academy on Wednesday, March 5, 2014 at 1 p.m. We were also blest to have Joshua Daniel Goodman with us and 6 members and spouses of “The Keystone Heirs”. Moderator Donna Neal began meeting with prayer. Devotions included scripture from Psalm 98 and Psalm 150. Prayer Book included scripture from Isaiah 58 and prayer for the people of the Chicago, Illinois Presbyteries. Least Coin Offering was collected in the amount of $14.05 and accepted with prayer, knowing our pennies will help many needy individuals.

Our program for today was by “The Keystone Heirs”. They are a Christian group who “Praise the Lord Through Song” and entertained us with many old hymns that we all knew and could sing. Even 4 month old Joshua smiled and sang along.

Secretary and treasurer reports were given and accepted as read. Our historian wrote her report for the 2013 year and a copy was printed in the March newsletter and a copy is included in our minute book. Four thank you’s were sent to persons who sent us donations, which helps us to continue our mission of caring.

Thank you’s were read from eight individuals for “goodie bags” that we gave to them at Christmas. We were also thanked with a letter from Samaritan’s Purse (Operation Christmas Child) for our donation of money and 42 well filled shoe boxes that were given to children on Christmas Day and another letter of thank you from the Wounded Warrior Project for the money donation we sent, which was the profit from the Ladies Tea on September 28th. Six get well cards were signed and sent.

Discussed some ideas for mission projects this year. Easter candy extravaganza sale is in full swing and lots of help will be needed and appreciated.

After “grace” by our hostess, we enjoyed angel food cake with strawberries and whipped cream. Meeting adjourned with Missionary Doxology at 2:30 p.m.

Next regular Women’s Association meeting will be on Wednesday, April 2, 2014 at 1 P.M. Our program will be MOTHER’S in KENYA with ANNETTE KYLE. We had to cancel her in February due to the weather, so have rescheduled her to do her program for us on April 2nd. She will bring information concerning the Heshima Foundation and the work they do to help disabled children and their mothers in Kenya. These mothers make beautiful jewelry and she will have a display of their work. The jewelry will be available for purchase to help in this African Mission Project. All ladies are invited and encouraged to attend.

Youth Group by Holly Fusaro
The Youth Group met on Sunday March 23 at The Belmont Complex in Kittanning. We had a total of 23 kids that skated and a few adults. Kudos to Kevin and Bob for being such good sports! Thanks to the kids that came and brought guests! It is always nice to have some friends to share the fun with. We had a yummy array of food and snacks as always! Thanks to the ladies who cooked, organized the food, and helped with cleanup. (Heather, Heidi, Connie, Missy, Denise, and Terri) A very good time was had by all and those 2 hours flew by. There were a few very minor injuries but noone was seriously hurt, and the kids even managed to play a game of ice hockey.

Coming in April, we are planning on having a lock-in/sleepover for kids grade 3 through 7. We will play some games, have snacks and watch a movie, and some breakfast in the morning! The date is Friday April 11th from 6:30 until 10:30 on Saturday morning. Please let me know ASAP who will be attending so that we can plan accordingly. Looking forward to a fun night!

Also on Tuesday April 15th we will
attend The DRUGS KILL DREAMS JAIL EXPERIENCE at the Armstrong County jail. This program is designed for kids 10-Adult and is an educational experience to help to understand the dangers of using drugs and the ramifications of drug use. I will need to pre-register anyone who is interested in attending so again, please let me know who is interested ASAP. The cost of the program is $5 per person, youth group members will be covered. Again Thanks to the congregation for continued support of our kids. It is a blessing how many of you support us in so many ways! Have a wonderful Easter!

**30-HOUR FAMINE**

On Friday, March 21st, we had our youth lock-in. Holly and I hosted Ryan, Megan, Brooke, Cody, Logan, Olivia and Olivia's friend Laiken Porter. The kids began by making vegetable soup for a community service project. They had a 23rd Psalm challenge with balloons (big surprise), and a Bible verse search where verses were hidden in the room, and then they had to find the verse in the Bible and read it to me. In between they made pizza, played cards, and played hide-and-seek outside for about 90 minutes. We got ready for bed and watched a very good movie, "New Hope" about two young men who overcome their differences. We played part of it again on Saturday afternoon for those who fell asleep (girls). On Saturday morning at 6 a.m. we began our 30-hour fast. Technically it is about 36 hours till we are done. There were four tribe teams: Colombia (Megan and Cody), Brazil (Ryan and Olivia), Bolivia (Brooke and Logan), and Ecuador (Laiken and Holly when needed). There were 9 tribe challenges: Crossing the Amazon where they had to walk a 2x4 and not touch the balloons, overcoming obstacles to get to school; Hide, where you competed to avoid being captured by rebel guerrillas by hiding; Protect the Harvest, where you had to try and steal food from other tribes while protecting your own; Food Grab, a blindfolded search for food; Seed (Futbol changed a little), where you tried to get a "seed" into a cup and grow your food; Amazon Quiz Race, where they had to race to 15 different questions after listening to a story for the answers; Peligro (Danger), where they had to complete to collect emergency kits, blankets and water by a 3-legged race, a blindfolded race, and the wheelbarrow; Health Scramble, where you had to solve three word scramble puzzles to decode a vital fact about health and sanitation; and Endurance, where tribes had to hold two gallon jugs of water out in front of them to see who could do it the longest. Survival cards were awarded for each challenge. All teams won some cards, but Brazil won the most. In between tribe games, around 25 containers of soup were delivered, and we still have a few in the freezer yet for delivery. We also had soup left for the Hunger Lunch when we broke our fast. Laiken had to go to a ball practice tryout and missed some of the delivery, but when she came back, Megan and Brooke took her to deliver a couple that they weren't sure of the locations before, and it was a very touching and rewarding experience for them all.

After everyone got cleaned up (the boys at Heather's, Holly, Olivia and Laiken at Holly's dad's, Megan, Brooke, and I at our homes), we came back and finished tribe. Then it was time for our evening vespers. At one stop, the youth could write prayers and place them in a prayer jar; one stop they wrote anything they needed to be forgiven for, and "left it at the cross" by nailing it to the cross; one stop they lit candles and prayed for all the hungry children in the world, and also lit red candles for the children who have died from hunger; and one stop there were questions to answer about their fast. We also took a visit to the Last Supper again, as some had not been there. At this time of year, it's fitting to reflect on just how great a sacrifice Jesus gave for us. Following vespers, everyone made a picture for Joyce's art project, and we all passed papers and wrote something we appreciated about each other. Our movie this night was "Hardflip" about a skate boarder who is a little lost and finds his way.

On Sunday morning, we got up and got
to work. Bob Fusaro picked up our bread, and Holly and Bob cooked the rice. We got all the food on, and the kids set up tables, set the tables, and got everything ready for the Hunger Lunch. Mattie and Sophie helped us get ready, too. Following church, the kids broke their fast with beans with chicken flavoring, calico beans with ham, and black beans and bacon. We had bread, vegetable soup, rice, fruit, and our peanut butter "Plumpynut."

We thank everyone who came and ate with us, and also to all those who helped afterwards to clean up. Also thanks to Betty Lightner for the tins to make our pizza once again and for the gallon jugs for our Endurance challenge.

We started with a donation from the Mission Committee of $150, and with all the generous donations we received from church family and neighbors, we exceeded our goal. We needed $425 to feed one child for a year, but with everyone's help we raised $436!!!! Thank you and God bless you all.

We had a great weekend and a great bunch of kids, and I can't say enough about them and their leader, Holly. Thank you youth!
PITTSBURGH PIRATES FAITH NIGHT

On Thursday, June 26, 2014 at 7:05 p.m. the Pirates play the New York Mets. It is a Zambelli Fireworks Night. It is also their second Faith Night, which means that following the fireworks, you relocate to sections 1-8 and 101-108 along the first base line to hear your favorite Pirate players and coaches share their personal experience with how their faith has impacted both their lives and their careers in baseball specifically. There are special group rates with grandstand prices at $17 and upper Grandstand at $12. If anyone would be interested in going, I'd be glad to make arrangements for a bus (if enough are interested) or take care of getting group rates to carpool down. I am planning on going. My niece went last year and said it was awesome. Speakers scheduled are Clint Hurdle, Andrew McCutchen, Pedro Alvarez, Mark Melancon, Charlie Morton, Jared Hughes, Jordy Mercer, Josh Harrison, and Neil Walker. Please let me know soon if you are interested. ~ Missy Lightner

Artists

Numerous youth of the church have drawn or colored pictures for an art display in the church for the Family of Faith Sunday. Creative drawings and interesting designs were shown in the artwork. These drawings will also be used for the bulletins and newsletters throughout the year. Thank you to all the youth who gave their time and talent to praise God in this meaningful project.
April Birthdays

1. Tim Walker
3. Ken McGaughey
4. David McGaughey
4. Nicholas Sweeney
5. Ruth Rumbaugh
9. Chad Stockdale
On 3/9/2014 the Cemetery Committee held their annual meeting. It was decided to raise the cost of burial lots which can be purchased by church members only, to cover the increasing cost of cemetery care. The increase will be effective as of June 1, 2014. 10x10 ft double lot will be $400.00 or 10x20 ft 4 person lot will be $800.00. Contact Ron Rumbaugh at 814-257-8331 or a cemetery member.

NEW PRAYER OF CONCERNS
Eric Shoemaker, Christa Marsh, Brian Condon, Dave Walker, Freda Mikita, Steffani Huff, Bruce Steele, Harold Barrett, Freda Mikita, Cassidy Anthony, Matt Pickering, Joan Irvine, Bucky Brooke, Marie Maruco, Holly Travisano, Bruce Steele, Larry Purgh, Denny Stockdale, Cameron Stockdale

PRAYERS OF CONCERNS  Harry Pelky, Jan Fox, Tina Walker, Chris Hillwig, Ronnie Reefer, Leroy and Elvira Shrock, Julie Barrett, Diane Williams, Don Dixon, Nason Nimerosky, Earl Himes, Ray Lasher, Cliff Hamil, Lee Gardner, Bud Gookin, James Lindahl, Dakota Habel, Bob Horner, Christopher Salsgiver


April Lay Leader
6  Ed Hollenbaugh
13  Betty Lightner
20  Marlene Preteroti
27  Donna Neal

April March Ushers
All Month: Vernie and Betty Lightner, Bob and Elinor Lockhart

The Dayton Fire Department will be hosting a Breakfast Fundraiser on Saturday, April 19th at 6:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.

The Dayton First Church of God has Grief Support every first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. If anyone has any questions, please call (814) 257-8380.

We would like to thank everyone for their cards, prayers, concerns, and visits during Bruce’s operation and recovery. Bruce and Sara Steele.

We would like to thank everyone for their concerns, cards, and prayers for Christa. The Marsh family

Thank you to Barb Lightner for all her help in getting the newsletters to you.
### April Calendar of Events

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Women's Association</td>
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<td>7:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Chancel Choir</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Children's Choir</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Movie Night/Dinner</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Sunday School</td>
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<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Worship/5th Sunday in Lent</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>7:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Chancel Choir</td>
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<td>Children's Choir</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Youth Club Lock In</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Sunday School</td>
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<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Worship/Palm Sunday/Children’s Choir Sings</td>
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<td>15</td>
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<td>Youth Group to Jail Tour</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>7:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Chancel Choir</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Maundy Thursday Service</td>
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<td>GOOD FRIDAY</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Easter Egg Hunt</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>7:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Easter Sunrise Service</td>
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<td>Worship/EASTER SUNDAY/One Great Hour of Sharing Offering</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Mission Committee</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>7:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Chancel Choir</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Children’s Choir</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Session</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Sunday School</td>
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<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Worship/Baptism/Reception for Pastor Melissa Academy Reserved</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>7:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Chancel Choir</td>
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