

May 2009

A Family Journal

Volume MMIX, Number 05

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## Interim Notes

It was all over. By dint of incredible pleading, they'd managed to prevent the soldiers from feeding his broken body to the wild dogs. With pain filled faces they took him down from the cross, gently washed him, wrapped him in a shroud, and laid him in a borrowed tomb. It was a better fate, they thought as they rolled the stone in front of the tomb, than being fed to the dogs; but not by much. The One who'd told them he had no place to lay his head, was still far away from home. When his flesh had decayed, his bones would not be gathered to those of his ancestors. Throughout eternity, no one would remember him.

All that day and the next, all was still. That is, all was still except the fear filled sobbing of his disciples, and the glad cries of those who'd sought his life. Then, in the last moments before the sun rose on the third day, there came a noise. At first the soldiers who guarded the tomb listened to it in amazement. Then they covered their ears and fell to the ground in terror.

For angel voices, the ones who'd sang a wondrous pianissimo of beauty over the stable of Bethlehem, burst into a fortissimo of sheer, raw, unadulterated power. Blinding light sprang forth, not from the sun, but from the rocks themselves as the very stones rose up and pushed the stone away. And in a roar never before heard on earth, the chill bonds of death shattered forever.

Death became a joke in that moment. It can no longer win. Evil can no longer win. Darkness can no longer defeat light. And for all eternity the angel's song rings through the heavens and in the hearts of those who open them to hear.

**“Christ is risen!**

**Christ is risen!**

**Christ is risen!**

**Christ is risen indeed!”**

In the joy of the Risen Christ,

**COLLECTION FOR SUNSET GAP**

The suggested list of layette items is now posted on the narthex bulletin board by the clock. We are also collecting gently used clothing items for young children



## **TEXTS FOR MAY**

### ***May 3, 2009***

Acts 4:5-12  
1 John 3: 16-24  
Communion

### ***4<sup>th</sup> Sun. Of Easter***

Psalm 23  
John 10:11-18

### ***May 10, 2009***

Acts 8: 26-40  
1 John 4:7-21

### ***5<sup>th</sup> Sun. Of Easter***

Psalm 22: 25-31  
John 15: 1-8

### ***May 17, 2009***

Acts 10: 44-48  
1 John 5: 1-6  
Mother's Day

### ***6<sup>th</sup> Sun. Of Easter***

Psalm 98  
John 15: 9-17

### ***May 24, 2009***

Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26  
1 John 5: 9-13

### ***7<sup>th</sup> Sun. Of Easter***

Psalm 1  
John 17: 6-19

### ***May 31, 2009***

Acts 2: 1-21  
Romans 8: 22-27

### ***Pentecost***

Psalm 104: 24-35  
John 15: 26-27

## **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

P.W. will meet Thursday, May 28th at 9 a.m. in fellowship hall. June Freebairn will serve as hostess. We will receive our annual Birthday Offering. The Birthday Offering theme this year is 'WITH DEEP COMPASSION I WILL BRING YOU BACK'. Funds will help support La Mujer Obrera, Centro Mayapan, El Paso, Texas and His Kids, Too!, Children's Home for Orphans, Dzerzhinsk, Ukraine. More information can be found on the narthex bulletin board.

We have completed 2 quilts for Kemmerer Village and plan to work on another. Come join us for the fellowship!!

## **TRUSTEES**

The trustees discussed septic issues at the manse. The basement toilet and laundry sink backed up when the washing machine ran. Dwight Munson came the next day and removed many roots again. This was done in 2005. He said they are clay tiles and the roots from bushes and trees east of the manse are getting into the tiles. We may have to install a cleanout east of the manse at a minimum, and probably should consider replacing the clay tiles with solid PVC. Also, the tree north of the manse will be trimmed to keep branches off the manse roof. We had considered removing it, but session asked us to consider rerouting the storm drain tile from the church, which passed to the east, just north of the manse.

## **DEACONS**

The Deacons reviewed their Deacon Family Ministry Lists. Two names were added & three names were removed. Two individuals have contacted the church for assistance with food and gas. The Deacons have used money from the Kennedy Memorial Fund to purchase gift cards. The Deacons also helped the Sebastian Family with a gas card. Communion was served to 33 people on Maunday Thurs.; 30 people at the Easter Sunrise Service; and 160 people at the 10am Easter Service.

## **MISSION COMMITTEE**

### **273 BUNNY BASKETS DELIVERED**

Even with the snow on Bunny Basket Sunday, 273 were made and filled with all of the wonderful gifts and candy given by

all. They were delivered to the food pantry for their Easter distribution. Another 100 were made and with funds from the Mission Committee, were filled with a box of kleenex, a comb and a toothbrush for each of the residents at the LaSalle Veterans Home. We pray the Bunny's brought joy to each one who received them.

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

- Discussed Bible School, June 15-19, 5:50-8:15 Need for teachers and helpers
- Ordering curriculum for fall Sunday School
- Summer Sunday School - need for volunteers to teach a Sunday or two - multi age - June 7 - Sept. 6
- May 17<sup>th</sup> Graduation and Teacher Appreciation Sunday - need to get names of Graduates to Sharon Reel
- Children will be singing Easter Sunday
- Veronica Blue will present Minute for Mission on Stronghold Summer Camps

A big Thanks for Kathie Kleckner and for everyone who donated eggs and those who hid the eggs for the children on Easter Sunday. It was a beautiful day and the children loved the event.

### **Attention Graduates**

Please contact Sharon Reel with names of graduates to be honored for their accomplishments. We will recognize all graduates during service on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Names, where they graduated from, future plans or whatever else you would like mentioned. We will be presenting them w/ t-shirts so please let Sharon know what size.

## **TREASURER'S REPORTS**

As of March 31, 2009

Previous balance was \$18,622.68

5 Deposits/Credits - \$5,886.79

26 Checks/Debits \$20,490.86

Ending Balance \$4,018.61

Comments regarding significant change in balance:

1. Contributions lower than usual for the month
2. Insurance payment - \$6413.00
3. Repair for water damage- approx \$2,800
4. \$450.00 for purchase of dryer in manse

Keri Sundberg

**BENEVOLENCE FUND**

One Great Hour of Sharing \$ 355

Benevolence Balance \$ 17,971.12

Linda Chalus ,

Benevolence Treasurer

**MEMORIAL FUND**

Memorials have been received for Julia Anniskette, aunt of Naomi Munson.

Joyce Anderson,

Memorial Treasurer

always exceed all our wishes and our thoughts.

~ John Calvin

**Easter Lilies & Spring Bulbs**

**Received in memory of,**

**or in honor of:**

Norman Small

Matthew Small

Addison & Evelyn Small

Ed & Marie Towne

Carl Sundberg

Parents of Mary Sundberg

Parents of Ron & Linda Chalus

Grandchildren of Don & Bev

Scharlau

Family of Harold & Gilda Kinzer

Lavon Blue

Dorine Young

Velma Clement

Richard Shaver

Finley

Sroka

Children & Grandchildren of Phyllis & Tony Mertes

Steven Applebee

Nathan Applebee

Howard & Marge Kleckner

Harry & Edith Kleckner

Cliff & Bird Carr

Warner Whipple

Tom Freebairn

John W. & Eleanor Davis Small

Louis & Ina Gleim

However many blessings we expect from God, His infinite liberality will

## **MAY BIRTHDAYS**

1 Dayne Chalus Leonard  
3 Jane Young  
5 Thomas Allen Freeman  
Heidi Hughes Hendrix  
Sandy Ostrowski  
Grace Backus  
— 6 Tristan Chapman  
7 Nicholas Fox  
Relynn Olivero  
8 Janet Delaney  
11 Jon Fox  
12 Doug Edgcomb  
14 Maria Mertes Kays  
15 Gary Baker  
16 Paige Leonard  
Karly Rae Reel  
17 Ellen Wilson  
18 Tim Wilson  
19 Leonard Edgcomb  
20 Rev. Frank Fisher  
21 Tom Small  
Dave Edgcomb, Jr.  
Diane Wilson  
22 Joyce Anderson  
Barbara Small  
23 Gary Small  
24 Shawn Baker

Valerie Blue  
Raynette Mason  
25 Mary Small\*  
Florence Charneskey\*  
29 Eileen Hagenbuch  
Nicholas Daniel Edgcomb  
30 Jack Harrison Kinzer  
31 Gilda Kinzer\*  
Travis Hagenbuch  
Ben Schweers

## **MAY ANNIVERSARIES**

1 Mr. & Mrs. Tim Mertes  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Pillion  
4 Mr. & Mrs. Phil Klein  
7 Mr. & Mrs. Christopher  
Freeman  
13 Mr. & Mrs. David Deutsch  
17 Mr. & Mrs. Ryan Kays  
19 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Leonard  
21 Rev. & Mrs. Lawrence  
Athorn  
22 Mr. & Mrs. John Thomson  
24 Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Munson  
25 Mr. & Mrs. Shannon Brown  
27 Mr. & Mrs. Stephan  
Tomeseski  
30 Mr. & Mrs. Brad Mital

Mike & Maggie

## Thank-you \_\_\_\_\_ Our

Mission Committee has shared the following.  
Dear Friends and Benefactors,

I am enclosing copies of the Thank You notes our Guests wrote to forward to you to express their gratitude for the generous gifts you sent us for them. Each tries to say in their own way, what this unexpected generosity means to them, and, reading over them, I know each of them said exactly what was in their hearts.

Christmas Eve here was a joyous event, more than expected. Some guests had gone to bed right after supper, rather than face a bleak, "institutional" holiday; pulling in their feelings so the pain of their aloneness would be less severe. But, we made them all get up to share in the celebration of Christmas, and from their comments afterward, they were glad we had insisted. One thing I heard over and over, was "But, these people don't even know me!"

Thank you. Thank you for providing for the "extra guest", knowing as you do that Christ Himself may be found in the face of the poor, the stranger, the sick, the lost and the forgotten. Our prayer for you is that this coming year finds you well-blessed with God's most gracious goodness. We know, more than any other, that God will not be outdone in generosity! May He bless you with abundance!

With grateful
hearts,
Executive Directo
Site Director
Director
Manager
Carol Alcorn,
Marian Schultz,
Doug Karius, Site
Melissa Rutishauser, Site

Here are some of the letters that accompanied the above letter.

Thank-you for the gifts. It was very nice of you to give gifts out of the kindness of your heart. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Thank-you very much for the Christmas gifts. They were greatly appreciate. It was a wonderful thing for all concerned to do. Merry Christmas! God Bless! Thanks

Rich

To the people who so generously donated gifts to the shelter this year:

Thank-you! Being in the shelter is difficult on all of us. It means, for whatever reason, that you are at rock bottom when it comes to finances. Without the means to pay rent, or afford any OTHER daily needs, depression becomes a normal occurrence in one's day to day life, and enjoyment becomes hard to find.

The gifts you have given have special meaning to us all here, at PADS, and we hope that you know just how sincerely HAPPY, and grateful, you have made us all. So, from the bottom of our hearts, we thank you and with you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Merriest Christmas to you all, and God bless!

Nick

Thank-you for the gifts. I appreciate them very much. They will come handy in the cold weather that we are getting now. It is just the right sizes and the boots are just what I needed. It was very nice for you to get gifts for me when times are hard like they are now for someone you never met. Thank-you very much. Scott

To all those Who;  
Were so kind and generous, with such large and giving hearts. I am more grateful than I have the words to express, for the gifts that you were able to find for me. I wish to thank you all, whoever you maybe. To wish for you a good Holiday season and a happy and healthy life ahead for you and all your loved ones. I pray that your kindness and generosity is contagious, and spreads far and wide.

Sincerely, Curtis

## Scout Master Bob

Troop 797 is gearing up for a busy summer. July 9 – 23, twelve Scouts and Scouters are venturing to Philmont for a week of hiking. They get back and leave again for Ingersoll Scout Reservation, July 26 – Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>. The troop is going to have another fun filled summer of activities.

**Troop 97 meets every Tuesday night at the Waltham Presbyterian Church.**

**Contact Ralph Moshage or  
Ross Wilson for information about the  
troop.**

## Upcoming Events

**April 25** – CPR in the morning from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Waltham Presbyterian Church

2:00 Jack Miller's Eagle Ceremony at Waltham Presbyterian Church

**April 28** – Troop Meeting 7:00 P.M.

**May 2** – Troop Day trip to the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago – Meet at 7:00 A.M. at the Church – more details will be announced – Call Luke Weber for details.

**May 5** – Troop Meeting 7:00 P.M.

**May 6** – TLC Meeting 7:00 P.M. – Practice for Clay Wimmer's Eagle Ceremony

**May 7** – Cub Scout Meeting 6:30 P.M.

**May 9** – 3:00 Clay Wimmer's Eagle Court of Honor at Waltham Presbyterian Church

**May 12** – Troop Meeting 7:00 P.M.

**May 15-17** OA Ordeal Ceremony for Ethan Sack, Luke Weber, & Jeff Ficek. OA Activities and Brotherhood Ceremony for other Troop OA Members. Call Nate Adcock with Questions.

**May 16** – Baker Lake Fishing Expo – Details being worked on – Call Jeff Ficek with Questions.

**May 19** – Troop Meeting 7:00 P.M.

**May 20** – Troop Committee Meeting 7:00 P.M.

**May 21** – Cub Scout Meeting 6:30 P.M.

**May 26** – Troop Meeting 7:00 P.M.

**May 29-31** – Philmont Training Weekend – Required training for Philmont Crew – details under development.

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Watch the local newspapers and the Sunday Bulletins for information on the Memorial Day Service at Waltham Cemetary

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## MEETING REPORTS

### SESSION

The session of the Waltham Presbyterian Church of Utica, IL held a regular meeting on April 2, 2009 at 8:34 in the upper lounge of the Church. Members present – Moderator Pastor Frank Fisher, Eileen Hagenbuch, Bonnie Walsh, Ralph Moshage, Bruce Brown, Bev Scharlau, and Clerk Ida Brown. Absent Dave Edgcomb

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Frank Fisher.

The minutes of the previous meetings were approved.

A motion was made to approve the request by Carol Hallead to transfer her membership to the First Presbyterian Church, Wellsboro, Pennsylvania.

A motion was made and carried to receive the committee reports.

A motion was made and carried to approve the use of a video camera during the service – not the children's portion – and place a notice in the bulletin.

The next Presbytery meeting will be Tues., May 12.

The May session will be held May 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 following committee meetings at 7:00.

A motion was approved to adjourn at 9:55 pm. The meeting was closed with prayer by Pastor Frank Fisher.

Participation in the Pentecost Service to be held at St. Bede on May 31 was approved during a special session meeting held April 9<sup>th</sup>.

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Ida Brown, Clerk of Session

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No man is excluded from calling upon God, the gate of salvation is set open unto all men: neither is there any other thing which keepeth us back from entering in, save only our own unbelief. ~ John Calvin

### YOUTH GROUP

On Friday May 1<sup>st</sup> the youth group will be going to Agape Fest, a two day concert and camp out. We will be leaving at 4:00 on Friday afternoon and will be returning around noon on Sunday. The concert is in Greenville, IL. The cost per person is \$20 for tickets. To get a better price on tickets they need to be purchased before we get there. I am

asking that if anyone would like to go, they should let me know by Sat. the 25<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to go please contact me and we will discuss what needs to be brought. Once I get a good count of how many people are going, we need to figure out food. We cannot have grills or open fires for the whole weekend, so we will have to be creative. If anyone would like to donate food I would ask that you please contact me (228-8716), and I will have a list of what we need.

Thank You, Eric Mertes

### FROM YOUR PNC

As of April 21, Waltham's Church Information Form that is posted on the PCUSA Web Site has received 175 hits. PCUSA has matched us with 147 pastors and we have received some self referrals as well. We have found several pastors that we have liked. We have had phone interviews and viewed sermons on tape. Unfortunately, none have worked out. We continue to read the Pastor Information Forms and to talk to pastor on the phone. Please keep us in your prayers. Kathie Kleckner \_

## Thank-you

Thank-you so very much for allowing our family to use your church. We truly appreciate it.

Sincerely,  
Dwight & Naomi

Munson

Rev. Lloyd & Martha

Curry

The Julia Anniskette

Family

# **SERVING YOUR CHURCH**

## **Nursery Volunteers**

May 3

Amy Ploch  
Valerie Blue  
Kaitlyn Small

May 10

Judy Applebee  
Lois Edgcomb  
Josh Brown

May 17

Phyllis Mertes  
Tony Mertes

May 24

Albert Hagenbuch  
Relynn Olivero  
Nathan Olivero

May 31

Rita Van Drimmelen  
Bob Van Drimmelen  
Rachel Van Drimmelen

If you are unable to serve, please make arrangements to exchange dates with someone.  
Thank-you

## **Sunday Worship**

Keep in mind, your group is responsible for finding someone to do the job. That person does not have to be part of your group. Please list the person on the sign-up sheets next to the narthex clock.

### **May**

Deacons at the Door - Mary & Jean  
Ushers - PW  
Liturgist - Decorating  
Coffee/Juice - Choir

### **June**

Deacons at the Door - Tom & Mary  
Ushers - Music & Worship  
Liturgist - Mission  
Coffee/Juice - Christian Ed.

### **July**

Deacons at the Door - Jean & Phil  
Ushers - Sunday School  
Liturgist - Deacons  
Coffee/Juice - PW

### **Filling Candles**

May & June - Janet Lynn Delany  
July & August - Janet Small

## **THINGS TO DO**

Sunday, May 17, performer songwriter Bucky Halker, PhD will present "Folksongs of Illinois", a rich sampling of diverse folk music traditions little known to most people. He will examine historical ballads, labor anthems, early country songs, and dance tunes through performance and commentary. This is co-sponsored by the Historical Society and the Canal Corridor Association and is free to the public. It will take place at the Lock 16 Visitor Center, 754 First St., LaSalle.

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The Ottawa Regional Hospital and Healthcare Center is sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on Wed., May 20, 2009 from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm. One unit of blood can save up to three lives. Anyone 16 or over, who is in good health is asked to consider donating. Please call 433-5260 for an appointment. Thank-you

