

CONNEXION

A Monthly Newsletter
of

Peters Creek Church of the Brethren



2010

CELEBRATING OUR GENERATIONS

In our Heritage Room there is a chart of the generations of the Garst family produced by Geraldine Plunkett. Today, there are four active generations of the Garst family at Peters Creek. And there are several other families of three generations at Peters Creek. It is possible that in the future there could be a five-generation family at Peters Creek.

Throughout the history of the Judeo-Christian faith, a remembrance of the generations of the faithful has been important. Certainly, any church which only has one generation or one age group will die, unless changes in the generational makeup changes.

We have been going through a mini-baby boom at Peters Creek. I think the count of the babies born since last July will reach 6 by the end of 2010. This adds to the number of children below school age at Peters Creek. And with those now in elementary school, this is one generation at Peters Creek.

Our middle school and high school students represent a second generation. Our young adults in college and those up to about the age of 35 are a third generation. The fourth generation are the adults between the ages of 35-55 (my ages are approximate), who are raising children and now working in professions/occupations. There is a fifth generation of those aged 55-70 who are at the height of their careers, have for the most part raised their families, and are planning for retirement.

And then there is the sixth generation – those above 70 years old, most of whom are retired, some working part-time, concerned about their healthcare and their retirement savings lasting until their death.

Now some religious writers have talked about “the five-generation church.” I really perceive Peters Creek as a “six-generation” church already. And so, I believe it is time to acknowledge our generations and celebrate the faith of the generations of Peters Creek.

May is designated as “Christian Family Month” in many denominations. The Church of the Brethren designates both a “National Youth Sunday” and a “Health Awareness Sunday” in May each year. We also celebrate “Mother’s Day” and “Memorial Day” in May. And this year, Pentecost also occurs in May.

So during our worships each Sunday in May, 2010, we will be focusing on the generations from birth to death at Peters Creek. We will celebrate children and youth, mothers, long-lasting marriages, and our older generations as well as those who have been the generations of Peters Creek since its founding in homes some 175 years ago, and its building of the first meetinghouse 165 years ago.

From generation to generation, the Christian faith has continued. From generation to generation, Peters Creek has been a vital congregation for this community. Let’s celebrate our generations and look forward to many more.



**OUR MAY
WORSHIPS**
*CELEBRATING OUR
GENERATIONS*



YARD SALE
SATURDAY, MAY 1
7AM TO 1:00PM

May 2: National Youth Sunday

Scripture: Gospel of Luke 2:39-52

Message: "The child grew . . ."

May 9: Mother's Day

Scripture: Deuteronomy 5:16
Gospel of Matthew
15:1-9



Message: "Honoring our parents"

May 16: A Celebration of Marriage

Scripture: Genesis 2:18-25
1st Letter to the Corinthians 7:10-16

Message: "An Honorable estate"

May 23: Pentecost/Communion Sunday

Scripture: Psalm 71

Message: "From Age to Age"

May 30: Memorial Sunday

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Message: "A Time for every purpose"

ABUELO'S FUNDRAISER

FOR THE RESCUE MISSION

Abuelo's Restaurant at Valley View Mall is holding a fundraiser for the Rescue Mission on Thursday, May 6, 2010 from 5:00 – 9:00 PM, 20% of your bill will be donated to the Rescue Mission. This requires a special coupon which is available at Peters Creek. So you can enjoy an authentic Mexican meal and support the Rescue Mission on May 6.

There are still some spaces available for the Yard Sale on May 1, sponsored by the Men's Fellowship.

Breakfast items will be sold as well as lunch prepared by the Women's Fellowship. The women will also have a bake sale. Please contact them if you can help or donate items for the Bake Sale.

If you have items, but don't want to rent a space, we will have tables for your donations which will benefit the Youth for NYC 2010 and for a Junior High Workcamp. And we could use help to set-up, clean-up, and sell.

And if you can't help, come and browse – and invite your friends! You never know what treasures you might find!

COUNCIL MEETING

SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2010

Following worship the Youth will serve a delicious spaghetti dinner, and then we will move into our Council Meeting. This is a



time for hearing information and plans from the Commissions, Committees and Board. It is a time for discussion and discernment. Every member of Peters Creek – no matter what age – has voice and vote in Council Meeting.



**GRADUATE RECOGNITION
SUNDAY**

JUNE 6, 2010

We will honor high school and college graduations on **Sunday, June 6, 2010**. We will also publish graduates names and future plans in the June *CONNEXION*. If you have a child or grandchild who is graduating, please contact the church office by May 15. Thank you.

**Deadline for reduced rate registrations at
Camp Bethel is May 1!**



The Women's Fellowship would once again like to say a gracious **THANK YOU** to all that participated in any way with the making of the Easter Eggs this

year. What a very successful event this was! A total of 1,888 INDIVIDUAL EGGS were made; our biggest year yet!

We would like to thank each of you that participated in the BAKE SALE that was held on Saturday, May 1, 2010 with the Men's Fellowship YARD SALE at the church.

MY SWEET MOM

I've tried so many times, dear Mom
 To write my thanks to you
 For all your love and tender care,
 Your prayers and blessings, too;
 But seems the words would never come –
 The ones that had to be
 To tell you just the way I feel
 And what you mean to me.

Your life has been a sacrifice
 In serving young and old;
 In sorrows, heartaches and hardships
 You came forth pure as gold.
 The memories that I have today
 On this dear Mother's Day,
 That your true love and faith in God,
 Though tested, did not sway.

I'm so grateful to my God
 And I shall ever be,
 For favoring me so very much
 By giving you to me.
 I have one goal I hope to reach
 Before my time is through,
 And this, my precious darling Mom,
 is to be as sweet as you.

--Mary Rice Monroe



BUSY BEES

A donation was made to the American Cancer Relay for Life at VA Tech. Another donation will be made when the relay is here in Salem.

We will celebrate birthdays with Pastor Jack and Lucile Weeks on May 5th by having pizza delivered for lunch.

During the summer months, we will quilt and fellowship lunch only on the first Wednesday of the month. On June 2nd, we will be celebrating Lavene Hylton's birthday with a crayon lunch (your covered dish will depend on the color of the crayon that you choose from the box).

July 7th is our hot dog lunch. We will be celebrating Margaret Saul and Jean Frazier's birthday.

August 4th, we are having a quilt show. We will be celebrating Frances Marshall and Norma William's birthday with a covered-dish lunch. This is the month we will show and tell. We've shared aprons, pillows, dishes, and now we will bring quilts. These can be any you've made or received, baby quilts or quilts you've given and hope they will let you have it back for a day. Come join us for a wonderful morning of fun and great fellowship!

ASIAN OR BROCCOLI SLAW

- 1 ½ pkg. (1 lb.) broccoli slaw (produce isle)
- 2 or 3 green onions and tops diced
- 2 pkgs. Ramen chicken noodles
- 4 oz. slivered almonds
- ½ cup sunflower kernels
- ½ cup oil
- ¼ cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon vinegar (more if desired)

Combine oil, sugar and vinegar and set aside. Break up noodles. Add onions, almonds, sunflower kernels, broccoli slaw to noodles in a big bowl. Pour oil/sugar mixture over bowl. Sprinkle the 2 seasoning packs from noodles and toss. Let set overnight in refrigerator.

Norma Williams



May 6, 2010

LET'S PRAY FOR OUR NATION.

Thought: God answers some prayers immediately, some eventually, and some only in eternity.

- 1 – Nora Epperly
- 3 – Lucile Weeks
- 6 – Jack Lowe, Laura Clingenpeel, Jennifer Casto
- 10 – Mark Wright, Rebecca Rhodes
- 12 – Amy Mau
- 16 – Leighton Casteel
- 16 – Hannah Hylton
- 17 – Norma Cregar
- 18 – Jewell Tyree
- 22 – Angela Bias, Gary Atkins
- 25 – Robert Compton
- 27 – Doris Epperly
- 27 – Jessica Copeland
- 28 – Jared Jones
- 29 – Danny Otey
- 30 – Anna Belle Plunkett



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- 3 – Aubrey & Margaret Plunkett
 - 3 – Rick & Christi Halverson
 - 10 – Shawn & Missy Carter
 - 18 – Jr. & Susan Lugones
 - 21 – Wes Boone & Debbie Jones
 - 23 – Merle & Rose Heckman



MAY
ANNIVERSARIES

Please notify the church office if you wish to be included in or make corrections to the birthday and anniversary list.



Adalee Bailey, Pat Brammer, Georgia Coffman, Nancy Corbin, Margaret Dougherty, Oliver and Barbara Eshenaur, Penny Francisco, Larry Gibson, Tara Graffeo, Sarah Green, Carol Harris, Raymond Martin Tracy Keesee and family, John Mauk, Mary Ellen Mellon, Gavin Metz, Ralph Plunkett, Eddie Stinett, Jewell Tyree, Aiden Underwood, Faye Williams

Please notify the church office if you would like to add or remove a name from the prayer list.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-IN MEMBERS:

Royal Bond, Ida Bower, Judson and Virginia Bowles, Julia Conner, Katherine Hamblin, Don King, Olive Pauley, Anna Belle Plunkett, Geraldine Plunkett, Joe Rhodes, Katie Rhodes, Muriel Turner



VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Counters:

Betty Lou Carter & Lavene Hylton

Deacons:

TBA

Sound System:

Darrell Hungate

Children's Storytime:

5/02 Denise Ory

Greeters:

5/02 Sandra & Wayne Carroll
 5/09 Jim & Gwen Kropff
 5/16 Morris Gill & Elayne Garrett
 5/23 Pete & Velma Kropff
 5/30 Emily Ammermann & Adelia Mau

Ushers:

5/02 Clark, Kropff, Walters, Wise
 5/09 Ammermann, Carter, Montgomery, Wright
 5/16 Cox, Graffeo, Louthen, Mau
 5/23 Clark, Kropff, Walters, Wise
 5/30 Ammermann, Carter, Montgomery, Wright

Sunday School Nursery:

5/02 Jenn Casto
 5/09 Susan Lugones
 5/16 Sandi Broughman
 5/23 Missy Tuck
 5/30 Rick Halverson

Worship Nursery:

5/02 Denise & Warren Ory
 5/09 Kathy Otey & Rose Heckman
 5/16 Kim & Laura Clingenpeel
 5/23 Autumn Quinn & Ben Louthen
 5/30 Laura Smith & Missy Tuck

Scripture Readers:

5/02 Jeff Graffeo
 5/09 Missy Carter
 5/16 Lorna Lowe
 5/23 Elayne Garrett
 5/30 Sue Lawrence

Children's Church:

5/02 Brenda McDonald & Regina Ball
 5/09 Brenda McDonald & Regina Ball
 5/16 Susan & Jr. Lugones
 5/23 Susan & Jr. Lugones
 5/30 Denise & Warren Ory

Seven things you'll never regret

1. Feeling reverence for your Maker.
2. Showing kindness to an aged person.
3. Destroying a letter — or not sending an e-mail written in anger.
4. Offering an apology that saves a friendship.
5. Stopping gossip that could wreck a reputation.
6. Taking time to show loved ones consideration.
7. Accepting the judgment of God on any question.

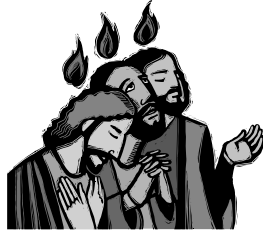


It is time for Vacation Bible School planning! If you are interested in being a teacher or volunteer, please contact Melanie Graffeo (375-6468) or Christa Hylton (389-1487) as soon as possible. Don't forget

to mark your calendars! VBS will be **June 20th thru June 25th**. The theme is **"Galactic Blast: A Cosmic Adventure Praising God!"**

A FRESH LOOK AT PENTECOST

Fifty days after Jesus' resurrection, on a day called Pente-cost, the Christian church was born. Because Pentecost was a holiday celebrating the harvest (a bit like our Thanksgiving), the apostles and a large crowd had gathered to celebrate in Jerusalem.



PENTECOST

Many people had assembled near Peter and the other followers of Christ when "[F]rom heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind ... " (Acts 2:2 ff, NRSV). Then tongues of fire descended on everyone in the crowd.

After the wind and fire descended, all sorts of languages, known and unknown, came out of the crowd. Each person spoke "about God's deeds of power" (verse 11). No wonder Luke wrote, "All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?'" (verse 12).

The whole affair was mind-boggling and life-changing. The Holy Spirit had come upon many people; they knew God was powerfully at work in their midst.

On Pentecost many years ago, some 3,000 people came to believe in Christ. That's why today Christians remember this powerful event as the birthday of the church. Pentecost occurs on May 23 this year.



All articles for the **June Connexion** should be to the church office by **Friday, May 14**.

NEW DVD IN THE LIBRARY "THE ULTIMATE GIFT"

The **"Ultimate Gift"** is a story about a young man's inspiring journey to discover the ultimate gift. At his grandfather's death, this young man is presented



with an unlikely inheritance --- a crash course on life – taking him on a path that will change him forever and answer the ultimate spiritual question: ***"What is the relationship between wealth and happiness?"***

Featuring an all-star cast: Brian Dennehy, James Garner, Abigail Beslin and Drew Fuller.

A bible study guide is included with this DVD.

Look on the self labeled NEW BOOKS to check this DVD out.



Church office will be closed on **Monday, May 31** in observance of Memorial Day.

PEOPLE OF LIGHT



On Memorial Day, it is important to pause in gratitude to all those upon whose shoulders we stand. We should remember with great appreciation those who died making helpful, positive contributions — whether large or small — throughout human history. As Christians we should be especially grateful to those whose faith, service and love have enabled us to know the Gospel and its vast implications for the entire earth.

Without our Christian teachers, pastors, missionaries and the ordinary servants of Christ, we would not have the Good News which is like a great light shining in the world's darkness. They have made sure Christ's precious Light has not gone out or been diminished.

Memorial Day is a day for us to think about the people of the Light and to express to God our appreciation for them.

