

Zion United Methodist Church of Iona
1920 South Fifth Avenue, Lebanon, PA 17042-9101

The Advance Edition

January 2010 Issue

Frank Schaefer, Pastor

Office: 717-273-2958

Urgent Calls: 717-304-9215

Email:

ionaoffice@comcast.net

Website: www.zioniona.com

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <i>Financial Info</i> | 2 |
| <i>Habitat Hosts Students</i> | 2 |
| <i>YF Glow Bowling</i> | 3 |
| <i>Soup Sunday</i> | 3 |
| <i>New Bible Study</i> | 3 |
| <i>Birthday Greetings</i> | 3 |
| <i>Address Change</i> | 3 |
| <i>January Services</i> | 4 |
| <i>January Calendar</i> | 5 |

Special points of interest:

- New Bible Study
- Small Group Soup Sunday
- January and Upcoming Services



2010 – Celebrate the Diversity of Christian Worship Traditions at Iona Church

According to our recent worship survey, my job description for 2010 is pretty clear: change things up a little, but not too much. Add more creative elements to the service, and a bit more tradition to the 11 a.m. service. OK – easier said than done. I asked God to help me understand how this could be done and then, one day, as I was standing in the parking lot, looking at the new cross and flame sign, my eyes wandered up to the very top of our church steeple.

I never realized it before, but there is a Celtic cross up on top. Suddenly, a vision formed in my mind and the more I thought about it the more I realized that this may be the answer I was looking for. My first thought was, “Wouldn’t it be neat if we could incorporate some Celtic worship elements in our services such as instruments, songs, prayers, creeds, and maybe even a little river dance?”

The vision grew from there to include rites, prayers, and practices from different traditions all around the world. I presented this vision to our church board and was given the green light to go ahead with it.

So, I am very excited, and just hope that I am not the only one. I am already fleshing out the vision by planning special worship events during our Sunday worship services in 2010 that will be interesting and spiritually enriching – taken from different traditions, one tradition per month.

Each of these segments will only take up a few minutes in our services. The rest of the service is going to be conducted as usual. I hope and pray that learning about and engaging in these different practices will connect us more deeply to the larger Christian church and enrich our theology and spirituality and give us a deeper understanding of the history of Christianity – from whence we came.

One Sunday we might experience an ancient chant; another Sunday we will learn about traditions we don’t have, such as Three Kings Sunday. We will pray ancient prayers, recite creeds, have dramatic presentations, and learn about ancient Christian symbols and practices.

(continued on Page 3)



ZION U. M. CHURCH FINANCIAL INFORMATION

FUND BALANCES (as of November 30, 2009)

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------------------|----------|---------------------|
| Capital Improvement: | | | Memorials: | | |
| Capital Imp. (other) | -20,906.80 | | Bachman, Edna | 1,175.00 | |
| Wish List | 100.00 | | Bloss, Jess (Tape Min.) | 600.00 | |
| Windows | -16,765.00 | | Brubaker, Richard | 1,155.00 | |
| Total Capital Imp.: | | -37,571.80 | Deck, Stanley | 1,350.00 | |
| | | | Dundore, Susan | 100.00 | |
| Special Projects: | | | Light Mem. (Courtyard) | 1,780.00 | |
| Drama Fund | 786.97 | | Marinkov, Mishi | 205.00 | |
| Youth Fellowship | 2,912.22 | | Miller, Lela | 605.00 | |
| Outspoken | 5,533.49 | | Reed Mem. (Camping) | 594.12 | |
| Children's Church Min | 500.00 | | Walters, Donald | 30.00 | |
| Bell Choir | -33.35 | | Total Memorials: | | 7,594.12 |
| Kid Free Friday | 75.00 | | Endowment Fund | | 6,697.25 |
| Total Special Projects: | | 9,774.33 | Missions | | 3,096.00 |
| | | | General Fund | | 8,948.37 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | TOTAL | | \$ -1,461.73 |

HABITAT HOSTS STUDENTS – MEALS NEEDED

During the months of January, February, and March, Lebanon's Habitat for Humanity will be hosting 10 different groups of college students. Instead of basking in the Florida sun, these students, some from as far away as Minnesota and North Carolina, have chosen to spend their winter or spring break working at one of Lebanon's sites now under construction / renovation.

Habitat is in need of many people (or groups of friends) to cook one evening meal each of the evenings they will be in Lebanon County. The students provide their own breakfast and lunch but would need a hearty meal at the end of the day. To provide a meal for these students and to get directions to Hill Lutheran Church's Berg Haus, please call the Habitat office at 228-1490. THANK YOU!



P.S. The students love to have the cooks join them for their meal!

Celebrate the Diversity

(continued from Page 1)

Overview of Worship Service Themes in 2010

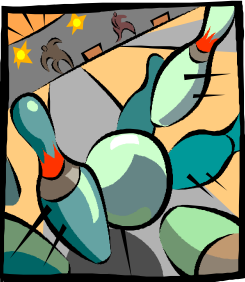
(see more details in the "Upcoming Worship Service" section):

- **January** – Eastern Mediterranean: Orthodox Traditions of Worship (during Epiphany)
- **February** – Western Europe: Roman Traditions of Worship (during Lent)
- **March** – Northern Europe: Traditions of Celtic Worship (St. Patrick's Day)
- **April / May** – Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations Sermon Series
- **Summer (June / August)** - Different Topics
- **September** – North Africa: Nestorian and Augustinian Traditions of Worship
- **October** – Central Europe: Traditions of the Reformation (Reformation Day)
- **November** – North America: Traditions of the Great Awakenings
- **December** – Christmas Traditions from Around the World.

I am excited about our joint spiritual journey in 2010.

In Christ's service... *Pastor Frank*

YF Glow Bowling – January 22



Youth Fellowship members and friends are invited to glow bowling at Cedar Lanes on Friday, January 22, from 10:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. YF members will have 3 free hours of non-stop bowling and free show rental. For all others, the fee is \$15.00.

Call Penny Bossler at 866-2807 with any questions or to sign-up. **It is very important to sign-up** to insure that there will be enough lanes available.

Small Group Soup Sunday

Attention: Iona Family

Small groups will be having a luncheon on Sunday, January 17, following the second worship service. This luncheon will be a great time to come together and meet all who have committed to learning and growing in their Faith through small groups. It will also be a time to discuss the materials you have already received and to find out about additional material needs.

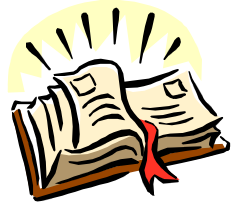
If you have been contacted about small groups and are getting ready to start, or if you are interested in joining a small group, please join us for the luncheon.

Please, if you are attending, **bring a can of soup** (any soup, any size – we will be making a surprise) and your love for Christ as we learn and grow in our faith.



New Bible Study begins January

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth..."



What does the Bible really say? What do you remember about Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Noah? God always has a plan and He often uses ordinary people, no matter how imperfect they may be, to bring His plans about.

The new year is a good time to begin a Bible study, and why not begin in Genesis which has the answers to many questions we have today.

Won't you join us in Gable Hall January 3, 2010, at 10:00 a.m.?

New Address:

- ◆ Donald and Zelma Deibert
55 Scenic Drive
Myerstown, PA 17067

Birthday Greetings

(college, military, homebound, missions)

- | | |
|------|---------------------|
| Jan. | 2 – Dave Forney |
| | 8 – Lyle Wenger |
| | 9 – Joy Forney |
| | 28 – Randolph Frick |
| Feb. | 2 – Matthew Gardner |
| | 6 – Peter Najjar |
| | 13 – Betty Quigley |
| | 26 – Nathan Walters |
| | 28 – John Lerch |

Please remember to contact the church: phone 273-2958; email ionaoffice@comcast.net with any changes or additions to the list.

January 2010 Services



Celebrating the Eastern Christian Traditions in the January Services

In the month of January, we will experience an ancient chant and learn about the Three Kings Sunday tradition. We will pray ancient prayers and learn about ancient Christian symbols and decorations. On another Sunday we will hear a sermon based on a reading from a sacred writing which is included in the Eastern Orthodox Bible, but not in our Protestant canon of the Bible.

3 January 2010 – Three Kings Day

- ◆ 8:45 & 11 a.m. Services
- ◆ Message by Pastor Frank: “Where Two Or Three Are Gathered...”
- ◆ Text: Various scripture readings on the importance of church attendance
- ◆ Roy Craig and the Youth Fellowship have the children’s sermon
- ◆ Music: 8:45 a.m. – Special Music: “The Sunday School Blues”; 11:00 a.m. – songs led by OUTSPOKEN, Iona’s Praise Band

10 January 2010 – Epiphany Sunday

- ◆ 8:45 & 11 a.m. Services
- ◆ Message by Pastor Frank: “Imitating Christ – The Path to Deification”
- ◆ Text: 1 Peter 2:20-25
- ◆ The Choir will teach us a chant from the Eastern tradition
- ◆ Music: 8:45 a.m. – Chancel Choir; 11:00 a.m. – songs led by OUTSPOKEN

17 January 2010 – Communion Sunday (method: by intinction)

- ◆ 8:45 & 11 a.m. Services
- ◆ Message by Pastor Frank: “The Best is Still To Come”
- ◆ Text: Based on John 2:1-11
- ◆ Dramatic reader’s presentation on The Mystery of Communion in the Eastern Spirit
- ◆ Music: 8:45 a.m. – Men of Zion; 11:00 a.m. – songs led by OUTSPOKEN

24 January 2010 – 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

- ◆ 8:45 & 11 a.m. Services
- ◆ Message by Clydette Overturf
- ◆ Prayer of Confession and Pardon, Eastern Style
- ◆ Music: 8:45 a.m. – Cherub Choir and Rainbow Ringers; 11:00 a.m. – songs led by OUTSPOKEN

31 January 2010 – 4th Sunday after Epiphany

- ◆ 8:45 & 11 a.m. Services
- ◆ Message by Pastor Frank: “Tested and Found Worthy”
- ◆ Text: Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9
- ◆ Video Presentation on the theology behind the burning of incense
- ◆ Music: 8:45 a.m. – Iona Bell Choir, Joyful Ringers, Chancel; 11:00 a.m. – songs led by OUTSPOKEN

LOOKING AHEAD:



February 2010 – Celebrating the Roman Tradition of the Church

Like the Eastern Tradition, the Roman Church offers a lot of meaningful prayers, rich creeds, as well as deep meditative practices, especially for the season of Lent. The Ash Wednesday service will be in the style of a modern Roman Taize’ service.



March 2010—Celebrating the Celtic Church Tradition

With St. Patrick’s Day placed squarely in the month of March, we decided to celebrate some of the Celtic traditions of the Christian Church throughout the month. During our worship services in March, we will encounter Celtic instruments, dances, tunes, hymns, prayers, symbols and other traditions.

JANUARY 2010



| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--------|--|--|----------|---|---------------------------------|
| 3 Three Kings Day 8:45 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Soul Connection Service 4:00 Cherub Choir / Joyful Ringers 4:30 Rainbow Ringers 5:00 Iona Bell Choir / YF | 4 | 5 | 6 7:00 Small Groups (Gable/Prayer Rm) 7:00 Chancel Choir (Lounge) 7:00 Praise Team (Sanctuary) | 7 | 1 2 | 9-11 4H Friends (Gable Hall) |
| 10 Epiphany Sunday 8:45 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Soul Connection Service 4:00 Joyful Ringers 5:00 Iona Bell Choir | 11 | 12 9:00 Young at Heart Breakfast @ Quentin Haus 6:00 Trustees Mtg. 7:00 Administrative Council Meeting | 13 7:00 Small Groups (Gable/Prayer Rm) 7:00 Praise Team (Sanctuary) | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Communion Sunday 8:45 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Soul Connection Service 12:15 Small Groups Soup Sunday 4:00 Cherub Choir / Joyful Ringers 4:30 Rainbow Ringers 5:00 Iona Bell Choir / YF | 18 | 19 7:00 SPR Committee Meeting | 20 7:00 Small Groups (Gable/Prayer Rm) 7:00 Praise Team (Sanctuary) | 21 | 22 10:30 pm - 1 am YF Glow Bowling @ Cedar Lanes | 23 |
| 24 3rd Sunday after Epiphany 8:45 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Soul Connection Service 4:00 Joyful Ringers 5:00 Iona Bell Choir | 25 | 26 | 27 7:00 Small Groups (Gable/Prayer Rm) 7:00 Chancel Choir (Lounge) 7:00 Praise Team (Sanctuary) | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 4th Sunday after Epiphany 8:45 Worship 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Soul Connection Service | | | | | | |