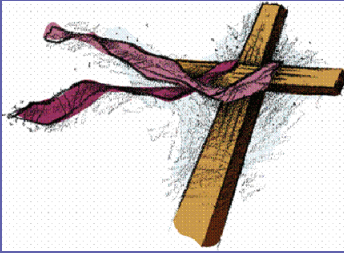


April
2009



NEW CASTLE FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

Monthly Newsletter

Celebrate Easter at First Church



Join us for "Love Grew Where the Blood Fell", a beautiful choral presentation that brings together new and classic songs, along with best-loved hymns to tell the story of God's loving plan for fallen man through the sacrifice and shed blood of His only Son, Jesus. This mini-musical will be directed by Cami Schaubroeck and presented on Easter Sunday morning. There will also be a short Easter message by Pastor Bill Hunley.

"Why are you crying?...Who are you looking for?"

He doesn't leave her wondering long, just long enough to remind us that he loves to surprise us. He waits for us to despair of human strength and then intervenes with heavenly. God waits for us to give up and then-surprise!

~continued on page 2

A party was the last thing Mary Magdalene expected as she approached the tomb on that Sunday morning. The last few days had brought nothing to celebrate. The Jews could celebrate-Jesus was out of the way. The soldiers could celebrate-their work was done. But Mary couldn't celebrate. To her the last few days had brought nothing but tragedy...

A gray sky gives way to gold as she walks up the narrow trail. As she rounds the final bend, she gasps. The rock in front of the grave is pushed back.

"Someone took the body." She runs to awaken Peter and John. They rush to see for themselves. She tries to keep up with them but can't.

Peter comes out of the tomb bewildered and John comes out believing, but Mary just sits in front of it weeping. The two men go home and leave her alone with her grief.

But something tells her she is not alone. Maybe she hears a noise. Maybe she hears a whisper. Or maybe she just hears her own heart tell her to take a look for herself.

Whatever the reason, she does. She stoops down, sticks her head into the hewn entrance and waits for her eyes to adjust to the dark.



**Apr. 9th—7 PM
Maundy Thursday Service and
Foot Washing
service**

Celebrate Easter, continued

And listen to the surprise as Mary's name is spoken by a man she loved— a man she had buried.

“Miriam.”

God appearing at the strangest of places...”Miriam,” he said softly, “surprise!”

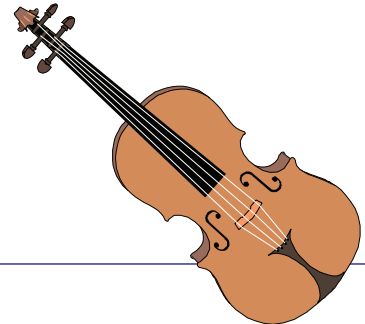
Mary was shocked. It's not often you hear your name spoken by an eternal tongue. But when she did, she recognized it. And when she did, she responded correctly. She worshipped him.

The scene had all the elements of a surprise party—secrecy, wide eyes, amazement, gratitude. But this celebration is timid in comparison with the one that is being planned for the future. It will be similar to Mary's but a lot bigger. Many more graves will open. Many more names will be called. Many more knees will

bow. And many more seekers will celebrate.

It's going to be some party. I plan to make sure my name is on the guest list. How about you?

(From *Six Hours One Friday* by Max Lucado)



Announcing The Jay Humphreys Trio

in worship at the New Castle First Church of God

Sunday morning April 19th, 2009

11 AM

This is an excellent Southern Gospel group from West Virginia!

Come and bring all your friends for a wonderful morning of worship!

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays and Anniversaries *(Please call the church office if we do not have your information!)*

Birthdays:

Apr. 3—Emily Maxwell

Apr. 4—Kayla Arnold, Bob Gudyk

Apr. 6—Brad Panella

Apr. 11—Tiffany Bromley

Apr. 17—John Maxwell

Apr. 23—Bud Boyer, Hannah Shearer

Apr. 24—Virginia Fosnaught

Apr. 28—Jim Maggi

Apr. 29—Donna White, Carley Weigel

Anniversaries:

Apr. 10—Paul and Sharon Ross

Apr. 16—Mel and Donna White

Apr. 22—Bob and Stacy Gudyk



April 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7 Prayer Mtg	2 7 Trustees Mtg	3	4 6-10 Easter Movie Night in Underground
5 12:30 Under- ground Refuge Mtg & Lunch 5:30 Youth 6 Bible Exp	6 7 Celebrate Recovery	7 6:30 Council Mtg	8	9 7 Maundy Night Service and Foot Washing	10	11 10-12 Easter Egg Hunt  Easter Egg Hunt
12 10 Easter Breakfast Cantata No Youth No Bible Exp	13 7 Celebrate Recovery 	14	15 7 Prayer Mtg	16	17	18 CPR Class 6-10 South- ern Gospel Night in Underground
19 Jay Humphreys Trio in worship 5:30 youth 6 Bible Exp ?	20 7 Celebrate Recovery	21	22 7 Prayer Mtg 	23	24	25 1 Pizza delivery for youth fund- raiser
26 Rachel's Baby Shower after church 5:30 Youth volleyball game 6 Bible Exp	27 7 Celebrate Recovery	28 7 PAT mtg	29 7 Prayer Mtg	30		
~Youth set up for Annual Basement Sale~						

Easter Breakfast and Easter Flowers

Easter Breakfast

**Sunday, April 12th,
2009**

10—11 AM

Our Annual Easter Breakfast will be held on Easter Sunday, April 12th, during the Sunday School hour, from 10 to 11 AM. We will enjoy breakfast and a time of fellowship instead of Sunday School for this day. See Carole Hunley for what food



Easter Flowers

A variety of Easter flowers can be ordered to help beautify our sanctuary for Easter Sunday. There will be a list in the bulletin that morning whether they have been purchased in memory or in honor of another person. You are to take the flowers home after the Easter morning service. Order forms are in Sunday bulletins and are due, with the money, to Carole Hunley by Palm Sunday, at the latest. Please help us have a beautiful service Easter Sunday!

Ladies Retreat—May 1st and 2nd

The First Annual CHOG Ladies “Revive” Retreat will provide , in addition to meals and lodging, the opportunity for ladies to relax, worship, pray, learn, and laugh together! Check-in is Friday, May 1, from 6 to 7 PM and check-out is Saturday, May 2, at

3 PM. The location is the Whitehall Camp and Conference Center. The retreat is for all ladies age 18 and up. The cost is \$40 if paid in full by April 3rd and \$45 after. The deadline for registration is April 24, 2009.

Registration forms are available in the church office.



Baby Shower for Rachel Reiter



Attention all Ladies and Girls



April 26, 2009 Sunday—right after church—In the Fellowship Hall

Grandma Michelle Reiter, Great-grandma Sharon Bromley, and Great-great-grandma Dollie Grass would like to invite you stay after church on April 26th and enjoy a delicious lunch, games and an exciting time anticipating the arrival of Rachel's new little baby! Rachel already has a lot of infant clothes, but would **REALLY** appreciate **DIAPERS**! Also, she is registered at Wal-mart and Babys-R-Us. Hope to see you there!

Easter Egg Hunt—Apr. 11

Easter Egg Hunt **Saturday, April 11,** **2009** **10 AM—Noon**



*Donations of wrapped candy and money for prizes and candy for the Easter Egg Hunt are needed. There is a box in the narthex for candy donations or you may give monetary donations to Cara Print.

We will be having our Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 11th, the day before Easter, from 10 AM until Noon. It will be an egg-citing day of fun, story-telling, and, of course, egg hunting! All children through sixth grade are invited to participate.

Preschool Taking Applications

Precious in His Sight Preschool is now taking applications for students for fall classes.

Call 724-714-1259 or 724-658-3951 for more information.



Dates for Whitehall Youth Camp 2009

Third and Fourth Grade Camp

June 28th - July 2nd

Fifth and Sixth Grade Camp

June 15th - June 20th

Jr / Sr High Camp

June 22nd—June 27th

Youth Basement Sale Coming Up!

The youth will be having their Annual Church Basement Sale on Friday and Saturday, May 1st and 2nd. Please support the youth by saving all your nice, saleable treasures for this annual fundraiser to benefit our youth

(please, no adult shoes or clothing). Items can not be put in the Fellowship Hall prior to April 27th. However, arrangements can be made with Andi Dettore to store items in her garage ahead of time, if needed.

See Cami Schaubroeck if you have any questions about the sale.



April Youth News

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

The youth will be selling Joe Corby frozen pizza and dessert items beginning March 22nd. Orders will be due to Ginny Butchelli on March 5th. The ordered items will be delivered on April 25th and all money will be due on or before May 3rd.

The Annual Church Rummage Sale has been scheduled for Friday, May 1st and Saturday, May 2nd. We will be setting up and pricing items for the sale from April 26th to April 30th. Youth will need to work two shifts throughout the set-up and the sale. We will need as many helpers as possible on Saturday morning for clean-up. Please plan on working one shift between Sunday-Wednesday and your second shift on Saturday. If you can not work on Saturday, you will need to do two shifts throughout the week. Please see Cami with your availability.



MARCH EVENTS:

Saturday, March 28th – Karaoke Night in the Underground 6:00-10:00

Sunday, March 29th – TEENS vs. T.E.E.N.S. team Volleyball game. Plans are in the works for another youth group to join us for the volleyball game. Please continue to check your e-mail and phone chain as the details of this event are being finalized.

APRIL EVENTS:

We will be scheduling our Spring Clean-Up Service Project during the month of April. We will need to wait to see what projects need done before scheduling a specific date and time. Please watch your email and listen for announcements for details.

Saturday, April 4th – Easter Movie in the Underground 6:00-10:00

Sunday, April 5th - Youth Meeting 5:30-7:30 in the Underground

Joe Corby Pizza orders due.

We will be stuffing the Easter Eggs for the children's Easter Egg hunt after the youth lesson.

Sunday, April 12th – Happy Easter – No evening youth meeting

Saturday, April 18th – J. Humphrey Family band concert in the Underground

Sunday, April 19th - Youth Meeting 5:30-7:30 in the Underground

Saturday, April 25th – Pizza Delivery at the church. Please plan to pick up your order at 1:00PM

Sunday, April 26th - Youth Meeting 5:30-7:30 in the Underground

Monday, April 27th – Wednesday, April 29th – Set-up and pricing for the rummage sale.

MAY EVENT:

Friday, May 1st and Saturday, May 2nd – Church Rummage Sale.

Underground Refuge News

Karaoke Night

Saturday, March 29th

6-10 PM

Come and sing along with us!
Pick your favorite song to sing,
but it must be appropriate.



Easter Celebration

Saturday, April 4th

6-10 PM

We will be watching an inspirational movie to help us remember and appreciate the Easter season. (It will not be "Passion of the Christ").

Southern Gospel Night—Saturday, April 18th—6-10 PM

Featuring the Jay Humphreys Trio

This is a professional
Southern Gospel group
from West Virginia.

Bring your mom!
Bring your dad!
Bring your grandparents!

Become part of the staff of the Underground Refuge.

If you are a Christian who is 16 years of age or older and you like to eat, watch TV, pray, read, and play games, you can be an Underground Staffer! The Underground is a ministry that touches the lives of all who attend. Your participation only requires about six hours per month and will make a difference in many lives. Please join now!



The Underground Refuge Christian Recreation Center

The Underground Refuge is a community outreach ministry for 'tweens, teens and young adults. This cafe/game room/lounge area with 12 ft. viewing screen has been the home of many fantastic events! Check their website for other upcoming events: myspace.com/undergroundrefuge or www.undergroundrefuge.org. Directors are Paul Ross and April Lewis.



14th Annual Church of God Golf Scramble

NEW CASTLE FIRST CHURCH OF GOD

12 W. Euclid Ave.
New Castle, PA 16105

phone: 724-658-3951
fax: 724-658-3962
website: www.newcastlecog.org
e-mail: www.newcastlecog@verizon.net

Rev. Bill Hunley, Sr. Pastor
Rev. Carl Nicklas,
Pastor of Recovery Ministries
Cami Schaubroeck & Jill Toy,
Worship Leaders



Who: Churches of God from W.
PA and Eastern OH

When: Saturday, May 23, 2009

Where: Mohawk Trails Golf
Course, New Castle, PA

Format: Scramble—Four Man
Teams

Shotgun start—Tee Time—9:00 AM

Coffee, doughnuts, food at the turn, and post golf meal provided. Prizes and Trophy to the winning team. Prize for every golfer.

No skins, no gambling, no tobacco. Remember, this is a church event.

Cost: Four Man Teams of \$49 each (4x\$49 or \$196 Total)

See Fred J. Harlan for registration form. Make checks payable to First Church of God. Discount if paid by May 1st.

Where relationships are
made that will last for an
eternity!

Celebrate Recovery



Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-Centered recovery path for those who want to overcome their hurts, habits and hang-ups through 12 steps wrapped around 8 principles taken from the beatitudes in Matthew 5:1-12. It is a safe place to talk about real problems. The group meets every Monday at 7 PM. Rev. Carl Nicklas is the Director.

Summer Golf League

Anyone who is interested in forming a golf club for the summer, please contact Paul Ross. (724-658-1780)



Please turn in articles for the following month's newsletter by the 20th of each month. The church's e-mail address is newcastlecog@verizon.net. Thank you.

Sharon Bromley, Church Secretary