



# The Taftsville Chapel Current

God calls us as followers of Jesus Christ and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as a community of grace, joy and peace, so that God's healing and hope flow through us to our world.

Jan Collins, Editor; Carie Good, Janet North & Virginia Schlabach, Newsletter Staff

May 2009

"The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." John 3:8

Photos taken by Bob Collins except for Pejouhy's trip photos

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## On Ekklesia

Every seventh Sunday, we turn the chairs and face each other. There is something about that arrangement that invites a different kind of worship and fellowship. I suppose there can be a certain discomfort with the potential vulnerability of being face to face, but we seem to handle it well enough to have continued the practice for over ten years now.

The initial idea began by using a potluck supper as an analogy: Everyone brings something to share with others that they have enjoyed and find nourishing. And, as with all potlucks, some have more time and energy to put into preparing than others, but it always turns out great and there is always more than enough. The fellowship carries it along as well as the food.

The spiritual dishes that we bring to each other at Ekklesia are ones that have been simmering for up to six weeks, made up of the ingredients of our everyday lives and ways the Lord has met us there. Someone brings a song or hymn, and adds a few thoughts about why it encourages them. Someone else brings a passage of scripture, others a selection from a CD or a reading from a current book. Some bring prayers of thanks or need, and we usually take time then to pray together. Also, some bring just their emptiness or weariness. That's as much a gift to the fellowship as anything else. Their hearts listen for a word or two that touches their ache with love. The time belongs to the Lord, and we are His.

Almost always, some kind of theme develops spontaneously that is unique to that day, even in the times being still with silent listening and reflection. The pace is unhurried, and the mood is one of mutual respect and grace. We respond back and forth to each other and are built up. One person's thoughts inspire another person's memory of a hymn or verse, and we sing or read together in spirit and in truth. This is how the Holy Spirit moves among us. "Times of refreshing come from the presence of the Lord." (Acts 3:19b)

As our next Ekklesia approaches (May 10<sup>th</sup>), consider what you might bring. Often it seems the Lord meets us in our ordinary day when we face and acknowledge our soul's hunger to Him. Chances are, someone else is hungry there too, and will find what you bring to be deeply refreshing. They might respond with some fresh and honest praise to God, and we will together "enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise."

- Randy Good

## Pejouhy's Trip to VA & PA

April 17, 2009 began our spring vacation road trip. Allison and Tim's wedding was our first stop. The wedding was a fun event with a dozen Taftsville members present. Zion Mennonite Church is a beautiful setting for a wedding. Tucked away on a country road in rural Virginia, it has a view of rolling hills, mountains and working farms.



*Tim and Allison married on April 18, 2009*

Later we drove to Buck's County, PA to visit with former Woodstock friends. While in Pennsylvania we visited the Michener Art Museum in Doylestown, the Red Lion Inn in Quakertown and the Mennonite Heritage Center in Harleysville.

The Mennonite Heritage Center tells the story of Mennonite faith and life in southeastern Pennsylvania. It houses a permanent exhibit "Work and Hope," art exhibits, an historical library and archives, and a gift shop. At the Work and Hope exhibit visitors are introduced to the local Mennonite community through an introductory DVD, which begins with the early European history and continues to present day in eastern Pennsylvania. - Russell and Nancy Pejouhy



### **Congratulations to our Graduates**

Hartford High School:

**Hunter Cox**

**Emily Glick**

*Graduation date - June 19*

Vermont Technical College

**Jane Glick, Registered Nursing**

**Ross Reitz, Registered Nursing**

*Graduation date - May 16*

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## Bethany Birches Camp

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### Annual Bethany Birches Camp Benefit Auction

The date for this years benefit auction is fast approaching. The date is **September 26, 2009**, Preview 9am, Auction 10am. **Mark the date on your calendar now** and plan to join in on this fun day held at Quechee Gorge Village. Hopefully you have given some thought to what you could contribute to the success of this fundraiser. We will need about 150 quality items, value of at least \$25 to be auctioned off. It could be a handmade craft item, gift certificate, tickets to an event, theme basket, or some service you could provide. We are also seeking donations of merchandise or services from local businesses. Contact Allen Guntz, auction committee member, for questions or ideas on something you could contribute. Notify Allen as soon as you know what you are contributing as the 2009 list has been started.

- Allen Guntz

## Bethany Birches Camp Summer 2009

| Session             | Age       | Date                                 | Cost                  |
|---------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Friendship          | 6-8       | July 13 - 15                         | \$115                 |
| Pioneer             | 8-10      | June 21 - 26                         | \$225                 |
| Pilgrim             | 9-11      | July 19 - 24                         | \$225                 |
| Voyager             | 10-12     | July 26 - 31                         | \$225                 |
| Voyager Extended    | 10-11     | July 19 - 31                         | \$480                 |
| Discoverer          | 11-13     | June 28 - July 3                     | \$225                 |
| Discoverer Extended | 12-13     | June 28 - July 10                    | \$480                 |
| Explorer            | 12-14     | July 5 - 10                          | \$225                 |
| Sojourner           | 14-18     | August 2-7                           | \$225 + activity cost |
| Internship          | 17+       | June 28-July 10<br>July 19 - July 31 |                       |
| Annual BBC BBQ      | All Ages! | July 12                              | FREE                  |

Find God in the midst of mud pit activities, Wet N Wild Wednesday festivities, Camp at the cinema, all camp games, meals over the fire, caring counselors, new friends, water trampoline, fishing and a host of other activities. Come join us to talk about what it looks like to have a life that is "**Built to Last.**" What choices can people make to have a life full of love and meaning? What does a life built to last look like and how do we find out more? Join us for a week (or 2 or 3) to learn about God, play games, and make memories unique to BBC!

Come as a camper, a volunteer, a camp shepherd or a staff member.

Check out [www.bethanybirches.org](http://www.bethanybirches.org) for more info. Can't wait to see you this summer!

- Amber Bergey, Program Director

**The Taftsville Chapel Current-Summer Issue**

This May issue of the "Current" includes some of the June events, as the next issue will be a **single summer newsletter coming out in mid-July**. If you have something that you would like to put in the newsletter throughout the months of May, June, and beginning of July, please forward it on to me to include in the summer issue. We will resume the monthly newsletter in September. Please be sure to pick up your church calendars for each month, and listen to our announcements Sunday mornings for schedule updates.

- Jan Collins

**Bags for Haiti**

On Friday, May 8 at 9 am the ladies are meeting at Mary Guntz's to sew the school kit bags for Haiti. Please bring a sewing machine, scissors and your own lunch. The bags will already be cut. If you don't sew, we could use one or two ladies to press (iron). Or you are welcome to come for the fellowship.

**Library Addition**

We will be adding to our collection of magazines in the library a copy of "The Mennonite". "The Mennonite" is a semimonthly magazine for members of Mennonite Church USA devoted to Mennonite happenings. You will find many interesting articles and editorials in addition to news of the various organizations related to the Mennonite Church in the US and around the world, and much more.

**Youth Trip to Mennonite Youth Convention 2009**

On Tuesday, June 30, seven youth and 5 adults will be heading west at a very early hour. We hope to be at the Convention in Columbus, Ohio by 5:00 p.m. We will return to Vermont on Sunday, July 5. Attending the Convention is: Hayden, Hudson, Gabrielle, Seth, Victoria, Ben, Dimitri, Allison, Tim, Dave, Ted and Nancy. We are extremely grateful for all of the support given to us from both our church family and from the Salford Mennonite Church youth group that has generously helped us reach our financial goal.

- Nancy Pejouhy



**Ted's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration**

On Saturday, April 25, Ted Shattuck was welcomed to his 60th birthday surprise party at the church by his friends. Everyone was wearing all sorts of hats and holding signs proclaiming old age problems or warnings. A walker with a bike horn was at the bottom of the steps waiting for Ted. Having the celebration as a surprise was a challenge for his wife Eli, the instigator of the event. With the help of friends, it was successful, however, Ted was a little suspicious when a stop at the church became necessary on the way to the restaurant.

We all enjoyed a delicious meal together, which included some of Ted's favorite foods - red beet eggs and chow-chow. A time of reading old age verses and roasting Ted with stories being relayed about him was MC'd by Dale Snader.

Eli compiled a display of photos of Ted from small child to recent years with stories and comments to help us realize the many "hats" Ted has worn throughout his 60 years. As Ted's friends and brothers and sisters in Christ we had great fun in celebrating his many "hats", and we especially appreciate his "preacher hat".





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## Farewell Letter from the Esch Family

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Dear Taftsville family,

What a mix of emotions we're feeling at this time! We will miss you all very much, but saying that doesn't convey the depth of what we feel when we think about what you all have meant to us. As Monica and I made the move up to Vermont over seven years ago, we were so grateful to discover not just a Mennonite church within driving distance of Randolph (ok, barely), but a wonderful community of real faith that welcomed us warmly. We came up as a couple without children, but soon began our own family journey in the midst of this larger church family. We have always felt the support and prayers of our friends here, but especially in the days before and after the births of Josiah and Owen. We will never forget how you were vessels of God's love to us in our times of crises and we've looked forward many times as well to celebrating milestones in our family with you all on Sunday mornings. We will miss Randy's sermons (and Ted's), the time to connect in the Millen Room, the intimate Sunday School lessons for Josiah and Owen, and the vulnerability and humility of our sharing times - such times are too rare in too many churches. Mostly, we'll just miss all of you.

Life is long and it takes us in many different directions in the years that we're given. We are grateful that during this season of our life, in the early years of our family life, we were led to this particular community at Taftsville. We feel that we have been given so much more than we've been able to give back. So I guess we're getting out while the getting's good!

Our last Sunday as a family here will be on May 3rd, though Monica and the boys will stay in Vermont another couple of weeks after I go down to Lancaster to start my job working in business outreach with the Workforce Investment Board down there. Monica will take some time to get us settled in our new home and get the boys acclimated to their new life, which I'm sure will be made easier with our extended families close by. Before too long, she'll be looking for a part-time oncology nursing position. We are moving forward toward buying a home, though that's not entirely set yet. One day at a time. We love you all and look forward to the visits we hope to make occasionally to Vermont. We've heard it's a great place to vacation!

Blessings to you all!

*The Esch family - Sheldon, Monica, Josiah and Owen*

**BRILLIANT** answers given by 2nd grade school children to the following questions:

**Why did God make mothers?**

1. She's the only one who knows where the scotch tape is.
2. Mostly to clean the house.
3. To help us out of there when we were getting born.

**How did God make mothers?**

1. He used dirt, just like for the rest of us.
2. Magic plus super powers and a lot of stirring
3. God made my Mom just the same as he made me. He just used bigger parts.

**What ingredients are mothers made of?**

1. God makes mothers out of clouds and angel hair and everything nice in the world and one dab of mean.
2. They had to get their start from men's bones. Then they mostly use string, I think.

**Why did God give you Your mother & not some other mom?**

1. We're related.
2. God knew she likes me a lot more than other people's moms like me.

**What kind of little girl was your mom?**

1. My mom has always been my mom and none of that other stuff.
2. I don't know because I wasn't there, but my guess would be pretty bossy.
3. They say she used to be nice.

**What did mom need to know about dad before she married him?**

1. His last name.
2. She had to know his background. Like is he a crook? Does he get drunk on beer?
3. Does he make at least \$800 a year? Did he say NO to drugs and YES to chores?

**Why did your mom marry your dad?**

1. My dad makes the best spaghetti in the world. And my Mom eats a lot.
2. She got too old to do anything else with him.
3. My grandma says that Mom didn't have her thinking cap on.

**Who's the boss at your house?**

1. Mom. You can tell by room inspection. She sees the stuff under the bed.
2. I guess Mom is, but only because she has a lot more to do than dad.

**What's the difference between moms & dads?**

1. Moms know how to talk to teachers without scaring them.
2. Dads are taller & stronger, but moms have all the real power 'cause that's who you got to ask if you want to sleep over at your friend's.
3. Moms have magic; they make you feel better without medicine

**If you could change one thing about your Mom, what would it be?**

1. She has this weird thing about me keeping my room clean. I'd get rid of that.
2. I'd make my Mom smarter. Then she would know it was my sister who did it and not me.
3. I would like for her to get rid of those invisible eyes on the back of her head.

**What would it take to make your mom perfect?**

1. On the inside she's already perfect. Outside, I think some kind of plastic surgery.
2. Diet. You know, her hair. I'd diet, maybe blue.

**Schedule for May & June**

**Each Sunday morning:** 9:30 am – Worship Service  
 10:45 am – Coffee and Fellowship  
 11:00 am – Sunday School *June through August no Sunday School*

**May**

- 3 9:30 am – Birthday Song/library offering (*Nov–Apr*)
- 3 Leadership Team Meeting
- 8 9:00 am – Sewing of Haiti Bags / *Mary Guntz's*
- 8 Pastoral Care Meeting
- 9 7:15 am – Men & Women's Breakfast / *Dana's*
- 10 9:30 am – Ekklesia Service
- 20 7:00 pm – Church Council Meeting / Church
- 24 11:00 am – Last regular session for children's Sunday School until September
- 31 9:30 am – Song Service
- 31 11:00 am – Children will fill the school kit bags for Haiti

| Taftsville Tally                                                            |            |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------|
| April                                                                       | Attendance | Offering |
| 5                                                                           | 64         | \$1,533  |
| <i>Youth trip - \$195</i>                                                   |            |          |
| 12                                                                          | 78         | 2,045.50 |
| 19                                                                          | 23         | 410.75   |
| 26                                                                          | 54         | 1,801.75 |
| <i>Please note that these totals do not always reflect the final tally.</i> |            |          |

**June**

- 7 7:00 am – Men's Breakfast / *Dana's*
- 14 7:30 am – Women's Breakfast / *Dana's*

**Looking Ahead -**

**July 14** Deadline for Summer issue of *The Taftsville Chapel Current*

**May Birthdays**

- 2 Lynda Knisley
- 9 Karen Cox
- 28 Phare Dietrich

**May Anniversaries**

- 11 Mary & Allen Guntz
- 14 Mary & Glenn Fullerton
- 19 Janet North & Fred Schlabach

**May Childcare**

- 3 Carmeleta Beidler
- 10 Dave/Caren Swanson
- 17 Hannah Cox
- 24 Nancy Pejouhy
- 31 Janet North

**May Song Leaders**

- 3 Richard Glick
- 10 Janet North
- 17 Omar Zook
- 24 Virginia Schlabach
- 31 Allison-Song Service

**May Coffee**

- 3 Karen Cox
- 10 Mary Guntz
- 17 Janet North
- 24 R&RA Glick
- 31 Ken Glick

**May Cleaning**

- 2 R&C Good
- 9 R&C Good
- 16 Guntz
- 23- Guntz
- 30 Hackman

**June Birthdays**

- 4 Heather Wolfe
- 5 Kevin Cox
- 7 Seth Eisenberg
- 7 Clara Swanson
- 8 Roy Aloisio

- 9 Mike McCrory
- 16 Ken Glick
- 18 Rebekah Deitrich
- 27 Vickie Eisenberg

**June Anniversaries**

- 3 Janice & Omar Zook
- 9 Rosalind & Carl Andreas
- 16 Virginia & Abner Schlabach

**June Song Leaders**

- 7 Janice Zook
- 14 Carmeleta Beidler
- 21 Richard Glick
- 28 Janet North

**June Cleaning**

- 6 Hackman
- 13 McCrory
- 20 McCrory
- 28 Pejouhy

*For June Childcare and Coffee schedules, check the bulletin board for new listing.*

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## Taftsville Tidbit Trivia

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*Do you remember when...*

### 40 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

*May 11, 1969*

Allen and Mary Guntz celebrate their FIRST wedding anniversary.  
Congratulations!

### 30 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

*May 26, 1979*

Congratulations to Jan Miller on the birth of Timothy Alan!

Congratulations also to the graduates:  
Karen Glick LMHS; David Beidler  
Hartford High.



### 25 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

*May 12, 1984*

"God's Management" Seminar on Stewardship led by Ray and Lillian Bair. This seminar will help you to: have the satisfaction of knowing where your money goes; find freedom in financial decisions; give planned giving; experience the joy of giving "overflow" funds.

*May 1, 1984*

The Refugees are coming! More information will come soon, but we expect a Cambodian family to arrive in mid-May.

### 10 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

*May 2, 1999*

Plan to come to a Fellowship meal after church on Sunday, in appreciation of Murray and Joanna Beidler who will be moving to Malone, NY this summer.

*May 20, 1999*

Allen gave the financial report. Our surplus has grown to about \$9800.00 above budget on regular offerings. \$1000.00 was transferred to the Good Samaritan Fund.



## Taftsville Chapel Mennonite Fellowship



*Located in the village of Taftsville,  
one block south of Rte. 4 on  
Happy Valley Rd.*

**Randy Good, Pastor**  
(802) 457-1516  
<http://www.taftsvillechapel.org/>

Send your contributions for

**"The Taftsville Chapel Current" to:**

[rdjgcollins@mac.com](mailto:rdjgcollins@mac.com)

OR slip a note in my church mailbox

OR contact a Newsletter Staff Member:

Carie Good, Janet North, and Virginia Schlabach