

Good News

A Publication of Emanuel Lutheran Church
Volume XXXVI No. 3
March 2011

**Empowered by the Holy Spirit, Emanuel's mission is to witness
to the good news of salvation through Christ to individuals, the community
and the world through discipleship and service.**

My Walk in Faith ...

My walk in faith came the day I met my husband. Before I met him I had lost my way in faith. I really don't know what happened but I knew I wasn't going the right direction. I was baptized a Methodist. When I met my husband he was a Catholic. I stopped going to church and I wasn't practicing anything in my home. When we met he changed that. Art and I were married in September of 1996. We have gone through many obstacles that have tested our faith.

We have had a lot of challenges in our life but being a member of such a spiritual congregation has helped us grow so much. Our first obstacle was in November of 2003 when I was approached at work by two of my husband's workers and they said I had to get to the hospital because my husband was having a heart attack. When I arrived at Henry County Hospital I was told that he was being life flighted to St. Luke's and that it did not look good for him. So I put my faith in God and asked for him to help. We got to St. Luke's and the doctors told me he had a 20 percent chance of surviving. He had 90 percent blockage in five arteries. So they did a quintuple bypass and he amazingly pulled

through. They told me that his kidneys had shut down but they also came back up during the stay at the hospital. That is also when we learned that he was diabetic. I still believe that it was the help of God and our faith that helped my husband that day. In January of 2004 Art thought he was having another heart attack. We took him to Fulton County Health Center and found out he was having a gall bladder attack. After another trip to St. Luke's he went through another surgery to have his gall bladder removed.

In December of 2009 we found out that Art was in complete renal failure. Everything happened so quickly from there. In January of 2010 Art was put in the hospital so that a temporary port could be put in so that he could start dialysis. February of 2010 he had another surgery to have his fistula put in place. The fistula would end up being his permanent way for dialysis. We also started the process of getting ready for kidney transplant. Dialysis was very difficult for Art. He would cramp up when too much water was taken out, he had many problems with his fistula, it would absolutely exhaust him. Art went to dialysis three times a week from 5 to 9 a.m. and he would still go to finish his shift at work.

When we found out that I was a match for Art we were overjoyed and wasted no time making sure that I was a complete match. I went through many tests. Finally just before Thanksgiving of 2010 we received a call from Ohio State University. We had to pick two dates that would be good for the kidney transplant. To our surprise they took the first date that we gave them...December 10th. We were blessed to have our children and family come down for the surgery as well as our Pastor. We prayed and we knew that God would watch over us just as He had through everything else. Art joked that he would be home in six days...and of course it was true. It has been a whole new journey for both of us through surgery and recovery but in the end it was worth it.

I believe that people are together for a reason. We have been challenged a lot through our marriage and faith. The faith of our congregation and the two of us being strong together is what helped my husband get through all the obstacles. It has not only put a strain on us, but our family as well. There has been a financial burden on us and as a couple has put a lot of strain on us. I believe if we did not have faith that we would not have made it. Sometimes people say you know when you have met your perfect match and I am a firm believer in that. I know that God has brought us together for a reason.

Leta Pelaza

The symbolism of ashes

On the first day of Lent, pastors in many churches dip a finger in ashes (often made by burning palm branches from the previous year's Palm Sunday) and make a cross on parishioners' foreheads.

God's people have used ashes as a sign of mourning, humiliation and penitence. In the Old Testament, ashes were used as a purification offering. The New Testament speaks of repenting in "sackcloth and ashes" (Luke 10:13, NRSV).

On Ash Wednesday, Christians are pained because our sins — private and public — led to Jesus' death. With repentant hearts, we begin the season of Lent, knowing it leads to resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Ash Wednesday
March 9, 2011
7:30 p.m.
Imposition of Ashes
Holy Communion

Catechism Schedule during Lent

6th grade

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Wednesday

7th grade

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Sunday

8th grade

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Wednesday

Other

7th & 8th Grade Bells

5:30 p.m. Wednesday

6th grade Chimes

6:30 p.m. Wednesday

Elevator/Restroom Renovation Project Committee

From Church Council: Discussion of the Elevator/Restroom Renovation Project several weeks ago at the congregational meeting made it obvious to council that many members are concerned with how the installation of a new elevator will impact various areas of the church (traffic flow, adult Sunday School classroom, education classrooms, etc.). Because of this, council would like to expand this committee to obtain input from a broader spectrum of the congregation. We are seeking volunteers to serve on this committee. If you are interested in serving, please contact Gary Bostelman at 419-599-2477 or jbgb30@embarqmail.com by February 28. The committee will be limited to nine members. Therefore if more members volunteer than are needed, council will select members from the pool that reflect a cross section of the congregation. Thank you for your consideration.

Don't Just Give Up - Give More for Lent

Lent, the 40 days of self-examination and repentance before Easter, is a time for us to renew our relationship with God in Jesus Christ. Lent is a time to recognize God's abundance expressed in the sacrificial death of Jesus. As a common Lenten discipline, many Christians give up something during Lent. This giving up or fasting usually lasts for the six weeks until Easter.

This Lent, don't just give up something, but give more and share gifts of gratitude that express in a tangible way what God has done for you. If nothing else, give more time to sharing God's love – send cards to people on the prayer list; invite a friend to our worship services on Sunday and/or Lenten Wednesday; introduce yourself to someone you don't know by name even here in our Emanuel "family"; help with "Soul Food"; volunteer at a non-profit organization whose work you support; etc.

Your simple Lenten "discipline" could culminate in an Easter gift to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal, Emanuel's Good Samaritan Fund, or some other ministry or "cause" that is dear to your heart.

What can you sacrifice for Lent and give to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal? Here are some ideas reflecting upon a few of the luxuries that we take so for granted in our everyday lives:

1 CD purchase = \$15
1 video rental per week; $\$3 \times 6 = \18
1 DVD purchase = \$20
1 snack per day: $75 \text{ cents} \times 40 = \30
1 soda/bottle of water per day: $\$1 \times 40 = \40
1 movie per week: $\$10 \times 6 = \60
1 tall vanilla latte per day: $\$3 \times 40 = \120
Dinner for two per week: $\$30 \times 6 = \180

Pittsburgh Steelers Win SOUPer Bowl 2011!

Yes, we know that the Green Bay Packers actually won the Super Bowl, but did you know that the Steelers won the SOUPer Bowl?!? At least here at Emanuel they did, by a narrow margin of only \$3.53! On SOUPer Bowl Sunday on February 6, a total of \$392.53 was collected to help feed hungry people. THANK YOU for your donation to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal through this effort of caring!

Thank you

- What a nice surprise to have carolers come to sing Christmas carols to us! Thank you, Roger & Patsy McGinnis
- Thank you for the angel night light. It is so pretty. Thanks, too, to Terry Hershberger for delivering the light to us. -Roger & Patsy McGinnis
- Thank you very much for the “cute” night light. You can’t have too many. It was very much appreciated! Arleta Panning
- Thank you for the night light. It guides me in the middle of the night. Also, many thanks for the visits, cards and Pastor’s visits when I was sick. -Charlotte Wangrin
- Thank you for the angel night light Christmas gift. We love it, as do the grandchildren when they stay over. -Ben & Judy Michaelis
- Many, many thank you’s for the prayers for our grandson, Kaden Michaelis (3 ³/₄ years old) who is in the fight of his life because of Neuroblastoma cancer. We are happy to report that after 6 rounds of chemo, there is notable reduction in the size of his tumors. Prayers do work wonders and we are very hopeful for continued progress. Please continue to include him in your prayers. -Ben & Judy Michaelis
- To our dear Pastor Castello and to our wonderful church family, you have filled my heart with your outpouring love in this sad time of losing Jim. My sincerest “Thank You” all. May God bless you always. -Julie Delventhal
- Thank you to all of you who remembered me with your thoughts, prayers, cards and kindness since my surgery in December. For Pastor for hanging in there for me and my family. Also thank you for the angel night light at Christmas. Words cannot express the wonderful feeling I have with my church family. Bless you all. -Lois Gerken
- Thank you for the angel night light we received for Christmas. It was very thoughtful. -Larry and Diana Zachrich
- Thank you very much for the angel night light I received at Christmas. I appreciate it very much. -Virginia Dillon
- I want to say thank you for all the prayers and condolences extended to me at the time of my husband’s death, and for the many cards and the generous memorials in memory of Art. Also thanks to Pastor Castello for his many visits at home and at the hospital. They were a great comfort to me. Nanette and family and Gayla and family also say Thank you. -Denelda Rohrs

News from the Community

Pancake and Sausage Breakfast

The Ridgeville Township Fire Department is hosting its annual Pancake and Sausage Breakfast on Sunday, March 6 beginning at 7:00 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Ridgeville Legion on County Road 19. Carry-outs are available. Proceeds will be used towards the purchase of equipment.

Lutheran Homes Society Story to be Featured on WLMB-TV 40

“Lutheran Homes Society: A History of Compassion” is scheduled to air on the following 2011 dates:

Saturday, March 19 at 9:30 p.m.

Friday, April 15 at 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 1 at 1:00 p.m.

This program, originally produced by WGTE Public Television, features archival film vintage still photography, and oral recollections by staff and people served by LHS ministries. The program celebrates Lutheran Homes Society’s 150 years of ministry to the church and community. Please tune in to WLMB-TV 40.

Free Prescription Drug Card offered to Northwest Ohio Area Residents

Residents of the NW Ohio area now have access to free discount prescription drug cards, compliments of the Sylvania Area Chamber of Commerce. Sylvania Area Rx Card will provide savings of up to 75% on prescription drugs and is accepted at over 54,000 pharmacies across the country. **You need not be a member of the chamber nor a resident of Sylvania to use the card.**

Anyone interested in obtaining a prescription card can visit the Sylvania Area Chamber of Commerce website at www.SylvaniaChamber.org to print out a pre-activated card. Residents without internet access can also pick up cards at the chamber office and at various health centers, hospitals, schools, clinics, businesses, and other card distribution sites that are being set up across the county.

The Sylvania Area Rx Card has no restrictions to membership, no income or age limitations, and residents are not required to fill out an application. **The Sylvania Area Rx Card was launched to help uninsured and underinsured residents afford their prescription medications.** However, the program can also be used by people who have health insurance coverage with no prescription benefits. Additionally, people who have prescription coverage can use this program for non-covered drugs.

The Sylvania Area Rx Card is a solution to the confusing maze of prescription programs that have appeared in recent years. Many of these programs only cover certain drugs, charge fees, and some have membership restrictions such as age and income limitations. You can download a free card and search drug pricing and participating pharmacies at www.sylvaniachamber.org. For more information, please call the chamber at 419-882-2135 – or via email at pnowak@sylvaniachamber.org.

from the Congregational Life Board

Caring Corner

The Donation Corner for this month is designated to the Country Food Pantry with the Chapel Christian Union Church. Please bring non-perishable items to help out the less fortunate in need.
(See next page.)

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Plans are underway for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. It will be held March 8 from 5:30-6:30 in the church basement. We are fortunate again this year to be entertained by Tom Jenny and the Sweet Street Jazz Band. A freewill offering will benefit the Good Samaritan Fund.

Lenten Offerings

With Lent fast approaching, the recipients of the Lenten offerings will be: Good Samaritan Fund, Together We Can Make A Difference, Henry County Transportation, and World Hunger.

New Pictorial Directory

Lifetouch has been contacted for our new church directory and we are looking at taking pictures the last week of July and the first week of August.

Good Word for Today

We will again have "Good Word for Today" during the month of March. Be sure to tune in to WNDH between 6:00 and 9:00 am to hear the spots.

Next meeting

The Congregational Life Board will meet again on March 7 at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to join us if you have any ideas or thoughts to share. If you cannot attend and have an idea, you can leave us a note in the Board mailbox or leave a note with Pat.

Caring Corner for March: Country Chapel Christian Union Food Pantry

Country Chapel Christian Union Church has been involved in food ministry for 5 years. We began as a distribution site for a national food ministry program (Angel Food Ministry). Through this program, we purchased food and distributed it to families who needed help with groceries. This program then gave us a small benevolence per box sold, which we then used to purchase the food. Early in 2010, we were led to start a food pantry at the church. We decided to make it an emergency call food pantry, and purchased a freezer to store the extra food we purchased. Cupboards were donated for non-perishable items. We switched programs two years ago to Great Food for All, and they suspended operation in November of 2010. We have just become an outreach center for Mid America Foods. This food is the best quality we have been able to offer yet. The one huge difference is that there is no benevolence back to us. We decided that the need is so great that we would continue on with our outreach and rely on God to supply the funds and donations needed.

Our average attendance for services is 33 people, and they have been very supportive and generous. We are small in number, but great in love. We have been able to assist many families, with only a few being helped more than once. We have seen an increase in the calls from people who are trying to make ends meet but their income just doesn't stretch far enough, yet they make too much to qualify for any assistance. Many of those we help really don't want to ask for help and ask only for what they need to get by. We have helped when there was no food in a household and when utilities were threatened to be shut off. We do the best we can to be the hands and feet of Christ through our outreach efforts.

Our goal is to give those who come in groceries that include the ingredients to make meals as well as bread, eggs, butter, and milk. These last items are things that many food pantries are unable to provide. We find that the need increases near the end of the month when funds and food are in short supply. We helped 7 families in the last two weeks of January. As word gets out to different agencies, we have seen an increase in calls for help.

We appreciate the opportunity to share our needs with you.

-shared by Jerrie Holder, CCCU Food Ministry Director

With this in mind, we will be collecting food items for CCCU's emergency food pantry as shared from the Toledo SeaGate Food Bank:

The Best Food to Donate to Your Food Drive

(from the Toledo SeaGate Food Bank)

When you're buying food to donate, it is vital to keep in mind that well-balanced food choices can prevent chronic disease and illness. Donated nutrient-rich foods can help build a healthier community. Any donations are valued. Below is a list of nutrient-rich foods to help guide you.

Fruits & Vegetables - choose canned or dried fruits and vegetables in an array of colors to ensure eating of a range of vitamins and minerals.

- * canned vegetables
- * diced tomatoes
- * tomato sauce
- * canned fruit (in its own juice)
- * dried fruit
- * vegetable juice
- * tomato juice
- * spaghetti sauce
- * fruit juice (100%)
- * shelf-stable fruit cups

Grain Group - choose shelf-stable whole grains as often as you can for the most nutritional value.

- * oatmeal
- * all kinds of pasta
- * low sugar/high-fiber cereals (Cheerios, Raisin Bran)
- * whole grain/brown rice
- * whole grain crackers
- * cream of wheat

Protein Group - choose canned lean meats as a good source of low fat protein and canned or dry beans as a good source of fiber.

- * canned tuna, salmon, chicken
- * canned bean soup and chili
- * canned baked beans
- * dried and canned peas or beans
- * peanut butter
- * canned beef stew
- * nuts

Milk Group - choose shelf -stable low-fat dairy products with vitamin D added.

- * dry milk
- * boxed shelf-stable milk
- * canned Parmesan cheese
- * evaporated milk
- * pudding/pudding cups

Emanuel is sponsoring a benefit for Art & Leota Pedraza

Sunday, March 13, 2011

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Bert G. Taylor Post American Legion in Napoleon

Pasta Dinner (free will donation)

Live Auction @ 12:30 p.m.

Silent Auction

50/50 drawings (12:00, 1:00, 2:00)

Live Juke Box

Children's Activities

Life Connection & Kidney Foundation Booths

Matching Funds Provided by Thrivent Financial

COME OUT FOR FOOD, FUN AND A WORTHY CAUSE

Anyone interested in helping in any way before or during this event
should contact Jamie Bostelman or Gayla Yaney!



Don't Miss this Concert!



I am Marcus Mt.Castle. I am sure that most of you know me. I have been a member of Emanuel since I was born, almost 19 years ago. I was baptized here and confirmed here. I attended Sunday School here, Vacation Bible School, and After School Club. I took organ and piano lessons here and have enjoyed playing for you for many years. I have sung in choirs and played bells. This congregation has become a very important part of my life over the years. I received scholarship money from this congregation to be able to attend Camp Mowana every summer since I was 6 years old. Last summer I was fortunate enough to be able to work as a counselor at that same camp for the entire summer, and this semester, I am working at Camp on the weekends helping out with their winter retreats. You have always been there to encourage and support me in everything I have done. And I am very grateful for that support.

I am once again asking for your support. I am now a freshman at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio, majoring in Music Education. I was fortunate enough to be chosen as a member of the Capital Chapel Choir. Many of you know of the Chapel Choir, or possibly have even heard them perform. It has given me the opportunity to work with some wonderful, talented people and has been a very rewarding experience.

I now have the opportunity to travel with the Chapel Choir to South Africa in May of 2011 for 10 days. We will be touring and performing concerts in various locations while we are there. I am very excited to be given this opportunity, and I know it will be a wonderful experience that I will remember for a lifetime.

Of course, a trip like this costs money. I am trying to fund-raise to come up with enough to cover the cost of the trip. On Sunday, March 6, I will be hosting a dinner and concert here at Emanuel. The dinner will begin after the 10:30 worship service and the concert will begin at 1:00 p.m. I will be singing and playing, and hope to have some friends who will be performing also. It should be an afternoon filled with music, fun and fellowship. A freewill offering will be taken to help defer the cost of my trip.

Again, I appreciate all of your support over the years and am looking forward to seeing you at the concert! If you are unable to attend the concert but would like to help me with the cost of the trip, you may send your donations to my home address which is 115 Raymond Street, Napoleon (make checks payable to me or my mom).

I ask that you keep me in your prayers as I prepare for this trip. Thanks again, and hope to see you on March 6! God's blessings to all of you!

-Marcus Mt.Castle

Membership News

- Birth* Congratulations to Brian & Dea Plummer on the birth of a son, Ethan Douglas, on February 15. Also welcoming their baby brother are Hannah and Jacob.
- Baptism* Brooke Ann, daughter of T.J. and Amy Hershberger, was baptized on February 27. Brooke's sponsors are Chad & Robin Hershberger.

WE APPRECIATE HEARING ABOUT YOUR FAMILY NEWS (BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES, ETC.).

We would like to include your family's birthdays in our birthday prayers on Sundays, in which case we would need those names and dates. We would also like to know the names of all those family members serving in the military.

Would you like to join the growing number of people who receive their newsletters via email? Please let us know if you are interested and make sure we have your email address. You will need Adobe Reader on your computer to do this (available free for download at adobe.com).

Remember our members in nursing homes and assisted living facilities with prayers, cards, visits.

Lutheran Home (1036 S. Perry St., Napoleon)

Marge Gathman Paul Panning

Alfred "Petey" Ruetz Ted Titgemeyer

Alpine Village Assisted Living (1032 S. Perry, Napoleon)

Ruth M. Eickhoff (#410)

Country View Haven (R858 Co Rd 15, Napoleon)

Julia Arps (mailing address: 8271 Co Rd T Liberty Center, OH 43532)

Golden Center Living Center-Northcrest

Ruth Delaney (240 Northcrest Dr, Napoleon)

Church Office Hours

8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Monday - Thursday

8 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Friday

EMANUEL GOOD NEWS, a monthly publication of the Emanuel Lutheran Church

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Pastor - James L. Castello (419-592-0847) jameslcastello@yahoo.com

Missionaries to Hong Kong - Pastor John & Barbara LeMond

Congregation President - Gary Bostelman

Women of the ELCA President - Marilyn Fretz

Prayer Chain Co-ordinator - Carol Castello (419-592-0847 or cjcast@yahoo.com)

Worship & Music Coordinator/Organist - Angela Tonjes

Bell Choir Director - Hugh Schink

Asst. Bell Choir Director - Bill Panning

Living Spirit Director - Holly Mohring, Marv & Julie Mt.Castle

Parish Secretary - Patricia Mohring

Sunday School Superintendent - Angela Sosebee

Altar Guild Chairman - Barbara Hoffman

Custodian - Jack Robbins

2011 Church Council

President - Gary Bostelman

President-Elect - Ron Wiechers

Secretary - Jenny Perdew

Treasurer - Julie Kohout

Doctrine & Worship Board - Holly Mohring & Terry Hershberger

Congregational Life Board - Terri Haase & Carol Castello

Board of Education - Jamie Glick & Julie Mt.Castle

Properties Board - Matt Mt.Castle & Jeff Sharpe

Finance Board - Martha Young & Lorelee Jones

Worship participants in March

Acolytes

8:00 Sarah Yaney & Kenli Dachenhaus
10:30 Tyler Allison & Mitchell Walther

Lay Assistants

8:00 Jack Robbins
10:30 Gary & Jamie Bostelman

Ushers

8:00 Lee Weirauch, Sonny Babcock,
Ron Dachenhaus, Ron Wiechers
10:30 Terry Walther, Larry Ashbaugh,
Rupert Schweinhagen, Matt Mt.Castle

Altar Guild

Nanette Schwab & Susan DeMichiei-Mabee

Altar Flowers

March 6 - Larry & Lois Wiechers in honor of their 64th wedding anniversary

March 13 - Sosebee family in loving memory of Shirley Casteel

- in honor of the marriage of Tammy Schweinhagen & Brett

March 20 - Bob & Esther Dennie

March 27 - Maurice & Georgie Davis in honor of their daughters Traci Conklin and Karen Kunkle

Open dates:

June 5-12 September 11 October 9-30

To reserve altar flowers...

Simply sign up on the flower chart in the narthex or call the church office. Our flowers are done by Ivy League Floral & Design Studio on West Washington Street. The cost is \$20. If you have *special* orders for your flowers (certain colors, a larger arrangement, etc.), they will be happy to serve you. Please contact Cori Ratliff at Ivy League for these special orders. If your order is beyond the \$20, please pay the shop directly.

***** We are recycling the used plastic containers that the altar flowers come in. They can be put in Angela's office. *****

Statistics

Sunday, January 23

attendance 83 + 100 (183)

\$ 3,703.67

\$ 200 Bldg Fd

30 World Hunger

35 Good Samaritan Fund

25 Rainbow Ringers - honor of
Morgan's 8th birthday

100 mem to Bldg Fd - Geraldine Dillon

15 mem to Endow Fd - Art Rohrs

10 mem to Endow Fd. - Jim Hustwick

Sunday, January 30

attendance 110 + 101 (211)

\$ 6,545.87

\$ 35 World Hunger

100 Building Fund

60 Good Samaritan Fund

20 mem to Bell Ch - Art Rohrs

1,725 mem to Bldg Fd - Art Rohrs

150 mem to Video System - Art Rohrs

511 mem to Good Sam Fd - Art Rohrs

Sunday, February 6

attendance 84 + 68 (152) communed 76

\$ 4,747.00

\$ 285 Bldg Fd

85 Good Samaritan Fund

5 World Hunger

Sunday, February 13

attendance 110 + 114 (224) communed 99

* * Gideon offering \$301.50 * *

\$ 5,195.36

\$ 105 Bldg Fd

35 Good Samaritan Fund

10 World Hunger

50 mem to Good Sam Fd - Art Rohrs

Sunday, February 20

attendance 105 + 110 (215)

\$ 4,665.53

\$ 80 Bldg Fd

10 Good Samaritan Fund

392.53 Souper Bowl

1,000 mem to Bell Choir - Jim Hustwick

Notes from Angela

- Angela Tonjes

Adult Choir

Choir practice will be at 7:00 p.m. on March 2. Beginning on Wednesday, March 9 choir practices will be held in the basement at 6:30 p.m., due to Lent services. Living Spirit practice will be held on Wednesdays after worship throughout the Lenten season.

After School Club

After School Club continues to meet each Wednesday from 3:15 - 5:00 p.m. The children are working on new songs in order to take part in the evening worship on Wednesday, March 23. We are also practicing music for Palm Sunday and Easter.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday service will be held on Wednesday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m. There will be imposition of ashes, communion, and special music. Begin your forty day Lenten journey with this service.

Lent Worship

Regular Lenten worship will begin on Wednesday, March 16 at 7:30 p.m. A different congregation member will share a message each week, the Passion history will be read, and there will be special music.

New Hymn for March

We will be singing a new hymn in March from WOV #713 Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil. This one verse song has very pretty words and seems especially appropriate for spring. You are encouraged to read it over before worship, the choir will lead the singing.

Thank You

Thank you to Beth Jenny and Holly Mohring who cleaned out the storage room in the basement; it looks terrific and the choir can get to their robes much easier now! Thank you also to Joan Collier for helping organize the chapel and keeping it looking nice.

This is a poem from one of the hymnals in my collection that speaks to my heart:

There Has to Be a Song

There has to be a song-
 there are too many dark nights,
 too many troublesome days,
 too many wearisome miles,
There has to be a song-
 to make our burdens bearable,
 to make our hopes believable,
 to transform our successes into praise,
 to release the chains of past defeats,
somewhere-down deep in a forgotten corner of each man's heart-
There has to be a song-
 like a cool, clear drink of water,
 like the gentle warmth of sunshine,
 like the tender love of a child, there has to be a song.

-Robert Benson