



Looking Ahead

<b>March</b>	31	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir
		7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir
<b>April</b>	1	6:00 p.m.	Tenebrae and Love Feast
	4		<b>Easter Sunday</b>
	5	6:45 p.m.	Nurture Commission
	7	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir
		7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir
	8	12:30 p.m.	Spirit Journey Women
		6:30 p.m.	Stephen Ministry Supervision
	9	6:30 a.m.	Breakfast Group
	10-11		<b>Undoing Global Warming Weekend</b>

**Temporary Prayer Request Change**

Please call the church office or Donna Lesh with your prayer requests from March 15 - 27.

**Youth Auction LIVE TODAY**

The fellowship hall is full of interesting items to bid often and high on to support our youth attending National Youth Conference in Colorado this summer. This year, in addition to the silent auction, we are resurrecting the live auction, which will take place after the potluck and Spring Council meeting today.



**Do I hear a bid for .....??? Going once, going twice, gone! Many thanks to the wonderful members of Beacon Heights who generously support our youth programs with financial support and donations.**

If you have questions regarding Beacon information, please contact the church office between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE**  
Adult and Children's Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.

*Next Week—March 28, 2010*

**9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Worship**  
**Palm Sunday**

**"The gatekeeper"**

On Palm Sunday, we alter our journey through Lent and focus more intently in the last days of Jesus' life. We focus upon the growing tension between Jesus and the religious authorities. We focus upon the differentiation between his message and the status quo. We reflect upon the status quo of the church today as compared with the message he brought in his time. And we reflect upon the metaphor of Jesus saying "I am the gate" as he enters through the gate of Jerusalem and the gate of the temple, ultimately crossing the threshold of actions and decisions that would end with him on the cross. Each of these 'gates' are symbols of a Christ who is doing a new thing, finding a new means to connect with God's beloved children. For each of these 'gates' are symbolized by a 'gatekeeper' in Jesus who views his primary task as not finding ways to keep people out, but encouraging ways to allow people in.

Join us for worship with a Palm Sunday procession and a new Stephen Leader consecration in both services and a visual collage in the 11:15 service. You are invited to read John 10:9, 12:12-19 in preparation for this worship experience.

Pastor Brian

**THIS WEEK AT  
BEACON HEIGHTS**

**Today**

9 a.m. Sunday School  
10 a.m. Worship, receive new members  
Noon Potluck Lunch and Auction  
1:00 p.m. Spring Council

**Tuesday**

7:00 p.m. Executive Board

**Wednesday**

6:00 p.m. Bell Choir  
7:00 p.m. Choir

**Thursday**

12:30 p.m. Spirit Journey Women

**Friday**

6:30 a.m. Early Breakfast Group

**Next Sunday**

Palm Sunday

**FOOD BANK**

Mary Whitehead  
Barb Thorn  
Marcia Wright

<i>STATISTICS</i>	
Sunday March 14, 2010	
9:00 Worship	66
10:00 Building the Bridge	85
11:15 Worship	84
Adult Offerings	5,5961.00
Children's Offering	1.00
Weekly Budget	\$7,113.26

Beacon Heights Church believes everyone is a child of God. We welcome all people, of any age, gender identity, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, family status, socio-economic status, physical ability, mental ability, or place along their faith journey.

**THE BEACON**

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**IN THIS  
CORNER**

**Meet Beacon Heights Newest Members**

Beacon Heights has the joy of receiving new members today. Watch The Beacon in coming weeks for names and brief biographical information about each of them. Some you may know and others you may not. Be sure to take the opportunity to introduce yourself and welcome them into our community of faith.

**Young Adult Conference May 29-31, 2010**

Theme: Community Romans 12:4-8

Place: Camp Blue Diamond Petersburg, PA

Cost: \$90 prior to April 20; \$115 after April 20

For young adults ages 18-35. Activities will include worship with sermons from Matt McKimmy and several other Church of the Brethren young adults; meeting new people; workshops; coffeehouse; music; campfire; recreation. Register online at: [www.brethren.org/yac](http://www.brethren.org/yac)

**First Annual Muslim-Christian Dinner**

Friday, March 26, 6:30-9:00pm Plymouth Congregational Church

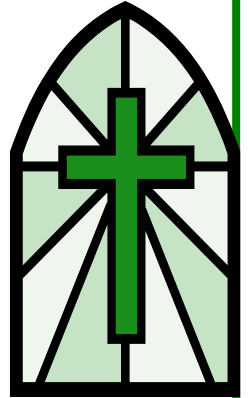
The **Indiana Center for Middle East Peace** and the **The Islamic Center of Fort Wayne** are hosting a "Getting-to-Know-Each-Other" dinner and program. We'll view a film about Muslims in the United States, Imam J. Tamir Rasheed, as well as some of the lay leaders of the Islamic community, will address the group, and Michael Spath will also make a short presentation. Those planning the event are making every effort to make sure that there will be broad representation of both Muslims and Christians, and that there will be ample opportunity for Questions and Answers as well as conversation and discussion between members of both religious traditions. We're very grateful for the generous hospitality of Rev. John Gardner and the good people at Plymouth Church for offering to host this event.

Dinner is free; a free will offering will be accepted.

Both the Indiana Center for Middle East Peace and the Islamic Center of Fort Wayne are very excited to be hosting this one-of-a-kind event in our community.

## 'I am'...a Lenten journey

Have you ever looked at the stained glass windows on the side walls in the sanctuary and wondered? Wondered about the symbols? Wondered about the scripture? Wondered if there was a connective theme between the windows? Our Lenten theme this year focuses upon the stained glass windows, centered upon the theme " 'I am'...a Lenten journey." Each of the windows contains a scriptural image that Jesus used to describe himself. Each of the scriptures begins with the phrase "I am," the same phrase that Yahweh uses to name Godself.



Lenten Service Dates, Scriptures, and Preachers

Mar. 28 - Palm Sunday/Lent 6 - John 10:9 - Pastor Brian preaching

## 2010 Community Gardening Project Sign-up Begins

This will be the third year for working together to grow and enjoy quality organic foods in our community. **Anyone interested in information and conversation** about the Community Gardening Project for 2010 (sponsored by Nurture Commission) is invited to place your name(s) on the **sign-up sheet posted on the ledge outside the church office.** Gardening Project organizers will contact this list about a planning meeting to take place this month. If you're willing to help organize our project for 2010, please speak to Lynn Creath or another nurture committee member.



And remember gardeners --environmental worker Tom Benevento will be here April 10 and 11 for the UNDOing Global Warming event, and will have suggestions for urban gardening, particularly in his 'Lawns to Lunches' session on Sunday afternoon.

### Attention Knitters and Crocheters!!

Womaen's Caucus is once again asking us to **knit or crochet rainbow scarves**. Last year Beacon Heights folks sent over 100 rainbow scarves to Annual Conference. Their goal is to give a scarf to anyone who wants one. They are expecting a large crowd at Annual Conference in Pittsburgh this year. Scarf directions are on the church office ledge. See Kathi Saffer or Linda Wolf if you have questions .

### Interested in a long, wooden memento of Beacon Heights?

Stewards has authorized me to offer two (2) almost like new **pew bench seats** (10 feet long) **FREE** for the taking! They are located (last seen anyway) in the South Class Rooms. If you are interested in taking one or both of these, please let me know. I may even be able to help with transportation.

Wayne Trout

### Tenebrae and Love Feast

**Thursday, April 1**

**Tenebrae will begin in the sanctuary at 6:00 p.m.  
with Love Feast following in the fellowship hall at 6:30 p.m.  
Together, we will remember Jesus' last days.**

### Annual Good Friday Service

True Love Missionary Baptist Church 715 E. Wallace Street

April 2, 12-1 p.m.

Speakers: Rev. Fred Morris, Antioch Missionary Baptist Church

Rev. John Gardner, Plymouth Congregational Church

Co-sponsored by the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance and Associated Churches.

### Pastor Laura Van Voorhis New Interim Pastor

Staff Relations is happy to announce that Laura Haynes Van Voorhis will join us as an interim pastor from May 11 through August 10, 2010. She will work part-time to help the pastoral team cover Pastors Jan and John's responsibilities during the Sabbath Rest. Pastor Laura graduated from Bethany Seminary and has served both as a congregational pastor and as a hospital chaplain. **She will be at Beacon Heights for worship and council meeting today.** See the Council Packet for more information!

### Interfaith Hospitality Week 3/28 - 4/3

Beacon Heights and St. Jude's Catholic Church will be jointly hosting Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) the week of March 28-April 3. Beacon Heights will provide dinner and children's activities March 31-April 3. We will also be collecting specific food items and paper products. This is a great opportunity to share God's love in our community. Please stop by the sign up table today to see

Mark your calendars for:

"Come to the Table"

A Musical by Ken Medema

Featuring Beacon Heights High School and Middle School Youth

April 23 at 7:30 p.m.

April 24 at 3:00 p.m.

Tickets will go on sale at the end of March.

Proceeds to benefit the High School Youth Fund.

## Congregational Responses to Spiritual Nourishment

\*Reading (the Bible, nature books, Daily Guideposts, Sojourners, books, etc.) \*Breakfast group \*Work \*Exercise and outdoor sports \*Gardening \*Out in nature-sun \*Camp Friedenswald \*Spiritual friends and mentors \*Being a parent \*Dogs \*Blogging \*Time alone to reflect and journal or simply to ponder nature's wonders \*Dancing \*Music \*Devotional time – prayer \*Time spent with family and friends \*Writing poetry \*My kids \*Memorizing quotes/verses/etc \*Observing the beauty of morning hours while I drive to work out \*Through my faith friends at BHC B \*Walking/biking/hiking outside \*Journaling \*Ping Pong \*Skiing \*Time in the wilderness connecting with friends/family \*Singing \*Observing nature \*Laughter \*Group Prayer \*Yoga \*Breathing deeply \*Meditating on the phrase: “Be still and aware of God’s presence within and all around” from (J. Phillip Newell book) \*Tom Ehrich’s message \*Nap each afternoon \*Pictures of family \*Quiet, rest times for reading and reflection \*Nature especially spring sights and sounds but also new fallen snow, rain and thunder and dead leaves. All speak of God and the creation and ongoing seasons of life. \*Conversations of encouragement \*Spring \*Talking with kind listeners \*Fun with everyone \*Worship \*Community \*Cooking \*Singing songs to God \*Traveling \*Food bank \*Life \*Awareness \*Connecting with joy and love \*Hugs \*Playing with children \*Hearing the words “I love you” \*Smiles \*My soul is fed in the smiles of my children \*The joy and journey of teaching \*Baking \*Silence and listening \*Challenging dialogue with others \*Making serving, eating and sharing a healthy meal \*AA program \*Running \*Serving others \*Being in community \*Talking to my dear friend Peg \*Knitting \*Exercising \*Giving of time and/or material gifts from my hands to others

## Spring Building the Bridge Classes

**Christ of the Celts by J. Phillip Newell** Newell (one of the foremost experts on Celtic spirituality) reflects on the Christ of ancient Celtic tradition to offer new hope for harmony, healing, and renewal. Drawing in part on the Gospel of Thomas and the Acts of John, the author ignites us with the possibilities that can come from understanding this ancient spiritual tradition.

Newell connects the Celtic tradition with our more conventional Christian beliefs and offers a vision of concern for healing creation and the environment—for the presence of the sacred in nature and all creatures. This was the essence of the ancient Celtic vision of Christ. As an ever-unfolding mystery of life rather than a one-time event, the Celtic tradition encourages us to reverence the matter of our bodies and the earth.

Facilitated by Matt Sprunger; Book donation: \$5.00 Parlor

### Receiving the Day - by Dorothy C. Bass

Embrace time as an opportunity - not an adversary. A spiritual reconsideration of our frantic approach to time, *Receiving the Day* invites readers to embrace the temporal landmarks of our lives as opportunities for deeper relationship with God and one another.

Facilitated by: Sue Warren, MaryJane Coursen, Beth Goldsmith  
Book donation: \$5.00

### Renewal in the Wilderness By John Lionberger

This practical guide reveals the power of experiencing God’s presence in many variations of the natural world—from a backpacking trip in a truly remote wilderness to an afternoon spent in a nearby park to a single moment savored in your own backyard. While exploring wisdom from several faith traditions, you will discover how the universal experience of being present in nature can lead to startling discoveries about God and about yourself.

Facilitated by: Ruth Ann and Tom Bever Book donation: \$5.00

### Inquirer’s Class

**Text: Let Our Joys be Known by Gardner and Shaffer**

This class is designed for those interested in learning more about the Church of the Brethren—who we are as a denomination and what we believe and practice as followers of Jesus Christ. **For more information,** speak directly to Pastors John or Jan Long or to call the church office (482-8595). All are welcome.

Facilitated by Pastor John Long in the Choir Room (Lower Level)

# YOUTH

High School

## Musical Rehearsal Schedule

Please make note of those rehearsals NOT on Sunday

Sunday, 3/21 1:30-4 pm

SATURDAY, 3/27 1-5 pm

Sunday, 3/28 12-3 pm

Sunday, 4/11 12-3 pm

SATURDAY, 4/17 10am – 4 pm Full Cast Run-through

Sunday, 4/18 12-3 pm Full Cast. Run-through

WEDNESDAY, 4/21 6-8 pm Full Cast. Full Dress run-through

The orange rehearsal schedule tells you which scenes you will be rehearsing.

Please contact Megan Feters, Marcia Wright, Jessica Creath, or Pastor Melissa if you are unable to attend a scheduled rehearsal.

**The full cast run-throughs are VERY important!**

# NEWS

Middle School

Youth Musical

## "Come to the Table"

by Ken Medema

Performances

Plan to be at the church these complete times...

April 23 - 6-10 p.m.

April 24 - 2-6 p.m.

Questions?

Please contact

Megan Feters or Pastor Melissa