

UNITED CHURCHES' NEWS

Published Monthly by the

United Churches of Lycoming County

202 East Third Street, Williamsport PA 17701

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Rev. Gwen N. Bernstine, Executive Director and Editor

*Issued mid-monthly, September through May. Items marked with an asterisk may be of special interest to your congregation.
Deadline to submit articles - First of each month.*

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COME TO OUR ANNUAL ASSEMBLY*

Our 63rd Annual Assembly of the United Churches will be held Thursday, November 5 at St. Marks Lutheran Church, 142 Market Street, Williamsport. Parking is available in the lot behind the Church, and handicapped parking is available beside the church. Registration begins at 5:45 P.M., with the dinner at 6:30 P.M. The evening will include:

- ★ Presentation of an Ecumenical Service Award.
- ★ Election of officers and new board members.
- ★ Adoption of the 2010 Budget.
- ★ Program: The Ecumenical Game Show

Attending from each member congregation should be three delegates, the pastor and two lay people. *We encourage other interested persons to be present as non-voting representatives of your congregations.*

Registration is \$10.00 and includes pork with a fruit glaze, broccoli, twice baked potato, roll, salad, beverage and pie. Each person will also receive an annual report book. Reservations are needed by Tuesday, October 27th. Pastors will receive an information packet. Please call the United Churches office, 322-1110 or at uclc@sunlink.net to make your reservation.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED *

Regina Gross, President - 322-2619

World Community Day will be celebrated on Friday, November 6, when women from throughout Lycoming County will gather at the Shiloh Baptist Church, 433 Walnut Street, Williamsport. The theme for this year is "Piecing Earth Together". A Fellowship Hour will follow. Parking is available in the church lot.

Christmas stockings will be collected at this service along with the \$3 donations to fill each stocking. Special donations to offset increasing costs would be greatly appreciated. These stockings will be assembled on Monday morning, November 16th beginning at 9 a.m. at Pine Street United Methodist Church, Williamsport. Women are welcome to help assemble and package the 1200+ stockings that are distributed to area nursing homes for their residents.

PRISON MINISTRY REMINDER

Clergy: Please check your Prison Green Card - Pastors in our county are provided with access to the Lycoming County Prison for professional counseling of inmates and to provide ministry within the county. However they expire every two years, so check your card today. Our office has the forms available to update your card.

Visit us at the following web site - www.uclc.org

WEDNESDAY ECUMENICAL LUNCHES*

Join us from 12 to 1 p.m. for the Wednesday Noon Ecumenical Lunch Program. You are always assured of a tasty \$4 lunch, warm, ecumenical fellowship and a thoughtful program designed to enrich your life mentally, physically, spiritually and socially. The parking is free in the Pine Street lot north of the church from 11 to 1:30 p.m. No reservations are necessary.

OCTOBER:

- 14- **Mr. Jonathan Richard Cring and Ms. Janet Clazy**, presenting the Gospel by blending music and word, *"Spirited"*
- 21- **Rev. Aden Wertz**, Pastor, Pine Street United Methodist Church, *"Holy Land: The Road Less Traveled"*
- 28 - **Mrs. Janice Trapp**, Director, James V. Brown Library *"Our 21st Century Library"*

NOVEMBER:

- 4 - **Ms. Melodie Russell**, Executive Director, The Center, *"Unto the Least of These"*
- 11 - Veterans Day - Program to be announced.
- 18 - **Rev. Kenneth Elkin and Ms. Kristi Hammaker**, Family Promise Board of Directors, *"Church Based Program Almost Ready To Help Homeless Families"*
- 25 - Ms. Joanne Keihl, Director of Music at Calvary Baptist and Neisbet United Methodist Churches, *"Sounds of Praise"*

This is a ministry that everyone in our congregations and community is welcome to participate in. Make plans to join us and you're welcome to bring a friend!

THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

John E. Charnock, DMin, BBC

Pastoral Care Week is a time to celebrate the ministry of spiritual caregivers everywhere. This year's theme is "Supportive Presence." How comforting it is to experience God's grace through the supportive presence of pastors, chaplains, Eucharistic ministers, volunteers and others who extend mercy to those in need.

In observance of this special week, the Pastoral Care Department of Susquehanna Health invites Pastors and Caregivers to visit the clergy lounge of the Williamsport Hospital on any morning from October 26 to 30, between 9 and 11 AM. Come and share fellowship, encouragement, and refreshment with old and new friends and colleagues. In addition, you are invited to participate in a Pastoral Care Service of Blessing offered each morning during that week at 10 AM in the hospital chapel. Please contact Jackie Perchinski, our secretary (321-2215), with any questions.

Supportive presence is something good caregivers freely

offer to those entrusted to their care. Pastoral Care Week is a wonderful opportunity for us to support each other with our presence, prayers and collegial support. I hope to see you during this year's celebration.

POVERTY - A FAITH-BASED RESPONSE*

from our Christian Social Concerns Committee

"For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many." (Mark 10:45)

Whom are we serving in our families, churches, communities, nation, and world? How much are we willing to give?

Lycoming County Unemployment Rate Remains High:

The preliminary rate of unemployment for Lycoming County (Williamsport Metropolitan Statistical Area) for August 2009 was 9.0%. This was the same rate as July and 3.3% higher than a year earlier.

Global Poverty: Working Poor Left Out of Any Recovery:

Ban Kimoon, UN Secretary General said recently – "It is not the chronic poor who are most affected (by current economic collapse), but the working poor whose lives had improved significantly over the past decade."

- 222 million workers worldwide run the risk of joining the ranks of the working poor, earning less than \$1.25 a day (source: International Labor Org.)
- Remittance flows – money sent home by workers will drop by 7.3 percent in 2009 thus spreading the hardship (source: World Bank)
- Hunger rates are up in every region of the world (source: Food and Agriculture Organization)
- Worldwide poverty will increase by 100 million to 1.3 billion people

Rich Countries Fall Short in Relieving Global Hunger:

In July 2009 at the G8 meeting in Italy, the heads of the eight richest countries pledged an additional \$20 billion over the next three years to reduce food insecurity (hunger) in the world. The deepening global economic crisis outpaces the amounts pledged. More importantly the G8 has to change policies that favor those who have the most toward more equitable policies that serve the common good. (More resources: www.coc.org/node/6008) *"For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve..."*

Global Poverty Relief and Systemic Changes Needed

Examples of food relief and justice programs include:

Bread for the World www.bread.org

Catholic Relief Services www.crs.org

Oxfam www.oxfamamerica.org

United Nations World Food Programme www.wfp.org

World Vision www.worldvision.org

Church World Service/CROP - www.cws.org

SHEPHERD OF THE STREETS*

J. Morris Smith, Th. D.,
Contact at: 322-8568

THE LOVE OF GOD IN THE WRITINGS OF JOHN

In John, *agape* (the attitude, power, and essence of God) is presented in three ways to describe the mutual affection that we call LOVE. (1) The love of the Father for the disciples which moves Him to adopt them as His own children (1 Jn. 3:1), (2) the love of Jesus for the disciples that moves Him to lay down His life for them (Jn. 13:1, 1 Jn. 3:16); the greatest proof of love (Jn. 3:16), and (3) God is *agape* and without love one cannot know Him. (1 Jn. 4:8,16).

This love of God in and through Christ Jesus, demands a response on our part. This response is not a mere profession in faith, but must be demonstrated as genuine through deeds (1 Jn. 3:18) even as the Father demonstrated it in sending His Son to deliver us from sin (Jn. 3:16). We demonstrate this love in two ways: keeping the word of Jesus and keeping the commands of Jesus. (Jn. 14:15, 21, 23; 15:10; 1 Jn. 2:5, 5:3).

Keeping His word means “doing” His word both in our person and on our journey. In our person we demonstrate love by the very power of love working within us. “We love because He first loved us” (1 Jn. 4:19) for we have acknowledged that in Jesus His Son we have come to recognize, understand, and know God’s love. We believe it...it becomes the vital part of us in the same way that “God is love and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him.” (1 Jn. 4:19)

John declares that in this way this love “is brought to perfection in and among us” and so we are to live in this world. (1 Jn. 2:15; 4:17) Our journey through this world is a pilgrimage of love. We do not fear living in this world for we do not live by this world’s standards (1 Jn. 4:18).

Our life here is a demonstration, a re-enactment of our Lord’s life in this world. With God’s love shaping us and molding us in the renewed image and likeness of God, sealed by the Holy spirit of love, (Jn. 17:23, 26) we live by the one great commandment of Jesus: “Love one another as I have loved you.” (Jn. 13:34-35) This brings us into unity with one another, demonstrating the one body of Christ.

Living by this command demonstrates the charity we have with one another and in and through this charity we prove God’s love in us. “If anyone says, ‘I love God’, but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen... whoever loves God must also love his brother.” (1 Jn. 4:20-21)

The way we come to know this love that God desires to perfect in us, is to “lay down our lives” as Jesus laid down His in the love of the Father (1 Jn. 3:16). John then explains how we lay down our lives: “If some who has worldly means

sees a brother in need and refuses him compassion, how can the love of God remain in him? Children, let us love not in word and speech but in deed and truth. This is how we know that we belong to the truth.” (1 Jn. 3:17-19)

We continue to need hygiene items, bedding, baby supplies, and finances to assist the poor with basic necessities that have become extraordinary needs.

Items for Babies:

<i>baby diapers in all sizes</i>	<i>baby powder</i>
<i>baby oil</i>	<i>baby shampoo,</i>

Items for Men and/or Women... ***All in regular sizes***

<i>deodorant</i>	<i>shampoo</i>
<i>razors</i>	<i>shaving cream</i>
<i>toothpaste</i>	<i>toothbrushes</i>
<i>soap</i>	<i>feminine products</i>
<i>Kleenex</i>	<i>toilet tissue</i>
<i>paper towels</i>	<i>bath towels</i>
<i>wash cloths</i>	

Many churches have a “Shepherd box” in the foyer to collect such items - - others have special drives through the church or auxiliary groups.

We also have a Shepherd Kiosk that is available to place in your church for several weeks or a month if you would like to especially focus on the Shepherd ministry.

CLASSIFIEDS*

Volunteer Administrator Needed: St. Anthony’s Free Medical Clinic has an immediate need for a volunteer Administrator of the clinic. The Clinic is run by an all-volunteer staff of doctors, nurses and secretaries. It is open on Monday evenings at 7 p.m., Wednesdays at 11 a.m., and on the first Thursday of every month at 11 a.m. for physicals. Call Sister Suzanne at Divine Providence Hospital at (570) 326-8181 if interested in this position. (Leave a voice mail if she is not available).

"HUNGER AWARENESS MONTHS"*

People of all ages, races, and faiths - from all parts of Lycoming County - will again work especially hard in October and November to increase their awareness, prayer, action and advocacy regarding hunger and poverty in our communities, nation and the world. Special events in our county began with CROP Walks on October 11 and will end with the Shepherd/Food Pantry Thanksgiving Basket Collection. But all year long we reach out to help those who are hungry.

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Dr. J. Morris Smith - 322-6538

Ms. Gail Burkhardt - 322-1657 or 322-5234

It's an opportunity
to serve others
by providing a
Thanksgiving Basket

The holiday season will soon be here. Plans are underway to provide a complete Thanksgiving Basket to hundreds of families in our area who would otherwise miss the blessing of this festive dinner. For this to happen we need the support of the community. Contributions of time, food and financial aid will make this project a success. Volunteers are needed to receive food and fill boxes on Nov. 23rd and finally to distribute the baskets of food on Nov. 24th.

Food items to supplement the basic package for larger families and to provide after the holiday meals are also needed. These items will be received at The Center, 600 Campbell Street, Williamsport, on Monday, November 23rd from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We'll need items like:

Canned Juices	Pasta Sauce and Pastas and Rice
Canned Fruit	Peanut Butter & Jelly
Canned Vegetables	Canned Soup - Dry Mix for Soup
Cereal	Baby Food and Formula
Bisquick	Cake Mixes - Frosting Mixes

Each Thanksgiving Basket will have approximately 25 to 28 pounds of food for each family and will cost at least \$30. Cash support of \$9,000 will supply the food for the basic holiday meals to over 300 families in our community. Please help in whatever way your heart directs you. Financial donations should be sent to the Shepherd of the Streets Ministry, marked Thanksgiving Basket Fund, 202 East Third Street, Williamsport, PA 17701. For more information or to volunteer services call the numbers above.

Global Barnyard: St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Quiggleville has a farm in Africa. Every year we add animals to the farm. Through ELCA World Hunger (you could go through The Heifer Project or similar organizations) we buy goats, pigs and chicken that are given to individuals and families in developing countries. The animals reproduce and can be a sustainable source of income - A gift that multiplies. In 2008 St. Michael's people gave 12 goats, 7 pigs, and 441 and a half chickens.

Hunger 101: Students of United Campus Ministry at Penn College have invited students of surrounding colleges for a hunger simulation this November. Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in PA provides this roll play using our state statistics. Students will experience the struggle of families in various life situations (unemployed, under-employed, low income) to make ends meet. They will also share a meal reflecting the worldwide inequality of food, some eating a decent meal, while others have a bowl of rice.

FOOD PANTRY *

Gail Burkhardt, Coordinator 322-1657

Our United Churches Food Pantry provides a three day supply of food to those in need. This September we helped 235 adults, 152 children, and 112 elderly, for a total of 499 persons in 171 households.

As the weather turns colder and the days grow longer, our needs increase. We've been blessed by some mild days, but that is all coming to an end... abruptly! Children are involved in many activities, adults are on the run between extra jobs, chauffeuring children, and generally getting our homes ready for the upcoming winter and all that translates to being hungry more often. It's particularly difficult to find the extra few cents for food to donate when your family is your top priority, but just an extra box of hamburger helper, or a can of corn or a small box of sugar for the pantry makes a huge difference in the lives of the clients we serve.

Remember that our blessed Lord was all about us taking care of each other. He knows it's hard but He will bless us all if we heed His teachings and that's a promise that you can count on! Thanks for your help, it's important to us and we pray in thanks and praise for each one of you, clients and donors alike. We need the usual staple items:

spaghetti sauce	chunky soups
oodles-of-noodles	canned fruits
canned fruit	hamburg and tuna helpers
tea and coffee	powdered drink mixes
elbow macaroni	canned pasta products
pasta	sugar and flour

We also need **clean plastic bags!**

Your donations are best brought Monday mornings from 9:30 - Noon. Persons needing food should call and leave their name and number on the answering machine to make an appointment to receive food on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 - 3 and at other times by appointment.

EDUCATIONAL EVENTS IN OUR COUNTY *

Lectures at Holy Cross Orthodox Church this fall: Lectures. On Monday, Oct. 19: Mother Christophora "The Angelic Life" and on Monday, Oct. 26: Fr. Thomas Hopko "From Byzantium to Brooklyn". Lectures begin at 7 p.m. in the church. A free-will offering will be received. Refreshments will follow in the Orthodox Fellowship Center. For more information call (570) 322-3020 or visit www.holycrosswilliamsport.org.

Family Violence in Rural PA: "When you're out on a farm at night, there's no one to hear you scream. And there's nowhere to go except out on a dark road..." These are words of a battered woman from one of Pennsylvania's rural communities. They capture the woman's feelings of desperation and helplessness that often come with being a victim of domestic violence living in rural Pennsylvania. As clergy, you may be in a position to link members of your religious community who are being battered, women and men alike to your local domestic violence program. Wise Options and Diakon Family Life Services are offering a workshop on Thursday October 29th from 9-11:30 a.m. at Church of the Savior, Lutheran in Williamsport. The workshop will be presented by Tracy Mariano, Community Awareness Educator for Wise Options and will focus on the basics of Domestic Violence and how you can help. For registration information please contact Debbie Best at, bestd@diakon.org or 322-0520. The cost is \$10.

Woman's Day Retreat: Pine Street United Methodist Church, 441 Pine Street, Williamsport, will be holding the 2009 Woman's Day Retreat on Saturday, November 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The day includes two inspirational sessions led by Brenda Gay (founder and Executive Director of Designs for Living Ministries) and a testimony by Allison Richardson (Director of Outreach), worship, and reflection times. In addition to the retreat messages you will be treated to a lite breakfast and a delicious lunch. The cost for the retreat is \$20 per person and includes special gifts just for you. Reserve your seat by Oct. 10, 2009. Make checks payable to Pine Street UMC (memo: Women's Retreat). For details call 570-323-4604.

Pennsylvania Pastor's Conference 2009 will be held November 9-11 at the Four Points Sheraton in Harrisburg. The theme of the conference is "*Living in Our Particular Wilderness: Being Healthy Leaders for Healthy Churches*". Being a leader today, when all the rules seem to have changed, require us to be grounded in our faith, comfortable with ourselves, and aware of how much of the turmoil around us is normal and what is not. The Rev. Dr. Gilbert R. Rendel will help us learn practical ways that will affect our decisions and leadership.

Many pastors, seminarians, retirees, spouses and church leaders are expected to attend, and I hope you will be one of them! This is one of the best continuing education events for pastors and church leaders in Pennsylvania. More information is available online at www.pachurches.org or you can pick up a brochure at United Churches. A number of people plan to attend from our area if you would like to travel together or share lodging.

CAMPUS MINISTRY *

Sharon Comini, Coordinator,

Contact at: 419-5376 or ucm@ucl.org

It's hard to believe that midterm exams are here. The students are planning their Fall Mission Weekend on October 16. We will be working at the Food Pantry and at Yokefellow Prison Ministry helping out wherever we are needed. We are also hosting a Hunger 101 event on November 14 from 2:00 pm-7:00 pm. This event will be run by LAAMPA and will be held at Penn's Inn. If anyone is interested in attending this simulated hunger event, please let me know. Looking ahead, we will be handing out study bags for the students on Dec. 4. Any churches wishing to make study bags for the students will need to have them ready by November 30. I will be happy to come by your church and pick them up. Our spring break mission trip is planned for March 6-12, 2010. We will be working on housing projects for churches in either western Pennsylvania or West Virginia.

I had recently met with the Chief Academic Affairs officer at the college, and they are taking steps to have the ministries on campus to be a more formal part of the campus. This is very encouraging news. I will keep you posted on the progress we make. It will be interesting to see how God works in this partnership endeavor.

Tom Ask, one of our college advisers, is on sabbatical in Malaysia, working on his doctorate. We are in need of another adviser. If you are a full time member of the faculty at Penn College and would like to be part of this ministry, please contact Sharon or Judy Shimp at jshimp@pct.edu. Duties would include meeting with students, being available to sign forms, and accompanying students on trips.

We are always willing to come to your congregation and share what United Campus Ministry is all about. Please keep the students at Penn College in your prayers as they continue in their studies this semester.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY*

Needlework Guild of America: The Newberry Branch of NGA needs items to sell at their yard sale on Sat. Oct. 24 from 8 - 1 at St. John's-Newberry United Methodist Church. Last year the Branch served over 500 named persons through the Wmspt. School District, the Salvation Army, and Lycoming Head Start. Others were served through United Churches of Lycoming County and Joinder Services (Lyc. County Children and Youth). If you have any items to donate please contact Deb Buckman, 323-1707 or dbuckman@pct.edu. If your church or organization would like to get involved with NGA in any way, including having a speaker for a function, contact Deb.

Operation Christmas Child: Samaritan's Purse reaches hurting and needy children worldwide through a shoe box filled with toys, clothing, personal hygiene items and school supplies specific to the age of the child. Complete instructions and labels can be found at www.samaritanpurse.org. The Lycoming County drop off point for you gift filled shoe box is Pine Street United Methodist Church, 441 Pine Street, Wmspt. The collection will take place 11/16 to 11/23. Drop-off hours are: Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Tuesday 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and Tuesday evening 6 - 8:30, Friday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m, Saturday, Noon - 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 - 5 p.m. Please use the door at the north west corner of the church facing the parking lot. For more information, supplies or shoe boxes contact Betty Lou Wheeland at 570-326-3685.

YOKEFELLOW NEWS

Evadna Cline, Director, Yokefellow Center - 326-6868

COME WITH ME TO PRISON! If you could walk with me into the prisons where our volunteers go to lead Yokefellow Small Group Discussions, you'd know what I mean when I say, "The Yokefellow ministry is being used of God to bring new life to the discouraged, the searching, and the confused. Truly Christ is honored in this ministry of love and caring, confronting and challenging.

I was talking to one of our volunteers within the past month. He related a story of another volunteer taking a man aside who had been out of jail and now had returned. The volunteer told the young man that 'his actions were inexcusable, and that he needed to get his act together'.

Allow me to tell you a few brief encounters with the men and women you could meet in the jails and prisons:

- **Mike** is a young man who will never see the light of the outside world beyond the razor wire of the institution which is now his home. He is in for "life and no parole". He is quiet, soft spoken and a light engulfs his face as he tells us, "My mission is to encourage these young fellows

who come here. Christ is my teacher and I am trying to help others face the challenges of this place. The Yokefellow Ministry is a real help to us. Thanks for coming."

- **JOE** is in his late fifties. He has come to a Yokefellow meeting because they told him in the block if this meeting can't help you...nothing can". His story—he was recently seen by a physician and diagnosed with possible throat cancer. The group stops the discussion to give encouragement, listen to his fears, and then pray with him. He seemed more relaxed after this experience.
- **Joan** is a beautiful young woman in her twenties. Yet her dark eyes reveal an acquaintance with the dark and evil side of life that testifies to a disturbing past. In a small circle of sharing she quietly tells of a rape by her father when she was little, beatings by a mother addicted to alcohol and men, an escape from home only to be caught up in prostitution, drug addiction and other crimes. In prison and in Yokefellow Ministry she came to see how she was a victim of others, circumstances, and a past she did not know how to escape. Yokefellow volunteers who come weekly soon showed her the way to freedom from guilt, rage, fear and poor self-image. Now she glows with an inner peace that has come to her heart by the Holy Spirit—shared by those who cared enough to come. She may spend several years of her life here, but she knows the One who gives life abundant.

Of course these stories depict examples that are repeated thousands of times over. Our ministry is centered within Pennsylvania and a few surrounding states but the work of our 50 plus volunteers is reaching the souls of those who come into our groups. We have within the last month started a new ministry in the Elmira State Prison with a small cadre of 14 men in attendance. However, the outreach of those 14 men will go throughout the walls of that large institution and reach into the world as those men complete their time and go back to family and community, transformed.

Our desire is to simply keep on creating the kind of "fellowship" that embodies Christian love and caring in the prisons of Lycoming County and surrounding areas.

So, won't you come with us to prison; Come with us in your prayers, your encouragement of those of your churches who serve as volunteers, and your gifts. Volunteers are in need of resources and Bibles, and there are training events with price tags attached, in addition to ways of encouraging those who sometimes feel overburdened. Please pray asking God for guidance as to where He is calling you to serve. If you have any questions about our work, and how you could get involved, please call the office at 326-6868.

SPECIAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR COUNTY *

Festival of Trees: The Salvation Army would like to invite the churches' musical groups in our area; choirs, children's choirs, etc., to participate in this year's "Festival of Trees" by performing at the Lycoming Mall near the display of Christmas Trees between November 23rd and December 10th.

Area businesses and organizations have decorated Christmas trees which will be on display at the Mall and then auctioned on Friday, December 11, 2009 at 7pm. This would be a wonderful opportunity for area churches to minister to the public through the music of their church. To schedule a time for your musical group to perform or for more information please call Marie Harris at 326-9187 ext. 109.

Habitat for Humanity annual Pork and Saurkraut Dinner will be held Thursday, October 15 from 4-7 p.m. at St. Joseph the Worker Parish Fleming Center, 720 West Fourth Street. Donation - \$7 adults, Age 10 and under \$3.

Icon to visit Holy Cross Church: The Miracle-Working Icon, "She Who is Quick to Hear" from historic St. Tikhon's Monastery will visit Holy Cross Church, accompanied by His Grace Bishop TIKHON, who will lead the singing of the Akathist Hymn to the Mother of God. The visit will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m. At the conclusion of the service, all are invited to venerate this ancient icon and be anointed with holy oil for healing, following the scriptural mandate of James 5:14. Refreshments will follow in the Orthodox Fellowship Center (adjacent to the church) hosted by the Holy Cross Auxiliary. Come, be spiritually refreshed through the intercessions of the Most Holy Mother of God. All are welcome!

In His Presence: Twenty-four Hour set apart for Worship is being sponsored by West Branch Healing House and the New Testament Fellowship. It will be held at City Church, 36 East Fourth Street, Williamsport from 7 a.m. Saturday, October 31 to 7 a.m. Sunday, November 1. Led by worship teams from Williamsport and Central Pennsylvania it is a time for all who are or desire to become passionate in their love for Jesus. Contact Tina McCloy, 570-753-5624 or tmccloyperfectinsight@yahoo.com or call 570-995-5620.

Fun All DayY-Teen Program: The Williamsport YMCA is sponsoring a F.A.D. Fun All Day program from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., Monday thru Friday, for ages 10-16. The fee is \$20 per month and scholarships are available. Participants will enjoy their afternoon in a safe, supervised, and supportive setting. Activities include homework assistance, roller skating, movie days, health and wellness activities, group games, service learning projects, teen

leadership, and more! For more information call (570) 323-7134 ext. 41 or ext. 28.

Barlow Girl and Superchick LIVE Tour with special guest VOTA will be at the YMCA Picklener Arena on Friday, Nov. 6 at 7 p.m.

Barlow Girl is an all girl band made up of three sisters; Rebecca, Alyssa and Lauren Barlow. They were the backup band for their dad. During one concert Lauren, who was the keyboard player at the time, caught sight of a drum set, fell in love... and so a drummer was born. Soon after that the girls began experimenting with song writing and ... now they've had their own band for 3 ½ years. Their parents are now their managers.

Their songs are often focused on pier relationships and God's love for them as they grow to respect themselves and each other. Many songs can be purchased with a devotional guide for use individually or with groups.

Superchick is a Chicago-based group comprised of sisters Tricia and Melicia Brock, with Matt Dally, Dave Ghazarian and Max Hsu. They have sold upwards of 700,000 albums and their songs have been heard in more than 70 films, television and video games. Their latest release, "Rock What You Got, has been their highest ever first week sales. It also received a 2009 GRAMMY nomination for Best Rock Or Rap Gospel Album and produced the Top 5 radio hit "Hold".

VOTA is a Christian rock band from Lincoln Nebraska. Their song "Hard to Believe" was listed at #17 on R&R's May 2, 2009 weekly chart for the United States.

There is a group discount of \$3 off each ticket when 10+ reserved seats (\$15 seats only) are purchased. VIP seats are available for \$25 and will include an early meet and greet with the three bands at 6 p.m. Youth groups will enjoy a fantastic evening together. For tickets or more information contact www.williamsportymca.org or 1-888-718-4253, for more information call (570) 323-7134.

Christian Youth Awareness Day: A companion event to the above concert will be held Saturday, Nov 7 beginning with a food drive to benefit the Central PA Food Bank at noon outside the Picklener Arena. Then from 5 - 10 pm. there will be five hours of popular local and regional Christian rock music, ministry, motivational speakers, vendors and educational booths and concession stands. The MC will be Insane Eric Lane. Music will be from Rap Artist Thaddeus Davis of Muncy, The Pledge - a Rock Band from Lock Haven, My Heart to Fear - a Band from Williamsport, and An Early Ending - a Band from Lancaster. Brian Neal's story has changed the lives of many, so you'll want to be sure to be there. The cost is \$10. Tickets are available from the YMCA. For details call Lance Ricci, 570-220-2269.

WHAT TO DO WHEN PERSONS NEED HELP

NEEDS	AGENCIES (Revised October 2009)	PHONE
1. When persons need a free <i>hot meal</i>	A. <u>St. Anthony Center</u> , 125 E Willow St., Wmspt., Noon - 1 Weekdays B. <u>ARW "Love Center"</u> , 115 Howard St, J. S. 11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Mon. - Fri. C. <u>Sojourner Truth Ministries</u> , 501 High St. (side entrance, Wmspt., Hot Meal Light Breakfast & Hot Lunch: Monday through Saturday 8:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. Day old Bread is available on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. D. <u>Antioch Baptist Church</u> , 514 High St. - side entrance - Williamsport Breakfast 8:00-9:30 a.m. Lunch: Noon - 12:30 p.m. Weekdays E. <u>Senior Center Lunches</u> six sites throughout county for people over 60	326-2244 398-1551 323-1797 323-2425 323-3096
2. When persons need supplies of additional <i>food</i> <i>No appointments needed unless noted.</i>	A. <u>United Churches Food Pantry</u> , 501 High St. (side entrance) Wmspt. 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. (by appointment) B. <u>Salvation Army</u> , 457 Market Street, Williamsport 9:30 -11:30 a.m. and 1:00-2:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday C. <u>American Rescue Workers</u> , 643 Elmira St, Wmspt. M-Th 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. D. <u>ARW "Love Center"</u> , 115 Howard St, J.S. 9-11:45 a.m., 1-3 p.m. M-Th. E. <u>Sonlight House</u> , 130 Carpenter Street, Muncy (Call to place order) 10 a.m. - 12. Wednesdays, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Thursdays every other week F. <u>SHARE Discount Food Purchasing Program</u> - anyone may participate Order/pay 1 st week of the month. Food Stamps are accepted. Pick-up 4 th Sat. G. <u>WIC Program</u> 612 W. 4 th St, Wmspt. Initial appointment needed. No emergencies (For pregnant, postpartum & breast feeding women, and for children up to age 5. H. <u>Antioch Baptist Church Pantry</u> , 514 High St., Wmspt, Weekdays 9:30:-11:30 I. <u>Fairlawn Community Church</u> , 353 Pleasant Hill Road, Cogan Station 1 - 3:30 p.m. the first four Thursdays of each month. (Call first) J. <u>Footprints</u> 50 E Houston Ave.. Montgomery (<i>Call for emergency appointment</i>) 12-1:30 p.m. the 3 rd Thursday of each month. (Limited to Montgomery School District) K. <u>Meals on Wheels</u> , Office of the Aging, 2138 Lincoln St., Wmspt. Weekdays 9:00 a.m.-5 p.m. (<i>Assessments needed - must be homebound and 60+</i>)	322-1657 326-9187 323-8401 398-1551 546-3585 322-5234 322-7656 323-2425 494-0414 547-1170 323-3096
3. When persons need <i>clothing</i> ...	A. <u>St. Anthony Center</u> , 125 E Willow St., Wmspt. Tues. & Thurs. 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. B. <u>American Rescue Workers Thrift Store</u> , 141 S. Main Street, J. Shore 9 -5 Monday - Friday, 9-4 Saturday (Items have a minimal cost) C. <u>American Rescue Workers Thrift Store</u> , 335 Rose St., Williamsport (no vouchers) 9 am - 7 p.m. Monday.-Friday., 9am - 4pm Sat. (Items have a minimal cost) D. <u>American Rescue Workers Thrift Store</u> , 643 Elmira Street, Williamsport. Weekdays 9am -5pm , Sat 9 am-4pm (Items have a minimal cost) E. <u>Sonlight House</u> Wednesdays 10 a.m.- Noon, Thursdays 6-7:30 p.m. biweekly F. <u>Kids Clothes Closet</u> Grace UMC, 324 Campbell St., Wmspt., 1 st and 3 rd Thursdays 3:30-5 p.m. G. <u>Sojourner Truth Ministries</u> , 501 High Street,(side entrance) Williamsport The Rusty Hanger (Adult Clothes) 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Mon., Wed., Fri. H. <u>Salvation Army Store</u> , 25 W 4 th , Wmspt. Mon.- Thurs. 9:30 - 4:30, Fri 9:30 - 3 and 530 Lyc. Mall Drive, Pennsdale M-F 9:30-6, Sat 9:00 - 5 I. <u>Faxon Kenmar Becht Center Thrift Store</u> , 1225 Clayton Ave, Wmspt, Fri. 9-4, Sat. 9-12:30 or by appointment, also household items, referrals to pastor accepted J. <u>Daniel's Closet</u> , Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1101 Washington Blvd, Wmspt., Free Clothing for Children and Adults. 9-11 a.m. 4th Saturdays monthly K. <u>West End Christian Community Center</u> , 901 Diamond St., Wmspt. (Nominal fee) Wednesdays 4:30 - 7 p.m., Saturday 8:30 a.m. - Noon Vouchers available	326-2244 398-4311 323-7321 323-8401 546-3585 323-1797 323-1797 327-3035 546-5509 323-7272 322-2333 323-6297

NEEDS	AGENCIES	PHONE
4. When persons need emergency fuel assistance....	A. <u>Department of Welfare (LIHEAP, Regular and Crisis Programs)</u> 400 Little League Blvd, Wmspt 8:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. weekdays B. <u>United Churches Fuel Bank</u> Administered by STEP 9:00 -5:00 weekdays (Person must have applied for State Funding) C. <u>STEP Office of the Aging</u> For persons over 60 years old 2138 Lincoln Street, Wmspt. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. weekdays D. <u>STEP Outreach Office</u> 2138 Lincoln Street, Wmspt. 9:00 -5:00 weekdays	327-3497 327-5485 323-3096 327-5485
5. When persons need furniture...	A <u>Sonlight House</u> 130 Carpenter Street, Muncy (<i>When available</i>) 10-12 Wed., 6-7:30 p.m. Thurs. Open every other week by appointment B. <u>St. Anthony Center</u> 125 E Willow St., Wmspt. (<i>Limited</i>) C. <u>American Rescue Workers Store</u> , 643 Elmira St, Wmspt. Monday - Friday 9-4 D. <u>Salvation Army</u> , 530 Lyc. Mall Dr., Pennsdale M-F 9:30-6, Sat 9:30-5 (vouchers)	546-3585 326-2244 323-8401 546-5509
6. When persons need utilities assistance....	A. <u>STEP (Limited)</u> 2138 Lincoln St. 9 - 5 weekdays (Cap for gas) B. <u>PG Energy</u> program (Must be on a payment plan) 1-800- C. <u>PP&L-CARE</u> (electric) (Must be on a payment plan) 8-5 weekdays 1-800- D. <u>Salvation Army</u> , 457 Market Street (<i>By appointment only</i>) E. <u>Consumer Credit Counseling Svs.of NE PA</u> , 201 Basin St. Suite 6, Wmspt. Mediation - advocacy - budgeting M, T, W & F, 8:30-4:30, Th. 11-7, Sat. by appointment 1-800- F. <u>American Rescue Workers</u> , 643 Elmira St, Wmspt Fridays - 9-4 by appointment G. <u>ARW "Love Center"</u> , 115 Howard St, Jersey Shore, 9-3 Weekdays H. <u>Shepherd of the Street</u> , 669 Center St, Wmspt. 9-12, 1-3 Weekdays	327-5485 820-8620 342-5775 326-9187 323-6627 922-9537 323-8401 x 12 398-1551 322-6538
7. When persons need medical help....	A. <u>St. Anthony Free Clinic</u> , 125 E Willow St., Wmspt 7-8:30 p.m. Mon., and 11-12:30 Wed.; Physicals (<i>appointment needed</i>) on the 1 st Thursdays 11:30 - 1 B. <u>Susquehanna Health System-Community Health Center</u> , 471 Hepburn Street Mon-Fri - 8-11:30, 1-4:30. appointments required C. <u>SHS Community Dental Clinic</u> 469 Hepburn Street, Hepburn Plaza, 7:45 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. (Accepts medical assistance) Appointments required D. <u>Healthy Kids Help-Line</u> Medical info and help for uninsured children 1-800- E. <u>Healthy Baby Help-Line</u> for infants and pre-natal 1-800- F. <u>Adult Health Insurance</u> information/referral or basic insurance 1-800- G. <u>Lead Information Line</u> 1-800- H. <u>Bi County Office of the Aging</u> , 2138 Lincoln St, In home services and referral for elderly I. Hepatitis Testing and Care - Susquehanna Health System - Call for information J. <u>Pennsylvania Department of Health</u> , 1000 Commerce Park Drive K. <u>Hearing Aids</u> Lions Club International Hearing Pgm. Art Girio	326-2566 567-5400 567-5430 986-KIDS 986-2229 462-2742 440-5323 323-3096 321-1000 327-3400 326-1793
8. When persons need prescriptions...	A. <u>American Rescue Workers</u> 643 Elmira St, 9-4 M-F (<i>Limited</i>) B. <u>Salvation Army</u> 457 Market Street, (<i>Limited</i>) Appointments necessary C. <u>Shepherd of the Street</u> , 669 Center St, Wmspt. 9-12, 1-3 Weekdays D. <u>Williamsport Hospital Social Services Dept.</u> , \$20/year on SHS Prescriptions if available	323-8401 326-9187 322-6538 321-2151
9. When persons face HIV/AIDS	A. <u>AIDS Resource</u> , 500 W 3 rd St, Wmspt. 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Weekdays (Support services for those infected and affected with HIV or AIDS)	322-8448

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10. When persons need transportation	A. <u>American Rescue Workers</u> , 643 Elmira St, Wmspt. Emergencies only (By appointment) B. <u>STEP Transportation</u> (Step Van) 1-800-222-2468 or C. <u>Shepherd of the Streets</u> , 669 Center St., Wmspt, 9-12, 1-3 Weekdays D. <u>Bi County Office of the Aging</u> , 2138 Lincoln St, Free bus pass for seniors 60-64 E. <u>American Cancer Society</u> , Road to Recovery Program 1-800	323-8401 323-7575 322-6538 323-3096 ACS-2345
11. When persons have serious drug & alcohol problems....	A. <u>West Branch Drug and Alcohol Abuse & Tobacco Addiction Commission</u> Case Management Unit, 213 W. 4 th St., Wmspt 7:30 - 4 M-F (call anytime) B. <u>Psychological Services</u> (Outpatient therapy only) Bloomsburg 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Weekdays C: <u>Alcoholics Anonymous - District 48</u> PO Box 303, Williamsport 17701 D. <u>AlAnon and AlaTeen</u> 1-800- E. <u>Narcotics Anonymous</u> , PO Box 1161, Williamsport 17701 F. <u>Alcohol and Drug 24 Hour Referral Line</u> 1-800-	323-8543 389-1249 327-2860 344-2666 327-2678 821-4357
12. When persons need rent... (all services extremely limited)	A. <u>American Rescue Workers</u> Fridays 9-4 (families a priority) By Appointment B. <u>STEP Outreach</u> , 2138 Lincoln St, 9-5 weekdays (Must have eviction notice) C. <u>Dept. Of Welfare Emergency Housing Funds</u> 8-5 Weekdays 400 Little League Boulevard, Wmspt. 1-877- D. <u>ARW Love Center</u> , 115 Howard St, JS, 9-3 weekdays by appointment Priority: families	323-8401 327-5485 327-3300 867-4014 398-1551
13. When persons need jobs or Employment Skills and Services...	A. <u>Career Link Lycoming and Vetrans Services</u> , 145 W 3 rd St. Wmspt. M, T Th, F. 8:30-4:30, W 8:30 - 7 B. <u>Counseling/Career Disability Svs</u> Penn College, 1 College Ave., Wmspt. 8-4:30 Weekday C. <u>Office of Vocational Rehabilitation</u> (for eligible persons with disabilities) 208 West Third St. - Suite 102 8 am. - 4:30 p.m. Weekdays E. <u>Experience Works</u> , 903 Diamond St. Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	601-5465 327-4765 327-3600 321-5811
14. When persons have a specific need...	A. <u>Linkage Lycoming</u> 2138 Lincoln St., (Information & Referral/Clearinghouse/ Telephone Reassurance Cathy Stopper B. <u>Crisis Hotline</u> 24 hour National Crisis Service 1-800 C. <u>Special Kids Network & Parent to Parent Information and Referral.</u> Help for kids with disability/health conditions State office, Harrisburg 1-800 D. <u>STEP Inc.</u> 2138 Lincoln St, PO Box 3568, Day Care / Head Start, Weatherization, Training Programs. E. <u>STEP Inc.</u> 2138 Lincoln St, Funded Child Care. F. <u>Center for Independent Living</u> 210 Market St. Suite A. Serves disabled, M-F 8-4:30 G. <u>North Penn Legal Svs</u> 329 Market St, Wmspt. 8:30 - 4:30 Weekdays Civil cases only. Eligibility based on income and household size. H. <u>Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Hotline/Shelter</u> - 815 W 4th St. Wmspt. For victims of crimes - in crisis - With transient services for Women and Children 1-800 I. <u>Pregnancy Care Center</u> 854 W 3 rd St (Counseling. Care & Supplies) M & F - 10 am-5 pm, T & Th - 10 am-2 pm, 6-8 pm 24 hr hotline 1-800 J. <u>West End Christian Community Center</u> - Vouchers for diapers and formula 901 Diamond Street, Williamsport - call for appointment K. <u>Campbell St. Family, Youth and Community Assoc.</u> 600 Campbell St, Wmspt Recreational, financial, educational programs, for children-youth-adults-seniors L. <u>N.W.PA Optical Clinic</u> 909 Diamond St, Wmspt. Mon-Th 9-2 appointments preferred New prescription classes to low/moderate income persons, \$36 starting price M. <u>North Central Sight Services</u> 2121 Reach Road, Williamsport, Weekdays 9 - 4 Serves those with vision loss.	323-8555 601-9510 784-2433 986-4550 326-0587 601-9703 327-9070 323-8741 323-8167 326-8483 321-8240 395-HELP 323-6297 322-5515 601-3399 323-9401

NEEDS	AGENCIES	PHONE
15. When persons are <i>homeless</i> ...	A. <u>American Rescue Worker's Men's Shelter</u> 643 Elmira Street, Wmspt B. <u>YWCA</u> (single women only) - 815 W 4th St., Wmspt. C. <u>Liberty House</u> (women and children) 815 W 4 th St. Wmspt D. <u>Pregnancy Care Center at Providence House</u> 1100 Four Mile Dr Wmspt. (Short term care for pregnant women)	323-8401 322-4637 322-4637 322-8490
16. When persons are <i>mentally or emotionally disturbed & or suicidal</i> ...	A. <u>Lycoming/Clinton MH/MR and Children and Youth</u> (24 hr.) 200 East St Wmspt. B. <u>Catholic Social Services - Lycoming</u> 1201 Grampian Blvd, Suite 2G 9-5 Weekdays, evenings by appointment (Counseling/ Pregnancy & Adoption Svs) C. <u>Diakon Family Life Services</u> , (formerly Tressler) 435 W 4th St (by appointment) Monday - Thursday 8-8, Friday - 8-4. Family, Individual, Marital & Suicide Counseling D. ARW "Love Center", 115 Howard St, Jersey Shore (Counseling)	326-7895 322-4220 322-7873 398-1551
17. When persons need <i>pastoral care</i>	A. <u>Shepherd of the Streets Ministry</u> 669 Center Street, Wmspt. Weekdays, 9 a.m.-Noon and 1-3 p.m. (Both counseling and referral) B. <u>Sojourner Truth Ministries</u> , 501 High Street, Wmspt. 9-3 Weekdays	322-6538 323-1797
18. When <i>Veterans</i> need assistance	A. <u>The Vet Center</u> (Counseling, therapy & referrals) 805 Penn Street Weekdays 8-4:30 (Employment Services see 13-A.) B. <u>V A Medical Clinic</u> - Wenner Bld, 1705 Warren Ave Suite 304, Weekdays. 8-4:30 C. <u>Lycoming Cty Veterans Affairs</u> , 48 W 3 rd St, Suite 104, Don Cohick D. <u>American Legion Post #1</u> , 10 E 3 rd St.	327-5281 322-4791 327-2365 323-9409
19. Another Resource	A. <u>Lycoming County Health Improvement Coalition</u> : A comprehensive online listing of human resource providers in Lycoming County: www.lchic.org	323-0390

CREATION CORNER

from our *Christian Social Concerns Committee*

Faith and the Environment: Resources and News among new titles readers may be interested in are:

- A** • *Earth Gospel: A Guide to Prayer for God's Creation.* Sam Hamilton-Poore, Upper Room Books, www.Upper-Room.org/bookstore. Four weeks of daily prayer that support efforts to care for creation.
- *Everyday Justice: The Global Impact of Our Daily Choices.* Julie Clawson offers biblically based wisdom on living justly in our consumer society. InterVarsity Press (www.likewisebooks.com).
- *50 Ways to Help Save the Earth: How You and Your Church Can Make a Difference.* Rebecca Barnes-Davies, www.cokesbury.com. Tips & encouragement for responsible stewardship to honor creation's splendor.
- *The Holy Earth: Toward a New Environmental Ethic.* Liberty Hyde Bailey. A re-published the unabridged edition from 1915. Bailey is regarded by some as the father of American horticulture and helped set the stage for the ecology movement. www.doverpublications.com.
- *The Book of Green Quotations.* James Daley, ed. Hundreds of quotations by various people on a wide range of

subject. www.doverpublications.com.

- The first house of worship in the world to receive the United States Green Building Council's LEED Platinum (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)--the highest green certification--is the 31,600-square-foot Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation in Evanston, IL, as reported in the Sept./Oct. issue of E magazine (www.emagazine.com).

DIAL - A - DEVOTION *

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10/26-11/1 Rev. Gwen Bernstine 11/2-8 - Rev. Denesta Whaley
11/9-15 - Rev. Robert Lauer

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