

The Messenger

Volume 12, Issue 2

Hummel's United Methodist Church

February 2010

Devotions and Stories

Real Service

Ezekiel 36:26-28

The book *The Velveteen Rabbit* is a childhood favorite. In the story, a stuffed rabbit longs to become “real.” Only when a child truly loves the rabbit can this happen. And, finally, it does! The love of a child makes the toy “real.” Love changes everything for the rabbit. Love gives him purpose, give him life, makes him “real.”

The symbolism in *The Velveteen Rabbit* echoes today’s Scripture reading. Think about it! God’s love makes us real, too. It gives us life, real life, eternal life! And his love makes our service genuine.

Not once, not twice, but three times in the book of Ezekiel, God shares his promise of a “heart transplant.” (See Ezekiel 11:19 and 18:31) He pledges to remove hearts of stone and replace them with hearts of flesh.

Think about a heart made of stone. Is it real? Does it beat? Can it love? Would it genuinely serve others? Compare such a stony heart to a heart of flesh—a *real* heart. A *real* heart receives love from Jesus and loves him in return. A *real* heart acts as a channel, a conduit through which Jesus’ love flows into the lives of others. That kind of love genuinely serves in his name.

Jesus’ heart bled with compassion for us, even while we regarded him with stony in difference. But his cross, his forgiveness, has now melted our heart of stone. Now we can genuinely feel the pain of others. Now we can join in the glad laughter when others rejoice. We can love with *real* love. What gifts our God gives!

Prayer: Lord, thanks for your powerful love that makes me “real.” May I ever serve you and your people with a love that is genuine. Amen.



Feeling Left Out?



SMALL GROUPS

Join In

Have you been involved with a small group? Then invite someone who has not been. But if you don't receive an invitation, don't let that stop you from joining in! Small groups are beginning again! Check out your bulletin for times and places where you could join and then pick the one that is right for you. You will be welcomed and you will be blessed.

SCRAPBOOKING FELLOWSHIP

Do you like to scrapbook but just can't find the time? Make the time! A scrapbooking fellowship is now up and running right here at the church. We will be meeting the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. So, come out February 9th and 23rd at 7:00 and join us! This will give you the opportunity to share supplies as well. If you have questions see Hollie Johnson or Stephanie Beaver. Invite a friend!

YOUTH NEWS

Don't forget the weekly meetings on Sunday evenings with Scott Johnson and Kurt Smith. Every Sunday evening from 6:30 to 8:30. It's lots of fun! Just ask those who have been coming!

February 7th—Youth will stay after Sunday School and have lunch and then head to Sunbury for an afternoon of ice skating fun. There is no cost to you, but you may want to bring some money for snacks.

February 28th—Youth are invited to come to pizza/movie night. There will be a movie for Sr. High Youth and one for Jr. High youth. Please don't be shy! Bring a friend.



VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER

Bring your sweetheart and come on! Hummel's Family Fellowship will be having their annual Valentine's Day Dinner on Saturday, February 13th at 6:00 pm. Why wait in the lobby of a crowded restaurant? Come and fellowship. This event is for singles and marrieds! Hope to see there!



WALK THE WALK

"The more you sit, the more you want to sit. The more you move, the more you want to move."—Leslie Sansone. Motivation is the key to success in keeping fit. So, join us on Monday and Thursday evenings at 7:00 for a good time fellowshiping, getting in shape and SWEATING!

DON'T MISS THESE EVENTS!

- 2/1 and 2/15—Quilters Unlimited , 6:30
- 2/3—Rocket Club, 6:30-8:00 (kids ages 2-12)
- 2/4 Adult Choir Practice, 7:30
- 2/8 and 2/22—Prayer Team, 7:30 ALL are welcome

REMEMBER THESE SPECIAL SUNDAYS

- 2/7 Mission Sunday for Youth For Christ
- 2/14 New Church Building Fund
- 2/21 Food Donation Sunday
- 2/28 Bring a Friend Sunday

Happy Birthday to:

2/2 Randy Swineford	2/18 Sandy Arnold
2/3 Esther Kreider	2/19 Maddy Walter
2/5 Mervin Royer	2/20 Pat Mull
2/6 Woody Johnson	2/23 Joyce Bollinger
Andy Shockey	Dustin Smith
2/7 Brenda Arnold	2/24 Clint Snyder
2/9 Gene Stroup	2/27 Tony Dauberman
	Courtney Smith
2/10 Connor Harris	2/28 Lester Hoffer
Margie Snyder	Halee Shockey
2/11 Dylan Stevens	2/29 Travis Waite
2/13 Alvin Aikey	
David Britton	
2/14 Carol Keister	
Stacey Shockey	
2/16 Vince Greenaway	
David Keister	

Happy Anniversary to:

2/3 Willard & Arla Smith

2/14 Bryan & Pam Gill
 Merv & Sherry Hostetler

2/17 Kurt & Jennifer Smith

2/27 Dean & Suzy Smith



Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

—Romans 12:9-13

Please Pray for:

Pray for our Nursing Home Residents

Cathy Shrawder.....Bloomsburg
David Kratzer.....Nottingham Village
Betty Mitchell.....Penn Lutheran

In the care of family

Peg Gilbert

Please pray for our Shut ins

Scott Smith

**Recent Surgeries
& Procedures**

Wayne Smith
Margie Snyder
Gene Stroup

**Recent Hospital
Stays**

Betty Mitchell
Arla Smith
Wayne Smith
Margie Snyder

**Pray for our Extended
Family**

Rick Shipe
Ethel Stuck
Vance & Virginia Thompson
Warren C. Johnson
Mildred Shirk

Our College Students

Amy Bowersox — 147 Peach Tree Rd., Selinsgrove, PA 17842
Stephanie Brouse — 100 College Avenue, SMC #18, Williamsport, PA 17701
Brandon Craven — 959 Tame Deer Dr., Winfield, Pa 17889
Kim Dreese
Yvonne Herbster
Becky Hibbs — 928 One Club Parkway, Nashville, TN 37221
Zach Royer — 415 W. College Ave., College Park Apts., Apt 503, State College, PA 16802
Katie Stuck — Messiah College, Box 6233, One College Ave., Grantham, PA 17027
Amanda Waite

Please remember the many in our congregation who are going through tests, or having issues that have not required them to have a hospital stay or surgery.

Hummel's United Methodist Church

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...to proclaim the love of God to all people.

For poor and miserable as this life is,
we have, all of us, free access to all
that is great, and good, and happy and
carry within ourselves a key to all the
treasures that heaven has to bestow
upon us. —William Law

*Continue to transform my heart so that it
conforms more and more closely to the
contours of your own heart:*

Help me to love because you loved.

Help me to give because you gave.

*Help me to serve
because you loved,
you served
and you gave
yourself for me!*

Last Thoughts

On a clear, moonless night, about 3,000 stars are visible with the unaided eye. The farthest point of light visible is the Great Galaxy Andromeda and that light took more than 2 million years to reach your eye.

A small telescope will increase the number of stars visible to around 100,000. But this is just the beginning! The stars we can easily see are all in our corner of the Milky Way Galaxy. Our entire galaxy numbers about 100 billion stars. And beyond the Milky Way are other galaxies with many shapes and sizes. Around 100 billion such galaxies are known to exist.

Taking the Milky Way as an average galaxy, the total number of known stars is thus estimated at 10,000,000,000,000,000,000. This figure would be pronounced as “ten billion trillion” stars.

Suppose these stars are divided up among the world’s total population of 6 billion people. Then each person on Earth would receive more than 1 trillion stars!

New instruments continue to probe deeper into space, with no end in sight. What an excellent way for the Creator to show his glory!

God not only knows the number, but he also calls all the stars by name.

