

# THE WITNESS

“WE PROCLAIM TO YOU WHAT WE HAVE SEEN AND HEARD....” I JOHN 1:3

We open hearts,  
minds, and doors  
in JESUS' name.

**A Publication of Toms Brook United Methodist Church/February 2012**

## A Transforming Moment

Sunday, February 19 will be “Transfiguration Sunday.” The lectionary calls us to look at the story of Jesus found in Luke 9:28-36 (also in Matthew 17:1-8 and Mark 9:2-8). Luke shares with us a “mountain-top experience” that the disciples had with the Lord. Peter, James, and John accompanied Jesus up a mountain and there, the Lord was revealed in his heavenly splendor. Luke says that Christ looked like lightning flashes; Mark suggests that his garments were whiter than white. It must have been a precious instant as they watched Moses (the Law-giver) and Elijah (Father of the Prophets) talk with their Master. And then they heard the voice of God proclaim in climactic glory, *“This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.”*

What a moment! Peter is so excited that he doesn't know what to do. He offers to build shelters for the holy figures, but this awesome event transcends the need for a building. Perhaps the disciple wanted to build a sanctuary, in order to hang on to the moment – but the best place to keep the memory of a mountain-top experience is in our heart. No sooner does Peter speak than it seems to be over. But the magnificent fragrance of the event would last a life-time for the disciples.

There are powerful hints of the Kingdom of God revealed in this passage. One of the clues that strikes me every time is the way this story leads us right into the next (verses 37-44) -- the story of Jesus healing a child with (demonic) convulsions. I cannot help but notice the contrast in the two events: the first is tranquil and inspiring, the kind that you hope would continue for a long time. The second event launches the disciples into a din of turmoil – a large crowd has gathered to watch a miracle and have been disappointed; the child is still convulsing and there is both an urgency and a despair in the throng's mood, when Jesus arrives. Peter, James, and John were probably thinking: let's go back up the mountain – it was nice up there! But you see, this is precisely where the revelation of the gospel awakens us. The Lord is revealed not only on the mountain-top but in the turmoil of the valley! Jesus brings healing to the sick child and is able to use the event as a teaching moment. God's glory is revealed here, too!

We need the peaceful healing of the mountain-top. Worship in the sanctuary is one of those places for me where I regularly find such experiences, and I often go there hoping for such an occurrence. But the truth is, God needs us to leave the security and healing of the sanctuary in order to descend into the valley where the rest of His work is done. And the Good News is: **He will be with us in the valley as well!**

– Pastor Bob

## Thank You!

On a personal level, Patti and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge with great joy the many heartfelt notes, cards, flowers, and prayers during our recent time of grief. Patti's mother, Barbara, has been a wonderful mother for her and a long-time friend of mine (almost 36 years). But her battle with cancer had extracted its price and so on January 6<sup>th</sup> with tears and relief we said our good-byes. Not much more than a week later, my favorite relative, Uncle Howard, was overcome by cancer, and we found ourselves saying our farewells again. Knowing of their great faith in Christ and receiving the many symbols of your gracious support goes a long way in the healing process. Thank you so much!

— *Bob & Patti*

## Ladies Sunday School Class

Over the next few months, I will be meeting with the Ladies Sunday School Class in the church parlor. I haven't decided yet whether I'm supposed to be teaching or if they are going to use the time to train me! In either case, I am looking forward to the challenge opportunity. I cannot help but notice that there are still a few empty chairs ... so there's still room for a few more to come join in our Sunday morning studies.

— *Pastor Bob*



## Glance at Yesteryear:



The United Methodist Men have always worked to provide for the needs of our growing church. Just a few of their projects were a playground built for the enclosed yard next to the Wesley House and a handicap ramp added into the fellowship hall. Where there is a need the men have always tried to meet it.

## FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### Valentine's Day Dinner

Hearts and Hands will be hosting a Valentine's Day covered-dish dinner on Tuesday, February 14, 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Everyone is invited.



### Bingo Night

On Friday, February 10, the Relay for Life team is sponsoring a fun night of Bingo in the fellowship hall. The doors will open at 5:30 p.m. for you to buy soup, sandwiches, dessert, and drinks prior to playing. Bingo starts at 6:30 p.m. with Rich Church once again doing the honor of being your caller. Suggested donation for the bingo ticket is \$20.



### Directory Correction:

Under the Sunday School Roster, it should read as Kennedy Eagle in the 7th grade, Isabell Davis in the 8th grade, and Evan Davis in the 8th grade.

### UM Men

Just a note to say "*Praise God*" for a good turnout for our Men's Fellowship breakfast. Many thanks for the support from our church with Pastor Bob and eighteen men in attendance. We also had Pastor Doug Martin and three men from Strasburg UMC, one from Mt. Olive UMC, and our guest speaker from Asbury UMC for a grand total of twenty-five (25).

Our guest speaker Tom Devore (District President of Harrisonburg) did a great job sharing about the men's ministry with some chemical demonstrations to illustrate how each one of us are witness' to and for our Lord Jesus Christ. Bottom line is we all need to be about inviting other men (young and older) to our meeting and events. Together we build bigger and stronger relationships as well as get more work accomplished for God's kingdom here in Shenandoah Valley and around the world.

*A special thanks to the advertisement crew - Hal Morrison (and his nephew Jeff) for the flyers, Brenda Kline (making the copies) and all who passed them out; supplies man - Leo Ryman for getting the food and drink; our cooks - Carson Ryman, Howard McClanahan, Hal Morrison; set-up crew - Hal Morrison, Sonny Holler, Jeff Delano; cleanup crew - Carson Ryman, Howard McClanahan, Hal Morrison, Bob Lively, Kevin Keller; transportation crew - Sonny Holler, Howard McClanahan, Bill Menges; and sound technician - Cody Vance.*

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February, 21, at 7 p.m. in the parlor. This will include some discussion on a devotion out of the Upper Room, February 15 "Be Careful What You Ask." Please read over the passages of scripture, the devotion, and look over the questions on page 75.



The following is the schedule for classes/ministries that will be hosting each Souper Supper.

- February 22 – Hearts and Hands
- February 29 – Fellowship Hall class
- March 7 – The Master's Choir
- March 14 – Worship Committee
- March 21 – Parlor class
- March 28 – United Methodist Men

The organizations we will be supporting are Shenandoah County Pregnancy Center, Shenandoah Alliance for Shelter, Response, Bread of Life, Valley Christian Outreach, and The Small Hand. More information on each of these organizations will be coming soon.

## Thank You

*We would like to thank all of you for the expressions of sympathy given to us during the death of my dad and pa-paw, Harry Bemis.*

*Nancy Painter*



**Welcome our New Member:** We extend a warm welcome to Stephanie Ryman who joined our church family on Sunday, January 15. Stephanie lives at 182-E Reservoir Rd., Woodstock.

~In Memoriam~

Harry Bemis

Born: September 28, 1914

Died: December 21, 2011

~In Memoriam~

Wilma H. Ryman

Born: November 25, 1924

Died: January 2, 2012

## Faith Quote

**"EVERY TOMORROW HAS TWO HANDLES. WE CAN TAKE HOLD OF IT WITH THE HANDLE OF ANXIETY OR THE HANDLE OF FAITH."**

~ HENRY WARD BEECHER



## CALENDAR

Check out our most up-to-date  
calendar on the  
main page  
of this  
web-site.

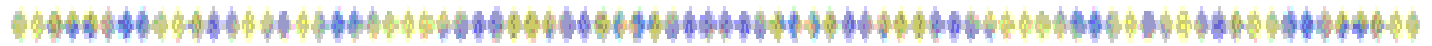
Click calendar  
and it will  
take you  
to the  
most  
recent  
one.

## MISSION CORNER

The mission, of the Shenandoah County Free Clinic, is to provide compassionate and competent medical, dental, and pharmaceutical services to Shenandoah Valley residents who otherwise could not afford them and who are making a sincere effort to help themselves and their families. The Free Clinic is located at the former health department building at 781 Spring Parkway in Woodstock behind the Shenandoah Memorial Hospital and is open on Thursday evenings to serve the primary care health needs of county residents without insurance, whose household incomes are close to the U.S. poverty level. Most clinic patients will be working there are no governmental insurance care, and FAMIS (children's health care, and Many work full-time, but do not make There are no set fees for services, but encouraged as a means to help defray The Free Clinic is able to provide these the many health professionals and other people working together on a volunteer basis and through the generous donations of civic organizations, churches, and others in the community.



people ages 18-55. This is because programs such as Medicaid, Medicare coverage) to cover this group. enough to afford health insurance. donations from patients are encouraged as a means to help defray costs of running the Free Clinic. services without set fees because of



Toms Brook UMC extends its prayers and sympathies to the Glading and Dean families in the passing on of Joanne Dean, who is the sister of Ginger Glading.

We also wish to express our sympathies to the Artz and Mumaw families in the passing on of Betty Mumaw. Betty is the sister of Bob Artz.

Our prayers and sympathies are also extended to the Wilma Ryman family. Wilma passed from this life on Jan. 2, 2012. Wilma had been a member of TBUMC since 1948.

The church extends its condolences and prayer to Reverend Bob and Patti Throckmorton and family in the death of Patti's mother, Barbara Mahtar and in the death of Rev. Bob's uncle, Howard Mills.

### Eastern Mennonite University's Career & Service Day Fair

Wednesday, February 22, 2012, 3-6 p.m.

- \* Promote your organization and share opportunities (employment, internship, service, volunteer, graduate programs, etc.)
- \* Free to all recruiters
- \* Student interviews available upon request (first year through graduate level)

Registration now open!

Questions? Contact Jennifer Litwiller  
Director of Career Services, Eastern Mennonite  
University, 1200 Park Road, Harrisonburg, VA  
22802  
(540-432-4131), [careerservices@emu.edu](mailto:careerservices@emu.edu),  
[www.emu.edu/careers](http://www.emu.edu/careers)

"Educating students to serve and  
lead in a global context"

## 2011 Fair Committee Update

On behalf of the Fair Committee, thanks to everyone who volunteered and supported this community outreach project. This year 86 people worked 277 shifts to serve the fair goers. We served 160 gallons of bean soup, 765 pounds of hamburgers, 73 pounds of hotdogs, 200 pounds of country ham and 50 pounds of half smokes. In addition, we served dozens of breakfast sandwiches to the early risers at the fair. We also served the clients and staff of Shen-Paco on their yearly outing – always one of our favorite days!

In addition to all of our wonderful fair traditions, we started a new one this year. For years, when someone said “keep the change” we would just throw it in the cash box. This year someone suggested we put it in a separate container, just to see how many “tips” we collected from our customers. At the end of the week, we were shocked that we collected \$1,153.42 from our generous “keep the change” folks. Definitely a new tradition!

Now, you may wonder why all of this is important. Well, here is why. All of those efforts resulted in a profit of \$10,000.00 which was donated to the church. At a recent council meeting, the following decisions were made. Listed below is the list of organizations and the amounts which have been donated.

Shenandoah County Free Clinic	\$ 1,200.00
Response, Inc.	\$ 1,200.00
Shenandoah Alliance for Shelter	\$ 1,200.00
Shenandoah County Pregnancy Center	\$ 1,200.00
TBUMC Russian Mission	\$ 1,200.00
ShenPaco Industries, Inc.	\$ 1,200.00
TBUMC Lend-a-Hand Fund	\$ 2,000.00
Valley Christian Outreach	\$ <u>800.00</u>
	\$10,000.00

\*\*Thanks to everyone who helped make the Fair Booth another huge success this year. As you can see, we are making a difference in our community.

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## Spaghetti Dinner

Please come and support the Shenandoah County 4-H Exchange Club. We are having a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, March 3, in the church fellowship hall. The meal will consist of spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, dessert, and a drink. Dinner will be served from 4-7 p.m. with take-out available. Cost to be announced at later date.



Submitted by J.J. Funkhouser

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## February Birthdays

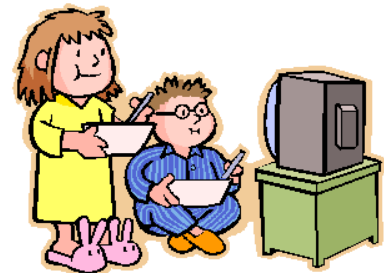
1	Jason Shanholtz	17	Elisa Boylston-Montalvo
	Emmett Umberger	18	Debbie Buckley
3	Riley Gochenour		Bill Menges
4	Larry Himelright	19	Dale McCoy
	Nancy Moffat	20	Derek Burgess
6	Ashley Lewis	21	Rhonda Lively
7	Patti Throckmorton		Hunter Funk
8	Susan Moose		Dottie Bradbury
9	Paul Adams		Kristina Smith
	Elizabeth McCoy	23	Sherry Wink
10	Juli Kent	24	Alyssa Stickley
	Justin Ritenour		Shelba Funk
11	Chuck Pilgrim		Phyllis Himelright
14	Kelli Wilson	25	Alex Wieber
15	Jaden Murphy	27	Stephanie Ryman
16	Karaline Brill	28	Sara McClelland
	Leta Stickler		Erin Hubbard
	Abigail Davis		Brian Morefield
			Mil Wallen

## Anniversaries

2	John & Nancy Easto
5	Paul & Debbie Buckley

## Church Closings

**Cancellation/Delays**—Please note where you can tune in when bad weather requires cancellation of our church services. You may look to WAZT-TV, radio station WSVG (7.90 AM) or WHSV-TV or their web-site ([www.wHSV.com/closings](http://www.wHSV.com/closings)) for up-to-date cancellation information.



## Sermon Titles for February

**February 5**      **Mark 1:21-28**  
*“Ministry with Authority”*

**February 12**      **II Kings 5:1-14**  
*“What Would You Do to be Healed”*

**February 19**      **II Corinthians 4:3-6**  
*“Light for the Blind”*

**February 22**      *Ash Wednesday Services*  
 (6:45 p.m.)  
**Joel 2:1-2, 12-17**  
*“Rend Your Hearts”*

**February 26**      **Mark 1:9-15**  
*“Being Temped by Satan”*

**Bread of Life Food Pantry**—During the month of January, the Bread of Life food pantry distributed 5,241 pounds of food to 109 families, consisting of 301 people.

**Compassion Cupboard** is collecting food items for various months. For the month of March, tuna and canned greens and for the month of April, soup and tomatoes. Please drop the items off in the container under the coat rack in the narthex, and they will be delivered at the beginning of each month.

**Lend-a-Hand Report**—In December, the Lend-a-Hand fund spent a total of \$684.97 to help 12 families with gas, food, and electric.

## Toms Brook UMC

3263 N. Main St.,  
P.O. Box 99,  
Toms Brook, VA 22660

### Minister:

Rev. Robert M. Throckmorton

Office Phone: 436-9312

Church Phone: 436-3841

Email: [tbumc@shentel.net](mailto:tbumc@shentel.net)

Web: [tomsbrookumc.org](http://tomsbrookumc.org)

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~Worship Services~

Traditional Service: 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

Modern Service: 11:00 a.m.

Children's Church-

Kids J.A.M.

## John Trent-The Blessing Challenge

It has been said, "You stand a far greater chance of hitting the target if you can see it." Profound? Yes! Couples stand a far better chance of hitting the target of loving each other if they can see how to do it.

At **THE BLESSING CHALLENGE FOR MARRIAGE** Conference, we will explore the five elements of *The Blessing* to help our words and actions hit the target in communicating God's love and acceptance with our spouse. We will learn how our differences can strengthen our marriage and how important our words are to communicate lovingly and effectively.

### SHENANDOAH COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP

**March 9<sup>th</sup> and March 10<sup>th</sup>**

Friday 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**\$75 per couple**

Pre-registration required by March 5<sup>th</sup>

#### Cost includes:

Reception Friday night, Workshops Friday and Saturday,  
Snacks and lunch on Saturday

#### For more information contact:

Kelly Day, (540) 333-1337, [kday@shentel.net](mailto:kday@shentel.net)

Kara Miller, (540) 856-3333, [kmillerrx@hotmail.com](mailto:kmillerrx@hotmail.com)

Visit [TheBlessing.com](http://TheBlessing.com) for more details.



TOMS BROOK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## The Witness

P.O. Box 99

Toms Brook, VA 22660

POSTMASTER: RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

