



April 2015

Boehm's United Church of Christ *Beams from Boehm's*

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!

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May Celebrations of the 275th Anniversary of Boehm's Church!



As he approached the beginning of his later years, the Rev. John Philip Boehm had hoped to slow down a bit. His aging body had begun to feel the hardships of the road, one of the crosses that every circuit preacher bears. Responsible for the organization of a dozen churches, having traveled more than the circumference of the earth on horseback to do just that, Pastor Boehm earned every aching muscle. Just as he was about to stay closer to home, to spend more quiet time on his beloved farm in Whitpain Township, the call beckoned once more. The year was 1740 and his neighbors asked him to hold Sunday services. A faithful servant, he joyfully complied and Boehm's Church was born—small in number, but mighty in spirit.

Join us on **Sunday, May 3rd, 2015** as we share more of the story and celebrate our 275th Anniversary during our **10:00 a.m.** worship service. There will be a sit-down brunch immediately following the service in the Fellowship Hall. In addition, there will be tours of the less frequently viewed areas of the church and grounds including the history museum and the cemetery. We look forward to renewing old friendships, making new ones, and sharing stories from the rich heritage at Boehm's Church.

The brunch will be catered, therefore please let the church office know by **Saturday, April 25th** if you plan to attend. Please address any questions and reservations (including number of attendees) to our church office at:

Carol Pfister

Email: secretary@boehmschurch.com

Phone: 215-646-6132

There will be a free-will offering will be taken to cover the costs of the meal. A suggested donation of \$15 per person can be either sent ahead of the event to the above address or brought on May 3rd. However, the gift of your presence is of even greater value to Boehm's Church. So, please come...and donate as you can. Any proceeds beyond the cost of the meal will be contributed to the church's Capital Fund to help offset the expense of our recent property improvements. Thank you.



From
the
Pastor's
Heart

Dear Easter People,

What a phenomenal day it was. The sanctuary was beautifully adorned with flowers and banners—including two new lily arrangements gracing the altar. Linda Moore sang a touching piece to begin the service. The children came forward to talk about seeing Christ, not on the cross or in the tomb, but in our hearts and in the face of the other. I

preached the same message, pretty much, to the big kids, too. The choir was on note and inspiring. The communion service fed us spiritually. The “Alleluias!” rang out as folks rang their bells! The blossoming cross, as the photos will attest, was blooming!

It was the peak of the Christian church year—Holy Week and Easter. These events are at the center of our redemptive faith and demonstrate the fullness of God’s inexhaustible love, a testament to the powerful blessing of the Holy Spirit as the good news of Jesus is proclaimed.

One of the great things about Easter, which is distinctive from Christmas, is that the message and joy of the season continue for seven weeks. The celebration doesn’t end on “the big day.” The power of Christ’s transformational resurrection is our ongoing reality. And actually not only for 50 days but beyond. So, we are Easter people 24/7/365 (that means all day, every day!)

What difference does it make? It’s like this—we followers of Jesus have genuine hope, authentic joy, life-changing truth, abundant love, and generosity in service. And all that is exactly what our hungering world needs—both in our homes, across this land and all over the globe. You can be a shining light, one true friend, a sibling in Christ for the blessing of someone else.

Let the resurrected life of Christ overflow into all your relationships. Be a witness to the Risen Christ in all you do.

Peace,

Pastor Bill





Hugh Williams admiring the recently restored stained glass window.

Remembering Hugh

Hubert "Hugh" Williams passed away on March 27, 2015. He was an active member of Boehm's church since 2011. Up until his passing, Hugh was serving as the president of the consistory and was instrumental in getting many tasks at the church accomplished—including the recent paint project and the restoration of the "Annunciation of the Nativity" stained glass windows. He also used his expertise in finance to help secure Boehm's fiscal standing.

Hugh enjoyed spending time with his children and grandchildren, traveling, gardening and taking his beloved dog, Chrissy, for early morning walks. Boehm's Church is grateful for all his time and talents. We were blessed to know him. Please pray for his family, daughter Carol and son Hugh, as they mourn his passing.

A celebration of Hugh's life was held on April 1st.

Lenten & Holy Week Events: Good Times!

Between the Pancake Breakfast and Laughter Sunday; Palm Sunday and the Easter Egg Hunt; Maundy Thursday Dinner and the Tenebrae Service; and Easter Sunday, Boehm's Church was busy!

Many thanks to Rebe and Gary Williams for organizing the breakfast! Thank you to the children who helped flip pancakes and the others who brought side dishes. The jokes told for Laughter Sunday were enjoyed by all. The palms were beautiful as they adorned the sanctuary on Palm Sunday! Many thanks to Rebe and Joanie for preparing the Easter Egg Hunt (and everyone who donated eggs!)...and a beautiful birthday party for Rebe Jones, to boot. Finally, the Tenebrae service was most meaningful and prayerful. Happy 90th Birthday, Rebe!



Bella Rowles getting ready to flip chocolate chip pancakes

WOW!

More than \$1,000.00 was raised by Boehm's Church between the pancake breakfast, the March Concert and other contributions towards the Margaret Moul Home's Dream Trips Scholarship Fund. Way to go! To learn more about the Margaret E. Moul Home visit their website at:

www.margaretmoul.org

Ursinus Association Meeting on April 28th

The Ursinus Association of the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference, of which Boehm's Church is a member church, will be holding its Spring Meeting on **Tuesday, April 28th** at the First United Church of Christ in Spring City. In addition to association business, the Rev. Jacquie Church Young from Lancaster Theological Seminary will be speaking on "Encouraging Vocation as Spiritual Practice." There will be a dinner at 6:00 p.m. The program begins at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Bill will be attending and will provide transportation if you are interested. Just let him know!



April 26th Concert to Benefit Chosen 300

Chosen 300 is a United Way supported charitable organization committed to feeding the homeless of the Philadelphia region and the world. Celebrating 20 years of ministry, they began by serving 100 bagged lunches each week. Today, they serve more than 60,000 full-course, hot meals every year. A multi-denominational entity, Chosen 300 took its name from the story of Gideon in the Book of Judges—where God chose 300 to serve. In their mission statement they write that they strive “to bring people of different membership groups together helping them to realize that despite our differences in race, denomination, social class, economic class or the diverse ways we practice our faith, we can unify ourselves for the common good.”

The concert will be on Sunday, April 26th at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. It will feature the vocal talents of the “High Note Voices.” Bring a friend!



“Spring Fling”

For: Chosen 300 Ministries, Philadelphia, Pa.
www.chosen300.org

At: Boehm's United Church Of Christ
571 Penllyn - Blue Bell Pike
Blue Bell, Pa. 19422

Date: Sunday April 26, 2015, 4PM

Featuring:
High Note Voices
Liberty Ayres, Ella Broadhurst, Pat Capone,
Cara Fisher, Marie Hagner, Carol Luehrs,
Connie Minnig, Olivia Mosley, Teresa Owens,
Peter Paznokas, Sheri Paznokas, Jahanna Pitchford,
Jada Ruzek, Ruth Sigler

A free will offering will be taken to benefit the Charity
Reception immediately following the performance
Parking in the front of the Church and across the street
For more information, call 215 362-8685 or visit
www.highnotevocals.com

An Announcement from The Community Cupboard

MATTIE N. DIXON COMMUNITY CUPBOARD SPRING BENEFIT

JOIN US FOR A FUN NIGHT TO BENEFIT NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS!

There will be a cocktail hour, dinner, cash bar, raffle baskets, silent auction 50/50 and entertainment.

Our guest speaker is Dr. Wanda Lewis-Campbell, Ed.D. Assistant Dean for Student Life of Temple University Ambler Campus.

The cost per person is \$60. Reserve full table of (8) for \$400, (which is a discount of \$10 less per person)

For more information contact: Christine Bouley, Mattie N. Dixon Community Cupboard,
call: 215.628.3002 or email: cbouley@community-cupboard.org

SATURDAY, APRIL 18th 2015, 6pm to 10pm



Hilton Garden Inn Fort Washington
530 Pennsylvania Avenue, Fort Washington, PA 19034

Event Sponsored and Hosted By: The Hilton Garden Inn, Fort Washington. 70% of the Ticket Sales Will Go to Mattie N. Dixon Community Cupboard.

The Mattie N. Dixon Community Cupboard is holding their annual Spring Benefit on Saturday, April 18th at the Hilton Garden Inn in Fort Washington. The cost of the event is \$60 per person. Funds raised from the event will go to the “Neighbors Helping Neighbors” ministries which includes the Community Cupboard.

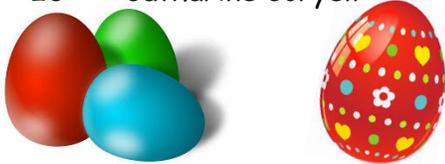
Part of the evening’s program includes a basket raffle. Boehm’s church donated one of the baskets, a “Gardener’s Basket.” The Community Outreach Group (COG) solicited donations from the Boehm’s Church community, specifically requesting items related to gardening and yardwork. The donated items—including gloves, tools and various seeds—became the basket!

Thank you to everyone who donated!





- 1 Gary Rowles, Jr.
- 3 Shaun Palmer
- 6 Emilie Resnick
- 20 Catharine Coryell



FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Please consider signing up to help host the Fellowship time after church services. There is a new list of dates available for 2015 on the bulletin board in the lobby. Your time will be much appreciated!

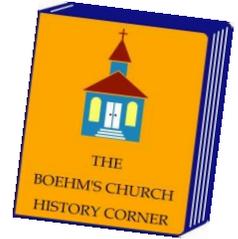
Many Thanks...



... to all of you who donated food items for the Mattie Dixon Food cupboard! Your generous donations were delivered by Marie Hagner recently. The Cupboard greatly appreciates your contributions!

Boehm's History Corner

by Bob Whittock



Church History

Starting in 1896, Whitpain Township schools held their commencements in Boehm's Church, alternating with St. John's Lutheran Church thereafter until 1922. It is written that the churches would be decorated in the school colors of Blue and White. Baccalaureate services were held in Boehm's Church and St. John's Lutheran church on alternate years from 895 to 1950 when Whitpain High School closed.

In 1903 the addition of the Sunday School Room, (now the Church Parlor adjoining the Sanctuary), Vestibule and the Brown Stone front across the entire church complex was built. The total cost was \$4,525.

Cemetery History

Rev. John H. Sechler, DD (9/10/1850—4/12/1905) was elected as Boehm's minister on 12/15/1875 while still a student at Ursinus College and was Boehm's minister until 1889. He then became a minister at the First Reformed church in Philadelphia and then a professor at Ursinus School of Theology. In 1885 and again in 1888, Rev. Sechler was elected to the Whitpain School Board. There is a plaque honoring Rev. Sechler on the back wall of the sanctuary.

Rev. Sechler's son, Henry Jacob Sechler and a friend removed a board covering a well in a barn in Centre Square at George Franz's and both fell in the well and drowned in 1885. Both are buried in the church cemetery. Rev. Sechler's wife, Mary Bower Sechler died in 1888 of consumption. A daughter, Edna Irene Sechler died in 1892 at the age of six. Another daughter, Mary Eva Sechler Knowlton died in 1913 at 37 years old. All of the Reverend's family are buried in Boehm's cemetery.



An Easter Sanctuary!

Thank you, Pat Delp, Catharine Coryell, Lorraine Nowlan, Christy Fitzgerald and Diana Rau for decorating the sanctuary so beautifully for Easter!



Meet the Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer

The United Church of Christ's General Minister and President Search Committee has identified the Rev. John C. Dorhauer as the candidate to become the ninth leader of our denomination. Rev. Dorhauer's candidacy was confirmed by the United Church of Christ Board of Directors on March 19th clearing the way for him to be voted on by the delegates of the 30th General Synod meeting in Cleveland (June 26-30th). Rev. Dorhauer served as associate conference minister in the Missouri Mid-South Conference for five years prior to being called to the Southwest Conference, and has also served churches in rural Missouri. Rev. Dorhauer has a Master of Divinity degree from Eden Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary, where he studied white privilege and its effects on the church. A search process for a new General Minister and President was set in motion in mid-August, when current General Minister and President the Rev. Geoffrey A. Black announced his plans to retire at the conclusion of General Synod.



April 2015 MINISTRIES OF WORSHIP



Date	Lay Reader	Ushers	Fellowship Hour Sponsors	Acolyte	Sunday School Teachers
Resurrection of the Lord April 5, 2015 Easter Day	Pat Delp	Mike Rowles & Al Slingluff	Birthdays	Tori Middleton	No Sunday School
Second Sunday of Easter April 12, 2015	Mike Rowles	Gary & Diana Rau		Shane Rowles	Joanie Weidner & Tori Middleton
Third Sunday of Easter April 19, 2015	Pat Delp	Marie Hagner & Lorraine Nowlan		Bella Rowles	Diana Rau & Tori Middleton
Fourth Sunday of Easter April 26, 2015	Judy Keller	Gary Williams & Bob McKinney		Angela McKinney	Rebe Williams & Tori Middleton

Boehm's Calendar for April

Sunday, April 5 Easter

- ◆ Worship & Communion @ 10 am

Monday, April 6

- ◆ Knitting group @ 7 pm

Sunday, April 12

- ◆ Worship @ 10 am

Monday, April 13

- ◆ Knitting group @ 7 pm

Sunday, April 19

- ◆ Worship @ 10 am
- ◆ COG group @ 11:30 am

Tuesday, April 21

- ◆ History meeting @ 11 am

Wednesday, April 22

- ◆ Consistory @ 6:30 pm

Sunday, April 26

- ◆ Worship @ 10 a.m.
- ◆ Benefit concert @ 4 pm

Monday, April 27

- ◆ Knitting group @ 7 pm

Other Meetings at Boehm's:

Alcoholics Anonymous
Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m.

Brownie Girl Scouts
Alternate Mondays, 6:30 pm

Phila Grace and Truth Church
Worship: Sundays, 12:30 pm
Bible Study: Fridays, 7:30 pm

Society of Christian Scientists
Worship: Sundays, 11:00 a.m.
Readings: Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.



Boehm's United Church of Christ

571 Penllyn - Blue Bell Pike
Blue Bell, PA 19422

Phone: 215-646-6132

E-mail: info@boehmschurch.com

Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m.
to 1:00 p.m.

Pastor: The Rev. William A Middleton
Office Administrator : Carol Pfister

We're on the web: www.boehmschurch.com

Visit us on Facebook!

Christ is Risen!

