

# Elmer United Methodist Church

THE  
**CIRCUIT RIDER**

CHURCH OFFICE AND PETER'S PANTRY - 358-0135

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DAVID A. REPENNING, PASTOR

JANUARY 2012



## Boomers Annual Traveling Supper Saturday, January 7, 2012 starting at 5:30pm

Please sign up in the bulletin board downstairs  
so our hosts will know how many to prepare for.

### Appetizers

Jeanette and Scott McDonald  
27 Third St, Elmer  
With Carla and Ed Pitman

### Salad

Jane and Dave Cooke  
86 Madison Rd, Pittsgrove

### Soup

Sharon and Dave Zeck  
91 Pinyard Rd, Monroeville

### Fruit Cup

Cyndi and Ben Nolan  
140 S. Main St, Elmer  
With Lynda and Barry Davis

### Main Course

Leah and John Bucolo  
479 Olivet Rd, Pittsgrove  
With Donna and Joe Stemberger

### Dessert

Linda and Ron Amme  
1097 Swans Way, Pittsgrove  
With Linda and Herb Dilks

### Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends,

On Christmas Eve it struck me how many women in our church are expecting babies in the coming year. One in particular was visiting us, Michelle Wolf. She was 7 years old in the cherub choir when I first met her. My how things are changing! New Year's Day is a good time to reflect on change, and so I began by mentioning that the Wisemen went home by a different route after visiting Jesus. Paul tells us in I Corinthians 15:51, "Listen, I tell you a mystery: we will not all sleep, but we will be changed..." He speaks of the end times. He waits with excitement and joyful anticipation for Christ's return and the change that is to come.

2011 brought many changes for us individually and as a congregation. Others are anticipating changes in the coming year: new lives, weddings, new positions in church, healing, and so on. Some changes bring loss and sadness. Others bring joy and new opportunities. All changes involve uncertainty, challenge and some sort of loss. Many changes can be exciting and lead us to new and richer lives. Change is scary and uncomfortable. It is sometimes planned and often jumps at us without notice. Most changes cause us to live and think differently.

Our hope in Christ is that in all changes we will eventually find that "All things work together for good to those who love the Lord and are called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28 With God's help, we hope to learn and grow in ways that bring us closer to God and more and more like Christ.

Paul closes I Corinthians 15 with these words:  
*Thanks be to God! He gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves full to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. I Cor. 15:57 & 58*

Let us set our sights on 2012, working together in the Lord with excitement about what God is doing among us.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Dave Repenning

The Adult Fellowship will have a covered dish supper at the church on Monday, January 9 at 6pm. Meat, rolls, butter, beverage and dessert will be provided.

While you're packing up your Christmas decorations, and cleaning out the old to make way for the new, please remember our annual youth group fundraising day which will include a yard sale. It will be on February 18<sup>th</sup>. We can use your donations. Contact youth coordinator, Donna Stemberger for more information, 358-2509 or dkstembug@yahoo.com



<u>Attendance:</u>	<u>Early Service</u>	<u>Morning Worship</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>
Dec. 4	15	74	34
Dec. 11	14	124	43
Dec. 18	15	135	51
Dec. 25	15	70	23

<u>Stewardship:</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>S.School</u>
Dec. 4	\$4,752.05	\$581.00	\$38.25
Dec. 11	\$5,995.79	\$1,199.00	\$26.86
Dec. 18	\$4,557.00	\$980.00	\$25.00
Dec. 25	\$3,363.00	\$443.00	\$30.00



**HEALTHCARE MINISTRIES:  
TOP TEN NEW YEAR'S  
RESOLUTIONS**

New Year's Eve is a time for looking back to the past, and forward to the coming year. We reflect on the changes we want or need to make and resolve to follow through with those changes. Did your resolutions make this top ten list? I must confess that this is a copy of my article of January 1, 2011. But it still seems appropriate.

1. Spend more time with family and friends, and appreciate them more. Love one another. John 13:34.
2. Fit in fitness. Regular exercise has been associated with more health benefits than anything else known to man. Studies show it reduces the risk of some cancers, increases longevity, helps achieve and maintain weight loss, enhances mood, lowers blood pressure, and improves arthritis. Exercise makes you look and feel better.
3. Lose Weight. Setting reasonable goals and staying focused are the two most important factors in sticking with a weight loss program. Think healthy.
4. Quit smoking. Even if you have tried to quit before and failed, don't let it get you down. On average, smokers try about four times before they quit for good. There is easier access to proven quit-smoking aids. Start enjoying the rest of your smoke-free life. There are free support services to help you quit.
5. Enjoy life more. Go out and try something new. Try a new hobby or do something you really enjoy.
6. Quit drinking. If you have decided you want to quit drinking, there is a lot of support out there –such as AA, treatment based programs, and support groups for families of alcoholics.
7. Get out of debt. Was money a big source of stress in your life last year? Join the millions of Americans who have resolved to spend this year getting a handle on their finances. It is a promise that will repay itself many times over in the year ahead.
8. Learn something new. Perhaps you are considering a career change, want to learn a new language, or to use your computer. Whether you take a course or read a book, you will find education to be one of the easiest resolutions to keep. Take responsibility for your own actions.
9. Help others. Volunteerism can take many forms. You might choose to spend time helping out at the library, mentoring a child, building a house, or donating to someone in need.
10. Get organized. Organization can be a reasonable goal. Whether you want your home organized enough that you can invite someone over on a whim, or your office organized enough that you can find the stapler when you need it, there are professional organizers who can help you reduce the clutter in your life and find peace in your home.

*“Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace; where there is hatred, let me show love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there*

*is sadness, joy. Oh Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned. It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.” Saint Francis of Assisi.*

Best wishes for a happy, healthy 2012.

*Bonnie Kanady, RN*



**January Birthdays  
Happy Birthday to All!!!**

- 1st Lonnie Riddle, Jr.
- 2nd Barbara Repenning & Linda Amme
- 4th Natalie Wulderk
- 5th Jarrod McDonald
- 8th Janet Hill & John Irelan
- 10th Mary Lou Timberman
- 11th Carolyn Wygor, Benjamin W. Timberman
- 13th Emily Bucolo
- 15th Robin Wildman
- 17th Brody Moore
- 18th Jacob Wriggins
- 19th Elena K. Wentz
- 21st Anna Priggemeier
- 22nd Cody Maurer & John Schwartz, III
- 24th Andrew Repenning
- 25th Rita Greene
- 26th Faye Brady
- 30th Gabrielle Hennessey, John Timberman, Robin Priggemeier & David Cooke

**Youth Schedule**

**MIDLERS: Wednesdays**

6:30-7:30pm at the Hangar



**January 29th**

4pm Bowling Night

Please bring \$10 for dinner, bowling, and shoe rental

**JR HIGH: 5:30-7pm Gym Nights at the Hangar**

Sundays, January 8th, 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>

**Saturday, January 21st**

Hangar Sub Sale - \$6 each



Contact J Gressimer to place your order:

[jgressimer@yahoo.com](mailto:jgressimer@yahoo.com) or 856-297-2778

**Midwinter Advance Jr/Sr High Retreat**

Keswick, Whiting, NJ January 20<sup>th</sup> thru 22<sup>nd</sup>

Registration due ASAP:

\$35 deposit \$15 due at departure

See Kathy Laury, Dave Zeck or Brittany Orzechowski for forms. Scholarships are available to cover costs.