

# Chestnut Hill Views



**Chestnut Hill Church**  
**6870 Chestnut Hill Church Rd**  
**Coopersburg, PA 18036**  
**610-967-1196**

**Whoever you are  
 and wherever you are  
 on life's journey,  
 you are welcome here!**

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## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

The winter months of January and February often seem to drag on in endless cold, sleet, and boredom. Even if you are not susceptible to SAD, seasonal affective disorder, because of less sunlight, less exercise, and generally dull, miserable days, many of us are barely able to survive the winter. I don't have a cure, but I have a good suggestion.

I recently started one of the best books I have ever read. I'm nearly finished, it is so good, inspiring, and easy to read: *Have a Little Faith* by Mitch Albom, the author of *Tuesdays with Morrie*.

Quoting from the book jacket: "*Have a Little Faith* begins with an unusual request: an eighty-two-year-old rabbi from Albom's old hometown asks him to deliver his eulogy. Feeling unworthy, Albom insists on understanding the man better, which throws him back into a world of faith he'd left years ago. Meanwhile, closer to his current home, Albom becomes involved with a Detroit pastor – a reformed drug dealer and convict – who preaches to the poor and homeless in a decaying church with a hole in its roof.

Moving between their worlds, Christian and Jewish, African-American and white, impoverished and well-to-do, Albom observes how these very different men employ faith similarly in fighting for survival: the older, suburban rabbi embracing it as death approaches; the younger, inner-city pastor relying on it to keep himself and his church afloat.

As America struggles with hard times and people turn more to their beliefs, Albom and the two men of god explore issues that perplex modern man: how to endure when difficult things happen; what heaven is; intermarriage; forgiveness; doubting God; and the importance of faith in trying times. Although the texts, prayers, and histories are different, Albom begins to recognize a striking unity between the two worlds – and indeed, between beliefs everywhere.

In the end, as the rabbi nears death and a harsh winter threatens the pastor's wobbly church, Albom sadly fulfills the rabbi's last request and writes the eulogy. And he finally understands what both men had been teaching all along: the profound comfort of believing in something bigger than yourself.

*Have a Little Faith* is a book about a life's purpose; about losing belief and finding it again; about the divine spark inside us all. It is one man's journey, but it is everyone's story."

(continued on page 2)

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK (CONTINUED)

Of all the books on my shelf, I have placed a priority on finishing this one. It is ideal for dealing with the winter blahs, coping with life in general, and finding purpose and renewed faith when all around us is doubt, cynicism, and trouble. I highly recommend it to you all.

Incidentally, ten percent of the profits from this book will go to charity, including the Hole In The Roof Foundation, which helps refurbish places of worship that aid the homeless. To find out more about how Albom came up with this name for his foundation, you will have to read the book.

Pastor John

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## CHESTNUT HILL RECYCLING PROGRAM

Printer ink & toner cartridges and be brought to church for recycling. We have been receiving on the average of \$60.00 per month from this recycling. The money is used to purchase office supplies for the church office.

You can also recycle larger items (stoves, refrigerators with Freon removed, cast iron, etc). Please contact Debbie Koder at 610-967-1975 for more information on this recycling.

Aluminum cans can be brought to the church and Glenn Snyder will recycle them. The money is placed in the general fund.

Coming soon will be paper recycling. There will be more details in the near future on this recycling program.

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## The Black-Eyed Susan— Baltimore's only Authentic Paddlewheel Dinner Boat

**Friday May 21, 2010 cost is: \$84.00 pp adult includes \$1.00 bus driver tip**

**7:30 am - Depart CHC**

**10:45 am – Arrive at Baltimore MD Black Eyed Susan Boat**

**11:00 am - 1:00 pm - Sailing time**

Luncheon includes: Broiled Famous Jumbo Lump Maryland Crab Cakes or Herb Roasted Delmarva Chicken Oven roasted potatoes

Seasonal Vegetable Medley, Tossed Green Salad w/ assorted dressings

Luncheon rolls, Dessert Buffet: iced cakes, fresh fruit & berries, coffee & tea

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm - free time in Harbor area for shopping or ??? 5:00 pm - approx departure time to CHC 3-1/4 hours driving time return 8:15 pm - arrive back at CHC

Our bus trip to Baltimore MD next May has 49 passengers signed up. We have had a few additional requests. I have a sign up sheet posted for a POSSIBLE 2nd bus, but I would need between 21 and 31 people interested, before I can make the 2nd bus happen. So if you missed the first sign up sheet, now's your chance ,see Debbie Koder or call 610-967-1975 for more information.

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## FEBRUARY ACTIVITES

- February 7 Souper Bowl Sunday Brunch** **After the 10:00 worship service**  
 This special meal is to remind us that there are many people who go hungry daily. Our meal will consist of soup and chili, a beverage and dessert. We will also take a special offering which will be given to the food bank. Please bring a can of soup or chili, canned meat or tuna, or jelly to church . The food will also be donated to the Food Bank
- February 7 Boy Scout Sunday**  
 This is a special day to recognize the Boy Scouts and the Cub Scout Packs that meet at Chestnut Hill Church
- February 14 Valentine’s Day Brunch** **After the 10:00 worship service**  
 Men: Please contact Bill Lippincott at (610) 709-0418 if you would like help cook, serve, or bus tables. Ladies you can sit back and relax and enjoy being served.
- February 17 Ash Wednesday Service** **7:30 pm**  
 All are welcome to attend this special service as we begin the Lenten Season
- February 28 Annual Congregation Meeting** **After the 10:00 service**  
 New Council Members will be elected, the2009 financial report will be given, the year end committee reports will be ready. A light lunch will be served.

### Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00 am	Communion
9:00 am	Adult Bible Study
10:00 am	Worship Service
10:15 am	Sunday School
Primary Class	ages 4-8
Junior Class	ages 9-12

### STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

The Stained Glass window project is now complete. There will be a formal dedication of the windows after Easter. The date is yet to be determined. Pastor John will explain the theological significance of the “Tree of Life” theme in the window design.

The Art committee is in the process of designing a memorial plaque to list all the contributors for this project.

### Chestnut Hill Memorial Garden

A few members of The Emmaus Garden Club were consultants in the initial stages of the Chestnut Hill Memorial Garden. In 2009, they placed our garden into a competition.

Our garden won a First Place Award for the Emmaus Garden Club in April of 2009 at the State of PA Convention. And also took First Place at the National Convention. This was quite an accomplishment for the Emmaus Garden Club and an honor for Chestnut Hill Church.

Many thanks to our garden committee for their hard work maintaining our garden.

**Financial Report**

**Weis gift cards can be ordered!**

Chestnut Hill Church has been accepted into the Weis Gift cards program. If we place an order for \$1000 or more during any given month, the church will receive 5% of our total order. You can place your order with Terry Miller at church or call him at 610-967-1392 or you can also place your order with Sherri Miller at church or call 610-797-8231 or email Sherri at : [dcba25@mailstation.com](mailto:dcba25@mailstation.com)

Checking Account		
Balance 12/31/09	\$	10,065.82
Building Fund	\$	3457.37
Special Savings	\$	22,513.69
Investment Portfolio	\$	220,314.41

**THANK YOU NOTES**

Thank you "Anonymous" for my wonderful Christmas Gift.

Margaret Pearson

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To the anonymous Spirit of Christmas who visited the organ bench Christmas Eve, Thanks you for your kindness. It is good to be appreciated as we praise God together for another year. Thank you.

Peggy Pearson

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I want to thank the congregation for the wonderful Christmas Gift. The gift cards will help me find a minute to relax in what is always my very busy schedule.

Your thoughtfulness and generosity is very much appreciated.

Pat Snyder

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Friends,

I am extremely grateful to you for your kind Christmas gift, your support, and most importantly your love. As the years have passed, I find that the bonds of affection between us have been knit together ever more strongly. And so, I look forward to continued ministry with you and among you for a long time to come. It is a privilege to minister among you. A big thank you to all who contributed to my Christmas gift!

Pastor John

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## February Birthdays

February 2 Jose Burgos  
February 3 Henry Rupp  
February 4 Patricia Wagstaff  
February 5 Virginia Deal  
February 10 Evelyn Arndt  
February 12 Joshua Arndt  
February 15 Saundra Hartzell  
February 17 Carol Tice  
February 18 Madelyn Schmoyer  
February 20 Mary Bower  
February 24 Melcina Chontofalsky  
February 25 Kathy Kale

## AND A CHILD SHALL LEAD THEM ONESPIRIT YOUTH GROUP & SUNDAY SCHOOL KIDS PROJECTS

The One Spirit Youth Group will be putting together the Easter Egg Hunt this year. We are asking for donations of fun size candy or stickers that can fit in an egg. We are asking that these donations be put in our box located in the fellowship hall on the table. Donations will be accepted up until Sunday, March 21st. (We will be making up the eggs before Palm Sunday.) Thanks for your help! We couldn't do it without you! If you have any questions, please email or call Sandy Snyder, [onespirit@ptd.net](mailto:onespirit@ptd.net) or (610) 841-9874.

This Lent is all about sacrifice like the one Jesus made for us. This Lenten Season the children from Chestnut Hill's Sunday School will be decorating boxes to put spare change in. We will be collecting these boxes on Palm Sunday, March 28th. The proceeds from this collection will be sent to the **United Church of Christ's Kids to Kids Mission Project- Haiti's Babies!** This special project provides the kits that the UCC sends out to Haiti to take care of all the babies they can. The kit includes much needed items like cloth diapers, tee-shirts, and blankets. The cost of each kit is **\$41**. (\$39 for all the items in the kit and \$2 for shipping. The money is for these kits. There are many ways for our children to earn this money from parents, grandparents, and even neighbors. They can do chores. They can donate all or part of their allowance. As time allows, we will be making up some small events where the congregation will have a chance to donate money for this very worthy cause. If you have any questions, please email or call Sandy Snyder, [onespirit@ptd.net](mailto:onespirit@ptd.net) or (610) 841-9874.