

THE CHILI PRESBYTERIAN

May 2014
Volume 53, Issue 5

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About Chili Pres

First Presbyterian Church of Chili
3600 Chili Avenue
Rochester, NY 14624

A Stephen Ministry Church

Our Officers

Board of Deacons
Board of Trustees
Session

Our Committees

Endowment
Finance
Mission Fund
Nominating
Personnel
Stewardship

Our Seasonal Groups

Lent
Easter
Pentecost
Harvest
Advent/Christmas
Epiphany

Our Music Programs

Senior Choir
Glorious Ringers

Ongoing Mission Support

Cameron Community Ministries
Habitat for Humanity
SWEM Food Cupboard
Presbyterian Church (USA) Offerings
... Souper Bowl
... One Great Hour of Sharing
... Blanket Sunday
... Peacemaking
... Joy

Join Us Each Sunday in



(Childcare is always available)

May 4

3rd Sunday of Easter
Communion Sunday

May 11

4th Sunday of Easter
Blanket Sunday
Mother's Day

May 18

5th Sunday of Easter
Blended Worship

May 25

6th Sunday of Easter

Inside this issue...

Wooten Wisdom...Ministry of Care...

Session Notes...Lent Season Thank You...

Easter Season Plans...

Animate Faith Formation Experience...

New Mission Opportunities...

Minister of Music Notes...

Youth News...and so much more...

ALL IN THIS ISSUE OF THE CHILI PRESBYTERIAN!

Wooten Wisdom...



Wonder

One of my favorite parts of going to Disney World a few weeks ago was seeing Mira's reaction to it all. Disney through her eyes was a magical and wondrous place. As we went into the rides, like Pirates of the Caribbean or Peter Pan, her eyes would get big and she would look around at the magical world we had suddenly been transported into. She rarely spoke but drank it all in with a look of wonderment on her face and as soon as we got off the ride she would get excited and want to do it again.

The magic of Disney is that no matter what your age, you are transported into a different world - real or imagined. Epcot was like that for Dan and me. One minute you truly felt like you were standing in China and the next, you were in Morocco. Disney's meticulous attention to detail is what turns something good into something wondrous.

But we do not have to go to Disney World in order to find wondrous things around us. Spring offers us an opportunity to get outside and see the wonder of creation growing and thriving all around us. Birds sing, vulnerable little plant shoots begin to poke their heads out of the ground, buds begin to grow on the trees, baby animals are born and once more nature sings of God's glory and majesty.

And if we take the time to notice, we will see the intricate detail laid out before us: the soft, almost imperceptible hairs on a petal, the facets of a dragonfly's eye, the thoughtful beauty of a spider web. God is the original imaginer - creating with meticulous detail everything around us. And as we stop to notice these things, we open ourselves up to the awe and wonder of God the Creator.

Rabbi Abraham Heschel once wrote, "Prayer is our humble answer to the inconceivable surprise of living." *The inconceivable surprise of living.* God is trying to awaken our souls so that we might experience life fully. God wants to increase our sensitivity to the world so that we see, hear, and feel more life. And prayer is the vehicle in which we do that.

In prayer, we slow down. We step out of the busy-ness and distractions of life in order to notice life all around us. In prayer, we open ourselves up in wonder and awe at what God has created. In prayer, we enter into the mystery of life, a mystery to which we can only respond with awe. This is God's gift to us in spring - reminding us of the wondrous love and life God freely gives every day.

~Grace and peace, Brandi

MINISTRY OF CARE

YOUR BOARD OF DEACONS

CLASS OF 2015:

Harvey Heer, Gail McArthur, Marj Strine

CLASS OF 2016:

Marla Guarnieri, Whitney Scoville, Alice Zah

CLASS OF 2017:

Barb Boerschlein, Sue Edwards, Lori Oliver

STEPHEN MINISTRY

A Stephen Minister can help.

Bev L'Hommedieu (349-1501)

Sandra McCauley (293-1086)

Brandi Wooten (889-9896)



PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY

Contact Sharon Breeze (293-1340)

or Pastor Brandi on Sunday,

or call the Church Office (889-9896).



Pastor Brandi!

The Session is proud to announce that on March 29, 2014, Pastor Brandi Wooten was elected Moderator of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley. She will be installed at the May 20, 2014 Presbytery meeting at Third Church and will take office in July. All members of the church are invited to come to the Presbytery meeting for her installation.

On behalf of the congregation, the Session extends its congratulations to Pastor Brandi and well wishes for a successful year ahead.
~Clerk of Session,
Nancy P. Huffman

SESSION MEETING **SUMMARY**

At its April 15th meeting, Session...

...returned from our afternoon retreat facilitated by Rev. Amy Fowler, Presbyter for the Presbytery of Genesee Valley and dinner hosted by Joe and Ginny Harkness and opened our meeting with prayer.
...had a quarterly review of finances with David Abell, Finance Chair.
...received the Treasurer's Report for the month of March 2014.

...received with appreciation, the Memorial Fund Report prepared by Alice Hassett, Memorial Fund Coordinator.
...approved, as requested by Elder Horton, transferring any remaining money in the Memorial Fund donated in memory of Ronald Horton, to the Designated Fund - Hand Bells.

...heard the report of the Pastor:

...heard a report from Pastor Brandi on her 36 pastoral care contacts over the past 1½ months.
...Pastor Brandi will be installed as Moderator of Presbytery on May 20, 2014 at Third Presbyterian Church.

...changed the date of the May Session meeting to Tuesday, May 13, 2014. at 6:00 p.m.

...noted that Pastor Brandi has secured paid childcare for the Easter Sunday worship service.

...noted that Pastor Brandi is continuing to communicate with our website developer.

...noted that 23 people have signed up for the Animate Faith Bible Study.

...noted that Pastor Brandi will be conducting the funeral service for Ward Worden on April 19, 2014.

...noted that Pastor Brandi will be scheduling a meeting with the Pentecost Team.

...approved dismissing Lana Drake and Brandon Scribner from the Membership Rolls.

...placed activity dates on the master calendar:

May 4	Easter Team-sponsored movie "Heaven is For Real" followed by dinner
May 11	Blanket Sunday
May 13	Stated Session Meeting
May 20	Pastor Brandi installed as Presbytery Moderator at the Presbytery Meeting
June 7	Church Rummage Sale
June 8	Easter Team-sponsored tour of Chili Presbyterian Cemetery followed by late lunch at Six/50

...placed Task Force on Sabbatical Leave on the Session Action Items List.

...heard Season team reports on Lent and Easter.

...heard a report from Elder Harkness on the March 29, 2014 Presbytery Meeting.

~Remitted by,
Nancy P. Huffman
Clerk of Session



**LENT SEASON
BEGAN MARCH 9th**
“Opening New Doors”
 Plan: 1-12-14 to 3-4-14
 Implement: 3-5-14 to 4-19-14



Adult Faith Formation Experience!

Animate Faith is a seven-session adult faith formation course using video, conversation and journaling. We are pleased to have 16 people engaged in this wonderful experience!

Why not ask them about it?

Each topic will be offered after church on the following days:

- April 27th **God:** Faith is A Quest *with Brian McLaren*
- May 4th **Religion:** Spirituality Is Not Enough *with Lillian Daniel*
- May 18th **Jesus:** The Revolution of Love *with Mark Scandrette*
- May 25th **Salvation:** Abundant Life Now *with Shane Hipps*
- June 1st **Cross:** Where God Is *with Nadia Bolz-Weber*
- June 15th **Bible:** A Book Like No Other *with Lauren Winner*
- June 29th **Church:** An Imperfect Family *with Bruce Reyes-Chow*

Pastor Brandi is facilitating these classes.

*Thank you, thank you and thank you
from the Lent Season Team!!
Thank you Nancy Huffman...
for letting us borrow your doorknobs!
Thank you Andy Atwater...
for showing us how to turn the palm
leaves into crosses!!
Thank you to the congregation...
for your donation to the Open Door
Mission with bath towels and bedding!!*

Your Lent Season Team:

Carrie Horton (Facilitator), Jean Bartholomew
Darla Diehl, Sue Johnson, Laurie Stowe

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF
SHARING – 2014**

Thank you to everyone who gave the gift of hope during the time of Lent. Total donations will be reported in a future newsletter.

~The Lent Season Team

THANK YOU

to the Elders, Deacons, Jr. Deacons,
and Childcare Volunteers serving in May:

May 4*

- Elder/Deacon: Carrie Horton and Sharon Breeze
- Jr. Deacon: Nicole Mathewson
- Childcare: Barb Boerschlein
- *Communion: Carrie Horton, Sharon Breeze,
Ginny Harkness, Joe Harkness

May 11

- Elder/Deacon: Judie McGaffick and Sue Atwater
- Jr. Deacon: Aidan Snover
- Childcare: Mike/Mollie Conklin

May 18

- Elder/Deacon: Dan Wooten and Alice Zah
- Jr. Deacon: Jack DiPietro
- Childcare: Vicky Leahy

May 25

- Elder/Deacon: Sandy McCauley and Sue Edwards
- Jr. Deacon: Alex Mathewson
- Childcare: Linda Enright

11th Annual

“Spring Chicken” BBQ

Thank you to everyone who supported our efforts!

350 BBQs were sold!

BENEFIT:

Chili Presbyterian Mission Fund



KEEP WATCH...

The watch was kept by many people, including the members of the Easter Season Team. Thank you to everyone who gave of their time. We pray that your experience was an important part of your Lenten journey. Blessings to us all as we go through the door that has been opened for us -- Easter.

~Your Lent Season Team



Thank you to all who continue to donate food and hygiene items to SWEM. Since February 2nd 142 food items plus many hygiene/paper products were collected. Please continue to support SWEM as we work toward alleviating hunger in our community.

~Jane Schultz



FINANCIAL STANDING (3 months)

2014 PLEDGES VS. EXPENSES

Pledged	\$124,422
Received in 2014 thru Mar.	\$ 41,591
Pledge Remaining	\$ 82,831
Other Budgeted Income	\$ 32,214
Received thru Mar.	\$ 5,804
Remaining	\$ 26,410
Expenses Budgeted	\$156,636
Spent thru Mar.	\$ 39,928
Expenses Remaining	\$116,708

SPRING CLEANING DAY AT CHILI PRES



Your Board of Trustees will be conducting a Spring Cleaning Day at Chili Pres.

**Please join us on Saturday May 3rd,
beginning at 11 a.m.
and continuing until the jobs are done.**

Show your interest . . . and let any one of the Trustees know that you are willing to lend a hand! See you on Saturday May 3rd for some good clean fun!

Post-Hurricane Sandy Recovery in New York/New Jersey

August 16-23, 2014 Jamaica, NY

Sept 27-Oct 4, 2014 Jersey City, NJ

Cost: \$350

*Includes transportation, housing, and group meals
ALL SKILL LEVELS ARE NEEDED and APPRECIATED!
Those who have not had the experience of disaster recovery work are especially encouraged to participate.*

Two Mission Teams of up to 20 volunteers each will be commissioned from members of congregations all around the Presbytery. Volunteers must be 16 years or older; minors must be accompanied by a designated guardian. Volunteers pay their own way or receive assistance from their churches. Housing is provided by the First Presbyterian Church of Jamaica and the Old Bergen Presbyterian Church in Jersey City. Rental vans will depart from the Presbytery Office.

Proposed Itinerary

Saturday 8/16 & 9/27 9am - Depart Rochester/Presbytery office in rented vans

6pm – Approximate arrival

Sunday 8/17 & 9/28 Worship with the host church

Free time

Monday-Friday Work Days

Saturday 8/23 & 10/4 8am - depart

4:30pm – approximate return to Rochester/Presbytery office

Deposit Deadline: June 15th for Jamaica, NY; Aug 1st for Jersey City, NJ

Space is limited, act quickly!

Interested? If you have specific questions, kindly contact Susan Orr at 242-0099 or sorr@pbygenval.org rather than contacting the churches or PDA directly.

Payment Schedule: Checks payable to “Presbytery of Genesee Valley”

\$100 Deposit Due with Registration Form Space will not be reserved for you without this.

(Deposit refundable only if there is not enough space)

- ☐ There are physical requirements such as carrying your own luggage, walking stairs, and physical labor at work sites.
- ☐ You will be required to sign an **Individual Liability Agreement** and a **Health and Liability Release Form**.
- ☐ Flexibility is a **must**. One of the joys of mission work is the unexpected!
- ☐ **Participants are expected to be involved in all group gatherings and activities including a pretrip orientation, meals, and evening devotions.**
- ☐ There will be free time available evenings following devotions.

Space is available but limited so act quickly! Don't be shy about asking your congregation for financial support to do this work!

To secure a spot, complete a registration form and submit your payment of \$100 as soon as possible.

EASTER SEASON BEGAN APRIL 20th

"Awakening to New Life"

In celebrating the resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday we walked into a sanctuary bursting with life and color -- flowers, fragrances, buds bursting with life, blossoms, birds, and butterflies. How welcome this was after such a long winter. We experienced the joy that Easter Sunday brings and we're now keenly aware that God is not distant, rather he is present in our lives every day. As May unfolds, the Easter Season Team has planned many activities that extend the Lent Season Team theme of "opening doors" into Eastertide and opportunities for "Awakening to New Life." You'll see in the sanctuary, that the prayer door has remained, but it has turned to reflect the change of season and the opportunity to experience "Awakening to New Life" through the power of prayer. The Easter Season Team invites you to engage in opportunities for new life experiences that are described more fully in this newsletter.

Your Easter Season Team: Nancy Huffman (Facilitator), Andy Atwater, Sharon Breeze, The DiPietro-Conklin Family (Michael, Mollie, Jack and Kai), Sue Edwards, Sue Johnson, Sandy McCauley, Kathy Walker, Roger Willis

April 20 -- Easter Sunday

A delicious breakfast was enjoyed by 40+ people, and we all enjoyed a beautiful Easter Sunday Celebration Worship Service!

April 26 -- Outreach Activity

Chili Pres hosted Triple Play Mission Day!

April 27 -- Animate Faith Series Began

A 7-part adult faith formation series began on April 27th. We are pleased that 16 people are participating in this unique formation experience!

May 4 -- Movie & Dinner

Join your Easter Season Team to enjoy the movie "Heaven is for Real" followed by dinner at Yanni's Restaurant. Check out the signup sheet in Fellowship Hall. Don't miss this wonderful event!

May 11 -- Blanket Sunday

This is an annual denominational mission outreach. Check out page 7!

June 7 -- Rummage Sale

Proceeds to benefit the Chili Presbyterian Mission Fund
Start gathering your items and set aside some time to assist in set-up, sales, and wrap-up! Check out page 7!

June 8 -- Chili Presbyterian Cemetery Tour/Lunch

Tour the cemetery with Cemetery Association President, Fred Schultz and then enjoy lunch at nearby Six50. For those who are interested, volunteers are invited to go to Chili Pres after lunch to assist in the Rummage Sale cleanup!

April 27, May 4, May 11, May 18, and June 1 -- Sunday Circle...

...gathers and blooms throughout Eastertide!



THE EASTER TEAM INVITES YOU TO A MOVIE & DINNER

The Easter Team would like to invite everyone to join us on **Sunday, May 4th** at Tinseltown Theater to see the movie, *Heaven Is For Real*, followed by dinner at Yanni's Restaurant on Buffalo Road.

Heaven Is For Real is the true story of Colton, a four-year old boy, who tells of experiencing heaven during emergency surgery. Over time, Colton began sharing some of his heaven experiences with his family, which prompted the book in 2010, and now the movie.

The Easter Team felt that the movie would tie in beautifully with our recent celebration of our Lord's resurrection, the promise of heaven, and awakening to a new life.

Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall if you are able to participate. If you are able to attend just the movie, please indicate this on the signup sheet. Group tickets will be purchased prior to the movie and reservations will be made at Yanni's. We promise an entertaining afternoon and hope you can join us!

YOU COULD BE A WINNER!

*Would you like to win a \$25.00
Garden Factory Gift Card?
...well you can!*

After worship on April 27th, May 4th, and May 11th,
you can purchase chance tickets for \$1.00 each!
We will draw the winning ticket after worship on:
Mother's Day - Sunday, May 11th!

Don't miss your chance to win!
Proceeds will help support your Easter Season Team
activities. Thank you for your support!



BLANKET SUNDAY (Church World Service) MAY 11, 2014

*A blanket can be many things to different people
under different circumstances:*

Homeless Person: Imagine you are homeless and winter
is coming. You wonder how you'll stay dry and warm.
A blanket will help keep you warm.

Refugee Mom: Imagine you are a mother with two kids,
and the civil conflict in the region where you live is
getting more frequent, more intense – and closer to
home. You need to decide that to protect your family,
you need to flee – quickly. A blanket will help to be a
suitcase.

Earthquake Survivor: Imagine your home and almost
everything in it is destroyed by an earthquake. You now
sleep in a makeshift community with hundreds of other
people who've also become homeless. There is little
privacy. A blanket will help to be a bed or pillow and
can give some privacy.

Church World Service provides blankets to many parts
of the world. **They provided 11,400 blankets to relief
agencies and churches in the New York, New Jersey,
West Virginia and Pennsylvania for people impacted
by Hurricane Sandy.** Please Support the Blanket
Offering sponsored by Church World Service. This
annual offering is coordinated by your Easter Season
Team.

"THE CHILI PRESBYTERIAN"

*Your next newsletter will be the
June 2014 issue.*

The deadline for that newsletter will be:
Monday, May 19th, no later than 10:00 a.m.

WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT OUR ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE!



SATURDAY JUNE 7, 2014!

The Sale will be from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

It is time to clear out and donate those items that you no
longer need but that might be useful to someone else.
Keep the following in mind when you prepare your
donations:

1. *Items should be clean and of decent quality.*
2. *No clothing items will be accepted for the Rummage Sale. If you have clothing items, they may be bagged and placed in the St. Pauly Box.*
3. *Items should be clearly marked with a reasonable price.*
4. *Items of particular interest: dishes, housewares, books, sports items, toys, working/quality electrical items, holiday decor, home decor, and furniture.*
5. *Please place your donations in the **West Sunday School room beginning May 17th (or youth room in the basement)***
6. *Proceeds will go to the First Presbyterian Church of Chili Mission Fund. This helps to support the many outreach and mission projects that we do at Chili Pres.*

Also:

1. *Volunteers are needed to post sale flyers.*
2. *Volunteers are needed for setup/pricing – from June 3 - June 6.*
3. *Volunteers are needed for working the sale – Saturday June 7.*

Contact Roger Willis at 293-3561
or rwillis004@rochester.rr.com with questions,
or to volunteer.

Minister of Music



Spring has finally made its way here!
 Thank you Jesus!
 As I think about the weather and our
 seasons, I stumbled upon a poem that I
 thought I would share with you.
 It is called "God of the Seasons"
 by Joanna Fuchs:

God of the Seasons

Lord,
 in Spring we are reminded
 of the magnificence of Your creation,
 as the earth is covered in verdant green,
 with splendid splashes of color,
 and we witness birth everywhere,
 of animals bearing their young,
 of buds turning into leaves and flowers
 and our own moods being reborn
 with renewed energy and life.

Lord,
 in Summer, we remember
 the warmth of Your love for us
 and the light of Your goodness.
 Both are everywhere for those who look.
 Thank You for butterflies,
 birds and wildlife for us to enjoy,
 water to swim in,
 and weather that frees us to romp and play
 while outdoor pleasures are at their peak.

Lord,
 in Fall, we thank You for Your cooling breezes,
 that bring relief from the relentless summer heat.
 We see bright colors fading and dying,
 leaves turning brown, crisp, disintegrating,
 only to be reborn next year,
 reminding us that every living thing, including us,
 must die in some way before being reborn.

Lord,
 in Winter, as white snow blankets the ground,
 we are reminded of Your purity and Your perfection.
 The complexity and beauty of each single snowflake
 only hints at Your transcendent intelligence
 and creativity.

We hunker down and snuggle in,
 knowing this season will wind down
 and Spring will reappear, as it always has
 because You created an orderly, predictable universe,
 not by chance, but from your flawless design.

Thank You for the seasons, Lord,
 and everything in them
 that You created for our enjoyment.

~Be blessed and continue to let the music
 play, Adam

Clothing Box Schedule 2014

Dec 30 – Jan 12	= Audrey Engelbrecht 889-3833
Jan 13 – Jan 26	= Alex Mathewson 594-1513
Jan 27 – Feb 9	= Vicky/Tom Leahy 889-5494
Feb 10 – Feb 23	= Daniel Cuffe 889-7081
Feb 24 – Mar 9	= Connor Snover 293-3195
Mar 10 – Mar 23	= Sterling DePaul 889-3213
Mar 24 – Apr 6	= Abby Wasmer 889-3579
Apr 7 – Apr 20	= Jack DiPietro 401-330-6874
Apr 21 – May 4	= Adam Scoville 269-8746
May 5 – May 18	= Grace Azzolino 402-8618
May 19 – June 1	= Audrey Engelbrecht 889-3833
June 2 – June 15	= Alex Mathewson 594-1513
June 16 – June 29	= Daniel Cuffe 889-7081
June 30 – July 13	= Connor Snover 293-3195
July 14 – Jul 27	= Sterling DePaul 889-3213
July 28 – Aug 10	= Abby Wasmer 889-3579
Aug 11 – Aug 24	= Jack DiPietro 401-330-6874
Aug 25 – Sept 7	= Grace Azzolino 402-8618
Sept 8 – Sept 21	= Adam Scoville 269-8746
Sept 22 – Oct 5	= Audrey Engelbrecht 889-3833
Oct 6 – Oct 19	= Alex Mathewson 594-1513
Oct 20 – Nov 2	= Vicky/Tom Leahy 889-5494
Nov 3 – Nov 16	= Daniel Cuffe 889-7081
Nov 17 – Nov 30	= Connor Snover 293-3195
Dec 1 – Dec 14	= Abby Wasmer 889-3579
Dec 15 – Dec 28	= Jack DiPietro 401-330-6874
Dec 29 – Jan 11	= Adam Scoville 269-8746

CHILI PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH GROUPS

Join us in May for some amazing events. . . bring friends!

Youth Group Schedule

5/3 **SATURDAY! YOUTH GROUP MINI GOLF! - 3-8pm**
-Bring \$20 for golf, food and games!

5/4 **Youth Group** 11am - 1pm after church

5/11 **Jr. High Youth Group** 9am before church
-**Youth Group** 11am - 1pm after church

5/18 **Youth Group Geo Caching Event**
-After church 11-3pm

5/25 **NO Youth Group! Memorial Weekend!**

6/1 **Youth Group** 11am - 1pm after church

6/7 **Saturday - Open Door Mission**
-Meet at church at 5:30pm



Can you believe? -- it's MAY!

First off, many thanks go out to everyone who helped with the Chicken BBQ. It was a huge success! We were able to sell out of chicken at 1:30pm and we had to take the signs down over an hour earlier than normal! There were many people who worked hard selling tickets beforehand which helped us greatly. And everything preparation-wise went smooth. It was a great day and a lot of fun, and we are forever grateful for everyone's support.

April was awesome! We were able to serve at the Open Door Mission at the beginning of the month. It was really eye-opening as always, and a great opportunity for the youth to see the struggles that our community faces here in Rochester. We have also been able to join the Animate Faith Formation Series with the adults for a few weeks to find new ways to seek God in our lives. It is a lot of fun!

Look at the schedule above for great events coming up!

Questions or concerns?

Adam Scoville: cpministerofmusic@gmail.com or 585-269-8746

For the **FUN** of it

How Big Is Your Faith?

Cross out every other letter (the first one is done for you). Then write the remaining letters in the space provided to find out how Jesus described heaven.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	T	I	H	G	E	B	K	I	I	G	N	B	G	I	D	G	O
B	M	I	O	G	F	B	H	I	E	G	A	B	V	I	E	G	N
B	I	I	S	G	L	B	I	I	K	G	E	B	A	I	M	G	U
B	S	I	T	G	A	B	R	I	D	G	S	B	E	I	E	G	D
B	I	I	T	G	I	B	S	I	T	G	H	B	E	I	S	G	M
B	A	I	L	G	L	B	E	I	S	G	T	B	O	I	F	G	S
B	E	I	E	G	D	B	S	I	B	G	U	B	T	I	G	G	R
B	O	I	W	G	S	B	T	I	O	G	B	B	E	I	T	G	H
B	E	I	G	G	R	B	E	I	A	G	T	B	E	I	S	G	T
B	O	I	F	G	T	B	R	I	E	G	E	B	S	I	•	G	•

Answer:
The Kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed. It is the smallest of seeds, but grows to be the greatest of trees. Matthew 13:31-32.

During a recent ecumenical gathering, a secretary rushed into the meeting shouting “The building is on fire!”
The Baptists cried, “Where is the water?” The Quakers quietly praised God for the blessings that fire brings.

The Lutherans posted a notice on the door, declaring the fire was evil.

The Jews posted symbols on the doors, hoping the fire would pass.

The Congregationalists shouted, “Everyone for themselves!”

The Episcopalians formed a procession and marched out.

The Presbyterians appointed a chairperson who was to appoint a committee to look into the matter and submit a written report.

The secretary grabbed the fire extinguisher and put the fire out.

[from Editor’s Clipsheets, June 2014]

insert May calendar

insert back postage page