

Mike's Musings

In the May edition of "In Touch", Charles Stanley's devotional guide, Dr. Stanley shares this personal illustration:

"I know a woman whose mother taught her to pray Psalm 23. As a child, she would often giggle as she thought about the safety and security of King David's words. It was a serious psalm, but her mom always made the message of truth so real and fun.

"When she was older, she found herself praying this same psalm but with different emotion - her recited words were now filled with a sense of desperation. She had drifted in her love for God, and her life was in turmoil. One question haunted her every step: Would God lead her through the valley of regret and back home to His heart? She believed He would because of her mother's faith."

The Bible often shares similar insight. Paul's reflections on Timothy's upbringing come to mind. He writes in 2 Timothy 1:5, "I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also." He also mentions Timothy's spiritual heritage in 2 Timothy 3:14-15, "But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through

faith in Christ Jesus."

Timothy's story is far cry from today's cultural norm. He was suckled on God's Word. Mom and grandma took great care to see that he had a strong spiritual foundation. They understood the importance of passing our faith on to our children and our children's children. This is particularly on my mind today as I make preparations to baptize our newest grandchild, Sarah Nichole. What am I doing to pass on my faith to the next generation?



MATTHEW 19:14

It's not that our post-modern culture doesn't care about children. As a matter of fact we invest millions (if not billions) in the development of our kids. We build "children's" hospitals and do research to cure childhood diseases because we care about their physical well-being. We are passionate about educating our children so they can have every possible advantage. We spend huge blocks of time involving our children in activities like team sports, dance, etc. to help them develop socially and physically. And let's not forget all the "stuff" we give our children - clothes, toys, electronics, cars, etc. - to fulfill their desires and help them keep up with the Jones' kids.

Don't get me wrong. There's a lot of good in all that, and I believe most folks do those things out of love for their children. But did you notice that all of that has a "temporal" focus? It's all about this world. So what are we doing about our children's spiritual development?

Stanley rightly points out, "No matter how appealing the trappings of this life may seem, the greatest gift you can give your children is the truth concerning God's love for them. This is foundational to everything else. If they know that God loves them and that He is faithful, then they will learn to trust Him at every turn in life."

I don't know about you, but the greatest joy of my life is knowing that my children walk in faith. And my most important and lasting ministry has been the training of "my children in the way they should go, so when they are old they will not turn from it." (see Proverbs 22:6)

I pray for my children's success in this world, but I pray more fervently that they will all know Jesus and be part of God's forever family. I also pray that the Lord will continue to help me set before my grandchildren an example of godly living that will mold their character and point them to heaven.

May 13, is Mother's Day. If you can, be sure to let your mom know you love her and thank her for all she taught you about Jesus.

See you Sunday!

Pastor Mike



Take the Plunge!

Vacation Bible School

June 25-29, 2007

9 am - Noon

Ages 4 - 6th grade
(those who have completed 6th grade)

Please be in prayer as preparations are made and consider how you can help.

We will need lots of group leaders!!

Please contact Jodi Strobel
(724-847-1194) for more information.

Sign-up sheets will be passed the next few Sundays during Sunday School for donations of desserts for our annual outreach to Meals on Wheels.

Money donations are accepted if you prefer not to bake.



You can donate 35 regular desserts or 15 diabetic desserts. Our dates are May 14-18 and 21-25. Thank you for your help with this community outreach! If you have any questions, please contact Deloris Housholder or Eileen Bernd.

March Box Score Averages

Sunday School 145	General \$2,945.02
Worship 235	Benevolence... \$1,327.13



Mercy Matters - Contact Beaver Valley

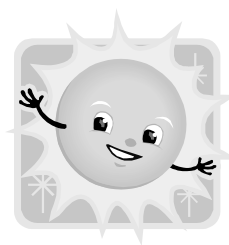
For 26 years, CONTACT Beaver Valley has provided Beaver County residents with a volunteer staffed help-line giving empathy and support people in need. They provide confidential 24-hour telephone response 365 days a year, and their center has taken over 155,000 calls since their beginning in June 1980.

Their primary service is the 24-hour help-line for people who are troubled, lonely, and sometimes suicidal. CONTACT Beaver Valley provides referral information for callers about counseling services, housing, mental health crisis, and energy assistance.

Another service is the CONTACT Reassurance program, which places calls at pre-arranged times to people who are isolated, living alone, shut in, ill, and/or handicapped. The daily calls provide security, making sure the client is in reasonably good health and able to answer the phone. A few minutes of friendly talk lets the client know that somebody cares. This service must be requested.

This non-profit organization shows mercy and provides help over the telephone. If you are willing and able to listen, this is opportunity to serve. A 50-hour training program is offered several times a year for those interested in becoming phone volunteers or for people who wish to improve their communication skills. Call the CONTACT office at 724-728-9511 to find out more about the class. If you or someone you know could benefit from their services, their help-line is 724-728-3650.

Mark Your Calendars for
SUMMER KIDS CLUB!!
Games, Bible Lessons, and
Outdoor Fun!



Wednesday, June 6
Kick-off Picnic at 6:30 pm

June 20, July 11, July 25, August 15
6:30 pm

Saturday, Aug. 25 - Closing Program at 6:30 pm

Invite Your Friends!

For Kids K-6th Grade

People in the Pew: Lois Mignogna

By Pastor Tom

If the Amish could wear purple, Lois Mignogna might feel comfortable joining them as she prefers the low-tech simple life. She lives in the 100-year old house her grandfather built on 21 semi-secluded acres off of Hartzell School Road. Only in recent years, has the house been updated with indoor plumbing, telephone service, and a heating/cooling system (electricity was installed in 1937). Lois says she and her late husband, Dom roughed it at the farm and liked it that way.



Although born in the city, Lois is no city girl. She has always disliked urban and suburban settings, preferring instead the country life. Until she went to college, Lois spent weekends and summers at her family's farm. Her great-grandparent's, the Kleins, immigrated from Alsace-Lorraine and were members at Burry's Church. Growing up in a Christian family, Lois can not remember a time in her life when she did not believe the Gospel and has always trusted in Christ alone for her salvation.

At Chatham College, Lois met her husband, Domenic Mignogna on a blind date. They started dating in February and on December 7, 1948, they were married. They had two children John and Rachel, and later adopted three more: Karen, Jim, and Steve. After moving several times, Dom and Lois settled down in Penn Hills. Dom loved the farm as Lois did, so much so that they would live there from April till October every year. During their 6 month stays at the farm, Dom would commute to his job in the city. In the winter, they moved back to Penn Hills.

Near their home in Penn Hills, the Mignognas were members of the Presbyterian Church in Universal, PA, where Lois served as a Sunday School and VBS teacher, nursery worker, and secretary for their women's circle. When Dom retired in 1987, they moved out to the farm full time and transferred their membership to Burry's. In 1990, Dom passed away. Lois has continued on the farm but never alone. She has Ariel her cat with her at all times, the horses staying in her pasture, and 8 adopted grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren who come to visit her.

Because of poor health, Lois is not as active at Burry's as she would want, but still has a ministry of encouragement through writing letters and sending cards. Her favorite verse is Philippians 4:13 "I can do everything through him who gives me strength." We are grateful the Lord is her strength and that she is a part of our grace-driven family.

Be one of the first to own the **Volume One CD of the Burry's Church "Songs of Praise"!**

The playground committee has once again been busy with the help of our very talented Congregation! We have put together a first rate quality CD which you can purchase for only \$7.00. The CD will feature many of your favorite songs such as "I'll Fly Away", "I've Just Seen Jesus", and "Over the Hilltop"!



We were able to produce this CD because of having so many fabulous artists here at Burry's such as the Men's Quartet, Marilyn Kryder, and Shari (DeRosia) Huggins, and the list goes on!! The CDs will be available for pickup on Sunday, May 27th (with hopes of getting pre-orders out by Mother's Day - but this is not a guarantee!) They will be distributed on a first-ordered basis!

All proceeds will benefit the Playground Fund! We hope that you are as excited about this addition to your music collection as we are! If you would like to pre-order a CD, please complete a form and drop it into a collection plate or give it to a member of the Committee. Forms are located in the bulletin and in the Education Building.

10 Excuses Not to Attend Church

If you took the excuses people use for not going to church and applied them to other important areas of life, you'd realize how inconsistent we can be in our logic.

10 Reasons Not to Wash

1. I was forced to as a child.
2. People who make soap are only after your money.
3. I wash on special occasions like Christmas and Easter.
4. People who wash are hypocrites—they think they are cleaner than everyone else.
5. There are so many different kinds of soap, I can't decide which one is best.
6. I used to wash. It got boring, though, so I stopped.
7. None of my friends wash.
8. The bathroom is never warm enough in the winter or cool enough in the summer.
9. I'll start washing when I get older and dirtier.
10. I can't spare the time.



St. John's "Burry's" Church Youth Ministry

E.T.C.



A.T.F.

MAY 4-5, 2007

IMPORTANT TIMES

Friday, may 4, 2007

leave @ 3:30 pm

Saturday, may 5, 2007

return @ 10:00 pm

\$25.00

We still have available spots for anyone still interested in attending this

JUNE 2, 2007

PITTSBRGH PASSION FOOTBALL GAME

E.T.C.

MAY SCHEDULE

May 6 NO E.T.C.

May 13 6:00-8:00 pm

May 20 Last E.T.C.



...But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:13-14



REASON TO PRAISE

Allie O. taking a nap at one of our overnights.

When was the last time that you took a moment just to praise God for being so awesome? I know this can be hard sometimes, because life is so busy. We are often quick to praise God when He touches us personally, but don't forget...He's always working. He deserves all of our praise! Here are a couple of exciting reports of what the Lord is doing in the E.T.C. Youth Ministry.

We've been growing! We've been averaging at least 30 youth at each of our weekly youth meetings! To some, that may not seem very significant, but we were averaging about 15-20 youth at this time last year. Attendance usually drops off when Spring weather arrives. We do have a lot of new faces popping up everywhere. These new young people are becoming regular attendees at E.T.C., and they are being introduced to Jesus. It has been a blessing to watch the Lord work in their young hearts. It is very encouraging to watch those that are growing quickly! Much love and patience is needed as our young people are introduced to Jesus and as they build their relationship with Him. It is my hope that we, Burry's Church, will reach out to each of these young people with the love of Jesus! We do have a small group of young people that have started attending our Sunday morning worship service. Please take this opportunity to introduce yourself and love on them.

I praise the Lord for providing the E.T.C. with all of the funds needed to pay for our E.T.C. music director's salary, to send our youth to Acquire the Fire, and to purchase a new quality-sounding keyboard.

May God bless all of us as we reach out to our youth with the love of Jesus. We have much work to do, as we point these young people to Jesus, and teach them to praise the Lord for being so awesome!

Laurin Bonzo	1
Shannon Goehring	1
Amanda Young	3
Martin Bonzo	4
Daniel Stuck	4
Wilmer Bonzo	6
Judy Young	7
Bonnie Graham	9
Samuel Hagen	9
Ashton Maley	10
Liam Maley	10
R.J. Ward	11
Adam Strobel	12
Neil Bonzo	13
David Brenner	13



Alyssa Maley	14
Brian Stuck	14
Peg Young	14
Samantha O'Donnell	16
Bronson Strobel	20
Sam Schaub	21
Nellie Rosenmund	22
Joe Brunner	23
Natalie Dubovi	23
Mildred Perza	23
Brandi Bonzo	24
Charlie O'Donnell	24
Louis Dubovi	28
Dot Pflug	28
Travis Strobel	28
Rachel Usselman	30

Woody & Rosemarie Young	10
Don & Mary Lou Niedergall	14
Francis & Arlene Pflug	15
Dale & Mary Bonzo	23
Mike & Alyssa Young	24
Donnie & Darla Ward	26

Thank
You!



I would like to thank the church and the flower committee for the beautiful flowers for my 80th birthday. I was showered with 80 birthday cards, as well! Thank you!

Marian Sullivan

Dear Members of Burry's,
Thanks so much for all your prayers, beautiful cards and visits and telephone calls. Thanks to Pastor Tom for his visit at the hospital.
It will maybe be a couple months until I get full use of my right hand. Thanks again.
Yours in Christ,
Sam Schaub

All of the Cooper Family would like to thank you for all the prayers, cards, and monetary gifts that you have so kindly given during this time in our lives. Please continue to pray for Brant during his long recovery.

*Thank you and God Bless,
The Cooper Family*

Thank you for the beautiful flowers and ham, and your kind expressions of sympathy.

Donna, Ed & Howard Wallis

Thank you for the beautiful flowers I received for my birthday.
Hilda Harley

Wanted...Pictures of Moms with their kids

The Senior High class is collecting photos of the mom's in our church with their children for a Mother's Day presentation. If you have a favorite picture from days gone by, we will use that and return it unharmed. Or we can take a current photo of you and your children, no age limits!

Carol-Lynn Dubovi (class teacher) is trying to coordinate this effort. Give her any photos to be included or see her so she can take your picture. You can also e-mail your pictures to dubovitel@aol.com. The deadline is **Sunday, May 6th**.

Directory Update

Please make a note of the new address for
Deloris Cunningham:
216 S. Main Street R.
Zelienople, PA 16063
724-452-6445

Seneca Valley Baccalaureate Service

This year's baccalaureate service is scheduled for Wednesday, **May 30, at 7:30 pm** in the Seneca Valley Intermediate High School Auditorium..

Please pray for the class of 2007, asking God to guide, encourage and bless them in their life's journey.



Alex and Jean Agha-kahn MTW

At their church, New Life Masih Ghar, they held a pre-Easter Mela (festival) on March 31st. There were bouncy castles, face painting and games for the children. Activities also included a talent show and a gospel presentation. It was followed by a free church dinner. There was a short-term mission team visiting from the US to help with the event among other evangelistic outreach during the week.

Short-term mission teams have started to arrive the end of March and will continue through August. There will be at least 6 teams visiting. This summer includes a full schedule of events with the big event happening late July, the London Evangelism & Prayer conference.

They are also celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary on April 21st by renewing their vows. They will be returning to the U.S. in May for itineration. Please pray for safe travel.

Al & Donna Shannon World Bible Translators

After a short visit back to Aldan, Pennsylvania, Al went to Lima, Peru to discuss furthering the transfer of their Lima Media services department into Peruvian leaders. Wycliff-SIL Peru will be finishing their work in the next 2 years and turning the promotional aspects of the translated Scriptures to the local church and Peruvian Christian leaders.

Donna visited Runa Sim mission center to observe the digital recording of the New Testament in Quechua. It takes 25 voices and 45 days to accomplish such a task.

Prayers are asked for the Ayacucho in the central Andes where Donna is helping coordinate Bible literacy workshops for 5000 Quechua women who have small businesses to teach them to read and write their own language, Quechua. The workshops last 5 days and each participant receive their own Ayacucho Quechua Bible. Please pray for Donna and the 3 women from Runa Simi who came to direct and train 13 bilingual staff members.

Recipe Corner - DAILY SURVIVAL KIT *from Burry's Church Cookbook*

Ingredients:

Toothpick Rubber Band Band Aid Pencil Eraser Chewing Gum
Mint Candy Kisses Tea Bags

Preparations:

- ♥ Toothpick - Remember to *pick out the good qualities* in others. ~ Matthew 7:1
- ♥ Rubber Band - Remember you need to *be flexible*, things might not always go the way you want, but it will work out. ~ Romans 8:28
- ♥ Band Aid - Remember to *heal hurt feelings*, yours or someone else's. ~ Col. 3:12-14
- ♥ Pencil - Remember to *list your blessings* everyday! ~ Ephesians 1:3
- ♥ Eraser - Remember that *everyone makes mistakes*, and it's okay. ~ Genesis 50:15-21
- ♥ Chewing Gum - Remember to *stick with it* and you can accomplish anything. ~ Phil. 4:13
- ♥ Mint - Remember that you are *worth a mint*. ~ John 3:17
- ♥ Candy Kisses - Remember that *everyone needs a kiss or a hug* everyday. ~ 1 John 4:7
- ♥ Tea Bag - Remember to *relax daily* and go over that list of blessings in your life. ~1 Thess. 5:18