



# HILLTOP NEWS

July 2007

## Mike's Musings

This is a busy seasons for kids stuff here at Burry's. We just dedicated our beautiful playground. Our committee did a wonderful job of rallying our church family around this worthy effort. Did you know they raised approximately \$23,000.00 in just eleven months? Wow!! It affirms one of my ministry assumptions: resource follows vision. Last night, following Kids Club, there was some spare time before moms and dads picked up their progenies. Guess where the kids headed? Mostly to the playground.

By the time you read this article, our campus will have been inundated with scores of active, excited youngsters for our Vacation Bible School. This year's theme is "Take the Plunge! – Make a Splash with Jesus!" For five days a busy, dedicated staff of caring Christians will endeavor to challenge those kids to "Plunge into. . ." obedience, worship, courage, service and faith. Our facilities will be well used for that effort. VBS extends well beyond the playground. We use the picnic pavilion, the sanctuary, the fellowship hall, the large hall downstairs, the class rooms, the nursery, the kitchen. . . you name it, we'll use it!

If you've ever been around Burry's on Wednesday nights in the Fall and Winter months, you know that the kind of activities I've just described

are also experienced weekly at our Bible Club. Anywhere from 30 to 70 kids gather together under the capable leadership of Linda Goehring and her dedicated "crew" of adult and youth workers to minister the love of Jesus to boys and girls – many of whom are un-churched. They build relationships through play and are built up spiritually through Bible lessons, music and memory verses. It's an outstanding outreach.

Two extensions of Bible Club are our Jesus Festival in October and our Pinewood Derby in March. These two happenings center around fun activities, but it is understood that our goal is to open our arms and hearts to kids and their families to share the good news of great joy we have in Christ.

I don't have room enough to talk about the occasional play days and mother's days out. And we can't forget about Sunday School! That weekly regimen of getting boys and girls (adults too) into the Word. Fulfilling the admonishment of Proverbs 22:6 – "Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it." God has truly blessed us through the years with faithful, compassionate teachers. They've helped make Sunday School a health, strong arm of our ministry to children.

In our church's constitution and by-laws we find a telling statement about our priorities as a church:

"Our highest aim is the worship of God in spirit and in truth, the advancement of the Christian Life through the preaching of the Gospel, the administration of the Holy Sacraments, and **Christian instruction in Church and School.**" Sunday School, as well as Junior and Toddler Church are part of our effort to fulfill that mandate in the lives of children.

I hope you've noticed in our recent celebrations of Baptism that we continue to commit ourselves, as God's people, to the support of parents in the spiritual development of their kids. We stand with parents and affirm our solidarity to "assist them in the Christian nurture of their children." It is a vital responsibility in an era where children are being enticed away from the church by the cultural Pied Pipers of media, entertainment and hedonism.

Years ago, I was an active member of Kiwanis International. One of the values of that organization that gripped me was "Kids Priority One: Connecting Children and Families and Resources". I think that is a worthy goal for the church as well; especially a church like Burry's which is blessed with such rich resources of land, money and people.

God has placed us in a strategic location at the top of this hill. It's hard to miss the fact that Cranberry Township is moving ever closer.

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## Dessert & Fireworks

The Guiding Light Class is sponsoring an evening for our church family to fellowship, play, and watch fireworks displays from the surrounding communities on July 4th at 7:30 p.m. Bring your favorite dessert to share!

### Mark Your Calendars for these Special Events!



July 1  
VBS Program and Picnic

July 15  
Confirmation Sunday

July 22  
Missionaries, Kevin & Kathy Cram  
Evening Dessert Social

July 29  
Holy Communion

(If you or someone you know is a shut-in and in need of Communion, please contact the office or one of the Elders.)

**Burry's Church,**

*Thank you so much for our flowers on our 58th anniversary, May 14, 2007.*

*~Don & Mary Lou Niedergall*

## Concert in the Park

Sponsored by Christians United in  
Beaver County

**Sunday, July 8**

**7:00 p.m.**

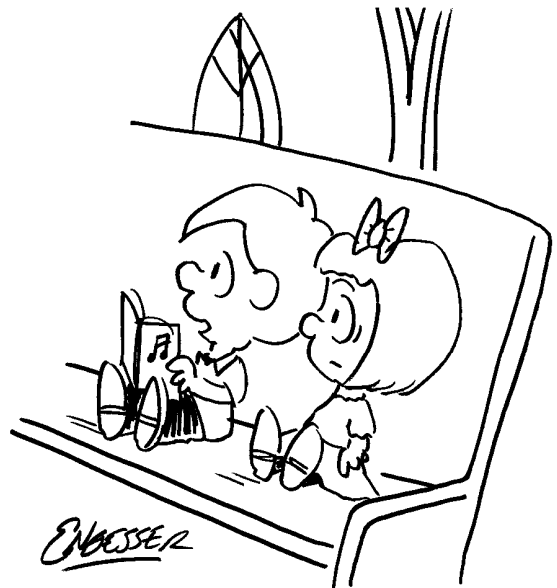
At the Bandstand in Quay Square Park  
Third Street, Beaver, PA

Hosted by Pastor Mike

This concert will feature Richard Martsolf of Aliquippa and is the founder/director of the One Voice Music Festival in Hookstown. Also appearing will be Mike Hovanec, a Cornerstone Television singer.

Please bring your own lawn chair.  
A love offering will be taken.

In the event of rain, the concert will be held in the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church on 3rd Street.



"Dad's 'Joy, joy, joy, joy down in his heart' turned out to be indigestion."



***People in the Pew:*** Viola Blinn

**By Pastor Tom**

“Zacchaeus was a wee little man and a wee little man was he.” So goes the children’s song about the height-challenged tax collector, who climbed up a sycamore tree to catch a glimpse of Jesus. It’s a song Viola Blinn will never forget because as a small child, her Sunday School teacher compared her to Zacchaeus because of her petite size. Viola was baptized and raised up at Burry’s Church and she has a lifetime of good memories here.

Some of her fondest memories from Burry’s are the picnics, which took place in Young’s woods. She recalls the bands that played there and the swings. Viola will never forget the swings, especially the time one hit her and broke her jaw. Four weeks later, x-rays showed her jaw was healed and her mouth was unwired.

Viola was born and raised on a farm in Unionville, 89 years ago (her birthday is November 10<sup>th</sup>). Her brother is Russell Zahn and her sister is Bertha Schaub. Her parents were believers, who raised Viola as a Christian. Prayer and daily Scripture reading were part of her life growing up. She can not recall a time when she did not know Jesus as her Lord and Savior.

After high school, Viola married Philip “Tip” Blinn. Two years later they moved into a house on Madison Drive in Zelienople where they lived until his death. The day they moved in, Viola gave birth to her eldest daughter, Bonnie. She thinks that chasing Arlene Blinn around the house for fun on her birthday probably induced the delivery. She and Tip went on to have 5 more children. Viola worked as a homemaker and made quilts on the side.

Viola has good memories of her Confirmation Class. Sam Schaub and Miriam Cable were in her class with Rev. Hayner. Her favorite Bible verse was given to her at Confirmation. It is the Great Commission found in Matthew 28:19-20 “*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*” We would all do well to memorize Viola’s favorite verse as “Pointing people to heaven in 2007” is our theme. We thank God for Viola Blinn, a beloved member of our “grace-driven” family.

Thank you to the church for the beautiful birthday flowers and to Linda Young for delivering them.  
Thank you to Pastor Tom for the beautiful card and letter he sent and for his visits and prayers. They mean a lot to me.  
Thank you to Pastor Mike for his visit when I was in the hospital.  
And to Dave & Jean Gold for delivering the bulletins and newsletters. They are good cousins!  
Thanks to everyone for their cards.  
Love,  
Mildred Perza

*Our Dear Friends at Burry’s Church,  
Thank you so much for the prayers and cards we received during the passing our father and grandfather, Web Householder. It has been a great comfort knowing his is in the presence of our Lord. The support of our church family meant a great deal to us at a difficult time. A special thanks to Pastor Mike and the Faith Circle.  
Sincerely,  
Patty & David Emerick and family*



Visit the Burry’s Church Booth at the 44th Annual Horse Trading Days!

Three days of crafts, food, entertainment and fun for the entire family!

Thursday, July 19 -  
Saturday, July 21, 2007

If you are willing to meet new friends and invite them to share with us here at Burry’s, then consider acting as a roaming ambassador for the Burry’s booth.

Contact the office or look for sign-up sheets to volunteer for this important and fun outreach event!

Thanks to all who helped with the Strawberry Festival on Saturday, June 16, 2007.

A great time of fellowship and delicious food was enjoyed by all who attended.

\$1,225.58 was earned.

## From Our *Huron & Tom Claus-CHIEF* Missionaries



CHIEF is asking GOD for 10,000 new prayer partners. They are asking everyone to help launch this new prayer thrust among our friends and will send new prayer guides to help with this task. As quoted from a dear friend of theirs, Peter Deyneka, a Russian evangelist, "No prayer-no power, little prayer-little power, much prayer-much power".

Huron spent time among the Cherokee Indians in the Smokey Mountains of North Carolina. The women of several churches united together to plan a Men's Discipleship Conference. This was never done before. 36 men came and 8 made first time commitments to trust Christ as Savior. Praise the Lord!

They also went to northern Arizona to conduct a School Without Walls for the Hopi Indians living on the third Mesa. The church was filled with adults and a great number of young people. The Hopi Indians have been one of the most difficult tribes to reach with the Gospel. They adhere to the Hopi religion, praying to their Kachina spirits. Through the faithful service of missionaries and the changed lives of the Hopi believers, they are beginning to see a breakthrough of the Gospel.

### *Mercy Matters: Missionary Coffee by Pastor Tom*

Did you know that 80% of the adults in the United States purchase coffee regularly and drink it daily? Most of the staff here at Burry's are coffee drinkers too. So a little bag of Ethiopian coffee beans given to me at General Assembly caught my attention. They were from Mission To the World (MTW) missionaries Andy & Bev Warren.

The Warrens are part of a missions team working in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. They work at church-planting, community Bible studies and caring for people with HIV/AIDS. Besides proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ, they also show Christ's love with food and medical care. They help those with HIV earn money for their families by processing coffee beans. At present, the roasted coffee they produce is not available for sale in the USA, but hopefully will be in the future.

Whether you are a coffee drinker or not, you can pray for the Warrens, their family and ministry in Ethiopia. If you would like to see what the Warrens are doing their web-site is [www.ethiopiahiv.org](http://www.ethiopiahiv.org). If you are interested in buying coffee locally from a Christian ministry that actually helps people in Africa, you can get Uganda Gold coffee from Mr. Worth Helms at 724-940-2312 or via email at [whelms@hotmail.com](mailto:whelms@hotmail.com). He is with the Anglican (Episcopal Church) and was recently featured in an article in the Beaver County Times.

Who would have thought that drinking coffee could help folks on the other side of the world and be a part of advancing the Kingdom!

### *May Box Score Averages*

Sunday School.....	135	General .....	\$2,954.89
Worship .....	214	Benevolence ..	\$1,269.88



### *Recipe Corner -*


#### **Barbeque Sauce for Chicken or Ribs by John Steinacker**

1 tbsp. soy sauce	1/2 cup brown sugar
1/3 cup chili sauce	1/2 cup catsup
1 small onion, chopped	1 tsp. celery seed
1 cup water	

Mix ingredients together and pour over meat. Bake at 325 for 2 - 2 1/2 hours, uncovered.

Sounds great! I think I'll try brushing this on meat while grilling out this summer. Enjoy!



Mike Bernd	2		Eric Riley	14
Judy Young	2		Karen Kaufman	16
Brittany Catron	2		William Rahn	16
Donald Young	3		Evan Aland	17
Russell Zahn	3		Tom Smith	17
Harold Bernd	4		Lois Miller	19
Johnathan Goehring	4		Julie Pflug	21
Russell Poland	4		Thomas Weil	21
Dorothy Schaub	4		Shane Sheets	23
Mildred Steinacker	5		Raymond Wahl	23
Linda Goehring	6		Raymond & Dorothy Pflug	5
Kelsie Ralston	8		Tim & Lynn Concelman	9
Rosemarie Young	9		John & Carol Tuma	11
Marcella Young	11		Charlie & Ann O'Donnell	12
Marjorie Anderson	14		Brian & Beth Stuck	15
Kristen Brenner	14		Walter & Marcy Mohrbacher	19
			Thad & Gena Tokar	26
			Ed & Jennifer Young	28
			Zachary Harley	27
			Ana Smith	28
			Jennifer Young	29
			Virginia Zahn	30
			Chris Brenner	31
			Jessica Brunner	31

### Mike's Musings - continued from Page 1

In the midst of these growing communities are children in need of a Savior. Children and families looking for friendship, authenticity, and spiritual direction. I believe God has called us to be a church whose light shines out to such seekers. As a "Grace-driven Family of God", it is incumbent on us to love God and others and to proclaim to all the good news of redemption in Jesus Christ. That includes the children.

What I'm trying to say is, God has raised up the foundations of a wonderful ministry to children through Burry's Church. It is one of our strengths. I think it makes sense to build to our strengths. If that's true, then what can we do to make children welcome on this campus? How can we share with them, in understandable ways, the truth of God's Word? Who else can we encourage to join our army of dedicated workers who give of their time, monies, energies and love to minister to our covenant children and our community's children? How big are we willing to dream, how diligently are we willing to work and how fervently are we willing to pray for these things?

I'm praying for 100 kids in VBS this year. Yes, it means a lot of extra work for our dedicated crew, but it also means more opportunity to reach more children with the message of the gospel. When some adults got agitated with people bringing their kids to Jesus, He got rather indignant. And he said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." (Mark 10:14-15) Mark then tells us that Jesus "took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them."

As representatives of Jesus Christ, I say we should follow His example. "Let the little children come to us." And let's be ready and willing to "bless them" in His name. Let's open our doors, our arms, our pocket books and our hearts to minister to them. How wonderful it would be if the Lord allowed us to reach hundreds of kids for Jesus sake. If we will accept that challenge, I'm confident we will also reach their moms and dads and siblings. Who knows? Maybe the next phase of our vision will be a Christian school. Wouldn't that be a magnificent way to turn the hearts of the next generation to Christ? It's worth thinking about.

See you Sunday!

Pastor Mike



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

## E.T.C.

### EVENTS

# JULY 7, 2007

#### CEDAR POINT TRIP

Tickets are \$33.00 if signed up by June 30



## '07 SSB CAMP

# July 22-26, 2007

Early Bird rate if registered by July 6, 2007

**\$140.00**

### 2008 SUMMER MISSIONS TRIP INFO MEETING

Sunday, July 8, 2007  
after church in the Educational Building

## TEENTIME

Monday Evening  
Community Youth Event

6:00-8:00 pm

### WEDNESDAY EVENING

UPPER ROOM BIBLE STUDY & PICK-UP  
SOFTBALL STARTS

@ 6:00 PM

# JUNE

# 755



755... No, 755 isn't the official E.T.C. lottery number, though donations would be greatly appreciated if you win while playing that number. Anyway, 7-55 was the final score at the June 2 Pittsburgh Passion football game that the E.T.C. attended. We had a lot of fun as we watched Missy Yeck play in her final season with the Passion.

We also had a lot of fun at the June 9, E.T.C. Summer Kick-off. It was definitely a redneck style party as we made a huge slip & slide out of plastic, bales of hay, and a couple of garden hoses. I spoke to the young people about living authentic lives for Jesus. Teen Time started on June 18th. The Teen Time summer theme is making the connection between our faith and our lives. I spoke to the kids at the first Teen Time, and challenged them think about how they are living, to take a stand for their faith, and to make a difference. June 20, marked the beginning of the Upper Room Bible Study and the E.T.C. summer softball nights. We will be studying a book called, "The Power of a Positive Teen." All I can say about the softball is that I ain't as young as I used to be!



**"I think the hardest thing for teenagers is self-love. They aren't learning to accept themselves for who they are. They're doing drugs, they're cutting themselves, and they have eating disorders. The communication between adults and kids just isn't there."**

- Actress Brittany Snow (TV show *American Dreams*), *Seventeen*, November 2004, p. 80.

## Summer

## Missions

JUNE 13-23, 2008

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA

GRADES 6th - 12th

(Limited spaces available)

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

ON SUNDAY, JULY 8, 2007

AFTER CHUCH IN THE ED. BUILDING