

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

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THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thanks for the "goodies" box. Enjoyed!

John Mushovic

Dear Women of the Church,

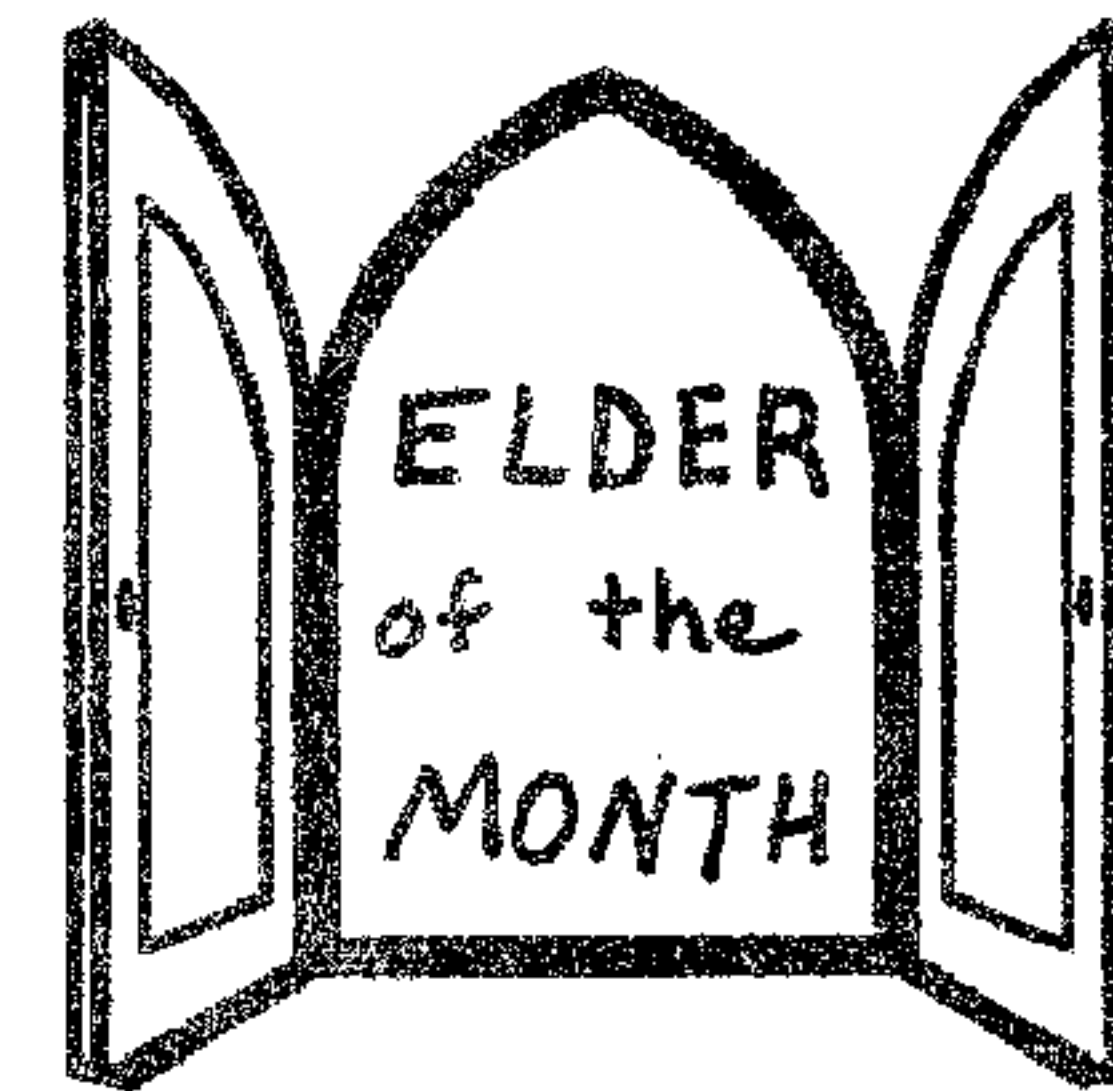
Thank you very much for remembering me on Valentines Day. This meant a lot to me. I am very thankful for caring people like you.

Thanks Again,
Tyler Wonders

Thank you all for supporting me in the journey to ordination. The reception you hosted provided a great opportunity to visit and celebrate. I also appreciate the gift of the stole from the Session as well as the many cards and individual gifts. It is a rare thing for a person to be ordained in the same sanctuary in which they were baptized and confirmed. I thank you for the gracious support and guidance you all extended to me from birth until now helping to shape me into the person and pastor I have become.

Thank you very much,
Rev. Michael J. Fry

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Doris Mae Kennedy is a first year member of session and chairperson of the Fellowship Committee. Psalm 23:1a *"The Lord is my Shepherd"* is very meaningful to her.

I would like to talk to you about mission. Have you thought about our mission as a Church? Have you thought about your personal mission? Where will our church be 5 years – 10 years from now? What would you like to see happen? Let's step out of our comfort zone and explore the possibilities.

One possibility I have thought about for a long time has to do with worship. Most of us were brought up with some kind of traditional worship service, yet I feel that we need to take our traditional ideas and expand on them. We need to meet people where they are.

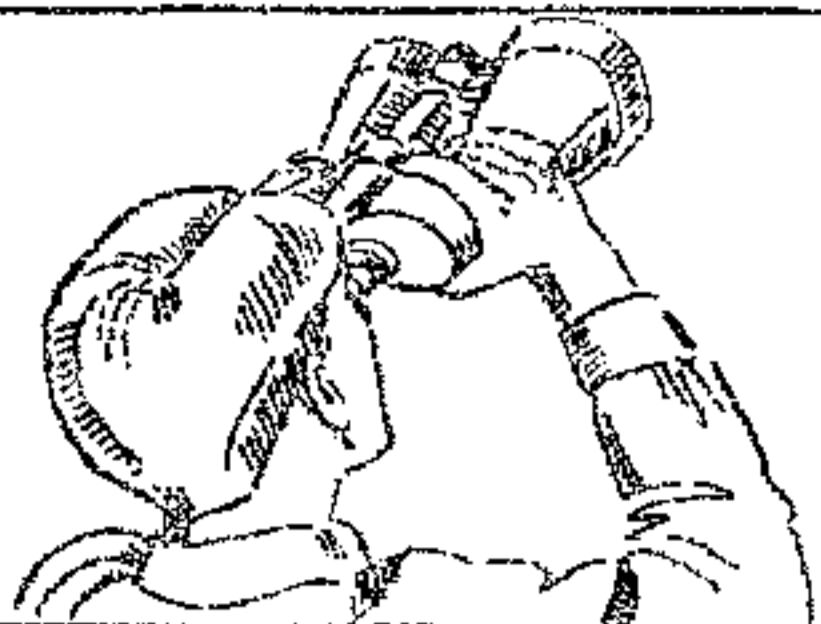
One way we could do this is by adding a different kind of worship service on Saturday evenings. This service would be more laid back, with more contemporary Christian music played by all kinds of instruments, and refreshments after the service. Hopefully new people would come and join in our fellowship.

What do you think? I'd like to hear your thoughts. (776-6923)

Yours in Christ,
Doris Mae Kennedy

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Anyone wishing to borrow any church property (tables, chairs, etc.) Please let a trustee know so the board may be aware of the request. Only certain tables and chairs may be borrowed.



Pastor Vern's
Views

Greetings All,

Henry Nouwen in his book, "Life of the Beloved" says, "Being the Beloved expresses the core truth about our existence."

If Nouwen is right, and I believe he is, our value and worth are centered not in what we accomplish but simply in the fact that God loves each and every one of us.

That God loves us unconditionally is a fact that is often lost on us. As a result many of us go through life attempting to prove our value and worth, as we try to live up to the expectations of ourselves, others and society.

As the Beloved of God, we have nothing to prove, but are free to live fully into God's love, and into everything good thing that God has for us in Jesus Christ.

Another fact that is often lost on us is that everyone around us is the Beloved of God too. Yes, even the people we are at odds at, the stranger on the street, the nicest person we know and the meanest one too!

What difference can this knowledge make for our daily lives? What difference can it make for how we think about and act toward others and ourselves?

During the month of March the Sunday sermons will continue to interact with Nouwen's book as we reflect both on how we can live more fully as God's beloved and the implications it may have for our lives.

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you, and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma. (Ephesians 5:1-2)

In Christ,
Pastor Vern



Our local food bank is sponsored by the Newville Interchurch Council and serves families in the Big Spring School District. Distribution occurs the last Monday of each month. This January the food bank storage moved to Big Spring United Lutheran Church and distribution is from the Family Life Center of that church.

To qualify for food, family income must be at or below %150 of the poverty level. A unit of food consists of a large box and a bag full of food and is estimated at about \$120 actual value. Aided by your donations as well as grants and subsidies in 2009 this amount of food was provided at about \$10.60 per unit and 2,151 units of food were served to an average of 179 families monthly.

Current economic conditions have led to a steady increase in families using the food bank. On January 25, 2010, 194 units of food were distributed!

A big THANK YOU is in order for all of the support from our local congregations through volunteers, food donations and monetary donations. Your support is what makes it possible to serve those in need.



