



# Spring Newsletter

## Coming Soon

**Saturday, March 21st @ 5:00 pm -  
Sweetheart Dinner**

**Saturday, March 28th @ 1:00pm -  
Flyer Handout Easter Promotion**

**Saturday, April 4th from 1-4pm -  
Craft Show**

**Sunday, April 5th from 6-9pm -  
Stations of the Cross**

**Thursday, April 9th @ 7:30 -  
Maundy Thursday**

**Saturday, April 11th from  
11:30am - 1:00pm - Egg Hunt**

**Sunday, April 12th @ 9:30 @  
11:00am - Easter Services**

## Encouragement in the “Winter Grays”

I was talking to a friend the other day, and he indicated that the North East had seen more than the usual amount of “gray days” this year. For many, gray days tend to bring discouragement especially in the limited daylight hours of winter. The Scriptures tells us of times of discouragement in the lives of the Jewish people. One of these took place during the 6<sup>th</sup> Century B.C. when the Jewish people had returned home to rebuild the temple. You might think that this would be a joyous time, however, it was actually a time that was plagued with pessimism and discouragement. The people were still under Babylonian rule, and they were receiving opposition from the surrounding nations. It was during this gray time, that the prophet Zechariah came on the scene, and God gave him a message of encouragement and hope for the people. This Old Testament book begins with these words,

ZEC 1:1 In the eighth month of the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to the prophet **Zechariah** son of **Berekiah**, the son of **Iddo**:

It is interesting, that in this opening statement of the book of Zechariah, we find a true message of hope. The name Zechariah means “God Remembers,” his fathers name (Berechiah) means “God Blesses,” and his grandfather (Iddo) means “at the appointed time.” During these “gray days”, God brings to the Jewish people a message of hope through his prophet Zechariah.

God remembers, God blesses, at the appointed time. This is a message that is not just for the people in Jerusalem in the 6<sup>th</sup> century B.C., but it is also a message for us today, especially as we go through this Lenten season and look to the passion of Christ and the joy of the resurrection. In the celebration of Lent, we are reminded that God has not forgotten us, but has sent his Son Jesus into the world to bless us, and that he has done this at an appointed time. This should be an encouragement to all who follow Christ. We read in the book of Zechariah,

ZEC 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion!

Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem!  
See, your king comes to you,  
righteous and having salvation,  
gentle and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

God has not forgotten you, but has sent his son to bless you and He has done this at his appointed time. Our King came, gentle, riding on a donkey, that He might bring salvation, and set all things right. May this Lenten season be a time where the grayness of life disappears as you focus on the hope we have in Christ, and as you set your eyes on Him who is your salvation.

It's great to be your pastor,  
Jamie

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## Sermon Series Coming Soon - Prime Time

April 26th	<b>Heroes</b> (Not Of This World.)
May 3rd	<b>24</b> (Is there any way out of this?)
May 10th	<b>The Office</b> (From Awkward to Authentic.)
May 17th	<b>American Idol</b> (Getting to "HOLLYWOOD!")
May 24th	<b>The Biggest Loser</b> (Living by a different measure.)
May 31st	<b>Survivor</b> (Living by a different code.)

## Craft/Vendor Show

**Saturday, April 4th**

**1pm to 4pm**

*Ashland Church*

*33 East Evesham Rd E*

*Voorhees, NJ*

Don't forget Easter and Mother's Day are coming soon !

*Please come out and support our youth fundraiser for missions and retreats.*

## Egg Hunt

**Saturday April 11th**

**Rain or Shine**

**11:30 am to 1:00 pm**

**Infants to 5th grade and their families**

(ages will be separated)

FREE egg hunt, prizes, food & crafts! Also, there will be a home-baked bake sale to support the Women in Ministry Faith Focus project of the EPC.

You'll get an extra prize if you meet all of our special guests! Ask us how. See you here at Ashland Church!

## Spring Service Projects

### Easter Baskets

We'll be putting together baskets for children & teens in need in our community. You can get involved by Donating any of the following items by May 29th.

- Easter Baskets or buckets
- Small toys & gadgets (anything that will fit in a basket)
- Books
- toiletries (toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant etc.)
- gift cards (to purchase necessities such as underwear, socks shoes etc.)

### Mother's Day Gift Bags

There are many mothers in our community who work so hard to take care of their children sacrificing many of their own things. We'd like to fill up some gift bags that enable them to do something for themselves. You can help by donating any of the following items by May 3rd.

- Pretty Gift Bags
- Toiletries
- Pampering items (bath salts, bubbles, face masks etc.)
- Gift cards for a haircut/manicure etc
- New clothes or shoes

## Food Pantry

Ashland Church is collecting food to be given to Park Avenue Community Church's food pantry (Somerdale, NJ). Their shelves have been depleted and food is going fast do the current economy, so please get involved.

You can drop off your dried and canned goods to Ashland Church on

Tuesdays and Fridays from 10am - 4 pm or Sunday mornings.

(33 E Evesham Rd, Voorhees)

We are also collecting tortillas, rice, canned meat & fish and beans for another group which you can drop off at the church as well. Please spread the word.

## Blanket & Coat Drive

Ashland Church has also partnered with a local girl scout troop for a coat and blanket drive (hats, gloves, sweaters etc. are also accepted). We are still collecting because it is still cold. Donations can be dropped off on

Tuesdays and Fridays

from 10 am - 4 pm or Sunday mornings

## Every Sunday

**Sunday School** - Age appropriate and fun Christian Education for everyone (from infants to adults) at 9:30 AM. There is also an adult class @ 11:00 AM for those who attend the 9:30 AM service.

**KIDS Church** - Elementary children are dismissed during the 11 AM worship services for a multi-media, Biblical and (of course) fun lesson during the sermon time of the worship service. *Children whose parents are in Sunday School or worship team can sit in the front left pew and will be supervised 'till KIDS Church starts.*

**Nursery** - While their parents worship at the 11:00 AM service, infants through Pre-K have a fun playtime and lessons at their level.

**Parents** - *the Sunday Children's Programs are set up so that you can be in a Worship Service and an Adult Education Class on Sunday mornings so please feel free to take advantage of this.*

## Upcoming Events

**Sweetheart Banquet** - Saturday, March 21, 2009 @ 5:00pm

**Flyer Handout Easter Promotion** - Saturday, March 28th @ 1:00pm Watch for sign-up sheets.

**Craft Show** - Saturday, April 4th from 1:00 - 4:00pm

**Stations of the Cross** - Sunday, April 5th from 6:00 - 9:00pm

**Maunder Thursday** - Thursday, April 9th @ 7:30pm

**Egg Hunt** - Saturday, April 11th from 11:30am - 1:00pm

**Easter Services** - Sunday, April 12th @ 9:30am & 11:00am

**Rummage Sale** - April 24th & 25th

**Spring Cleanup** - to be announced

**Healing Service** - Sunday, May 3rd @ 7:00pm

**Ladies Tea** - Saturday, May 16th @ 9:00am

**Understanding Teen Culture Seminar** - Sunday, June 7th @ 7:00pm

## Small Groups

We have nine small groups that meet regularly at various homes in the area at different days and times. There may be a small group meeting in a home near you!

If you'd like to join one, please contact Claudia Tahan at 856-795-7837, or e-mail her at ctahan@verizon.net.

## ESL Update

We are looking for volunteers from our Ashland Church members and will be organizing training. We believe this ministry is vital to loving our neighbor so please, prayerfully consider getting involved.

If you are interested please email Janine Fleming @ janine@ashlandchurch.org

## Always Going On...

**Wee Worship Choir** - every Wednesday from 6:30 - 7:00 pm

**Kid's Choir** - every Wednesday from 6:30 - 7:00 pm

**Youth Choir** - every Wednesday from 6:00 - 6:30 pm

**Adult Choir** - every Wednesday @ 7:20 pm

**Wednesday Night Kids** - every Wednesday from 7 - 8 pm

**English as a Second Language** - Wednesday evening at 7 pm in the library

**Foug's Crew** - every Wednesday from 7:00 pm - 8:30

**Middle School Youth Group** - every Sunday @ 5:00 pm

**Sr. High Youth Group** - every Sunday @ 7:00 pm

**Blanket Making /Knitting** - 2nd Monday of the month @ 9:30 am

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** - 3rd Monday of the month @ 7:00 pm

**Men's Prayer Group** - every Tuesday from 6:00 - 7:00 am

**Worship Team** - every Tuesday @ 8:00pm

## Future Events

**Velocity** (Youth summer camp) - June 26th - July 2

**Church Picnic** - July 12th, 2009, after service, in Washington Lake Park. Come join in the fellowship, food, and games!

**Mission Trip GHope Street Camp** - July 20th - July 24th & July 27th - July 31st

**Sports and Arts Camp** - Thursday evenings in July

**Sports and Arts Camp Dinner** - Saturday, August 1st

**SonRock VBS** - August 11th - Aug 14th

## Understanding Teen Culture Seminar

Do you ever worry about your kids safety online? Do you feel left behind, not knowing how to use the services the kids are using? Do you wonder why this is important? Learn how you can use it to benefit your parenting and communication with your children.

Seminar will be taught by Ken Buck, a 14 year veteran youth worker. Topics include Facebook, MySpace, and other online communities.

Seminar will be on June 7th @ 7:00pm.

## Remembering the Holidays

### Thank-you for giving this Thanksgiving!

Because of your generosity, we were able to help a good number of families this past Thanksgiving. Over \$700 was given in gift cards that were distributed to local families in need in our community and in the a local elementary school.

You also donated a large amount of food to fill not only our numerous Thanksgiving baskets but also to assist Park Avenues Church with their baskets. Many local families had a plentiful Thanksgiving because of your generosity.

Ashland Staff

### Prayer and Fasting

Over several weeks leading up to Thanksgiving, our pastor called the church to a time of prayer and fasting. We fasted and prayed for 24 hours from Sunday to Monday night, when we came together in the Sanctuary for a time of corporate prayer. It was a time where we sang songs and gave praises to our Lord; a time of just crying out to Him; a time of asking for healing and it was also a sweet time where we had a chance to hear the soft little voices of children praying. The presence of the Holy Spirit was quite evident, not only at that time but throughout as we see how He is moving in our church.

Claudia Tahan

### Your Christmas Generosity

Once again this Christmas you all pulled together and were such a blessing to local families. Over \$100 in gift cards were donated to go to families in the local elementary school. Not only did you give gift cards, you also donated presents for 12 families this Christmas and gave more presents to help local families and children in group homes through Youth on the Move. Once again, your generosity is deeply appreciated.

Ashland Staff

### Ashland's Family Christmas Program

Our congregation, children's families, teachers and friends gathered together to be entertained and uplifted as we discovered the true gift of Christmas. Through choirs of all ages, bell playing, carol singing, skits, multi-media poems, a dove with her barnyard friends, little ones learning to spell and even a visit from some very lively Dalmatians we learned that the true and greatest gift of Christmas is the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. All ages participated, from our smallest toddler with dear old dad assisting to our gifted seniors. Thank you to all who helped. We can't wait to see what happens next year!

Ashland Staff

## Women in Ministry 39th Annual Christmas Dinner

It was a very special evening when the ladies gathered to celebrate 100 years of ministry here at Ashland Church. Horner Hall was transformed into Candy land, with a lighted Christmas tree trimmed with red and green wrapped candies; and joined by gingerbread boys and girls scattered throughout to complete the merry atmosphere.

The tables were beautifully decorated with red candles and centerpieces of pitchers with gingerbread girls on them and holding carnations and red berries. Everyone received a favor of a ceramic gingerbread boy. 127 women enjoyed a delicious catered meal of Chicken Marsala or Vegetable Lasagna, served professionally by the "good men of Ashland".

After dinner, we proceeded to the sanctuary for a presentation by Bell a deux and Sherry and Bob Gardner, hand bell artists in concert, accompanied by harp, voice, and piano. We showed our appreciation for their talent with a standing ovation.

We thank everyone involved in making our 100th Anniversary celebration a night to remember. We also thank God for no snow!

Elynor Smith

## Worship Arts

Again, January session at Institute for Worship Studies was awesome! I'm grateful to Ashland Church for giving me the opportunity to attend, and I hope to share what I am learning.

The course that I am taking this semester is "Worship in a Trans-cultural World:" the study of worship from various cultural perspectives, how they are similar, how they differ, and how they can effectively enhance, enliven, and enrich each other.

Basically, this is a study of the worship practices of the world's two billion Christians. (Hmm...could be a long semester.)

Carol Holmes - Music Director

## Women's Study - A Response to Human Trafficking

The women began the six-week study "Embracing an Aching Heart" in February. This study is tied into the EPC's Faith Focus project. We meet on Thursday nights and Fridays at noon, where we've been having a lot of good discussions. It has opened up our eyes to the atrocities of human sex trafficking. But it has also opened up our eyes to what God has to say about this subject and how much he wants us to care for and love the oppressed and neighbors in need. We look forward to what God has planned for us and what He is preparing us for.

We are working on a fund-raiser for the Faith Focus project, Eagle's Wings, the group home for girls in Albania, which we introduced in the last newsletter. If you would like to make a contribution, please contact Claudia Tahan at 856-795-7837 or e-mail her at [ctahan@verizon.net](mailto:ctahan@verizon.net)

Claudia Tahan

## Preserving God's Gift to Us

On April 22 many people will be celebrating the wonderful Earth that God has given us, they will also be challenging us to take better care of it. How does this effect us as Christians?

We sing, "This is our Father's world..." Are we making decisions and acting in a way that helps to care for it or to harm it?

We sing, "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord..." Do our actions help to let those creatures continue to have breath and praise God in the way they were made to do?

We strive to "Love our neighbor as ourselves..." yet so many of us make unknowing purchases that cause starvation and even slave trade and we encourage pollution that hurts their health.

With a little bit of research we can find simple ways to help our actions match our words as we become better stewards of God's creation. Here are some suggestions, try one or try them all, even small steps help to make an impact.

### Our Habits:

- Bike, walk, use public transportation or carpool - True, this may not always be possible, but there are many situations where we could take a few extra steps or pedals and put less harmful emission into the air. Retrain yourself to think - "Do I really need to drive?"
- Recycle or Reuse your items - Many of us are already recycling but we can also stop and think if the item we are throwing away can be used again by us or someone else. Free cycle, the Purple Heart or Goodwill (or our upcoming Rummage sale) are great ways to get rid of your old clothing, household items or furniture.
- Consider Buying Used - Can you get what you need at Goodwill or somewhere else used? Buying used causes less production.

### Simple Changes

- Buy phosphate-free laundry detergent. Phosphates are one of the biggest causes of ocean pollution because they cause algae blooms that deplete the water of oxygen. There are some very affordable brands out there.
- Pack a waste-free lunch. Eliminate plastic bags, disposable containers, paper napkins, and plastic utensils from your lunch. If you do use plastic bags, wash and reuse.
- Install a programmable thermostat. It can help you lower your energy use and reduce your heating bills. Or, turn the temperature down a few degrees in the winter and your air conditioner up a few degrees in the summer.
- Bring reusable bags whenever you go shopping or refuse a bag for one-item purchases.
- Hang your laundry to dry or go part way and hang your light items. Dry the heavier items in the dryer for a shorter time.
- Eliminate meat in some of your meals. It takes a much larger amount of resources to process that pound of meat compared to any other food.
- Grow a vegetable garden or support local farmers through the Farmers Market.
- Buy fair-trade products, such as coffee, to ensure that what you bought does not support unethical treatment and wages of farmers and workers.

Consider what changes you can make to better care for the earth God has given us. Most of these changes will also help you to be better stewards of your finances as they will save you money too.

## Love My Neighbor?? Do I even *KNOW* my neighbor!

This is the dilemma that we tend to face in our world. We know and are “willing” to love our neighbors, but we must echo the question that the teacher of the law asked Jesus in Luke 10... “Who is my neighbor?”

Lets be honest, one of the morals of the Good Samaritan parable is that often God’s view of our neighbor does not match our view. The Jewish person of that day would not give the time of day to a Samaritan person for racial reasons alone.

So who are our neighbors? According to our current census data, our neighborhood is becoming diverse with new neighbors from many countries, cultures and ethnicities. The Echelon area where our church is located is steadily increasing in minority and more specifically immigrant residents. What an opportunity to be a neighbor to someone by extending friendship and even help in learning about their new surroundings. But often, those people that are unfamiliar to us, those who may have a language or culture barrier, or even simply have a difficult name to pronounce and remember, they are simply ignored out of fear and ease.

Christ called us to represent Him and His kingdom by being a people of love. Not out of ease, convenience or profit, but to love unconditionally our neighbor, whomever God brings across our path. So here is one tip or tool to help you start the conversation: Ask the person where they are FROM. This may mean literally or you can use this simple acronym that I like to use.

- F - Family: How big is your family? How many brothers, sisters, kids, etc...?
- R - Recreation: What hobbies, talents sports, etc... do you enjoy?
- O - Occupation: What do you do? How is the recession affecting your company?
- M - Memory: What was you home town like? What was your favorite Christmas present? Etc...

These may or may not be helpful, but keep them in the back of your mind and you will always know that you have at least something to talk to a neighbor about. So now, you can begin to love your neighbor as you get to know your neighbor.

Ken Buck

## Young Adults

We took a few months off for the holidays enjoying the activities at the church. In February we had our first meeting back with guest speaker Fred Tahan talking about raising children. With the recent additions of the infant type to our group it proved to be a very beneficial talk for us. We have also been getting together at the Buck's house for a weekly Pizza night. This has been a valuable time for us to spend in fellowship just hanging out. Though the last few times I have gone we haven't been having pizza.

The leaders plan on having a meeting soon to discuss the future activities of the group. We are hoping to schedule more times for us to get together and get to know each other better.

Dave Gorgone

## Men's Ministries

This month the men of the Ashland will be having another dinner/fellowship night. Details to be outlined at a later date, but it will be night of fun, food and fellowship. Men, please be sure to come out and join with the other men of Ashland so we can all grow stronger together.

Also the Men's ministry committee is in the progress of making plans for a Men's retreat in May. Please keep this in your thoughts and prayers as arrangements are being made. We would love to see a large turn out for our first Men's Ministry retreat as this will be a great weekend to build upon you faith with other men with times of worship, devotions and fellowship. It is sure to be a great time to make new friends and strengthen old.

*As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.*  
- Proverbs 27:17

Barry Campbell



## African Book Challenge



The last few months have been an exciting ones for the ABC outreach ministry. The special project, providing additional classrooms and modern restrooms for the Kwabeng Trinity Presbyterian pre-school and KG in Ghana has finally been completed. On March 2, the project was formally handed over to the church leaders and the staff of the school. Can you imagine the excitement of the kids who are using modern restrooms for the first time in their life? Good-bye, stinky outhouse!! Check out the ABC bulletin board (by the main entrance near Rev. Cupschalk's office) or visit the ABC website [www.africanbookchallenge.org](http://www.africanbookchallenge.org) for some photographs of the hand-over ceremony. Praise and thanks to our awesome God for touching many hearts within our Ashland church family to give generously and make the projects possible. Special thanks to you all for your support.

The ABC outreach ministry will now be focusing on two new, priority projects in Ghana:

**Electric Power Supply** - Seek additional \$1,500 in donations to cover an estimated \$2,500 needed to bring electrical power to the Trinity Presbyterian Junior Secondary School (JSS) and provide lights in, at least, two classrooms. The objective of this project is to enable students, especially those who do not have lights in their homes, to get extra help at night from their teachers in home-work assignments or prepare them adequately for their Senior Secondary School (SSS) admission exams (similar to SAT). During the past ten years, the majority of each of graduating class that took the exam **failed** and sadly, dropped out of school. ABC believes that this project, when completed, will result in a substantial increase in the number of students who will qualify to attend senior HS and perhaps, go on to receive college education.

**Scholarship Awards** - Raise funds for the purpose of awarding scholarships to needy students to enable them continue their education beyond JSS. Most parents of the few JSS graduates who get admissions to various senior HS in the country are simply unable to afford the modest fees covering tuition, boarding and initial expenses. ABC would like to offer financial assistance to such kids, starting this fall. We will soon provide the congregation with details of the scholarship program. Please, thoughtfully and prayerfully consider supporting the fund.

Your donation can and does make a **big** difference in the life of the poor Ghanaian kids. ABC thanks you all for your prayers and for sharing your blessings with the kids in Ghana.

*"Let us not become weary doing good...." (Gal 6:9)*

Fred Twum-Acheampong  
On behalf of the ABC Committee

## Rummage Sale to Support Missions

The spring Rummage Sale will be held on Friday, April 24th from 8am - 2pm and Saturday, April 25th from 8am - 1pm. Donations will be accepted from April 21st from 10am to 4pm, April 22 from 6-8pm and April 23 from 9am - 12pm.

Please take this opportunity to donate things you no longer use or need such as clothing, shoes, household goods, kitchen items, decorative items, bikes, etc in good condition. And, please, come out and shop!

All proceeds go to our missionaries and some of the donated items will go to families in need.



Women in Ministry

# ASHLAND YOUTH

At Ashland, the Youth Group is deeply involved in the church events and ministries. These include Children's Ministries, Pancakes Breakfasts, Super Bowl Parties, Christmas Caroling, Winter Retreat, Summer events, Bible study, and lots of fun.

In Children's Ministries, many of the youth are involved in helping out with kid's church and other things, such as VBS in the summer.

The youth also get involved in lots of fundraisers such as the pancake breakfasts. About once every three months the youth participate in cooking pancakes and sausage for the whole church. Many of the church members give donations to the youth so they can save up money for missions trips in the summer. On average, the youth will earn about \$500 each in a matter of three hours, So, it is a good fundraiser.

During special events such as Christmas and Super Bowl, the Youth Group has parties for fun, food, games, and friends. These parties are a good way to have fun.

Also, during the holiday season, the youth reach out to the kind people of a nearby nursing home. We gather up our youth with singing booklets and drive over to sing carols to the elderly. The nursing home residents are kind and even sing along with the youth. It's a good time.

On Sunday and Wednesday nights, the youth has Bible study. The youth have worship, games, and even some time to fool around. It's also a good way to invite friends to church if you want them to know God.

In mid-February, the youth get together with other churches to have a retreat at Camp Sankanac. We play games, stay up late, worship, make friends, eat, sled, and much, much more.

***In conclusion, the youth rocks, you should come!***

Andy C

## Winter Retreat

Winter Retreat this year broke the doldrums of winter for our youth program. I know that this weekend away reinvigorated some youth workers (me included) and some students. Isn't that the point of a retreat? Yes, but it is always great to see when your goals are met. We gathered around 60 people again with two other churches at Camp Sankanac in Chester County, PA. It is a good thing to begin to create traditions and hold events that are familiar and anticipated. This was our second retreat at Sankanac.

The camp is a no fills beautiful wooded area that is tucked in a little valley with a creek running through the middle of it. We squeezed into the main room to worship our savior and to be challenged by our speaker, Jason Shinn. Many of our kids already know Jason from Velocity, our summer camp. He is now the Youth Director at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Xenia, OH (which is my old church). Jason gave us a weekend full of challenge to think through Jesus' words and to take them seriously enough to act them out. He did a great job and I am thankful that he was able to come out and share his heart and life with us.

In our youth group time it was really encouraging to hear how God was challenging both leaders and students to follow Christ more authentically. It was good for the students to hear the youth leaders honestly sharing their successes but also their failures and fears. This I believe is the honest and real fellowship that the church offers in a fake and dishonest word. I look forward to seeing what God is going to do in our lives over the next few weeks and months.

In the future the three churches, Ashland EPC, Cross Keys UMC and Upper Octoria EPC, are looking to continue this partnership and change to holding a Fall Retreat and a Spring Retreat, so be looking for these events to come in this coming year!

## Pancake Breakfast

The Pancake breakfast is a very fun and helpful way to raise money for our mission trips. As a cook along with Mike P, it got crazy a times but it is all for a good cause.

Jon G.

## Youth Group

In September, I began coming to Youth Group. It was a very interesting experience because we didn't have a functioning youth program at my old church. Everyone was very inviting and I felt very comfortable around everyone.

Elise R.

## Worship Team

A part of the week I can look forward to is Worship Team. Even though I am still part of the youth group I have been part of the Worship team for almost three years now. It is a blessing to help lead my church family in worship. During our Bible study time, we look at the real meaning of worship and the different ways we can praise Him, sometimes implementing something new in the worship service or revisiting traditional worship. It has helped me to see that there is no limit to giving glory to His name.

Megan T.

## Upcoming Winter Retreat

I like the winter retreat because you can get away from your normal life routine. There is lots to do and the speakers are very good. You can get lots out of it

David C.

# ASHLAND KIDS

## Christmas Giving

from Miss Cindy's 3rd-5th grades class

We donated presents to the homeless people because they don't have money to buy stuff for themselves. I feel sad for them because they're sleeping outside and don't have blankets to warm themselves. People just look at them when passing. And don't even care. We also donated coats to them. The reason I helped our church is because I really want to help!

Nicole M.

I donated coats, blankets, and a Camp Rock DVD. I am proud because I know in my heart I helped someone. I feel good about it. All of the people on the streets will be so happy to get blankets, coats, and Christmas presents.

Emma W.

What we did in Sunday School was collect toys in shoeboxes to give to Youth on the Move, so they can give them to kids whose parents can't afford them. I feel sad for them. And, I want to help because it would be nice to put a smile on a child's face. So, I would be happy and they would be happy too. It would be a blessing!

Brittany E.

I am very proud that I did this and I love helping the homeless and I want to do this all my life

Rachel R.

I am very proud for bringing in boxes with toys for kids that can't afford presents for Christmas. Helping kids my age is very enjoyable for me. I feel good helping in church fundraisers for people that are less fortunate. I wish I could see the kids faces when they receive the boxes! Two boxes with some toys doesn't seem a lot for some kids but the less fortunate children that will get those boxes will be so much happier this Christmas to know that there is some kid out there that cares for them.

Rachel A.

The 3rd-5th grade class of Miss Cindy (I am one of them) used shoeboxes as presents for the needy. We got our unused shoeboxes and went to the dollar store and bought toys. Those shoeboxes will go to a ministry called Youth on the Move and they deliver these boxes to poor people. Wouldn't it be sad if waking up on Christmas knowing that no presents await you? Or if you have a home and celebrate Christmas with presents but your parents can't afford them. How would you feel? God wants us to give and the best feeling in the WORLD is giving a smile on someone's face.

Liam F.

I, Ryan, felt that this is very fortunate for all the homeless people out there in the Camden area because everyone deserves things to have and use for God put us on this earth to live a good life; not be homeless. Everyone out there deserves a house, a family, and plenty of love for if those did not exist how will we live against the elements. Everyone has a chance, yours starts here.

Ryan R.

## Preschool Playgroup



in

Thursday Evenings

July

7pm to 8:30pm



**Age 3 to Entering Kindergarten**

Your preschoolers will have a blast and make new friends while learning about Jesus through fun lessons, games, and snacks.

## Sports & Arts Camp



**Sports, Art, & Drama Camp**

**Thursday Evenings In July**

**1st to 5th Grades**



**Choice of Soccer, Basketball, Tae Kwon Do/Self Defense, Art, or Drama.**



After the elective time, we'll gather together for snacks and an interactive, multi-media Bible Lesson. Soccer players, be sure to bring your soccer ball, cleats and shin guards. Basketball players, bring your basketball, if you have one.



The Art class will be making decorations for our upcoming VBS, the Drama group will be working on a production that they will perform at our closing dinner that weekend, and the Tae Kwon Do class will be taught by Eric, a 3rd Degree Black Belt instructor from Holmes T.K.Do Martial Arts Center. Visit



[www.holmestkdo.com](http://www.holmestkdo.com)

## VBS

This year Ashland Church will bring the outside in and turn our church into an outdoor adventure camp.

**August 10th - 14th**  
**9 am - 12 pm**  
**Age 3 to Jr. High**



High above the cluttered schedules and ringing cell phones of ordinary life is SonRocks Kids Camp - an outdoor adventure camp like no other! As SonRock campers your kids will learn how their lives can be transformed by God's great love for them (1 John 3:1) through worship, exciting Bible lessons, skits, games, crafts and so much more!

## Ashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church

33 E Evesham Rd  
Voorhees, NJ  
08043-1168

Phone: 856-429-8844

[www.ashlandchurch.org](http://www.ashlandchurch.org)

### Our Mission

To seek the lost and grow disciples  
who worship and enjoy our Lord.

### Our Vision

To be a Covenant Family in our community which is transformed by the  
Gospel, empowered by the Spirit, and focused by our Mission.

## Getting to Know Our Choirs

#### Chancellor

1. I am known for my bad jokes.
2. I love the sun and the Son and one of my favorite verses is Psalm 118:24, "this is the day..."
3. I am in harmony with the choir.
4. Give me an activity at the church and I am there.
5. I like working with children and VBS.
6. I am the second oldest male in the choir.
7. I've been a Sunday School teacher since High School.
8. I teach the lesson to the children Wednesday nights and I teach Wee Worship choir.
9. I used to belly dance.
10. I am the oldest male in the choir.

#### Wee Worship

1. My favorite word was no.
2. I used to name every doll and toy I had "Dora".

#### Kids

1. I rode my trike so much the round, plastic wheel went square.
2. I raced in a dogsled race.
3. I've come to Ashland all my life.
4. I've been to Disneyworld.
5. I rode Kingda Ka at Great Adventure.
6. I have a birthmark on my back that looks like a potato and is about 3 inches.
7. I called 911 when I was a baby.
8. I have a birthmark on my hand.

#### Youth

1. I was born in Orlando Florida.
2. I got trapped in a dryer.
3. I've been to Panama 3 times.
4. I got trapped in a mailbox when I was 5 years old.

## Next Issue ...

Thank-you to all who contributed to this newsletter. Our next newsletter is scheduled to go out mid June. If you would like to write an article to include in the next newsletter please email it to [terridyck@yahoo.com](mailto:terridyck@yahoo.com) or drop it in Janine's mailbox in the office, by the end of May 2009, for staff approval. We love to receive articles from people of ALL ages! Thank-you and God Bless.

1.Lauren H. 2.Rachel A. 3.Alicia S. 4. C.J.

Answers: 1.Jim Townsend 2.Pamela Coursen 3.Randy Buckley 4.Norma Quirk 5.Judy Saltzgruber 6.Lou Coursen 7.Robin Kerth 8.Debbie Ford 9.Rose Ford 10. Joe Tavani 1. Conner F. 2.Erin F. 1.Brandon D. 2.Britney D. 3.Ryan R. 4.Kateilyn G. 5.Brittany E. 6. Rebecca A. 7.Nicole B. 8.Rachel R.