

Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania

Serving 10 Counties, 26 Christian Faith Traditions, 2,000 Congregations and 1,000,000 Christian Members

The Call . . . to be one in Christ



On the Web: www.casp.org

October 2013, Number 5

A Unifying Voice in the Name of Jesus Christ for the Mission of the Gospel and the Wholeness of Communities

Support for Veterans Conference Coming October 18

Support for Veterans: *After the Dust Settles*, will be held in Pittsburgh's North Hills on **Friday, October 18, 2013**, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., at UPMC Passavant Conference Center, Cumberland Woods Village, 700 Cumberland Woods Drive, Allison Park.

This FREE one day conference is a collaborative effort of Christian Associates, Allegheny County Human Services and Veteran's Affairs Departments and various other military veteran service providers.

Pre-registration is required. Registration deadline is October 11, 2013. Lunch is included; please contact us if you have any special dietary needs.

Support for Veterans: *After the Dust Settles*

**Friday, October 18, 2013
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
UPMC Passavant
Conference Center**

To register visit: www.casp.org for full brochure, registration form and directions to the conference center.

Questions may be directed to **Kimberly Hall**, Education and

Training Consultants, 251 Woodside Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15221; Fax: 412-244-1244; E-mail: lindahall@etc-pa.com.

Conference Highlights

Memorial Day – A One Man Show

(when remembering makes you want to forget... and being forgotten makes you want to die)

Brian Delate – Actor, Filmmaker, and Veteran

Confronting the Past – Forging the Future: A Personal Story

Dr./Lt Col Michele Papakie sexual assault prevention and response program manager for six months in Afghanistan in 2010 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Journey to Normal – Impressions of the Modern Warrior

JulieHera DeStefano is the filmmaker responsible for "Journey to Normal: Women of War Come Home" which recounts the unprecedented story of women who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan.



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2014 Theme Announced

The 2014 theme for the week of Prayer for Christian Unity has been selected.

For the coming year the theme finds its origins in 1 Corinthians 1:1-17.

The initial work on the theme for this year's Week of Prayer material was prepared by a group of representatives from different parts of Canada, brought together at the invitation of the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism and the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism.

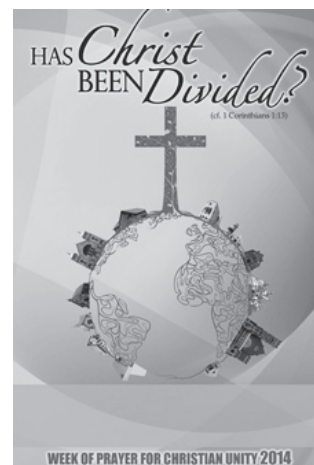
The texts were approved at a meeting of the International Committee composed of members of the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches, and the Pontifical Council for Promoting of Christian Unity.

Being faithful to Christ's desire for the unity of his disciples, has led to this year's theme which focuses on Saint Paul's provocative question in 1 Corinthians: "Has Christ Been Divided?" We continue to be divided

continued on page three . . .

Inside this Edition

Reflections Along the Way	2
Combat Veteran Author Book Signing . .	3
Search for New Executive.	3
Volunteers Ready for Holiday Season . .	3
Ecumenical Events	4
We are All Immigrants	6



REFLECTIONS ALONG THE WAY

Dear Siblings in Our Lord,

*"Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land...
The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will not forget any of their deeds." (Amos 8: 4, 7)*

Our Christian leaders are wrestling with how to make Christian Associates a more diverse and inclusive association. Make no mistake, we already are one of the most denominationally diverse ecumenical entities in the country with Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox judicatories at the table.



But are judicatories enough? Can we make a place at the table for independent and ethnic congregations not affiliated with an established denomination? Greater still is our conversation about the relationship of ecumenism to racial and social justice. How can we speak with a united voice about injustice so that the world hears in our words the voice of Jesus Christ and of God's providential love for all people? Our leaders don't want to be just another advocacy group. But how do we with one voice say, *"Hear this, you..."* and *"Thus says the Lord..."*? It is an issue that I am glad that the Council is addressing.

How can we speak with a united voice about injustice so that the world hears in our words the voice of Jesus Christ and of God's providential love for all people?

While they deliberate, I'll venture to raise some possibilities for their prophetic voice.

"Hear this," UPMC, Jeffrey Romoff and Directors (<http://www.upmc.com/about/why-upmc/mission/pages/leadership.aspx>),

"Hear this," HIGHMARK, William Winkenwerder, Jr., and Directors, (<https://www.highmark.com/hmk2/about/corpprofile/board.shtml>)

"Hear this, you" who create fear among the users of your medical care networks and insurance plans; who spread lies about each other; who are driven by egos, greed and quests for power and domination in the marketplace. Remember your mission to serve the medical needs of all the people. You are public charities and must earn again the public's trust that you are seeking the common good for everyone. Repent!

"Hear this, you" who demonize the poor, the hungry and the alien in our midst; who give large subsidies to corporate farmers but refuse to fund SNAP (food stamps) and would further cut feeding programs for women, infants, children and seniors; who impose means tests that degrade and stigmatize the needy; who are xenophobic about the stranger in our communities; who would deny expanded medical assistance to the poor and a path to citizenship for the immigrant. Repent!

Some will call these partisan, political issues. I do not. I understand them as Gospel issues and moral imperatives in response to that good news of God's grace and mercy upon us all through Jesus Christ. I anxiously await the day when a diverse group of Christian leaders speaks for justice with the voice of Christ. While I wait, I also need to listen; *"Hear this, you"* and then for my complicity in trampling on the needy and bringing to ruin the poor in our land, Repent!



**God's grace and mercy upon us all
through Jesus Christ**

Pax, Salaam, Shalom,

Pastor Don Heen

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2014

continued from page one . . .

by doctrine, polity, and practice, and to maintain our own religious identity, yet our pilgrimage towards unity continues under God's guidance. Materials for the Week of Prayer may be ordered at www.geii.org.

The Council of Bishops and Judicatory Executives welcomes invitations from local ministerial associations to collaborate in hosting Week of Prayer services.

The Christian leaders recognize that Martin Luther King, Jr. Day falls within the Octave for Unity and encourage local communities to use this time of prayer, study and celebration to find new connection between our ecumenical journey toward unity and our shared witness to racial and social justice.

Has Christ been divided?

1 Corinthians 1:13

Please contact Pastor Don Green with your offer to partner with our regional Christian leaders in praying that we all may be one.

Combat Veteran and Author to Hold Book Signing

Luis Carlos Montalván, the New York Times bestselling author of *Until Tuesday: A Wounded Warrior and the Golden Retriever Who Saved Him*, will lead a book talk and signing on **Sunday, October 13, 4:00 p.m.** in Fellowship Hall of **Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2040 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15241.**



Captain Montalván, a 17-year veteran of the U.S. Army, including multiple combat tours in Iraq, was decorated with numerous awards including two Bronze Stars, the Purple Heart, the Army Commendation Medal for Valor, and the Combat Action Badge.

In 2007, Captain Montalván honorably departed the military and in 2010 completed a master's of science from Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism.

From issues relating to service members, veterans and their families to those pertaining to Americans with disabilities, Montalván is a vocal public advocate.

Volunteers Ready for the Holiday Season and Christmas Day

The Volunteer Center of the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh has a team of volunteers ready to help your congregation or organization on Wednesday, December 25 (Christmas Day)!

Council Begins Search for New Executive



The Council of Bishops and Judicatory Executives has appointed Bishop Kurt Kusserow, SW PA Synod, ELCA to chair the Search Committee to select a successor for Pastor Don Green who will retire on March 31, 2014. At their recent meeting the Council finalized a position description and compensation parameters. The Executive Minister will be a full-time, two-year term call, renewable as resources permit and will begin April 2014.

Executive Minister Position Summary

The Executive Minister is the chief executive and administrative officer of Christian Associates, responsible to the Council of Bishops and Judicatory Executives. The Executive Minister is elected by the Council, acting as a committee of the whole. The Executive Minister acts as the executive for the corporation and as staff to the Council. The Executive manages the ministries of Christian Associates, its Council and Committees, and is the public face of the organization, representing Christian Associates and the Council in interfaith, government and community groups, events and programs.

The compensation package will include salary with housing allowance; pension and medical benefits, worker's compensation and disability insurance. Expense allowances will cover travel, and professional and community expenses. The full Executive Minister position description can be found at www.casp.org.

The Search Committee invites applicants to respond with a letter of interest including a resume, reference contact information for someone within their own judicatory and for someone from another denomination. Applicant materials should be sent to: **Executive Minister Search Committee, c/o Ms. Tracy Ritchie, 204 37th Street, Suite 201, Pittsburgh, PA. 15201.**



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER PITTSBURGH

Mitzvah Day, the Federations' annual hands-on, mega volunteer event, provides an opportunity for members of the Jewish community to give back to the Pittsburgh Community. The goal is to help meet the needs of organizations by providing extra hands and assistance. With more than 600 volunteers annually, Mitzvah Day is sure to be a huge success again this year.

If your congregation, ministry or organization has a project that can accommodate five or more volunteers, we would love to supply the manpower — or womanpower, and even kidpower, if yours is a family-friendly activity.

Past projects have included: preparing and serving meals, visiting with patients and/or the elderly, repainting or organizing communal spaces, and feeding/ bathing animals at the shelters. The Volunteer Center can even bring a project to our volunteers that can be done on Mitzvah Day and delivered back to you at a later date.

If you are interested in participating as a volunteer site during Mitzvah Day 2013, please contact **Jessie Svec** at **(412) 992-5229**, or jsvec@jfedpgh.org.

ECUMENICAL EVENTS

Sewickley Presbyterian Church

414 Grant Street
Sewickley, PA 15143
www.sewickleypresby.org

Singing the New Song: Global Music in Our Midst

Date: Sat. Oct 26
Time: 8:30 am – 12:30 pm
Workshop Leader: Dr. Lorraine Brugh

Sponsored by the Presbyterian Association of Musicians, participants will be singing and playing many different kinds of instruments of African, Asian, and Latin American songs rooted in a cappella singing. Contact Barbara McKelway at Bmckelway@aol.com or 412-366-4513



Music in Pittsburgh

Organ Artists Series

Regular admission \$12 single concert, \$5 for students; www.oas-series.com

Sun. October 20, 4:00 pm at Calvary Episcopal Church

315 Shady Avenue, Shadyside
Olivier Latry, Titular Organist, Cathedral of Notre-Dame, Paris, France

Sun. November 17, 4:00 pm at Calvary Episcopal Church

315 Shady Avenue, Shadyside
Robert Nicholls, First Presbyterian Church, Evansville, Illinois

Music in a Great Space

Tickets \$20 per concert, \$10 seniors (60+) / students \$10 per concert
www.shadysidepres.org

5121 Westminister Place, Pittsburgh, 15232

Sun. Nov. 24, 4:00 pm

The Next Generation, Jr. Mendelssohn Choir & Pittsburgh Youth Symphony, featuring Gloria by Antonio Vivaldi



Mercy Parish Nurse and Health Ministry

Parish Nurse office 412-232-5815
ParishNurse@mercy.pmhs.org
www.pmhs.org

21st Annual Mercy Parish Nurse and Health Ministry Symposium: “Weaving Prayer and Presence in Health Ministry”

Date & Time: Sat. Oct. 26, 8 am – 1:30 pm
UPMC Mercy Sister M. Ferdinand Clark Auditorium, Building C, Level 2
1400 Locust St., Uptown, 15219

Mercy Parish Nurse and Health Ministry (continued)

Cost: \$30 for laypersons, \$10 ordained clergy/pastors, \$40 for CE-registered nurses, social workers, licensed professionals
Registration deadline: Oct. 18
Fee includes brunch, free parking, symposium materials



Pittsburgh Compline Choir

Heinz Memorial Chapel
University of Pittsburgh campus
412-682-6886
www.pghcompline.com

Compline: Choral Prayer at the Close of the Day

Date and Time: Sunday evenings at 8:00 pm

Guest Musicians for Prelude:

Oct. 13 – Viol Consort

Oct. 20 – Jessica Baier, Bower Hill

Community Presbyterian Church

Oct. 27 – Stephen Schall, Saint Bernard RC Church

Nov. 3 – The Rev. Dr. J. Richard Szeremany

Nov. 10 – Stephanie Sloan, First English Lutheran Church

Nov. 17 – Cynthia Pock, First English Lutheran Church

Nov. 24 – Viol Consort

Dec. 1 – Amanda Plazek, St. Mary of the Mount

Dec. 8 – Kenneth Danchik, St. Paul Cathedral



St. Joseph Spirituality Center

A Ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph
1020 State Street, Baden, PA 15005
724-869-6585

Registrations: Sister Ann Francis Hanley,
724-869-6587

www.stjoseph-baden.org

Back to Basics: Gospel Reflections

Date: Tues. Oct. 1 and first Tuesday of each month

Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 noon

Presenter: Father Phillip Fogarty, SJ

Fee: \$10/session

In October Fr. Fogarty will offer an introduction to a study of the Gospels. On subsequent months, Sister Marguerite Kropinak will reflect on particular Gospel themes with time for sharing. Attend either as series or individual presentations.

Epiphany Academy of Formative Spirituality

820 Crane Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15216
412-341-7494
www.epiphanyassociation.org

ER for the Soul: A Mini-Retreat on Appreciative Living

Dates: Sat. Oct. 12, Nov. 2, Dec. 7

Time: 9:00 am - Noon

Facilitator: Susan Muto, PhD

Fee: \$20 per session, RSVP one week in advance of each session

First Monday Seminars on Faith Deepening in the Year of Faith

Dates: Mon. Oct. 7, Nov. 11, Dec. 2

Times: 7:00-8:30 pm

Facilitator, Susan Muto, PhD

Fee: \$20 per session

Coming to Faith; Faith Deepening in the Year of Faith and the New Evangelization

Dates: Tues. Oct. 1, Oct. 8, Oct. 15

Time: 7:00-8:30 pm

Facilitator: Susan Muto, PhD

Fee: \$15 per session

Meditating with the Masters

Teresa of Avila – The Book of Her Life

Dates: Wed. Oct. 16, Nov. 13

Time: 7:00-9:00 pm

Facilitator: Susan Muto, PhD

Fee: \$15 per session



Kearns Spirituality Center

9000 Babcock Blvd
Allison Park, PA 15101
For call 412-366-1124 or
Email: kearnssc1@pghcdp.org
www.cdpsisters.org

Book Discussion: Hildegard of Bingen: A Saint for Our Times—Unleashing Her Power in the 21st Century

Date: Wed. Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Time: 10:00-11:30 am

Facilitator: Joan Coultas, CDP, Ph.D.

Fee: \$20 series or \$5/session plus book; breakfast rolls and beverage provided

Call Peggy Huwe at Kearns to order the book, \$14.50.

A Hope Filled Future for the Church

Date: Thur. Oct. 24

Time: 7:30-9:30 pm

Speaker: Christian Brother Louis DeThomasis

ECUMENICAL EVENTS

Kearns Spirituality Center (continued)

Human Trafficking

Date: Tues. Nov. 19

Time: 7:30-9:30 pm

Speakers: Mary Burke, Ph.D. and Denise Holtz, BA

Peace Forum Series

Date: Sundays, Oct. 27, Nov. 24

Time: 3:00-5:00 pm

Donations accepted.

Current issues related to peace and justice.
For information: pnpp@verizon.net or
412-367-0383.



Taizé Services

Christ United Methodist Church

44 Highland Road, Bethel Park

www.christumc.net

First Wed. of each month, 6:30pm, Sept thru May

Community of Celebration

809 Franklin Avenue, Aliquippa

www.communityofcelebration.com

First Sun. of each month, 7:30 pm

Community United Methodist Church

3487 Route 130, Irwin

www.ShareChristWithOthers.com

Second Wed. of each month, 7:30 pm

East Liberty Presbyterian Church

116 S. Highland Avenue, Pittsburgh 15206

www.cathedralofhope.org

Every Wed, 7:00 pm

Hope Lutheran Church of Forest Hills

353 Ridge Avenue at Braddock Road

Hope@Lutheran.com

First Fri. of each month, 7:00 pm



Franciscan Spirit and Life Center

3605 McRoberts Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15234

412-881-9207

www.osfprov.org

Healing and Wholeness Service

Date: Thur. Nov. 21

Time: 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Free will offering, registration is requested

Explore and experience various forms of prayer in atmosphere of communal intercession.

Franciscan Spirit and Life Center (continued)

Connecting Women's Wisdom

Date: Sun. Oct. 6

Time: 8:30 am – 1:30 pm

FREE but reservations required: Sister Althea Anne Spencer: 412-885-7406

Join women of all ages and backgrounds to focus more clearly, breathe more deeply and live more mindfully.



Christian Life Skills, Inc.

412-889-4065

www.christianlifeskills.org

4th Annual Intergenerational Prayer Conference

Date: Sat. Oct. 19

Times: 9:00am-2:00pm & 2:15pm-4:30pm

Held at: Lincoln Park Community Center

7300 Ridgeview Ave., Penn Hills 15235

RSVP by Oct. 10th to clsm86@gmail.com

412-889-4065

All ages, all welcome, all free! Choose enjoyable and helpful activities while keeping a prayerful attitude. Develop an ongoing life style of prayer for yourself, family, church and community. All children must be accompanied by an adult who remain present, one adult for every 4-6 children. 2:15-4:30 pm Sexual Abuse – movie, drama, discussion, counsel, prayer & resources. Parental discretion, please.



Trinity School for Ministry

311 Eleventh Street

Ambridge, PA 15003

724-266-3838

www.tsm.edu

Mission Day

Dates & Times: Tues. Nov. 12, Lecture 7 pm;

Wed. Nov. 13 Eucharist & Dean's Hour 8:30 am-12noon

Speaker: The Very Rev. Yee Ching Wah

Christian Theology & Counseling Theory: The Relationship between Faith & Practice

Dates: Mon. Jan. 13 – Wed. Jan. 15, 2014

Facilitator: Joanne Martin, MPA, LCSW

Cost: \$150

For Christian counselors, clergy, and lay ministers. 15 CEUs for counselors, social workers & LMFTs.

Trinity School for Ministry (continued)

Writing Songs for Today's Church

Dates: Mon. Jan. 13- Wed. Jan. 15, 2014

Instructor: Andy Piercy

Cost: \$100

A 3-day songwriting workshop with practical teaching & advice.



Bread for the World

425 3rd Street, SW, Suite 1200

Washington DC 20024

1-800-822-7323

www.bread.org

Bread for the World Sunday

To celebrate in October, order—free of charge—prayers, bulletin inserts, and other resources, including lectionary study of Luke 18:1-8 by Greg Carey.

To order or download resources, visit www.bread.org/sunday



Pittsburgh Faith In Action Against the Death Penalty

Date: Mon. Oct. 14

Time: 4:00 pm

Place: Panera on Blvd of Allies in Oakland

Regular monthly meeting, for info call 412-784-1677. Affiliated with Pennsylvanians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty.



CLASSIFIED AD

See **Esther the Musical**, a highly-acclaimed live performance with an outstanding 26-person cast that accurately follows the Old Testament book of **Esther**, at **Tower Presbyterian Church**, 248 South Broad Street, Grove City PA 16127 on **Saturday, October 12, 7:30 p.m.** and **Sunday, October 13, 3:00 p.m.**

Featuring 18 original songs, **Esther the Musical** was written (music, lyrics and script) by Christian composer Jeannie Allen of Valencia PA.

Details at www.theEstherMusical.com.
Ticket donations: Adults \$10, Students \$5, Children (under 12) FREE.

We Are All Immigrants *Comprehensive Immigration Reform*

For generations Americans have proudly proclaimed to the world that their land is a land of freedom and opportunity.

Each year thousands of people from around the world apply for entry into the United States. Some are refugees from wars or other forms of oppression; others seek escape from poverty and famine. They want only a hopeful future for their families.

We Are All Immigrants, a DVD produced by The PATH to Justice Committee of the Tri-Diocesan Sister Leadership Conference and moderated by radio host Lynn Cullen provides some of today's recent arrivals the opportunity to share their inspiring stories with those of us whose ancestors traveled here many years ago. The similarities are significant. The prejudices they face today are not unlike those experienced in the past.

Members of The PATH to Justice Committee welcome an invitation to show *We Are All Immigrants* and give a presentation about comprehensive immigration reform.

For more information: www.pathtojusticepgh.com or call **Sister Betty Sundry**, Director of Social Concerns, Sisters of Divine Providence, 412-635-5426.



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"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

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- ☐ Feeding my family.
- ☐ Becoming a volunteer.
- ☐ Getting taxes done.
- ☐ Avoiding eviction.
- ☐ Caring for my grandmother.
- ☐ Keeping my heat on.
- ☐ Joining the workforce.
- ☐ Finding a summer camp.
- ☐ Protecting a friend.

I can help with:

- ☒ All of the above.



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It's your friendly-community-24-hour-professionally-staffed hotline for help with human services. If you need help, info or referrals in your community, call 2-1-1 first. If 2-1-1 is not available where you are, dial 1-888-553-5778.

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January 2014

Discerning a Call to Ministry—Jan 6-10

The Rev. Canon Dr. Mary Hays

Cost \$150

CH 725/875 Discipleship in the Great Tradition

Jan 6-10 *Dr. Phil Harrold*

PT 725/814 Parish Ministry: Healing & Relapse

Jan 6-10 *The Rev. Dr. Sharon Lewis*

CH 725 Tongued with Fire: C. S. Lewis, Dorothy Sayers, and T. S. Eliot—Jan 13-17

Dr. Janice Brown

OT 625/875 The Pentateuch—Jan 13-17

Dr. Erika Moore

PT770 Pastoral Leadership—Jan 13-17

The Rev. Dr. Leander Harding

Seminary course audit: \$150.

For full course descriptions www.tsm.edu/academics/intensives or call Dawn at 724.266.3838 for more info.

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UPCOMING CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENTS

at Pittsburgh Theological
Seminary

Training for Interim Ministers, Part I

October 7-11, 2013

Carolyn Jones, Retired Interim Associate Executive,
Synod of the Trinity

Robert Anderson, Interim Pastor

Brenda Barnes, Interim Pastor

Religious Education Theory and Practice

A Church Educators' Certification Elective

October 21-25, 2013

Joyce MacKichan Walker, Minister of Education,
Nassau Presbyterian Church, Princeton, N.J.

Who is God for Us Today? Insights from Paul, Anselm, Bonhoeffer, and Schmemmann

Mondays, Oct. 21 - Nov. 11, 2013

John P. Burgess, James Henry Snowden Professor
of Systematic Theology, PTS

Sabbath Time for Busy Pastoral Leaders

Jan. 6, Feb. 3, March 3, April 7, and May 5,
2014

Martha Robbins, Director of Pneuma Institute and
Joan Marshall Associate Professor Emerita of Pastoral
Care, PTS

Discovering Congregational Identity

Wednesdays, Jan. 8-29, 2014

Timothy Son, Assistant Professor of Christian
Education and Youth Ministry, PTS

Office of
Continuing Education
616 N. Highland Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-924-1345
ConEd@pts.edu
www.pts.edu/CE



**PITTSBURGH
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*The Call . . . to be one in Christ is ordinarily published bimonthly by **Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania, 204 37th Street, Suite 201, Pittsburgh, PA 15201-1859.** Email: newsletter@casp.org. (C) 2010. **No fax submissions are accepted.***

*Classified Advertisements may be placed at a PREPAID cost of \$10.00 for 40 words or less. The publication of ads/events does not indicate specific endorsement of an organization, ad or event, and is strictly of an informative nature. **The DEADLINE for all submissions is the 15th of the month prior to the issue the submission is to appear (November 15th for the December issue).***

Photographs, articles and other submissions about the local church are welcome.

Come, ye thankful people, come, Raise the song of harvest home!



***All is safely gathered in,
Ere the winter storms begin;***

***God, our Maker, doth provide
For our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come;
Raise the song of harvest home!***

