

Church & Community



PASTOR'S CORNER

By Pastor W. James Pall
Huntsville United Methodist

Adversity: Curse or Blessing

No one escapes adversity. There is no living adult immune to hardship and the heartache, pressure and anguish that accompany it. Trial comes in many forms: sickness, rejection, poverty, enemies, being unforgiving. Most often we view these as interruptions or setbacks in life.

The divine view is different. For God, adversity is not a roadblock to believers. Instead, adversity is the fuel that advances growth.

When we are tested by trials, it is not uncommon to ask "why?" Often many questions follow: "Is this my own doing? Is it a test from Satan? Is this the work of the lord?"

Whatever the source of adversity, it must be understood in light of the permissive will of God. Everything that comes your way is not necessarily the Lord's will. But God does permit everything that occurs. God knows how even adversity can be a patch in the quilt work of your life (Romans 8:28). God knows how even adversity will fit into His wonderful purpose for your life.

In the 55th chapter of Isaiah at vs. 8 and 9, it is made clear, "God's thoughts (ways) are higher than ours." Therefore, we cannot expect to understand all that God is doing. God is able to take the most painful experiences and use them to prepare us for what lies ahead. Knowing how to respond to adversity is more important than knowing the source of our adversity.

1. God uses adversity to get our attention. (Acts 9:5)

2. Adversity reminds us of God's great love for us. (Hebrews 12:5,6)

3. God permits adversity to bring about self-examination. (Corinthians 12:7)

4. Adversity also causes us to re-evaluate our priorities and test our works.

Instead of running from adversity, why not ask the Lord "What am I supposed to learn from this?" We may protest, like Job, but let's add "Don't quit God until you've finished that which you began in me."

Pastor's Corner is a weekly feature that rotates among leaders of Back Mountain churches. To reserve your spot in the schedule, call Erin Youngman at 970-7184.



Confirmation at Shavertown UMC

The Shavertown United Methodist church confirmed several youth in their church recently. The confirmands met with the pastors for several months. The classes included many field trips including a trip to Washington D.C.

Pictured from left, first row: Lay Leader Ed Pall, Pastor Jan Clark, Karissa Bryant, Michael Glicini, Randi Calkins, Pastor Doug Clark.

Second Row: Jackie Lowe, Jocelyn Eckman, Mia Esopi, Claire Mitchell, Paige Kyle.

Third row: Deborah Ketchner, Mackenzie Hogue, Kelcy Cole, Christina Dennis, Ashley Bryant, Kyle Hazelton.

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

The Back Mountain Ministerium will sponsor this year's interdenominational Community Thanksgiving Service. It will be held at the Shavertown United Methodist Church, 163 N. Pioneer Ave., Shavertown, on Sunday, November 23 at 7 p.m. The service will feature a combined youth choir, a children's choir and a message in drama. This service is open to the public and all are invited to come and worship and give thanks. A reception will follow in the fellowship hall. For information, call 675-3616.

Trucksville U. M. shoebox mission

The children and youth of the Trucksville United Methodist Church packed and wrapped 25 personal care boxes for adults. In addition, they filled 25 buckets with cleaning supplies. These items will be shipped to the Red Bird Mission in Appalachia for distribution at Christmas. The Susana Children and Family Fellowship provided leadership for the mission project.

Grace Community Church starts bible groups

Grace Community Church located on Memorial Highway in Dallas has Ladies Bible groups forming now. Those interested in joining can choose between one of two possible meeting times. The first group meets on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. The second group meets on the first and third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m.. For more information call 675-3723.

It's easy to have your church included in Church Notes. Just send us a bulletin or event notice by noon Wednesdays.

E-mail is best: thepost@leader.net

Fax to 675-3650

Mail: The Post, 15 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre PA 18711

CHURCH NOTES

Dallas United Methodist

4 Parsonage Street, Dallas
Poinsettias to be placed on the altar for the Christmas season, Sunday Dec. 21 and 24, are now being taken. Contact Cindy Lefko at 333-4496.
Sister Circle Coat Drive going on now.

Idetown United Methodist

Idetown Rd., Lehman
Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.
Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.

Lehman United Methodist

1011 Mt. View Drive, Lehman
Sunday Worship, 11 a.m.
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
2nd and 4th Sundays, Youth group at 7:30
Dec. 7, Hanging of the Greens service
Dec. 7, adult classes resume
Christmas program, 6 p.m.

River of Life Fellowship

194 N. Memorial Highway, Shavertown
Sunday morning worship at 10:30 a.m.
Thursday night soaking and healing prayer sessions at 7 p.m. For more information call 674-5459.

Shavertown U. Methodist

163 North Pioneer Ave. Shavertown
Through November 23, Confirmation Sundays
Nov. 23, Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service, 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 24, decorating for advent, 9 a.m.
Nov. 30, Community Thanksgiving Service, 7 p.m.
Dec. 7, Christmas Concert featuring the Wyoming Valley Barbershop Harmony Chorus. The second event of the new Fine Arts Series.

St. Paul's Lutheran

RR 4 Box 627A (off of 118), Dallas
Special Saturday Evening Service at 6:30 weekly.
Nov. 30, Family Advent Celebration, 5-8 p.m.

St. Therese's

64 Davis Street, Shavertown
Nov. 24, Holy Name Society sponsored Thanksgiving Turkey Bingo Party Raffle, 7 p.m. Tickets now available after each mass. Adults, \$1.50 and children \$.50. Refreshments will be available at the party.
Back Mountain Youth Council accepting new members for junior high grades 6-8 and high school grades 9-12. For more info. call Denise at 696-1144.
Nov. 30, Advent Concert, 6 p.m.

Trinity Presbyterian

105 Irem Rd., Dallas
Special Saturday evening service weekly at 6:30 p.m.
Nov. 30, Hanging of the greens and catered luncheon

Trucksville U. Methodist

40 Knob Hill Rd., Trucksville
Sunday Services are at 8:30 and 11 a.m.
Sunday School classes for all ages are held at the Educational Facility on Sundays, 9:45-10:45.
Thanksgiving Eve Service, 7 p.m.

The Dallas Post

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