

THE MESSENGER

Zion Presbyterian Church, Helvetia
Pickens Presbyterian Church, Pickens
SUMMER - 2011

A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

A beautiful summer, a long winter, spring and now another summer is here since you have last heard from The Messenger. My apologies to all of you for not putting this as one of my top priorities. I do better when I give myself, exact deadlines with dates. The "I'll get to it as soon as I can" hasn't ever worked real well for me, because there is always something with an exact deadline that comes first. Having said all that, I have given myself official deadlines for further Messengers. It is officially written on my calendar to get The Messenger out twice a year and anyone who knows me, knows my calendar... we are NOT far parted. Again, my apologies, and thank you for your patience.

Once again we are bringing you news from Helvetia and Pickens. If you have any news that you would like to include in the Messenger, please let us know. If you notice any errors, please let us know that as well so that we can print any corrections.

A very special thank you goes out to the following people for their financial support to The Messenger fund:

Hope Rierson, Lawrence Metzner, Lester and Betty VanGilder, Mabel Marti Simpson, Tony and Alice Hicks Stankus, and Grace Morrison.

We hope that everyone who receives this newsletter has wonderful days ahead filled with many blessings. God bless each of you and your loved ones!

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ZION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS

Even though the congregations at Zion Presbyterian Church and Pickens Presbyterian Church aren't large each Sunday, we continue to have church services in Helvetia each Sunday morning at 10:00, and most Sundays in Pickens at 11:30. We are very grateful to Joe McInroy who diligently works to find pastors to come and deliver a wonderful sermon each week. We have been blessed to have Charla Koerner, David Schaffer, Rick and Barbara Accord, Rev. Morley, and other ministers. If you are in the area visiting family or friends any weekend, make visiting Zion Presbyterian Church or Pickens Presbyterian part of your visit. You will find it to be a true blessing.

Pickens Presbyterian Church
News

Weather permitting, church services continue to be held at the Presbyterian Church in Pickens. Church officials wish to thank all those families and individuals who continue to generously continue to contribute to the church.

Helvetia Cemetery News

Dave Loudin and his family have continued to work to make Helvetia Cemetery a beautiful place. They work to keep the mowing done, ground leveled out, gravel placed in the roadway, and many other hours of cemetery improvements. Much appreciation goes out to Dave and his wife Lynna, for their continued work in making the Helvetia Cemetery such a beautiful place.

The church trustees have established a new board of directors for the cemetery. The new board includes Dave Loudin, Kevin D. Betler, Vernon Hofer, Bill Malcomb, and H. Kevin Betler. A Board of Director's meeting was held on March 20, 2011. Officers are: President, Dave Loudin; Vice President, Vernon Hofer; Secretary, Bill Malcomb; and Treasurer, H. Kevin Betler. The board will continue to oversee the cemetery funds and cemetery improvements. Presently the board is in the process of planning a survey of the area and to map lots for future use.

MEMORIAL FUNDS

The following people have made contributions to the following memorial funds.

**Helvetia Hall Building Fund in
Memory of Howard O. (Bud) Betler**

Browning Family, Henry and Helen Sassi, Frederick and Katharin Pross, Ed and Brenda Chapman, Eleanor Mailloux, Glen Betler, Jim Betler, Lawrence Betler, Vernon Betler, Dorothy Shaw, Bill and Charlotte Betler Hughes, Mildred Betler, Joan Estep, Carol Hill, Richard Malcomb. Albert and Anne Booth, Ernie and Donna Hofer, Julia Elbon, Alice Phillips, Freddy Burky, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hill, Connie Wolford, Joan Carol Betler Curtis, George Sutton, Bill and Sue Hamilton, Leonard and Diana Patterson, David and Connie Ricottelli, Cody and Rosie Ketterman, Robert L. Rice, Gerald Waybright, Clara Rose Lee Hicks Waybright, William Waybright, Denny and Hazel Helmick, Glalma and Louise Helmick, Ozella Smith, Frankie Betler, Charlie, Rosa, and Henry Dulaney, and Leonard and Phyllis Griffith Family, Woody Higgonbotham, Tom Betler, Mark Howes, Dwain and Wendy Morgan, Terry and Greg Shingleton, George Ringer, Joani Hartzfeld, Krista and Alan Taylor, Claudette and Jordon Brown, and the Norvil Dulaney Family.

Norman Karlen Memorial Fund:

Steve and MaryAnn Karlen, Lynn and Christine Helmick, Robin and Sandra Miller, Patricia Karlen, Grace Morrison, Mr. and Mrs. David Morrison, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Morrison, Mrs. Roseann Morrison, Mrs. Lucille Long, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Morrison

**John and Emma Karlen Memorial
Fund:**
Grace Morrison

Zion Presbyterian Church Fund:
John and Maxine Fiorni in
memory of Max W. and Elda M.
Lehmann

Lena Hofer Mealey in memory
of Margaret Hofer Wegman.

Zion Presbyterian Church Chimes:
Carol Hill in memory of Virginia
and Rudolph Zumbach
Lawrence Metzner in memory of
Arnold and Della Metzner.

PICKENS SCHOOL

On Saturday, June 5, 2010,
Pickens School held its eighty-first
commencement in the school gym.
Guest speaker was Dr. Michael Belmeir
of Fairmont State University. The Class
of 2010 had five members. Maggie Gain
is the daughter of Leroy and Nancy Gain
of Helvetia. Wendell Hofer is the son of
Vernon and Barbara Hofer of Helvetia.
Phylcia Hudok is the daughter of Phil
and Lynn Hudok of Huttonsville.
Katrina Kelley is the daughter of Robert
and Penny Kelley of Helvetia. Josh
Perry is the son of Donna and Donald
Hull of Pickens.

On Friday, May 27, 2011, the
Pickens School Class of 2011 held their
commencement. Guest speaker was
Secretary of State, Natalie Tennant. The
five graduates were: Alexander and
Emily Biggs, children of Betty and Jim
Biggs of Helvetia; Eliud Casillas, son of
Ruben and Rebecca Casillas; Courtney
Scott, daughter of William and Wanda
Scott of Helvetia, and Carlee Dulaney,
daughter of Phil Dulaney and Cassandra

of Ohio. Best wishes to all of our recent
graduates for a bright and happy future!

SENIOR- ALUMNI BANQUET

The annual Pickens School
Senior-Alumni Banquet was held on
Saturday, May 8, 2010. The fifty-year
class was honored. The speaker for the
event was William Tharp. The Pickens
School Alumni Scholarship recipient
was announced. Wendell Hofer received
the award. Approximately 150 guests
attended the event and had a wonderful
evening.

The annual banquet is held each
year on Saturday of Mother's Day
weekend.

This year's banquet was on May
7, 2011 at 6:00. Again, approximately
150 guests attended. The speaker for the
event was Diane Betler. Alexander
Biggs was this year's scholarship
winner.

SCHOOL AWARD

Pickens School was again
awarded the West Virginia Exemplary
School award for the 2010-2011 school
year by the WV Department of
Education. This is the seventh time that
the school has received this award.

CHRISTMAS SURPRISE

The students and staff of our
school had a very special Christmas
surprise. On December 20, the families
of Frank and Terry Nestor Ross, Debbie
Morgan, and Don Nestor, presented each
student and staff member with a
Christmas gift. The students and staff of
our school wish to express sincere
appreciation to the Ross and Nestor
families for all they continue to do for
Pickens School.

Check out more information
about Pickens School on our website
<http://boe.rand.k12.wv.us/pickens>

**NEW NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION IN HELVETIA**

Beginning in May 2011, work on establishing a new non-profit organization in Helvetia began. The building that currently has been used as Alpha Plumbing and a store is being purchased from “Butch” and Joann Nicholson for \$80,000. The new organization is Kultur House Helvetia. Through donations the organization has \$26,700. The building will continue to house the US Post Office, have a Fasnacht Mask Museum, a Country Store and also rent rooms to folks who come to visit from out of town.

The board of directors for the organization are: H. Kevin Betler, President; Heidi Arnett, Vice-President; Scott Betler, Treasurer; Tom Whittier, and Sally Schneider. Dave Whipp serves as the board’s secretary. The board plans for the Kultur Haus to be officially open by Helvetia Fair weekend.

Check out the organization’s Face book page or find out more information on the Helvetia website. <http://www.helvetiawv.com>

Any donations can be sent to: P O Box 10, Helvetia, WV 26224 The lodging committee would also welcome any information on furniture donations that could be used in the lodging rooms.

**OTHER NEWS FROM FRIENDS
and FAMILIES**

Jack and Henrietta Sanders celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on April 9, 2010. The couple was married at Zion Presbyterian Church in Helvetia by Rev. Fred

Manning. Henrietta is the daughter of Henry and Mary Dulaney Betler. Jack is the son of Orville and Mamie Henline Sanders. Jack and Henrietta reside in Strasburg, VA.

Daniel Wayne Koerner and **Jessica Nadine Morris** were married April 24 in Buckhannon. Jessica is the daughter of James E. and Terry Morris of Buckhannon. Daniel is the son of Chesley and Brenda Koerner of Helvetia.

Amanda Summerfield of Blue Rock, graduated from the Randolph County Technical Center school of Practical Nursing.

Amanda is the daughter of Roger and Sonya Metzner Summerfield.

The descendants of **Arnold and Della Metzner** gathered October 2 at the North Buckhannon Riverfront Park for a family reunion. Many family members attended. The next reunion is scheduled for the second Saturday in October 2011.

The Burky Family Reunion, 2010
Family reunions have always been fun for me. Growing up in the 1950’s and 1960’s, we would go the Rowe reunion at my Uncle Wayne’s farm near Van Wert Ohio. The land was flat as a tabletop and my relatives were, well pretty straight-laced and pretty boring as well. It seems we all had to behave the way we thought others wanted us to. It was still nice seeing our cousins, but it wasn’t much fun because I had to be someone else for those few hours each year.

Flash forward to 1977. I married Diana Snyder, the daughter of Irene “Burky” Snyder and Clair Snyder. Irene was the oldest child of the Helvetia

Burky family. Her brothers and sisters were Norman, Vernon, Herb, Ed, and Alice.

Since joining the Burky family I have been to a lot of Burky family reunions and I can say that the Burky family is the most welcoming bunch of people I have ever met. You can be yourself with the Burkys. I love the Burky family! Some of them call me the flatlander. (Where I live I can drive 10 miles to the next town and not have a single curve in the road and the tallest hill may be a 30 feet elevation change.)

The 2010 Burky reunion was held at Sandy's house, just outside of Pickens. Sandy is Vernon's daughter. She has obviously inherited the welcoming Burky gene. Diana and I were the first to arrive Friday afternoon at Sandy's house and were greeted by the pony that barks (a very nice Great Dane). As others arrived, so did the food and musical instruments. Before the evening was over everyone was full of food, had listened to stories and had enjoyed Swiss and blue grass music.

On Saturday several of us went up to Turkey Bone, the old Burky place. We visited the old Burky graveyard. It was very picturesque. It is a small area with tall pine trees planted in a circle around the graves. Vernon pointed out where the house stood and where the old driveway went. There was not much left up there except for the graveyard and the beauty of nature.

Saturday evening was much like Friday evening, except more people. Many of them were town people bringing instruments to play for just the fun of it. There was more food, drink, stories, jokes, music, yodeling, and just plain good times. Have I mentioned that I love the Burky family?

On Sunday morning many of us went to the small church in Helvetia. I don't know why, but this is always one of the highlights of my annual trip. I think the majesty of God's beautiful creation in the Helvetia and Pickens area just need to be lifted up to God and given thanks for. This area makes me think of the old hymns "How Great Thou Art" and "For the Beauty of the Earth".

Sunday noon was another food fest with another potluck and a lot of leftovers. This is where we all say our goodbyes and compare highlights of the weekend.

Lately we have been experiencing the circle of life in the Burky family. Over the years we have seen the passing of Herb, Hazel, Eddie, Roger and more recently Gwen and Norman. It was sad this year because Vernon was the only one of his generation attending. Alice and Irene didn't come since they had just traveled to WV for Norman's funeral. But here comes the circle, last year on our way home Diana and I had news that our first grandson was born and this year on Saturday Mike and Marquita had news that their first granddaughter was born. Hopefully sometime soon this new generation of Burky descendants will be attending the reunion and enjoying the hospitality of their ancestry. Did I mention that I love the Burky family?
Sincerely,
Bill Lutterbein

Favorite son-in-law of Irene
"Burky" Snyder

Submitted by: Sandy Burky
This summer's Burky Reunion was held on the weekend of July 15, 2011

Betler Family Reunion

The descendents of Henry and Mary Betler continue to meet on the first weekend of August for a reunion. The reunion is always held at Brian and Angel Betler's cabin which is located on "The Farm". Beginning on Friday evening of the event, family members and friends gather around the campfire for visiting, singing, yodeling, and stories. On Saturday more family and friends arrive for hugs, laughter, food, and the annual auction of items donated by family members. Everyone has a wonderful time throughout the day, and then enjoys the square dance in the evening at the community hall. It is always nice seeing the faces of those who you only see once a year, as well as those who get together frequently. We enjoy watching the little ones become acquainted with cousins, aunts, and uncles. Next year's Betler Reunion is scheduled for the weekend of August 4, 2012.

St. Jude's Ranch for Children

It's that time of year to start thinking about recycling the holiday, birthday, and thank you cards. St. Jude's Ranch for Children, an organization that cares for neglected, abused, and abandoned children, has been collecting and using cards for more than 30 years. The children at the ranch attach pretty artwork from the front of the cards to new cards then the cards are sold in their retail stores, online, and over the phone.

Here are some important points to remember about the program:

- They accept cards year around.
- They need all types of cards
- Only the front of a card is used. Please make sure that

there is no writing on the card.

- Hallmark, Disney, and American Greeting cards cannot be accepted.
 - Sizes 5X7 and smaller are best.
 - The least expensive way to ship cards are through the Post Office in a Flat Rate Box
- Mail the card fronts to: St. Jude Ranch for Children, Recycling Card Program, 100 St. Jude's St. Boulder City, Nev. 89005
- article submitted by:
Henrietta Sanders

DEATHS

Nellie. F. Gaston Morgan of Buckhannon died May 16, 2008. Born January 10, 1910 daughter of Edward F. and Rebecca Clark Mayo

Otis "Buddy" Spittler of Mountain View, MO, died January 25, 2010. Born March 16, 1954 son of Oral and Beatrice Tiffner Spittler.

Juanita M. Howes, of Helvetia, died February 15, 2010. Born August 1, 1928, daughter of Dain and Mildred Eskew.

Norman W, Karlin, 96 of Inwood, died March 7, 2010. Born Oct 3, 1913, son of John and Emma Karlin. Husband of M. Odell Karlin.

Margaret Smith of Eau Claire, Wis, died March 24, 2010. Born on March 27, 1917, daughter of Jacob and Anna Marti Teusher.

Howard O. Betler of Helvetia, died April 8, 2010. Born December 9,

1938, son of Henry and Mary Dulaney Betler.

Virginia M. Kelley of Pickens, died April 22, 2010. Born on February 26, 1921, daughter of William and Eva Tenney Tuning.

Norman E. Burky of Greensburg, PA, died June 7, 2010. Born November 6, 1923, son of Ernest and Alma Betler Burky.

Louise Metzner of Clarksburg, died July 3, 2010. Wife of Lawrence Metzner.

Arlyne Zickefoose of Buckhannon died July 18, 2010. Born May 18, 1921, daughter of Arnold and Della Vogel Metzner.

Sharon Hofer of Falls Church Virginia, died September 16, 2010. Wife of Stanley Hofer

Dr. Dorreen E. Planck of Rock Cave, died October 13, 2010. Doctor at Little Meadow Health Center in Helvetia for 17 years.

Earl B. Sines of Elkins, died November 28, 2010. Born February 2, 1928, son of Oliver and Maggie Bottenfield Sines.

Opal M. Andrews of Elkins, died December 24, 2010. Born August 16, 1919, daughter of James William Tuning and Eva Tenney Tuning.

Rogers McAvoy, “The Professor” of Helvetia died February 19, 2011. Born December 28, 1927, son of Ellis and Carolyn McIntosh McAvoy.

Eleanor Fahrner Mailloux of Helvetia died March 9, 2011. Born March 29, 1917, the daughter of William Jacob and Irene Catherine Thomas Fahrner.

William R. Egleson of Elkins, died March 5, 2011.

Eck Tharp of Pickens died March 19, 2011. Born January 6, 1945, son of Birton and Josephine Tharp.

Mary G. Simmons of Elkins died May 5, 2011. Wife of Donald E. Simmons of Pickens who preceded her in death in 2006.

Helen L. Shipley of Buckhannon died May 7, 2011. Mother of Barbara Hofer of Helvetia.

George R. Woody of Selbyville died July 18, 2011. Born Feb. 11, 1931. Son of late Dorsey and Della May Henline Woody.

Edward A. Sutton of Fowler, OH, died July 21, 2011. Son of George and Bertha(Teuscher) Sutton. Married to the late Helen (Schneider) Sutton.

UP COMING EVENTS

August 6, 2011—Swiss National Day Celebration, begin at 5:00 in the Meadow.

September 10, 2011—Helvetia Fair Weekend

November 6, 2011—Helvetia Town Meeting @ Community Hall 2:00 PM

November 25, 2011—Helvetia
Community Thanksgiving Dinner @
Helvetia Community Hall 6:00 PM.

February 18, 2012---Fasnacht
Celebration

March 19-20, 2012—Pickens
Maple Syrup Festival

April 21, 2012—Pickens Ramp
Supper

April 28, 2012—Helvetia Ramp
Supper.

May 7, 2012—Pickens
Senior/alumni Banquet

June 12, 2012—Helvetia
Cemetery Decoration

June 19, 2012—Pickens
Cemetery Decoration