

UNIVERSITY PARK CHURCH OF GOD

UPDATE

A Publication of University Park Church of God, 4070 Elton Road, Johnstown, PA, 15904
Vol. 2012 January and February

50 • 12 • 07

In Twenty Twelve we, as a congregation, are praying that people will believe in Jesus. It is our desire to share Jesus with 50 people. We are praying that of those 50 people that we share Jesus with, that at least 12 of them believe in Jesus as their savior. We are praying that 7 people will be baptized.

Will you join us in sharing Jesus with others?

- With whom will you share Jesus?
- Who will believe in Jesus as their savior, because you shared?
- Who will be baptized, because you shared?

In 2012

Begin Praying Today

Begin Sharing Today

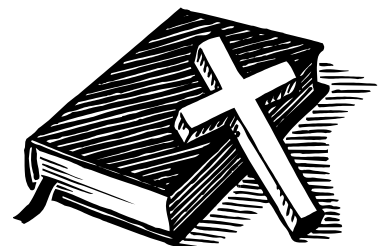
Continue Praying Tomorrow

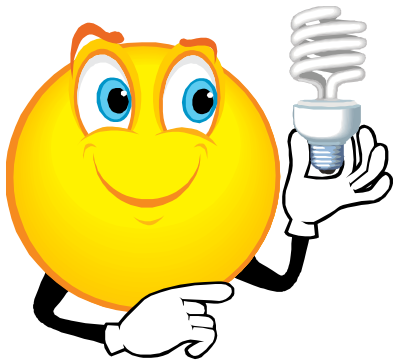
Continue Sharing Tomorrow

**Discipleship Study
Sunday Nights
6:30 PM
Church Fellowship Hall**

In January and February our Discipleship Study will be meeting on Sunday evenings at 6:30 PM. Starting, January 8, 2012 we will be wrestling with the question of Salvation: Can you lose it? Once I am saved am I always saved? What can we learn from God's word? Bring your Bible and join us as we discuss this all important question.

Each week, in your bulletin, you will find a weekly Bible reading schedule. This schedule can also be found in the free devotional, **Our Daily Bread**. Reading the Bible is a vital part of one's walk with God. Through it, we come to know Him, to know His ways, and to learn of His plan of salvation through His only son, Jesus. Use this schedule, or another schedule (there are several on our church website, www.upcoq.com) to help guide your reading.





PK's Thoughts

Connections Matter

Connections matter, but they take time. They require intentional effort to build a relationship. When you see this phrase on the calendar, know that we are scheduling into the church calendar a day for us to do just that, make a connection. Take time to connect with God, with family, with Christian brothers and sisters, or with pre-Christian friends.

Take time to connect with God: Have you ever been so busy that you feel like God is way out there and you are all alone? When was the last time you spent some time just praying, reading God's word, and listening to Him? It is easy to get busy doing good things and we forget about our time with Jesus. Take some time during these Connections Matter days and spend time with God.

Take time to connect with family: One of the causes for delinquency in youth is the absence of a parent. Parents, it is easy to forget that our kids need more than food to eat, clothes to wear, and a roof to sleep under. They need uninterrupted time with their parents. They need time playing a game, reading a book, or eating ice cream. Adults, this also applies to our parents. They need a phone call or a visit. They need to know that you care about them and remember the things that they have taught you. An idea for connecting: Take time and look through a photo album and talk about the memories of that event.

Take time to connect with Christian brothers and sisters: Plan an outing to a concert, a ball game, a movie, etc. inviting friends from church. Invite friends to come and play a game together. Choose to connect with people who know Jesus, plan a time of serving others together.

Take time to connect with pre-Christian friends: Do you have friends that do not know Jesus? Take this time to build relationships, seeking opportunities to share your faith with them. These friendships can be built over a cup of coffee, around a special event, or some other occasion. Connections Matter days are designed to help us, intentionally plan time to spend building relationships with others so that we might have an opportunity to demonstrate and share our faith in Jesus with them.

Connections also require us to pray. Pray that God would lead you to make connections, the right connections, at the right time. This takes discernment. It takes time for us to listen and discern how God is working and how He is leading us.

As we have these days of connection, Connections Matter, it is my prayer that they would become a habit, a lifestyle. It is important that we schedule, i.e., block out time in our schedule to make connections with others. Be careful so that we do not become so busy that we don't have time for people, or God. When we get too busy that we don't have time for people, then we also don't have time to share God's love with them.

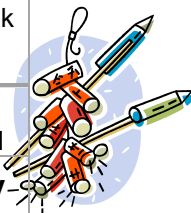
Together, let's make connections with God, with our families, with our Christian brothers and sisters, and with our pre-Christian friends. Why? Because: **Connections Matter.**

Blessed to be a blessing,

Pastor Keven.


January 2012

Genesis 1:1 ESV In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Pray for Paul Smatlak this week.		3 <u>Connections Matter</u> Take time to connect with God, with family, with Christian brothers and sisters, or with pre-Christian friends.	4 Youth Group 6:30 PM	5	6	7 Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM
No Sunday School Church at 10:45 AM						
New Year's Day						
8 Pray for Sophie Smatlak this week.	9	10 Leadership Team Meeting 6:30 PM	11 Youth Group 6:30 PM	12	13	14
Discipleship Study 6:30 PM						
15 Pray for Becca Stirling this week.	16	17 Doug & Sylvia Bruce Anniversary Scott & Tammy Kuhn Anniversary	18 Youth Group 6:30 PM	19	20	21 Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM
Jim Pfeil Bday Kylee Engle Bday		Board of Elders Meeting 6:30 PM				
Discipleship Study 6:30 PM						
22 Pray for Olivia Stirling this week.	23	24 Women's Connection 7:00 PM	25 Youth Group 6:30 PM	26 Bob Thompson Bday	27 Winter Jam Youth Concert In State College	28 Marco Nachtigall Bday
Discipleship Study 6:30 PM						
29 Pray for Bob Thompson this week.	30	31	<p style="text-align: center;">Each Sunday Morning 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Church</p>			
Discipleship Study 6:30 PM						

February 2012

John 1:1 ESV
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

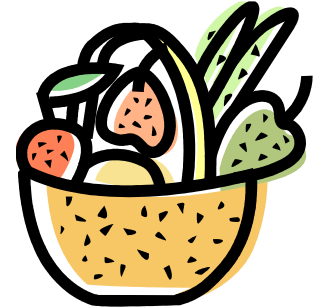
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Each Sunday Morning 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Church</p>			1 Youth Group 6:30 PM	2  Ground Hog Day	3	4 Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM
			5 Pray for Joyce Thompson this week.  Super Bowl Sunday	6	7 Team Meetings WAMM Team and Christian Education Teams 6:30 PM	8 Youth Group 6:30 PM
12 Pray for Travis Thompson this week. Discipleship Study 6:30 PM	13	14 <u>Connections Matter</u> Take time to connect with God, with family, with Christian brothers and sisters, or with pre-Christian friends. Valentine's Day 	15 Youth Group 6:30 PM	16	17	18 Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM
19 Pray for Mary Turner this week. Discipleship Study 6:30 PM	20	21	22 Youth Group 6:30 PM Ash Wednesday	23	24	25
26 Pray for Patty Bennett this week. Discipleship Study 6:30 PM	27	28 Women's Connection 7:00 PM	29 Night of Visitation 6:30 PM			

I am thankful for...



I am thankful for Annabelle Churchey, Nancy Engle, and Lilia Eash. The ability that they have to play the piano is such a blessing. Not only do they have the ability, but they also have the willingness to play the piano every week, helping to lead us in worshipping our Savior with music. Thank you ladies for using your gift to bless and to serve. **For what are you thankful?**

This Christmas, as a congregation, we were able to bless three families with a special gift basket of food. The responses are varied, but they all demonstrate gratitude and the desire to convey back to the congregation thanks for this special gift. Often times we don't understand how God works, but when we are faithful He allows us to remind others of His love for them. Sometimes all we see is the puzzled look, as we hear the question, "who are you again?", or the tear that runs down a tired mom's face. God is good.



Keep your eyes open as we continue to look for opportunities to **Show the World Around Us Christ Within Us**. Remember that we are blessed to be a blessing.



You will notice that on the calendar there is a person to pray for. While this is not the only time you can pray for this person this week, it serves as great reminder and opportunity for us as a congregation to pray specifically for a given individual. Take time during that week to lift that special person up throughout the week, asking God to continue to work in their life and through them. May God use them to draw people to Him.

Focus 40

Starting February 29, 2012 and continuing through Easter, we will be joining other Church of God congregations throughout North America in a 40 Day time of Focused Prayer and Fasting. This year's theme focuses on evangelism, as we pray and fast for 25,000 new disciples of Jesus. More information will be coming, mark your calendars now to be a part of this year's Focus 40.

Global Gathering 2013

Together! Being the Body of Christ in A Changing World

June 22-25, 2013 Anderson, Indiana

More Info can be found at www.chog.org/globalgathering