

February 26, 2017

## Transfiguration Sunday .."Be yea also ready!"

Our focus on Transfiguration Sunday is usually the dazzling and magnificent activities happening on the mountain, as it should be. It's hard to take your focus off the mountaintop, where Jesus is glowing, Elijah and Moses are present, and Peter is falling asleep. But if your attention is too firmly on the zenith, you might miss something significant in the valley.

Do you remember the movie, *Crimson Tide*? Denzel Washington is the young executive officer (EO) on a nuclear submarine where Gene Hackman is the seasoned captain. A fire breaks out in the mess hall (galley) and while Denzel goes to put out the fire, the old Captain decides to run a test of the nuclear launch response system. The young, rising, EO is very upset; why run a test right now, when no one expects it or is prepared?

During Transfiguration there is a test occurring. Down in the valley the remaining 9 disciples are tested by a man who brings his son for healing. This is a pop quiz, and yes, God gives pop quizzes. Sure, if we had it our way God would only test us when we are prepared, studied, and warned. In my academic life, the class where I learned how to study was physics and a teacher who firmly believed in pop quizzes. That class taught me to be a constant learner and not just a "test taking learner." In our spiritual lives the lessons are continuous, and likewise are the test, but as my great-grandmother would warn, "Be yea also ready!"

By: Rev. Cean James, Associate Conference Minister of  
 Congregational Development



## Getting to Know:

### Bausman Memorial UCC

1064 Penn Ave., Wyomissing, PA 19610



Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! These are very familiar words that are proclaimed throughout the world each blessed Easter morn. These are words that can be said regularly at Bausman Memorial UCC. We praise God for resurrection and having the last word in all

things. We praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Bausman's worship style is "Traditional with a touch of Spirit." We are blessed with a strong music ministry under the capable leadership of Sharon Luyben. The Chancel's and Bell Choir's anthems are always meaningful and beautiful. Pastor Mark Johnson strives to offer grace-filled yet challenging messages grounded in the Scriptures.

Youth ministries are growing in numbers and activities at Bausman. We have weekly Church School classes, youth groups for everyone over four years old, a Youth Choir, and VBS. We recently hired two Nursery Attendants for Sunday mornings. We are also remodeling all of our classrooms for the new day.

Part of being at Bausman is about having fun and fellowship together. We have: community dinners, ice cream socials, progressive dinners, road rally races, trips to sporting events, and more.

Praise the Lord, mission isn't a foreign word at Bausman. We support a variety of local ministries such as: Family Promise, Hope Rescue Mission, Salvation Army, the Women's Shelter, Bethany Home, Calvary UCC food bank, and more. We have a growing mission to veterans and families. We attend parades, offer prayers and blessings, collect food, and offer help around the house to veterans in need. In 2017 we hope to work ecumenically to help a veteran get back on his or her feet! Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed!

Your prayers for God's presence, power, and love at Bausman Memorial UCC are very much appreciated! Thank you, and may the Lord richly, bless you, too!



Prayers are requested for Bausman Memorial UCC in  
 Wyomissing and Rev. Mark J. Johnson.