

# Amwell Echoes

Volume 1, Issue 1

March 2000

## Leadership at Amwell:

?Pastor: Robert DiSalvio  
 ?Deacons:  
 ?George & Carol Hettman  
     - chairman  
 Bob & Margaret Hughes  
 John & Lorraine Caimano  
 Jeff & Cindy Kiskurno

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## Staff:

Editor: Stacia Palmer  
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 Robert Hughes  
 Contributing Members:  
 Pastor Robert DiSalvio, Robert  
 Hughes, George Hettman,  
 Christian DiSalvio, Blanche Carl  
 and other members.

## Pastor's Place

Welcome to Volume One of our Twenty-first Century Newsletter. The year 2000 marks Amwell's 267th Anniversary! Imagine forty-three years before America was born the Amwell church was preaching the good news of Jesus Christ in Hunterdon County.

It is a privilege for me to stand on the shoulders of those giants of the faith who preceded me in this pastorate from our Founder Bishop John Naas to our dear Pastor George Landis.

Amwell Echoes is the name that was given to the last newsletter that our church produced. Echoes are resounding sounds. While there is a

way in which the word Echoes looks back to the past, there is another sense in which Echoes reflect the sounds of a church family at work for the Lord Ephesians 4:12

speaks of believers at work in the church at the ministry to which God has called them.

When you thumb through the pages of this monthly newsletter you'll hear the sounds of that labor from Meet The Members to the Youth Section or the Missions Corner. Blanche Carl will give stories from our past. The Mini Ministries section will profile the ministries that



Pastor Bob

folks have started which sometimes go unnoticed. There will also be news to inform you about the Church around the world.

Enjoy and be encouraged by the new Amwell Echoes.

Pastor Bob

## Editor's Notes

Welcome to the first edition of Amwell Echoes. Initially it will be a bi-monthly newsletter sharing information and news of our church and the world around us with the congregation.

If anyone has story ideas or is interested in being a regular contributor to the newsletter please let me know as any help or input is greatly appreciated.

The name Amwell Echoes came from Blanche

Carl. Amwell used to have a newsletter back in the 1970's with the same name. So in the spirit of tradition we chose to continue the work that was begun so long ago.

I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and find it beneficial in your daily spiritual life.

## Member Interviews

In our first issue we meet our newest newlyweds Michael and Zina Simon. Michael and Zina were married at Amwell on December 26th, 1999.

Michael became a Christian back in 1984. Zina described her conversion as more of a gradual process but remembers hearing a radio broadcast of Steve Nash's on WAWZ. She went to the radio station to listen and met Mr. Nash and prayed with him to receive Christ.

They were led to make Amwell their home church by relatives and mutual friends and became official

members during our membership classes in the Fall of 1998.

Michael and Zina first met in New Hope, PA. They currently live in Upper Black Eddy, PA. Michael works for Bradco Supply Company and Zina is currently a homemaker.

They have many hobbies that they enjoy doing together which include travel, sightseeing and camping.



Members and Newlyweds Michael and Zina Simon

Zina also enjoys artwork and other crafts and is very talented. If you've ever received one of her thank you cards you know it's a lovely creation.

Michael and Zina also enjoy witnessing together, they try to find opportunities to share the Lord with someone every week.

## Stories from the Internet

For those who may not know, Barney is an over-commercialized, large, purple dinosaur that is watched by millions of children everyday on PBS stations.

Barney...

A four year old was at the pediatrician for a check up. As the doctor looked down her ears with an oto-

scope, he asked, "Do you think I'll find Big Bird in here?"

The little girl stayed silent. Next, the doctor took a tongue depressor and looked down her throat. He asked, "Do you think I'll find the Cookie Monster

down there?"

Again, the little girl was silent. Then the doctor put a stethoscope to her chest. As he listened to her heartbeat, he asked, "Do you think I'll hear Barney in there?" "Oh, no!" the little girl replied. "Jesus is in my heart Barney's on my underpants."

*"Jesus is in my heart  
Barney's on my  
underpants."*

## Congregation News:

Congratulations are in order to the Butz-Fiscina family. On February 7th, 2000 at 8:32 am a new member entered their family and ours. Erich Quinton Butz-Fiscina came into the world looking sweet and peaceful. He was 7 lbs. 14 oz. And 21 inches long. Please join me in welcoming Erich Quinton and congratulating

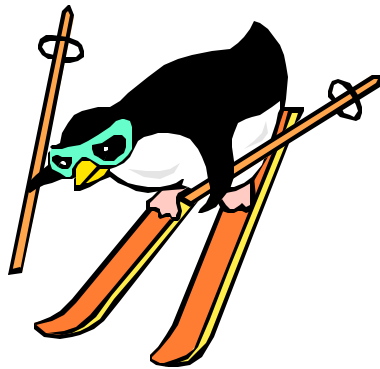
mom, Robin, dad, John and siblings Thomas, Kristal and Claudia.

On Tuesday, February 15th the Lord called home His beloved child Francis Schujko. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, February 22nd at Jacobstown Baptist Church. She is survived by her husband, five chil-

dren, eight grandchildren and her dear sisters Margaret Hughes and Dorothy Kamaris. She was also a member at Amwell and a dear sister to many in our congregation. If you would like to send flowers or other condolences see Robert Hughes. And be sure to give Margaret and Dorothy extra hugs this month.

# Youth News & Events

In the beginning of February the Youth Group went to Camp Swatara with the rest of the congregation. There was snow, food, skits and a lot of spiritual food too. And at the end of the month we rounded up the older youth and locked them up. In the church that is. A Lock-in is where the youth group gets together and spends the night in the church for a gigantic sleepover. But



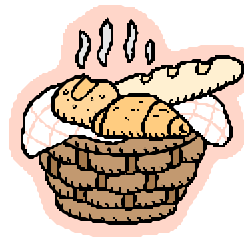
nobody actually sleeps. They spend the night eating food, playing games, singing and just enjoying being kids together.

This March the group will be going snow-tubing at Shawnee Mountain on Saturday the 11th. It's been snowing a lot lately so this should definitely be a great day of fun. Check with your leaders for the departure time.

And on the 24th there will be a Progressive Dinner start-

ing at 6:30 at the church. At a Progressive dinner you start out at one home for hors d'ouvres, go to another for salad, another for the main course and yet another for dessert. So bring your appetite because it sounds like there will be a lot of good food.

There will also be the regular youth meetings on the 3rd, 17th and 31st. Check your youth calendar or the calendar in this newsletter for the time and place.



## Who Are We?

Most of you know that Tim DiSalvio plays the drums in our church Praise team. But did you also know that he can play guitar, piano and even a little bit of xylophone?

Tim is sixteen years old and was born April 20th at Hunterdon Medical Center. He's in the 10th grade at Hunterdon Central and his favorite subject is Gym, although he doesn't

mind Math.

In his spare time Tim likes horse-back riding, riding his dirt bike and hunting.

Tim remembers becoming a Christian around the age of six or seven when he was walking with

his father from the barn up to the house.

I asked Tim if he had any heroes and after some thought his answer was "Can I say God, or Jesus?"

I hope you've learned something new about Tim and possibly found something you have in common with him.

*Do you have any heroes?  
"Can I say God, or Jesus?"*

## What We're Doing

Hey kids, this section is for you and the special things that you do. If you participate in sports, music, dance, theatre, 4H or any type of extra-curricular activity let me know and it will end up here. Give me your game schedules and recital



dates and people will know when to show up and support you.

And if you win an award of any kind I'll print it here. That includes any academic honors you may receive

at school.

This section is for kids of all ages not just high schoolers so let me know what you're up to and I'll let everyone else know too.



## International News

This fall a Christian school opened in Beijing, China and serves the children of expatriate Christians. Eighty children are currently enrolled for schooling on the 22-acre campus.

Source <http://www.crosswalk.com>

In the Sudan Christians are being persecuted and killed by the current Islamic Regime. The war between the Northern Muslims and Southern Christians and other rebels began in the 1980's. Since that time it is believed that up to 2 million people have been killed.

To date the Clinton administration has ignored this ethnic cleansing and Secretary of State Madeliene Albright has said that politically opposing Sudan's policies "is not marketable to the American people." The Sudan, as well as other African nations, provides gum arabic for use in soft drinks and recently has discovered large oil reserves which would make it economically undesirable for the US to oppose their atrocities.

While the US does provide food-aid to the famine ridden Sudan the Islamic government in Khartoum is not bound to distribute the relief food to the Christians in the south.

Meanwhile Canada is considering sanctions against corporations that do business with Sudan. Activist

and former Reagan aide Michael Horowitz was arrested the day before the President's National Prayer Breakfast outside the State Department after requesting a meeting with the Secretary and refusing to leave the premises.

Horowitz, a Jew, believes that something should be done about the ethnic cleansing occurring in the Sudan and other church leaders are prepared to follow his example. 'He contends that Christians are the Jews of the 21st century, the "canaries in the coal mine"-their treatment suggests whether others will be oppressed.'

Source <http://www.worldmag.com/world/home.asp>

*(Continued on page 5)*

## Blanche's Corner

John Naas was perhaps the ablest preacher of the early church of the Brethren. Libe and Martin might be placed in his class. Naas was born in 1669 or 1670 at Norten, a town of Westphalia, 12 miles north of Emden. "He was among the first fruits of the Brethren in Creyfelt, and on account of his disinterested piety and great natural endowments, he was soon called to the ministry,

in which he manifested so much zeal that his field of labor at Creyfelt appeared too small for his ardent desire to extend the knowledge of the newly-discovered truths. Hence he made several very successful tours through the adjoining provinces as a traveling missionary, in which he suffered many privations and once narrowly escaped being pressed into the army of the King of Prussia."

Troubles with Christian Libe at Creyfelt caused him to desist from

preaching for a number of years. He is reported, but erroneously, to have come to America with the second colony of Brethren in 1729. He arrived in 1733. He went almost immediately to Amwell, New Jersey, where he founded an active church, and which remains "his monument" unto this day.

Abraham Cassel, from whom we quoted above, says further of him, "It is said by one of his contempo-

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Missions Corner

The following is a complete listing of missionaries supported by Amwell Church of the Brethren:

Reverend & Mrs. Leon Dillinger - They work in Irian Jaya and are affiliated with UFM International.

Reverend & Mrs. Edwin Martinez -

Reverend Martinez is the Support/Supervisory Missionary for all of Latin America and is affiliated with OC International.

Reverend & Mrs. Benjamin Meney work in the mountains of Kentucky along with Mrs. Ruby Simek and

minister to the poor, especially the children.

Reverend & Mrs. VanCamp and family work in Orlando, Florida and are affiliated with Word-of-Life.

Reverend David Huizing works in Long Island, New York and is also affiliated with Word-of-Life.

# March 2000

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## Schedule of Events

- ? 3/3 - Youth Mtg. at the DiSalvio's 7:00 pm (Flem.)
- ? 3/5 - Bridal Shower for Zina Simon
- ? 3/11 - Snowtubing at Shawnee Mtn.
- ? 3/12 - Praise & Prayer
- ? 3/17 - Youth Mtg. at the Waldron's 7:00 pm
- ? 3/18 - Men's Prayer Breakfast
- ? 3/19 - Frank Cosby guest preacher
- ? 3/24 - Youth Progressive Dinner 6:30 at the church
- ? 3/26 - Praise & Prayer
- ? 3/31 - Youth Mtg. at the church 7:00 pm

## Coming in April

- ? 4/9 - Praise & Prayer

## International News

*(Continued from page 4)*

If you would like to write, email or phone your local Representative or Senators their contact information is as follows:

Representative for Flemington,  
08822-2037  
Honorable Rush D. Holt (D)



1630 Longworth  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-5801

Email: [rush.holt@mail.house.gov](mailto:rush.holt@mail.house.gov)  
Web page: <http://www.house.gov/rholt/>

If you don't live in Flemington you can find your Representative at <http://www.house.gov/writerep/> by using your zip code and state of residence.

New Jersey Senators:  
Senator Robert Torricelli (D)  
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3224

Email: [senator\\_torricelli@torricelli.senate.gov](mailto:senator_torricelli@torricelli.senate.gov)  
Web page: <http://www.senate.gov/~torricelli/>



Senator Frank Lautenberg (D)  
506 Senate Hart Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
(202) 224-4744  
Fax (202) 224-9707

Email: [frank\\_lautenberg@lautenberg.senate.gov](mailto:frank_lautenberg@lautenberg.senate.gov)  
Web page: <http://www.senate.gov/~lautenberg/>

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**Amwell  
Church of the Brethren**

*The Friendly, Praying, Singing Church,  
Preaching and Teaching Christ  
Crucified, Risen and Coming Again.*



*(Continued from page 4)*  
raries that knew him well he was unequalled as a preacher – being a German Whitefield or a Boanerges. Several of his hymns which are still in use by the Brethren also speak well of him as a poet or hymnologist. He is further represented as being very mild and charitable, almost to a fault, insomuch that he occasionally differed with the Brethren in the administration of judgment to offending members. He died ripe in years and full of faith, on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May, 1741; and is buried amidst many of his spiritual children in the Brethren graveyard at Amwell.” It should here be added that his remains do not repose in the Brethren graveyard near the Amwell meetinghouse.

He had two daughters and at least one son. One daughter was married to Brother Wilhelmus Graw,

in Creyfelt, who never came to America. The other was married to a Hannes Landis, who afterwards joined the Seventh Day Baptists and went to Ephrata. He was not long satisfied here, however, was again reconciled to the Brethren and became a member of the Conestoga congregation. The son remained in Switzerland at least for a time after the father came to America, to whom the father wrote the long and interesting letter concerning his voyage across the deep.

John Naas may also be regarded as the founder of the Great Swamp Church, in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

*(from Church of the Brethren, Eastern District of PA.)*

## Mini Ministries at Amwell

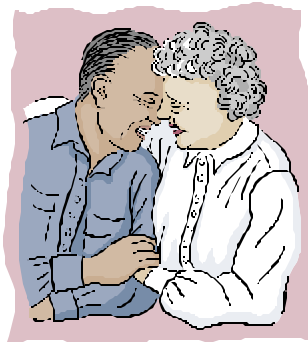
### Need to Feed:

Need to Feed provides meals for families with new babies, illness, grieving or other needs. If you could help make a meal for a church family in need please contact Tami Hettman.

tions about what is needed please contact Joseph Ferello.

### Food Pantry:

The Food Pantry also collects food but not for emergencies. This food is given to the Flemington Food Pantry to help the needy families of Hunterdon County on a daily basis. Please bring your donations to the back of the sanctuary near the coat racks. If you're unsure of what to bring contact Blanche Carl or Barbara Waldron.



### Emergency Preparedness Pantry:

The Emergency Preparedness Pantry is always collecting non-perishable foods in case of a natural disaster or other emergency that may strike our church family. If you can contribute or have ques-

### The Busy Bees:

The Busy Bees have been organizing showers, parties, weddings and contributing their time to various charities at Amwell for over fifty years. If you would like to learn more about the Busy Bees and how to join contact Barbara Waldron.

### Outreach Ministry:

The Outreach ministry focuses on reaching the neighborhood of our church home. This year they are focusing on visiting the homes of every family living within a three mile radius of Amwell. If you would like to participate contact George Hettman.