



Pastor Jack D. Cohen

What's in Your Hand?



Well, here we are again. The Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons and those family breaks together that we looked forward to

have zipped by for another year. The year 2010 is finished and so many of us have hopes, dreams, resolutions and plans for the blank slate year of 2011. For the church it is also the time in where we begin to look forward to a new and exciting year in ministry in 2011. First, I want to thank you all for your faithfulness in being part of this family we call Haven Church through your attendance in church and small groups, through financially giving to support the various ministries of the church through God's tithe and your offerings, your giving of time in praise team, small groups, leadership team, youth ministry, Shoreline Sunday School, missions, nursery, greeting, fellowship table and dinners, women's and men's ministries, etc.

I have to admit, as I look at Haven Church as we begin our fourth year of existence I am so moved by what God has done in our church in a short time. We have formed relationships with God and others that last the rest of our lives and new ministry ventures are blossoming out our are desire and love for Christ and others. We are truly supporting God and His ministry of reaching out in the name of Christ in powerful ways.

This year I believe God is going to provide many new opportunity for us to respond to His calling by God asking the question he first asked

Moses, *"What's in Your Hand?"* God uses the multiple gifts, graces, and talents that we have and the "things" he has given and entrusted to us to be used for furthering the Good News of Jesus Christ.

This, I believe, is truly summed up in this scripture verse, *"From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked"* (Luke 12:48b). Boy, I don't know about you, but that at times gets to be exhausting if we look at this verse in a take, take, take, give, give, give, scenario. However, I look at this and see what Jesus is really saying. To be honest, there are areas in my life that I focus on what I need, yet, so often I do not take the time to see all the "given much" areas in my life from God. When I do, I must realize the truth of Jesus statement for my life that I have been given much from Him; therefore, He demands more of me.

Even with all the great things that have happened in the last three years in Haven Church, I know that God demands more of me in my walk, talk, actions toward God and others, and seeking as well. When I look back on my life, in both the highs and the lows of life, God sent those who were "given much" to bring His blessing to me. Whether in comfort, sorrow, illness, financial need, spiritual need, etc., through their response to Jesus' demand to those 'given much,' I have received blessing upon blessing.

Likewise, we all have been entrusted much - the furthering of the ministry of Christ - and God asks those of us entrusted with His ministry, that is an incredible calling we have. I know when I hear statements of serving more, giving more time, etc., my immediate reaction is to say, "Where? How? My life is so busy already! There is no way!" Then I am reminded of Moses, David, the Disciples, Mother Teresa, Billy Graham, who gave their lives to God to be His hands and feet in this world. In my own life, I am reminded of people like my parents, fellow pas-

tors and mentors like John Hobbs, Kenny Davis, Bill Sammons, all the youth volunteers and pastors and so many others that GAVE so I could RECEIVE what the calling Christ had for me. They used what was "in their hands" just like Moses and it forever changed my life.

I am further reminded of the Christian Song by artist Ray Boltz, *Thank You*. The theme of the song reveals that this man is given a glimpse of Heaven where individuals some he knew on earth and some he never knew, one by one came thanking him for the gifts of Sunday School teaching, missionary lives, time giving and numerous other areas that provided ministry avenues for these individuals to accept Jesus as Savior and Lord; thus, bringing them to Heaven for eternity. In the words of the chorus, I am reminded of the power in one individual's response to what Jesus says to us in Luke 12:48, *"Thank you, for giving to the Lord. I am a life that was changed!"* Has your life been changed by the ministry of others giving back to the Lord to make a way for you to come to know Jesus? Have you helped change of the lives of others by answering the demand of Jesus or responding to His asking of you the entrusted ones? Jesus gave his life so freely and He did so out of His love for you and me. All he asks now is "What is in your hand?" that can be used miraculously by God to meet the increasing demands and needs in ministry.

May this be a dynamic year for you, your family, our church family and those who will come to know Jesus in powerful ways this year and in the years to come.

Shalom & Agape (Peace & Love),



Jack D. Cohen,
Senior Pastor, Haven Community Church

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

YOUTH & CHILDREN 2

WORSHIP MINISTRY 3

GROWTH MINISTRY 4

GROWTH MINISTRY 5

FACILITIES MINISTRY 5

OUTREACH MINISTRY 6

OUTREACH MINISTRY 7

CONNECTIONS MINISTRY 7

FINANCIAL MINISTRY 7

EDITOR INFO 8

Haven Community

HAVEN STUDENT MINISTRIES

RENOVATE & RIPTIDE MINISTRIES

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 16-*"To Save A Life"* Group Study 6-8pm @ The Barton's -Seven week study

Jan 29- IGNITE- 8:30 am-2:30 pm

Feb. 13- Chocolate Party 6-8pm

Feb. 25-27- Thirty Hour Famine

March Sr. High Retreat- TBA

In December, several of Haven's youth helped out at Hart's Church in Elk Neck, MD for their Live nativity. Haven's Youth portrayed Mary and Joseph, some angels, most of the shepherds, a wisemen, and also Nicole and Cassie sang several songs through the performance. We also made the front page of the Cecil Whig! It was a cold night but lots of people came to remember the real meaning of Christmas.

In January, 14 of us went to the Pond ice arena in Delaware for a night of cosmic skating. I think it was colder inside the arena then outside. There was a few youth clinging to the wall and several blisters at the end of the night but everyone enjoyed being together.

The Adult and Student leaders of Haven's youth ministry try to have a balance of events for the youth in the ministry. We have fun and fellowship events, events that will grow and stretch our faith, and events to make us aware and tend to mission work both locally and globally.

Of course each Sunday during the worship service, Middle school students meet in the cafeteria and High School students meet in the band room.

For the next 8 weeks (**January 23- March 13**) each Sunday evening from 6:00-8:00 both middle school and high school students are meet at the Barton's house for a short term study called "To Save a Life". Each night is a complete session so if you missed one or

two you can still join us.

February 25-26 the youth will once again participate in the 30 hour famine. This year is Haven's youth third year to participate and we have raised 1,000's of dollars to feed hungry people around the world. Besides spending 30 hours learning what it feels like to be hungry, we play games that help us to remember it is not just a lack of food but also a lack of clean water and medical supplies. We also take time to reflect on scriptures and how it applied to our lives.

For more information, contact Jeanie Logan at (302)-983-2287(Cell) (410)-287-5935 (Home) Or e-mail; ForeverSeekingJesus@yahoo.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL- SHORELINE MINISTRY

- Nursery for infants-age 3 meet upstairs above the gym.
- Shoreline for ages pre-k-5th grade during service after worship
- Riptide for Middle School
- Renovate for High School

SHORELINE

Teachers needed for all classes. If you want to help out in this area, but do not want to commit weekly, a schedule can be arranged.

For more information please contact:

Jeani Logan
(302)-983-2287
ForeverSeekingJesus@yahoo.com

NURSERY

We NEED Nursery help please consider being involved in this very important ministry of Haven Church

For more information please contact: Deb Stiles at 410-287-6916 or dstiles@ccps.org."

WORSHIP MINISTRY MUSIC

The music ministry is about connecting worshippers through songs of praise. Sounds easy but as with all music, I think we sometimes forget about the words that we're singing and why we're singing them. I grew up in a traditional Baptist church and to be honest, I rarely understood what I was singing about and never connected with it. This was part of the reason why my church life ended in my teens and didn't pick up again for 20 more years. It wasn't until I experienced worship in a small Methodist church that God showed me how powerful congregational singing can be. Believe it not, Charles and John Wesley were considered to be the founding fathers of contemporary worship because they changed the Anglican liturgical style of singing to something more modern and joyful during the 18th century. I always think of the humor in this when people downplay the modern worship of our time. From Wesley to Elvis Presley, God uses it all for His glory and purpose.

Haven Church is a body of mixed religious backgrounds and experiences but we share the same purpose; To openly worship and praise our God together. I think

to truly receive blessing in that, we sometimes need to change the way we approach worship and remove the obstacles that distract our focus. For example, we were recently led to remove the worship team for a Sunday. This wasn't a social experiment or a clever way to force people to lift up their voices. It was a way to strip away what we're used to so we could worship in a more intimate way. This is necessary for any spiritual growth. Just as when we grow things in nature, it produces better when we tend to it. We should tend to our worship in the same way that we tend to a grapevine. Let's just call it, "Spiritual pruning".

What does Praise and Worship mean? For me, I think of the words of the songs as the worship and the singing of those words as the open expression of praise through song. Try taking some of your favorite worship songs and speak them out loud to see how the meaning changes. When we sing worship songs, we're actually proclaiming and asking for blessings and healing. When we think of it this way, it takes more of the entertainment value away. Can we worship and be entertained?...of course. God didn't

create us to be so serious that we can't express excitement in our own church. I remember listening to a schoolmate of mine play and sing amazing songs for the same Baptist church that I mentioned earlier. He would play piano and sing his heart out with conviction and no one would make a sound or express anything. I was 16 but I remember thinking to myself, "What are these people afraid of?" Maybe that was the church mentality of the day, but it felt more like a funeral service to me. Personally, I'm not here to mourn. I didn't see the joy or connection in that at all so I stopped attending. Fortunately, God reeled me back in me and softened my heart after 20 years of being away.

Praise vs. Applause; This is a difficult one to separate. Trust me, the worship team is not looking for applause. Applause is a social engrained response to approval. When we say things like, "Give God praise", applause is our societal default. When we lift our hands as an open symbol of prayer and offering, that's a powerful open sign of praise and worship. Another powerful way to express this is to shout out words

of praise. Even the pastor needs to know we're listening from time to time. Believe me, it took me awhile to lift my hands in praise and I still won't unless I'm led by the Spirit. I clap my hands too but more as a way to make noise to express excitement. Clapping is a good start but shouldn't be our only default response. Whichever way you decide to give praise, just be genuine. (There's no worship meter hanging over our heads.) When we're focused on God, there's nothing around us to be concerned or self-conscious about. Let our praises be as loud as our faith.

As musicians and singers, we appreciate feedback so that we can know how to grow and change with you. If you've connected deeper through our music ministry, we'd love to hear your story and comments.

God Bless,
Wayne Beeg
Worship Leader
wayne@havenc.org
(443)-309-9026

SOUND

We are still seeking backup sound board operators; no one has expressed interest in it yet. I am hopeful that someone will step up and become involved with this very important part of Ministry.

Also, anyone is welcome to sit in the back with me during the service and learn.

If interested please contact Andy Dempsey
(410) - 398 - 7361 /
andempsey@aol.com

MEDIA

Dave Roberts has put together a rotating schedule of Media Operators and that is working out very well. I believe there are four operators so one only has to run the media once per month

If interested please contact Andy Dempsey
(410)-398-7361
andempsey@aol.com

SCRIPTURE READING

DEDICATED SCRIPTURE READERS NEEDED

Do you feel God tugging at your heart to read His word for Sunday worship service? All you have to do is read the scheduled Scripture once a month or probably less depending how many sign up.

The Scripture is available for you to view a few days in advance at the Haven Community Church website.

To sign up, Contact Linda Seward linda@havenc.org
(610)-888-5628



**THY WORD IS A LAMP
UNTO MY FEET, AND A
LIGHT UNTO MY PATH.
(PSALM
119:105)**

Haven Community

GROWTH MINISTRY

CONNECTION LIFE GROUPS

We now have 2 small groups meeting bi-weekly in the homes of Stephen Stiles and Dave Roberts (see info in table). If you'd like to join these studies please contact them for more information. We are hoping to add more small groups in our congregation over the next year.

If you would be interested to host a small group meeting, please contact Stephen with your interest.

Finally, we will soon be making plans for a Lenten study for another all church Small group event, if you have any questions or suggestions please let us know.

For info contact

Stephen Stiles;

stphnstiles@yahoo.com



Group Leader	Next Meeting Night & Time	Meeting Location
Dave Roberts 443-466-9121	Monday, January 31 st at 6:30 pm	Dave & Sarah Roberts House 36 Hazlette Court, Conowingo, MD
Stephen Stiles 443-553-8705	Tuesday, January 25 th at 7:00 pm	Stephen & Deb Stiles house 248 North East Rd, North East MD
Others	TBD	TBD

Please consider join a CLG! New CLGs are always forming, so please contact Stephen Stiles if you are interested in starting a group or are looking for more information!

WOMEN'S GROUPS

On Dec. 2nd Haven's Women's Ministry gathered at Judy Musick's house for an evening of fellowship. Everyone brought a dish to share and a gift to put into the gift exchange. Each lady put in a donation for the amount that they would have spent on eating out; we raised \$150.00 which was given to the "sleeping bags for homeless". A great time was had by all.

The Women's Ministry is planning another evening out on Feb. 10th at 7pm.

Please mark your calendars, more info. to come. We look forward to planning monthly activities for the women of Haven to fellowship and get to know one another better. We will let everyone know about upcoming events.

Contact Shelia Dempsey
Sheliadempsey@Verizon.net
or
Bobbie Burke
bburke@ccps.org
for more info

MEN'S GROUPS

The men's group will meet twice a month starting Feb. 10th. The next meeting will be on the 24th. At this point the 1st meeting will be just for men, while the second will be for fathers/mentors and their kids.

The mens only meeting will be for bible study and fellowship, as well as planning for the next meeting.

We will meet at the Best Western across from Cecil College at 630, we will be in their conference room, and should last around 2 hours.

Bring a Bible.

Questions call Fred Lied
443-553-1808.



GROWTH MINISTRY CONT'D

PRAYER MINISTRY

The Prayer Ministry is required is a desire to pray open to all who have a for others and a willing- heart for keeping others- ness to attend as you are blanketed in prayer. We led and able. If you would gather together every like to be a part of this im- other week for one hour. portant Ministry or just The gatherings are casual. want to learn a bit more You are welcome to join us about it, whether you are able to please contact; attend on a regular basis or Marsue Lewis at just on occasion. All that is marsue@havenc.org



"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

FACILITIES MINISTRY

OPERATIONS TEAM

The purpose of the Operations Team is to set up and arrange the seating in the gym. It also includes setting up props on the stage and tables. Responsibilities also include tearing down at the end of service.

If you would like to be involved it is important to be in good physical

condition as it requires some lifting and moving of heavy object.

Volunteers need to arrive at 8:30 on Sunday mornings and be willing to stay after for about one half hour after service for break down.

With a group of about four people each Sun, it would not take long to

set up and break down. If you cannot commit to every Sunday, maybe once a month, any help is welcome and appreciated.

If you are interested in helping in this area please contact Andy Dempsey

410)-398-7361

andempsey@aol.com



Haven Community

OUTREACH

MISSIONS

Haven's Mission Team will plan variety of opportunities throughout the year. As specific projects are identified, team members will lead, volunteer and engage the congregation as needed.

Some of the current and upcoming projects include:

- January 27th - Dining for Women / Judy Musick

- February 19th - Dinner & Game Night at Clairvaux Farm / Deborah Wood
- May 14th - ServeFest / Dave Roberts
- On-going - Soldier Boxes / Liz Ashby
- On-going - Assistance for the Homeless / Sheila Dempsey

If you would like more information or to help with one of these projects, please contact the specified team leader or Deborah Wood at deboraha.wood@gmail.com / 443-907-2963

Our next Missions Ministry meeting will be held on February 6th at 8:45 a.m. We would love to have you join us!

"The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'"
Matthew 25:40

The purpose of Haven's Missions Ministry is to organize, task and carry out God's work with the love of Christ compelling us, so as to impact our church, community and world through service in Jesus name.

This Ministry will provide the Haven Family up close and personal ways to make an eternal impact on people by showing and sharing God's love through various types of service projects and opportunities following the example Jesus set before us as He came to serve, not to be served.

HOST TEAM

Over the last year, our host team has greeted and provided a welcoming environment each week for almost 7000 regulars & visitors to-date! From helping them find a parking space and supplying tasty treats to greeting them warmly and helping

them understand more about our church, this team is truly the "first face" of Haven on Sunday mornings.

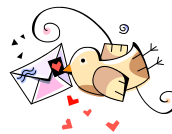
In 2011, this team will be looking to expand congregational involvement in this important ministry and continue to improve our welcoming process.

If you would like to participate in this ministry,

please contact Jill Cohen

on 302-438-2473 or jlcohen@me.com.

CARD MINISTRY



If you have a friend or loved one who could use a bit of "cheering up" or a "Get Well" card from Haven Church—please let us know. We would be happy to send them a card and let them know that their friends at Haven Church are thinking about them. We also send out **Birth**day and **Congratulation** cards too!

Please contact Bobbie Burke, Donna Whigham or Marsha Young with the name and address of the person needing a card or see one of us from Haven Card Ministry at church on Sunday!

bburke@ccps.org ; dwhigham@c-mail-01.dtcc.edu or MASHA.YOUNG@Longandfoster.com

OUTREACH CONT'D

STREET TEAM

As we finish our church-wide study, "Becoming a Contagious Christian", we are looking forward to expanding our ability to share the word of God more broadly!

Looking ahead to 2011, the Street team efforts will be

focused on engaging the congregation to invite and bring others (family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, etc.) to church, and making them part of our Haven family.

We will also be working closely with the Missions

team to share the word of God as we get out and serve in our community.

If you'd like to be a part of these efforts, please contact Jill Cohen on 302-438-2473 or jlcohen@me.com.

FINANCIAL MINISTRY

		Financial			Attendance		
		Actual	Budget	Delta	Highest Week	Weekly Average	Lowest Week
2010 Final	Income	\$143,471.96	\$135,360.00	\$8,111.96			
	Expense	\$140,471.79	\$135,360.00	\$5,111.79	281	146	0
	Net Income	\$3,000.17	\$0.00	\$3,000.17			

Three things will be important in 2011 to maintain church growth and financial stability;

1. Revitalized community outreach and visitor engagement to actively grow our Haven church family.
2. Continued emphasis on personal stewardship to dedicate our time, talent and treasure to further God's ministries.
3. Heightened focus on prayer by both church leadership and the congregation, as we seek God's direction in fulfilling the future vision of Haven.

CONNECTIONS MINISTRY

Throughout 2010, the Connection Team has sought to communicate with our congregation and connect people to information and access about the ministries and needs of Haven.

In 2011, this team will continue to provide weekly bulletins, newsletters, the web-site and other media, like Ministry Brochures, etc..

We will also be upgrading our web-site and focusing on putting together a "visitor packet" to provide more info to Visitors when they attend Haven.

Finally, with a goal of increasing congregation involvement in the ministry of our church, this team will host a "Ministry Fair" and relaunch our "Ministry Menus" in 2011.

If you would like to participate in this ministry, please contact Jill Cohen on 302-438-2473 or jlcohen@me.com.



Haven Community Church
P.O. Box 369
North East, MD
Worship – Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
at the North East Middle School
Phone: 443-553-0997
Email: info@havecc.org

Check us out on
the web:
www.havencc.org

KNOW...GROW...SERVE...SHARE

Our mission:

Haven exists to enable people to :

- To KNOW God and membership in his family
- To GROW to be like Jesus in maturity, equip them
- To SERVE in the church & their life missions, &
- To SHARE Jesus in the larger world

Deadline for Article submissions for Haven Newsletter is the 15th of the month prior to Quarterly Publication, i.e., April/May/June due March 15. Please send submissions to the editor, Teresa Barton, at: teresalyn1@verizon.net

