



The Messenger

First United Methodist Church Newsletter
446 Camden Avenue, Moorestown, NJ 08057
856-235-0450

Rev. Stephen Donat, Pastor
Rev. HeyYoung Horton, Associate Pastor
Glenn Rodgers, Director of Music Karen Murray, Director of Christian Education Sue Harris, Parish Nurse
Brad Kenney, Director of Youth Ministries Devika Gill, Director of First Light Learning Center

Join us for Worship - Saturday 5:30 pm, Sunday 8:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am
Visit us on the Web at: www.meetwithGod.com -or- Email us at: church@meetwithGod.com

JULY 2012

COOL AIR MINISTRY



Summer is upon us and with that comes High Temperatures. We would like you to be safe and cool during the summer. Should you get caught unexpectedly without cool air, or know of someone in need, please call the Cool Air Ministry. We have two window units and 10 box fans available. Finally, please drink plenty of water to stay hydrated, and don't forget your sunscreen!

Elmine van den Berg, 856-778-3197
Ruth Florida, 856-662-5211



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Saturday, July 14th
5:30 - 9:00 pm



Join us for a "Meet & Greet" event with our neighbors:

5:30 Outdoor worship service
7:00 Free BBQ with music by Rev'd Up

See Pastor Steve's article on pg. 2 for more information



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

First United Methodist Church is a community of faith committed to sharing the love of Jesus Christ with a hurting world through words and actions.

CHURCH DIRECTORY TO BE UPDATED

It's time once again to update our annual Church Directory of members and friends. If your directory information - address, phone number, last name, etc. - has changed recently and you have not notified the church office, or if you plan on moving in the near future and know your new address and/or phone number, please let us know so that you can be listed correctly. To update your information, you can contact Karen Halligan by phone (856-235-0450) or email (church@meetwithGod.com), or you can mail it to her attention at the church.. The deadline for submitting your information is Monday, July 23rd, so that the new directory can be available by early August. Please note that this is **not** the Photo Directory, just the listing of names, addresses & phone numbers. Thank you!



SUMMER BIBLE STUDY FOR ADULTS

Active Prayer - Mondays beginning July 9th at 7:00 pm, Room E204. How to use the Bible, a Labyrinth and other resources to enrich your prayer life. Kathleen McCrohan, Facilitator

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jul. 1st Summer Sunday School begins
- Jul.4th Independence Day - Church office closed
- Jul. 4th Sing-Along at Mt. Laurel Rehab - 10:30 am
- Jul. 7th Jr./Sr. High Ocean City trip - 9 am - 8 pm
- Jul.8-13 Jr. High Philadelphia mission trip
- Jul. 9th Active Prayer class begins - 7:00 pm
- Jul. 14th Outdoor worship & BBQ - 5:30 - 9:00 pm
- Jul. 15th Light Harbor at Innova - 2:30 pm
- Jul. 18th Jr./Sr. High Kayaking - 9 am - 5 pm
- Jul.22-29 ASP Mission trip



FROM
PASTOR STEVE

A Neighborhood Connection

For a long time I've been ... troubled ... by the lack of our FUMC connection to a significant group of our *neighbors* - meaning, those within walking distance of our Church. (Particularly, I think about the residents of the Pleasant Valley Apartment complex, which is almost literally 'next door' to us.)

So, we are planning a 'meet and greet' for our community, (or whatever you might call this!) for Saturday night, July 14, in the church Courtyard. We'll hold our usual Saturday evening service out there at 5:30, and then at 7:00, a *free* BBQ with music from our coffeehouse band, "Rev'd Up" playing classic Rock tunes and some other styles. We're going to do our best to invite the Pleasant Valley Residents, thanks to friendly co-operation from the property manager. We will also offer sign-ups that night for our evening VBS (August 19-23) for anyone who might be interested as a further way to reach out and serve our community.

As with our "Family Fun Night" the success of the evening will depend not on how many 'outsiders' attend this event, but how those who do find a sincere welcome from our faith community. So, as always, we're depending on you! Please mark your calendars, bring a chair or blanket, a smile, and practice extending your right hand!

Pastor Steve

Baptisms:

Conner Allen Knauss
on June 10, 2012; son of
Jeffrey & Karri Knauss

Howard & Diana Mann and
their son Jack Thomas on
June 10, 2012



Deaths:

Marjorie Duffin
on May 18, 2012



REPORT ON THE 13TH GREATER NJ ANNUAL CONFERENCE, MAY 31 - JUNE 2, 2012

Kathy Appleton and Bobbie Shinehouse

The top news from the conference is that both Pastor Steve Donat and Pastor Hey Young Horton have been assigned to our FUMC for another year.

The theme of this year's Annual Conference was "Making Disciples for the Transformation of the World: Building the Church Through our Service & Witness - Developing Leaders". Woven throughout the conference were these commissions to all:

- To move forward, in all we do.
- To choose sustainable long-term solutions.
- To choose self-sacrifice for the benefit of the whole.
- To celebrate our diversity, our greatest asset in our Methodist community. We are a global and connectional church.
- To embrace humility.

Wednesday's Tribute Service of Remembrance opened with a message from Rev. Glenn J. Conaway who encouraged us to celebrate and praise God for the men and women who have finished their faith walk, living and telling the story of their faith. This was followed by Holy Communion, after which Bishop Devadhar opened the session welcoming everyone.

Dr. Robert Williams, the General Secretary of the United Methodist Commission on Archives and History, provided a brief history of the New Jersey Annual Conference which, this year, is celebrating its 175 Anniversary. The first session was held in Newark on April 26, 1837 and presided over by Bishop Waugh. The Commission on Archives and History collects and preserves the history of our denomination, its local churches past and present, as well as records of annual conferences and personal papers of distinguished individuals. These records are kept in the archives at Drew University.

The Conference Preacher and Teacher this year was Bishop Michael Lowry from the Central Texas Conference. His teaching exhorted us to rediscover and live out the Wesleyan teaching to witness and share our faith in service making disciples for Christ **and** to proclaim Christ. In our changing culture, which brings constant surprises, Christianity is being marginalized

Report on Annual Conference, *continued*

and we need to be risk-taking in our mission of service and witness. What values are we, or are we not, living by?

On Thursday evening Bishop Devadhar began his Episcopal Address on a note of celebration, sharing with the Conference that for the first time in 45 years there has been a net gain in membership. Through our connectional church we are in 136 countries and provide leadership study grants to 200 plus students. UMCOR provides @\$600,000 dollars of aid in Haiti and, in partnership with Habitat for Humanity, has built 3,000 shelters in Haiti. There are 60% more new churches this quadrennium than last and we are on the cusp of starting one new church per day, something that the Methodist Church was able to do in the early 20th century when we were the largest and most influential denomination in the world. The Bishop pointed out that we are not now, and may never again be, in such a position of influence and that part of the reason for this may be that in 1910 we were far too triumphant and not humble. He said: "The challenge for us, as individuals and together as an expression of the Body of Christ, is to embrace humility. Humility is a far better trait to aspire to as we seek to give witness to our faith in these days. Humility teaches us to rely on God." The Bishop encouraged the GNJ leadership, saying, "While we may never again be the dominant denomination we once were, we will be a Church of service and witness. We will be a creative minority, who with humble hearts seek to live out what it means to be the hands and feet of Jesus today.

Among the items reported on by our delegates to the General Conference held in Tampa in April were:

1. The General Conference retained the language in the 2008 book of Discipline that states "The United Methodist Church does not condone the practice of homosexuality and consider this practice incompatible with Christian teaching."
2. Two, that the guarantee of an annual appointment for elders was eliminated in preference to missional appointments, and
3. The proposal to restructure the general church - Plan UMS - was defeated and the Judicial Councils ruled the plan unconstitutional by our church constitution.

4. GNJ leaders approved a resolution calling for September 30, 2012 to be a conference-wide "Day of Prayer & Healing" for those who have been hurt through divisive conversations around human sexuality, particularly the issue over the status of LGBT persons in our denomination. Bishop Devadhar will write a prayer of healing and discernment for use by local churches.

By resolution two churches were closed, Frances Childs United Methodist Church in Collingswood, (Gateway South District) and Hilton United Methodist Church in Maplewood, Gateway North District. On a happier note, the Cornerstone UMC in Hasbrouck Heights, NJ was chartered as an official United Methodist Church.

A resolution was unanimously passed recommending that, at the upcoming Judicial Conference, Bishop Devadhar be considered for another term as the Bishop of the Capital District.

There are expected to be three bishop's vacancies to be filled this year and three candidates were nominated for consideration at the Jurisdictional Conference in July.

Once again this year, offerings and pledges for the Wings of Morning Aviation Ministry - a mission supported by GNJ to help the North Katanga Conference buy an airplane to be used for medical evacuations from remote villages, carrying supplies and transporting church officials - exceeded expectations. The total raised this year was @\$97,592.00 with FUMC again contributing \$1,000.

Surely the highlight of the Annual Conference was the Service of Ordination on Friday evening when five candidates were ordained to the Order of Elder, two to the Order of Deacon and two recognitions of orders. This was a joyous time for the ordinants and their families and the joy was contagious throughout the entire conference.

Kathy Appleton and Bobbie Shinehouse both thank you for the opportunity to represent and serve our church at the 13th GNJAC.



FROM THE DIRECTOR
OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

“Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.”
Proverbs 22:6

Wow, what a guarantee...Do we really believe that our children will not stray from their faith if we bring them up in the “way they should go”? (One can always hope!)

I am sure there are many parents who have brought their children up in a Christian Community that question this Proverb when their own children are 'running amuck' and making decisions that do not appear to be beneficial to them.

Just this morning I was speaking with a friend who rides through Philadelphia every morning to get to her place of employment and she was conveying how sad it is to see the same homeless people begging on the side of the road everyday. Her heart aches for them and being a mother to her own two children she questioned “How does this happen? Did they not have an introduction to God or Jesus when they were young or was their life at home so difficult that they had no other choice but to leave? Did they take a step into the world of drugs and/or alcohol and just could not get out?”

I think that there is a another question that we can all ask ourselves, “How is it that some children go in the 'right' direction while others take a different path?”, (especially when it happens with siblings who were raised in the same home with the same parents.)

We will never really know that answer since we are not privileged to 'see' everything that goes on in someone's home or in someone's mind (unlike God does) but what we can do is encourage one another and our children to do their best at all times and to truly consider the consequences of their decisions. We should also remind our children and ourselves that when we decide to follow Jesus we have an obligation to try even harder to live within the parameters that he established while he was on Earth, difficult yes...but (in my opinion) worth it. Jesus knew that we needed him as children, teens and adults and that being rooted in him would at least make this world a bit easier.

In the New Testament Book of John (16) Jesus talks at length to his disciples about the Holy Spirit and how

important it will be for them to rely on it once Jesus is gone. John ends the chapter with these words, “(From Jesus) *These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.*” A promise of peace in a world of wrought with sin.

Yes...we can believe that by introducing our children to God and showing them that they have a friend in Jesus and a guide through the Holy Spirit that even when life gets difficult and they make poor choices (which we ALL do), God will help them to recover and be healed so they can get back 'right' with Him.

So, as Proverbs 22:6 says “Point your kids in the right direction - when they're old they won't be lost.” *The Message*. Like I stated before, there is ALWAYS hope!

Have a wonderful Summer!
~Karen Murray, DCE

Important Dates:

- July 14th** - Courtyard Concert & BBQ - 7pm-9pm
- Aug. 13th - 17th** - Vacation Bible School - 9am-12noon
- Aug. 19th - 23rd** - Vacation Bible School - 6pm-8pm
- September 9th** - Our Regular Sunday School Program Resumes
- September 15th/16th** - Christian Education Weekend.

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SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL
July 1st - August 12th

- **9:30** - *Preschool* - 4 years old through Kindergarten;
Early Elementary - 1st & 2nd grades
- **11:00** - *Jr. & Sr. High* - 6th - 12th grades
- **Adult Classes** at 9:30 & 11:00
- **Nursery Care provided for Children up to age 4 during Worship Services.**

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UPDATE ON THE INTERVIEWS
OF OUR SENIORS

Interviews have been done but not printed because of situations within their lives; one has had a recent surgery; a second one has had the death of a loved one. It is hoped that the interviews will be appropriately revised and printed at a later date.



FROM THE PARISH NURSE
Battling Cancer

This month's Messenger article will be the last (for a while at least!) in a series of articles that have dealt with various aspects of cancer. We looked at what cancer is, the signs and symptoms of some common cancers, and some different ways that cancer can be diagnosed. Today, I would like to *briefly* talk about the myriad of cancer therapies or treatments.

Scientists continue to learn more about cancer's biology and how it affects each patient. As they make new discoveries, they are able to refine existing treatments and develop new ones. Proven approaches and new technology provide better individualized treatment for cancer patients. Cancers that were once considered terminal can now be put into remission or cured thanks to these new treatment modalities. So what are some of our "weapons" against cancer? Listed below are the most prevalent therapies in use today:

SURGERY - If the cancer has not spread, surgery may be used to remove the tumor and possibly some of the surrounding tissue.

- **Laparoscopic surgery** requires one or more small incisions that allow a thin fiberoptic scope - called a laparoscope - and specially designed surgical instruments to be inserted into the body to remove the tumor. Laparoscopic surgery provides a shorter hospital stay, fewer complications and a faster recovery time compared to traditional "open" surgery.
- **Robotic surgery** requires several small incisions as in laparoscopic surgery, but instead of holding the surgical instruments, the surgeon sits at a control panel and moves the instruments with the aid of precise robotic arms.
- **Radiofrequency ablation** is an outpatient procedure that utilizes heat delivered through a thin, needle-like probe inserted into the tumor to kill tumor cells. **Cryoablation** is a similar procedure that uses rapid freezing and thawing to kill the cancer cells.

RADIATION THERAPY - may be used alone to treat some cancers, but is most often used in combination with other therapies to improve the cure rate following surgery.

- **Brachytherapy** radiates the tumor directly by implanting radioactive seeds or wires into the body near the tumor.
- **Steriotactic radiosurgery**, such as **Gamma** and **Cyber knife** surgery, uses a computer to

simultaneously focus about 200 small beams of radiation directly at the tumor.

- **Proton beam therapy** uses positively charged particles called protons, that only travel a certain distance. The method allows doctors to control the depth of radiation more precisely and deliver more of it to tumors while sparing nearby healthy tissue.

CHEMOTHERAPY - uses drugs to kill the cancer cells. While surgery and radiation target the tumor, chemotherapy targets the whole body through a number of mechanisms of action. New chemotherapy drugs are more effective and less toxic than the drugs developed 50 years ago.

HORMONAL THERAPIES - Some types of cancers are fueled by your body's hormones. Examples include breast and prostate cancer. Removing those hormones from the body or blocking their effects may inhibit further growth of the cancer cells.

TARGETED OR BIOLOGIC THERAPY - Targeted drug treatment focuses on specific abnormalities - such as certain genes or proteins - within cancer cells that allow them to survive. One example of a biologic agent would be an angiogenesis inhibitor which prevents the formation of new blood vessels in the tumor. Shutting down a tumor's blood supply shrinks the tumor, which needs nutrients and oxygen from blood to survive and grow.

CLINICAL TRIALS - Clinical trials are studies to investigate new ways of treating cancer. Thousands of clinical trials are underway at this time and many will become the next generation of optimal cancer treatment once approved.

This article is truly just the *tip of the iceberg* concerning the many cancer treatments that are available. Your treatment options will depend on several factors, such as the type and stage of your cancer, your general health and your preferences. Together you and your doctor can weigh the benefits and risks of each cancer treatment to determine which is best for you.

Side note: My husband Dave who is currently being treated for a rare form of Hodgkins lymphoma, had his 6th round of chemotherapy last week and we should know more about his subsequent treatment after some scans and biopsies are completed. The battle rages on, please continue being our prayer warriors.

Thank you, Sue Harris