



The Messenger

First United Methodist Church Newsletter
446 Camden Avenue, Moorestown, NJ 08057
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Rev. Tom Korkuch, Pastor
Kathy Clawges, Director of Youth
Donna Banes, Interim Music Team Coordinator
Devika Gill, Director of First Light Learning Center

Rev. HeyYoung Horton, Associate Pastor
Karen Murray, Director of Christian Education
Doug Hamilton, Maintenance Coordinator

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 2018

WE WELCOME PASTOR TOM KORKUCH AND HIS FAMILY!

Our new Senior Pastor, Rev. Tom Korkuch, begins his ministry here on the weekend of June 30th/July 1st. Come to any of the 4 services that weekend to meet him and welcome him, his wife Lisa and his sons Patrick & Michael to FUMC Moorestown!

Watch upcoming Sunday bulletins for information about "Meet & Greet" sessions which are being planned, beginning in mid-July.

NEWS ABOUT PEWS

You may have noticed that some pews in our Sanctuary are in need of repair. Given the structure of our pews, a permanent fix is not that easy. So, we are forming a dedicated committee to look into different long-term solutions; they would also determine if there is support within the congregation for a Pew Repair fund-raising campaign. Pew repair affects different areas (property, worship experience, musical acoustics, finance); therefore we're seeking volunteers from various areas - we also need someone to head up the Pew Committee. If this project sounds important to you, please email Jill Lee at j.huntington_lee@icloud.com to volunteer. Thank you.

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.

VOLUNTEER YOUTH LEADERS NEEDED

Do you like to spend time with teenagers? Do you find them interesting and fun to hang out with? Have you ever considered volunteering in Youth Ministry? If you have answered yes to any of these questions, you just may be who we need. Leaders are needed for Sunday nights and/or Wednesday night Bible Study. Please contact Kathy Clawges, 856-912-1148 or kclawges@gmail.com for more information.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL



Summer Sunday School begins July 8th at 9:30 a.m. for children ages 5 - 2nd grade. We will meet in Room E104. Volunteer Teachers & Helpers are needed. Please email Karen Murray at education@meetwithGod.com to volunteer.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jul 1-8	Host IHN
Jul. 4th	Independence Day - church office closed
Jul. 8th	Summer Sunday School begins - 9:30am
Jul. 8th	Light Harbor at Avista - 2:30pm
Jul. 8-14	Youth @ The Philadelphia Project
Jul. 10th	The Serving Plate - 5:00pm
Jul. 17th	Youth Ocean City beach day-9am-8:30pm
Jul. 18th	Youth Summer program begins - 7:30pm
Jul. 21st	Eyes of Our Hearts breakfast - 7:00am
Jul. 22nd	Parents' DIGG - 10:45am - 12:45pm
Jul. 31st	Crafts for Good - 7:00-8:30pm

LAY LEADER LINES

Looking at the Greater New Jersey United Methodist's information online, and looking at what is ahead for the rest of this calendar, I keep running across the word 'discipleship'. One of my favorite definitions is "one who embraces and assists in spreading the teaching of another."

I hear, from many sources, how encouraging it is to see the discipleship that is shown by so many of our church family. Reading about mission trips and serving in the community in one way or another truly show God's love being shared by others.

An article that I read says that "we are not only called to learn the teachings of Jesus Christ, we are also called to live them."

There are so many Scripture verses about discipleship. John 13:35 says: "By this, everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." We start loving other people through our actions.

James 1:22 teaches us to be doers of the Word, and not hearers only. "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves, but do what it says."

Being a part of Bible studies throughout the years, and having opportunities to work on mission trips, I have learned, too, how fortunate I am, and how much my faith has grown through each of these experiences.

Children have opportunities for discipleship, starting at home, and carrying these responsibilities into the community as well. Starting at home is certainly a good way to start, using small steps. Four-year old Mike was given the responsibility of picking up his toys each night. One night, however, Mike was tired, and talked with his mom: "Mom, I just can't pick up my toys today because my arms are taking a nap." A good teaching lesson, with his mom, happened at that moment! Six-year old Erik had good intentions, as he was working on a simple school project, but experienced a bit of frustration: "Hey Mom, the Scottish tape isn't sticky. Do we have any Irish tape?" Again, a teaching lesson happened right away!

We know that God changes us from the inside, and continues to do so. As we read God's Word, we learn

more about Jesus and how He lived. We continue to understand what it means to be like Jesus. We learn to put Him first in all things. Mark 8:34 addresses this important topic: "Then He called the crowd to Him along with His disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

Seven-year old Jackson has an interesting perspective on God, and the help we can get from Him: "I call on God when I need help with everything except my homework. My mom says that I have to do that by myself!"

As summer begins, and we are a part of changes in our faith community, I hope we will all work together and support each other in discipleship, and be doers of God's Word. Remember that with the power of God on our side, we are capable of so much more than we could ever imagine.

God bless you all!
Kathy Appleton, Lay Leader



A NEW OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

Do you love seeing our youth participate in worship? The Worship Committee is looking for an adult volunteer to oversee our Acolyte Ministry. Acolytes are youth (grades 6-12) who light and extinguish altar candles each week for the 9:30 and 11:00 services. The Adult Coordinator organizes and facilitates about 8-10 Acolyte meetings per year and oversees the acolyte cabinet and supplies. Pastors provide direction to this ministry and deliver instructions to the youth. If your heart is warmed by seeing the next generation participate in worship, please consider leading this ministry. A love for worship, a love for youth and servant's heart is all you really need. For more information, contact Pastor HeyYoung.



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

"I Can Do All Things Through Christ Who Gives Me Strength." Philippians 4:13

Several years ago I was asked if I ever wanted to be a Pastor and my answer at the time was "a long time ago I thought I might have done that but the time was never right."

Well after much prayer and counsel I believe the time is right for me to answer the "Call" that God has placed on my heart so long ago.

There is a program in the United Methodist Church that allows people to study to be Certified Licensed Local Pastors, which then allows them to be a Pastor of a specific church as decided by the Bishop and the Cabinet. It is with great excitement that I am enrolling in this program with the hopes of becoming a Certified Licensed Local Pastor within the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference within the next few years.

I am asking for your prayers as I continue to serve this church as your Christian Education Director and sister in Christ while I pursue this opportunity. I have been and continue to be blessed by this community and will keep you posted on this exciting next chapter.

The scripture above has always been a verse that speaks to my heart. I truly believe that God will strengthen me as He prepares me for the next part of my journey in serving him and his children.

Thank you in advance for your encouragement and love.

To God Be the Glory, Karen Murray, DCE

REMEMBER to Register for Vacation Bible School - VBS dates are August 20th-24th. Children 4 years old through 4th grade are invited to participate in this year's program "Buck-A-Roo Revival"

Please go to our website www.meetwithGod.com to register. Volunteers are also needed to make this week a special one for all who participate. For more information contact Karen Murray, DCE at 856-222-1120 or education@meetwithGod.com.

NOTE OF THANKS

This note of thanks from Pastor Richard & Joanna appeared in the June 10th bulletin. We are reprinting it here for those who might have missed it.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!! What a wonderful expression of love and kindness was shown to us this past Sunday at the Retirement Tea. Joanna and I were overwhelmed by the beautiful presentation of tables and the wonderful program of witness and song. Thank you to all who helped with the preparations, the table hostesses, and our church staff. First United Methodist has always been a gracious host and what a joy for us to have our farewell with our family and with persons from all of our churches and appointments. Having it here at FUMC made it extra special. Thank you so much for all of your kind words, best wishes, notes, prayers, the beautiful cake, and your generous gifts. We really loved all the cards made by Kate's Place and the Sunday School Children. And what a beautiful planter from the children of First Light with their adorable fingerprint creations. Most of all we have so deeply appreciated your loving support during our time at FUMC. You have been a true blessing to us. You can be assured of our continued prayers for the church's ministry in the days and months ahead. If you are in the area of our new home, we hope you will stop by and visit. Our new address will be: 1580 Kelly Ann Dr. West Chester, PA, 19380. "God be with you 'til we meet again." With our love and prayers Pastor Richard and Joanna



Deaths:

Joseph Van Osten on May 26, 2018

ELECTRONIC GIVING OPTION

If you would like to use your mobile device to make an electronic donation to FUMC Moorestown, just scan this QR code and you'll be connected to our mobile giving page!





MUSIC NOTES



FROM THE MISSIONS COMMISSION

July and August are typically months in which we travel near and far. As kids, our family vacations were traveling with our pop-up camper to some really beautiful places. I love camping and love seeing this wonderful country of ours. It was in thinking about this recently as I remembered a story from Granddad about meeting Katherine Bates as a young boy. I believe it goes along the lines that she came to do an assembly at his school in Camden and talked about her hymn "America." While I don't remember all the specific details I do know it made an impression on him.

In digging a bit deeper about this hymn, I was amazed to discover that she wrote the first verse in 1892, celebrating the 400th anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America. The part of the story that I'm familiar with was that she was inspired to write this hymn after traveling up Pike's Peak in Colorado and viewing the beautiful countryside from the summit. She would describe the majesty and vastness of our great land. She writes, "It was there, as I was looking out over the sea-like expanse of fertile country spreading away so far under the ample skies, that the opening lines of this text formed in my mind."

America the Beautiful

O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain,

For purple mountains majesties Above the fruited plain!

America! America! God shed His grace on thee,

And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.

As you travel this summer, take time to enjoy the bountiful beauty in God's creation. It is amazing to behold the countless wonders of our country, even the world. Give thanks for the peace and joy that comes from being surrounded by nature even if it is in your very own backyard!

Donna Baner
Interim Music Ministry Team Coordinator

Have you ever wondered how a person is able to harness so much power without using much of their own strength? One might think this concept only came about by the recent technological age we are now experiencing through the development of new inventions and gadgets. But mankind has always strived to figure out new ways to do something better while lessening their load (literally). One example that illustrates this occurred in the 17th century when a French theologian, scientist and inventor named Blaise Pascal discovered the concept behind the hydraulic system. Although Pascal did not invent the hydraulic system, his principle paved the way for someone else to develop it that allows one to lift very heavy objects by only exerting a small force. Although this may no longer be considered cutting edge technology, hydraulic systems have already impacted our society by giving people the ability to show off their power by controlling very heavy machinery that do amazing things. For example, without some form of a hydraulic system we could not quickly stop our fast-moving car by gently pressing down our foot on the brake pedal, or your mechanic could not lift your car by a simple flip of a switch. Hydraulic systems are practically everywhere; from construction equipment, airplanes, amusement park rides, office chairs to even being able to increase the water pressure in your dishwasher for making your dishes cleaner.

The bible touches on our physical display of power through the Apostle James who is amazed that people can control things so much bigger in size than they are with little to no effort. He says in James 3:3-4 that we put bits into the mouth of horses to make them obey us and that through the bit we can turn the horse; or what about ships. Although they are driven by strong winds, James indicates that we can harness the power of a large ship by steering the very small rudder wherever we desire to go. James is illustrating that when it comes to displaying very large, powerful things, we can control these items with ease. However, in contrast, we are naturally very weak when it comes to being able to harness the power to control our wellbeing in our inner self. James says that man has tamed all kinds of animals, but no man can tame the tongue as it is a

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Missions, continued

restless evil, full of deadly poison. With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. Being unable to tame the tongue is like an out of control forest fire that is set on destroying anything that gets in its path.

Unfortunately, there are many other sinful things that people alone do not have the inner strength to resist the things this world indulges in. Whether it be drugs or alcohol addiction, or something else, all addictions lead to a spiral downfall in the condition of our wellbeing which directly affect the people we associate with in a negative manner. Contrary to many people's beliefs, being able to resist temptation is not about how much "will power" or "mind over matter" we have in our inner self or relying on our abilities, education, wealth, or appearance. Rather, we receive this inner power from God through the Holy Spirit which indwells in every believer in Christ.

In Ephesians 3:16 the Apostle Paul says that he prays that God may strengthen you with power through his spirit in your inner being so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith so that you may have the power to grasp how wide and long and big and deep is the love of Christ. Paul was relying on the power of the Holy Spirit inside of him for him to say in 1 Corinthians 6:12 that he will not be mastered by anything. When we allow the Holy Spirit to take full control of our lives, God provides us with the inner strength to not only resist sin and handle stress, but He allows us to be a powerful testimony for other people to see the love in Christ we have for them by words and deeds. This inner being power we are given by the Holy Spirit is far more powerful and has more of a profound affect on the world (both in the present and in the future) than man being able to outwardly show off his physical powers. Only through the Holy Spirit being in control of our inner self can we exhibit the power of unconditional love to others while feeling loved by God, as love conquers everything! Only by the Holy Spirit do we receive the power to genuinely forgive others, while knowing that God forgives us. The power of being at peace and feeling blessed even while enduring the hardships and pain of this world is another example of the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives. In short, without the power of the Holy Spirit working in each Christian's inner self we could not be the testimony that God wants the world to see on our outside, evident from the fruits of the spirit.

Without accepting God's gift of salvation, one is not given this awesome power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, as Jesus instructed us, we are to go out and make new disciples in Him so that everyone can not only have an opportunity to receive the good news but experience this inner joy and strength supplied by the Holy Spirit. One area our church plays a vital part in sharing the love of Christ with a hurting world is through your prayerful and financial support provided to each of the 24 missionaries specified in our Missions Directory. If you haven't done so already our Missions Committee encourages you to read through the write-up of each missionary and take time to pray for them. Our most recent missionary that we support through Cru Missions is Ms. Alex Simpson. Alex is in charge of furthering the gospel by reaching those students attending Stockton, Rowan and Camden County Colleges. This is a time where young adults have thought provoking questions about who they are, the purpose of life and does God really care about them. Cru helps with equipping believers in Christ by bible and ministry teaching in order that they can go off and bring in other students to respond to the gospel and be an impact for the Lord. Please pray that God will open new opportunities for these students to hear and respond to the message so they too can experience the joy of the Lord.

Allan Estrin
Missions Committee Member



**NOT ON OUR EMAILED
"MESSENGER" LIST YET?**

Did you know that the church newsletter is available electronically? If you still receive a mailed paper copy of your monthly "Messenger" and would like to help us "go green" and save some money too, let us know that you would like to be added to our email list! You will receive an email from the church each month with a link to the page on the church website where you can get the current issue, as well as back issues and the calendar pages. Just email church@meetwithGod.com, or call the church office at 856-235-0450.

**YOUTH
MINISTRY
SUMMER 2018**



ALL JR. & SR. HIGH YOUTH ARE INVITED!!

Summer Youth - Wednesday nights, beginning July 18th, 7:30pm-9:30pm

Movies in the Courtyard - All Jr. & Sr. High invited

June 24th - 30th - AdventureServe Ministries/Music & Missions - Sr. High, College & Young Adults

July 8th - 14th - The Philadelphia Project Youth Mission Trip - Jr. & Sr. High

July 17th - Ocean City Beach Day

We will leave the church parking lot at 9:00am and return at 8:30pm

Cost: \$10 for beach tag / spending money for boardwalk

August 2nd, 3rd & 4th - "A Closer Walk" retreat on Wildwood beach

Tentative depending on participants - must be already registered & paid.

Cost: \$59 per person. Families are welcome to come with younger children - we will need chaperones/drivers.

August 14th - Ocean City Beach Day

We will leave the church parking lot at 9:00am and return at 8:30pm

Cost: \$10 for beach tag / spending money for boardwalk

August 20th - 24th - Vacation Bible School

Youth participation (community service hours given)

August 24th - Peach Festival

Jr. & Sr. High participation

We will need drivers for our trips - if you are available, please let me know. Thank you!

For questions call, email or text: Kathy Clawges 856-912-1148 kclawges@gmail.com