



The Messenger

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

Rev. Tom Korkuch, Pastor

Kathy Clawges, Director of Youth

Donna Banes, Co-Music Leader

Doug Hamilton, Maintenance Coordinator

Rev. HeyYoung Horton, Associate Pastor

Karen Murray, Director of Christian Education

Norm Dorrell, Co-Music Leader

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

OCTOBER 2018



FUMC IS GOING SOLAR !

For a number of years, FUMC leadership has been trying to work out a deal for Solar Power for our facility, and it's finally happening! FUMC is going Green! You will begin to see changes around the buildings over the next couple months as solar panels are installed and tied into our power grid. We are working with SeaBright Solar, which is a NJ based company of good reputation, which we found after they installed Solar panels on another church in the Conference, and were written up in the *United Methodist Relay*.

Under the terms of the agreement, a 200 Mega-watt system will be installed on our buildings supplying almost all of our power needs. This is what is referred to as a Power Purchase Agreement contract. We host the system, but do not own it. It costs the church nothing to have this system installed or to maintain it. We agree to purchase all the power the panels produce for the 20-year length of the contract, and the rate we negotiated is significantly lower than what we currently pay PSE&G, and the rate is fixed and guaranteed not to change for the entire 20 years. So, in addition to going green and reducing our carbon footprint, and being responsible stewards of God's earth, we also expect to be saving money. At the end of the 20-year contract we will get the option to purchase the system for whatever its remaining market value is at that point, or have them completely remove it.

If you have any questions, please find me after services any Sunday. Alternately, call or email the church office and I'll be happy to contact you.

John Halligan,
Property Chairman

2nd ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT Sunday, Oct. 28th



On Sunday, October 28th from 3:30-5:30, bring your children to our 2nd Annual **TRUNK or TREAT!** **What's a Trunk or Treat you ask?** It's an opportunity for your children to dress in their Halloween Costumes and go around to different **decorated** Car Trunks and receive Candy and/or Toys. This will take place in our Church Parking Lot and is open to ALL Children. We will also have **food, music, games** and a **moon bounce!** This event is open to the community so invite a friend and come enjoy some **tricks & treats!**

We are looking for 35 people to decorate their cars and provide candy for this event. All cars must be registered by Oct. 20th. To volunteer your car, contact Karen Murray (education@meetwithGod.com) or Kathy Clawges (kclawges@gmail.com). Sponsored by the Education, Youth & Music Ministries of our church.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct. 1st Blood Drive - 1:30-6:15pm
- Oct. 2nd Meet & Greet at Caputo's - 6:45pm
- Oct. 3rd Meet & Greet at Keppel's - 6:45pm
- Oct. 7th Church Council - 7:00pm
- Oct. 12th My Abba's Hands - 7:00-9:00pm
- Oct. 13th My Abba's Hands - 9:00am-3:00pm
- Oct. 14th Light Harbor at Avista - 2:30pm
- Oct. 17th Rummage Sale - 6:00-9:00pm
- Oct. 18th Rummage Sale-9:30am-2pm, 6-8:30pm
- Oct. 20th Eyes of Our Hearts breakfast -7:00am
- Oct. 20th Adult Fellowship - Noon
- Oct. 21st Men's Breakfast - 7:45am
- Oct. 21st Blessing of the Animals - 3:00pm
- Oct. 28th Parents DIGG - 10:45am-12:45pm
- Oct. 28th Trunk or Treat - 3:30-5:30pm
- Oct. 30th Crafts for Good - 7:00-8:30pm



FROM
PASTOR TOM

“In the Beginning”

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” - John 1.1

This is the way that the Fourth Evangelist begins his version of the story of Jesus. Unlike Mark (who begins the story with the ministry of Jesus) and Matthew and Luke (who begin the story with the birth of Jesus), John takes us all the way back to the creation and tells us with bold assurance that the “Word of God” (the *logos* in Greek) was present and active in the process. He then makes an even bolder statement - the “Word” has now been made flesh in the person of Jesus.

It's no wonder that John has mimicked Genesis, chapter one, in telling this story. “In the beginning” is how the story of creation also starts - and God creates through the spoken “Word” (“God said... and it was so”). God also uses the first-person plural when talking about the creation of humankind. “Let *us* make humankind in *our* image,” God says, “according to *our* likeness” (Genesis 1:26). The use of “us” and “our” in this verse is hard to explain (some have suggested that God is simply talking about heavenly beings) - but couldn't God also be referring to the different ways that God is revealed to the world?

We talk about the Trinity as being a mystery - that God's revelation as “Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer” (“Father, Son, and Holy Spirit”) is difficult to

understand - but might John's use of the “Word made flesh” as being Christ lead us to read Genesis in a slightly different way? Consider this. In Genesis, chapter one, there is this “creative” aspect to God. That's what God does in these early verses of Genesis - God creates. There is also this “spoken” aspect to God. God's words come forth and things appear. Finally, there is a “spirit” aspect to God present in the “wind” that “swept over the face of the waters.” “Wind,” in Hebrew, is the word *ruach* which can also mean “spirit” (and “breath”) - not unlike in the story of Pentecost when the gift of the Spirit comes in the form of “the rush of a violent wind.”

“In the beginning,” therefore, God is revealed as “Creator,” “Word,” and “Spirit” - a three-fold description for God that just might explain God's use of “our” in Genesis 1:26. God may simply be referring to Godself in the creation story in a relational way - and this may be why John takes us all the way back when telling the story of Jesus.

He wants us to know that the Word made flesh - the Christ - Jesus was there.

Grace and Peace!
Pastor Tom

* * * * *

**BLESSING OF
THE ANIMALS**
Sunday, Oct. 21st, 3:00 p.m.



On Sunday afternoon, **October 21st**, we will hold our fourth annual Blessing of the Animals in our courtyard at **3:00 p.m.** You are invited to bring your dogs, cats, birds and other companion animals. Please bring with you bags or cans of pet food, which we'll collect and donate to the rescue groups that we support. We will start with a time of fellowship and refreshments for people and pets, followed by a brief service, including a personal blessing for each pet. Even if you have no pets of your own, you are welcome to join in the fun. From a spiritual standpoint, this worship service will provide an opportunity to celebrate our deep connection with creation and each other that our pets help enable. All pets will need to be on a leash or otherwise restrained. Questions: contact Margie Morgan at 856-764-1247 or margmorgan75@gmail.com.



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.”

Deuteronomy 6:5(NIV)

Though this verse was written many, many years ago to the Israelites as they were preparing to enter into the Promised Land it gives explicit instructions as to how we are to love the Lord. We are to love him with ALL our heart, ALL our soul and ALL our strength. So how do we do that? And how do we draw on our strength to show him our love?

As I was praying about this verse in regards to writing this message and what I wanted to share, I realized that our ability to love with our heart and soul only comes to pass because of the strength that God imparts upon us. Considering that when circumstances are difficult, far from ideal it is easy to become downcast or lethargic I believe it is safe to say that our “energy” levels suffer. To that end, loving with our whole being may seem impossible. With that in mind, I believe the ability to draw any strength to express our love for God requires us to trust that in spite of our circumstances we can love. We can love the Creator, we can love the Father, we can love the One who loved us first.

Consider this just a gentle reminder that no matter the circumstances, no matter the hurts, no matter the unspeakable joy you might be experiencing, you are loved and you are to love the most loving One with “all your heart, with all your strength, and with all mind.” (Mark 12:30) May you truly feel His loving touch.

*Grace & Peace,
Karen Murray, DCE*

Educational Opportunities:

Sunday School Has Started! Come Join the FUN!

9:30 - Children's Classes ages 2 thru 8th grade **11:00** - Children's Class ages 5 thru 4th grade

9:30 ADULT CLASSES:

HERITAGE ROOM - Making Sense of the Bible by Adam Hamilton

In this DVD Study along with the Book with the same name, Hamilton uses approachable and inviting language. He addresses often-misunderstood biblical themes leading readers to a deeper appreciation of the Bible so that we might hear God speak through it and find its words to be life changing and life-giving. ALL are welcome to join this class. Books cost \$10.00. To order a book, contact Karen Murray - 856-222-1120

RESOURCE ROOM - Adults, Are you interested in a Bible Based Study? If so, come to the Resource Room at 9:30 and join with others seeking community and fellowship while studying the Bible. For the next few weeks we will be looking at the Psalms. Read & Meditate on your favorite then bring it to share!

11:00 ADULT CLASSES:

HERITAGE ROOM - A Bible Study based on the Gospel of John. Come join in and explore this transforming Gospel.

ROOM E-203 -SERMON DISCUSSION GROUP - After hearing the Sermon come join others to discuss its meaning and application to our daily journey.

SMALL GROUPS

Monday Morning Women's Group:	9:30-11:00 am, Heritage Room (Childcare provided)
Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study:	2:00-3:00 pm, Room E-204
Thursday Morning Bible Study:	7:30-9:00 am at Maritsa's Restaurant in Maple Shade
Thursday Morning, FirstPlace4Health	9:00-11:00 am, Heritage Room (Childcare provided)
Friday Morning Men's Group:	6:30-7:30 am, Parlor
Saturday Morning Bible Study Group:	7:30-9:00 am, Parlor

Evening “Care” Groups

Mondays - **DivorceCare** - 6:30-8:30 pm, Resource Room (Childcare Available)

Mondays & Wednesdays - **Prayer & Pilates** - 5:30-6:30 pm, Heritage Room (Childcare available upon request)

****For information on any of the groups listed, please contact Karen Murray at 856-222-1120.****



MUSIC NOTES

Did you know that there are over 550 references to music in the Bible? That a rich foundation of music stretches throughout the Bible from Exodus 15 to Revelation 19?

I think, no, I know God loves music!! One of my favorite devotional books is Then Sings My Soul by Robert J Morgan. In it he provides a list of God's love of music. It is as follows:

- He loves when His people sing His praises.
- He enjoys the music of each succeeding generation--the old songs coupled with the new.
- He understands the power of song in preserving, emotionalizing, and proclaiming His truth.
- His word lays a foundation for the succeeding hymnody of all Christian history, and as we sing today we are continuing the great traditions of God's method and His message revealed in His Word.
- He gifts men and women in every age the ability to write words and music that bring Him glory and spread His name abroad.

Wow, that's quite the list. I love what Robert Morgan has to say here, but what struck me the most is "He gifts men and women in every age the ability to write words and music." To write music, hymns of the ages, songs of praise is truly a gift. When we sing those songs to the Lord, it's the Holy Spirit welling up and overflowing our hearts! That my friends is God's gift to each of us through music!

Donna Banes
Co-Music Leader

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!



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
Monday, October 1st

Are you looking for a new, quick and easy way to serve the Lord and bless someone in need? Try giving blood! The Red Cross will host a blood drive in Fellowship Hall on Monday, October 1, from 1:30 to 6:15 p.m. Appointments are strongly encouraged; we may not be able to take your donation without an appointment. To make an appointment, sign up at the table in the Narthex, visit redcrossblood.org, or contact Jen Dunne at jendunne1@gmail.com or 856-979-6329.



First United Methodist Church
Invites you to Shop at our
SEMI-ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE
October 17th & 18th

Location:

First United Methodist Church
(Fellowship Hall wing)

Shopping Hours:

Wednesday	6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Thursday	9:30 am to 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm (\$3.00 Bag Night)

**Soup & Sandwich lunch for sale from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm on Thursday

Donations Accepted:

Sunday, Oct. 14th, 3:00 - 7:00 pm
Monday Oct. 15th & Tuesday Oct. 16th
9:00 am to 7:00 pm

(Sorry, we may need to close doors early for donations if we are full.)

Please, NO magazines, encyclopedias, large furniture, large exercise equipment, tube TVs, PC Monitors or anything requiring two people to carry.

Sponsored by Adult Fellowship and the Education & Youth Departments

STATEMENT OF HUMAN SEXUALITY

The following statement from our Pastors was shared at the end of each service during the weekend of August 18th & 19th.

Pastor HeyYoung and I wanted to take just a moment and address some of the conversations that have been taking place in the congregation concerning the issue of human sexuality. As you probably all know, our denomination, the United Methodist Church, has been going through a particularly painful period of discernment around this issue - and many, many people have been struggling, and will continue to struggle, in thinking exactly where it is they stand on the subject.

We want to be very clear in saying a couple of things about human sexuality and the church. First, if you are struggling with how you feel about this subject, and just aren't sure about it, that's ok. None of us are entirely clear on how God is leading us through this time. What we do know is that God is calling us to be a loving and nurturing community that welcomes all people through those doors who want to have a closer journey with Jesus - regardless of how they may or may not be different from us.

Having said that, we also want to make it very clear that as United Methodist pastors, regardless of whether we agree with what the United Methodist Book of Discipline says about homosexuality or not, *we are obligated to uphold the Discipline*. In terms of our church, that means that we will not officiate same sex weddings in this church at this time.

We all want to be respectful to people. We all want to be welcoming to people. We all want to value people's opinions. But above all else, we want to be the church of Jesus Christ whose main calling is to love God, love one another, and make disciples.

Pastor HeyYoung and I would certainly welcome if anyone wanted to have further conversations with us about this - but we just wanted to "clear the air," so to speak and be very clear about this.

Amen.

**THE PHILADELPHIA PROJECT
GOLF OUTING**



The Philadelphia Project, a great ministry that we have partnered with in the past, is having their annual golf outing on **Monday, October 22** at the Talamore Country Club. This year The Project would love to have a couple of foursomes representing the different churches that have come and served with them in Philadelphia battling it out on the course for the lowest score. Please talk to your golfing friends and consider signing up to support this great organization. For more information or to register for the event go to www.alphamidatlantic.org/Alpha-Golf-Outing. Additionally, if you have any questions, please contact Melissa O'Donnell at 856-912-2570 or email Joel Bielefeldt from The Philadelphia Project at joel@thephiladelphiaproject.com.

* * * * *



**United Methodist
Communities**

**Update on our Methodist Community
in Collingswood**

A ribbon cutting for the new area set aside for residents with noticeable memory impairment was held in June. They have taken a complete wing on the 4th floor and refurbished it. Each resident will have their own room, with one larger room set aside for a married couple. Another large area will be used for group discussions and activities and there is also a private dining room. There will be another Open House at a later date.

* * *

Funding for United Methodist Communities

Life expectancy for people has increased. With people living longer and still needing assistance with their care, it is putting a strain on the funds used to allow residents to remain as residents when their personal funds are depleted. Donations have not kept up with the cost of living. Increased donations by all UM members are needed to guarantee residents can continue to get the best care possible. Donations can be mailed to United Methodist Communities, Gift of Care Circle, 3331 State Route 33, Neptune, NJ 07753.



**FROM THE
MISSIONS COMMISSION**

The year was 1943. The United States had been at war for 18 long months with many Americans doing their part in helping our country fight against Nazi Germany and Japan in World War II. Whether it was soldiers waging war on the battleground or civilians supporting our military, many Americans had to make sacrifices that would put us on a path toward winning the war. Unfortunately, what was thought to be a short war at the start of U.S. involvement was now becoming a long drawn out one as casualties began mounting. Over time it became clear the war was not only going to be won on the battleground, but also be played out by those civilians working in our factories, manufacturing plants along with those laboratories/research facilities responsible for discovering new technologies that would give one side an added advantage over the other.

World War II was a time when our country called on its women to step up and fill the many critical jobs supporting the war effort on the home front. Until this time these types of jobs were only available to men. From working in manufacturing plants, shipyards, to filling professional jobs, women rose to the challenge and succeeded at those positions performed by men. In fact, Rosie the Riveter became the poster for many women to rally behind with her “we can do it” attitude where women together were making significant contributions toward winning the war.

Although there were many women who received credit for doing their duty, there was a small group of women who until recently never received any recognition though they played a pivotal role in helping to win the war. These women referred to as “hidden figures” represented several dozen problem-solving African American women who worked in the West Computing Laboratories at the Langley Memorial Aeronautical Facility in Newport News, Virginia. These very talented women who had college degrees in mathematics, played a critical role in doing computations that led to the development of a better, faster and more maneuverable military airplane. The book *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly also explains how many of these women played a critical role in helping our country win the space race to the moon against Russia in the 1960s. Unfortunately, as exceptional as these women were, they had to endure the discrimination and humiliation of

being segregated from their white counterparts due to the Jim Crow laws enforced in the south.

I believe in every church there are hidden figures. People who serve their church not to receive any credit or recognition, but because they love doing the Lord's work and feel blessed doing it. Although these people may be hidden to many people in the church, they are clearly visible to God. One example of a hidden figure are missionaries. Missionaries who live away from their home church are indeed hidden figures and like a fallen war hero are never forgotten. Sometimes they travel to a foreign country where they may not initially know the language but learn it over time with the intent to share the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ. Other times they may travel abroad to a country where it is unsafe, all to further the kingdom of God. Such is the case with Craig and Cassandra Fisher and their three sons. Both Craig and Cassandra had a calling to become missionaries after two and half years of training, preparation, and language learning, before arriving in Nicaragua in August of 2017. Craig, who was raised in our church and is the son of Beth and Max Fisher, now serves as Director of Buildings and Grounds for Centro ABEM, the 160-acre camp property, and as Project Manager for church development projects (partnering U.S. ministries with national pastors). Cassandra teaches English as a second language, serves as a Sunday School teacher at a local church plant, and teaches the pastors' wives at the Institute of Church Planters.

In April of this year, a crisis erupted in Nicaragua when the Sandinista government responded violently against mass protests against its policies and abuses. The Fishers returned to the U.S. in June for some scheduled vacation time, but as the violence from the socio-political crisis intensified, they were officially evacuated and told that they would need clearance prior to returning. Craig visited Nicaragua in August with a security team to observe the situation and lay the groundwork for the team's return.

While they have been here this summer, the Fishers also learned that Cassandra is in need of a kidney transplant.

Continued on next page

Missions, continued

They are seeking suitable donors while receiving care from the University of Pennsylvania and planning for the transplant. They continue to pray for Nicaragua and hope to return in August 2019, but they are also grateful for the providential guidance that brought them back to New Jersey for this time.

This month the Missions Committee recognizes and honors Craig, Cassandra and their 3 sons, Nate, Tommy, and Seth for their work in being a missionary and furthering God's kingdom in Nicaragua. One way you can be a "hidden figure" is to pray for the many missionaries our church supports including the Fisher family. Please pray that God not only provides for every missionary but protects them from harm's way. Pray also that Cassandra receives a suitable donor for a kidney transplant. Cassandra and Craig would love to hear from you and can be reached at Fishers.abwe.org.

Allan Estrin
Missions Committee Member

ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Jeff Carson, magician, comedian, and juggler will be coming to Adult Fellowship October 20. Jeff started performing 47 years ago at the age of 8. He has performed on cruise ships and in casinos. He combines a wide variety of magic techniques with a brand of comedy that will delight our audience. Jeff will have us laughing one minute and mesmerized by his magic the next. This will follow our covered dish luncheon at noon in Fellowship Hall. Bring enough food portions for 10 people. For reservations call the Smith at 609-914-4698 or the Mengels at 609-702-0531. They will be assisted by Jack Weiss. Please RSVP by October 10th.

- 12:00 noon Meeting & Greeting -the Van Dykes
- 12:25 Devotions - Charlie Rudolph
- 12:45 Our Covered Dish Brunch

Please bring a friend and don't forget your place-settings and appetite. Hope to see you there!

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.



**AN UPDATE FROM
PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

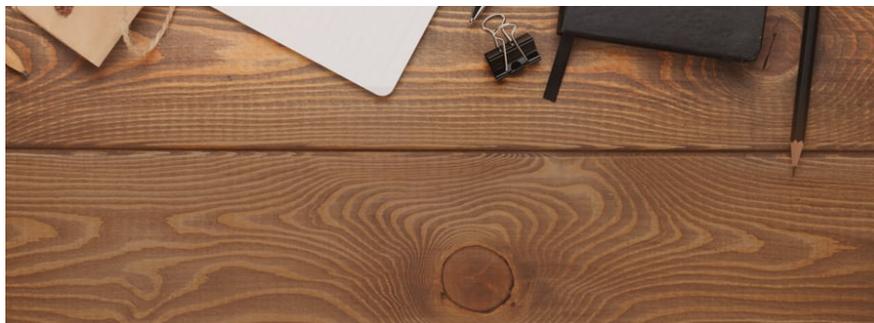
Most people are unaware that we are in the midst of making some significant updates to our facility to comply with local and state Fire Codes. Starting last year Moorestown Fire Prevention began more rigorous inspection and enforcement to ensure the safety of people using our facility, and fire fighters who might be called if a fire should break out. The first large item we have completed is the installation of an updated smoke and fire alarm system. While our newest Education and Music building had an alarm system installed when it was built, the system had some deficiencies. In addition, we had no alarm coverage in the Sanctuary basement, or the Fellowship Hall basement where our Youth groups meet. By code, we were required to add coverage for these basements to our system. After much negotiation we were able to design and then contract with a local firm to replace the existing fire alarm system, and extend it as required for less cost that just adding on to our existing aging system. This system includes automatically closing doors when alarms sound, so we don't have to keep fire doors in our hallways closed all the time. The value of this system was recently proven when an air conditioning unit in one of our classrooms had a small fire on a Sunday morning. The alarms sounded, the doors closed, and fire department was automatically summoned. The next phase of meeting code problems will be the installation of a sprinkler system in the Fellowship Hall basement to protect our building, but more importantly our Youth in the event of fire.

Please understand that these changes and upgrades are not optional. We comply with code, or they could and would make us close our doors. Also understand that nothing they are asking of us is unreasonable. We should be making these changes - it's the right and moral thing to do as a church community. If you have any questions or want to discuss any of these projects further, please find me after services any Sunday. Alternately, call or email the church office and I'll be happy to contact you.

John Halligan,
Property Chairman

October MYF News

First United Methodist Church
Jr. & Sr. High Newsletter
kclawges@gmail.com
856-912-1148



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH -- MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship)

Jr. High - 6th -- 8th Grades will meet on Sunday nights from 6pm--8pm. We will meet in the Heritage Room at 6pm for Worship/Small Groups. At 7pm we will meet in the Jr. High Room (downstairs below Fellowship Hall) for MYF programming & dismiss at 8pm.

Sr. High - 9th -- 12 Grades will meet on Sunday nights from 6pm--8pm with "hang time" from 8-8:30pm. We will meet in the Heritage Room at 6pm for Worship/Small Groups. At 7pm we will meet in the Sr. High Room (downstairs below Fellowship Hall) for MYF programming. We'll dismiss at 8:00pm. "Hang time" is optional until 8:30pm and gives Sr. High time just to "hang out" and fellowship together.

Jr. & Sr. High Youth Choir will meet on Sunday nights at 5:30pm in the Heritage Room

SMALL GROUP FACILITATOR OPPORTUNITY - 4 WEEK SERIES - WE NEED YOU! We're looking for facilitators for Jr. & Sr. High. All materials will be provided. There will be three groups; Jr. High 6th-8th grades; Sr. High 9th & 10th grades; 11th & 12th grades. The small groups will meet on Sunday nights from 6-7:00pm in the youth rooms. Our youth long to discuss the Bible and how it relates to their daily lives as teenagers in this broken world we live. Please consider walking along side them in their faith journey. It really does "take a village". If you are interested in committing to a 4-week series small group with our youth, please contact me for more information, (you do not have to have children in youth group to participate) Kathy Clawges 856-912-1148 or kclawges@gmail.com. Thank you for your consideration!

BIBLE STUDY: Wednesday Nights, 6-8pm in the Sr. High room. All Jr. & Sr. High, 6th-12th grades are invited to "Music Wednesdays"

What are you listening to through those earbuds? Bring your Favorite songs -- we will do a study on them -- how do they relate to the Bible? We'll continue on Wednesday nights through the school year. For questions, please contact Kathy Clawges 856-912-1148 or kclawges@gmail.com.

If you would like to help facilitate Bible study for Jr. High, please contact me -- all material will be provided.

Jesus Calling

.....enjoy peace in His presence

I am always available to you. Once you have trusted Me as your Savior, I never distance Myself from you. Sometimes you may feel distant from Me. Recognize that as feeling; do not confuse it with reality. The Bible is full of My promises to be with you always. As I assured Jacob, when he was journeying away from home into unknown places, *I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go.*

My last recorded promise to My followers was: *Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.* Let these assurances of My continual Presence fill you with Joy and Peace. No matter what you may lose in this life, you can never lose your relationship with Me.

"Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the Lord, who has compassion on you.
Isaiah 54:

Continued on next page

October MYF News, continued



Rummage Sale Fundraiser

October 14th

12pm - 3pm

LOCATION: FUMC Fellowship

Do you need to raise money for retreats, mission trips, etc.? Come out & help with set up, checkout, etc.

Set up will begin on Sunday, October 14th at 12pm in Fellowship Hall. Other opportunity for help is:

Wednesday night, Oct 17th - 5pm-8pm / Thursday night, Oct 18th 5pm-9pm. You may earn money for youth activities or you may get community service hours for your time.

There will be a sign in/out sheet in the kitchen.

* * *

Empty Nest? Not So Fast

HomeWord.com

If you find yourself in the midst of parenting a teenager today, you might already be dreaming and even planning your new life of freedom once the chicks leave the nest. That bedroom your teen has been hogging all this time is just a few years away from becoming a den, craft room, or man cave, right?

Not so fast.

In unprecedented numbers, today's generation of young adults are still living at home with their parents. Recently, Pew Research Center performed an analysis of Census Bureau data and found that 23.6% of young adults, ages 25-34, are living in a multigenerational household. (For most, this means living at home.) This percentage has increased from 18.7% before the recession, according to Pew. (**Note:** Pew did not even include young adults in the 18-24 years-old group in their analysis!)

Pew reports that the largest factors at play in young adults living with their parents are the slow economic recovery and the recent trend in delaying adult independence.

What Should Parents Do?

- Start thinking now about what you want your life to look like in future years. Does it include having an adult child living at home with you? If so, what will this look like? What will it mean to your household financially? How will it affect your plans for retirement? And if you are looking for the more traditional empty nest experience, how are you preparing your teenager now to move toward adult independence?
- Start having discussions with your teenager about what she or he wants their life to look like in the future. Would he or she be happy living at home with you? If you would welcome having an adult child living at home with you, what are your expectations about responsibilities and financial contributions? How will you help them become as independent as possible despite living with you?
- Give some forethought to how you might handle unplanned circumstances that might affect both you and your adult child, such as another recession, poor job availability and wages, burdensome college student loans, and extended seasons in post-graduate studies.