NEW YOUTH TASK FORCE FORMING

Ever think of getting involved with the youth but just don't have enough time? There's a new Youth Task Force devoted to participating in Youth activities (7th - 12th) that runs throughout the year. Its purpose is to assist with supervision by lending an extra set of hands during various events. You can sign up for as many or few events as you wish - we always need an extra pair of hands. The choice would be yours!!! There are no mandatory meetings or obligations just fun with the kids! Let me know if you are interested - Val Henry at vhenry6@comcast.net or call 856-231-0005. A list of youth events will be available for sign up. Thanks!

The Youth Commission

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 1st</td>
<td>New Year's Day - no Sunday School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 2nd</td>
<td>Church office closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 4th</td>
<td>Sing-Along at Innova - 10:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 6th</td>
<td>Grounds for Good - 8:00-11:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 6-8</td>
<td>Sr. High at Keswick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 8-15</td>
<td>Host IHN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 9th</td>
<td>1st Place 4 Health orientation - 7:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 9th</td>
<td>Miriam Circle - 7:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 15th</td>
<td>UMM Breakfast - 7:45 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 15th</td>
<td>1st Place 4 Health orientation - Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 15th</td>
<td>Light Harbor at Innova - 2:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 16th</td>
<td>M.L. King Day - Church office closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 16th</td>
<td>Youth Chick-fil-A fundraiser - 5:30-8 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 21st</td>
<td>Adult Fellowship - 6:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 24th</td>
<td>Breast Cancer speaker - 7:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 26th</td>
<td>Evensong - 7:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 28th</td>
<td>District Day of Learning - 8:15am-2:45pm</td>
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FROM PASTOR STEVE

I ran into one of our church members at one of our 'extra' services last Advent. You might remember at the beginning of Advent I shared with our congregation that we have planned a number of special services and service opportunities in order to give you all at least a fighting chance to keep the 'madness' of Christmas from overwhelming you. This was one of those 'opportunities'.

So this honest woman shared with me that she had 'a moment of desolation' that morning (it was Sunday) and she had absolutely no intention of attending Services that day. I don't know what that 'moment' was for her, but I sure understood what she was talking about - there are times in all our lives when the last thing we want is to be in a public place where we still hold to the mythology that we need to at least look like we've 'got it all together'. And when we are less than 'together'… well, we stay home. (I don't have much choice there, but I understand!)

"But," she said, "I remembered the Covenant that I filled out..." only a few weeks before. Apparently there was something in her Covenant with God that stated her intention of attending worship, at the very least, on some days that she didn't exactly feel like it.

Well, the result (wouldn't you know) was that God moved in her heart at the morning service, which led her to a later one … and through tears, she recognized something that brought joy and healing to her life.

I (obviously) was blessed by that testimony. This is really the point of the Covenants that we made on Christ the King Sunday - the last day of the Christian year. I shared at all our services that we have discovered that naming our priorities and plans before God tends to make them all the more important to us… but the 'other side' of that is that when we make an effort - even a little thing - to keep Covenant with God, the result is always blessing.

There are days when I absolutely don't feel like exercising. Especially when it is cold, or (worse) rainy outside. I hate running in the rain and cold. But I suspect that the days when we least feel like exercising are the days when we are accomplishing the most.

Worship, public and private, is a spiritual discipline. Like exercise, it is in the repetition that we find the greatest benefit, not necessarily in random experiences. May God gently remind us all of our Covenants with him, so that through the practice of our Spiritual Disciplines we may discover a deeper level of joy and spirituality in 2012 than we've ever known before.

Peace
Steve

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A "MITTEN TREE"
THANK YOU

Many thanks to all of you who contributed mittens, gloves, hats & scarves to our Mitten Tree. Thanks to your very generous donations, we were able to deliver 510 mitten tree items to Emergency Services of Burlington County! What you have given from your caring hearts has made Christmas brighter and the winter warmer for many struggling families in our communities.

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GROUND FOR GOOD
Friday, Jan. 6th

There's nothing like some hot coffee and heartwarming fellowship to brighten up these long winter months! Come on out and join the fun on Friday, January 6 as Grounds for Good features contemporary Christian music by Spirit Driven and an art display featuring works by various artists depicting the theme "Winter." Admission, coffee and tea are free. Hot chocolate, hot cider, and homemade baked goods will be available to purchase. All proceeds will benefit the Interfaith Hospitality Network. Doors open at 7:30, and music begins around 8 pm. Free childcare is available from 8-9:30. See you there!
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

“‘The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him. For he laid the earth’s foundation on the seas and built it on the ocean depths.’ Psalm 24:1

Happy New Year...As we celebrate the beginning of another year, I truly pray that you will find ways to deepen your relationship with God and walk closer with Jesus.

The above verse is a strong reminder that this earth, including all people belong to the LORD. God built this world on the foundation of HIMSELF! That is something worth celebrating. Look around and see the real beauty of the earth and the joy that comes from an acknowledgment that we have the freedom to worship God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

Let 2012 really be the year of the LORD!

~Karen Murray, DCE

What's New for January?

Beginning WEDNESDAY January 4th at 6:45 pm and continuing for 6 weeks our church will be hosting a program called “MARRIAGE Built to Last - Living Intentionally & Loving Biblically”. This 6 week DVD study written by Christian author Chip Ingram with interviews b Kurt & Brenda Warner is designed for ALL married folks; whether you're newly married, remarried, or just wanting to improve your marital relationship, this program will help. Topics include...Adjusting to Expectations, Learning to Communicate Clearly, Breaking Down Walls, RESolving Conflict, Restoring Sex & Intimacy, and Striving for a Christ-Centered Marriage. (You do not have to attend this program as a couple.) If you would like to participate in the “Marriage Built to Last” program please contact Karen Murray, Director of Christian Education at 856-222-1120 or education@meetwithGod.com to register. There is no cost however we would like to have enough Workbooks for all in attendance so pre-registration is suggested.

Our annual “Winter Mission Adventure” beginning January 29th will support Bloom Africa, a non-profit organization that was established in 2010 by Moorestown High School graduate, Andrew Steele who was a college student at the time and a good friend to many in this congregation. After doing a mission trip to Lesotho, Africa with other college students from Wittenberg University, Andrew and his classmates began Bloom Africa.

Lesotho, Africa, is known as the Mountain Kingdom, and is one of the world's smallest countries. the hope of bloom Africa is for the betterment and hope for thousands of orphans and vulnerable children in this 'mountain kingdom.' The 'adventure' will take place from January 29th until March 11th. Throughout the 6 weeks of the 'adventure' besides money, we will be having special weekends designated for other items. Please check the weekly bulletin announcements to see what is being collected. All money raised and donated items will go to support Bloom Africa. To learn more about Bloom Africa visit their website at www.BloomAfrica.org.

Confirmation Class Begins - Starting January 8th at 11:00. All students 7th grade and older are invited to be part of the 2012 Confirmation Class. To register please contact Karen Murray.
FUMC STUDENT MINISTRIES!!

JANUARY, 2012

SUNDAY EVENINGS:
Youth Group
7 PM – 8:30 PM

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS:
Bible Study
7 PM – 8 PM

FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION ON YOUTH EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES, VISIT US ON THE WEB AT WWW.MEETWITHGOD.COM/MINISTRIES/YOUTH

JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP “FUMC MOORESTOWN”

Please sign up to pray for students on their Keswick retreats.
Sr. High – Jan 6-8
Jr. High – Feb. 3-5

CHICK FILA FUNDRAISER

Please continue to support our Chick-Fil-A Fundraisers. Look in the Bulletin for upcoming dates!

First United Methodist Church 856-866-0285 Brad Kenney – Youth@meetwithGod.com

From the Director of Student Ministry:
Youth Task Force – Adult Backbone of Youth Ministry

Things are always more possible with support! Think about what our youth could accomplish with 40 adults willing to help them. Our youth have lots of wonderful ideas and are committed to carrying out the goals, but there are some things they just need help with. Things like chaperoning events, transportation, and adult insight. Could you be one of those adults? Joining the Youth Task Force simply means you will help out where you can. We will provide you with a list of dates and activities and you can tell us what you can help with. If you are looking for a way to be involved in the church, please, consider this ministry!

SUMMER MISSION TRIP -
The Youth Group is providing 3 different mission opportunities this summer. Our ever popular ASP trip has grown to two different trips, one in June and one in July. We are also providing a Junior High Mission trip to Philadelphia through the Philadelphia Project. The two ASP trips are almost full and the Junior High Mission Trip is just in the beginning stages.

SUPER BOWL HOAGIE SALE -
The Youth Group will be preparing hoagies for Superbowl Sunday. They will be $5 each but will include some additions from the last sale. They will now feature tomatoes and onions. Hoagies can be ordered with or without the following: lettuce, tomatoes, onions, “oil/vinegar mix”. The Youth Group will feature Italian and turkey style hoagies. Look for order slips in the Bulletin 2 weeks prior to the sale on February 5th. Hoagies will be available for pick-up after the 9:30 and 11:00 services.
MISSIONS COMMISSION UPDATE

Faith Promise Weekend April 20-22 - Save These Dates!

What is a Faith Promise? It is a promise to give over and above weekly tithing, in faith that God will provide the extra funds needed to fulfill our promise. Faith Promise offerings are used to support mission efforts locally, nationally and around the globe. Our Faith Promise offering is traditionally made during this special weekend. Our missionary guests will give testimony about how our financial support allows them to share the love of Jesus Christ with a hurting world.

We are busy making plans for weekend activities including a Pot Luck Supper Friday evening, a local work project on Saturday and opportunities to meet our missionary guests John and Kathryn Heinz. The weekend will be concluded by a Sunday luncheon prepared for you by members of the Mission Commission. We hope you will join us for the weekend events.

Missionary Spotlight

Rev. Rogelio (Roger) Porquillo and his wife, Fe, serve at a United Methodist Church in Malaybalay City, Philippines. Pastor Roger writes to us faithfully thanking us for our support and sharing news of his ministry. Roger and Fe have established 4 learning centers for families in their community. 189 students ages 4 - 81 are enrolled. AMEN!! The programs at the center include elementary and high school education classes, computer applications, basic literacy course and culinary. Some of the classes are held outdoors in sheltered areas with students seated on the ground. Roger sent a picture of students carrying their blackboard to school in the mud! Their desire for education is immense. It is uplifting to know our Faith Promise helps to fulfill that desire.

Last spring Pastor Roger wrote that he was suffering from kidney problems. Last fall he had prostate surgery. Please pray for his good health so he may continue in this joyful ministry. Visit our web page for more information about missionaries we support and suggestions on how to pray for their needs. Perhaps you will be moved to write to someone serving in the mission field. They would be grateful to know we are thinking of them. 
http://meetwithgod.com/ministries/missions/praying_for_missionaries

Mission Commission Meetings

We meet at 7pm the 3rd Tuesday of each month and welcome you to join us. We would love to have you join our meeting to hear about projects we are undertaking and meet our guest speakers.

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UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The first meeting of the New Year will be held on Jan. 9, 2012 at 7:30 in the parlor. Joan Van Alstyne will lead us in devotions. The program will be presented by Rev. HeyYoung. Our hostesses will be Ruth Gandek and Georgie Jenkins.

Ladies please join us for an evening of Christian Fellowship. For more information, call Barbara Dapper at 235-1765.

Deaths:

Marjorie Sponenbergh on October 30, 2011

Janet Barry on November 20, 2011
Capital District Day of Learning
For pastors, staff, committees and others

Saturday, January 28th

at

First United Methodist Church of Moorestown

8:15-8:45  Registration & Coffee
9:00-10:00  Gathering Time
10:00-12:00  Morning Workshop
12:00-12:45  Lunch
12:45-2:45  Afternoon Workshop

Pick up a brochure of workshops at the Welcome Table.

NOTE: The deadline to register is Wednesday, January 18th.

Return registration forms and checks to Lay Leader Mailbox in the church office. Make out checks to Capital District. For questions, call Teri Bell at the Capital District Office, 609-538-0048. Please do not call FUMC.

Lots of Help is Needed on Jan. 28 and 29
Please contact Betsy Heinz (856) 304-4313 or betsylynne@aol.com to volunteer.

Friday, Jan. 28 Tasks
___Set up tables in Fellowship Hall and set out trash cans
___Set up chairs in classrooms

Saturday, Jan. 29 Tasks
___Make Coffee
___Prepare fruit and set out breakfast items
___Check paper towels, toilet paper supplies in all restrooms
___Check cleanliness of hallways, rooms and stairs
___Greet guests at all doors and help them find Fellowship Hall
___Help facilitators set up their rooms
___Help guests find sanctuary and workshop rooms
___Facilitate the lunchbox lunch (arrange boxes, empty trash cans, be friendly)
___Clean up after lunch: store food, clean kitchen
___Take down tables and chairs, put classrooms back in order, check restrooms
___Mop Fellowship Hall and kitchen
There are probably no other life events that evoke stronger emotional upheavals than weddings or funerals. They have the reputation of bringing out the best or the worst in human behavior. Ministers and funeral directors are often exposed to these emotions. Ministers may fare a little better as their role and ongoing relationships with the family demand some respect and dignity. Funeral directors can be put in the situation of being a moderator in order to proceed with the funeral.

Why would anyone want to be a funeral director?? This was a question posed to Doug Lewis. Strangely, his interest began as a 12 year old boy. His grandfather had died and as was a custom with some families, the viewing took place in the family's living room. This could last for a couple of days. Children could be asleep upstairs in the bedrooms while a viewing took place in the living room. Young Doug was fascinated by all of this. This interest remained with him.

Harry Douglas Lewis, Jr. was born in the Robin's Maternity Home in Riverton. He was raised in Riverside on Washington St. right up from Mrs. Robin's private residence. She was able to watch him grow up, become a funeral director and ironically, he was asked to conduct her funeral.

Doug's father, Harry, Sr., sold cars, provided security during the war at Fleetwood, and worked on the N.J. Turnpike. His mother, Evelyn, worked in a dress factory and later in a lab at B.F. Goodrich. Doug has 2 siblings; a sister, Corinne, and a brother, Bill.

There is something to be said about being raised in a small town like Riverside. Students walked to grade school and high school. Parents were active in the PTA and all the sporting events. Doug, a red haired teenager, benefited from this closeness of community. His father, being a member of the School Board, was able to present him with his diploma at graduation. Friendships are maintained long after graduation.

That interest at the age of 12 took Doug to the N.Y. Academy of Mortuary Science. He interned at a funeral home in Collingswood for 3 years. About this time, he went on a blind date with Suzanne Fleming. They had eyes for no one else from that time on. They dated for two years before being married in a formal candlelight service in September 1959 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Philadelphia. They traveled to Cape Cod for their honeymoon. It didn't take long for Doug to learn that Suzanne could be very decisive. They stopped at an Inn to see if this was where they wanted to spend their honeymoon. The owner went on and on about all the Inn's amenities when Suzanne flatly said "I don't like it!!" End of discussion.

There was a Funeral Home in Moorestown that Doug wanted to purchase. His finances were just short about five thousand dollars to do so. A prominent business man had the confidence in Doug that he persuaded the bank to agree to a loan for him. Going into business on your own is always scary. For the first five weeks, Doug had no funerals. This can be a humbling experience. Suzanne supported Doug in all his aspirations.

The young couple and their 2 young children, Suzanne and David, moved into the apartment over the funeral home. The business did good enough that Doug eventually purchased another funeral home in Medford, and bought a home away from the funeral home. They were blessed with 2 grandchildren, Harry and Charlotte, both active in FUMC.

Families can get into some very contentious situations when planning a funeral. The problem could be as simple as what dress Mom should be laid out in - pink or blue; or, more serious, who is going to pay for what they want. Doug found that by just putting his pen down on the desk signals an end to his participation until they resolve the issue. Family members do not all mourn or grieve in the same manner. Having more than one room in a funeral home allowed him to separate disturbed family members.

Funeral directors and civic leaders are often made aware of family situations that are not ideal. Children are sometimes made to feel that they are the cause of the family's troubles. Doug has helped 8 young boys overcome adversity. He refers to them as his "Boys". They all stay in touch with him; one calls him every Father's Day. He has requested that these men be his pall bearers when he dies. In 1981, Doug was honored as “Citizen of the Year” for Moorestown.

Doug has been asked by his friends why he has never become romantically involved with anyone since Suzanne's tragic death from ovarian cancer at the young age of 60. He describes their marriage as an on-going "love affair". She was very special - loving, kind, and supportive. Did you know that she planted the first flowers around the church? Doug had a cross placed on the front of the church in memory of Suzanne and started the Memorial Fund. He has served on various church committees, was a former lay leader, a member of Asbury Fellowship, and continues to support all the activities at FUMC. Retired now, he goes to a gym twice a week and has a trainer; gives and goes to dinner parties, loves to travel. He has been all over the world - too many countries to list. Some trips were made on small boats; some, on large cruise ships such as the Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth. He particularly liked Venice and Prague. In Belgrade, he was whisked into a book store to escape tear gas. London, at one time, was visited annually. He has scaled down his travels because of health issues. We can try to do all we can to live a healthy lifestyle, but there is one thing we have little control over and that is our genes. Both of his parents had serious health histories. Even with some restrictions, he is able to live an active and interesting life.

Doug, as a funeral director, was able to help families get through a difficult time while preserving the dignity of the deceased. He was asked to do the funerals of the U.S. Congressman Edward Forsythe; the equal rights activist, Alice Paul. Her funeral was by invitation only. She was buried in the Westfield Cemetery. It would be interesting to know just how many Moorestown citizens' funerals he has conducted. It takes a very special person to perform these services in a professional, caring, and dignified manner.
FROM THE PARISH NURSE
Asthma Basics

Last Sunday between our Christmas Musical services, I was called into the sanctuary to find someone in a full-blown asthma attack. I must confess that there were some tense moments while myself, another nurse, 2 doctors and Pastor HeyYoung stood by waiting for the person to begin breathing easily again, after taking several puffs from their inhaler. The medication kicked in, and this individual suffered no untoward effects from this episode, but this scenario made me realize that I needed to study-up on asthma, as I knew very little about this disease. So, I thought I would share what I learned with you.

Asthma is a chronic and serious lung condition that makes breathing difficult. In fact the word asthma comes from the Greek word of the same spelling which means “panting”. Now, in normal breathing, air is taken into the body through the nose and windpipe and into the bronchial tubes. At the end of the tubes are tiny air sacs called alveoli that deliver oxygen from “fresh” air to the blood. The air sacs also collect “stale” air from the circulatory system, which is exhaled out of the body. During normal breathing, the bands of muscle surrounding the airways are relaxed and air moves freely. But during an asthma attack, there are 3 main changes that stop air from moving freely into the airways:

• The bands of muscle that surround the airways tighten, causing them to narrow in what is called a “bronchospasm.”
• The lining of the airways becomes swollen, or inflamed.
• The cells that line the airways produce more mucus, which is thicker than normal.

The narrowed airway makes it more difficult for air to move in and out of the lungs. As a result, people with asthma feel as if they are suffocating. All of these changes make breathing difficult and may cause a person to pant or wheeze (a whistling or squeaking noise when you breathe). Folks with asthma may also experience frequent coughing, chest tightness, pain or pressure, and often panic.

The basic cause of asthma is not yet known. An estimated 20 million adults and children in the US have asthma, and the disease is becoming more widespread, and tends to run in families. The airways in a person with asthma are very sensitive and react to many things which are referred to as “triggers”. Some of the more common triggers which can cause an asthma attack are as follows:

• Cigarette smoke, dust, pollen, animal fur, feathers, molds, cockroach droppings
• Air pollution, fumes from chemical products, strong odors, temperature changes
• Exercise, infections, strong emotions such as crying, yelling or laughing hard

Asthma is usually diagnosed through a number of different tests ordered by your doctor, which may include a chest X-ray, blood and allergy tests, and pulmonary function tests. Asthma is treated with 2 kinds of medicines - “rescue” meds, called bronchodilators, that relax the muscle bands that tighten around the airways during an attack. These meds are administered by an inhaler and rapidly open the airways, bringing quick relief to the victim. “Long-term” meds are used to prevent asthma attacks from occurring. These meds, such as Pulmicort, Azmacort, Flovent and Advair are strong anti-inflammatories that reduce swelling and mucus production and as a result, help the airways to be less sensitive to asthma triggers.

If you have asthma, avoid triggers that bring on an attack, take your asthma meds as ordered, and most importantly, ALWAYS carry your inhaler with you! If you come upon a person having an asthma attack, ask them if they have an inhaler and if so have them use it. Encourage them to try and remain calm, pray for them and observe them to see if the medication helps to restore their breathing. If they do not respond to the medication after about a minute, or if they do not have an inhaler with them, call 911 so that appropriate meds can be given ASAP.

May we all breathe easy in 2012.

Have a blessed new year,
Sue
AN UPDATE
FROM
FIRST LIGHT
LEARNING CENTER

This is a busy time of year for First Light! We've had Father's Night - where our students come to school in the evening with their dad or another special adult. We've celebrated Thanksgiving and had a feast with our classmates. Our teachers have had parent-teacher conferences where we shared the growth that we're seeing at school with our parents. We're now getting ready for Christmas! While we're enjoying getting ready for Santa's arrival we're also telling the story of the birth of Jesus.

Once we return from Christmas break, we'll begin registering students for the 2012-2013 school year!

We've been blessed to be able to give back to FUMC in the form of a donation of $15,000.

As always, thank you for your continued prayers and support.

Merry Christmas!
Devika

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But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Isaiah 40:31

Your Chance to Be a Loser!

Losers are winners with First Place 4 Health, a Christ-centered health and weight-loss program!
Join us for an informative orientation meeting on January 9th (7 p.m.) or January 15th (noon)

Classes begin January 19th.
YOU MUST REGISTER BY THE JANUARY 26th CLASS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WINTER 2012 SESSION.

The Spring 2012 session of First Place 4 Health will begin in April.

For more information and to register, call Laura Harsche at 856-778-3520 or email at MMHLCH@comcast.net

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ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Meeting: Saturday, January 21, 2012
6:00 PM Socializing
6:30 PM Covered Dish Supper

Program: GAME NIGHT
Please bring a favorite game to share

For reservations call
Nan & Bob Scheyhing, 609-518-7993
Sally Thorne, 856-346-8712

Remember to bring
1. Place settings
2. A delicious covered dish
3. A favorite game to share

Hope to see you!

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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.