



The Messenger

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

Rev. Stephen Donat, Pastor
Glenn Rodgers, Director of Music
Kathy Clawges, Director of Youth, Sr. High & College
Bonnee Noyes-Bongiorno Parish Nurse
Rev. HeyYoung Horton, Associate Pastor
Karen Murray, Director of Christian Education
Sam Rotz, Director of Youth, Middle School
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

MAY 2014



CROP WALK Sunday, May 4th

“Ending hunger one step at a time”

Each year, the Moorestown CROP Walk raises thousand of dollars to help end hunger. A portion of the money raised is given to local agencies. St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 318 Chester Ave., is hosting this year's CROP Walk, which will be held Sunday, May 4th. Registration begins at 1:30 at St. Matthew. If you are interested in walking and/or sponsoring a walker, look for the sign up table in the narthex through May 4th. In addition, you may donate online at crophungerwalk.org. For more information or questions, contact Shirley Ridgway, 609-828-6664.



GROUNDS FOR GOOD COFFEE HOUSE

On Friday, May 9, Grounds for Good Coffee House is proud to present music by local Christian recording artist Lee Whitaker. The evening will also feature an art exhibit, free coffee and tea, and an assortment of homemade treats for sale. Doors open at 7:30, and music will kick off around 8. Admission is always free, but donations and proceeds will benefit Cycle for Survival, the only organization dedicated to raising funds for rare cancer research. For more information on Lee Whitaker, visit leewhitaker.com. For more information on Cycle for Survival, visit cycleforsurvival.org.

MOTHER'S DAY MUSICAL

Sunday, May 11th
9:30 & 11:00 Worship Services

“I AM A FRIEND OF GOD”

The children's choirs will present their Mother's Day annual musical drama. This year they will be performing a brand new musical by Celeste and David Clydesdale which features lively songs to teach timely lessons about bullying and friendship. Characters in the play learn to “taste their words” and to T.H.I.N.K. before they speak, and to renew their minds with God's help. (Philippians 4:8) The lasting message is that God is our best friend.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 2-3	Jr/Wesley Choir Overnight
May 3-4	Faith Promise Weekend
May 4th	CROP Walk@St. Matthew Lutheran-2pm
May 7th	Sing-Along at Mt. Laurel Ctr. - 10:30 am
May 9th	Grounds for Good - 8:00 - 11:00 pm
May 11th	Mother's Day Musical - 9:30 & 11 am
May 12th	Chick-fil-A fundraiser - 5:00 - 8:30 pm
May 12th	Miriam Circle - 7:30 pm
May 13th	The Serving Plate - 5:00 pm
May 14th	GIGGLES - 6:30 pm
May 17th	Adult Fellowship - 6:00 pm
May 18th	UMM Breakfast - 7:45 - 9:30 am
May 18th	Light Harbor - 2:30 pm
May 18th	Ron Matthews Recital - 3:00 pm
May 21st	Ocean City bus trip - 9:30 am - 5:00 pm
May 21st	Internat'l Women's Friendship Grp-10am
May 21st	GIGGLES - 6:30 - 7:30 pm
May 26th	Memorial Day - church office closed
May 27th	Crafts for Good - 7:00 - 8:30 pm
May 29-31	Greater NJ Annual Conference
May 30th	Rock for Relief - 6:00 - 11:00 pm

LAY LEADER LINES

While reading about Mother's Day, and thinking about all of the Mothers' Days that I have celebrated, either as a child, a mother, or a grandmother, the word 'encourager' keeps coming up.

I have, as I hope many of you have, wonderful memories of growing up in a house of encouraging people. Growing up in the 1950's in the Midwest was a great place to be! Family dinners with a brother and lots of cousins made Sunday afternoons such fun! Everyone went to church in the morning, meeting afterwards for dinner at one of our homes. This was a tradition that I treasure. We were all Milwaukee Braves' fans, and I can still hear my dad or my uncle cheer, or encourage the team. We never gave up!

We were, like most families, faced with many challenges, which we could not have worked through without constant support. My brother was diagnosed with diabetes at the age of seven, and my dad at the age of twenty-one. We were blessed with reassurance from so many people. Unconditional love was deeply felt in our family, and through our church family as well. First Thessalonians 5:11, *"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing,"* was something that I saw every day.

Our church family's encouragement of each other is vital to our growth, both as individuals and as a church community as a whole. Whether we are parents or not, this encouragement that we have for each other is a responsibility given to us by God. Hebrews 6:19 tells us that *"we have this (encouraging) hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure."*

So in honor of those who came before us, and for the people who God puts in our paths, let's work together on encouraging someone every day!

God bless you all.
Kathy Appleton
Associate Lay Leader

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**FROM STAFF PARISH RELATIONS
Marking Pastor Steve's Time at FUMC**

Many of you have been asking how we will be celebrating Pastor Steve's and Dianna's time with us here at FUMC. It is Pastor Steve's wish not to have a separate event but to spend some time together in a more relaxed environment. June 8th is the date set aside for Family Fun Day and this will be the type of casual setting where people may spend a little time fellowshiping with each other - including Pastor Steve and Dianna.

What about a gift? Personal notes or cards are welcome but please do not purchase a gift. Instead, it would honor Pastor Steve and be a blessing to all if a contribution in lieu of a personal gift were made to the mortgage fund. If you would like to make such a gift, please make sure it is memoed as being in honor of Pastor Steve or in honor of the Donats.

Pastor Steve's last day to preach at FUMC will be on June 15th which is Father's Day. This will be a single service at 10:00 a.m. where we may all come together. The close of the service will truly be the close with no additional activities to follow. Please plan to attend.

Yours in Service
Jan Masters, SPRC Chairperson



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

*"It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High,
² proclaiming your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night,
³ to the music of the ten-stringed lyre and the melody of the harp."*

Psalm 92: 1-3

All throughout the Psalms (as well as other parts of the Bible) we are instructed to make music and to sing praises to the Lord. As people of God we are to worship Him with songs of joy, prayers from our lips and praises from our heart.

I love how, even when the people were distressed they found ways to offer songs of praise to God. This seemed to apply especially to David. Here are a few verses from 2 Samuel 22 cited as,

David's Song of Praise

²² *David sang to the Lord the words of this song when the Lord delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul.*

² *He said: "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; ³ my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge my shield and the horn of my salvation. He is my stronghold, my refuge and my savior - from violent people you save me.*

Now we may not face the violence that David faced on a regular basis but we can and should sing our praises to the Lord no matter our situation and I believe that is what we can learn from David's faithfulness. He seemed to always find a reason to praise and sing.

As many of you know I love to sing and I love to listen to music. I listen to all types of music but I especially enjoy listening to and singing Christian songs. I do have a button on my car radio set for K-Love as well as one for HOPE-FM and probably at this very moment my car cd player has at least 3 Christian cds in it. I also enjoy listening to Pandora stations that play Christian artists like Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith and Casting Crowns. Music is truly a way that I find a deep connection to God.

It has always been that way with me. Whether it's during a good time, a stressful time or a sad time I can always

find a connection with God through the words of a song or hymn.

I realized how much the words of a song or hymn spoke to me when I was around the age of seven or eight. Now I know we can all recite a few songs like *American Pie* or *Stairway to Heaven* but for me it has always been more about the message of the song and not just the lyrics.

Back to my story, just about every weekend our family would go and visit my Aunt, Uncle and cousins for a fun-filled evening. Every week I would sit and read the words to the hymn *How Great Thou Art*, which were on a plaque that hung in my Aunt's dining room. I would read them verse by verse. As I got older and could remember the tune I would read them while singing the tune in my head. I remember feeling very accomplished when one Sunday in church as we sang that hymn I did not have to use the Hymnal! Yeah Me!

But it really wasn't about me at all. It was and still is about allowing God to write those words on my heart and having their message become a true part of me.

To this day when we sing a song in church or I hear a new song on the radio I really listen to the message of the music and ask God to bless me through it. Another song that did that to me was *She has Her Father's Eyes* by Amy Grant. It reminds me everyday that I am to see this world through God's eyes and love like He does.

Is there a song that catches your heart or captures your spirit? If so, allow God to use the message a make it be part of your story.

Peace,
Karen Murray, DCE



“... through words and actions.”

We've all had those moments. You know the ones... when you're talking with a co-worker, an acquaintance, or a family member, the conversation turns, and you have an opportunity to witness... but you don't. The words just don't come. Finding the right words can be hard sometimes. It's a good thing that there are other ways to witness to God's loving presence in our lives.

I hope that you take the opportunity to learn more about missions here at FUMC Moorestown at the bazaar in Fellowship Hall on Sunday the 4th. We'll have participants from many of the recent mission trips and projects there to talk about their experiences in an informal setting. You can meet our speakers, the Hernandez's and the Shrift's. You have to admire folks that commit their lives to serving God out in the mission field. They are all simply awesome!

The scripture passage for Faith Promise weekend is Jesus' last words to his disciples, found in Matthew 28: 18-20

“I have been given all authority in heaven and earth. Therefore go and make disciples in all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and then teach these new disciples to obey all of the commands I have given you; and be sure of this - that I am with you always, even to the end of the world.”

Jesus' greatest command to us was that we love one another. Our mission statement (did you catch that? Our **MISSION statement!**) claims that we share “the love of Jesus Christ...through words and actions.”

Actions. Act. Requiring us to do something.

This is something that all of us can do. Just pick from any of the many missions and outreach efforts, get involved, and share the love!

...from the mission field.
Max Fisher
Missions Commission Chair

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH YOUTH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Youth Commission has initiated an annual scholarship to be awarded to two high school seniors who have been active participants in the Youth Department and who plan to continue their education post high school.

The scholarship is based on the youth's service to God by serving their family, the church and their community. This scholarship is given in memory of the school-aged children of our church family who have gone home to be with God.

This year the scholarship is offered in memory of:

*Wendy Beth Fisher, Jonathan McIntosh,
Michael Forker, Shayla Garrett,
Susan Denise Rodgers & Eric William Wright*

Our apologies to any family we may have missed. If you have lost a School-aged child and would like them to be included in this memorial, please contact the church office at 856-235-0450.

*Also thank you to all who have donated so generously to finance this scholarship.

Donations are accepted throughout the year and may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church office.

Checks should be made payable to “First United Methodist Church.” Kindly note “**Youth Scholarship**” in the memo portion of your check.

The Scholarships will be awarded on Youth Sunday, June 22, 2014.

"See what love the Father has given us,



that we should be called children of God."

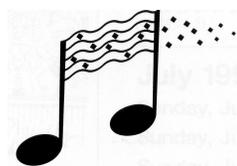
1 John 3:1



SUNDAY, MAY 18th
3:00 P.M.
An Afternoon of Music
with Ron Matthews

Multi-talented performer and composer Ron Matthews will present a delightful program featuring organ, piano, trumpet and singing! (Glenn Rodgers will be joining Ron for portions of the program.)

Dr. Ron Matthews is Professor of Music, Executive Director of the Fine and Performing Arts Division, and Chair of the Music Department at Eastern University. For 12 years, Ron served as the Conductor of the Jubilate Deo Chorale and Orchestra based in South Jersey. Ron's doctoral work was in composition with an emphasis in Orchestral Conducting. His graduate work was in Choral Conducting and his undergraduate work was in Church Music and Organ. Ron holds Choir Master and Colleague certifications with the American Guild of Organists and recently received the Eastern University Provost Fellowship Grant for research in jazz improvisation - acquisition and pedagogy. He is a commissioned and published composer and arranger. Ron has conducted and performed throughout the United States as well as at the Vatican and in Italy, France, Switzerland, Israel and Germany. Ron is happily married to his wife, Pam, and they have two grown sons, David and Andrew. His program will include singing, trumpet, piano, organ, and the choir singing one of his compositions.



A NOTE OF THANKS!

Thank you to ALL who helped with the Spring Rummage Sale. The sale was a great success with over \$7,000.00 raised. Our next Sale is October 1st and 2nd.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



What is it?

A one-to-one ministry by trained, caring lay ministers who have responded to Christ's call to "carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2

What is a Stephen Minister?

A Stephen Minister is...

- a child of God who walks beside a hurting person
- a caring Christian friend who really listens
- a lay person who has received 50 hours of training in how to provide distinctively Christian care

A Stephen Minister is NOT...

- a counselor or therapist
- a problem solver
- a casual visitor

Who can benefit from this ministry?

Anyone going through difficult times who needs someone to care, listen, and share God's love with them on a one-to-one confidential basis.

If you or someone you know could benefit from the one-to-one confidential care, prayer and support of a Stephen Minister, please call the church office, 235-0450 or contact one of our Stephen Ministers.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

For your information, we have supported **Red Bird Mission** in Kentucky by sending:

- 303 Boxtops for Education
- 383 points on Labels for Education

Thanks for your donations!



WHAT'S NEW
AT PITMAN MANOR

Pitman Manor is proud to announce the opening of a wing designed especially for the care of residents with noticeable memory loss. You enter this wing by approaching a door that looks just like anyone's front door and ring a door bell. An aide will respond admitting only those with the purpose of visiting a resident of the unit. I was pleased to see that each resident has a private studio apartment. It in no way resembles an infirmary with open doors into the common area. The common area is beautifully wallpapered with comfortable furniture to encourage socializing. A large expanse of glass allows daylight and a view of the outdoors. The residents are monitored and assisted by the nurses and aides according to their needs.

Of special interest to those considering entering a Methodist Assisted Living facility, Pitman Manor is more affordable than Collingswood Manor and provides a very comfortable life style.

In May, we celebrate Mother's Day. What better way to honor our Mothers than to be generous in your Mother's Day offering* designated to help residents remain in the Methodist Homes after their personal money runs out.

Joan Van Alstyne

**A note from the Church Office - if you would like to give an offering toward the United Methodist Homes Fellowship Fund, you can use the Mother's Day envelope included in your May offering envelope packet, use a plain white envelope and note "Mother's Day" or "UM Homes" on it, or memo your check in one of those ways.*

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.



MAY IS
MILITARY
APPRECIATION MONTH

In 1999, Congress designated May as Military Appreciation Month, which also includes Military Spouse Appreciation Day (May 10) and Armed Forces Day (May 18). You can show your appreciation in several ways by supporting the Soldiers Ministry of the Outreach Committee as follows:

- **Donate your old cell phones**, working or not. These old phones are mailed to the non-profit "Cell Phones for Soldiers" which sells them to a recycler, who deconstructs them for the alloys and precious metals in them. The money from the sale is used to buy prepaid phone cards which are distributed free to Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen, and Coast Guardsmen.
- **Donate snacks and toiletries** to our "Adopt a Soldier" program. 1st UMC has mailed over 200 packages to deployed service members so far.
- **Support the Soldier and Family Assistance Center** by baking cookies, brownies, etc. The Center supports Soldiers of the Warrior Transition Unit who have been injured or wounded and are stationed here pending return to full service or separation from the service. Mark the baked goods "Soldiers" and leave them in the church office.
- **Donate to 1st UMC Soldiers Account** which pays for shipping boxes overseas (\$14.99/box), and pays for emergency situations encountered by badly wounded servicemen. When a warrior in the program cannot get to his doctor and Physical Therapist appointments because his car needs repairs, we pay for those repairs. When the young wife of a dying NJ Warrior does not have transportation to visit her husband in hospice care, we pay for a rental car. When a Warrior's family is without food, we buy gift cards for the nearest grocery store. When all else fails, we are the 911 for these Warriors. Checks should be made out to First United Methodist Church of Moorestown, with "Soldiers" on the memo line. If you have any questions, call John or Mid Ulrich at 856-795-5184.

SPOTLIGHT ON SENIORS
Our Featured Senior - Jack Allan Schweitzer

It would be unlikely if not impossible to go through life without experiencing loss. Loss to a child might be the death of a pet or the moving away of a best friend. For the adult, the loss could be the death of a family member, friend, loss of a job, loss of financial security, divorce, or the loss of good health. All produce a period of grief and mourning. Some get stuck and live in the past with only their memories. It can become a very lonely place to live. Life does go on. God wants us to have joy in our lives.

Jack Schweitzer was born in his grandmother's home in Shillington, Pa and raised in Adamstown Pa. in the Pennsylvania Dutch country. Adamstown was typical of many small towns where everyone knew everyone. There was a hat factory providing employment for many of the residents. There would be a mass exodus as the employees went home for lunch and then reported back for the afternoon shift. Jack's father worked there; his mother worked as a maid and companion to the factory owner's wife and family. Jack's father eventually left the factory to start his own excavating business. Jobs were plentiful for youth in this small town. Jack was a paperboy, helped on a bakery truck, worked in a roadside ice cream stand, helped a florist at Easter time, worked in that hat factory after age 16 and then worked for his father in the excavating business as a dump truck driver and operator of back hoes and jack hammers.

St. Paul's Lutheran and Reformed congregations were housed in the same building. Morning and Evening services were offered. The family would attend services there, Jack and his brother, Linwood, went to grammar school in a 4 room schoolhouse in Adamstown. All 8 grades were taught in 4 rooms with 12 to 14 students in each class. A music teacher would come once a week giving a lesson to the younger children and then another to the older children. They would be bused to Shillington High School following graduation where Jack played football, baseball and was in class plays. Math was his favorite subject. He went on to study Liberal Arts and Civil Engineering at Albright College and Penn State graduating in 1959. In the summer of 1957 he met his first wife, Dorothy (Dottie) Stoudt of Sinking Spring, Pa., while working as a surveyor. They were married in 1960. He enlisted in the Naval Reserves and entered into active duty at the Officer Candidate School in Newport, RI. He was commissioned as an Ensign; attended Civil Engineering Corps School in Ca; assigned to the Public Works Department at Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, N.C. Later he was transferred to USN Security Group in

Me. Three children were born to Jack and Dottie; Karla, Amy, and Matthew. When discharged as a Naval Lieutenant Jack accepted a position with American Water Works Co. in Phila. He worked for American Water and more than 90 subsidiaries for 35 years retiring at the end of 1998 as a Senior Planning Engineer.

Jack's wife of 27 years succumbed to cancer in 1987. He was living alone for 4 years when a co-worker suggested he go on a blind date with someone he had met through a card/dinner club. The co-worker thought they would be a good match. The blind date with Dorothy Pawlicki was for dinner at the Pirates Inn (now Carlucci's). Jack calls her his second "Gift of God". That first date on April 28th went so well that they became engaged on Christmas and were married in St. Charles Catholic Church on Aug. 1st with Glenn Rodgers providing the music. They took a cruise to Bermuda and then toured the New England states for their honeymoon. Between them, they have 7 adult children from their first marriages; she has 4, Cheryl, Joseph, Debra and Richard; he 3 and 13 grandchildren. Not long after their marriage, they attended a marriage encounter meeting where they were the oldest in attendance. They soon became known as the "perfect couple". The younger members were fighting over who should take the trash out. Dorothy said "sometimes he takes it out; sometimes I take it out; and sometimes we both take it out." They had learned not to sweat the small stuff. They will be married for 22 happy years this Aug. They share their religions attending special events with each other. Jack has been a member of FUMC since 1985 and served as trustee, property committee member, usher, gardener, and helped design and implement the deck for Parsonage 2. Both volunteer in the food pantry at the Emergency and Community Service (a division of Catholic Charities) in Delanco. They have gone on many trips; Hawaii, Italy, Alaska, but the most inspiring one was to Israel. They really felt that they walked in Jesus' footsteps as their tour guide was so knowledgeable and related everything to Biblical history.

As we age, there are more losses to accept; loss of hearing, loss of agility, loss of memory, and loss of eyesight. Jack has a progressive disease of the eye (macular degeneration). If you think he is not acknowledging you, it is because your face appears blurred to him. He is being pro-active by having different glasses to meet each need and his computer screen has been programmed to show greater contrast. He continues to write stories, poetry, work in his workshop, travel and take nature hikes with Dorothy. Again, God wants us to have joy.



NURSE NOTES

Today's Messenger article concerns a very important topic, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation also known as CPR. The American Heart Association recommends learning this very important lifesaving technique. CPR is first aid for those experiencing heart attack, or near drowning, (or other circumstances) in which a person's breathing or heartbeat has stopped.

The purpose of CPR is to provide oxygenated blood flowing to the brain and other vital organs until more advanced medical treatment can restore normal heart rhythm and function. It only takes a few minutes for brain damage to begin after a person's heart stops. The lack of oxygenated blood may cause death within eight to ten minutes. So it is important that every household takes the time to learn this valuable first aid.

Kennedy Health System offers Life Support Education taught by American Heart Association instructors. Courses are taught at all three Kennedy locations, Cherry Hill, Stratford, and Washington Township and open to the lay person. Kennedy instructors train individuals in the use of the AED (Automated External Defibrillator), Basic Level First Aid, how to relieve a foreign body obstruction, Adult CPR, Pediatric CPR, etc. I have taken some of Kennedy's classes for the health care worker and they were excellent and comprehensive. So, I highly recommend checking out their CPR classes for the Lay Rescuer. Simply go online and look up Kennedy Health System. Their website provides a wealth of information and you can begin classes immediately. They are offered to the public every month.

You may never need to use CPR, but you never know when you may witness someone experiencing chest pain and heart attack that leads to cardiac arrest, or witness someone choking during a meal. It is vital to begin CPR and other lifesaving techniques before the arrival of EMT's or paramedics. I have performed CPR in the hospital setting. However, my own child required CPR twice due to a pediatric medical condition. My husband performed CPR both times before the ambulance arrived. I can tell you first hand that it was something I did not expect! Seeing my child unconscious, without a heartbeat, and not breathing was beyond heart wrenching. Thank the Lord, CPR saved her life twice. But, what would have happened if we did not know how to perform CPR? I have seen people

experience heart attacks in shopping malls. Once I witnessed a child who was hit by a car while riding a bicycle. I was first on the scene. She did not require CPR but I was glad that I could offer basic first aid, and glad that I knew CPR if the child suddenly stopped breathing.

CPR classes will teach the lay rescuer how to restore blood circulation, how to perform chest compressions, how to clear the person's airway, how to breathe for the victim, how to use the AED until proper medical help arrives. CPR is something as valuable a tool as a fire extinguisher in the kitchen. It is truly lifesaving!!

I urge everyone to consider CPR classes. Give Kennedy Health System a call and one day you may save a precious life!

Blessings to everyone,
Bonnee Noyes-Bongiorno
Parish Nurse

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**OCEAN CITY BUS TRIP
Wednesday, May 21st**

Heart to Heart and Outreach Ministries will sponsor our annual fun trip to Ocean City on Wednesday, May 21st. We will leave by coach bus from the Fellowship Hall parking lot at 9:30 a.m. sharp, and return by 5 p.m. We'll have lunch at the lovely Flanders Hotel, and then the rest of the afternoon can be spent at your leisure - walking the boardwalk, browsing in the shops or enjoying the beautiful ocean! The only cost to you will be the price of your lunch (\$18), and whatever you spend on the boardwalk. Wheelchairs are available if needed. There are plenty of seats on the bus, so invite your family and friends to come along. Call Bonnee Bongiorno, 856-235-0343 to reserve your seat and make your lunch choice. The choices are:

- Turkey Club Jr. on whole wheat bread served with Orzo Salad
- Cheese Burger and French Fries served with Lettuce and Tomato
- Strawberry and Walnut Salad (baby spinach, sliced strawberries, mandarin orange, candied walnuts, gorgonzola with citrus vinaigrette, served with a small croissant)

Included in the price are Chef's choice of dessert and Coffee, Hot Tea or Cold Tea.. This year the luncheon will take place in the Garden Room.