



The Messenger

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

Rev. Richard Nichols, Pastor
Glenn Rodgers, Director of Music
Kathy Clawges, Director of Youth
Devika Gill, Director of First Light Learning Center

Rev. HeyYoung Horton, Associate Pastor
Karen Murray, Director of Christian Education
Bonnee Noyes-Bongiorno Parish Nurse

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

JANUARY 2015



GRIEF SHARE SUPPORT GROUP IS FORMING

Beginning Wednesday, January 7th at 7:00 pm in the church parlor, running for 10 weeks

GriefShare is a special weekly support group for people grieving the death of someone close. It is a place where you can be around people who understand how you feel and the pain of your loss. You will also learn valuable information that will help you through this difficult time. If you are interested in joining the support group please contact Pastor HeyYoung at 856-235-0450 or email her at heyyoung@meetwithGod.com

NEW MEMBERS CLASSES TO BEGIN

For those who desire to join First UMC Moorestown, a series of New Member Classes will be offered for 5 weeks. Classes will be Sundays, January 11th, 18th, 25th, February 8th & 15th, from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. in the Parlor. If you are interested in being a part of these classes, please call the church office, 856-235-0450. Those attending the class will be received into membership the weekend of February 21st & 22nd.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Each month, faithful volunteers assemble The Messenger newsletter for mailing, and they would be happy to have some extra helpers. They meet one Tuesday morning a month (usually the 3rd Tuesday, but occasionally the 4th Tuesday), from 9:30 a.m. till about 11:30 in the Parlor. If you would like to join them, they will be meeting again on Tuesday, Jan. 20th; you can just show up that morning at 9:30, or call the church office for more information (856-235-0450).



RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH GROUNDS FOR GOOD!

Celebrate the start of a brand new year at Grounds for Good Coffee House on Friday, January 2 in Fellowship Hall. Enjoy live music, free coffee and tea, warm fellowship and yummy baked goods for sale. Admission to Grounds for Good is always free, but proceeds and donations will benefit Seeds of Hope Ministries in Camden. Doors open at 7:30 pm, and music kicks off around 8. See you there!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Jan. 1st | New Year's Day - Church office closed |
| Jan 2nd | Grounds for Good - 8:00 - 11:00 pm |
| Jan. 4-11 | Host IHN |
| Jan. 4th | Confirmation mentors mtg-11 & 12:15pm |
| Jan. 5th | Chick-fil-a fundraiser - 5:00 - 8:00 pm |
| Jan. 7th | Grief Share session begins - 7:00 pm |
| Jan. 10th | Miriam Circle - 10:00 am |
| Jan. 11th | Ugandan Kids' Choir - 9:30 & 11:00 am |
| Jan. 11th | Confirmation Class begins - 11:00 am |
| Jan. 11th | New Member classes begin-4:00-5:00 pm |
| Jan. 18th | Methodist Men's breakfast - 7:45 am |
| Jan. 18th | Light Harbor at Mt. Laurel Ctr. - 2:30 pm |
| Jan. 17th | Adult Fellowship - 12:00 Noon |
| Jan. 19th | M. L. King Day - church office closed |
| Jan. 21st | Internat'l Women's Friendship Grp-10 am |
| Jan. 23-25 | Sr. High at Keswick |
| Jan. 24th | District Day of Learning - 8 am - 1 pm |



FROM
PASTOR RICHARD

WHOSE TIME IS IT? That's a question we will be considering as we gather for worship the first Sunday in January. Most often we ask the question: "What time is it?" But for the Christian a more significant issue and concern has to do with the use of the time God gives us. The Psalmist's prayer in Psalm 90 is an important prayer for us to reflect upon: "Teach us, Lord, to number our days, that we may get a heart of wisdom."

As we look to the days of this new year, we know it will be filled with opportunities, decisions, joys, sorrows, struggles, successes, and failures. How important it is to commit the days and the moments of our days to the Lord. The use of our time is a spiritual issue. We have experienced God's faithfulness in our lives year after year. Let us resolve in this new year to live in such a way that we will remember WHOSE TIME IT IS.

The following are words from a reading entitled: Thank You for Today, Lord.

"This is the beginning of a new day.
God has given me this day to use as I will.
I can waste it or use it for good.
What I do today is very important because
I am exchanging a day of my life for it.
When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone
forever,
Leaving something in its place I have traded for
it.
I want it to be a gain - not a loss, good - not
evil,
In order that I should not forget the price I paid
for it."

Pastor Richard

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC EVENT
Sunday, January 11th
9:30 & 11:00 AM Worship Services



UGANDAN KIDS' CHOIR

A choir of ten children - ages 8-12 - who perform traditional African singing, dancing, and drumming as well as some contemporary Christian songs (with an African "twist").

**AARP TAX COUNSELING FOR
MOORESTOWN & MAPLE SHADE
RESIDENTS**

Each year, AARP volunteers offer free assistance to low and middle-income taxpayers, with special attention to those 60 and older, with the preparation of their tax returns. You do not have to be a member of AARP or a senior to use the program. The certified volunteers assist with Federal Tax returns, State Tax returns, Homestead Rebate applications and Property Tax Reimbursement applications. The counseling will take place every Friday from February 6th through April 10th at the Hope Community Church, 235 West Main St., Moorestown (next to the CVS and opposite the Wawa). There is ample parking behind the Church that can be accessed from either Main St. or 2nd St. (use the door at the back of the Church - which is on ground level - to enter the room where the program will take place). As has been the practice, in an effort to reduce waiting time, appointments will be required. To sign up for the program, call the Moorestown Clerk's office at 856-235-0912, extension 3016, after January 1, 2015 during normal business hours. Appointments will be made for the program with the first appointment at 9:00 AM and the last appointment at 12:45 PM.

When coming for your appointment, bring a photo ID, your tax return from last year (2013) and the tax booklets received from the Federal and State tax offices along with supporting paperwork for this year's (2014) return. Affordable Care Act participants must bring Form 1095-A. If itemizing, bring backup information. If filing jointly, both parties must be present.



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

"So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God." Romans 5:11

The Poem below was written by the group of children and a few adults that attended our Fall Soup & Study Friendship Group. The above scripture is what guided our focus and helped us to learn about what it means to be a friend of Jesus. (We HOPE you enjoy it!)

THE ABC's OF FRIENDSHIP

A Friend is Amazing, Awesome & Accepting. They are Brave, a Buddy & Believable. Just like Jesus they are Caring, Courageous, Cool, Delightful, Determined & Dependable. Their friendship is Endless, Eligible, Easy, Forever, Fun & Fantastic. They have a heart that's Generous, Gracious & Gleeeful. This kind of Friendship is Happy, Humorous, Helpful, Interesting, Irresistible & Independent. When together these Friends are Joyful, Jolly & Jazzy. They are Kind, Knowledgeable, Keen, Loving, Loyal & Logical. A Friend like this is Motivating, Magnificent, Mindful, Nice, Noble & Neutral. Together they are Outstanding, Overcoming, Optimistic, Positive, Progressive & Passionate. Sometimes they can be Quaint, Quirky or Quiet always Respectful, Rejoicing, Radiant, Super, Sassy & Silly. They are Thoughtful, Thankful, Timeless, Useful, Unique & Understanding. A Friend, just like Jesus, is Valuable, Victorious & Vibrant. They are Wonderful, Welcoming, Wacky, eXtraordinary, eXciting & eXtra-special.

These Friendships will keep you Youthful, remind us of You and allow you to be Yourself but mostly these Friendships are Zestful, Zany & Zippy!

~The End~

Written by: Carson Binegar, Elijah Binegar, Logan Warner & Zach Wilson - Fall 2014

This is a quick reminder that no matter what we are facing (especially as we focus on a new year) WE have a real friend in Christ!

*Happy New Year!
Peace,
Karen Murray, DCE*

Other Information!

The Education Department's WINTER MISSION ADVENTURE begins January 11th! Help the Christian Education Department support our local Food Banks! Check your Weekly Bulletin Insert to see how you can assist with this 'Adventure'.

Confirmation Class Begins - Starting January 11th at 11:00 all students 7th grade and older are invited to be part of the 2014 Confirmation Class. To register please contact Karen Murray.



MIRIAM CIRCLE

As the New Year begins Miriam Circle will be meeting on Saturday mornings at 10:00 AM during January, February and March. Ladies, please join us on Jan. 10, in the parlor at 10:00. Barbara Dapper and Esther Wesley will be our hostesses. Our program will be presented by Bonnee Bongiorno, our Parish Nurse. She will be speaking on the many blessings that are available to our members. Please join us for a morning of Christian fellowship. For questions contact Barbara Dapper at 235-1765.



Baptisms:

Luke Daniel Mertz
on November 23, 2014; son of
Michael Mertz & Evelyn Coral

Newly Baptized



**MISSION COMMISSION
NOTES
“The Water Lady”**

According to the scientists when the world was created the original sea water was like the human plasma. Today water is 80% of the body of an infant, and 60% in the elderly. The odorless and transparent liquid occupies 3/4 of the earth.

Water is of crucial importance in the metabolism of our bodies. No water - no life. As a physician I noticed that most of the patients that I come in contact with are dehydrated.

In our Mission trips each missionary member had a job to do. Some of us participated in medical activities while others were responsible for construction, etc.

Most of our Missionary trips to the Dominican Republic were in the month of February or early March. Even in the shade the rigor of the heat of the tropical sun was severe. Dehydration is a factor that can interfere with our job and cause physiologic damage to our bodies. Water is essential to sustain our physical life.

God provided water to Israel in the desert (Isaiah 35:4-7). Water was important in the Garden of Eden, and God was pleased with the trees and plants of Eden (Genesis 2:8-10). On some of our trips there was an important lady that we called “The Water Lady”. Mary Jane Kulp had the fabulous idea of keeping us hydrated. In the middle of the scorching sun Mary Jane walked from person to person with a pitcher of refreshing ice water and cups supplying us with the important liquid. By the time she finished her rounds she was ready to fill the pitcher again and return with the precious fluid to quench our thirst. The relief that she gave us reminds me of the refreshing and living water that Christ provides us in moments of need and desperation, like the living water He offered the Samaritan woman (John 4:10-14).

When we saw Mary Jane with the pitcher we saw Our Lord Jesus Christ walking with her bringing us living water.

Thank you, Mary Jane, for your great Mission.

Fred Peguero, MD
Missions Commission

HELLO FROM KATE'S PLACE, INC.

We are writing in hopes that all of our FUMC supporters had a very Merry Christmas, and that you all have a Happy and Healthy New Year! We were so happy to make 200 cards for the Light Harbor Ministries Christmas bags that they provided to Mt. Laurel Center for Rehabilitation and Healthcare. The gang is also happy to help set up tables and chairs for the Soup and Study program and various other events that happen in Fellowship Hall. When time allows they are also thrilled to participate in walking the property and disposing of any trash they might find. They enjoyed moving piles of mulch from one side of the building to the other when the weather allowed this spring.

Most of all we feel so honored to have Pastor Richard pop in on a regular basis to acknowledge our program and see what we are up to ... or just say Hello to all!

As we are so grateful to have our Kate's Place program housed at this church, we were also pleased, once again, to donate \$1000 towards the mortgage fund during the Holiday season as we have done each year that we have been at the church.

So when we have our fundraisers for Kate's Place, please know that a part of that does go directly to the First United Methodist Church in Moorestown.

We are having an upcoming “Paint Tyme” fundraiser right here in our own Fellowship Hall. You come and paint a 16 x 20 canvas that you get to take home with you on the spot! Some have already participated in this type of event with a holiday theme. We are thinking “Sun and Fun” by painting a beach theme which may replace your winter painting, or for your summer home.

This event will be held Friday, January 23rd from 6 to 8 pm. \$30 helps to cover the cost of materials and includes a small contribution to Kate's Place. All reservations must be paid in advance with a cut off date of January 18th. Please contact katesplaceinc@comcast.net or 609-694-5949 if you are interested. Men and Women are both welcome!

Thank you for helping us with our wonderful program, which is so important for our wonderful young adults!

JoAnn and Katie McNamee

LAY LEADER LINES

What Happened to 2014?

So, where did it go? I imagine that all of us have stories from this past year of events that took place in our lives. Did you have a graduation in your family, a move to a different place, a job change? The list could be endless. Did you say goodbye to someone you love, praying them home to God? Did you welcome a new child into your life?

As I reflect on 2014, I treasure the memories of the good things, and am grateful. As I have gotten older, I realize that the challenging areas have been put there to enable me to grow (not always easy to accept at the time, however!).

In reading an article by Chance Scoggins (*What Makes Us Rich?*), he points out many things that could possibly make life easier for us, but not necessarily richer, or even happier, such as a roof over our head, a nice house, a heater that works, more than enough food - the list could be endless.

What could make us joyful in this new year? Here is a portion of Chance's list that I hope you will think about, as I will, in 2015:

It's the time you laughed so hard it hurt, but you didn't want to stop!

It's having a few great friends and that one friend you can tell your secrets without fear of judgment or betrayal.

It's the love of your mother, the pride of your father, or someone who cares about you enough to stand in their place.

It's the smile on your child's face when you come home at night.

It's bedtime stories and ballgames, school plays and graduation.

It's finding true love when you thought it has passed you by.

It's a healthy body and heart that's still beating strong.

It's the phone call from your doctor saying the test is clear, or the hand on your shoulder saying, "We'll get through this together."

It's the picture frozen in your mind of the most beautiful sight you've ever seen.

The memory of the best day of your life, and a hundred more that rival that day.

I'd like to add one of my own joys - being a part of an amazing church family. There are many Bible verses about the importance of a community of faith. *Romans 12:10-13* is the example that I will share: *Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.*

I am so grateful for each one of you, and pray that you will take time to find those extraordinary blessings that we know God has in store for us in this new year!

Kathy Appleton, Associate Lay Leader

* * * * *

DISTRICT DAY OF LEARNING
Saturday, Jan. 24th

First UMC will again host the Capital District Day of Learning on Saturday, Jan. 24th. We are expecting approximately 200 people from the other United Methodist churches in our District, and know that this will be an exciting way to begin the new year.

There are quite a few planned workshops, emphasizing the vital congregation. Brochures with workshop details will be available soon - watch upcoming Sunday bulletins for more information.

Day of Learning schedule:

Registration: 8:00 am, including coffee and light snacks - Fellowship Hall

Worship: 8:45-10:00, includes Praise & Worship music - Sanctuary

Session One: 10:15-11:30

Session Two: 11:45-1:00

Hoagies will be available (pre-order with your early registration form) to either eat in Fellowship Hall after the the 2nd session or take home.

If you can help out on that day, please contact Kathy Appleton, Associate Lay Leader, 856-234-0089 or jkappleton@comcast.net.

SPOTLIGHT ON SENIORS

Our Featured Senior - Elsie May Doris Judd Youse

This interviewer approached Nadine Youse at a 5:30 P.M. Sat. night service and asked her if she thought her “mother” would grant me an interview. Nadine quickly replied that this spirited lady was not her mother but her husband, Ed's, grandmother. When introduced to her, she said that she prefers to be called “grandmom”.

Elsie May Doris was born at home in Camden. You might wonder why such a long name for a baby; her father wanted Elsie May; her mother wanted Doris. Elsie's father worked at the N.Y. Shipyard in Camden; her mother was a homemaker until the Depression started to affect everyone. Elsie May had an older sister; one younger sister (both deceased), and 2 younger brothers (living). The children attended the Camden School system, and the family attended the First Baptist Church in Camden. She always knew from a very young age that she wanted to marry and have 4 children so she really did not feel that it was a sacrifice when asked to quit school at the age of 14 and stay home to take care of her siblings enabling her mother to go to work. (This was not an unusual occurrence in the era - few graduated because of financial needs in the home.) Those friendships beginning in the first grade often produce friendships that last a lifetime. She calls them her “Forever Friends” and makes a point of staying in touch with them. (All friendships take nurturing to last).

At the age of 16, she was at a skating rink and admired a young man across the rink. The next set was announced as “Ladies Choice” so she asked Charles Youse to be her skating partner. Their first real date was to see Mickey Rooney in an Andy Hardy movie. He brought her candy and they held hands while watching the movie. Charles was the only boyfriend she ever had. They married two years later, June 6, 1942, in the Grace Baptist Church in Cramer Hill. It was a very formal wedding; 4 bridesmaids, a Maid of Honor and a flower girl. She wore a beautiful wedding gown. They honeymooned in Baltimore.

Charles did flooring and tile work, but soon was drafted into the Army. Elsie May did not work as she wanted children right away. She remained at home living with her mother while he was in the service. Charles was stationed in N.Y., Massachusetts, and then went overseas. Their 1st son was born in 1943. Charles was discharged in Oct. 1945, and the young family went looking for a bungalow. They found one for \$4,700.00 and it had an unfinished attic with partial flooring. Elsie was asked not to go up there but she did not heed the

warning. One leg fell through the kitchen ceiling, the kitchen light was left hanging loosely, and ceiling tiles were down. Elsie found herself crying. She could have been electrocuted. Charles and Elsie had 3 more children. She was active in the PTA, Little League baseball, VFW, enjoyed going to football games and has been known to do the “Can Can” in a show.

Their 1st born, Charles, went into the service and retired after 20 years as a Major. She had the honor of going to Oklahoma, pinning him, and cutting the cake with a sword. He served in Vietnam. The couple had the pleasure of visiting him in Germany, and while there, saw Paris too. Their son, Edwin, followed in his father's footsteps doing flooring and tile work. Son, Bill, was an electrician and sadly died with colon cancer. Their daughter, Edie, worked for RCA and after she had children she worked in the school cafeteria.

In 1992, the Youse's celebrated their 50th anniversary by going on a cruise spending 4 days in the Bahamas and 3 days in Disney World. They were interviewed because they happened to be the oldest aboard. Charles was to die in 2009 while in hospice care. They had been married for 67 years. At the time, they were living with their daughter, Edie, because they couldn't be alone. Again, tragedy entered Elsie's life when Edie died in an automobile accident in 2011. She then went to live with her granddaughter but there were times when she was alone at night and was uncomfortable. Most of her extended family works so Nadine and Ed invited her into their home to share their family life. Great-granddaughters, Emme, Anna, and Cora help to make it a lively household.

Looking through pictures with Elsie May, you could tell that she was the life at any party. In 1997, she earned a certificate from Enrique's School of Latin Dance. The family used to enjoy vacations in Wildwood. She took a spill in a yard playing badminton once and earned the nickname “Stain” as she was covered with grass stain. She still enjoys watching football, the Casinos, and going to the grandchildren's activities. She has 10 grandchildren 14 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-great grandson. We should all have her “joie de vivre” and memory.

She comments, “I have had a great life, great family, great friends, lots of laughter and lots of love which helped me get through the tears. I'm aging but refusing to get old.”



NURSE NOTES

A New Year is upon us. January, 2015. This is the time of year for changes, personal resolutions, and perhaps a jump on spring cleaning. It's amazing how much stuff we accumulate each year! I have four storage sections in my basement, one for each of my four children. There are old yearbooks, desks and chairs, mattresses and other stuff leftover from college apartment living. There are wedding gifts, and my daughter's wedding gown stored in the cedar closet. It's an organized mess for sure. But I take it in stride because my mother reminded me that my boogie boards are still taking up space in my parents' basement!

I am one of those people who love to throw things away and declutter. When I was first married, I accidentally threw out brand new vacuum cleaner attachments in my haste to clean out a closet. I am always making drop offs to Good Will, always passing clothes down to my sister's kids, and saving items for the church rummage sale. Just yesterday I reorganized my kitchen cabinets and then it was time to tackle medicine cabinets.

As a nurse, I like to be prepared in the home for any minor emergency. I have the best stocked first aid kits in the neighborhood. Having raised 4 somewhat accident prone kids, I have one kit upstairs, and one kit downstairs, I also like to have a stock of medications on hand to treat headaches, upset stomachs, etc. I keep the medication in a cool dry place as advised. I went through the medications one by one so I could eliminate all expired prescriptions and over the counter meds.

Expired medications lose their effectiveness and must be thrown out once they are past the expiration date on the bottle. So throw away the Tylenol bottle that says "Exp 4/2012 on it! Hopefully you won't have half used antibiotics in their original bottles because we all know it is a must to finish antibiotics as prescribed and it is not wise to share prescription drugs. It is never wise to save old prescriptions because they are only meant for one person, for a specific illness or injury and then should be discarded.

There are proper and improper ways to dispose of unwanted or expired medications. First of all, do not throw medications down the toilet. Neither septic tank systems nor municipal sewage and water treatment facilities can eliminate contamination from medications when poured down drains or flushed in toilets. A wide

range of pharmaceuticals have been found in rivers and streams and drinking water nationwide. Contamination of groundwater has detrimental effects for people, pets, and wildlife.

I worked as a hospice nurse liaison and often had to destroy and dispose medications, including narcotics, in the home setting to ensure safety for everyone. It was imperative to make sure disposals were done very carefully. It is very important not to simply toss a bottle of medications in the trash. Children and pets may find the medications, ingest them, and that could lead to dangerous or fatal consequences.

The best way to get rid of unused or unwanted meds is to dispose of them by crushing them, or adding a bit of liquid to them and then mixing them with kitty litter or coffee grounds. This will create an undesirable taste for children and household pets. Bag the contents in a sealed plastic bag and then double bag in plastic grocery bags. Blacken out personal information on medication labels, but leave the name of the medication visible on the bottle. Also, you may call your local health department or pharmacy to find out if they sponsor medication take back events. If this service is provided, you will be given instructions regarding participation in the program.

Wishing you all a safe, healthy and Happy New Year!

Bonnee Noyes-Bongiorno, R.N.
Parish Nurse

ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Everyone is welcome to join us on January 17, 2015 to hear **Dorothy Stanaitis** tell us some true stories about Colonial Philadelphia entitled "**Rumors, Scandals, and Dirty Rotten Lies.**" This is a lunch time event, so we'll supply the soup if you bring a side dish, like sandwiches, salad, bread, or dessert.

12:00 Noon - Socializing

12:30 PM - Lunch

1:30 PM - Program

Call Ricky & Ed Smith at 609-913-4698 or Marty Hall at 609-877-1340 to let us know that you'll be there and what you'll be bringing. Don't forget to invite your friends and to bring your own tableware for the side dishes.