



# 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

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

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](http://www.meetwithGod.com) -or- Email us at: [church@meetwithGod.com](mailto:church@meetwithGod.com)

## MARCH 2015



### PALM SUNDAY CONCERT March 29th, 7:00 p.m.

The Palm Sunday classical music choir concert this year will feature entertainer and friend-of-FUMC, violinist, Giorgio. Giorgio is a multi-talented musician who grew up in Italy and gained his music experience and education all over Europe. Giorgio will accompany the choir and organ in music by Haydn, Mendelssohn, Faure, and others, as well as performing music for solo violin.

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### DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS MARCH 8th!



Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to sleep Saturday, March 8th!

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### BLOOD DRIVE Monday, March 9th 1:30 - 6:15 p.m.

You may be eligible to give blood and you don't even know it! Did you know that many blood donors have faced medical challenges of their own, including cancer, diabetes and MS? If they can do it, maybe you can, too! The Outreach Committee and the American Red Cross will host our Spring Blood Drive in Fellowship Hall on Monday, March 9. If you have overcome a medical challenge, try lending an arm to someone else on their road to recovery. Appointments are strongly encouraged and are available from 1:30 pm until 6:15 pm. Sign up at the table in the Narthex or by contacting Jen Dunne Appleton at 856-979-6329 or [jendunne1@gmail.com](mailto:jendunne1@gmail.com). You can also make an appointment and check eligibility requirements at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org). Does low iron keep you from being eligible? Try eating raisins before you donate.



### GROUNDS FOR GOOD Friday, March 6th

This month at Grounds for Good, everyone is Irish for one night as we enjoy a toe-tapping evening of Irish tunes, performed by our very own Moorestown Ceili Band! The evening, Friday March 6th, will also feature an art display, free coffee and tea, and delicious goodies for sale. Admission is always free, but proceeds and donations will benefit Joseph's House, an organization dedicated to caring for the homeless of Camden. Doors open at 7:30, and music kicks off around 8. Slainte!



### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Mar. 2nd Chick-fil-A fundraiser - 5:00 - 8:00 pm
- Mar. 4th Sing-Along at Mt. Laurel Ctr. - 10:30 am
- Mar. 6th Grounds for Good - 8:00 - 11:00 pm
- Mar. 7th Youth Spaghetti Dinner - 4:00 - 7:30 pm
- Mar. 8th Daylight Saving Time begins
- Mar. 9th Blood Drive - 1:30 - 6:15 pm
- Mar. 10th G. Rodgers Recital@Evergreens-1:00pm
- Mar. 10th Church Council - 7:00 pm
- Mar. 14th Miriam Circle - 10:00 am
- Mar. 15th Men's Breakfast - 7:45 am
- Mar. 15th Light Harbor - 2:30 pm
- Mar. 18th UMW Communion Service - 9:30 am
- Mar. 18th Internat'l Women's Friendship Grp-10am
- Mar. 21st Adult Fellowship - Noon
- Mar. 22-29 Host IHN
- Mar. 28th Boy Scout Pasta Fest - 4:00 pm
- Mar. 29th Palm Sunday Concert - 7:00 pm
- Mar. 30th Acolytes - 6:00 - 7:00 pm
- Mar. 31st Crafts for Good - 7:00 - 8:30 pm

LAY LEADER LINES

New beginnings! Isn't it wonderful that God gives us spring to follow the cold and dreary winters? God has promised as long as the earth remains that we will have new beginnings in each season.

New beginnings in our church - Super Sunday! So much encouragement to be sharing new ideas. We are truly blessed with the gift of faith. We know that nothing happens without going through God's hands first. Believing that God knows our strengths and weaknesses helps us to come through our daily challenges even stronger.

Every glass that is half empty is also half full. What matters is the way we see it. It is cold in the winter, but the tiny seeds underneath the ground need the rain to grow.

There are so many Scripture verses about hope. These are two of my favorite:

**Jeremiah 29:11** *For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.*

**Romans 8:24-25** *For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he*

*sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.*

I am **NOT** a patient person (!) and that passage from Romans is helpful to me.

I think that God does want us to have a plan, and to pray about it and work hard. I like these verses as well:

**Colossians 3:23** *Whatever you do work heartily, as for the Lord and not for me.*

**Colossians 3:17** *And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.*

Such exciting times for our church, in this season of new beginnings! My prayer for each of us is to continue to look to God in prayer in all we do, and to keep on working.

Happy Spring!

God bless you all!  
Kathy Appleton  
Associate Lay Leader

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ADULT FELLOWSHIP

On Saturday, March 21, 2015 we will meet again at 12 noon for our brunch. You bring the salads, sandwiches & desserts etc., and we provide the soup. We will be entertaining the Presbyterians.

Socializing	12:00 Noon
Devotions	12:25 PM
Luncheon	12:45 PM

Our program will be Women of World War II as related by Arlene Baker. For reservations call:

Carol & Charlie Rudolph, 856-235-9206  
or Becky & Ed White, 856-235-3723

Don't forget your lunch place settings (we have soup bowls). Please come and join us. Come enjoy our fun, fellowship and friendship.



MIRIAM  
CIRCLE

Ladies please come out and join us on Saturday March 14 at 10:00 AM in the parlor. Janet Ash will lead us in devotions. Ricky Smith and Joanna Nichols will be hostesses.

Our program "Youth Mission Trip" will be presented by Melissa O'Donnell. It is always a time of Christian Fellowship.



FROM THE DIRECTOR  
OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Are you getting to “Know God”?

“John’s Gospel records a collection of self-revealing statements by Jesus known as the ‘I AM’ sayings. These statements, rich in imagery and steeped in historical meaning, provide powerful insights into the heart of God and God’s desire to know and be known.” (pg. 9)

Dear Friends,

As we continue in the journey through Lent, my hope for each and every one of you reading this article is that you take time each day to spend time with God and are really getting to know Him through Jesus. Our Lenten Series, **The God We Can Know - Exploring the “I AM” Sayings of Jesus**, does just that. It invites us daily to look and see the ways that God is revealing himself and learn how we can get to know him better as we continue to get to know Jesus. It’s never too late to join a group participating in this series. If you would like more information, please contact me as soon as possible. (education@meetwithGod.com or 856-222-1120)

I know I am looking forward to continuing in this reflective Lenten Season and celebrating a Joyful Easter! I pray you are too!

In Christ,  
Karen Murray, DCE

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Deaths:



Robert Wilkinson  
on January 16, 2015

Elizabeth Manning  
on January 17, 2015

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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.

Important Information:

**WEDNESDAYS During Lent: Soup & Bread Dinner @ 6pm in Fellowship Hall Followed by Small Groups**

**Thursday Youth Group:** March 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> - Children ages 5 thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade welcome!

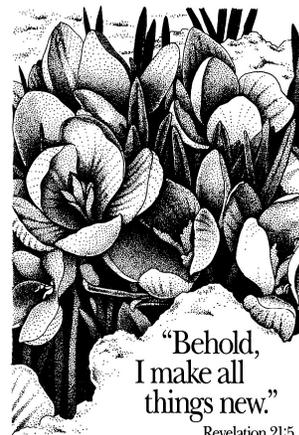
**Weekly Sunday School** offerings for children 2yrs. through Adult at 9:30 & 11:00. All are Welcome!

**Opportunities to Care for Yourself:**

- *DivorceCare, DivorceCare 4 Kids, Single & Parenting, and GriefShare* - Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30 (Childcare Provided)
- *Prayer & Pilates* - Mondays at 5:30 & 7:00pm & Wednesdays at 5:30pm
- *First Place for Health* - Thursdays from 9:00-11:00am (Childcare Provided)

**A PALM SUNDAY Special Event:** Our 9:30 Sunday School Children in grades K-6<sup>th</sup> will be enjoying a special program by Sam Kauffman a nationally recognized Story-Teller. Sam will be leading the children through the Easter Story in a fun & musical way. All are welcome to see this fun event! 9:30 in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.

**April is on its Way** & so is the **Bi-Annual Rummage Sale!** Start cleaning & start saving! Dates are April 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>. Drop off of goods begins Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. Volunteers are welcome.





## WHAT IS A MISSIONARY?

Websters says... A person who is commissioned by the church to go out and spread the word of the Lord. This does not always mean foreign lands.

Simply, it means everywhere. Ie: your work, your neighborhood, at the store, the DMV and yes even within your own church. Just because you attend church does not mean that you automatically know God's Grace.

We, as missionaries, are commissioned by our Lord & Savior to tell others of His grace. You can do this by showing a kind spirit, saying hello (and not only when you are told to during a service), talk to someone you do not know. Show an interest and make them feel welcome.

As Missions Weekend approaches and as a new member of the committee, it is my intent to have us be missionaries throughout the year and not for 1 month only.

My mission is called "Eyes of our Hearts"... Open your eyes and see how you feel.

FUMC is committed to serving breakfast the 3rd Saturday of every month at the Volunteers of America in Camden, NJ. By doing this we are helping out our supported mission "Seeds of Hope" This requires 4-5 hours of your time per month. Not too much to ask. You can donate your time, or supplies needed each month. All ages are welcome to prepare food, serve and/or spend time and pray with those in need.

Prov 22:9 He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor

I hope that I have opened the Eyes of Your Heart. My daughter, Synclaires' were opened when she served breakfast to a homeless man wearing shorts and flip flops in 20 degree weather. After eating, he was sent to the clothing table to get a pair of pants and socks. He turned, smiled and said "God Bless You."

To donate please contact Judi Angelow at 267-808-4765 or email me at [judi0821@yahoo.com](mailto:judi0821@yahoo.com).

God Bless You and Open Your Eyes  
Judi Angelow  
Missions Commission



"How beautiful on the mountains  
are the feet of those who bring good  
news, who proclaim peace, who  
bring good tidings, who proclaim  
salvation, who say to Zion,  
'Your God reigns!'"

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