



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
Doug Hamilton, Maintenance Coordinator

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

JUNE 2017



MUSIC SUNDAY COMBINED SERVICE June 4th, 10:00 a.m.

Join us in a **special combined worship service** on Sunday, June 4th, 10:00 a.m., as our many choirs & music groups lead us in lifting our voices to praise & worship the Lord, as well as to celebrate Glenn Rodgers' last Music Sunday with us before his retirement in August. A reception with light refreshments will follow in Fellowship Hall - please come over to greet Glenn & Cindy. *Please note - there will only be **one** worship service that weekend.*

SPECIAL YOUTH CHOIR CONCERT Wednesday, June 14th 7:00 p.m.



A special concert by a visiting youth choir will be held at our church on Wednesday, June 14 at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary. The youth choir, the "Celebration Singers & Ringers", is from the Church of the Saviour United Methodist Church in Cincinnati, Ohio and consists of approximately 35 youth choir members and bell ringers. We are blessed to have this inspirational concert as part of the choir's summer tour. Mark your calendar and plan to be part of this great evening of music.

Each summer, the youth choir and ringers from the Church of the Saviour United Methodist in Cincinnati, OH travel on a mission tour as the hands and feet of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Mission Tour 2017 will take this group to Pennsylvania. They will present the worship concert *Here to There* based on Matthew 17:20. The youth who volunteer their time to participate in these choirs are committed to sharing their faith through work at mission sites and celebrating worship through music.

OCEAN CITY, HERE WE COME!!

Thanks to a generous Memorial donation, we are planning a bus trip to Ocean City, NJ once again!

DATE: Tuesday, June 6th
TIME: Leave Fellowship Hall Parking Lot at 9:30am SHARP and return by 5:00pm.

This trip will be a bit different than those in the past. We will NOT be eating lunch as a group as before, but rather, everyone is free to dine wherever and whenever they want at their own expense. The bus will let us off at the Boardwalk near the Music Pier, and the day is free for you to spend as you wish. To reserve your seat on the bus, call Sue Harris at 856-234-6906 and leave a message including your name and telephone number. If you need a wheelchair or other assistance, please let me know. Looking forward to the salty air, the beautiful sea, and spending the day with all of you!!!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jun. 2nd Grounds for Good - 8:00 - 11:00pm
- Jun. 4th **One service - Music Sunday - 10:00am**
- Jun. 4-11 Host IHN
- Jun. 5th Chick-fil-a fundraiser - 5:00 - 8:30pm
- Jun. 6th Ocean City bus trip - 9:30am - 5:00pm
- Jun. 11th Sunday School celebration - 9:30am
- Jun. 13th The Serving Plate - 5:00pm
- Jun. 13th Church Council - 7:00pm
- Jun. 14th Concert by visiting Youth Choir - 7:00pm
- Jun. 17th Eyes of Our Hearts breakfast - 7:00am
- Jun. 17-18 Youth Weekend - all services
- Jun. 18th Light Harbor - 2:30pm
- Jun. 21st Internat'l Women's Friendship Grp-10am
- Jun. 27th Crafts for Good - 7:00 - 8:30pm
- Jun 28-Jul 2 Youth Handbell Festival & Tour
- Jun. 29th Blood Drive-M'town Library-1:30- 6:15pm



FROM
PASTOR RICHARD

“We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.” When the Holy Spirit descended upon the believers at Pentecost, a spirit of power and unity was seen in them. They were no longer a group of confused, fearful disciples waiting for some word from heaven. Their hearts were quickened by the Spirit's power and their lives transformed to proclaim their faith with boldness and confidence. Such a transformation is the work of the Holy Spirit available to us as we allow the Spirit to fall afresh on us.

When we are open to the Spirit's leading, the spirit of power and unity can also take ahold of us. So often we are kept in bondage by our fears and our worries. We quench the Spirit by our divisions and our inability to work together for our Lord. These limitations can only be conquered by opening ourselves to the work of the Holy Spirit. As we truly submit to the power of the Spirit and open the doors of our hearts to the Lord, we discover a wonderful resource that binds us together for the ministry of Christ.

In this Pentecost season, let us seek the Spirit's power to revive our confidence to proclaim Christ with love and boldness. Let us seek the unity of the Spirit to allow us to work together with a common mission to minister in Christ's name.

Let this prayer of one of our familiar hymns stir our hearts as we renew our faith:

“Teach me to love thee as thine angels love, one holy passion filling all my frame; the kindling of the heaven-descended Dove, my heart an altar and thy love the flame.”

GIVE THE
GIFT OF LIFE



The next Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Thursday, June 29th at the Moorestown Library, 111 W. 2nd St. Appointments are available from 1:30 until 6:15. To sign up to donate, please visit redcrossblood.org or contact Jen Dunne at 856-979-6329. Thank you!



LAST CALL FOR
GROUNDS FOR GOOD
Friday, June 2nd

It's the last Grounds for Good Coffee House of the season, and we're going out in style! Join us Friday, June 2 as we enjoy live music by Flying with Instruments, featuring FUMC's own Norm Dorrell along with a very talented group of musicians. In addition to free coffee and tea, the evening will feature an art exhibition and delicious homemade treats for sale. Admission is always free, but donations and proceeds will benefit Hopeworks 'N Camden, committed to assisting young people in Camden to return to school and achieve gainful employment. Doors will open in Fellowship Hall at 7:30 pm, with music starting at 8. If you haven't come out to see what Grounds for Good is all about, now's your chance before we break for summer.

NEED A SPECIAL GIFT
FOR A LOVED ONE?

Or are you looking for a way to honor a loved one who has passed away? The Worship Committee decorates the sanctuary and chapel walls with banners based on the liturgical calendar. Currently, banners are needed for Mother's Day, Father's Day, Patriotic banners, and Christmas banners. This purchase will be utilized for years to come. Banners range in price from \$100-\$150 and a “wish list” is maintained by the banner coordinator, Erin Talbot. The church will attach a dedication patch to any banner that is purchased with the information of the honoree. If you would like to see the wish list or need further information, email Erin Talbot at talbotme@hotmail.com, or call 856-727-4860.

ELECTRONIC GIVING OPTION

If you would like to use your mobile device to make an electronic donation to FUMC Moorestown, just scan this QR code and you'll be connected to our mobile giving page!





FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

*“For I know that the Lord is great, and that our Lord is above all gods.”
Psalm 135:5*

When was the last time you spoke of God's greatness? When was the last time you felt God's greatness? When was the last time you praised God for his greatness?

As I was preparing to write this brief message, I kept having the thought of “God's Greatness” play out in my mind. It could have been because I had just come from being in prayer with my prayer group or it could have been because of the song I heard coming to church this morning or it could have been because of the gentle breeze that was blowing as I walked across the courtyard. Whatever the reason though, I felt compelled to ponder God's greatness.

There are many verses in the Bible that speak of God's greatness. Deuteronomy 3:24 states:

*“Sovereign Lord, you have begun to show to your servant your greatness and your strong hand.
For what god is there in heaven or on earth who can do the deeds and mighty works you do?”*

This verse is in reference to Moses when he was pleading with God to allow him to see the Promised Land. Notice Moses is already praising God for His greatness despite the circumstances that were before him.

The book of Psalms also has many references to God's greatness as well. Below are a few.

Psalm 77:13 Your ways, God, are holy. What god is as great as our God?

Psalm 95:3 For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods.

*Psalm 104:1 Praise the Lord, my soul. Lord my God, you are very great; you are clothed
with splendor and majesty.*

As we enter into the summer months, I pray that you speak often of God's greatness, that you feel the power of God's greatness and that you continually praise Him for His greatness. For as Todd Pettygrove wrote in the song Great and Mighty is He:

*GREAT AND MIGHTY IS HE CLOTHED IN GLORY ARRAYED IN SPLENDOR
GREAT AND MIGHTY IS HE LET US LIFT YOUR NAME ON HIGH
CELEBRATE YOUR PRAISE FOR YOU HAVE REDEEMED OUR LIVES
AND YOU REIGN ON HIGH.*

May God be with you today and always and may His praise be always in your heart. And on your lips.

Peace,
Karen Murray, DCE

REMEMBER to Register for Vacation Bible School - VBS dates are August 14th-18th. Children 4 years old through 4th grade are invited to participate in this year's program “Rome - Paul and the Underground Church” Please go to our website www.meetwithGod.com to register. Volunteers are also needed to make this week a special one for all who participate. For more information contact Karen Murray, DCE at 856-222-1120 or education@meetwithGod.com. “*For I know that the Lord is great, and that our Lord is above all gods.*” Psalm 135:5

UPCOMING DATES:

June 11th - Celebration Sunday - children in grades 4 years - 6th grade will meet in Fellowship Hall for a morning filled with games, fun and laughter. Children ages 2-3 will meet in their regular rooms for special activities. (No Jr. or Sr. High Sunday School)

July 9th - Summer Sunday School begins

LAY LEADER LINES

Summer is almost here! School will be out, vacation plans are in full gear, camps will be busy - so many choices, and things to make us smile. It seems like we at least try to take time a bit slower in the summer, and I think we are urged to be joyful!

There are some unique holidays in June: June 2nd is "National Rocky Road Day" as well as "National Donut Day". June 6th is "National Gardening Exercise Day", as well as "National Yo-Yo Day". June 9th is "Donald Duck" Day, and June 11th is "National Corn on the Cob Day". This is one of my favorites: June 15th is "Smile Power Day"!

Scripture teaches us to be joyful. These are some of the verses about joy: Psalm 37:4 says: *"Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart."* Then there is Isaiah 12:3 *"With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation."* One of my favorite Scriptures is from Matthew 5:8 *"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."* Knowing and believing that verse, I think, is one of the most encouraging verses in Scripture.

I think that God wants us to laugh, but I know, too, that is not always easy to do. There are times when life is overwhelming, even in summer, maybe especially in summer, when we might assume that everything is easier. There might be people who God puts in our path who need an uplifting word, a listening ear, or a prayer. I John 3:18 encourages us this way: *"Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth."*

I think that children can teach us much, too, about being joyful, and just making us laugh. Ian, age 5, in talking to a very dear friend, describes his feelings well: "You make me smile all over my face." Hannah, age 8, in talking with a friend, gives good advice: "If you're feeling blue, try painting yourself a different color!" Julie, living in the moment, is excited about going to the movies with her parents, and is ready to jump into the family car, wearing a sparkly tutu and equally sparkly sweater. Julie's mom reacts this way: "Whoa. We're just going to the movies. That's a little too fancy for the movies." Julie answers with a good question: "Mom, does the movie theatre say 'no fancy allowed'?"

I believe that maybe God wants us to be a bit "fancy" in sharing His love with those around us. Romans 5:2 teaches us to *"boast in the hope of the glory of God."*

As summer approaches, and our schedules might change, let's work together on being fancy in sharing God's word. Cindy, age 7, asked a good question of her Sunday School teacher: "In Bible times, did they really talk that fancy?"

Let's share God's love together this summer, wherever we are led!

God bless,
Kathy Appleton, Lay Leader

LIGHT HARBOR MINISTRY
UPDATE

During our church service at Avista Healthcare, we sang "Amazing Grace" and I noticed a resident, Patricia, crying so I walked over to her to make sure she was alright. She shared with me how much this hymn meant to her, we talked for a few moments, I gave her a hug, and we said goodbye.

The very next day I had a meeting with the Director of Activities, Maria, who shared with me how Patricia loves the Lord and wants to go to whatever church services they have at the facility. I asked if Patricia could write a letter sharing what our services meant to her. I was told she had a stroke and was not able to write very well but Maria would type Patricia's words and then sign her name.

"Hello, My name is Patricia Tarditi and I reside at Avista Health care and I wanted to Thank the ladies from Light Harbor Ministry for all they do for the residents at Avista. I believe it is a Blessing that they come and do service and sing a long for us because we really need them. They are a group of caring ladies who truly does Gods Work. Thank you." Another resident hand wrote something on the note that is very hard to read but it says "Thanks again it was the first church service since June 27, 2016 for me" but unfortunately I am not able to read the signature with it.

Each second Sunday we visit Avista Healthcare in Cherry Hill and third Sunday we visit Mt. Laurel Center for a 2:30 PM church service every month. We are in need of some more musicians, singers to lead the residents in song, and anyone who likes to read scripture or share some time with others. If you feel the call to serve, please call me at 856-273-1298 with any questions.



FAITH NOTES
How God Is at Work in Our Lives

On Confirmation Sunday (May 21st), four of our Confirmation Class students shared how God is working in their lives, especially as it relates to their Confirmation journey. We are sharing their words below and on the next page, so you may all be blessed by their messages.

Lindsay A. Hare:

My faith has changed a lot since I first started learning the bible in pre-school, and my faith is still changing. Many things have impacted my faith, family, experiences, stories from others, and my own knowledge and understanding. Confirmation class is a major part of how my faith has changed. Each class, as we learn my faith grows and shifts. I gain a deeper understanding of our Christian religion, I am changed. Confirmation has made my faith stronger; it has been the foundation of my faith. Faith is like building a house, you can't have a good house without a strong foundation, and that's what confirmation class is for me. Not only has my faith changed, but I have made bonds that will last for life.

But confirmation class isn't the only thing that has changed my faith. My first major change was the Mid-Winter Advance that the youth went on this January. That is where my faith took a huge leap that led me here. At the Mid-Winter Advance we learned we needed to trust God over ourselves. We learned that many times we "worship" other things, like phones, school, work, and many other things. We learned how to put our full trust into God. And as youth trips always do, we got custom shirts. On the back of the shirt was this piece of scripture in Proverbs chapter 3, verses 5 through 6, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths." While I was at the Mid-Winter Advance, the sermons and stories of the college team that came to help, helped us learn and grow.

Another thing that has impacted my faith was on April 29, during Missions weekend, on that Saturday we played volleyball matches with teams of adults and youths, ate dinner together, and went to service. At service we had a speaker from The Philadelphia Project come and speak to us, he told us how TPP came to be, what experiences they've had, and how they've changed over the years. We had a praise band sing songs with us, we all had fun while praising the Lord. Then we had a Christian rapper perform 2 of his songs and tell us

about how he found God. The entire service and experience of youth and adults coming together made my faith shift; it showed me how we can come together as a church even when we aren't in worship.

All in all, your faith never stops changing. As long as there is something new for you to learn or do with your church, your faith has the chance to change. Whether you are young or old, male or female, your faith will never be the same as it was before. Yesterday was history, today is contemporary, and tomorrow is a mystery.

* * *

Good morning everyone! My name is Abby Harsche. My confirmation journey in these past few months has had its ups and downs. I came into this unsure about my beliefs or even if I wanted to be confirmed. For a while I was going to the Catholic Church with our close family friends. It started out as my just going because I was sleeping over their house so I was just with them. However it quickly turned into me staying at their house in the afternoon after my family had left or me going to their house early before our two families would have dinner after church together. But soon they stopped going every single weekend and that's when I got the letter about confirmation in the mail. When I decided I was going to be confirmed I was excited. As I went to class every week I made some new friends, and I knew for sure that this was what I wanted to do. I've had my doubts, I'll be the first to admit. When I was going to the Catholic Church I was almost convinced that that was what I wanted to do. I wanted to be confirmed there rather than at our church. However, my dad, Michael Harsche, once told me, "I do believe that God is with us every step of the way, but I also believe that God trusts us to make all of our own decisions, good or bad." This really changed the way I looked at coming to service every week. I was having serious doubts. I am a very scientific person. And from what I remember from Sunday School, it made me think that heaven is directly above us. Lost in the clouds somewhere where God

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**FAITH NOTES from the Confirmation Class,
*continued***

could look down upon us and watch us. But with all of the satellites that had been sent up into the atmosphere, I had never seen a satellite that had spotted heaven. But when my dad told me this, I realized that God isn't specifically up in the clouds. He's everywhere. All around us as we walk the Earth everyday. After my dad told me this on a Saturday in November, I realized that what I was doubting was crazy. God isn't specifically in one spot watching us all the time, he's all around us. Helping and supporting us in all of our decisions.

I do not have the best attendance when it comes to church. But when that letter came about making my confirmation, I knew it was time for a change. Church is a place to feel comfortable with friends and family. And when my poppop passed in early February, I had so many people come up to me and tell me that if I needed someone to talk to, I could come to them. When my poppop was in hospice, I witnessed God working first hand. My aunt had been very disconnected from my poppop for years. But in his last few days she got to spend so much time with him and reconnect a little bit. Spending time with her father just before he passed will probably change her life forever. This was certainly God's work.

The church is a place to let your emotions go through prayer. During the short moments of silence and prayer during service every week, I feel a sense of freedom and I can reflect on how I am acting and choosing to live my life. Those short moments can be some of the most relaxing of my entire week. I have developed some great friendships through confirmation that I never thought I could. As 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 read, "Be on your guard, stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love." While I can not stand firm in my faith yet, I will continue to be courageous, strong, and I will do my best to do everything in love until I can stand firm in my faith. As soon as I read this quote I knew I had to share it. This is what I want to think about during service and everyday life. Confirmation has taught me many life lessons that I hope I never forget. I want to thank everyone who has made this possible for me. And I especially want to thank my biggest cheerleaders, my parents, Mike and Laura Harsche.

* * *

Spencer Talbot:

Faith. A five letter word with a lot of meaning. It means trust, hope, and putting your worries to rest because you have confidence in something. We all at some point have put strong faith in an item or a person, but those things seem miniscule compared to the faith we have in God. God is the provider of everlasting grace and love, and willing to expunge all of our sins by just asking for forgiveness and believing in him! It really sounds too good to be true for someone who has not met Jesus, or prayed with God. God is always there for us, and we can always put our faith in him. God has influenced our culture and life. Our presidential inauguration is done with one hand raised in oath, and one hand on a bible. Faith is what we have in God and Jesus, and it changes us as people.

My faith journey has been a long and amazing experience. I am the third generation of Talbots to walk these church floors, which is a blessing for me because there are so many people who know our family here. My family has supported me immensely in it, and I thank them all so much for it. My Father and Mother taught me Sunday school for five years, along with VBS. My brother and I have taken a large amount of the journey together, and we have assisted each other along the way. We share a special bond, and through those tough times our faith in God helped us. My Grandfather (Reverend Kelly Sparks) served as my mentor during confirmation, and taught me the word of the Lord when I was younger. My MawMaw played the organ at the church services I was at, and brought music into my life, which I love and I am always thankful for. My grandfather Lee Talbot is a man who fully believes in God, and even as he knew he was slipping into Alzheimer's, and could barely see he still never turned from God and the Gospel, and his goal was to still come to the Saturday night service. He really helped me realize the true love of God and how much he cares for us. My faith journey for me really began when I started at age four. I really didn't know mentally about God. I was read stories about Noah and his Ark, and I had some idea about the "Big man upstairs" but I had no idea what any of the church was, or about. That year it started to change. I went to First Light with two of my friends - Callum and O'Neal Keegan - and both of them are in my confirmation class. I made important friendships there, and I still have some of them. In the beginning of my Sunday school years, I bulked up on bible stories and started to get acquainted with God. I

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**FAITH NOTES from the Confirmation Class,
*continued***

prayed, I sang hymns with Mrs. Haegele, read bible verses and did plays. Afterwards, I would go up to Fellowship Hall and eat a doughnut, and that was my hour learning about God. During the summer I went to Vacation Bible School. At that time the church was still a little unfamiliar, the feeling when you've been in a new house for a week. I didn't know about any of the stage area, and quite frankly I was scared of the basement and youth group rooms. When I went into fifth grade I truly met God. One day while I was listening to Mr. Woodhead talk about the crucifixion, it suddenly all made sense. I said "Huh. I get it now." Mr. Woodhead gave me a quizzical look and kept on talking, but inside my head my world was changing. I truly understood God. He formed the world for us. Created us. Sent his only begotten son to die on the cross to pay for our sins. Led Moses out of Egypt. Made it rain manna and quail. Flooded the entire earth for 40 days and nights. Spoke out through Jesus, and delivered our savior into the world as a baby. It clicked. From then on, when I prayed I spoke earnestly. When I took communion Jesus was with me there. God watches over us even now, as I speak and had never turned a blind eye to me even when I did not know him or even believe in him. This knowledge keeps my faith strong. I have wavered occasionally but then Jesus brought me back into his flock. My faith journey is ongoing. I am in youth group with MC, Gabby, and all the other youth leaders. I go to bible study, and come to church on Saturdays to hear Pastor Nichols preach. I am in scouts and make sure that we pray during trips and meetings. I volunteer here assisting with church property cleanup, cleaning up the rummage sale, and Eagle projects. I also help my family with the annual Breakfast with Santa that is held at the church that raises money for cancer research in memory of my Aunt Leah. This church is my second home, and to this day I am still learning about the hidden nooks and crannies (like how to use the dishwasher and the amazing fishy shrimp smell it has).

Confirmation has been a journey for me, with ups and downs, but I always had family to support me along the way. My grandfather served as my mentor, and during the meetings I had with him, over Uno's pizza and my MawMaw's barbeque I learned more about God in those hours than ever before, and I had all my questions answered. My grandparents, Mom and Dad and my

brother made my journey what it is. I will ask again: what is faith? It's love for others. It's depending on God to forgive our sins and on Jesus to make our hearts light. Jesus gave all for us, and now that I am going to be confirmed, I will give back to him through my service to the church and faith.

* * *

Corbin J. Taylor:

Good Morning Church family. I am so happy to stand before you and share my reflections on my confirmation journey. Throughout the past few months I've learned so much about God's grace and mercy and how we are all different and how much God loves us. This experience has truly changed the way I see myself in the world and how I see others. Spending much more time at church going through the confirmation classes gave me a chance to make new friendships with other people here at church. Being here with my classmates gave me an opportunity to get away from what I thought I knew about people at the church and turned it into what I KNEW about people at the church. From Monday nights at confirmation class, to the Sunday nights at youth group, I learned a lot about how great God can be and how much he can show us in such little time. Throughout this process I've learned that if you want to deepen your faith all you have to do is listen. I also learned much about the gifts God gives us. I learned that I have a gift for administration, organizing projects and tasks. I used to hold that back in school, but now I realize that God wants me to share my gifts. Throughout confirmation class I have learned how to navigate the Bible which was a task for me before confirmation class. But now, I have a whole acronym for books in the Old Testament and one to help with memorizing the Apostle's Creed.

My favorite activity during confirmation was going to the labyrinth, if you have not been to one, it is a small maze. While in this labyrinth our assignment was to think, reflect and pray. While I was there we also did a guided prayer. The guided prayer was so uplifting because I had the outline for the prayer but I decided who and what my prayer would be; this guidance put my mind at ease. It was amazing to truly feel the Holy Spirit in the labyrinth. From walking in the small maze, to seeing depictions of the Passion and Jesus' time on Earth, was moving in many ways, I felt a sense of healing and wisdom. I reflected and thought about my

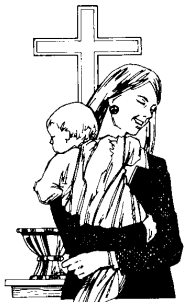
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**FAITH NOTES from the Confirmation Class,
continued**

faith and the many Sunday school lessons all came rushing back to me; I thanked God for what he gave up for me and how I now know that I am forgiven for my mistakes because of His unwavering love.

Finally, my other favorite part of confirmation class was sitting around the table eating dinner with my classmates. It was so different eating with about twenty people compared to eating with my brother and my parents. All of us eating together gave me a sense of unity and I think it gave my classmates the same feeling. I thought that not using my phone during these sessions would be hard, but instead I found it somewhat freeing. It was great to talk face to face with someone and spending real time and detaching from our phones. I am so grateful for this experience and journey in my closer walk with God.

I want to leave you with this quote from 1st Corinthians 16:13, "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong". Thank you.



Newly Baptized

Baptisms:

Harrison Matthew Lasoski
on April 23, 2017; son of
Matthew & Rebecca Lasoski

Ava Nicole Cepparulo
on May 7, 2017; daughter of
Anthony & Tracy Cepparulo

**GRADUATING FROM
HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE?**

Each year our church honors the achievement of those in our congregation who are graduating from high school and college. If you have a name you want listed, call the church office, 856-235-0450 or email joan@meetwithGod.com with the student's name, high school or college they are graduating from, and their degree. Names will be printed in our bulletin on Youth Weekend, June 17/18. Please submit names no later than Monday, June 12th. Thank you and congratulations to all the 2017 Graduates!

**GOLF OUTING TO BENEFIT
THE TENDER**

(formerly known as TenderCare)

Golf outing is Monday, July 17, 2017
Noon Shotgun Start
\$175, includes golf, lunch, dinner & drinks

A rare chance to play at Tavistock in Haddonfield, NJ

All proceeds benefit The Tender

For information, contact Rick Jagodzinski,
856-231-5637 or rick.jagodzinski@ml.com

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.



June Youth News

First United Methodist Church
Jr. & Sr. High Newsletter
kclawges@gmail.com
856-866-0285 office

Hello Parents! Happy June! School is almost out and summer is ready to begin! Our last Sunday night Youth Group will be June 11th from 7pm-8:30pm. All incoming 7th graders are invited to participate in our "Color Wars".

We will resume Youth Group on Sunday nights in September.

Blessings for a wonderful summer!!



Youth Weekend

June 17 - June 18, 5:30pm - 12pm

Join us for Youth Weekend! The Jr. & Sr. High youth will be participating in all four Services. This is always a very exciting weekend for the youth of our church.



Youth Summer Program

June 28, 6pm - 8pm

All Jr. & Sr. High are invited to come, join us for BBQ & fellowship each week from 6-8pm through August

Five Ways to Have a Fun, Less Stressful Summer Vacation

Jim Burns -President of HomeWord and Executive Director of the HomeWord Center for Youth and Family at Azusa Pacific University

Family Vacation. Those are two words that strike fear into the hearts of many parents (and kids -- especially if they are teenagers!) Some parents can get so wound up in the details of a summer family vacation that they don't have any fun. Yet, family vacations don't need to be feared. They can be a tremendous source of bonding, relaxation, and fun while building great memories.

Here's how to create a less stressful summer vacation:

- 1. Plan in advance.** Planning ahead will often save you money on all of the big vacation expenses like airfare, hotels, and even attractions. Making your plans well in advance will lighten your stress load and provide more freedom to enjoy while on vacation.
- 2. Set realistic expectations.** Set the expectations bar at a realistic level. A family vacation might be wonderful, but it probably is not going to change your life. Don't expect vacation time to fix problems at home or work.
- 3. Leave work at home.** Don't take work with you on vacation. Don't check your e-mail or text messages, and don't answer your cell phone. It may take time when you go back to work to get back up to speed, but your family deserves your full attention while on vacation. And you need time away from work as well!
- 4. Value your time together.** On a vacation, your living, sleeping, and eating arrangements may well be different than they are at home. You may not be able to find peace and quiet. Be aware of these factors going in and don't stress out about them. Make the best of your circumstances, valuing these unique experiences and enjoying your family time together.
- 5. Relax.** You cannot see, do, and experience everything in one vacation. Don't even try. Don't script every minute of your vacation. Leave room for spontaneity. Be willing to compromise on activities. No one ever gets to do everything they want to do on vacation, but do your best to see that everyone in the family gets to do something that they enjoy.