

The CROSSWORD

Issue

May/June 2012

this issue

Pastor's Message P.1

Ushering P.2

Membership at MUMC P.6

Relay for Life P.7

*We bring the word of the United
Methodist Church to life.*

PASTOR'S COLUMN

"Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'"
Matthew 28:16-20

The final words of the risen Christ to his disciples: Commissioning them to go forth and make disciples.

Who helped you to come to faith in Jesus Christ?

In his book, What About Tomorrow?, author J. Wallace Simpson tells the true story of a Baptist minister, Dr. Gordon Torgerson, sailing across the Atlantic one summer. Torgerson noticed a man sitting in a deck chair reading the Bible. He sat down beside him and said, "Forgive my curiosity, but I'm a Bap-

tist minister. I assume you are a Christian, and I'm interested to know how it happened."

"Yes," said the man, setting aside his Bible. "I'm very glad to talk about that. I'm a Filipino. I was born in a good Catholic home in the Philippines. Some years ago, I came to the United States to study law. My first night on campus, a student came to see me. He said, 'I've come to welcome you to the campus and to say that if there is anything I can do to help make your stay here more pleasant, I hope you'll call on me.' Then he asked me where I went to church and I told him I was raised Catholic. He said, 'Well, I can tell you where the Catholic church is, but it's not easy to find. It's quite a distance away. Let me make a map.' So he made an outline of the way to the church and left.

"When I awakened Sunday morning, it was raining. I thought to myself, *I'll just not go to church today. I'll get some more sleep.*"

"Then there was a knock on the door and when I opened it there stood that student. His raincoat was dripping wet and on one arm he had two umbrellas, and he said, 'I thought you might have a hard time finding your church in the rain. I shall walk along with you and show you the way.'

"As we walked along in the rain under the two umbrellas I asked, 'Where do you go to church?'

"Oh,' he said, 'my church is just around the corner.'

"I said, 'Suppose we go to your church today and we'll go to my church next Sunday.'

"I went to his church and I've never been back to my own. After four years, I felt it was not the law for me, but the ministry. I went to Drew Seminary in New Jersey and was ordained a Methodist minister, and received an appointment to a Methodist church in the Philippines. My name is Valencius. I am Bishop Valencius, Bishop of the Methodist Church in the Philippines."

This is a fascinating story of one of the most important people in the world - not the bishop, though he is important - but the man with the two umbrellas. In back of every convert to the Christian faith, in back of every church that was built, in back of every Christian enterprise and movement in history, you will find someone like that unnamed fellow with two umbrellas. An or-

dinary man or woman, a person who believed that the salvaging of souls was important, a person who dared to make his faith so useful, a person who dared to make her faith so attractive, that other people said, "I want the kind of faith you have!" We can turn the world upside down when we dare to live out our faith because we believe that each person is precious to God.

Will you dare to do that?

Will you dare to be the person with two umbrellas?

In this season of Easter, let us take up our Savior's commission, and each resolve to help someone else find new life in Jesus Christ!

In Christ,

Rev. Clark Lynn Callender



From our Lay Leader

Jody Endebrock, Lay Leader/Worship Chair

Ah, Spring! Here we are with the ring of Alleluias in our hearts and the joy of the Season fills our senses. Birds seem to join us in our singing; flowers bloom and trees blossom - radiating the beauty of Easter. There seems to be a renewed bounce in our steps - a renewed strength to face whatever lies ahead.

Like the months that proceed them, May and June bring their own element of adventure. And, once again I find myself humming, this time the words from **Since Jesus Came Into My Heart:**

'Since Jesus came into my heart, since Jesus came into my heart; floods of joy o'er my soul like the sea billows roll, since Jesus came into my heart' - can you hear me? Hum along! Yes, yes!

The love and joy of Jesus is ours! How truly Blessed! Yes, yes! Truly Blessed!

In God's love with hugs!

Jody

Ushering

Being a church usher is more than handing out a church bulletin it is a frontline ministry at our church.

When people come to our church they are sometimes burdened, sad or discouraged. Each person, member or newcomer, comes with the hope that the worship service will be an uplifting experience, an inspiration and a time of renewal and celebration. The usher helps to make this a reality for those in attendance.

In Christ, you have received God's unconditional love, and, in Christ, you are called to extend that same unconditional love to others. The usher performs a major role in ensuring that people see and experience that love. The ministry of ushering is one of the most crucial because it is one of the most visible in the church.

Duties of the Usher

The ministry to which a person is called when he or she becomes a church usher can best be described in the following ways:

- Greet worshippers, making every attempt to help them feel welcome and at ease.
- Escort members and guests to their seats.
- Distribute materials related to the service/meeting such as bulletins, hymnals, handouts, etc.

Romans 15:5-7

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

- Offer 'Children's Bags' to attendees with small children
- Offer visitors 'Welcome to MUMC' literature
- Let guests know of our Nursery
- Receive the offering.
- Maintain an alertness for any emergency that may arise, relieving the need or contacting the person(s) needed to provide the proper assistance.
- Direct individuals to restrooms, coffee hour etc.

Helpful Tips

Arrive early, approximately 30 minutes before the start of worship

Be familiar with all the church ministries:

Youth programs

Sunday School

Hospitality

Missions

UMW

Etc...

Be polite, alert and courteous

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



This usher catch phrase you will learn by ordering our deluxe TITHE AND OFFERING COLLECTION TACTICS FROM THE MASTER USHERS. (only \$19.99 for the 2 DVD set)

Music Notes by Vel

First – a hearty thank you to all who participated in the Palm Sunday through Easter music programs. Especial thanks to Roy George for coming in at the last minute and being the reader for our Good Friday Tenebrae service. Well wishes for a full recovery to Blair Goid.

The Junior Bells will be concluding their season by playing on Mother's Day, May 13. They will then take a short break and resume with the Junior Bell Summer program. All children who have finished the first grade and are going into second grade are welcome to join the summer bell program. If you know of anyone who is interested, please contact me ASAP.

On Sunday, June 3rd, we will have a special music service – "Singing Praise thru the Ages". Come and bring a friend.

I would like to put together a mens chorus to sing a simple hymn for Father's Day on June 17th. We will have one practice after the 11:00 service on June 10th. Please - men - come sing with us.

The Ocean Grove Annual Choir Concert this year will be on July 8th. Our choir is planning on participating. If you would like to join us for this special occasion, please let me know so that I can order music for you. We will be practicing the music on Wednesday evenings, and there are also practices scheduled in Ocean Grove on Friday evenings in June.

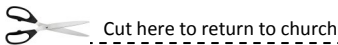
Missions Committee

The Missions committee is currently focused on two areas; food and shelter. We are working with two food banks; St. Stephens in Waretown and The Barnegat Food Bank in Barnegat. In April we introduced a monthly food collection, each month we will be asking the congregation for a specific item which will be given to one or both of the food banks. For May we will be collecting canned meals (Chef Boyardee meals, stew & soups).

Another way The Mission Committee is combating hunger is our church garden. The garden has been expanded and the planting has started. In May we are going to start meeting twice a week to weed and tend the garden, check the Mission bulletin board (located in the main hallway) for dates and times.

To help combat homelessness we are working with the organization Family Promise which helps homeless families transition back to permanent housing. We are looking for volunteers to cook meals and or spend time socializing with the families. The next opportunity to help will be at Great Bay Gospel Fellowship church from May 4th - May 12th, contact Traci Callender at Missions@ManahawkinMethodist.org if you would like to volunteer.

Generosity is a matter of action, intentions and heart. One way to describe it is the grateful outpouring of gifts to others, out of our love for God.



Estimate of Giving Card

This card represents a tangible opportunity to worship and serve God through generosity. When we return a portion of our financial blessings to God through our tithes and offerings, we invest in God's vision and mission, and we create an opportunity for God to work through us and through our church. We make a financial commitment to changing lives in our church, our community and our world.

Please return to the church within the next few weeks.

Name (Please Print) _____

Address _____

City State Zip _____

Email address _____

Home Phone _____

Yes! I/We will support Manahawkin United Methodist Church in the year 2012.

Choose one:

\$ _____ weekly for 52 weeks

\$ _____ semi-monthly for 24 periods


\$ _____ monthly for 12 months

\$ _____ as follows _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

I/We would like information on how to provide for Manahawkin United Methodist Church in my/our will.



Becoming a Member at MUMC

The number one question asked about church membership is "Why should I join the church?" Our answer is simple, we believe that the 'body' of Christ works best when we are united together (I CORINTHIANS 12). Therefore, it is important for us to make a commitment to Christ and live it out in the Church.

The process for becoming a member is threefold:

1. Make a decision to follow Christ
2. Attend our Methodist 101 class that is held on the 4th Sunday of each month at 10AM in the large classroom. This class offers the new member an understanding of The United Methodist Church's origins and theology.
3. Stand for membership before the congregation during a membership service.

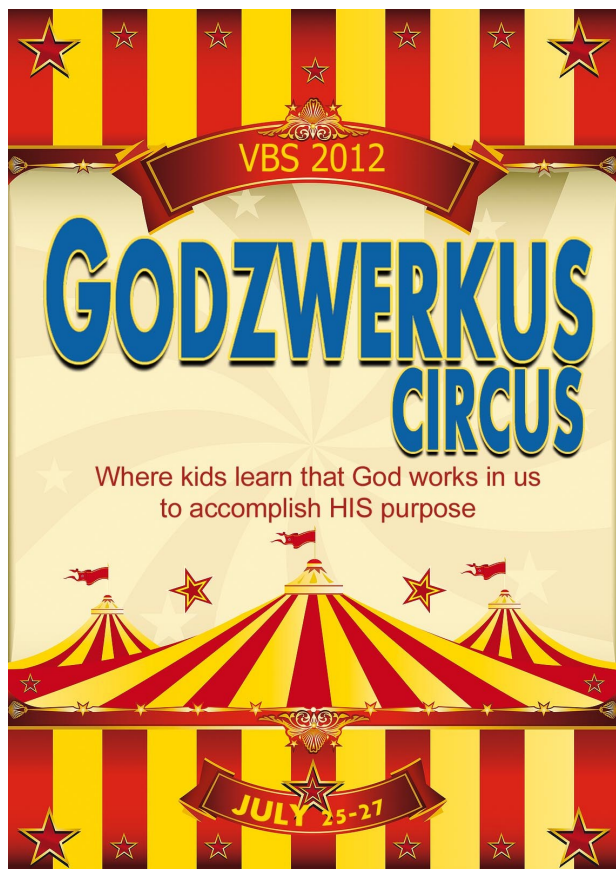
There are different types of membership:

- **Profession of Faith:** This is done when the individual has no prior church membership.

This is a "new" Christian and is baptized if he/she has not already been baptized.

- **Reaffirmation of Faith:** This is done when the individual has been away from membership in the church for a long time or simply doesn't know where their church membership is.
- **Transfer from Another Denomination:** This is done when a person is a member of another denomination. We write that church and let them know of the individual's desire to unite with Central.
- **Transfer from Another United Methodist Church:** This is done when a person is a member of another United Church. We write that church and let them know the individual's desire to unite with MUMC.

The second question we hear a lot: "Can I be involved in the church even if I don't want to join?" ABSOLUTELY! We welcome everyone to all our events, worship and service opportunities..



VBS 2012

All students entering Kindergarten thru 6th grade are invited to our summer VBS program.

NEW this year, we are having a three (3) day program starting on Wed., July 25—Friday, July 27th. We start at 6PM and end at 8PM each evening.

What can you expect at VBS? If you're new to our program please keep in mind that we LOVE VBS! Our goal is to bring the scripture to 'life'. We start our evening in our sanctuary (aka 'Big Top'). During our opening each night we will learn what our evening focus will be. We'll be introduced to some great bible stories and lessons. From there our VBSers will rotate thru our three stations: bible stories, recreation and crafts. Of course we will add some fun into each rotation.

Miss Shelly, our VBS pro has some incredible ideas for us (we're not allowed to reveal them at this time...they must be BIG)! Our amazing team of volunteers include, Miss Ellie, 'Jungle Bob', Miss Rosemary, Randy & Vanessa, Miss Natasha, Miss Pauline, Mr. Jim, Mrs. Applegate and more....and of course our many youth volunteers!

Registration begins online in May. So check the website often!



Manahawkin UMC is a proud participant of Relay for Life.

What is Relay?

Relay is an overnight relay-style event where teams of people camp out around a track. Members of each team take turns walking around the track for the duration of the event. Food, games and activities provide entertainment and fundraising opportunities. This is a family-friendly environment for the entire community.



Survivors Lap

Relay starts with a Survivors Lap – an inspirational time when survivors are invited to circle the track together and help everyone celebrate the victories we've achieved over cancer. We also recognize and celebrate caregivers at Relay For Life. These individuals give their time, love, and support to friends, family, neighbors, and coworkers who face cancer.

Luminaria Ceremony

After dark, we honor people who have been touched by cancer and remember loved ones lost to the disease during the Luminaria Ceremony. Candles are lit inside bags filled with sand, each one bearing the name of a person touched by cancer, and participants often walk a lap in silence.



Fight Back Ceremony

Last, there is a Fight Back Ceremony, where we make a personal commitment to save lives by taking up the fight against cancer. That personal commitment may be to do something as simple as getting a screening test, quitting smoking, or talking to elected officials about cancer. By taking action, people are personally taking steps to save lives and fight back against a disease that takes too much.

Join us on Friday, June 1 through Saturday, June 2, 2012 at Southern Regional HS.

Opening Ceremony is at 7pm on 6/1

Closing Ceremony is at 6am 6/2

Go to our website www.ManahawkinMethodist.org for more details.

THE CROSSWORD

May & June 2012

A Publication of the Manahawkin UMC

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 487 116 Stafford Avenue

Manahawkin, NJ 08050

609-597-7666 (Office) 609-597-7316 (Fax)

Kirsten Mosher, Editor

e-mail: Crossword@Manahawkinmethodist.org

www.manahawkinmethodist.org

From

The Prayer Group

**“and He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and
to heal the sick”**

Luke 9:2

DIRECTIONS: Take Route 72 East toward Long Beach Island;
EXIT Route 9 North; go through the intersection with the traffic
light (this is Bay Avenue) turn RIGHT almost immediately AFTER
the intersection onto the very first street (Stafford Avenue); The
church is two blocks on the left across from the firehouse.

Manahawkin United Methodist Church

P. O. Box 487

116 Stafford Avenue

Manahawkin, NJ 08050-3153

Non-Profit Org.

Postal Permit

No. 28

Postage Paid

Tuckerton, NJ

