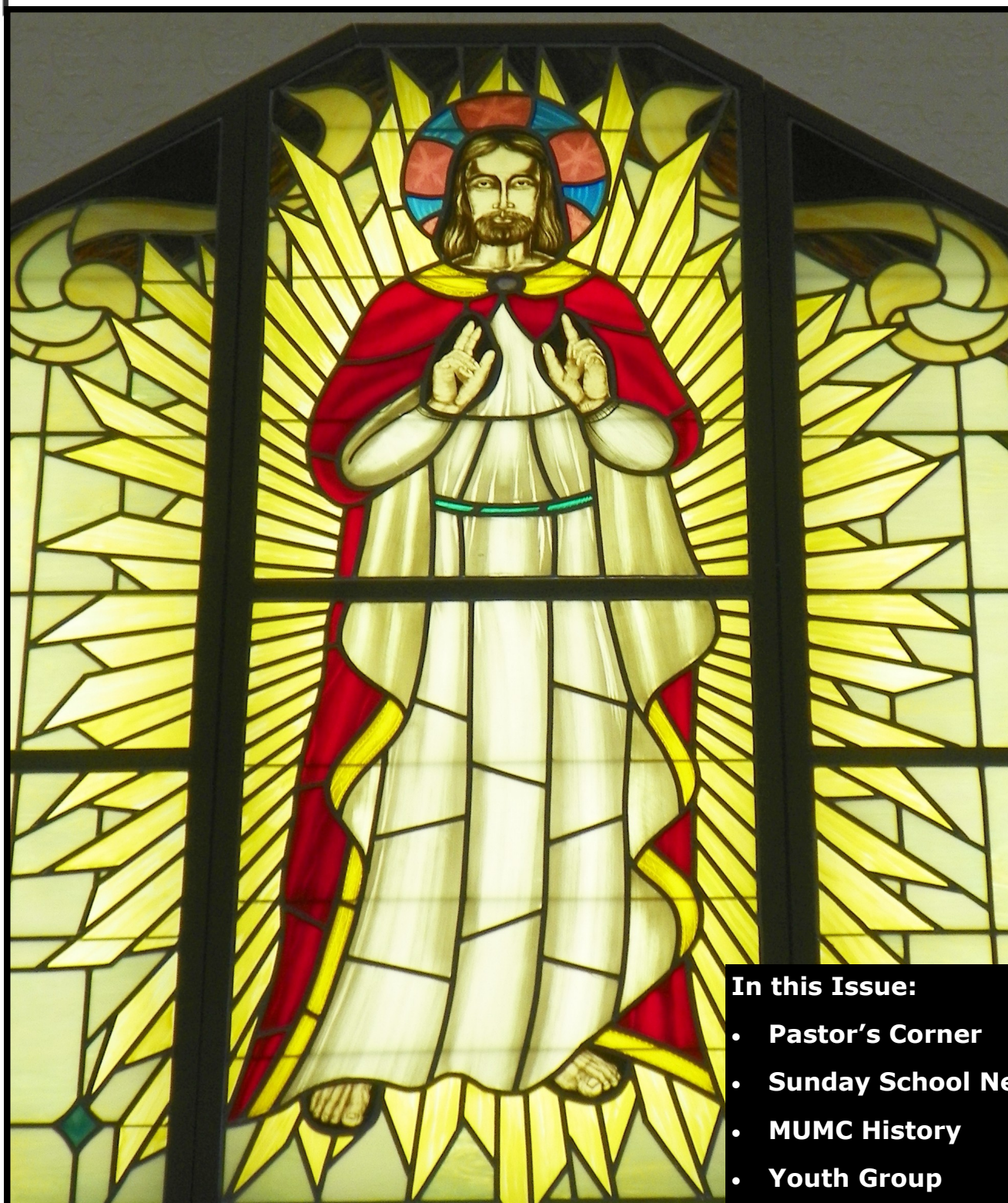




THE CROSSWORD

Manahawkin United Methodist Church September/October
www.manahawkinmethodist.org **2014**



In this Issue:

- Pastor's Corner
- Sunday School News
- MUMC History
- Youth Group

*Window in memory of
Thomas F. Shinn and Rachel B. Shinn 1994*

PASTORS CORNER

Fall is just around the corner! It is hard to believe that summer is almost gone! Well, it is Back to School time. It is also Back to Church time. We have another great year ahead of us!

As pastor, I am very happy to report that the Men's Group was officially launched in August with John Hague's leadership (Thanks, John!). So far, they have had two breakfasts (eating is very important to Methodists,



especially to men--- myself included) and the group is up and running already! They did a fantastic job hosting the picnic for Teen Challenge on August 24. Praise the Lord! I also would like to give you a little heads up on what's coming in the next few months. Mark down the dates and be there!

September 7. At the 11 a.m. service, we will be doing the blessing of children by parents. This is very special to me personally as I invite the parents to bless their children in the name of the Lord. Parents, do not miss this great opportunity! Along with the blessing that Sunday, I plan to do the experiment of "Sink or Float" once again for the children. Come and check out yourself (even though I did it last year, I still can't predict if some of the vegetables will float or sink. For instance, will a potato float or sink? What about a sweet potato?). Come and see!

September 21/28 and October 12. New membership classes will be offered to those who would like to join our church as official members. Attend the class on either September 21 or 28 at 9:45 a.m. in the large Classroom, and you will be received into the congregation on Sunday, October 12, at both services. On September 21, at the 11 a.m. service, there will be a baptism of Jemma Corselli as well.

November 4 at 7 p.m. It is our Church Conference time (it used be Charge Conference, but nowadays it is Church Conference) where every official member of MUMC is invited to come and celebrate God's ministry among us. This year it will be conducted by our new District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Gina Hendrickson. Please come and welcome her with enthusiasm and love!

Finally, an update on the Ministry Table. As I wrote in my last article (July/August 2014), I have been asking God to guide us into the direction that we ought to go in the next few years. I also invited you to join me in prayer for the following questions: *What does the Lord want us to do in the coming years? What should we focus on for the next five years?* In August, we had a good start with Staff Parish Relations Committee. They proposed to focus on three things as our priorities: Reach out to the young

families in the area. Engage the congregation in hands-on ministry and mission trips. Lastly, continue our financial stability including paying 100% of our Shared Ministry Giving to the Conference. Please join me in our continuous efforts to identify the needs in our communities and how we as the body of Christ can serve people in the name of Jesus our Lord.

See you in prayer.

I am your partner in ministry,

Kyewoon

LAY LEADER

"I will say to the North 'Give them up,' and to the South, 'do not withhold,' bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the ends of the earth" (Isaiah 43:6)

I've always loved this passage from Isaiah and for whatever the reason I always seem to think of it about this time of year. God calling us back. Not that we ever left – not the people of the **can do Church!** No summer break here! Picnics and ice cream in the park, gardeners reaping and sowing and catching clever garden visitors, the quilters quilt, counters count, musicians sing and instruments sound, special services held, our Youth Group leaving for work-camp and, what can be said of VBS? – just the best! Yeah! No lazy, hazy days here! But still – there is a feeling of being called *back* or maybe it's a call of *renewal*. We notice the change in the angle of the setting sun – ever so slight – as is the cool in the evening breeze – and we know that change is upon us – a new season about to explode in all its wonderful glory. So we come back – to committees and meetings, choirs return to formal rehearsals - Sunday School resumes bringing with it the resilient sounds of children laughing – and the smiles of the young and not so young as we once again join in Fellowship and Praise. And with each step we come gathered together as Children of God – praising His Holy Name and giving thanks for the opportunity to serve and to be His Children. Always and Forever Loved! And I find myself thinking of another verse – our very own United Methodist prayer of Thanksgiving: "We give thanks for all that God has already given us. As members of the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church, we will faithfully participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ." (UMC Hymnal pg#52.)

And I pray: Yes Father – may everything we do bring Glory to your Holy Name.

Blessings and Hugs Sweet Church Family
Jody



HELP WANTED: We need help decorating Sanctuary, Please contact Jody or Cheryl (Church Secretary) to join the committee.

MUSICAL HELP WANTED-COME JOIN AND SING

Who? YOU
What? CHOIR
When? WEDNESDAY 7:00PM
 Beginning September 3
Where? MUMC
Why? To Sing Praise to GOD
Questions? Contact VEL at 732-961-1168



JUNIOR BELL CHOIR

Anyone who has finished first grade is welcome to come to learn to ring bells. Practice is on Mondays from 4:00 to 4:45 PM followed by Pizza. We are finished by 5:15. If interested please call Vel at 732-961-1168 or leave your name and phone number in the church office. We will resume practices on September 15th.



KNITTERS



Knitters group gathers from 3:00 to 4:00PM on Wednesday afternoons. We knit sweaters for "Knit for Kids". Some have made prayer shawls for shut ins. You are welcome to join us and knit whatever you wish. Crocheters are also welcome. If you don't know how to knit and would like to learn, we will teach you.

A Quiet Prayer

There is nothing better than other people praying for you. We're not getting older, just getting closer to home! Be Still. The instructions are to pick four people You want God to bless. I pick you. Please pass this to at least four people you want to pray for and a copy back to me. This prayer is powerful, and prayer is one of the best gifts we receive. There is no cost but a lot of rewards. Let's always pray for one another.

The prayer:

Father, Thank You for each and every day You have blessed us here on earth. Thank You for Your tender mercies. Thank You for giving us friends and family to share these Internet joys with. I ask You to bless my friends, relatives and those I care deeply for, who are reading this right now. Where there is joy, give them continued joy, Where there is pain, give them your peace and mercy. Where there is self-doubt, release a renewed confidence. Where there is need, fulfill their needs. Bless their homes, families, their goings and their comings. In Jesus' name, Amen.
 (If you choose to send this to more than four people, you are truly blessed to have such friends)

submitted by Louise Lovering Jones, Lay Speaker



THE HOLY SPIRIT RINGERS 2014-2015 SCHEDULE

September Practices: 11th, 18th and 25th

October Practices: 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd

October Performance: Sunday the 26th, both services

November Practices: 6th, 13th, and 20th

November Performance: Sunday the 23rd, both services

December Practices: 4th, 11, and 18th

December Performance: Wednesday the 24th Christmas Eve

January Practices: 8th, 15th, 23rd and 29th

January Performance: Sunday the 25th, both services

February Practices: 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th

February Performance: Sunday the 22nd

March Practices: 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th

March Performance: Sunday the 22nd, both services

April Practices: 9th, 16th, 23, and 30th

April Performances: Sunday the 5th (Easter Sunday)

and Sunday the 26th, both services

May Practices: 7th, 14th, and 21st

May Performance: Sunday the 24th, both services

Interested? Call Joe 609-488-1786 or 609-339-0847

Manahawkin Methodist
 Preschool will reopen on
 Monday September 8th. The 2014
 -2015 school year will see many
 changes to students and staff but we usually settle in
 quickly excited for a successful year.

Manahawkin Methodist
PRESCHOOL 

September always brings lessons on family and community. Our beginners like to bring a beloved item from home to ease the transition into school. They create a beautiful family tree using pictures of their loved ones. The class spends most of September learning to love their new "classroom family".

Our preschoolers and pre-k classes are usually more seasoned and they jump right into learning about being part of a classroom community. Each member of the community is responsible to the others and completes jobs and follows the rules that they establish together. The children love to talk about community helpers especially when they get to share what their own family members do.

October promises to be lots of fun as all the classes will be kept very busy learning about fall, fire safety, and

Halloween. We look forward to the firemen's visit each year. I love the way a fireman will gradually put his fire-safe suit and helmet over his clothes reassuring the children along the way that even though it looks funny, he is still just a regular man underneath it all. It is such a great way to teach them not to fear a firefighter and God forbid hide from one in an emergency. We will wrap up our month with a visit to the school's "pumpkin patch" and dazzle the parents with Halloween songs and poems as we parade in our costumes.

We hope to be a school that Manahawkin United Methodist Church can be proud of and we ask that you would remember us in your prayers.

Lisa Mower, Director Preschool

CHURCH EQUIPMENT & CHURCH PROPERTY

In the last issue of the Crossword I discussed real property and its importance to the church. I hope you have taken a moment or two to think about that article, and as a result, have gained a new perspective on what real property is.

This article will focus on church equipment and church property. In the previous article I also asked you to take a minute to make a list of what you thought constituted church equipment and church property. Let's see how well you did.

Church equipment consists of, but is not limited to, the following items: stoves; refrigerators; microwaves; FAZ machines; Xerox machine; copiers; computers; organ; piano; sound system; folding chairs and tables; office furniture; telephones; vacuum cleaner; and portable air conditioners. Remember the difference between church equipment and real property is that real property includes equipment affixed and built into the church (facility).

Church property consists of, but is not limited to, the following items: Church Bible, Chalice and collection plates; choir uniforms; hymnals, prayer books and pew bibles; the bells; preschool play yard items; preschool classroom items; Sunday school materials; lawnmowers; outdoor lights; flag & flagpole; church marquee; and cooking items, glassware & silverware.

So, how did you do? Let me know if you thought of any more items for either category. So far we have discussed real property, church property and church equipment. I have one more category of property for the next issue of the Crossword. It is expendable property. Once again I challenge you to make a list. This one may be a little harder but I know you can come up with a few items. Good luck.

Roy George, President
Board of Trustees

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Submitted by, Bob Molinaro, (Chair SPRC)

Hello everyone,

Since taking over as Chair of the SPRC a lot of things have happened and are also going to happen.

Back in June, I had to make a farewell speech, saying good-bye to Kelly Steinberg as Director of Preschool. Kelly had to leave us and has taken on a new job. Kelly has transformed our preschool into something we can all be proud of. We will surely miss her and thank her for all she has done in the past seven years. We wish Kelly all the best. As the saying goes when one door closes another one opens. This holds true. On June 21st the SPRC started accepting and reviewing applications for the position of Pre School Director and started the interviewing process. We were very fortunate in having four people apply for the position. One application was from Lisa Mower; Lisa had been a teacher here at our Preschool for the past six years. With all her experience as a teacher and having all the necessary qualifications needed to be our Director, we felt she was the best fit for the job. The SPRC took a vote and Lisa was hired. She started working on July 1st in preparation of the new school year. We wish Lisa the best of luck in her new position and look forward in seeing her new direction for our Preschool.

In July, I spoke with Natasha Lansbury who was our Nursery/Child Care Aide; she had told me because of conflicting schedules at her full time job, she would no longer be able to work at our church on Sundays. Natasha has been working here for at least six years, ever since she was in high school. Thank you, Natasha, for all the time you spent taking good care of the children. Once again one door closed and another opened. Lori Nielsen's daughter Lori was interested in filling the position so the SPRC held a short meeting after the 1st service and we interviewed Lori and hired her. We know she'll do a great job because she loves children. Welcome Lori and good luck in your new job.

The SPRC met in August to go over the evaluation and job performance reviews of all paid employees of the church. This happens once a year and this information is submitted to the Finance Committee, Church Council and at the Church Conference Meeting for approval. This process is done each year for the following year's budget.

The SPRC is just one of the many important committee's of our church. I want to thank the SPRC for all their hard work in the interviewing process and in everything they do. I'd like to compare this saying with our church. "It takes a whole tribe to raise a child". This holds true with our church. It takes many members to keep our church growing. I'd like to thank all the committee's in our church for everything they do. That's all for now, if anything changes I will inform everyone, Thank You



VBS 2014 – Giddy Up with God!

Submitted by Rosemary Molinaro,
Sunday School Superintendent

Can I get a “YE-HAW FOR JESUS?” That’s what we heard all week at VBS – and the kids responded louder and louder each night “YEEEE-HAW!” What a fun time we had at VBS this summer. Our western theme was just perfect. We renamed our church “Son City” and as always, the decorations were amazing. If you took a walk down Main Street you passed our Son City UMC, the Ranch, Sheriff’s office and Jail, and the beautiful Son City Hotel, where each night our cowboys and cowgirls listened to wonderful Bible stories and enjoyed snacks and drinks prepared in the Watering Hole.

Outside in the Pasture, the little cowpokes enjoyed panning for gold and exchanging it for treats in the General Store. They had horse races, bean bag toss, played horse shoes and even learned to Square Dance! This year, we added singing to our nightly activities and the kids did a great job learning the songs. We also performed the songs at church on the following Sunday.

Downstairs, in the School House, crafts were made – beaded dream catchers, stick horses, photo candles and vests complete with giant mustaches!!!! So much fun.

We had very special guests come to Son City. Judy’s Puppet Party put on a show with her Jesus Puppet and Cow Girl and Cow Boy Puppets. We all sang and clapped to “God is Good.” On Friday, Woody and Jesse, from Toy Story, showed up for our Hoe-Down Celebration. They made amazing balloon characters for all the kids.

We had so many volunteers to help and donations of money, food, drinks, snacks and supplies. I want everyone to know what a great church family we have (in case you don’t already know that!) and how grateful I was to have such a turnout of youth and adult volunteers. Thank you so much to everyone for everything!

This year, VBS supported the “Future with Hope – No More Malaria” UMC campaign. We had a goal of \$400.00, and thanks to everyone’s generosity, we reached that goal.

I’d like to let some of the comments speak on behalf of our VBS program this year.

“Trip had to choose between coming to VBS and a sports activity. He chose VBS.”

Walter, one of our youth volunteers, works full time and came to help at VBS on his nights off.

“Thank you for all your hard work in planning a great week out west.....Kyle had a terrific time.”

From Cowgirl Puppet Sally May “thank you for having us at VBS. We had a lot of fun and hope the kids did too.”

From Woody and Jesse “Thank you for having us. It was great to be with the kids.”

Before the dance“I don’t want to square dance.” After the dance.... “Can we do that again?”

“Dominick was talking about how much fun he had.”

“Thank you for having this VBS. We are on vacation on LBI.” Thank you, Emily, for taking time from your vacation to come to our VBS program.

Ye-Haw for Jesus and VBS! See you next summer July 20 – 24, 2015.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS – 2014/2015 Program

Submitted by Rosemary Molinaro
 Sunday School Superintendent

It seems each year the seasons get rushed more and more. I noticed some of the local stores already have Halloween and Thanksgiving decorations for sale. For me, August was always "Back to School" time. I remember getting a new book bag (now called back packs), new shoes, and unfortunately for this kid, a new school uniform, yes I said uniform. No cool clothes to shop for, just the plain dark green jumper and beige blouse. If you wanted to be a little more "stylish" your parents got you the little green beanie (no thanks, Mom).

Well, here it is, so many years later, and I still get the same feeling in August of going back to school. I really hate seeing the summer come to a close. I get the same queasy stomach for my granddaughters knowing that homework and tests will be starting up soon. And now-a-days, with the way things are, I get that worried feeling for their safety at school as well. I pray that all the teachers and students going back to school will have a safe and meaningful school year.

But August and going back to school are exciting too. I don't want to make it sound like it is all doom and gloom. I am very excited to be going back to Sunday School. Although I have seen most of the children recently at VBS, I am still looking forward to seeing them each week in class and spending time with them learning our faith and about Jesus.

We will begin Sunday School on Sunday, September 7th, at 9:45 in Fellowship Hall, with a Welcome Back coffee hour with our children, their families and our church family. It will be our time to re-connect and to meet our new teaching staff. We have another exciting year planned for the children and a copy of the yearly schedule will be given to the parents. Following coffee hour, Pastor Choi will have a special blessing for the teachers and the children at the 11:00 Service.

We will again have our special events – Blessing of the Pets, Trick or Trunk, Thanksgiving Food Drive, Christmas Pageant and Easter Pageant, along with other special learning opportunities.

We hope to see all the children return, as well as new children join us. The ages for Sunday School are Pre K (one year before entering Kindergarten) through High School. Sunday School is offered at no charge to the families; all we ask is that you make a prayer decision to be faithful to the program each week by regular attendance for the children.

I ask that you please keep our children and teachers in your prayers. Thank you.

Kids in Church

The Sunday School teacher was describing that when Lot's wife looked back at Sodom she turned into a pillar of salt, when Bobby interrupted. "My mommy looked back once while she was driving," he announced, "and she turned into a telephone pole."

MUMC - MC

Meeting of the MUMC MC at 8:15 at IHOP attended by: Randy Estelow, Don Estelow, Bob Molinaro, Joe DelVecchio, Art Hill, Ron Warmbier, John Hadden, Tim Gallagher, Kyewoon Choi and Roy George with special guest Arnold Hadden.

The meeting opened with a prayer and Proverbs 3, v13 & 141

The purpose of the MUMC MC is Service, Support and Social

Various future activities were discussed with our next one to be in charge of the picnic for the Teen Challenge visitors on August 24th at 1325 East Mallard Drive.

Next meeting to be on Saturday, August 16th at 8:15 at The Stafford Diner on Rte 72.

Tim Gallagher & John Hauge to be co-chairs and Art Hill & Ron Warmbier to be co-treasurer/secretary.

A gentleman, Harold Stern, came over to the group to inquire about our meeting. He is new to the area and was invited to church---if you see him please introduce yourself.



MUMC HISTORY

Manahawkin Methodist Church

Breaks Ground for Addition

The Methodist Church of Manahawkin broke ground on Sunday, November 19, 1961 for a \$64,000.00 church school to be erected on the west side of the church on Stafford Avenue. In February 1960, the Quarterly Conference of the Methodist Church established a Building Committee to explore the needs of the expanding church school and how the needs could be met by construction of new facilities.

In November, 1960, a financial crusade was conducted and \$42,000.00 in pledges and gifts were received payable over a three year period. Plans for the new building were presented by Architect Floyd A. Cranmer, Jr., and accepted by the Building Committee, the congregation, and the Quarterly Conference.

The plans called for the new unit to be built of masonry construction with brick veneer. It was to be a two-story building with a large fellowship hall, kitchen, five large classrooms, rest rooms, and storage space. Renovations will be made of present facilities to create two adult classrooms, two youth department rooms, the church office and the pastor's study. A fire escape is also being constructed for the second floor sanctuary. This new unit, renovations, and fire escape will have a total cost of approximately \$64,000.00.

Participating in the ground breaking for the new church school at the Manahawkin Methodist Church were left to right; Mrs. Sadie Paul, Chairman of Commission on Education; Mrs. Daniel Soper, President of Methodist Young Adults; Stacey Cranmer, Jr., President of Methodist Youth Fellowship; Mrs. Everett Giberson, President of Fidelity Bible Class; Edward Hazelton, Chairman of Building Committee; the reverend James W. Smith, Pastor; George Bowen, Secretary of Church School; Miss Jeannette Hansen, pupil in Kindergarten; Mrs. George Bowen, President of Woman's Society of Christen Service; Miss Edna Hazelton, Treasurer of Church School and Secretary of the Board of Trustees, and Milton R. Cranmer, Lay Leader and President of the Board of Trustees.

Source: Local newspaper

Youth**Group**

(L-R) Lori Koons, Randy Estelow, Joel Applegate, Janet Estelow, Aubree Sangiovanni, Marina Milia

Repair: Be a story of Transformation

On July 27th 6 people from our church went on a week long youth mission trip to Scranton PA. They are Janet Estelow, Marina Milia, Lori Koons, Joel Applegate, Aubree Sangiovanni, and myself Randy Estelow. The mission trip is organized by Group Mission Trips. They were able to house all 322 campers at Marywood University.

Group Missions divided up all 322 campers into 56 crews. These crews would work on 47 houses, performing tasks like painting, replace siding, rebuild porches and build stairs. Everyone had such a wonderful time making new friends with their crews and the residents.

The resident that I was with was an amazing person. She is a grandmother who adopted two of her granddaughters and has her Aunt living with her who is on hospice. My crew had a fun time getting to know her and her granddaughters. By the end of the week all of us felt like we had become a big happy family.

Every night we would have an evening program to help us repair ourselves as Christians. We learned how God can help us transform, they asked everyone to keep an eye out for God sightings. Then during the evening program people would share their sightings. A God sighting is when we see God's work in progress.

On our last day, as we checked out of the dorm rooms, I received envelopes for everyone in our youth group. These envelopes contained care cards. Care cards are positive encouraging notes of affirmation we write to our youth group, our crew or other campers. Reading my care cards, I reflect on how much God touched each of us and we will remember this trip forever.

I want to thank everyone that helped us raise the money to go. Our kids are already excited to go next year. We will be starting fundraising as soon as possible. Please come out and support us this year. The youth group will be doing another spaghetti dinner, a date will be set sometime in November.

Randy Estelow Youth Director



Randy, Lori, Joel, Marina, Aubree

HOPE VERSUS DESPAIR

Without **HOPE** we breed **DESPAIR**.
 So many things ,too hard to bear.
 Financial burdens, the loss of a job
 Can lead to despair and make your head throb.
 The death of a loved one, relative or friend
 Is often something we can't comprehend.
 Failure to reach our goals in life,
 We blame ourselves and end in strife.
 An accident, or illness can kill our drive
 If we do not have the will to survive.
 Addiction's a quick fix that leads to more pain
 An instant of ecstasy, but nothing to gain.
 Wars, crime and natural disasters abound
 Causing stress and anxiety all around.

HOPE is the answer, it can cure all ills.
 But first you need faith; not doctors or pills.
 Faith in a God, Who loves us all,
 Who can give you peace of mind, if only you call.
 Not only **HOPE** for the troubles to end,
 But the promise of salvation, on which you can depend.
 So, don't **DESPAIR**, have faith in your Savior,
 Who accepts you freely, despite your behavior.
 He will give you the strength to face and defeat
 The negative forces that you may meet.
 Pray to the Lord for yourself and others,
 Friends, relatives, sisters and brothers.
 Forget **DESPAIR** and choose **HOPE**.
 You will find it's the only way to cope.
 Things will improve and fall into place,
 The way they were meant to, by God's grace.

by Sheila Miklos

(submitted by Louise Lovering Jones, Lay Speaker)



In the United States, Patriot Day occurs on September 11 of each year, designated in memory of the 2,977 killed in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Initially, the day was called the Prayer and Remembrance for the Victims of the Terrorist Attacks on September 11, 2001.

On this day, the President requests that the American flag be flown at half-staff at individual American homes, at the White House, and on all U.S. government buildings and establishments, home and abroad. The President also asks Americans to observe a moment of silence beginning at 8:46 A.M. (Eastern Daylight Time), the time the first plane struck the North Tower of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Submitted by Jody Endebrock, Worship Committee Chair

Greetings from your Worship Committee! We're already hard at work planning some magnificent services! Just to name a few:

Sunday, September 7th we welcome back our Sunday School Children! There will be a special blessing of the Children, Parents and Teachers.

Sunday, September 14th Vel has a special anthem scheduled for us in remembrance of 9/11.

Sunday, September 21st we celebrate another Baptism

Sunday, September 28th brings a special guest to our 11:00am service and between services we once again hope to have the Blessing of the Animals in honor of St. Francis.

Sunday, October 5th is World Communion Sunday – lots of excitement here

October 12th we welcome new members

Sunday October 19th we once again celebrate Laity Sunday with our Ministry Fair to follow in Fellowship Hall. For this Sunday – we will only have ONE SERVICE @ 10:00AM.

Looking ahead will be honoring those loved ones now with the Lord on Sunday, November 2nd – All Saints Day.

We promise to keep everyone up to date with information in our bulletins and announcements.

We're also in need of Greeters, Ushers and Readers – our sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Sure appreciate your help...and please don't be shy! If you're new or unsure – give me a shout – I'll be glad to partner up! Oh! And please don't forget our *Coffee Hour*. Many enjoy the smiles, laughter and the fellowship – can you help provide? We'd hate to lose this ministry. I Thank you for all you do and are!

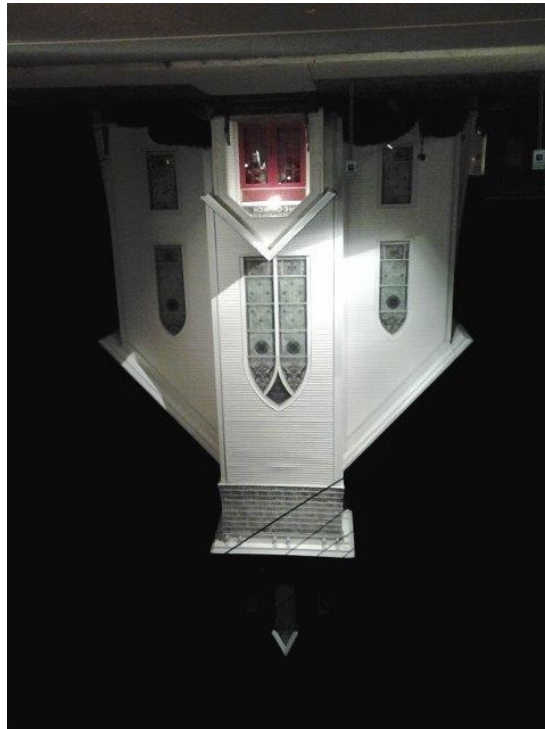
Blessings and Hugs!

Jody

PRAYER GROUP

"The lower a man carries his ethics, the higher he carries his love, and the higher he carries his love the closer he is to God"

Additions or corrections to the Crossword, contact Edna Winans at 609-304-3403 or ewinans@verizon.net



Manahawkin United Methodist Church
116 Stafford Avenue



Crossword Newsletter
September/October 2014