



THE CROSSWORD

Manahawkin United Methodist Church
www.manahawkinmethodist.org

January/February
2015



Christ The Redeemer Statue
Rio De Janerio, Brazil

2015
T. Y. O. K. J.

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PASTOR'S CORNER

2015—the Year of Knowing Jesus

Nowadays, we can Google almost every subject we can think of. Within a matter of seconds, we have millions of pieces of information that would educate us on the topic of our interests. For instance, this morning (12/19/2014) I typed the word “Jesus” in the search window on Google. In 0.44 seconds, 586 million entries on Jesus popped up. After reading some articles, I may get to know a lot about Jesus, such as when He was alive and active, how old He was when He was crucified and so on, but that doesn't mean that I know of Him personally. I don't have to explain to you the difference in knowing about Jesus and knowing of Him.

How much do you know Jesus? How much do I know Jesus? It is a very important question for us to ask ourselves often. Why? Because, depending on what answer we come up with, it determines our eternal destination (Heaven or Hell). The Word of God says that we, the believers in Christ, are called to be His disciples, who follow Him, walk with Him, have a fellowship with Him, and imitate Him in word and deed. If we just know about Him a lot yet don't know of Him at all (in fact, this is absolutely possible even after years of going to church), then our years of walking with Him would go waste and in the end we may be denied to enter into God's presence in Heaven.

How much do we know Jesus? That's the question I plan to address throughout the New Year.

As pastor of our congregation, I designate 2015 to be The Year of Knowing Jesus (T.Y.O.K.J.). Throughout the year, I am going to preach six sermons on who Jesus is, why He came to us, what he did, where He is now, what He expects of us, and the ways that will help us to know Him deeper and closer. I hope and pray that these sermons will help everyone at worship to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18).

By the way, I will launch my sermon series on “T.Y.O.K.J.” on Sunday, January 11, 2015 along with the distribution of scrolls which contain a verse to encourage everyone to know Jesus. Don't miss that! **January 11 at both 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. services.**

See you at church!

Pastor Kyewoon

**WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

On behalf of your Worship Committee, let me first wish all of you a wonderful and blessed New Year! The Holidays are barely behind us and here we are already at work preparing for our upcoming Services. Whew! We are a busy Church! Ash Wednesday falls on February 18th!

- Sunday, **January 4th**, Pastor Choi will be preaching on the Year of **T.Y.O.K.J.** Last year we celebrated the year of “Gratitude” – so we're anxiously waiting to hear the theme of this New Year!

Sunday, **January 11th**, we will have an Installation/ Blessing of our 2015 Church Council (formerly Admin. Council). Our Committee Chairs/Presidents of Groups will be introduced to the Congregation and we will ask Pastor to bless them, and the Committees/Groups they serve and represent.

On that note, I'd like to take this opportunity and introduce our 2015 Worship Committee: Mary Sue Pignato joins us as Co-Chair, and new members Regina Appiah-Mends, Lauren Kokai, and Kathleen Tunes join with our Music Director, Vel Gamble, our Holy Spirit Bell Ringer Director, Joe DelVecchio, Bob Molinaro, Ruth Farley (Communion Stewards), Rosemary Molinaro (Sunday School Superintendent), Edna Winans (Crossword), our Church Secretary, Cheryl Conti and last, but not least, our Pastor Choi, to round out your 2015 Worship Committee. We are so blessed to have such dedicated and talented members willing to serve.

Our next meeting will be held Monday, **January 12th** @ 7:00P.M. and is open to all!

We always appreciate your thoughts, comments and ideas and we're especially grateful for your help with our Services – Greeters, Readers, Ushers, Acolytes. We are lost without your service to our Lord and King! It is HE we serve.

So off we go into this New Year! Please stay tuned for upcoming Services – we'll have them posted in our bulletin and on our web site: www.manahawkinmethodist.org.

Blessings and Hugs!

Jody Endebrock
Worship Co-Chair

CONFIRMATION CLASS IS FORMING

Pastor Choi is going to offer a Confirmation Class in 2015. It will start on March 1st and will end on May 31st. Those who have successfully finished the class will be confirmed on Sunday, June 14. Each class will be held on Sunday between 3-4:30 p.m. Students in 6th through 9th grade are encouraged to join this class. Let Pastor Choi know by February 15, 2015.

For any questions, please contact Pastor Choi.

**MUSIC NOTES**

First, a sincere THANK YOU to all who participated in our Music programs in 2014. Thank you also for the many generous Christmas gifts I received.

JUNIOR BELLS

Now, on to the new year! Junior Bells will resume practices on Monday January 5th at 4:30 PM. We have openings for several new ringers, so if any of you know of anyone who would like to join, please contact me ASAP.

My home phone is 732-961-1168, and is the best way to contact me. Please leave a message and I will get back to you within a day.

CHOIR

Choir will resume practice on Wednesday, January 7th at 7:00 pm. New members are always welcome. Please consider coming and joining us in making a "joyful noise unto the Lord."

Best wishes to each of you for a happy, healthy 2015. Vel



Christmas Cantata Dec 21, 2014

<http://manahawkinmethodist.org/2014/12/christmas-cantata/>

Miss the cantata?? go to web site above and click on "cantata"

**THE HOLY SPIRIT RINGERS
2015 SCHEDULE**

January Practices: 8th, 15th, 22nd 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, 23rd, 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



Christmas 2014

A special thank you to Arlene Vance, Jennie Stump, Cheryl Conti, Kathleen Tunes, Rosemary and Bob Molinaro, Beth and Bob Schenck who made our Sanctuary, Narthex and hallways so beautiful for the Christmas Holidays. And a thank you to all the Greeters, Ushers, Readers and Acolytes who added so much to our Services and a thank you to all who purchased Poinsettias. Just magnificent!

Looking for volunteers to form a Sanctuary decorating committee to serve throughout the year. Interested???? All ideas/hands are appreciated. Please see Jody or leave word with Cheryl (church secretary)

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Submitted by:

Rosemary Molinaro, Sunday School Superintendent

The title of this year's Christmas Pageant was "The Best Story: An Imperfect Christmas Pageant." But after all the practices and on the night of the performance, it was far from that! The children did an amazing job! Everyone knew their part and truly made it a perfect Christmas pageant.

The evening started off with a wonderful dinner enjoyed by our families and friends with a menu of ham, delicious side dishes of all kinds, and many tasty desserts and drinks. Fellowship Hall was filled to capacity – using every table and chair we had in the building, as well as eight chairs Cheryl "happened" to have in the trunk of her car. Now that's an efficient church secretary!

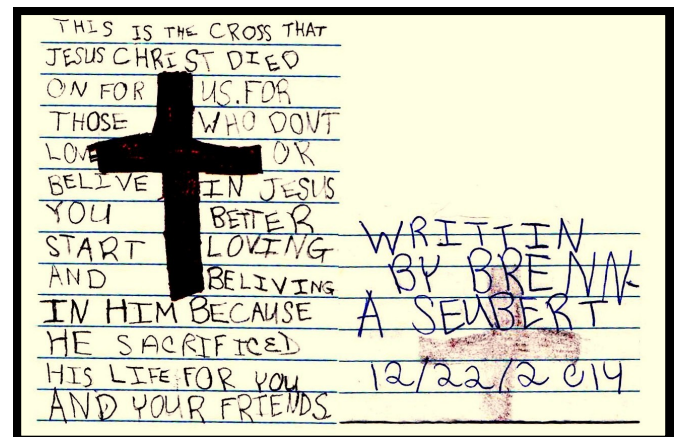
The premise of the pageant was that the children were going to put the show together by themselves. They told the stories of what happened before Jesus was born and leading up to His birth – but they told it as a child would interpret it.

For example, the story of Noah and the great flood were portrayed by Aiden Kadlubowski wearing a life jacket and carrying an oar. They told of Jesus' family tree that has some "serious knots in it." There were people in His family that did good, as well as bad, things. The point being, that no matter where we come from or what we did, there is always room for us in Jesus. The story does come to the inevitable ending with the birth of Jesus and once everyone was in their place, we had a beautiful nativity scene, complete with the inn keeper, angels, shepherds, sheep, a cow, a camel, Kings, and of course, Mary, Joseph and the infant Jesus. This year, our infant Jesus was played by newborn R.J. Estelow, son of Randy and Vanessa Estelow, our Sunday School Teachers and Youth Group Leaders. This is our second year having a new-born baby portray Jesus. What a blessing for these babies.



I would again like to thank all those who came out to enjoy this evening with us, for the delicious food items and the generous donations for our Church Mission Fund.

On behalf of our Sunday School Teachers and all our children, we wish everyone a very blessed and peace-filled Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year. Be sure to look for more pictures of the pageant on our Sunday School bulletin board.



A

A special note from Brenna Seubert

QUIET CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Submitted by Rosemary Molinaro and Jody Endebrock

On Tuesday evening, Dec. 16th, several people came to church to take part in our Quiet Christmas service. The purpose of this service was to spend some time away from the mall, the loud music and the traffic and to acknowledge that because we are experiencing a loss, whether it be for a loved one, a job, a person who will be away from us at Christmas, we are not as happy this Christmas as we would like to be. Everyone came for their own personal loss, but together, we knew we were not alone. During the service we listened to readings, not so traditional Christmas music and lit candles of remembrance. Four main candles were lit from the Christ candle; first for loss of loved ones; second for the pain of some other type of loss; third candle to remember ourselves before God, and the fourth to remember our faith and the gift of hope. Each person then lit their own candle for their personal intention and remembrance. Pastor Choi gave each person a very special blessing. The service was followed by a time of fellowship while enjoying hot cider and cookies. It was the feeling of many that this Quiet Christmas service was very helpful and would like to see it continue each year. It is our hope that this will be the start of a new tradition at MUMC.

Our sincere thank you to Pastor Choi, Jennie Stump and Bob Molinaro for their assistance at the service and for those who spent this time together with us. If you would like to listen to the service, it has been posted on our webpage under the tab for "Sermons" on the Home Page.

God bless us everyone with peace and renewed hope for a brighter future.

**FOR KIDS IN CHURCH****Why Jesus is Better Than Santa Claus**

or



Santa Claus lives at the North Pole...

JESUS is everywhere.

Santa Claus rides in a sleigh...

JESUS rides on the wind and walks on the water.

Santa Claus comes but once a year...

JESUS is with us every day.

Santa Claus fills your stockings with goodies...

JESUS supplies all your needs.

Santa Claus comes down your chimney

JESUS comes into our hearts and lives.

You have to [wait in line](#) to see Santa Claus...

JESUS is as close as the mention of His name.

Santa Claus lets you sit on his lap...

JESUS lets you rest in His arms.

Santa Claus has to ask your name.....

JESUS knew our name before we did.

Santa Claus has a belly like a bowl full of jelly...

JESUS has a heart full of love.

All Santa Claus can offer is HO HO HO...

JESUS offers health, help and hope.

Santa Claus says "You better not cry"...

JESUS says "Cast all your cares on me for I care for you."

Santa's little helpers make toys...

JESUS makes us whole.

Santa Claus is a "jolly old elf"...

JESUS is the King of Kings.

Santa Claus may make you chuckle but...

JESUS gives you joy.

While Santa Claus puts gifts under your tree...

JESUS gave Himself as our gift.

ADULT HOME GROUP*Interactive Book Study Sessions*

Psychologists and inspirational speakers **Cloud and Townsend** show readers how to set reasonable **boundaries** in order to follow the true path of Christianity.

Starting Friday January 16, 2015, 7-9 pm Tim and Holly Gallagher will be facilitating a 9 session interactive study on the book *Boundaries* by Dr Henry Cloud and Dr. John Townsend; when to say yes and how to say no to take control of your life God's Way.

We will be meeting the first and third Friday of each month through mid May. Please contact Tim or Holly with questions ([609-597-5155](tel:609-597-5155)) or email hollygally7@yahoo.com. Light dinner will be served.

MUMC RESIDENT POET Norma Paul

This poem is not included in my books.

PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE

Grace, oh Grace
 Oh saving Grace
 Enfold us,
 Sweep us into your
 Long-abiding presence.

God's Holy Spirit
 Dwell in each of us
 Here where we strive among others.
 Help us renew our best intentions
 Lest Victory slip from our grasp.

--Norma Paul

Norma has two published poetry books available:
 "Stunted Jersey Pines" and "One Kernel of Constancy"
 for \$10 each or two for \$18.

ManahawkinMethodist PRESCHOOL

Happy New Year from the preschool!

We had so much fun the last few weeks in our new after school club, the "Christmas Club". We made decorations for our school and some local nursing homes, presents for our parents, had a few "snowball fights" and wrapped it all up with a cookie decorating party complete with hot chocolate bar. Of course the classrooms had their own parties, shows, cookie exchanges, and present making activities that made the children's' Christmas break well deserved!



We travelled to Barnegat Nursing and Rehabilitation Center and the Southern Ocean Center to sing a few carols and distribute wreaths that we purchased from the Boy Scouts. We also gave each one an edible nativity that we made in our Christmas club. The next few months should slow down considerably. Popular winter themes in the classrooms are winter weather and animals that hibernate. The children will learn about Martin Luther King Jr., Presidents Abraham Lincoln and George Washington and of course will celebrate God's love for them not just on Valentine's Day but every day.

Lisa Mower, Director

PRAYER GROUP

"For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and His ears are open unto their prayers."

1st Peter 3:12



STEEPLE REPAIRED

Our steeple, windows and siding repairs have been completed for a total cost of \$26,295.08. The steeple fund has collected \$16,500 to date. Thank you, so much, to all who have supported this effort to maintain our beautiful building for future generations. Trustees will take care of the remaining balance from their building funds.

Thanks again for your support and generosity.

MUMC Men's Club

Many of our Church Family have had very difficult crosses to bear this past yearPrayer is always #1 but, here are a few thoughts for 2015 to help alleviate our pains.

THINGS ARE GOING TO BE OKAY!

- Noah's life was fine until a crisis rocked the boat
- Joseph's Troubles started with a multicolored coat.
- Rachel had a change of plans but kept her sense of humor

Now there are lots of other folks the BIBLE talks about who simply had to keep the Faith while things were working out

God bless you and All our Church Family!

Submitted by Louise Lovering Jones
Lay Servant/Speaker



**Blood Drive in Memory of
Emily Eismann
at: Manahawkin United Methodist Church
in Fellowship Hall
Tuesday January 6, 2015
1:00pm to 6:00pm
See Marian Assur at church for an appointment
or
call her at
609-204-2370
or
Call the American Red Cross at
1-800-GIVELIFE
(1800-448-5433)
or
make your own appointment on the web site
www.pleasegiveblood.org**

Who can Donate Blood - It is important that you feel good when you donate blood. Healthy people who are at least 17 years old and weigh 110 pounds or more are usually eligible to donate blood. Federal regulations require that donors wait 56 days between regular whole blood donations.

Please remember to bring proper identification to the blood drive.

Consider being a Double Red Cell Donor If you are type O or B.

To be eligible you must be
Male - at least 130 pounds and 5'1" tall
Female - at least 150 pounds and 5'5" tall
Any one interest in double red cell Call or see
Marian Assur for an appointment

Also on the day of the drive there will be the need for support help. Registration, canteen, set up and clean up.

If you have a little computer knowledge

and can help schedule appointments
please call or see Marian Assur

609-204-2391

Remember: The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give Blood.

MISSIONS

You did it, Manahawkin Methodist Church and Preschool! You gave from your heart and 17 coats, 36 pairs of mittens and gloves, 26 hats, and 7 scarves were donated to local families in need. Our Preschool Director, Lisa Mower, suggested collecting the coats, so thank you to one and all that knit and gave! When I turned it in, people were shopping for their winter clothes and toys. Our coats hardly made it to the coat rack. What a great Christmas present for me. Perhaps others would like to turn our items into the Community Center next year

Our food donations were also over the top. The Food Banks always love to see us coming! You gave many hearty meals and in January, we will collect: pasta and sauce, and in Feb., we will collect soups, stews, and chili.

"Operation Christmas Child" collected 44 boxes. Three were left after the deadline to take them locally for shipment, so these were donated to local families. The church brought much joy to those who were not as fortunate. We are surely passing our blessings along.

Thank you all, and have a Happy New Year! Art and Lovisa Hill

TAKE TIME TO SMELL THE ROSES

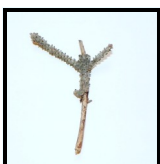
Most everyone has heard of the saying "Take time to smell the roses." In this present very hectic troubled world, there is something we definitely need to do. R. R. R. which is to REFRESH, REFLECT, RENEW. Romans 1:20 says "From the creation of the world God's invisible qualities, his eternal power and divine nature have been clearly observed in what He made.



Back in the 60's, at a very dark time in my life, merciful God gave me revelation knowledge through nature that he cares so much for His creation, that each and every part of nature reveals an aspect of Himself. For instance, have you ever seen anything more beautiful than a white lily? To me it represents the purity of our Lord Jesus. Also it is in my thoughts an image of ourselves as we are made clean and all our sins forgiven as we come to Him. The dark cold winter to me reflects life without God. But once we turn to Him, as spring follows winter "we know that we know" spring (blessings) will follow. Love, personified, lets the "rain fall on the just and the unjust." Jesus stated "when I am lifted up I will draw all men unto me."



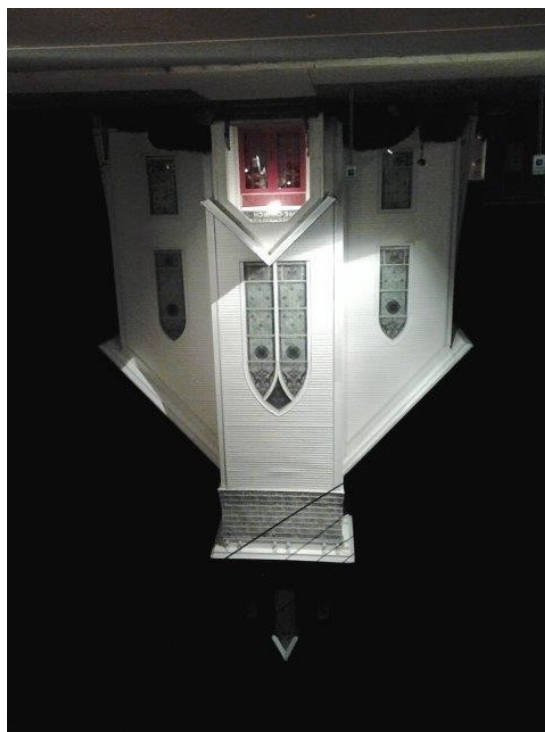
Consider trees, they grow branches lifting higher and higher. I think this is a symbol of praising God and reaching out to Him. They depend on their roots to hold them secure and give them nourishment. So also may we receive all we need as "Jesus comes to give us life abundant. Our Awesome Father, in a couple of really dark times spoke to me once through a seashell and one time when I told Him I desperately needed a sign for me to know the situation would change. A TWIG! I got out of a car that very day and happened to look down and there was a twig which looked like Jesus with his arms spread outward. Everyone I show this to and ask what this looks like has said "It looks like Jesus with his arms spread wide".



So, remember to look for aspects of God in nature. I still do it and by the way, that horrible situation changed.

Manahawkin United Methodist Church

Located in the hearts of the Jersey Shore



Manahawkin United Methodist Church

116 Stafford Avenue

Manahawkin, NJ 08050



Crossword Newsletter

January/February 2015