



THE CROSSWORD

Manahawkin United Methodist Church November/December 2015
116 Stafford Avenue
Manahawkin, NJ 08050 (609-597-7666)
www.manahawkinmethodist.org

Open Hearts
Open Minds
Open Doors

Simple Christmas



**"Prayer,
The World's Greatest Wireless Connection."**

unknown

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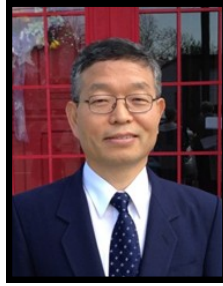
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PASTOR'S CORNER

Note: our newsletter covers two months at a time, November and December. Since I wrote last time about Thanksgiving, this year I will write one for Christmas.

Christ—the Simple Gift from God's Heart

"Tomorrow would be Christmas Day, and she had only \$1.87 with which to buy Jim a present." (The Gift of the Magi).



Do you remember the short story of O. Henry, "The Gift of the Magi"? In the story, a young married couple wanted to give a special Christmas present for each other. Della, the wife, not having enough money to buy the gift, sold her beautiful hair to buy a chain for her husband's gold watch. Jim, without knowing what he was about to get from his wife, also sold his watch to buy Della a set of combs for her beautiful hair. Later, they both discovered what they had done for each other.

I always loved that story. What touched me the most was the couple's desire to make the other partner's Christmas special. Of course, they were poor, so they had to sell their precious possessions in order to get a Christmas present for each other. O. Henry concludes his story as follows: (even though they) *"unwisely sacrificed for each other the greatest treasures of their house," they were the wisest, like the magi, who started the tradition of giving gifts for Christmas.* To me, the actions taken by the couple were a pure expression of love and care: they gave their hearts to each other only wishing the very best happiness of the other.

This year, once again, Christmas is fast approaching. Some radio stations will start playing Christmas songs in November! As we go through November, let us give thanks to God for His blessings on our families throughout the year. Let us also remember that some families around us go through very tough times worried about tomorrow in the midst of the bleak outlook of the economy. As God allows us, let us reach out to those families in Christ's love.

I also pray that the God of Christmas would cheer us up. God, thinking of humanity's best, gave us the most wonderful gift ever in a most simple way: His only begotten Son Jesus born in a manger for our eternal good—salvation. May the Lord kindle the same spirit of Christmas in our hearts to put others' interest first before our own and enable us to do something special for each other. I do not necessarily mean expensive gifts. Rather, simple gifts that come from the bottom of our hearts. In the end, our exchange of gifts would deepen our love and care for each other more than ever before.

Merry Christmas!
See you at church. Kyewoon

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

It seems hard to believe that this entry sums up some of our services scheduled through the end of the year! I echo the question asked by many "where did the year go??" Some of us have had a great year - others not so great - but the one constant in our lives is the unfailing love of our Lord. To that end your Worship Committee has many beautiful and we hope meaningful services scheduled. Some to note:

Sunday, November 1st: We will be celebrating All Saint's Day. Both Services. We will remember our loved ones who are now at peace and sharing the peace and love of our Heavenly Father.

Sunday, November 8th: International Day of Prayer. Both Services. Our focus will be on the "Voice of the Martyrs"

Sunday, November 15th: Our Sunday School children will present our Flag in honor of Veteran's Day. Thank you Veterans!

Wednesday, November 25th: We will be holding a Thanksgiving Eve Service. Once again, we will be the host church - combining with Kynett and Terrace UMC's. Service will be @ 7:00p.m. in our Sanctuary.

Sunday, November 29th: Brings in the First Sunday of Advent. Don't forget! **Advent Candle Lighters needed - both services** - all four Sundays of Advent and on Christmas Eve! Sign-up sheets will be available soon.

Tuesday, December 15th: We'll once again celebrate "Quiet Christmas" - a small service of calming reflection - a little break from the hustle and bustle and sometimes the sadness the busy Christmas Season brings. Service will be held in our Sanctuary - 7:00p.m.

Sunday, December 20th: Please come enjoy our Christmas Cantata offered by our Senior Choir. "The Night of the Father's Love" - both Services that Sunday.

Thursday, December 24th: Brings in Christmas Eve! As is our tradition, two services will be held - 7:00p.m. & 11:00p.m. Both Candle Light Services. Our 11:00p.m. Service will start at 10:30 with a Christmas Eve Prelude of Music offered by our Holy Spirit Ringers and our Senior Choir. This year, we're reverting back to our Traditional Service of Lessons & Carols. Greeters, **Ushers & Readers are needed for both Services.** If you can help or would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact Jody (Worship Co-Chair) any of your Worship Committee Members or leave word with our Church Secretary, Cheryl Conti. We really appreciate your help!

Sunday, December 27th: ONLY ONE SERVICE @ 10:00a.m.

Looking down the road just a bit:

Sunday, January 3rd: Epiphany Sunday – come celebrate the New Year! Will be back to our regular service time of 8:30a.m. & 11:00a.m. Communion @ both services.

Sunday, January 10th: Pastor Choi will reveal to us what our theme/challenge will be for 2016, and, we'll celebrate the Installation of our 2016 Church Council (formally known as Administrative Council). Please come and meet your Church Officers and offer prayers for their loving service. Both Services.

See what I mean about the beautiful and meaningful services planned? ***All of this means nothing though without your help & participation. Maybe consider Ushering, Greeting (who can resist those smiles). Reading Scripture.*** There are many ways to serve within Worship – all to the Glory of God and in loving service of our Lord and Savior Jesus – all are welcomed & greatly appreciated! Last but not least, on behalf of your Worship Committee, we wish you a wonderful, bright and beautiful Thanksgiving, Christmas and a New Year filled with Joy, Peace and Love!

Blessings and Hugs

Jody Endebrock/Mary Sue Pignato
Worship Co-Chairs

Help Wanted

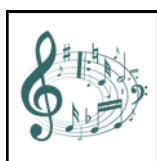


Advent Candle Lighters
Sign up sheets in Narthex

Readers



Greeters
Ushers



MUSIC NOTES by Vel

The **CHOIR** is busy practicing the cantata

Night of the Father's Love by
Pepper Choplin. It will be

presented at both services on **Sunday, December 20th**. Please plan to come and invite your friends. If you would like to sing in it, come to practice on Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM. They will also be joining with the choir from LBI to present the anthem at the **Thanksgiving Eve** service being held in our church on Wednesday, **November 25**.

JUNIOR BELLS practice on Monday afternoon at 4:30-5:15 and then enjoy pizza together. Any child who has finished first grade is welcome to join. Please contact me prior to bringing them to practice so that I can have music prepared for them.

There will be NO PRACTICE on November 2 as it is a school holiday due to the NJEA Convention. Junior Bells are scheduled to ring on December 13 and at the early Christmas Eve service.

Music schedule currently is as follows:

Nov. 1 Choir

Nov 8 Praise Bells

Nov 15 Choir

Nov 22 Holy Spirit Ringers

Nov 25 Choir

Nov 29 Praise Bells

Dec 6 Choir

Dec 13 Junior Bells

Dec 20 Choir Cantata

Dec 24: 7:00 PM Junior and Praise Bells

10:30 PM Special Christmas Music Concert

11:00 PM Choir and Holy Spirit Ringers

PRAYER GROUP SCRIPTURE



“Oh that man would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.”

Psalm 107:8, 9

FORMER MEMBER RELOCATES AND FINDS A NEW CHURCH

On Sun, Oct 25, 2015 at 12:15 PM, Donna Inzerma <dmariern22@yahoo.com> wrote:

Pastor Choi,

This morning at the suggestion of my daughter Donna we attended service at the Dundee UM Church in Dundee, FL. It was very uplifting and the congregation was very welcoming. We all enjoyed it and agreed that we will go again next week. It is only 15 minutes away and from what we have seen today, will suit our needs. We are looking forward to going again, meeting more people and finding out more about the church ministry. They have many programs and holiday gatherings planned. Trunk or treat is this coming Friday and Jeri is taking Daenerys. They provide candy for the neighborhood kids out of the car trunks like we do in Manahawkin. The Pastor is Debbie Mak and the choir loft was full since many of the snow birds have returned from the north for the winter. I will keep you posted and I was very glad that Donna and Jeri enjoyed the experience. Donna has an online job with Best Buy so she is working but not utilizing her degree which is frustrating for her. Hopefully she will get something better soon. I have finished school this week so I know have my bachelors' degree in nursing. We are all well except for seasonal allergies and hope you all are as well. Let everyone know that miss them and think of them often.

Love to you all,

Donna



2015-2016 HOLY SPIRIT RINGERS SCHEDULEPractices

- *November - 5th, 12th and 19th
- *December - 3rd, 10th, and 17th
- *January - 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th
- *February - 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th
- *March - 3rd, 10th, 17th and 31st
- *April - 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th
- *May - 5th, 12th and 19th

Performance Dates

- *November 22nd - both services
 - *December 24th - Christmas Eve - 11pm service
 - *January 24th - both services
 - *February 28th - both services
 - *March 27th - Easter Sunday - both services
 - *April 24th - both services
 - *May 22nd - both services
- ***ANY practice or performance you CANNOT attend please call Joe at 609-488-1786

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Do you ever go to a baseball game and they run into **extra** innings? Or you go to a music concert that plays **extra** songs... and runs **overtime**? Do you stay to the end? Most people do!

Here at MUMC, at times our Church service may "run over". I say: "Praise the Lord"! Often it is because of very special "God work" like: Baptisms, Church Membership growing, reports on Conference, UMW, Choir, Blood Drives, etc, etc....and very importantly, childrens specialness---Sunday School presentations, MYF, VBS, PreSchool, mini-children's time, etc, etc....All of these events are part of God's work and may require **overtime**.

God gave us 7 days a week. Can't we at least give him a full hour on Sunday? And at times, even **overtime**? We should do no less.

Perhaps we can "reserve extra time on Sundays for God... and our Church Family, too.

Louise Lovering Jones

Lay Steward and Speaker

God bless us all!

NO CONDEMNATION

(Thoughts to live by)

by Kenneth Schorr

Many years ago while walking down the main street in the town where I lived, during the Christmas season, who should be coming toward me but Rev. Homer Tricules, the Greek pastor at Scotch Plains Baptist Church. As we approached each other I extended my hand while saying, "Merry Christmas." To my surprise Homer replied, "No condemnation!"

The look on my face must have been priceless for Homer said, "Isn't that what Christmas is all about? Take a look at John 3: 17; Jesus came into the world not to condemn but rather to reconcile us to God the Father. God wants us to have a relationship with Him and He wants to have one with us." How true.

Imagine during this Christmas season someone wishing you a Merry Christmas and you respond, "No condemnation." What an open door that could be for you to share the good news of Jesus Christ; the love, mercy and grace of God. Try it. It doesn't matter how old you are or how many years you have belonged to the church or what you did years ago; that was yesterday. God's gift to the world needs to be shared today and tomorrow; by everyone.

Merry Christmas; oops --- No Condemnation!

GARDEN COMMITTEE

Art and Lovisa Hill

Our garden has produced its last peppers and lettuce for the Food Bank this year. We will be having a cleanup session on Saturday, October 24th at 9:00AM. Thank you all for supporting us, whether you worked or purchased produce, or brought food supplies for others in need.

MISSIONS

The food that we are collecting for November is canned meats, stews, and chili. In December, we are Collecting hearty soups and saltine crackers.

It is time to fill our boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Note that the due date for them to be back at the church is November 17th. That is before Thanksgiving because there is a lot of work to do to get them to where they need to go. Boxes will be available for you to fill along with information and identification as to whom your box should be designated.

In December, a Christmas tree we will set up at the Fellowship Hall entrance, to collect hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves. We also would like to collect new coats for boys and girls that will be given locally. The due date for these items to be returned to the church is December 7th.

We are also collecting Box Tops for Education. These are found on General Mills products and soup and spaghetti cans. Each one is worth \$.10 for our school system. Please put them in the basket in the entry way and they will be turned in monthly.

Thank you for all you do! Art and Lovisa Hill

MUMC Resident Poet Norma Paul

BEYOND ALL SAINTS DAY

On our knees at hint of dawn
We enter November like a prayer.
Pewter smoke curls into mottled grey cloud,
Portender of color-drained days to wrap
Round our descent into isolation.

We dead-head fading chrysanthemum buds,
One last attempt to prolong bloom.
We stare into a sunless sky in search
Of a passing flock. They left so soon we
Cannot recall their last honking goodbye.

Yesterday's apples bobbed in the tub.
Yesterday was but a game. Now green
Peelings curl in one long sweep.
Round and round the Granny Smith
Whirls through practiced fingers.

Days simmer by in soups and stews.
Here in the kitchen we
Don't miss the sun.
We anticipate our brood's return.
Baking warms our waiting.

Time with autumn leaves whipped
By winds into frenzied swirls
Pits against clouded glass.
Winds die down.
Lone evening descends.

Silence intrudes.
Its familiar suit
Waits at the door to interrupt
Willful attempts to recapture bliss.
November breathes one final Amen.

Norma Paul
September 22, 2014



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Submitted by: Rosemary Molinaro

Sunday School Superintendent

The beauty of Fall is starting to appear. Soon the green trees will change to beautiful shades of reds, oranges, and yellows in all kinds of combinations and will line our streets and highways showing off God's awesomeness! Color-wise, Fall is my favorite season; however, I also dread it because I know just ahead of it is wiiinnntteerrr!!!!

But for now, I will enjoy the beauty all around me. And part of that beauty is the faces of the kids who come to Sunday School. Really! They come into the Sanctuary in such great spirits. Chatting, laughing, smiling, and happy to see each other. Our teachers show up each week in the same way and everyone is there for the same reason... to learn and grow in our faith and love for God our Father and Jesus His son, and to be guided by the Holy Spirit.

Let me share some of the joys I have experienced already in just two short months of Sunday School.

September began with our Welcome Back Sunday Coffee Hour. It was great to see our friends and families again and how the kids had grown over the summer. We welcomed new friends, as well as old friends who had come back to the program.

We also held our third annual Blessing of the Pets in remembrance of St. Francis. Each year the church lawn is more crowded with pets of all kinds and sizes. Fish, birds, dogs and cats were all there, as well as a picture of a new addition – a goat. Pastor Choi so patiently took the time to bless each one individually. Some of the students read prayers for the pets, as well as verses from Genesis about the creation of the animals. We were again blessed this year with a beautiful Fall day to hold this event outside. Can you imagine if we catch a rainy day... it would be like Noah's ark in Fellowship Hall!



October started in a new and very special way this year. With the guidance and blessing of Pastor Choi, I decided that the children would have their own communion service each month as part of their Sunday School lesson. October 4th, the first Sunday of the month was not only Communion Sunday, but also World Communion Sunday. I remember thinking that since it was a windy, not so nice day, we might not get a large turnout. But the wind was in our favor because it blew in most of our students. I was so thrilled to see them and their parents.

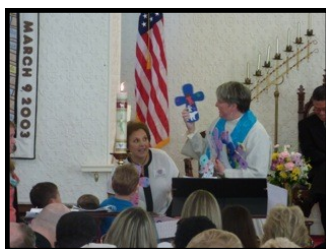
We had discussions about what Communion was and why we receive the bread and juice so that the children would have a better understanding of what we were about to do. Since it was World Communion Sunday, we tried to get a sense of who else was receiving Communion with us. The children had fun tossing around a globe beach ball, and whoever caught it, had to name a country, city or state where people were receiving Communion. As they named their place, they remained standing. We had places like Japan, Canada, Korea, Australia, China, Russia, Texas, California, and of course Manahawkin. By the time we were done, almost all the children were standing representing a different place in the world.

Once again with the help of Pastor Choi, the children then received communion. What a blessing it was to see the children line up to receive – and they did it so well; each one so respectful of the bread and juice. Parents received as well with their children. “Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place” was all I could think of.



Later in October we will celebrate Laity Sunday, On October 11th. Our teachers, students and their families have signed up to take an active role in this service as Greeters, Ushers, Acolyte and Reader. During the service, we will have a special presentation by the children of

flowers and hand-made crafts for our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Regina Hendrickson. The children were excited to make their own special creations for her. I'm sure she will have fun looking over all the different designs and hope she will remember this Laity Sunday as special as we tried to make it.



At the end of the month, we will have our fun-filled day of Trunk or Treat and Pumpkin Patch! Cars will line up decorated in fun themes with trunks filled with treats. What does Trunk or Treat have to do with Sunday School, you may ask? Well, I would say “everything.” It is all about community, sharing, kindness, generosity, happiness, and.... it is all at church. What better place to get all that, and a candy bar or two.

We have lots to look forward to in the coming months at Sunday School, and I am so blessed to be a part of it. Please take a look at our bulletin board in the main hallway and see what we are up to! Announcements of special events will be posted in our weekly bulletin and as always, I thank you all for your constant and continued support of our program. The children are the future of the church and they need to

know they are welcomed and that they have a place here.

Instead of my usual “Kids in Church” closing, I saw this post on Facebook from the page of Steve Smothermon, who is Senior Pastor of Legacy Church in New Mexico. I thought it would be something to share for the value of our children. I hope it touches your heart as it did mine.

One day, Thomas Edison came home and gave a paper to his mother. He told her, “My teacher gave this paper to me and told me to only give it to my mother.”

His mother’s eyes were tearful as she read the letter out loud to her child: Your son is a genius. This school is too small for him and doesn’t have enough good teachers for training him. Please teach him yourself.

Many, many years after Edison’s mother died and he was now one of the greatest inventors of the century, he was looking through old family things. Suddenly he saw a folded piece of paper in the corner of a drawer in a desk. He took it and opened it up. On the paper was written: Your son is addled (mentally ill), We won’t let him come to school any more.

Edison cried for hours and then he wrote in his diary: “Thomas Alva Edison was an addled child that, by a hero mother, became the genius of the century.”

****He’s a Jersey Boy! Edison began his career as an inventor in Newark, New Jersey. He was known as “The Wizard of Menlo Park,” New Jersey. Menlo Park was a part of Raritan Township, Middlesex County, New Jersey (today named Edison in his honor). He also lived in Elizabeth and Llewellyn Park in West Orange, where he died and is buried on the property.*

ManahawkinMethodist
PRESCHOOL

September and October flew by us this year and we are already preparing for the holidays. We teach the children about Christian charity in the classrooms and are lining up opportunities to put our words into action. This Thanksgiving as the children focus on all of their blessings, we will discuss ways to help others in need. We will be collecting dessert items for inclusion in Thanksgiving baskets distributed by Ocean Community Church. We will also be collecting coats, hats, scarves and mittens in collaboration with the Stafford Township Recreation Department. Of course the best “gift” of all that we give this year will be the gift of our time and talents when we sing for our friends at the rehabilitation center in Manahawkin.

Our enrollment is low this year and we have been

trusting God to make this year successful regardless. I am happy to report a generous gift to our school from Shinn Funeral Home. They have provided pumpkins for all of our students and have asked us to let them know if there is anything else they can do to help us. Please continue to pray for God's blessing upon us!
Lisa Mower Preschool Director

A team of members received permission from the Trustees to investigate and present a proposal to replace the Stair Lift chair up into the Sanctuary. Authorization was received to proceed with a firm estimate. In addition, the project has been **expanded** to include a second stair-lift chair up to **Fellowship Hall**. A Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex to show your support of the project. There is also a pledge box if you would like to contribute to offset the costs.
Contact John Smith 609-698-0657 or Edna Winans 609-304-3403



DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT ADDRESSES MUMC ON OCTOBER 11, 2015

Rev. Dr. Gina Hendrickson

District Superintendent Northern Shore

The United Methodist Church of Greater New Jersey

CAST YOUR NET

John 21:1-6

Peace & grace my brothers and sisters in Christ! What a joy & privilege it is to be with you again, & I want to thank your pastor for the invitation to preach!

I miss it! Serving as a District Superintendent keeps me out of the pulpit and I miss the chance to share a Word in the midst of God's people as we worship our living God together.

So thanks again Pastor Kyewoon!

I served the local church, I loved doing preaching series. I found they were opportunities to engage in Scripture & relevant themes that engaged the prophetic Word over a longer time frame that was exciting for me as preacher as well as for the congregation. It led to creative components within the worship experience, as well as small group and mission opportunities that extended its' impact beyond any individual Sunday.

Each year, I created a sermon series based on the theme of Annual Conference this would help us remember the connectional nature of our life together as United Methodists and how we were called to live out the Bishop's challenge and vision in the local church & communities in which we live and serve.

Again, that's another thing I miss as a superintendent who no longer serves in the local church, so I've decided to share my reflections on this throughout the fall season when I preach, in my monthly newsletter message and it will also be integrated within church conferences.

This morning I'd like us to spend some time on this year's theme from our Annual Conference Session last May: **"FISH."**

The key verse came from John 21:6—a resurrection appearance—where Jesus was giving some words of direction to his frustrated fishermen disciples he said: *"Throw your net on the other side of the boat and you will find some."* I love the provocative image of what it means to cast your net as a disciple of Jesus Christ. The scope and power of the image, as well as the beauty and work of such a calling pulls at my heart.

And this morning, I want to lift up 3 key points I think Christ has for **us** to consider as we begin a new season of

"Casting Our Nets" for Christ.

The First Point is that All Are Called.

Each of us is called to cast our net into the world to reach others in the name of Christ. And how we do that, & where we do that is as varied as each of us sitting here this morning or as unique as the 65 churches that make up the Northern Shore.

Each of us lives, works and plays within a different context—there are countless ponds, lakes, rivers or oceans to fish. We all have God-given gifts, skills and opportunities to cast our net into a hurting and needy world. But we have the power of

the Holy Spirit that enables us to cast our nets wide, over and over again; to keep fishing for those who need the love, hope and joy that comes in and through Jesus Christ.

All of us are called to lean out over the edge of whatever boat that is holding us safe and secure (the church, home, job or school)—and WORK the calling that God has given us to FISH for men and women, young and old, rich and poor, neighbor and co-worker, family and strangers. Cast your Net!

The Second Point for us to consider today is to “Know What You Need.”

I have always had a special joy with fishing, because my grandfather was a fisherman. One of the greatest memories I have of my Poppa Jack was watching him work a line off the Ocean Grove fishing pier. But it wouldn't just be off the pier, he also fished off a jetty, along the beach & occasionally on a “party boat” from the Belmar Marina.

Every location required different equipment, an assortment of bait & unique skills; and boy was he good at it. My grandfather would take each of us 7 grandkids along with him on occasion, and we learned many life lessons. It was a gift of presence that revealed the love of a grandfather and the power of patience. I think that was 1 of the greatest lessons he taught me, patience. My grandfather cast his net in so many ways throughout his life. He caught fish that was the meal for his family. He reeled in his grandkids through the sport and fun of surf fishing—and wound up giving us far more than a fish fry on Saturday night. He cast his net of love & wisdom, catching each of us in special ways that changed us forever.

No one knew my Grandpa shared his fish w/many people around the Grove, Folk who he knew were experiencing difficult times. He'd stop by with fresh flounder and the occasional snapper, have a chat over a cup of coffee and leave enough fish for a few meals. My Poppa Jack was a fisher for Christ in ways I know made a difference over his 100 years of life.

Friends, as we cast our net for Christ, we will have countless opportunities and contexts in which we can make a difference. What fishing equipment do we need to get the job done? Where will we cast our net or drop a line? For every place we hope to fish, every context in which we seek to serve as Disciples—different equipment, an assortment of bait & unique skills will be needed.

Who are the ones who can teach us how to fish? Who can we take out on an adventure, is sharing the gift of presence, love and patience as we teach them how to be fishers of men & women?

God calls us to cast our net—and part of our job is to acquire the skills, equipment and knowledge of how to become awesome fishers for Christ. This is why we worship each Sunday, attend Bible studies & Sunday School. This is why 10 of you did the Appalachian Service Project. This is why you have youth group, UMM and the UMW. Why you have baptism classes and VBS.

This is why we have church conference each fall yes even Church Conferences!!..to inspire vision for the ministries of our churches, to set goals, to elect leaders and approve ministries. This is why the GNJAC has launched coaching, PaCE/cohort Groups, Team Vital and Communities of Hope—

All to FISH for Christ & to cast our nets into a hurting and needy world.

My Grandfather's last fishing trip was when he was 99, along with 3 of us grandkids on a small chartered boat in the Shark River Inlet. Poppa Jack caught the largest fish of the day, still schooling us on how to fish, maintain our equipment and treasure the small gifts of life—love of family & patience for the work we are called to do.

Friends, cast your net! Drop a line! Keep up with the tools, experience and knowledge you need to be fishers for Christ. And invite someone to fish with you!

The Third and final lesson from Christ as we are casting our nets, is to ask ourselves, “Who are We Hoping to Catch?”

We have a wonderful opportunity presented to us as United Methodists—64% of all households in our district have **NO** religious affiliation!

That means for every 10 houses in a 2-3 block radius of this church or where you live—

- Six households have no church to call home.
- Six out of ten of your neighbors have no place to feel the love, grace, peace and hope of Christ.
- Six out of ten families are figuring out how to live their lives without the support and encouragement of a faith community.
- Six out of ten of your coworkers have no place to grow in ways that will transform their lives forever by being part of something bigger than they can imagine.

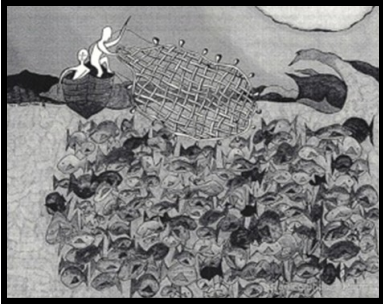
This is why we **CAST OUR NETS!** The mission field is right on the same street that you live and this neighborhood right here in Manahawkin.

CAST YOUR NET! Just yesterday at our first Super Saturday Church Conference event, we offered a workshop entitled,

“Evangelism in Context”—unpacking what it means to invite others into a relationship with Christ, either for the very first time **or** as an ever-deepening love.

- This happens through: **WITNESS**—individually and corporately,
But it also happens through:
- Creative and inspiring **WORSHIP** opportunities &
- Through **SERVICE and OUTREACH** where we tangibly bring the love of Christ into the community.

Where is God calling you to fish? Who are you planning to catch? What will you do when you bring in the haul? We have to ask ourselves these questions! Have you looked at the demographics of your towns & neighborhoods through the conference resource of Mission Insight? Have you explored what it means to rethink mission as not only those who live across the oceans, but to those who live across the street?



As the provocative cover on this morning's bulletin indicates and as Jesus taught so powerfully, there are more fish to catch than we can imagine! But isn't it a joy-filled gift to just IMAGINE what we could do with all those who we “net,” as we work together growing in the love and grace of God? Cast your Net! Households right here in Manahawkin and where you live, need exactly what **you** have to offer—the light, love and joy of Christ! Throughout the upcoming year, may we continue to discover the power and impact of Jesus' challenge to **Cast Our Net**

We are fishers for Christ...

- Called to make disciples
- To use our skills AND learn new ones
- And to throw our nets sometimes on the other side of the boat.

The fish are biting and God is hopeful for the catch! Amen and Amen!

Rev. Dr. Gina Hendrickson

District Superintendent, Northern Shore

The United Methodist Church of Greater New Jersey



CALENDAR

November Calendar

- Worship Hours: Two Services 8:30 and 11 A.M.
- Communion: Sunday, November 1, both services
- Church Bazaar (Sponsored by UMW): Saturday, November 7
- Shoprite Gift Cards: Sunday, November 8
- UMW Meeting: Tuesday, November 10, 1 P.M.
- Men's Breakfast: Saturday, November 14, 8:15 A.M. Horizon Diner.
- Church Council: Monday, November 16, 7 P.M.
- Preschool Committee: Tuesday, November 17, 7 P.M.
- Trustees Meeting: Thursday, November 19, 7 P.M.
- Thanksgiving Eve Joint Service with LBI Methodist Churches:
Wednesday, November 25, 7 P.M. @ Manahawkin UMC
- Choir Practice: every Wednesday, 7 P.M.
- Bell Choir Practice: every Thursday, 7 P.M.
- Quilters: every Wednesday, 9:30 A.M.
- Prayer Group: every Thursday, 11 A.M.
- Youth Group: every Monday, 6:30 P.M.
- Pastor's Office Hours: Monday and Thursday 9:30-11:30 A.M.
- Secretary Hours: Monday and Wednesday—
9 A.M. to 12 Noon. Thursday 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.

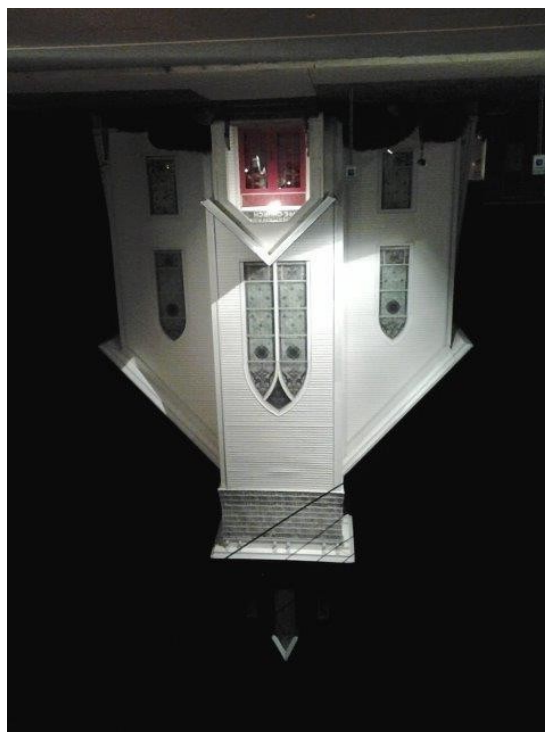
December Calendar

- Worship Hours on Sunday: Two Services 8:30 and 11 A.M. (12/6, 13, 20). One Service on 12/27.
- Christmas Eve Services: Thursday, December 24, 7 and 11 P.M.
- Communion: Sunday, December 6, both services
- UMW Meeting: Tuesday, December 8, 1 P.M.
- Shoprite Gift Cards: Sunday, December 13
- Finance Meeting: Monday, December 14, 7 P.M.
- Sunday School Pageant: Sunday, December 20, 5:30 P.M.
- Christmas Cantata: Sunday, December 20, at both services.
- Men's Breakfast: TBA
- Trustees Meeting: TBA
- Choir Practice: every Wednesday, 7 P.M.
- Bell Choir Practice: every Thursday, 7 P.M.
- Quilters: every Wednesday, 9:30 A.M.
- Prayer Group: every Thursday, 11 A.M.
- Youth Group: every Monday, 6:30 P.M.
- Pastor's Office Hours: Monday and Thursday 9:30-11:30 A.M.
- Secretary Hours: Monday and Wednesday—9 A.M. to 12 Noon. Thursday 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.

Additions or corrections to the Crossword,
contact Edna Winans at 609-304-3403 or
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Manahawkin United Methodist Church

Located in the hearts of the Jersey Shore



Manahawkin United Methodist Church

116 Stafford Avenue

Manahawkin, NJ 08050



Crossword Newsletter

November/December 2015