



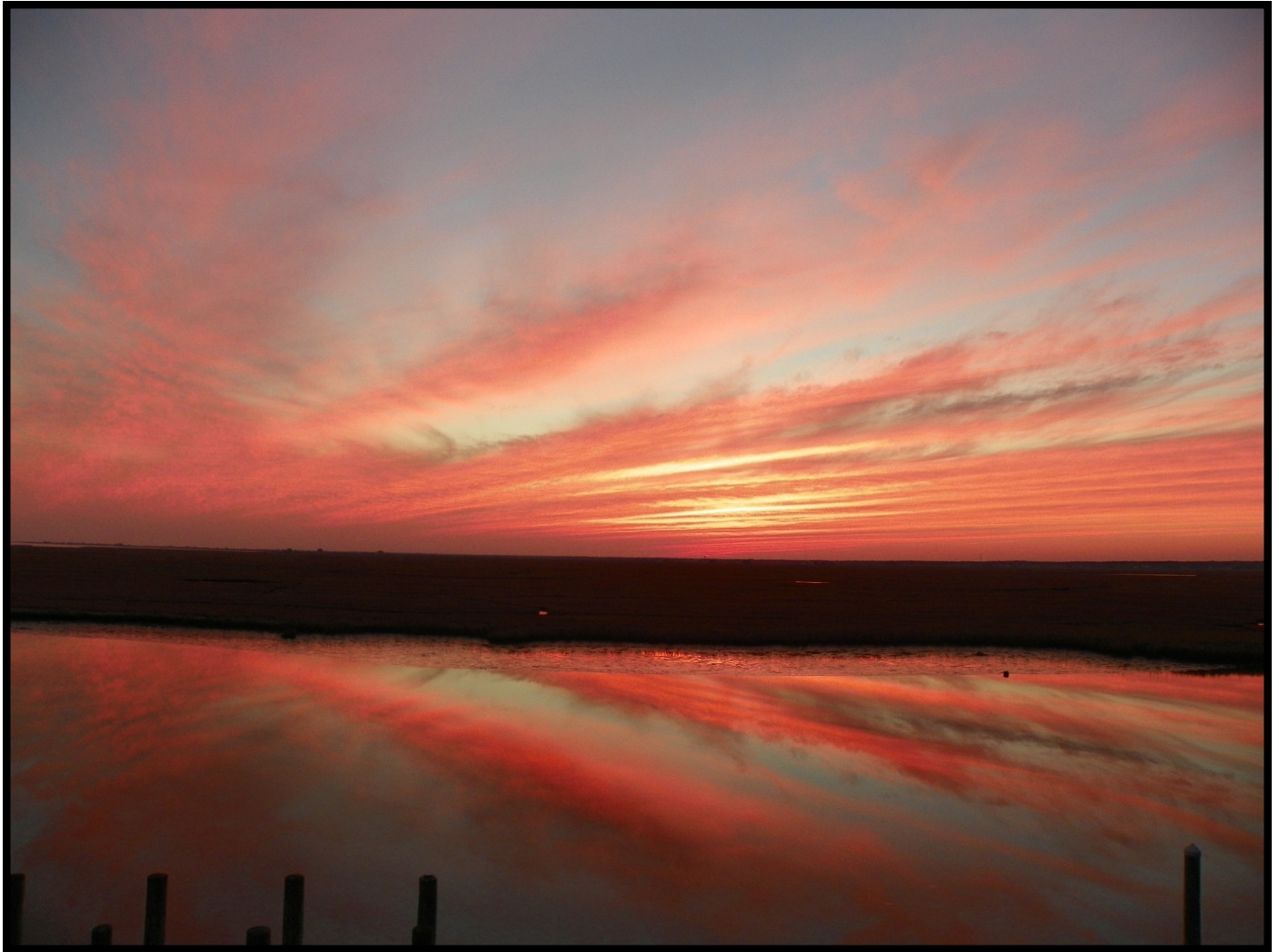
THE CROSSWORD

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

July/August 2016

Open Hearts
Open Minds
Open Doors

2016 - The Year of Prayer



Sunset on Mill Creek, Manahawkin

**Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks
in all circumstances; for this is God's will for
you in Christ Jesus**

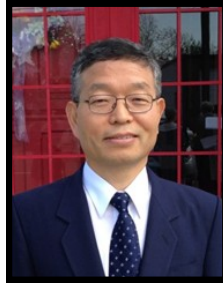
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 | NIV

In this Issue:

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PASTOR'S CORNER**War Room**

⁶ But you, when you pray, **go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you** (Matthew 6:6, New American Standard Bible).



War Room. Of What does it remind you? Does it remind you of the room where all the strategy of war is planned and executed in a natural world? But that's not what I have in mind. Rather, I am talking about the room where all the strategy of warfare is established and executed **in a spiritual world.**

It would be very naïve of us to think that the natural world we see and touch is all there is to it. There's another world invisible and intangible. We call it the spiritual world.

There's warfare in this spiritual world, God's Word declares: between God's kingdom and that of the Devil (Ephesian 6:10-18). We the believers in Christ are called to advance God's kingdom on earth. Of course, there's the enemy's resistance. Our struggle is not against flesh and blood. Rather, our struggle is *"against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places"* (Ephesians 6:12). And, we do not fight our battles with guns or tanks. We fight with prayers and with the Word of God—the two most effective weapons.

Incidentally, I recently watched with my family a movie entitled "War Room." Before I watched the whole thing, the title reminded me of some sort of modern day military conflict between countries. No, it was nothing like that. Rather, it was about the spiritual warfare we are in day in and day out. The movie was about a married couple who go through temptations and challenges in their lives like anybody else, and how they overcome their challenges through prayers. By fighting the battle in their "War Room"—that is, the prayer closet. It is an excellent movie; I recommend all to watch (Stafford township library has at least a couple of copies).

As we start the second half of the year 2016 (the Year of Prayer), let us get into our spiritual "War Room" and fight the battle on our knees with prayers and petitions for our loved ones. Let us not deprive them of the most essential help we can ever provide them with: prayer and petitions in God's throne room.

Perhaps, you can create your "War Room" in your house, a small closet or private place of your own, to spend time with God on behalf of your loved ones. Only those who spend time with God in secret will experience God's mighty

help and miracles.

Let's get into our "War Room."

Kyewoon

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Kathleen m Tunes

Praises be to God on this wonderful and warm beginning to another fulfilled summer. Away, have went the snow shovels and out comes the beach towels and sunblock. (And bug spray, plenty of bugspray!). As we look forward toward our summer, I want to reflect on the spring services. We were awed by our beautiful flag service that Rosemary and the children put on. Led into worship by the Choir's angelic voices and the Bell Choir's majestic music. We had the pleasure of baptizing little ones and the honor of welcoming new members. And let us not forget, Pastor Choi's inspiring messages. A huge thank you to all, who put so much time and effort in to making our church the home it is. But, just because it's summer, doesn't mean we will be spending all our time relaxing and resting. We have Vacation Bible School, Family Promise, Teen Challenge and many more things to look forward to. I pray that we all have a healthy and safe summer. Following is our summer schedule:

July 3rd- Regular Service/ Holy Communion

July 10th- Regular Service- "Why Do You Call Me Good?"

July 17th- Regular Service- "Why Do You Not Obey Me?"

July 24th- Regular Service. Pastor "Why Do You Test Me?"

***July 25th- July 29th Vacation Bible School**

July 31st- Regular Service. Pastor "Why Do You Break God's Commandments?"

***July 31st - August 7th- Family Promise Host**

August 7th- Teen Challenge (both services) Holy Communion

***Pastor Choi will be on vacation from Aug 19h - Aug 19th**

August 14th- Regular Service. Pastor "Guest Speaker"

August 21st- Regular Service. Pastor "Why Do You Entertain Evil Thoughts?"

***August 22nd - Worship Committee Meeting Monday at 7:00p.m.**

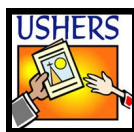
August 28th Regular Service. Pastor "Why Have you forsaken me?"

Help Wanted**Candle Lighters**

Sign up sheets in
Narthex



Readers



Greeters,
Ushers

MUSIC NOTES by Vel

Choir will be taking a much deserved break for the summer. Rehearsals will resume on August 31, with the choir singing for services on September 11th. Additionally, they will be singing the at the Patriot's Day Memorial Service at St. Mary's church at 7:00 PM that evening.

We really need additional choir members, especially for the 11:00 AM service. If you are willing to join us, you are welcome to come to rehearsals as you can and to sing for only one service when we sing.

Our annual choir picnic will be held the afternoon of August 13th at 2:00 PM at the home of Cheryl Conti. Please come and get acquainted with choir members and enjoy a summer afternoon of fellowship.



Junior Bells will resume on Monday, September 19th. If you have a child who has completed first grade and is interested in ringing Bells, please contact me with his/her name, grade, contact info and parents name.

Have a safe and blessed summer. Vel

YOUTH GROUP

Another year of youth group has come to an end. We have had an amazing year of fundraising and spending time together. On May 21st we had our annual car wash for the church scholarship fund. We washed 11 cars and raised \$245. Now that the year has ended the youth group looks forward to helping with VBS, which starts on July 18th and ends July 22nd.

Starting in September youth group will start back up. We can't wait to see everyone again and start planning another wonderful year.

Thank you and God Bless,
Randy and Vanessa Estelow

MEN'S CLUB

Calling all interested men. The MUMC Men's Club meets every second Saturday at 8:15 at the Horizon Diner on Bay Avenue. Our next mission is to host the Teen Challenge Picnic on August 7th right after the second service at Hauge's house on the bay, 1325 East Mallard drive.

FREEDOM

(Thoughts to live by)

by Kenneth Schorr

For the first time ever, women in Saudi Arabia may be allowed to vote; still with restrictions. Living in a Draconian society where few if any care to fight for them, they are still denied many of the basic civil and human rights, the freedoms, we in America have and our forefathers fought for in 1776 and our military continues to do so. Saudi Arabia is not alone; there are other countries where voting, traveling, even worshiping freely is not an option.

Shocking though the above may seem, what about the marginalized, the outcast, one of the "least of these," here in the "Land of the Free" that are not allowed to vote, travel or even worship freely; perhaps living in a similar Draconian society? How many care or even more important, know this is taking place? Is it not the role of the Christian to get involved in government to make a difference for good? Should we as Christians and as a church learn to evaluate government policies carefully and decide upon their legitimacy in light of biblical guidelines; speaking out if they violate basic civil and human rights? Are we so afraid of the political and financial backlash that we become apathetic? If so then we have failed in our mission, our God given mandate to provide hope, vision and leadership! In a sense we become like the Church at Laodicea, and God will spit us out! Yes care must be taken so that church and state do not become one, such as in some Arab countries; so we do not lose democracy. Still the church has a moral and ethical obligation to speak out and challenge, to deflate the myths! The church can no longer sit on the sidelines watching in silence; history shows us what can happen when they do!

In a few months we will vote (not some) to elect a new President. Will this person be the President for all the people including the marginalized, the outcast, the least of these? Does this person live out the Gospel; a person of integrity? Scripture is clear; what comes out of the mouth reveals what is in the heart! If unchristian values are being promoted, our passivity throws our lot with sin! Do we allow ourselves to follow the "Piped Piper," to take us down paths we know we should not go, into the abyss? We need to put our faith and trust in God to show us what to do, as we should!

Celebrate the Fourth of July; thanking God for the freedoms, the civil and human rights we have! Pray and speak out for those in the world and in our nation that know them not! If we allow the civil and human rights of one group to be violated and denied, who is next?

NEW MEMBERS

Mother: Rachel DeVall
Daughter: Jazmin Krueger.



From Left: Ken Schorr, Jen and Zach Temple,
Anthony Guido.

MUMC Resident Poet Norma Paul**A MORNING RHYME**

Start each day with prayer,
the preacher said,
so I express my care
before I raise my head.

First one fervent plea to share
the wail of the grandson of my friend
who suffers with a cancer rare
which claims his back from end to end.

Then, dear Naomi requests relief.
Home on hospice, not long to wait
for freedom from the constant grief
since that crippling fall by her garden gate.

Bless them both, dear Lord, I cry.
Give them peace as they bear their doom.
I cannot fathom the reason why
such evil's woven into their loom.

Gather them within your scope.
Make them well or take them home.
Grant me faith strengthened by hope
that Blessings prevail within your dome.

--Norma Paul
June 3, 2016

**SHOPRITE GIFT CARD PROGRAM**

Did you know if you purchase Gift cards for Shoprite from the church, the church gets a 5% discount? Manahawkin will participate in this program since 2014. Remember, you get the full face value of your cards and the church, in turn, gets 5% of your purchase. This is how it works. Millie Plant and Lovisa Hill will receive your orders for the next month by the first Sunday of the month. Let's say that you want to order a \$100 gift card and that there are another 9 people who also want to have the same amounts ordered. That brings up the total of \$1,000. On every second Sunday, you write a check payable to Manahawkin UMC with a note: Shoprite. **Do not** put it in the offering plates. Instead, you give the check to either Mille or Lovisa in exchange of the gift cards of equal amounts (No checks, No gift cards). Then, you go to Shoprite and use them as cash for the full value. That's how simple it is. Be sure to understand that this is **NOT TAX-DEDUCTIBLE donations**, because you get the full values back. However, it helps the church financially. Please also note that we need a minimum of \$1,000 order each month to participate in this program, so invite your friends to join as well. The gift cards come in \$25, \$50, and \$100s. They can be used at any Shoprite and never expire. Any questions? Please contact Millie Plant at 609-597-8026.

Report

Things have been a little slow, there are only about 15 to 18 families who are supporting this program, and our June profit was down to \$100.00. Buying with credit cards give you back only 1% or 2%, but this program gives the church 5%. See Millie Plant or Lovisa Hill if you want to help with this program.

**FAMILY PROMISE****Keeping YOU in the loop: Family Promise****July 31st through August 7th****REMINDER – we need your help!**

Please sign up or call Pauline or Beth to let us know how you can lend a hand.

In August our church will be serving as the Host Congregation for Family Promise of Southern Ocean County.

Our hosting week is July 31st through August 7th.

As a reminder our commitment is to open our doors in the spirit of compassionate hospitality to nurture the homeless. We will be asked to feed and provide sleeping arrangements for as many as 14 or as few as 2 homeless individuals during our Hosting Week.

Pauline McShea is the

Volunteer Host/Activities Coordinator

Beth Schenck is the Meal/Donations Coordinator

The task of hosting our FP guest families for seven nights requires many volunteers. We had amazing support from the congregation last year and hope to have the same enthusiastic support this summer. If you offered to lend a hand last year please consider lending your support again this year.

Here are a few ways you may lend a hand. -Set Up - help needed for about one to two hours July 31st 4:00PM

-Tear Down - help needed for about one hour August 7th about 7:00 AM (before 8:30 church service)

-Sleep Over volunteers - (needed 2 congregation members per night)

-Evening meal – provide food, set up, serving, and clean-up

-Morning clean-up – trash removal, tidy up kitchen ...

-Evening fellowship or activities (several volunteers each evening)

-Bedding linen washing – to begin Sunday August 7th (several volunteers needed)

-Donate: Breakfast & Lunch items – bagels, butter, cream cheese, cereal, bread, lunchmeat/cheese, individual chip snack bags ...

-Donate: Beverages - water, milk, coffee, juice sip boxes, ice tea ...

-Donate: Evening Snacks - cookies, pretzels, brownies ...

Please consider lending a hand to help reach our congregation's hospitality goals for the homeless.

Reaching out, lending a hand, and opening our hearts ... this is our commitment to the local Family Promise organization.

If you have any questions or want to volunteer, donate or help in anyway please contact either:

Pauline McShea at 609-296-0346 or email

Mcshea.oceanmist@gmail.com

Beth Schenck at 609-296-3000 or email kf2bq@comcast.net



Lisa Mower

Director

We wrapped up another great school year on Friday June 10th. It is hard to let the children go at the end of the year particularly those who have been with us for 3 years and are moving on to Kindergarten. We wish them all the best in the future believing as they sang for us that they are a “great big bundle of potentiality”!

Our enrollment is again low for the 2016-2017 school year. Please continue to pray for God's best for us as we go through these tough times.

Our 2016-2017 school year is scheduled to begin with student orientation on September 8th and 9th. Join me in asking that God would prepare the children's hearts and minds for this new adventure. If you are interested in helping out the first few weeks of school comforting those who may be having trouble adjusting, please call the preschool office (597-0407) or email me at director@manahawkinpreschool.com.

Most Electronically Shared Bible Verses

Psalm 118:24

Peter 5:6

Isaiah 41:10

Matthew 7:7

Isaiah 40:31



Source: YouVersion analysis of Scripture shared through Twitter, Facebook, text message and



Sunday School News

Submitted by: Rosemary Molinaro

Sunday School Superintendent

On May 29th, in honor of Memorial Day, our Sunday School children paid tribute to our service men and women who have bravely fought and gave their lives in the many wars our country has been involved in. Some of the children carried flags in memory of loved ones in their own families. There have been too many wars, over too many years, taking too many lives; please pray for those who have the power to end these wars, In the words of John Lennon “imagine all the people living life in peace....nothing to kill or die for.... a brotherhood of man.” Imagine!



On June 5th, we had our Sunday School Closing Celebration, ending another wonderful year with Pastor Choi, our teachers, parents and most important, our children. Certificates of Attendance were given, as well as Participation Certificates. During the year, we have six special events – Veterans’ Day Service, Laity Sunday, Christmas Pageant, Sunday School Sunday, Easter Pageant and Memorial Day Service. These events require extra time outside of our regular Sunday School class time. All of the children participated in one or more of these events, making each one so pleasing to God. We honored two high school graduates who will be leaving Sunday School; several students received their Adventure Bibles; we had three children who became Acolytes through the Acolyte Program that was started this year; and we gave special thanks to Pastor Choi and our teachers for their support and dedication throughout the year. It truly was a celebration! Please pray for a restful and safe summer for everyone.

It is with a great deal of sadness that I must tell you that this will be my last article as Sunday School Superintendent. For obvious recent health issues and my recovery in the coming months, I had to make the decision to give myself time to properly rest and heal.

I have no doubt that whoever fills this position will be guided by the Holy Spirit and will be amazing. I want to assure that person that my health issues are genetic and not a result of this position!!!! I have been working with the children since 2011 and they have only added to my life; I will miss them all so much.

We are also in need of teachers/subs for the coming year. If you have a desire to teach Sunday School please contact me or Pastor Choi. We will also be reaching out to people who give a strong witness of our faith and would be great role models for the children.

Wishing everyone a great summer; be safe; stay well; see you in church!

WELCOME OUR NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Submitted by Rosemary Molinaro

It is with great pleasure that I would like to introduce our new Sunday School Superintendent, Marissa Barry. As you may know, due to recent health issues, and the need for a time of recovery, I had to make the decision to step down from this position. And after prayerful consideration, and my own personal "good feelings," I asked Marissa if she would like to take on this role and she was thrilled to say "yes."

Marissa has been one of our PreK/Kindergarten Sunday School teachers for the past two years. During that time, she has given a very strong witness of her faith, shown commitment to the Sunday School Program and a love of the children. I know I leave the program in very good hands. Please join me in welcoming, praying for and supporting Marissa as our new Sunday School Superintendent.



A NOTE FROM MARISSA:

It might be summertime and Sunday School may not currently be in session, but behind the scenes, preparation is already underway as we work to plan another exciting year! From pageants to parties, curriculum to exciting new events, we are working hard on plans which continue to provide our children with an enriched experience where they not only have fun, but learn important messages of faith, service, and love in the process! Stay tuned for more information from us! In the meantime, we challenge our church members to help us grow our Sunday School participation by spreading the word on our program, reaching out to those in the surrounding communities, and passing on the invitation to children whom you may know of who may be interested to join our program!! All welcome ages 4 on up!! Thank you for your support!

Submitted by Marissa Barry

Sunday School Superintendent

Marissa Barry and her family; husband Erik and children Mason and Madeleine.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS: This year we say a HUGE THANK YOU to Randy and Vanessa Estelow who have stepped-up to run the program this year as Rosemary continues to make great strides in her ongoing recovery since heart surgery.

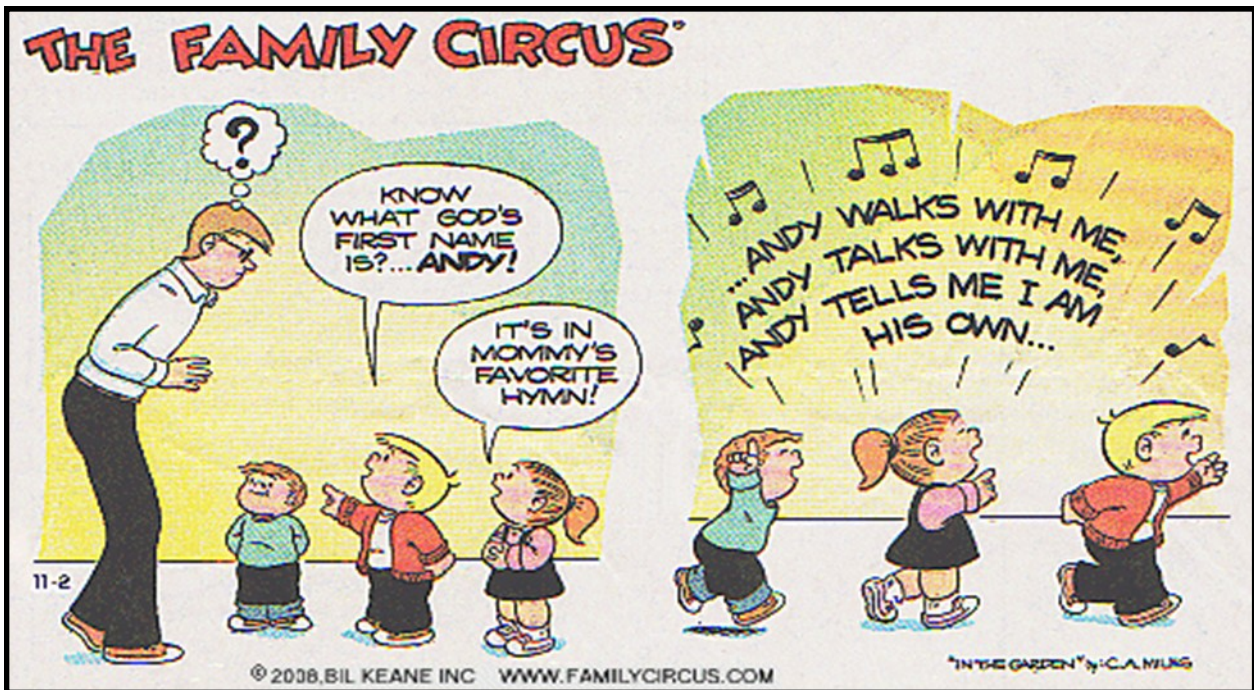
Hi Everyone,

We hope you are enjoying your summer so far. Our VBS is close at hand, it will run from July 18th to July 22nd from 6pm to 8pm. Our theme of VBS this year is: **Deep Sea Discovery!!**

Please use the website below to register your children for our 2016 Vacation Bible School Program. Please use one form for each child. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me at ss@manahawkinmethodist.org. Thank you! Vanessa Estelow

<http://ss.manahawkinmethodist.org/vbs-2014-registration-form/>





All jokes aside, we need to see kids in church. Not only are they the future of our church, but they must be the present. In a world that pulls us in so many directions, and gives us so many confusing messages, we need to support them in a loving, Christian environment, even if for one hour a week. We welcome them as greeters, Acolytes, readers, ushers and the music ministries. Bring the kids to church

BLUE CLAWS

A group of about 26 attended the Lakewood Blueclaws game on June 30. We carpooled from Church parking lot and joined several people who met us at the stadium. It was a beautiful night and we enjoyed the "all you can eat" centerfield buffet in one of the picnic areas. The food and fellowship was enjoyed by all. The home team was trounced by the visitors but no matter, it was a great evening.



July Calendar

- Worship Hours: All Sundays, Two Services, 8:30 and 11 A.M.
- Communion: Sunday, July 3, both services
- Church Picnic: Tuesday, July 5 and 19, at 5:30 P.M. at A. Paul King Park
- Shoprite Gift Cards: Sunday, July 10 at both services
- Family Promise Host week is July 31st through August 7th.
- Men's Breakfast: TBA
- VBS: July 18-22, 6 – 8 P.M.
- Loads of Love: Thursday, July 28, 6 – 8 P.M.
- Prayer Group: every Thursday, 11 A.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.

AUGUST CALENDAR

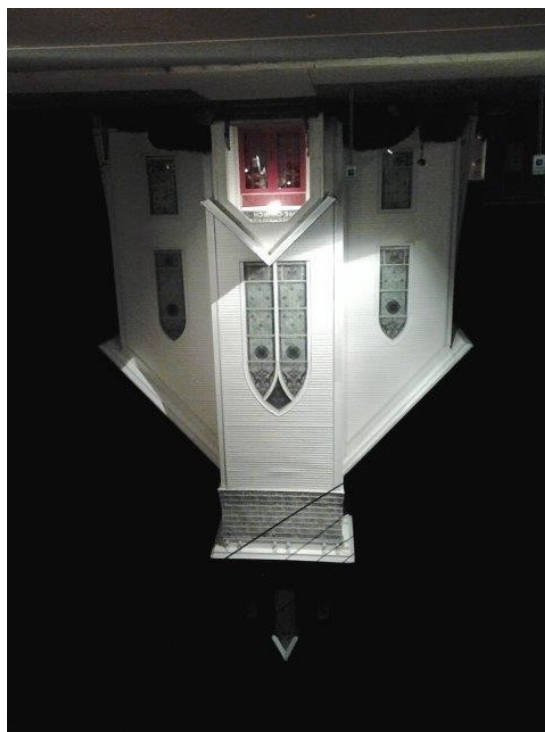
- Worship Hours: All Sundays, Two Services, 8:30 and 11 A.M.
- Communion: Sunday, August 7, both services
- Church Picnic: Tuesday, August 2, 16, and 30 at 5:30 P.M. at A. Paul King Park
- Preschool Committee Meeting: Tuesday, August 2, 7 P.M.
- Teen Challenge: Sunday, August 7, at both services
- Pastor Vacation: Tuesday, August 9 through Friday, August 19
- Choir Picnic: Saturday, August 13, 2 P.M.
- Shoprite Gift Cards: Sunday, August 14 at both services
- Loads of Love: Thursday, August 25, 6 – 8 P.M.
- Men's Breakfast: TBA
- Trustees Meeting: TBA
- Prayer Group: every Thursday, 11 A.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.

Upcoming: VBS 7/18-7/22, Family Promise (Helping Homeless Families) 7/31-8/7

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

Manahawkin United Methodist Church

Located in the hearts of the Jersey Shore



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116 Stafford Avenue

Manahawkin, NJ 08050



Crossword Newsletter

July/August 2016