



THE CROSSWORD

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

May/June 2016

Open Hearts
Open Minds
Open Doors

2016 - The Year of Prayer



Welcome Spring

No matter how lost or alone we feel
We can take comfort in knowing
That GOD is watching over us

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PASTOR'S CORNER

Jesus-- **the way** to the Father in Heaven (John 14:6).

Recently a pastor friend of mine died of heart attack. Just one year older than I am, he has been healthy, so it was rather quite a shock to me. In fact, I still feel the impact as I am writing this article. I

realized how fragile life is (death doesn't announce time or discriminate age) and how little we are prepared for the life after death.

The Scripture speaks about the resurrection of all people and their eternal destinations: Heaven for the righteous and Hell for the wicked. I consider it essential, regardless of our physical age, to set our eyes on the eternal life each day.

It makes me wonder, though, whether I am in a minority even among the believers in Christ when it comes down to longing for Heaven and resurrection. I wonder how many of believers actually agree with God's Word, or think like me, and even look forward to the Day of Resurrection as I do.

Here's what makes me wonder so: Barna Research survey (2011) says, "*Most Americans believe they, themselves, will go to heaven*" (<http://www.barna.org/faith-spirituality/484-what-americans-believe-about-universalism-and-pluralism>). Consider another statistic on the American Christians' belief in heaven: "*One national survey showed that less than 1 percent of Americans were interested in the answer to the question, 'How can I get to heaven?'*" (p. 164, *The Purpose Driven Church* by Rick Warren). Wait a minute. Most Americans believe that they will be in Heaven, yet are not interested in asking the question of how to get there? Does it make sense to you? It's as silly as me saying, "Yeah, I will be standing on top of Mt. Everest someday, but I am not interested in knowing how to get there." Sure, it may come true in my dream, but not in reality. Of course, unless these Americans simply assume that their own goodness (or 'I-am-not-so-bad-as-Hitler' mentality) will get them into Heaven automatically. What troubles me the most is this: they don't want to know more about the way to salvation. Rick Warren further confirms my suspicion: people, especially the young generations, are far more interested in knowing the meaning of life NOW than eternal life (*ibid.*).

One day Jesus talked to His disciples about Him going to Heaven. Thomas, one of the Twelve, had no clue what his master was talking about and asked Jesus, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" At least Thomas was thinking about both: the destination and the way to get there. Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father



except through me" (John 14:5-6). He is **the way** to the Father in Heaven.

It's time to wake up from spiritual sleep and naivety. It's time to ask the question of "How can I get to Heaven?" and to accept Jesus as the only way to the Father in Heaven!

Amen. Kyewoon

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Kathleen M Tunes, Chairperson

Hallelujah He Has Risen!! Praise God for a worshipful Lenten & Easter Season. The Holy & Easter Sunday services were such blessings to so many. Highlighting all of these beautiful Lenten services, was our talented choir with their wonderful "Our Father" Cantata. And, along with our cherished Bell Choir, made these services such a tribute to our Father in Heaven. I would like to say a personal thank you, to all that participated and helped behind the scenes. Without your special talents and commitment, we could not be the church we are. Thank You!! Now with Spring flowers blooming and Summer's heat around the corner, our worship service continue as follow:

May 1st: Communion Sunday. Senior Choir. Pastor "With All Your Heart"

May 2nd - Mother/ Daughter Dinner

May 8th: Mother's Day. Sunday School recognition of Mothers. Jr Praise Bells. Pastor "Mary of Bethany"

May 15th: Pentecost Sunday.

May 22nd: Armed Service: Senior Choir/ Holy Spirit Ringers (both services) Pastor TBA

May 29th: Memorial Day Flag Ceremony (both services) Pastor TBA

June 5th: Regular service/ Holy Communion. Pastor "Why Do You Worry about Clothes?" Last day of Sunday school

June 12th: Regular Service Pastor : Why Do You Doubt"

June 19th: Father's Day/ Regular Service. Pastor : Father's Day Message

June 26th: Regular Service. Pastor "Why Do You Judge Others"



National Day of Prayer Gathering

May 5, 2016

Help Wanted**Candle Lighters**

Sign up sheets in
Narthex



Readers



Greeters,
Ushers

MUSIC NOTES by Vel

The choir will be taking a break during the summer months, beginning with the second Sunday in June. However, some will be going to Ocean Grove to sing in the Annual Choir Festival on Sunday, July 10th at 7:00 PM. The concert is

open to the public. There is no charge, but a free will offering is taken. Our group will be practicing for that on Wednesday evenings at regular rehearsal time of 7:00 PM through June. If you are interested in taking part, please see me so I can order music for you.

Junior Bells are off for the summer, and Praise Bells will be off after playing for Mother's Day.

CHOIR PRESENTS CANTATA

On April 24th the combined Choirs of Manahawkin and Beach Haven presented an inspiring cantata entitled "Our Father" by Pepper Choplin which was a musical journey through the Lord's Prayer. Dennis Linde Piano Soloist

**Live Cantata Recording:**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1xJLLjRvSfHYWZla2FSbVJMM8/view?pref=2&pli=1>

**HOLY SPIRIT RINGERS SCHEDULE**

Practices,

*May 5thth, 12th and 19th

Performance Dates

* May 22nd - both services

***ANY practice or performance you CANNOT attend please call Joe at 609-488-1786

PRAYER GROUP SCRIPTURE

"But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall be quiet from fear of evil" Proverbs 1:33

NEVER FORGET

(Thoughts to live by)
By Kenneth Schorr

Soon we will celebrate Memorial Day; a time to honor those have served our country, even given their lives that we might continue to enjoy the freedoms and rights that we have. May we never forget the price paid.

Sadly in our world and even in our own country there are those who would deny even seek to destroy that which we hold dear. I can remember during 9 / 11, a reporter asking a woman if she would give up some of her freedoms and/or rights to be more safe and secure? Without blinking an eye she said yes. Give up even one and how long before another is taken away? Nor should we ever allow the civil and human rights of others to be violated or taken away no matter who they are or what they may have done! That's perverted justice! Nor is it of God!

We need to keep all of this in mind when we think of the price paid by Jesus on the Cross. To never forget that He gave His life that we might be free from our sins; that we have the right to stand before and have a relationship with God. Sadly there are those who would have us compromise the Gospel message, even move our nation toward more of a secular society. Then there are some that would have us move so far as to have Church and State as one. In both cases, at what price? Are we willing to compromise, losing our Constitutional freedoms and rights; all that America stands for? Are we willing to deny the Cross and what it stands for?

What is it going to take before we wake up and acknowledge we are allowing our nation to drift more and more away from being one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all; and at what price? When will the church speak out, as it must? With choice comes responsibility. God will hold us accountable. May we never forget the price paid!

EMILY EISMANN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:

Southern Regional High School

Abigail Leyh

Christopher Mahan

Marcella Ray

Walter Sill, III

Baily Yanci

Barneget High School

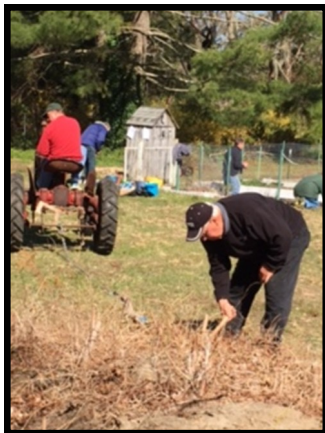
Ariana Williams

Pinelands Regional High School

Lori Koons

MISSIONS

We are working in the garden on Saturday mornings at 9:00.
Here Joyce Gould is planting onions.

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

Attached are some photos of some of the women that helped with the 16th annual sub sale today.



Subject: Think About This

JESUS

Read at least the first two lines.....Never thought of it this way!

Jesus died over 2000 years ago.

Nobody has ever referred to him as the late Jesus,

Not even the heathens.

Nowhere in history.

Nowhere has He EVER been referred to in the past tense!

He is the Living God!

MUMC Resident Poet Norma Paul

KALANCHOE

Waxy leaves abound.
Light red fingertips descend
hanging stems.

She sits amid flashy orchid sisters
day in, day out,
unpretentious.

Breathing quiet into this
intrinsic air she purifies,
she comforts me by her presence.

On nights like this,
when waiting is my only journey,
motion lies at bay.



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.

MENS CLUB

The Men's Club has been an active member of the church family. We just had one of our largest meetings to date with 14 members present. Our meetings are planned for breakfast at 8:30 on the third Saturday of the month at a local diner. Art Hill reported that we supported the scholarship fund with a donation of \$400.00. We sponsored the Erik Houghton Concert and have taken on the task of getting the fire escape painted. In August we will sponsor a picnic for Teen Challenge of Philadelphia. All men of the church are encouraged to join in our camaraderie.

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

Family Promise Coordinators,

Pauline McShea and Beth Schenck



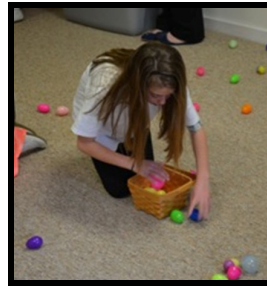


Sunday School News
Submitted by Rosemary Molinaro
Sunday School Superintendent

Hello from all of us at Sunday School! We've come out of the winter into a beautiful Spring filled with new life not only in nature, but in the risen Jesus Christ. What a blessing we share in our faith. And as Sunday School teachers, along with parents, it is our ministry to pass along our faith to the children and start them on a life's journey of knowing and loving God our Father, Jesus His Son and the power of the Holy Spirit. Each week our teachers do just that through lessons based on their class age group. From a simple craft project, to life experience lessons, to reading Bible passages, the children experience the beauty of our faith. Singing and acting are also ways the children bring the Bible to life and get a real-time feel for the people they read about.



This year, the children performed "The Glorious Rainbow of Easter" on Palm Sunday. The children wore bright colored tee shirts representing each color of the rainbow. Their color represented a part of the passion of Jesus – yellow, the cowardice of Peter who denied Him; green, the envy of the Chief Priests towards Jesus; purple, the royalty of Pilate who could have saved Jesus; orange, for the anger of the crowd; blue, for the sadness of His Mother, Mary and His followers; indigo, for the darkness that came over all the land at His death and red, for Jesus' precious blood that He shed to save us. But as we all know, the story doesn't end there. As the beautiful butterfly emerges from the surroundings of its cocoon to new life, so, too, does Jesus from the tomb that could not hold Him.



As always, the children did an amazing job and were treated to the Easter Egg Hunt set up by our Youth Group with lots of surprises donated by everyone. We give a big thanks to Marina Melia, our church photographer, for capturing all the wonderful moments in pictures.

Our next group event will be our Memorial Day Flag presentation on Sunday, May 29th at both services.

Our school year will be ending on Sunday, June 5th, with our closing celebration. We will honor our graduates, our teachers and all the accomplishments of our children. We will also announce the theme for this year's VBS program – another great week is planned!! (see VBS news for details).

PLEASE NOTE: We are in need of several teaching/sub positions for the coming year. If you are interested, please contact me at ss@manahawkinmethodist.org. or call me at 609-698-1251. Thank you.

On a personal note, I want to thank everyone for the overwhelming support you have given me during my surgery and recovery. The power of your prayers and your love were truly felt and were the strength I needed to get through each day. I don't even know how to begin to thank you enough, but know that I will never forget it.

VBS 2016

Submitted by Rosemary Molinaro
Sunday School Superintendent

Vacation Bible School will be held the week of **July 18 – 22, from 6:00 – 8:00 PM.** This is a free program open to **children entering grades Kindergarten to Sixth grade.** The theme of the program will be announced on June 5th at the Sunday School closing celebration. Planning is already being done and we know the children are going to have a great time! Registration form can be found on our Sunday School website at <http://ss.manahawkinmethodist.org> and clicking on the link for "VBS Registration Form."

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me at ss@manahawkinmethodist.org. or call me at 609-698-1251. This is our third and final year for our commitment to A Future with Hope – No More Malaria. We

have pledged to raise \$400.00 and have met that goal for the past two years. All donations received during VBS week will go towards this year's goal. Looking forward to seeing you at VBS!

KIDS IN CHURCH

One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed little Alex was staring up at the large plaque that hung in the foyer of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and small American flags were mounted on either side of it. The pastor walked up, stood beside the boy, and said quietly, "Good morning Alex." "Good morning pastor," Alex replied, still focused on the plaque. "Pastor McGhee, what is this?" Alex asked. "Well, son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service." Quietly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice was barely audible when he asked, "Which service, the 8:30 or the 11:00?"

Manahawkin Methodist Preschool had another great



Scholastic Book Fair in March. We turned the large classroom into a castle and invited Princess Belle to perform for us. The book fair has been a very successful fundraiser

and we have set dates for two fairs next year. Each year we are able to pick a charity to donate our (keep the) change; we collected about \$29 for Family Promise. Thank you to all who came by to support us.



In April we welcomed back Kristy Pantano from Speech Pathology Solutions to evaluate our preschoolers' speech. Early speech/language therapy is important for children to develop the necessary communication skills for future success in school and their personal lives. We are grateful to her for providing this developmental screening. We also spent time with our friend Dr. Bernard from K. Hovnanian Children's Hospital. He spoke to us about staying out of the pool or street unless we are with a trusted grown up, wearing protective gear while riding our scooters and bikes, calling 911

in an emergency and many other good tips for staying safe. Dr. Bernard said he likes to see us in *our* school and not *his* hospital!

Even as our school year is coming to a close we will be busy until the end. Our caterpillars will arrive any day now and the children will watch them grow and change demonstrating God's special plan for each of His creations. Our after school Science Club will participate in the Sunflower Challenge this spring. Students will start a sunflower from seed in a bio-degradable container and when it begins to grow, it will be planted outside. Any child who sends in a picture of himself with a fully grown sunflower will receive a prize.

Mother's Day is an exciting holiday for our Pre K classes; the children will host a tea party for Mom. They are busy learning special songs and poems and creating beautiful cards and gifts. Again we are blessed to have a great group of parents that will honor our teachers with a luncheon for Teacher Appreciation Week. We will wrap up May with a field trip to the Pretzel Factory and June with our graduation ceremony on the 10th.

Lisa Mower, Director MMP

LOADS OF LOVE MISSION 1st Night a success!!!

Dear members and friends of MUMC,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I would like to share with you that our prayers were answered April 28th for Loads of Love ministry. It went well and we were able to serve five families for two hours along with prayer requests.

One of them asked us to pray that: *"my family for our transition into new home to go smoothly, for all to be as the Lord has planned for us--"* Jeanne

Volunteers: Janet and Don Estelow, Jodi Turi, Jim and Pauline McShea, Edna Winans, Beth Schneck and of course Pastor Choi.





COMPLETION OF ONE BOREHOLE WATER

Dear Pastor Choi and fellow members of MUMC attached is an email I received from Pastor Kwakye who supervised the borehole water project. On behalf of the of the Mfantseman Association of NJ and the people Gwira Sentum I thank you so much for your generous donation. May God richly bless you. Attached are photos on the last phase of the project will Send more photos of the dedication.

Hello Regina,

May grace, mercy and the favor of the almighty God be with you all Amen.

It is a pleasure to inform you that the Borehole construction is completed for the people of Gwira Sentum. Myself and the entire villagers are most grateful first unto the Gracious God and we want to register our sincerest appreciation and gratitude to you, the Association and Manahawkin United Methodist Church for such a wonderful gift.

In fact, we are short of words. It is our prayer that the Most High God who has remembered us through you, restore all that is spent on the project in a hundred fold, and also bless you individually in all your endeavors, Amen.

Yours sincerely
Rev. James Kwesi Kwakye.



MAY CALENDAR

- Worship Hours: All Sundays Two Services 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.
- Communion: Sunday, May 1, both services
- Mother-Daughter Dinner: Monday, May 2, 6 P.M.
- National Day of Prayer: Thursday, May 4, 10 A.M. – 12 Noon
- Future with a Hope Mission: Saturday, May 7
- Shoprite Gift Cards: Sunday, May 8, at both services
- UMW: Tuesday, May 10, 1 P.M.
- Pastor on Vacation: May 10 – May 19 (pastoral care by Rev. Diane Gilbert 609-492-0491)
- Guest Speaker (John Parker): Sunday, May 15, both services
- Church Council: Monday, May 16, 7 P.M.
- Youth Group Car Wash: Saturday, May 21
- Baptism: Sunday, May 22, 11 A.M. (Aiden and Brandon Temple)
- Annual Conference: May 22-May 24 in Wildwood, NJ
- Trustees Meeting: Tuesday, May 24, 7 P.M.
- Men's Breakfast: TBA
- Prayer Group: every Thursday, 11 A.M.
- Choir practice: every Wednesday, 7 P.M.
- Holy Spirit Ringers: every Thursday, 7 P.M.
- Pastor's Office Hours: Monday and Thursday 9:30-11:30 A.M. except May 14 and 28.
- Pastor's day-off: Fridays
- Secretary Hours: Monday and Wednesday—9 A.M. to 12 Noon. Thursday 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.

JUNE CALENDAR

- Two Services on all Sundays
- Communion Sunday, June 5
- Receiving New Members: Sunday, June 5, at both services
- Last Day of Sunday School: Sunday, June 5
- Preschool Graduation: Friday, June 10, 9 A.M. – 12 Noon
- Shoprite Gift Cards, Sunday, June 12, after both services
- Finance Meeting, Monday, June 13, 7 P.M.
- UMW Year-End Picnic: Tuesday, June 14, 12 Noon
- Preschool Committee: Tuesday, June 14, 7 P.M.
- Father's Day: Sunday, June 19
- Scholarship Recognition: Sunday, June 19, at both services
- Blood Drive: Thursday, June 23
- Men's Breakfast: TBA
- Trustees: TBA
- Choir Rehearsal: every Wednesday 7 P.M. until ????
- Holy Spirit Ringers: every Thursday 7 P.M. until????
- Pastor's Office Hours: Monday and Thursday 9:30-11:30 A.M.
- Pastor's day-off: Fridays
- 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

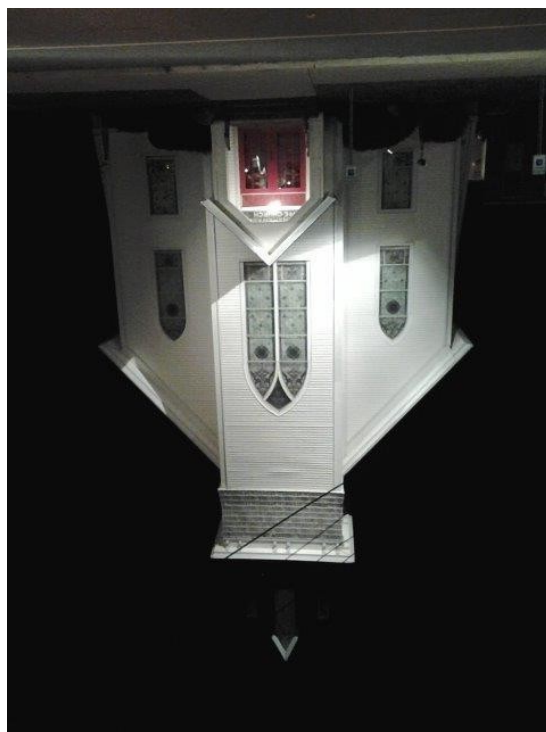
Additions or corrections to the Crossword:

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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Manahawkin, NJ 08050



Crossword Newsletter

May/June 2016