



THE CROSSWORD

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

January/February 2017

Open Hearts
Open Minds
Open Doors

2017 - The Year of Jubilee



YEAR OF JUBILEE!!!

Historically, at the Jubilee, all of the debts were canceled, all of the slaves were set free, and all of the land was returned to its rightful owner. This is a physical example of the spiritual truths that are fulfilled in Jesus Christ, and will be finished at His Second Coming. The debt of sin is canceled, the slaves of sin are set free, and the rulership of the earth will return to Jesus Christ and His Bride forever.



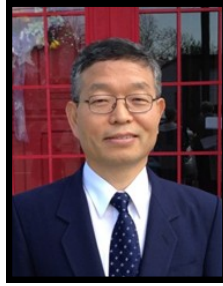
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PASTOR'S CORNER**2017: The Year of Jubilee**

Leviticus 25:10 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

*"You shall thus **consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim a release** through the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you, and each of you shall return to his own property, and each of you shall return to his family."*



Church scholars, theologians, and pastors say that 2017 is the year of Jubilee. I join them in believing it important to observe this new year as the Year of Jubilee. Some of you wonder what Jubilee means and what's the significance of it. Let me explain to you as briefly as I can.

It originates from God's command in Leviticus 25:10 as you see above. Basically, the idea is that every 50 years, in Israel, all the land will be returned to original families, all debts are cancelled, and all the slaves are freed. The word 'Jubilee' comes from the Latin verb *iūbilō*, "shout for joy" (Wikipedia). Indeed, "it is a time of freedom and celebration because everyone receives back their original property and return home to their families" (*Ibid.*)

So, as pastor, I too declare that this new year will be our Jubilee in the following three areas: first, Jubilee in our spiritual well-being. We declare to every creature in heavens, on earth, and below the earth that we are free in Christ. No one owns us. We own no one either. As no one should serve two masters, we worship and serve **ONLY ONE GOD**—whose name is Jehovah the LORD. Next, we declare that we are going to be healthy this year. Yes, I am talking about physical well-being. We declare that it is God's will for us to be disease free and that God is our Healer. Finally, we declare that we will strive to be free of financial debt. A lot of believers in America live in debt. We will strive to be debt free as soon as possible. We will stay disciplined in our finances that we will not overspend and do everything in our power to pay off our current debt.

So, by the end of 2017, I pray that every one of us will say that this year has been indeed the Year of Jubilee.

See you at church.

Kyewoon

**MUSIC NOTES by Vel**

Thank you to all who participated in our Christmas cantata The Miracle Of Christmas. Now choir resumes with the New Year a great time for new members. If you enjoy singing, or if you have never sung before and would like to try it, please come and join us. We practice from 7:00-8:00 pm on every Wednesday evening.

JUNIOR BELLS

Junior Bells will be taking a few weeks off, but will resume practice on January 23rd. This is also a good time for any child who would like to join the bell Choir to begin. The only requirement is that they be in second grade or better, and are able to commit to practice every Monday evening from 5:30-6:30 pm.

If your child is interested in ringing with us, please contact Vel at 723-915-0995 or 732-961-1168. They will be ringing for Palm Sunday on April 9th, and are asked to commit through that date.

**MISSIONS**

Our garden was officially put to bed when the hay from the Halloween ride, was used as mulch. It was placed around the blueberry bushes and along the fence line. Thank you Rich Mueller!!

Our Christmas ?? Child boxes were well received. 76 boxes were turned in and have given children all over the world a merry Christmas. A book about Jesus is put into each box so they will come to know about Jesus.

The mitten tree was decorated this year with ornaments but coats, hats, mittens, and gloves were still collected in a bin. We had a fewer number because of the early return date, but they took all items the second week of December. Four coats, and many hats, mittens, and scarves were received. Thank you all!!

Next year Don and Janet Estelow will be in charge of Missions. If anyone is interested in helping out in any of the Mission programs, an organizational meeting will be held in February. Please watch for updates in the new year. Thank you for supporting and helping our many programs.

Art and Lovisa Hill - Co-Chairs for Missions



KNITTERS/CROCHETERS URGENTLY NEEDED!

Our group meets from 3:00-4:00 pm every Wednesday afternoon to knit and fellowship. However, you do not need to attend our group in order to contribute hand made items to our project of knitting for Kids. If you don't know how to knits, we'll be happy to teach you. We make items as small as caps for newborns to size 14 sweaters and blankets, that are distributed by World Vision's Knit for Kids program.

"World Vision is a Christian Humanitarian Organization dedicated to working with children, families and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender."

They also have a new program by which you can give your handmade items directly to a special child whom you can know and communicate with.

Please consider joining us.



Attention all **"QUILTERS"**

We meet every Wednesday in Fellowship Hall from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

At the end of the day, a new beginning emerges.

We close our eyes in the dark
knowing full well they will open
to the light of a new day.

Dawn tickles our fancy.

We itch to accomplish some tremendous feat.

It's been this way ever since we first awoke to the
odor of bacon frying in our mama's frying pan.

We stretch out our arms, let our feet find the floor,
ready to taste whatever flavors await us now,
half remembering,
half anticipating.

—Norma Paul

MISSING

(Thoughts to live by)

By Kenneth Schorr

We have all seen the Amber or Silver alert message on the highway. Someone is missing; you are being asked to help find this person before it's too late and something happens to them. It is a call to action.

What if the sign read. "Holy Spirit" alert: what would you do?

We need only look at the crisis in the church, in its comfort zone. self - serving and proud, perhaps legalistic to the point where love, compassion, mercy and forgiveness have all but disappeared; without vision. Where outreach, if any is minimal at best and done by only a few.

We need only look at the moral breakdown and lack of ethics in our society and government. To refuse to speak out implies we are satisfied with the way things are. Some people cannot take the truth; some do not want it. Others would rather believe a lie anyway. Never forget. God will judge and hold us accountable.

All this should make it quite clear: the joy of the Holy Spirit is missing in the life of the church. our society and government. and in our own individual lives. Jesus warned regarding blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. It is the same as cursing God and unforgiveable. The question becomes. is it too late? For some. perhaps it is.

As we start the New Year let's step back and look at ourselves. the church. society in general including our government. in honesty, and ask is the Holy Spirit missing? How do I (we) find and get the Spirit back? The power of the Spirit in our lives today is limited only by the degree of our willingness and capacity to experience his fullness. It's not too late --- yet!

Help Wanted



Readers



**Greeters,
Ushers**



Candle Lighters

Sign up sheets in Narthex



SHOPRITE GIFT CARD PROGRAM

Shop-Rite card sales continue to drop. I hope things pick up again after the Holidays. Profit for November/December. was \$310.00. Last year, we had \$360.00 profit for the same period.

This is the program we have with Shop-Rite, where the Church buys gift cards at a 5% discount and then resells them to the congregation and friends for face value. The cards never expire and can be used at any Shop-Rite. They come in denominations of \$100.00, \$50.00 and \$25.00. Orders are taken on the first Sunday of each month and given to the purchasers on the second Sunday. We usually have extra cards if you forget to order on the first Sunday and would like to help with this easy way of adding to our Church income.

See Lovisa Hill at the 8:30 service or Millie Plant at 11:00 if you would like to try this easy way of paying for your groceries.



Keeping YOU in the loop: ... Our Family Promise (FP) hosting week is mid-August 13th through August 20th, 2017. Our church has served as a Host Congregation for Family Promise of Southern Ocean County for the past two years. Family

Promise of Southern Ocean County now has a new director. So we welcome Elizabeth Golla as our main contact for our Family Promise commitments. The past director Cheryl Polo has moved on to work for the Salvation Army. Our church will work closely with the new director, Elizabeth Golla, to prepare for our hosting week in mid-August 2017.

Our hosting weeks of the past have been a success. Some of you may be wondering how we manage to provide breakfast, lunch, and dinner in addition to providing temporary housing for up to 14 individuals for seven days within our church building. Well, it is through our congregation's dedicated efforts! We creatively turn our church preschool rooms into temporary hospitality rooms for FP families. Our congregation generously cooks dinners for each evening meal and donates all of the food for the week and the bedding that is needed for up to 14 individuals.

MUMC has been successful meeting our FP hospitality goals for the homeless during our once a year hosting commitment. However the burden to cover 52 weeks a year is real and many times it is a real struggle to cover each need for the population of homeless in our area. Other churches in the area open their church doors several times throughout the year. Their commitment is much larger than ours. We only provide hospitality (sleepover)

arrangements one time a year and that is when our preschool is closed for the summer. Other local churches open their doors to provide hospitality (sleeping) arrangements many times during the year but they need help providing all of the other aspects for a successful week. The Director of FP of SOC often sends an email requesting support from area churches. When we receive this email "all call for help" from Director Elizabeth Gallo we need to stand up and help our fellow churches. The needy church's denomination is not important but Director E. Gallo's request for help is real and urgent. **WE could and should offer a hand to help the other churches in our area as they sponsor sleepover arrangements for several different weeks throughout the year.** Please consider contacting MUMC Family Promise coordinators Beth, Pauline, Angela or the church secretary if you could make a dinner for a homeless family. We would like to start a list of congregation members that may be able to provide an evening meal if needed. As previously noted other churches open their doors for several hosting weeks ... but it can become a struggle for that same congregation to provide all of the food for breakfast, lunch and dinner. If you could help and be on standby to be asked to make an evening dinner or donate food items please let one of our church FP coordinators know. Sometimes we know in advance which weeks that evening meals will be needed. It would be great if our church could have several congregation members on a "stand-by" list for evening meals and other food items if needed. Thank you for considering this request for help. Our MUMC is always reaching out, lending a hand and opening our hearts ... this is our commitment to the local Family Promise organization.

If you think you might like to get involved with our FP mission, please reach out to Beth Schenck (609) 296-3000 kf2bq@comcast.net, Pauline McShea (609) 296-0346 Mcshea.oceanmist@gmail.com, Angela Lowe or give your name and contact information to our church secretary Cheryl Conti (609) 597-7666 admin@manahawkinmethodist.org.

Submitted by Beth Schenck

Thank you for considering this request for help. Our MUMC is always reaching out, lending a hand and opening our hearts ... this is our commitment to the local Family Promise organization.

JANUARY BLOOD DRIVE

I wish to thank everyone for their help with the blood drive on January 3, 2017.

Weather you donated, helped with phone calls, canteen, registration or clean-up. All was very much appreciated.

Marian Assur

Manahawkin Methodist PRESCHOOL

Christmas arrives with such fanfare each year in the preschool as we make decorations, presents and mile long lists for Santa but no class was without lessons on God's

great love for us sending His only son as a Savior. We focused on sharing God's love with others by making cards and gifts and dazzled guests in our pageant entitled, "A Night of Great Joy"! Even Santa Claus took time out of his busy schedule to visit us and present each child with an ornament of Jesus declaring "Love was born"!



We are all looking forward to slowing things down a bit in the months ahead and will focus on such themes as winter weather, hibernation and staying healthy. We will have a visit from Dr. Bernard to discuss ways to stay healthy and will have a new after school club that focuses on healthy eating, getting exercise and rest, and keeping our hands and bodies clean.

We wish all of you a happy and healthy 2017!

Lisa Mower, Director

MISSION GARDEN

Our food collections for January are pasta and sauce and in February, it is soups, stews, and chili. Some of you are very conscientious about bringing items in monthly and leaving them in the box at the entrance. In addition to our monthly food donations, we gave ShopRite gift cards to 7 families for Christmas.

We will be having a mission meeting on February 7th between the Sunday services. In case of bad weather, the meeting will be held the following Sunday, the 14th. We will meet in Fellowship Hall and it is open to all who are interested in the garden project and or a mission trip. We will be brainstorming about our trips and plan what to plant in the garden. We hope to see you there during coffee hour.

Continue to save the Boxtops for Education and leave them in the basket on the table in the entryway. They are on all General Mills products and Campbell soups.

Art and Lovisa Hill, Mission Chairs

Reminder: UNITED METHODIST WOMEN TALENT SHOW

At the Mother-Daughter dinner to be held Monday, May 1, 2017 at 6:30 p.m., the United Methodist Women will be looking forward to enjoying various talents of our church members, both child and adult. We know our church family includes more than a few performers of voice and instruments, as well as accomplished dancers. We hope you will volunteer to appear on the Fellowship Hall stage with five minutes of the talent that you and/or your family would like to share. Please contact the UMW Secretary, Norma Paul, 609-698-8366, to let us know you will participate, then plan to join us for dinner.

LOADS OF LOVE MISSION

continues to be a success

On December 29th we sponsored:

20 regular washes

6 heavy duty washes

35 dryer loads

Thanks to Pauline and Jim McShea, Beth and Bob Schneck, Edna Winans and of course Pastor Choi (who was given the night off to celebrate his birthday) or supporting this mission. We are serving new people as well as repeat customers.

Next event is January 26, 5:30 (set-up) 6:00 - 8:00PM event.

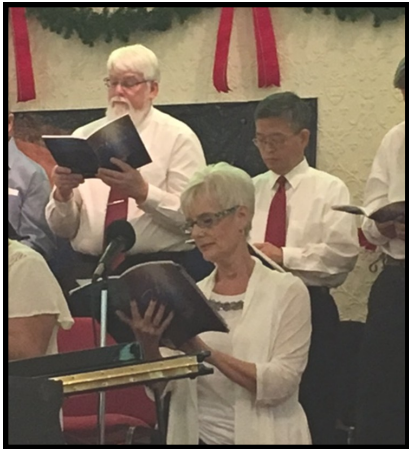
Volunteers needed (ewinans@verizon.net)

HELP!!! WE NEED MORE QUARTERS



Christmas Cantata The Miracle of Christmas







Blood Drive in Memory of

Emily Eismann

At: Manahawkin United Methodist Church

In Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, January 3, 2017

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

(1-800-448-8543)

or

make your own appointment on the web site

RedCrossBlood.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 Power Red Donor (formerly 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

Anyone interested in being a **Power Red Donor** 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 want to help schedule appointments

Please call or see Marian Assur

Remember: The need is constant.

The gratification is instant.

GIVE BLOOD

January 2017 Calendar

Worship Hours: Two Services 8:30 and 11 A.M.
 Communion: Sunday, January 1, both services
 Staff Meeting: Monday, January 2, 11 A.M.
 Emily Eismann Blood Drive: Tuesday, January 3, 1-6 P.M.
 Installation of New Officers: Sunday, January 8, both services
 Shoprite Gift Cards: Sunday, January 8
 Worship Committee: Monday, January 9, 7 P.M.
 Church Council: Monday, January 16, 7 P.M.
 UMW Meeting: Tuesday, January 9, 1 P.M.
 Trustees Meeting: Tuesday, January 10, 7 P.M.
 Loads of Love: Thursday, January 26, 6 – 8 P.M.
 Baptism: Sunday, January 29, 11 A.M.
 Men's Breakfast: Saturday, January 14, 8:15 A.M. @ Horizon Diner
 Choir Practice: every Wednesday, 7 P.M.
 Bell Choir Practice: every Thursday, 7 P.M.
 Quilters: every Wednesday, 9:30 A.M. – 2:30 P.M. Fellowship Hall
 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. - 12 Noon. Thursday 9 A.M. - 1 P.M.

February 2017 Calendar

Worship Hours on Sunday: Two Services 8:30 and 11 A.M.
 Communion: Sunday, February 5, both services
 Staff Meeting: Monday, February 6, 11 A.M.
 Preschool Committee: Tuesday, February 7, 7 P.M.
 Men's Breakfast: Saturday, February 11, 8:15 A.M. @ Horizon Diner
 Shoprite Gift Cards: Sunday, February 12
 UMW Meeting: Tuesday, February 14, 1 P.M.
 Retreat: Saturday, February 18, 10:00 A.M. – 3 P.M. (Details will follow)
 Loads of Love: Thursday, February 23, 6 – 8 P.M.
 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.

Note: Ash Wednesday Service: Wednesday, March 1, 7 P.M.

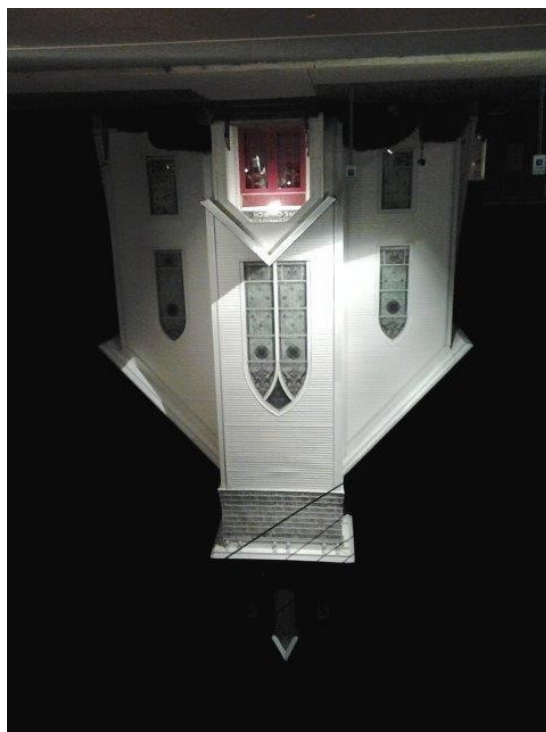
Additions or corrections to the Crossword:

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

January/February 2017