



# ***THE CROSSWORD***

**Manahawkin United Methodist Church** September/October 2017  
**116 Stafford Avenue**  
**Manahawkin, NJ 08050 (609-597-7666)**  
**[www.manahawkinmethodist.org](http://www.manahawkinmethodist.org)**

*Open Hearts*  
*Open Minds*  
*Open Doors*

## **2017 - The Year of Jubilee**



**OCTOBER 1ST**

**8:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.**



**LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH**  
**AND**  
**LET IT BEGIN WITH ME**

### **In this Issue:**

- **Message from Bishop Schol**
- **Thoughts to live by**
- **Family Promise**
- **Sunday School News**
- **Teen Challenge**

**PASTOR'S CORNER**

Below is a timely message from our Bishop John Schol

**What is Normal?**

I write to you with a heavy heart because I know good people of faith will hear different pieces of news coming out of Charlottesville and come to different conclusions. I believe that conversation is important and hope that we will continue to gain clarity and understanding about these issues.

While in Germany for a Council of Bishop's meeting several years ago, I toured a concentration camp. Martin Niemöller, clergyperson and Christian theologian, had been imprisoned there for being outspoken about Nazi atrocities against the Jews. The cell where he was in solitary confinement was preserved. Throughout the concentration camp, there were pictures of guards. There were quotes from guards. As I toured the concentration camp, I recognized that artifacts and history were preserved to communicate that while at the time, the behavior of the Nazi's seemed the right thing to do, it was not normal. It was not moral. It was not how God intended for us to treat one another.

Today, we are facing one of the greatest challenges for our soul and the soul of our Nation. We are facing the normalization of hatred and the continued normalization of racism. You do not find today in Germany statues of Nazis on horseback or proudly marching. I commend the people of Germany who have preserved the horrors of the Holocaust, not idols that look patriotic or victorious.

What we choose to honor normalizes behavior. What we choose to portray as heroic signifies the behaviors our society normalizes. The argument that statues of heroic confederate soldiers are a part of our history is like saying statues of heroic Nazis are a part of history. It does not tell the story that at its heart, the Civil War was based largely on individual rights to preserve an economic system based on enslaving people. When unjust systems and the people who seek to preserve those systems are honored, it signals that injustices and oppression have a place, not only in our history but our present and future.

To say the Nazis, the KKK and other hate groups and the people who stand up against them are similar only emboldens hate groups. The Nazis of Germany and the

dissidents who fought against them are not the same. The Nazis of today's hate groups are not the same as those who resist and protest hate groups. To compare as similar people who seek to preserve oppressive systems and injustices with those who seek to oppose them is a comparison that leads to further harm. One group of people went to Charlottesville with guns, chanting racial hatred against Jews and people of color to promote racism. The other group responded to oppose them and stand up for injustice. To call them the same is not normal. There is no moral equivalency between the groups.

What we witnessed in Charlottesville was not people seeking to preserve history, but people who seek to maintain a culture and system of racism and prejudice clashing with those trying to stop racism and prejudice.

What occurred is something that happens to a lesser degree in communities, churches, businesses, schools, organizations, and families all across our nation every day. It is a battle for what is right, what is of God and what kind of people we want to be. Racism in all forms, individual and systematic, is wrong. We can learn from the German people that we should never glorify a hate-filled and oppressive past, but we should help people see its horror, pain and evil so we can all work to prevent it from occurring again. Here in the United States, in our churches, communities and organizations, we should not glorify those who perpetrated or fought to preserve slavery, segregation and racism, but help the entire world see how wrong it was, is, and continues to be. When we don't act, we allow other voices to normalize hate speech and divisiveness, and the injustice continues.

I also believe we cannot minimize behavior that is wrong by saying, "Oh, that is just the way he talks," or, "That is just what she does." Or, "That is just the way they are." If we allow this, we normalize behavior that reinforces racism.

In Martin Niemöller's cell there is a quote that says:  
*"First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out—  
 Because I was not a Socialist.  
 Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out—  
 Because I was not a Trade Unionist.  
 Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—  
 Because I was not a Jew.  
 Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me."*

Let's all work together to resist injustice, to preserve what is right and to stand up to injustice and oppression in the name of Christ.

Greater New Jersey is a diverse church and we have made important progress. Let's keep going. I invite each of you

to have conversations during the next several weeks in your homes, Bible studies, small groups and worship and ask, "What can our family/congregation and individual disciples do to increase understanding about racism? What are the stories Jesus told about how to treat people? How will we listen to and honor the stories of those affected by racism? What will we do to work toward ending racism?"

Keep the faith!

John

John Schol, Bishop  
The United Methodist Church  
of Greater New Jersey"



### **Music Notes by Vel**

#### **CHOIR**

Choir practice resumes Wednesday evening September 6th at 7:00 PM and usually finishes up about 8:00 PM. Choir normally sings the first and third Sunday of each month at both services. HOWEVER – if you are only able to come to one of the Sunday morning services you are still welcome to sing in the choir. We need additional singers to participate in each of the two services. You don't need previous experience, you may miss practice occasionally and still be welcome to sing on Sunday if you feel you know the music well enough to participate. We sing to worship God, not to perform. Please prayerfully consider joining us.

#### **CHILDREN'S BELLS**



Children's Bell Choir will resume practice on September 25th. The usual schedule has the younger group practicing at 4:30 and the more experienced ringers at 6:00. We especially need additional beginners for the 4:30 group. Anyone who has finished first grade is WELCOME! This is an excellent opportunity for a child to learn to follow music and to participate cooperatively with a small group. It also helps to improve their attention span and to overcome shyness in participating in front of the congregation. Please contact me if your child or any child you know is interested in participating. I cannot at this time tell you when they may participate in worship, but will give you at least two to three weeks notice so that you can plan their schedule accordingly. Their regular attendance at practice is essential except for illness or other unforeseen circumstances. You may speak to me after worship, leave a message in my mailbox in the church office or call me at home (732) 961-1168 or on my cell (732) 915-0995.

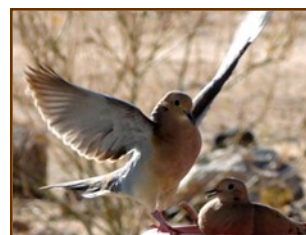
#### **Prayer Group**

For everyone born of GOD overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith - 1st John Vs:5.4 (NIV)



### **REMINDER: KNITTERS/CROCHETERS URGENTLY NEEDED!**

Our knitting group will resume meeting on September 13th. We make knit and crocheted items for "Knit for Kids" which is now under the auspices of World Vision. You are welcome to make whatever items you are most comfortable making. We have made newborn baby caps, blankets and sweaters. They can be knit or crocheted, whichever you enjoy doing. We get together for about an hour on Wednesday afternoon from 3:00 to 4:00 PM, and enjoy visiting while we knit. Many of us also work on our items at home, but that again is your option. You are also welcome to make items at home without joining our group and donating them to us for delivery to Knit for Kids. Please consider this ministry. Remember Christ saying: Inasmuch as you have done for one of the least of these my children, you have done it for me." Many babies die for lack of a warm cap or blanket. Many children have never had a new piece of clothing to call there own. To date we have sent over 200 sweaters to Knit for Kids. Please consider helping us to help them.



### **KAMIKAZE BIRDS OF CEDAR BONNET ISLAND**

We cross curving causeways, head toward the Atlantic.  
A gust of wind swoops a flock of mourning doves  
to the pavement.

They're determined to hold their ground  
as we intrude on their possession.

We brake, edge toward the curb, pass through un-  
scathed.

They would squabble to death in lieu of defeat  
by these outsiders.

Not for Cedar Bonnet natives sleepless summers  
imposed by flippan escapees from city lights and con-  
crete walls.

They fluff their ruffled plumage, commiserate with each  
other,  
slap their chests together in a feathery high five.

--Norma Paul



**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN****BIBLE STUDY GROUP: Wednesdays at 1:00PM**

Starting September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017, we will meet at the home of Ruth Farley in Fawn Lakes. The study book and DVD are based on Paul's missionary travels to Philippi, Delphi, and Thessaloniki, Greece. The study is entitled "**A Clash of Kingdoms**": Paul Proclaims Jesus as Lord – Part 1  
Contact Eileen Mahan, if interested.

**BIBLE STUDY GROUP: Sundays at 9:45AM**

Meeting in the Church Prayer room. Currently, this group is studying the book of "Jeremiah". It's interesting to note that Jeremiah's world is much like our world today – War, rumors of war, unbelief of a powerful and almighty God, believer's rejection of God's direction, etc.  
Contact Eileen Mahan, if interested.

**UMW Activities: Local/District/Conference**

**Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>** – Local regular meeting at 1:00PM in Fellowship Hall

Program: Finalizing Plans for 2017 -2018

Leaders: Executive Board Members

**Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> – Northern Shore District**

Prayer Breakfast at Whiting UMC 9:30AM – 11:45AM

**Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> – Northern Shore District**

Annual Dinner at St. Andrew UMC, Toms River, 5:00PM – 8:30PM

Speakers:

-Rev Dr. Regina Hendrickson, District Superintendent

-Monmouth County Climate Coalition

-The Neighborhood Center

**Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>** – Local regular meeting at 1:00PM in Fellowship Hall

Program: "Missionary Conferences in the U.S.A. – Appalachia, Oklahoma, and Alaska"

Leader: Norma Paul

**Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>** – Greater NJ Conference at the Conference Center, Neptune 9:00AM – 2:00PM

Program: "The Charter for Racial Justice and How it is Manifested in the GNJ Conference"

**Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>** – Allen Project, Inc.

Annual Covered Dish Supper, St. Paul's UMC in Ocean Grove, 6:00PM – 9:00PM

Leader: Deaconess Helen Mc Cahill

Entertainment: Allen Chapel and St Paul's Senior Choirs

**Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>** – Local Annual Church Bazaar in Fellowship Hall 9:00AM – 2:00PM

Lunch served 11:30AM – 1:30PM

All women of the UMC are automatically members of the United Methodist Women.

Come join us a local UMW meeting soon.

Contact Eileen Mahan or Joyce Trainor for information about this group.

**Keeping YOU in the loop:****Family Promise 2017 (FP) ...**

Thank you for donating and lending a hand to help us reach our hospitality goals for the homeless. As many of you know we were the Host

Congregation for Family Promise of Southern Ocean County on August 13 through August 20. Through our congregation's efforts we were able to turn all of our church preschool rooms into temporary hospitality rooms for our FP families. Our hosting week could not have been a success without all of the donations and food provided by MUMC members. We helped four families! We housed and fed seven adults and seven children - ages 2 months through 15 years old. Your donations of meals for seven evenings and items to feed our guests for breakfast, lunch, and snacks were once again outstanding! Thanks to all who joined our guests as evening fellowship hosts or who worked as part of the set up team, tear down team, sleepover chaperones, provided evening meals, bedding donations/washing team etc...

Again for a third year many members from our congregation who actively participated would like to share that the entire experience was rewarding and an extremely worthwhile endeavor! Everyone felt blessed to be part of this mission! We look forward to continuing this mission next summer. Please continue to pray for our Family Promise Mission.

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

Host Coordinators,

Beth Schenck and Pauline McShea and Angela Lowe

**Missions helping Missions!**

LOL & FP update.

The bedding used for Family Promise was washed and dried, FP thanks LOL for covering the cost of the washing & drying. We used \$90.50 of LOL donations.

LOL helpers: Beth and Bob Schenck; Pauline and Jim McShea and Ava

Submitted by Beth Schenck

Our MUMC missions help each other!

Family Promise coordinators would like to thank the Loads of Love Mission for their support.

Through the generosity of the Loads of Love Mission all bedding (sheets, blankets, and comforters) used during Family Promise hosting week was freshened up with a free laundry service of a wash and dry! Thanks for helping our FP hosting week kickoff with a fresh clean start!

Submitted by, Beth Schenck





### **NEW SHOP RITE CONTACTS (Alison O'Brien and Lynn Demenchuk)**

Our Shoprite Gift Card sales have been steady over the summer but we are looking for a spike in participation starting this Fall! As you probably know, the church receives 5% of each sale and you get 100% of the face value of the cards you purchase. Lynn Demenchuk is ready to take your order after the 8:30 am service or Alison O'Brien is available after the 11:00 am service. Please keep in mind your extra needs for holiday weekends and back-to-school. This is a great way to support our church just by doing your regular shopping!

### **TEEN CHALLENGE**

Once again, we were blessed to have Teen Challenge with us on Sunday, August 20, at 11 a.m. service.

Twelve ladies came, sang three praise songs to honor God and shared their testimonies. They witnessed that with Christ's power they are on the road of recovery from drug addiction. Please keep them in your prayers that they would stay out of drugs even after the program. We also raised \$231.00 to support their ministry.

After the service, they went to John and Susan Hague's bay house to have lunch and water activities including boat ride. All of them enjoyed the day of relaxation and fun in the sun! Special thanks to the Men's Group who provided all the foods and drinks.



### **LOADS OF LOVE MISSION**

continues to be a success

Here's the scoop on Loads of Love! Our laundry mission has been very successful during the months of June and July. We have utilized \$470.00 of our donations. That's a lot of quarters – to be exact it's 1,880 quarters!! This has enabled the washing machines and dryers to spin and tumble their way through 105 loads of laundry. Our Loads of Love mission provides finances and detergent for families who find that they need a helping hand. Please continue to donate to this ongoing mission ... every quarter counts! Thank you for your support.

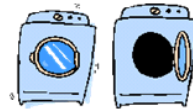
Submitted by, Beth Schenck

**Next events are September 28th and October 26th,  
5:30 (set-up) 6:00 - 8:00PM event.**

**Volunteers needed (Edna emwinans@comcast.net)  
(Beth kf2bq@comcast.net)**

**HELP!!! WE NEED MORE QUARTERS  
Look for the container in the back of the  
Sanctuary**

**(August 31st Mission spent \$149.25)  
Thanks to Pastor Choi, Jim & Pauline McShea,  
And Bob and Beth Schenck**



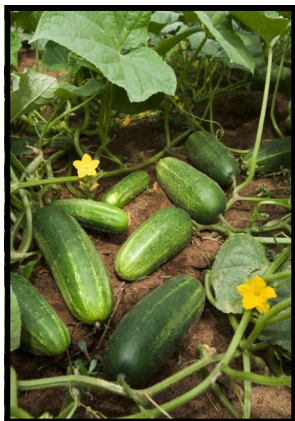


GARDEN MISSION

We found a robber in our garden the other day, but "he turned tail and ran" when he saw us coming. Luckily no groundhogs have been interested this year. Perhaps all the wiring and new gate were discouraging



The produce is winding down with the cooling and shortening of the days. We have had very good success with our summer and winter squashes which we have yet to pick. The tomatoes have been abundant but small and next year we will look for bigger varieties. The beans, eggplant, cucumbers and blueberries were alright, but not extraordinary. We will have the soil tested and also fertilize the soil accordingly. If the blueberry bushes are on sale for \$10.00 a piece like they were last year, we will buy more to increase our yield. For a first year, they weren't bad. Don has agreed to build a netted shelter for the berries to keep the birds away, Thanks Don



Thanks to Janet and Don Estelow for being in the garden every Tuesday and Saturday morning when so many of us were absent doing other things.

I will give you an update in the next newsletter as to the total amount of produce that was given to the food banks.

Lovisa and Art Hill

## RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

by

Kenneth Schorr

Turn on the TV, pickup a newspaper and there is hardly a week that doesn't go by when some aspect of a flawed and failing justice system makes the news. Often victims feel left out; frustrated by a non-caring system. Offenders are often subjected to civil and human rights violations; becoming victims. Community becomes apathetic; our answer to crime is lock them up and throw away the key. We race to incarcerate; prisons are big business. New laws are often passed based on emotions or fears that are fueled by politics, jobs, media and sadly sometimes driven by hate and revenge seekers. We demonize certain offenses. Our courts become courts of retribution instead of solutions. Society looks to the justice system with god-like fascination expecting it to solve some of the problems that society itself has helped to create. One recent estimate showed there were 2.1 million in our prisons, jails and youth detention centers. We are #1 in the world for the number of people incarcerated and apparently have been since the year 2000. I once read in a Human Rights Watch, of the six nations in the world that have any kind of sex offender laws the United States was #1 as having the worse record for punishing rather than helping them re-enter society. I am reminded of an article in a 2016 issue of Psychology Today on sex offender treatment in which the Justice Department noted offenders had three (3) percent recidivism rate; lower than other felonies. Apparently therapy helps. All of this is nothing to be proud of. Still states spend enormous monies on salaries, benefits and support services. There is little evidence that all this leads to a major decrease in crime. In fact all of this often creates more problems not only for offenders but also for community. What to do? Our response to crime is a moral and ethical test and challenge for government, citizens and the church. Albert Einstein was once quoted as saying, "If you want to solve a problem, you cannot solve it when you continue to think in the same way as when you created it."

The scales of justice are a symbol of our legal system. The blindfolded woman signifies that our courts will not show partiality in bringing justice. Substituting the state for the victim cannot produce a just weight nor does retribution meet the needs of both victim and offender. So long as we hear cries for continued retribution (perverted justice) even after time served, we have not achieved true justice. Community remains broken, not restored. A faithful church will look for alternatives. Restorative Justice!

Restorative Justice defined seeks to address the hurts and needs of victims, offenders and community in such a way that there might be healing for all concerned. It is not about fancy programs, it is about people. Human need must be addressed with both mercy and grace.

Be there for victims and families of those incarcerated. Neglect, scapegoating, loss of church community only drives them deeper into despair. Be there for those who are or who have been incarcerated. The church can be there by saying, "we're here to listen and help;" by calling them to conversion and accountability yet providing a supportive presence while they acknowledge their responsibility and try to carry it out. Ostracizing, isolating or demonizing is to dehumanize; that is not of God!

Speak out against the sins of hate, revenge and unforgiveness. Speak out against unjust laws and continued retribution even after time served; monitor the criminal justice system. The civil and human rights of all must be protected if we call ourselves a civilized society. It is not about what we feel like doing, rather, it is about what we must do in face of the challenge before us.

Restorative Justice is a challenge to people of faith; it separates the sheep from the goats. Within Jesus' call to, "visit those in prison" and "provide release to the captives," is the recognition that each troubled person is already, "one of God's own." Jesus is asking the church to make them, "our own." We are our brothers keeper!





### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

It's hard to believe another summer has passed! Once again, VBS was a whole lot of fun as we had around 36 kids who registered and attended throughout the week, along with 5 new families who we hope will join us for Sunday School this year. Below are some pictures from VBS, as we blasted off into God's Galaxy on a Mission of Faith. Thank you again to all who volunteered either their time or donated items towards VBS, we couldn't do it without you! Also a big thank you to the parents and children who attended...you are the reason we work so hard to make these events extra special. We also give praise to the Lord for blessing us with the ability to spread his Word to all the children in attendance and for the gift of beautiful weather that week.



As we look ahead...

It's almost time for Sunday School to start and we couldn't be more excited to see all our friends we have missed so much!

- On Sept 10 we will have our annual WELCOME BACK celebration at 9:45am in Fellowship Hall. We will introduce our teachers / meet and greet with parents and will be unveiling *another* new SPECIAL FRIEND who will be joining us this year!! Plus, Monty will be there to make the introduction!

- **At our Sept 10, 11am service we will have the Blessing of Teachers and Children by their Parents with Pastor Choi.** We ask that parents and their children share in this special event with us!

Please make sure to register children for Sunday School on our website: <http://ss.manahawkinmethodist.org/>.

**Please register each child individually and all children need to be registered.** We have so many fun programs and events we are planning this year- we can't wait to get started!

Please help us spread the word about our program which is for ages 4+! We also encourage kids to bring their friends- we LOVE both familiar and new faces!

Thank you and God Bless,  
Marissa Barry

Sunday School Superintendent

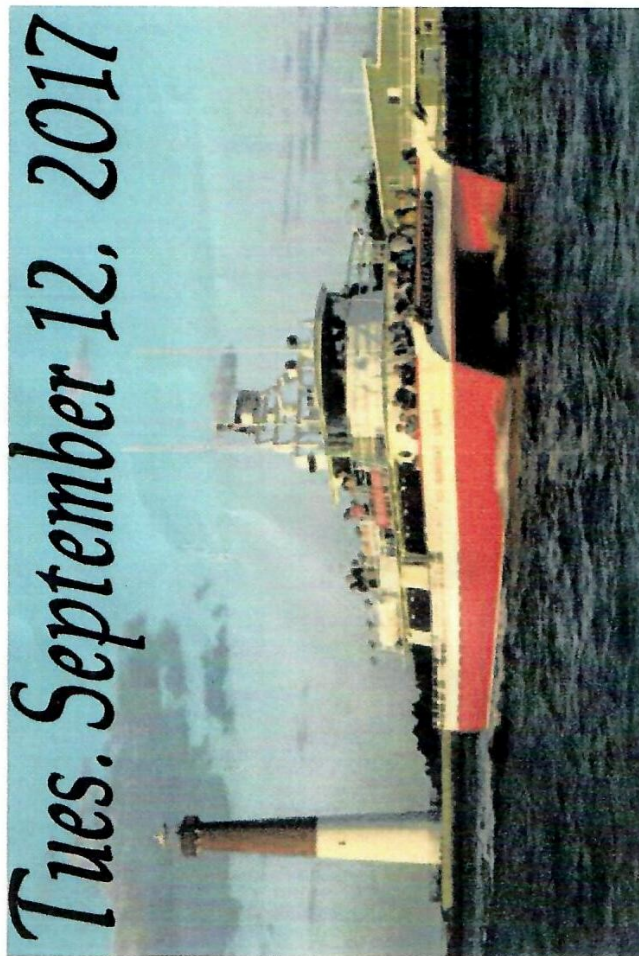


SUNSET CRUISE

Aboard the Miss Barnegat Light

Join us for a FUND RAISING

Tues. September 12, 2017



Tickets on sale  
**now** -  
Everyone is  
welcome  
to join us !

Need more  
information?

Email

Eva Mueller

zmueller1@verizon.net

or

Diane DeVito @

yomate1502@gmail.com

We leave **promptly** from the dock @ **6:30 PM**-  
(1801 Bay Avenue, Barnegat Light)

\$15.00 per person;

Children 12 & under \$10.00 (2 and under free)

**September Calendar**

Worship Hours: All Sundays Two Services 8:30 and 11 A.M.

Communion: Sunday, September 3, both services

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, September 9, 8:15 A.M., Vicki's Corner Cafe

Shoprite Gift Cards: Sunday, September 10 at both services

Sunday School Welcome Back: Sunday, September 10, 9:45 A.M.

Sunday School Blessing of Children/Teachers/ Parents: September 10, 11 A.M. service

Membership Classes: Sunday, September 17 and 24, 10 A.M.

Staff Meeting: Monday, September 18, 11 A.M.

Council Meeting: Monday, September 18, 7 P.M.

Trustees Meeting: Tuesday, September 19, 7 P.M.

Blessing of Animals: Saturday, September 23, 3 P.M.

Baptism: Sunday, September 24, at 11 A.M. service

Finance Meeting: Tuesday, September 26, 7:30 P.M.

Loads of Love: Thursday, September 28, 6-8 P.M.

Choir practice: every Wednesday, 7 P.M.

Hand-bell Choir practice: every Thursday, 7 P.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.



**October Calendar**

**World Communion: Sunday**, October 1, both services

Worship Hours: Sundays (10/1, 8, 22, 29) Two Services 8:30 and 11 A.M.

Shoprite Gift Cards: Sunday, October 9

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, October 14, 8:15 A.M., Vicki's Corner Cafe.

Laity Sunday, 10/15: One Service at 10 A.M. New members received

Loads of Love: Thursday, October 26, 6-8 P.M.

Super Church Conference: Saturday, October 28, Aldersgate UMC, New Brunswick

Sunday School Halloween Event: Sunday, October 29, 9:45 A.M.

Trustees Meeting: TBA

Choir practice: every Wednesday, 7 P.M.

Hand-bell Choir practice: every Thursday, 7 P.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.

Secretary Away: October 30 through November 7. Will be back on Wednesday, November 8.

**Help Wanted**



**Greeters,  
Ushers**



**Candle  
Lighters**



**Readers**

**Sign up sheets in Narthex**

Additions or corrections to the Crossword:

Contact Edna Winans at 609-304-3403

**Note New Email:**

emwinans@comcast.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***

***September/October 2017***