



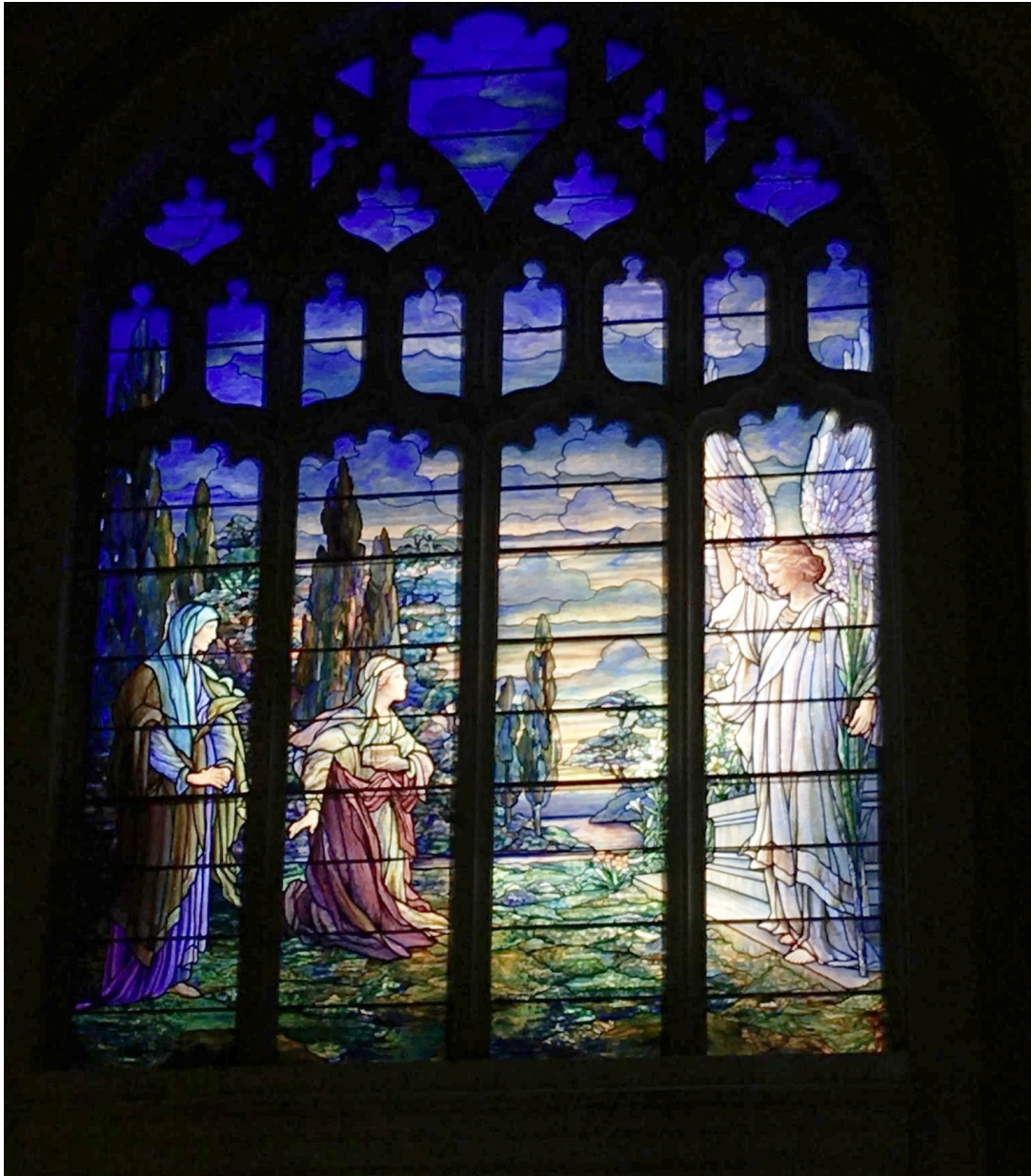
THE CROSSWORD

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

March/April 2018

Open Hearts
Open Minds
Open Doors

2018 - The Year of the BIBLE



*This beautiful "Resurrection Morn" window was created in 1928
By Charles Mente of Tiffany Studios in New York City.
Window can be seen at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Hanover, Pa 17331*

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Pastor's Corner

*"Therefore, if you have been raised up with Christ, **keep seeking the things above**, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God" (Colossians 3:1, NASB).*

Imagine that you are traveling in space. Imagine that for the first time you look at the beautiful blue-green Earth from the orbit. You would say, "Wow!" You would be amazed with the beauty and wonder of our planet Earth.

I bet you wouldn't stop there. In your thoughts, you would move onto something that you would like to do to keep our beautiful planet clean and healthy for our next generations for many years to come.

Well, that's exactly what many astronauts went through. National Geographic (March/2018) asked some astronauts who travelled in space, some of whom stayed up there over a year, what they had learned about Earth from above. One astronaut, Mike Massimino, said, *"I thought at one point, if you could be up in heaven, this is how you would see the planet. And then I dwelled on that and said, no, it's more beautiful than that. This is what heaven must look like. I think of our planet as a paradise. We are very lucky to be here"* (p. 70).

With no exception, these astronauts had their eye-opening (even life changing) experiences and were resolved to do something good and beneficial for humanity ranging from environment protection to animal conservation. I wonder what makes them such altruistic and proactive to preserve the Planet Earth. Because, their perspective has changed: from a horizontal to a vertical perspective. From a micro to a macro view. From above, all things on Earth look quite small (even disappear) and you see a bigger picture on life.

That's what we need to do in our spiritual life: from time to time, if not all the time, we need to look at our lives from a macro perspective: from the heavenly perspective. For instance, consider small stuff. When we think of what really matters in the eternal perspective, we will not sweat over trivial things. Another instance is money. We all know that we cannot take it with us when we die.

That's why Jesus commands us to keep our eyes on the things above. Not the things below. Keep your minds set on the things that matter eternally such as love, joy, peace, hope, faith, kindness, gentleness, self-control, ...

One day you and I will stand before God. We will look down at our own earthly life from the heavenly perspective. All the earthly things will disappear and something majestic and beautiful will appear to our eyes.

We would all say, "Wow!" and realize what really matters: the love of the Lord and the love of our neighbors as Christ has loved us. Let's live day by day with that perspective. We will never regret.

See you all on Easter Sunday to celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death.

Kyewoon



Music Notes by Vel

March promises to be a very busy month for our choir. They will be singing for the Communion Service on March 4th, for Palm Sunday on March 25th, for Holy Thursday at West Creek on March 29th, for Good Friday on March 30th and of course for Easter on April 1st.

A very special treat is planned for Good Friday! The choir will be presenting the cantata "The Weeping Tree" by Joseph Martin. This is a very beautiful and inspiring work that you won't want to miss. Come and bring your friends.

The Junior Bells will be playing for both services on March 11th, and Praise Bells will be playing on Palm Sunday, in addition to our choir.

It's not too late if you would like to sing in the cantata with us. Just come to practice on Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary. New members are always welcome.

QUILTERS



Are you looking for a fun service project with others? The Quilters are looking for more help on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 2:30 or any combination of time between.

If you can make a needle and thread go up and down to make a small running stitch, then you can quilt.

We get our quilts from people in the area who hear that we "hand quilt." They are charged by the size and the amount of patterning done on the quilt. Our money goes to help fund church projects or charities that we all agree are valuable.

Please bring a needle, scissors, and thimble if you use one. Also we eat a bag lunch at noon so bring a mug for hot tea if you desire. Several people come to eat lunch with us and if that is all you can do, please feel free to come.

Hope to see you soon! The Quilters



Service Project - 2018

One year ago, we were asking for volunteers to head to Appalachia territory to get involved in a Service Project. Six of us went to West Virginia at an expense to work for a couple of days helping those less fortunate than us.

This year we are looking for a more local Service Project and upon searching and asking it brought us to Family Promise.

We all know Family Promise and their mission of keeping families together through homelessness to independent living.

We asked them about the possibility of a family moving into a home to begin their independent living if there might be a need some work to be done.

They said not at this time, but knew who did need some work done... Family Promise.

Family Promise has a need to freshen up the interior walls at their office located on S. Main St in Barnegat. This is where families that are homeless go during the day, every day, after spending an evening at a local church like we do for them during our week in the summer.

This project will be a PAINT ONLY project, and I know what many of you are probably thinking..."I DON'T LIKE TO PAINT" or "I HATE PAINTING". We completely understand your feelings.

Did we mention that we are looking to do this as a ONE DAY – PROJECT!!! We are focusing on a project date of Saturday, May 19th.

Janet and I have been involved and taken part in ONE DAY Projects years ago called Christmas in April. This was a very large County wide organization headed by Village Lutheran Church in Lanoka Harbor that took on multiple projects in one-day. So we believe this project is very doable in one day.

A visit was made to their office to take a look and see things as they are. Yes, a fresh coat of paint would go a long way to brighten things up. It's a ranch style building that Family Promise rents. So they are free to paint the walls as they see the need.

We are looking to put together an organizing team to coordinate the details of this project. A kick-off planning meeting will be Sunday, March 4th, that will take place during coffee hour.

As we move forward with the planning process, we see the potential of many parts to this project that people can get

involved in that won't require painting.

So, if you think you might be interested in helping with this project, there is a sign up sheet in the Hallway on the Missions Bulletin Board for you to sign.

Many hands make light work.

Thank you,

Don & Janet Estelow –
Missions Co-Chairpersons



The Youth Group held their spaghetti dinner on February 10th. We had over 80 people come and eat or get take-out and made over \$325. This money will be used in May for the upcoming Family Promise Service Project.

Our kids are very excited to help out with the upcoming service project. They are coming up with wonderful ideas to entertain the families and kids while the work is being done on the house.

In March the youth group will be participating in the March 18th 11am church service.

Then in April, the senior youth group will be having their church lock-in. Its a great night of games and fellowship for the kids.

-Randy Estelow

APRIL MORNING

Step out!

Take the measure of the morning.

Cherry red feathers release their grip
on maple branches that scrape
against

early fog. Tendrils uncurl-
plummet to pool in a gathering of
beet red – delicacy distorted.

Take the measure of the pines.

Inhale their pungent shadows before
they burn dry de-scented.

Stretch wide the tape.

Take measure of the day.

Embrace the morning. Gather it as
firewood.

Grasp a maple to scrape away the
fog.

Norma Paul



United Methodist Women Calendar of Events

Friday, March 9th: World Day of Prayer, 1:00 P.M.

- To be held at the First United Methodist Church, 126 North Green Street (Rt 539), Tuckerton, NJ.
- Worship Service is entitled: "All God's Creation is Very Good"; prepared by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Suriname.
- All are welcome to attend this Worship Service, both men and women. Several area churches are participating, including Manahawkin UMC.

Tuesday, March 13th: Regular MUMW Meeting, 1:00 P.M.

- Program: Lenten Message
- Special Speaker: Pastor Kyewoon Choi

Saturday, March 24th: Northern Shore District UMW Meeting

- Leadership Training and Prayer Breakfast - 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon
- First United Methodist Church of Toms River, Old Freehold Road and Chestnut Street
- Featuring workshops on various UMW National and Global Projects

Saturday, April 7th: Greater NJ UMW Spring Conference

- Program: Maternal Health in NJ, 9:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.
- Saint Andrews UMC, 327 Marlton Pike W, Cherry Hill, NJ

Tuesday, April 10th: Regular MUMW Meeting, 1:00 P.M.

- Program: Children/Families Advocacy
- Presenters: Eileen Mahan, Beth Schenck, Lisa Mower (Director, MUMC Pre-School), Liz Golla (Family Promise)

Saturday, April 14th: Tupperware Party, 1:00 P.M.

- Fellowship Hall, Manahawkin, UMC
- Fundraiser for UMW Missions
- All are welcome to attend, both men and women.

Friday, April 20th: MUMW Annual "Sub" Sale, 11:00 A.M.

- Fundraiser for Camden Neighborhood Center
- Orders due by Sunday, April 15th

Sunday, May 6th: Neighborhood Tea, 3:00 P.M., Place TBA

Monday, May 7th: Annual Mother/Daughter Covered Dish Supper

- Fellowship Hall, 6:30 P.M. Entertainment: The Treble Makers from Our Gang Players, Inc
Ellen Mahan MUMW President



MUMC Scholarship Program

Applications for the Emily Eismann Memorial Scholarships are available in the Church Office. Applicants must be members or constituents of the Manahawkin United Methodist Church. High School seniors who are planning to attend college in the fall or adults who will be enrolled in courses this summer or fall are eligible to apply. Completed applications are due in the church office by Friday March 23rd. The scholarship committee will meet Sunday, March 25th, 12 noon to review the applications and plan for Scholarship Sunday, April 22nd.

Submitted by

Eileen Mahan, Chairperson



Loads of Love – Update

The LOL Mission continues to be very successful. The recent article in the Sandpaper has made our community aware of this ministry we are providing.

The people that come are very thankful for the free service and it provides them an opportunity of talking and unloading the problems they face each day and offer an opportunity of prayer.

People and organizations from the community have reached out to us expressing their appreciation of this ministry. We've received substantial donations from not only our congregation but also from St. Peter's-at-the-Light in Barnegat Light; the Beach Haven West Civic Association and other members of the community.

On the average, we pay out \$200 a night. In January we paid out \$194, February \$136. With the recent article, we thought we would be much busier. Perhaps the rain kept people away.

We continue to make refinements to the Mission as a way to keep it successful for the future. We have a dedicated team and are always open for members of our congregation to get involved.

Our schedule for the coming months are as follows: : 3/22, 4/26, 5/31, 6/28, 7/26, 8/30, 9/27, 10/25, 11/29, 12/27

Prayer Group

³ To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.


REMINDER: KNITTERS/CROCHETERS URGENTLY NEEDED!

Our knitting group resumed meeting on Wednesday, January 3rd at 3:00PM. 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 their own. To date we have sent over 200 sweaters to Knit for Kids. Please consider helping us to help them.

BUT

(Thoughts to live by)

by

Kenneth Schorr

I know I should forgive ---- "but!" I can forgive almost anything ---- "but!"

How many times have you heard people say something like this? Perhaps you have said this or something similar at one time? How often do we speak without thinking; letting our emotions dictate. It is said that what comes out of the mouth reveals what is in the heart. "But," this is different you might be thinking about now. Really? Why do we try to justify the sin of unforgiveness? Revenge, getting even, hate, indifference, is not God-like! Read your Bible; there is great danger in hardening our hearts!

If you have read through the entire Bible you will find the word "but" does not appear. Confirm it if you doubt by reading a good concordance such as Strong's Concordance. Never once in His ministry, did Jesus use that word. Why do we, individually, as a society, and as a church continue to be unforgiving? Why do we continue to deny the Cross and what it stands for? Where is our faith? How can we dare to call ourselves Christian?

Since the church is made up of the people of God it has a moral and ethical mandate to practice and preach the gospel of forgiveness and reconciliation. The church is not to admit some and reject others; if it does then it fails to be a Christian church! The church and those who sit in the pews are the forgiven community. Life within the church is to be one of forgiving and being forgiven. No "buts!"

Scripture is quite clear when it comes to our responsibility to forgive. When you pray the Lord's Prayer, what is it telling you about forgiving? Are they just meaningless words? Jesus makes it quite clear, how can you expect to be forgiven by God the Father when you will not forgive others? God pours out His love upon us, through Christ Jesus, without exception --- no ifs, ands, or BUTS!

When we (you) stand before the Lord in final judgment, as we all will, what then if the Lord were to say, I know I should forgive (and forget) you ---- "BUT?" Too late; don't you agree?

Bible Challenge 2018

Submitted by Rosemary Molinaro



Pastor Choi has declared 2018 as the Year of the Bible and has challenged us to read the entire Bible during the year. As of this writing, 24 members of our church family have accepted the challenge. We plan to meet once a month to discuss what we've read, express our thoughts, and support each other on this journey.

Please keep us in your prayers that God will open our hearts and minds to hear His word. Our first meeting was on Sunday, Feb. 25th, and even though the rain was falling "Noah style," 14 readers met with Pastor Choi after both services and shared their thoughts. We had great conversation! Those of us who are starting in the Old Testament had the same reaction - Life was not very pleasant then - but Pastor encouraged us to keep reading and assured us it will get better!!! Our next meeting is [Sunday, March 25th](#) after both services. New readers are always welcomed to take this journey with us. If you would like a great Bible resource, download "Bible You Version."



Shoprite Card Sales Continue in 2018 SHOPRITE Cards sales were very strong for January/February (over \$4000 in sales). Thanks to all who purchased cards throughout the month! We will continue this fundraiser in 2018, so please let us know how many cards you can use. On the first Sunday of the month we'll take orders and then deliver cards on the second Sunday of the month. Keep in mind your special events and holidays so the church can benefit from all of your Shoprite purchases. If you want to learn more about how this program helps our church, or if you want to purchase cards, see Lynn Demenchuk after the 8:30 am service or Alison O'Brien after the 11am service.



Tallwoods Rehab and Nursing Center hosted our family hour between services one Sunday in February. Below is an overview of the services available. Our own Regina Appiah-Mends is the Director of Nursing.

Extended Care = Extended Family

Located In Bayville, NJ Tallwoods is one of Ocean County's premier nursing and rehabilitation facilities. Providing quality nursing care and comfort for sub-acute /rehab patients, long term residents, Alzheimer's and dementia sufferers and those needing Hospice care – our skilled staff is equipped to make sure your loved one's stay is comfortable, active and fulfilling, while maximizing their healing or recovery. No matter our residents' needs and wants, our staff is trained and has the skill set to provide the utmost in quality nursing, rehabilitation, activities and care. From dining excellence to stimulating and engaging activities, you're assured that your loved one is not just spending their days with us, but loving every minute. At Tallwoods, you will find sensitivity and commitment that sets us apart, and makes us a facility of choice for those in need of personal care, rehabilitation, respite care and long term nursing care. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our Admissions Director, Veronica Gallucci at 732-237-2220 x111 or on her cell 732-688-6407 with any questions at all on our services.

The stained glass window on the cover is one of six windows lovingly preserved by Saint Matthew Lutheran Church , 30 W. Hanover, Pa 17331 Phone 717-637-7101 www.stmattlutheran.org



Vel Gamble discovered this treasure while attending a Sacred Music Conference.

Resurrection Morn

Matthew 28: 1-8 After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him, the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and

great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

In daylight hours, this exquisite Tiffany window towers the nave, proclaiming hope, comfort and a sense of direction for life to all who contemplate its message.

The dark blue nighttime sky fades in the distance as a rose-tinted dawn warms the horizon. A winding stream and the greenery depict a garden, with a white stone tomb on the right.

Standing up in front of the tomb is the figure of an angel dressed in white, with large wings and a palm branch in his left hand. The angel's back is toward the tomb and his right hand is held high as he faces the two figures on the left. It seems to be the very moment when he announces, "Do not be afraid ... he has risen!"

The posture of the women reveals their responses to the angel's message. With hands clasped together and extended slightly in front of her, the upright figure faces the angel in awe and wonder. To her left, the other kneels in deference to this message from heaven. In her left hand she clutches the box of spices she brought to anoint the body of Jesus.

Matthew identifies the two as "Mary Magdalene and the other Mary." The 'other Mary' refers to the "mother of James and Joseph" who had witnessed the crucifixion and burial. One tradition suggests she may have been the Virgin Mary's sister-in-law, the wife of Joseph's brother, Clopas. In the Gospels, these two women are often named among the followers of Jesus.



Past Events:

During the month of February, the Sunday School had a party dedicated to celebrating God's love for us! We received special Valentine cards, ate some yummy treats, made a mug craft to take-home, and made a Valentine's project for the Mystic Meadows Nursing Home residents. Below are some pictures of all the fun and love we shared during our event!



Upcoming Events:

March 25, Palm Sunday, 9:45 Fellowship Hall: The Sunday School will present "The Road to Easter: What Happened During Holy Week?", followed by our annual Egg Hunt! Leading up to the event, the children will be reviewing the events of Holy Week during Sanctuary time.

April 1, Easter Sunday – No SS classes – attend service in place of class. He is Risen! Hallelujah! Have a blessed Easter.

Marissa Barry



Lauren Swensen, one of our very talented young musicians, accompanied Vel Gamble and our Choir on Sunday, Feb. 11th, for the anthem, Canticle of Love.



March 2018 Calendar

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

Communion: Sunday, March 4, both services

Confirmation Class Starts: Sunday, March 4, 9:45 A.M. -10:45 A.M.

Staff Meeting, Monday, March 5, 11 A.M.

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, March 10, 8:15 A.M. @ Vicki's Cafe

Vision Retreat, Saturday, March 10, 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

Daylight Saving Time starts on Sunday, March 11

Shoprite Gift Cards: Sunday, March 11

UMW Meeting: Tuesday, March 13, 1 P.M.

Trustees Meeting: Tuesday, March 13, 7 P.M.

Loads of Love, Thursday, March 22, 6 – 8 P.M.

Palm Sunday, March 25, Two Services, 8:30 and 11 A.M.

Joint Maundy Thursday Service: Thursday, March 29, 7 P.M. @ West Creek UMC

Good Friday Community Service: Friday, March 30, 12 Noon @ Ocean Community Church

Good Friday Service: Cantata, Friday, March 30, 7 P.M.

Youth Group: every Monday, 6:30 P.M.

Quilters: every Wednesday, 9:30 A.M.

Choir Practice: every Wednesday, 7 P.M.

Prayer Group: every Thursday, 11 A.M.

Bell Choir Practice: every Thursday, 7 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.

**HELP SOLVE THE MYSTERY****“Church Basketball League****1941 Champions****Manahawkin Methodist”**

We have no record of the team members

Do you know who they were????

Contact: Edna 609-304-3403

emwinans@comcast.net

April 2018 Calendar

Worship Hours on Sunday: Two Services 8:30 and 11 A.M.

Easter Sunday, April 1, Two Services 8:30 and 11 A.M.

Confirmation Class: All Sundays except Easter, 9:45 A.M. – 10:45 A.M.

Communion: Sunday, April 8, both services

Shoprite Gift Cards: Sunday, April 8

Staff Meeting, Monday, April 9, 11 A.M.

UMW Meeting: Tuesday, April 10, 1 P.M.

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, April 14, 8:15 A.M. @ Vicki's Cafe

Trustees Meeting: TBA

Churchwide Cleanup: Saturday, April 21, 9 A.M. - Noon

Fellowship Night, Saturday, April 21, 3 – 6 P.M. @ Fellowship Hall

Scholarship Sunday, April 22, at both services

Loads of Love: Thursday, April 26, 6 – 8 P.M. @Magic Wash in Manahawkin

Youth Group: every Monday, 6:30 P.M.

Quilters: every Wednesday, 9:30 A.M.

Choir Practice: every Wednesday, 7 P.M.

Prayer Group: every Thursday, 11 A.M.

Bell Choir Practice: every Thursday, 7 P.M.

Pastor on vacation: Monday -Wednesday, April 2-4

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.

Help Wanted

**Greeters,
Ushers**



**Candle
Lighters**



Readers

Contact Rosemary Molinaro at 609-698-1251 or
blkbt5@verizon.net if willing to serve

Additions or corrections to the Crossword:

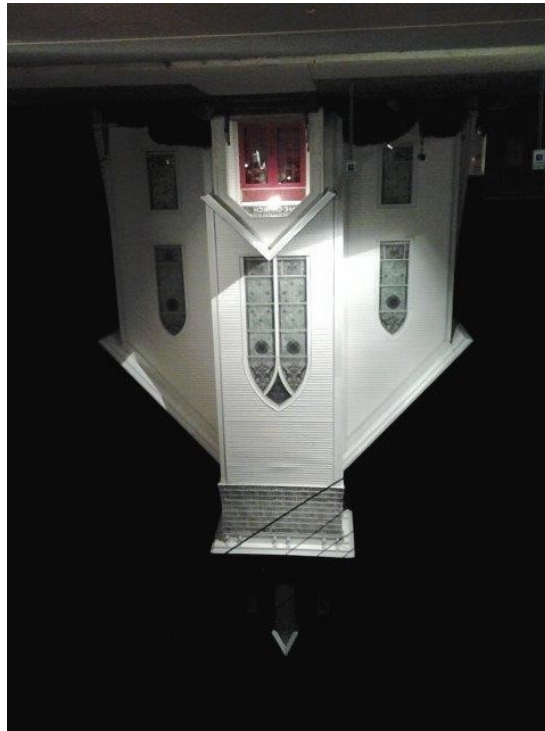
Contact Edna Winans at 609-304-3403

Note New Email:

emwinans@comcast.net

Manahawkin United Methodist Church

Located in the hearts of the Jersey Shore



Manahawkin United Methodist Church

116 Stafford Avenue

Manahawkin, NJ 08050



Crossword Newsletter

March/April 2018