



THE CROSSWORD

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

July/August 2019

Open Hearts
Open Minds
Open Doors

2019 - SHALOM



Genesis 1:10 ¹⁰ *And God called the dry land earth, and the gathering together of the waters he called the SEAs,: and GOD saw that it was good,*

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Pastor's Corner

(Background of the text below: After the people of Israel returned to their homeland after the 70 years of servitude in Babylonia,)

² The people of Bethel had sent Sharezer and Regem-Melek, together with their men, to

entreat the LORD ³ by asking the priests of the house of the LORD Almighty and the prophets, "Should I mourn and fast in the fifth month, as I have done for so many years?"

⁴ Then the word of the LORD Almighty came to me: ⁵ "Ask all the people of the land and the priests, 'When you fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh months for the past seventy years, was it really for me that you fasted?' ⁶ And when you were eating and drinking, were you not just feasting for yourselves? (Zechariah 7:2-6).

During the Babylonian captivity, the Israelites would do fasting and mourning for many years. When they returned to their homeland, they inquired of God's will if they should continue fasting and mourning since they were no longer in slavery. God's answer was "Yes, yet, do it not for your own sake or glory. Rather, do it to My glory and honor."

The text is more relevant than before. Many church people today worship and serve the Lord for themselves not for the Lord. One pattern permeates the Church: *I bring my kids to Sunday School whenever they are free. In June, when Sunday School is out, so are they. So am I. We will return in September for the next nine months.*

Such practice continues until their kids go to college. Then, just like their kids drop entirely out of the church, so do they. When I asked one such parent to return to church, she said, "Maybe later, not now." I couldn't help thinking all years of her worship and services were for herself, but not for the Lord.

Most of the members at MUMC are not like that. Thank God. In fact, I commend many faithful people of God at our church. I am very proud of all of you and grateful for your life-long worship and service for the Lord and His people. *Rain or shine. You are there. You worship the Lord and serve Him. Keep up your faith.*

I also urge those folks who keep only religious holidays such as Christmas and Easter to ask the following question: "Why am I going to church after all? Is it for me or for the Lord?" I pray and hope that you discover the true reason for worship and service: **the glory of God not our own.**

Have a safe summer and see you at church! Kyewoon

Worship Leaders needed!

We are starting up a Worship Leader role for our Sunday services.

Each Sunday we would like to have someone lend a hand to Pastor Choi to assist in opening up the Sunday service. We know you can help! The sign-up sheet is in the narthex. As a Worship Leader you will conduct the service welcome, ask for announcements, and welcome the congregation to greet each other for the passing of the Peace. The next few tasks are familiar too – you will read the Call to Worship, announce the Hymn selection and page number, as well as make the call for Children's Time. This will be followed by you leading the Prayer of Confession and conducting the Assurance of Pardon. Culminating with asking the congregation if they have any Joys, Concerns, and Praises. That's it! Pastor Choi will take over from that point with the Pastoral Prayer etc... and conduct the remainder of the service.

We also need ushers for the 11:00AM services.

Contact : Pastor Choi or Don Estelow dhestelow@aol.com

Once a Month Saturday Praise Service

We have been approached by people asking if we would consider doing a Saturday night service. After talking with Pastor Choi we feel that starting once a month Saturday Praise Service will be a wonderful idea. The service will be held in Fellowship Hall and be 30 minutes long; 20 minutes of praise music, followed by a 10 minute sermon from 7:30pm-8pm.

We are looking for people who would like to help us brainstorm more ideas about this. Our first meeting will be on Sunday July 28th at 10am. If you have any questions please reach out to Randy and Vanessa Estelow, also Pastor Kyewoon Choi.

Our goal is to provide a contemporary service.

God Bless,
Randy and Vanessa Estelow



MUSIC NOTES BY VEL

There will be one additional practice on Wednesday, July 10th at 7:00 pm for those going to the Ocean Grove annual choir festival on Sunday July 14th.

Our annual choir picnic will be on Saturday, August 17th at the home of Cheryl Conti. Anyone interested in participating in the choir is invited to attend with their significant other. Please contact Cheryl or Vel if you plan to attend.

Choir practice will resume on Wednesday Sept 4th at 7:00 PM. Please consider coming and singing with us.

Vel



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

Knitters Group



We have suspended our get togethers for the summer and will resume them on Wednesday, September 4th at 3:00 PM.

Anyone interested in knitting or crocheting items for us is welcome to join us or to work on items at home. If you like patterns, please see Vel.

On Sunday, June 16th, we dedicated 54 sweaters, 13 baby blankets and 9 baby caps to be shipped to World Vision for distribution to needy children. Thank you to all who participated in the project. As Christ said "Inasmuch as you have done it for one of these my children, you have done it for me."



Once again, a big THANKS to all those who have purchased **ShopRite Cards** for the Church fundraiser. We are running about the same level of sales as last year making about \$100 for the Church each month. Everyone is invited to participate, and remember you get the face value of the cards you purchase and the Church gets 5% of card sales from ShopRite. We are also hoping for additional sales as people purchase cards to donate to the shopping team for **Family Promise**; any amount will help! Our congregation has already donated over \$250 toward food purchases. Please see Lynn Demenchuk after early service or Alison O'Brien after the 11 o'clock service.

Poets Corner

CELEBRATE

"Celebrate!"
the floating black balloon declares,
imprinted with candles and stars
carried into my party by
grandchildren days ago.

Still it hangs above Today
reminding all who enter
there's one blessed grandma
in this house, counting her
offspring one by one,
remembering how and when
they entered her life,
became an ever-present source
of joy, of pride, of determined need
to rejoice in their being.

She will hold daily thoughts of them
close to her bosom, to enlarge
her perception of every child
everywhere
as she turns her searching eyes
outward, away from daily chores,
conversations with kith and kin,
recipes for yet another way to
prepare a thirty-minute meal,
the drift away from fading
remembrances
in a world gone awry.

Now awaking from old familiarity
into sudden awareness of the
smallness of her personal existence
within the grandeur of life in common
with each new child she greets,
she will reach out to hold them close,
to whisper confidentially,
it's time now for you to
celebrate!

Norma Paul

MUMW Events and Activities

July/August 2019

Friday – Sunday, July 12-14

Cooperative School of Christian Missions (Mission U) at Georgian Court University, Lakewood

Mission Topics:

Practicing Resurrection: Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship

UMW in Missions: 150 Years and Beyond

What about our money? A Faith Response

Conference Topic:

Just Mercy: A story of Justice and Redemption

Tuesday, August 13,

MUMW Executive Board, 10:00 AM Meeting

Planning Meeting for 2019 - 2020

At Eileen Mahan's home.

Tuesday, September 10th

Regular MUMW Meeting, 1:00 PM, Fellowship Hall

Program: General Membership Planning Meeting

Leaders: President and Executive Board

Saturday, September 14th

Northern Shore District UMW, 8:30 AM – 12:00 Noon

Time: 12 noon

Program: Fall Prayer Breakfast

Place: TBA



Eileen Mahan, MUMW
President

GOD'S LOVE

(Thoughts to live by)

by Kenneth Schorr

God loves you! Amen!

Some years ago, my wife and I were at a church where the Pastor stepped into the pulpit, said those words then sat down. In all of five seconds, the sermon was over! Needless to say there was surprise, shock and even confusion. As you looked around at the facial expressions, you could almost tell what was going on inside the minds of those in the pews.

The clock watchers! Wow! We are going to get out of here real quick; now we can do what we wanted to do and sooner (the beach?). Perhaps this group goes to church to make themselves look good; perhaps out of obligation, not because they want too. Do they really know of God's love through Jesus Christ; do they care? So wrapped up in themselves yet they think themselves as Christian?

Confused! This group knows all about Jesus in their minds! Too often they put on a good front but are they involved in the life and missions of the church as they should be or do they leave things to be done by others? Do they love and forgive others no matter who they are or what they may have done? Could it be they don't know God's love and forgiveness? Perhaps too legalistic losing compassion, understanding, love and forgiveness for the "Least of These?" A modern day Pharisee? Sadly, how many who sit in the pews on Sunday fall into this group? Spectator Christians?

Got it! This group (sadly all too few) nodded and had smiles on their faces. They had Jesus not only in their minds but in their hearts! Jesus was not just Lord, He was King, Sovereign of their lives! No doubt these were the shakers and movers in the church; the all too few who reach out, addressing the hurts and needs of the least of these, without exception, with both mercy and grace! They share the love God has given them with others as Jesus commanded!

Scripture has many examples of God's love (read your Bible) but John 3:16-17 is the gospel in a nut shell. God has shown His love for us through Jesus! Scripture also tells us we are to love God and to share His love with others; no selectiveness or excuses! No one is beyond God's love! So the question becomes, what group are you in? God knows! What group do you want to be in?

God loves you, sinner that you are (and we all are); but do you love Him and others and how do you show it? What are you waiting for?



Scholarship Recognition Sunday – June 16, 2019

The Scholarship Committee on behalf of the Manahawkin United Methodist Church recognizes members and affiliates who are recent high school graduates or are adults continuing education beyond high school or college. Many thanks to all who contributed to the success of the Emily Eismann Memorial Scholarship Program, namely, the United Methodist Women, the United Methodist Men, the United Methodist Adult Fellowship, the United Methodist Youth Group, Sharon Hood Music Studio, and numerous anonymous individual donors. Also, thanks to the members of the Scholarship Committee for their advise and support; thanks to Shelly Sperry for keeping track of the finances and writing the checks; thanks to Edna Winans for the Certificates of Recognition; thanks to Kathy Cavanagh for technical support; thanks to Pastor Choi for setting up the scholarship program agenda, his advise and support.

Six scholarships were awarded at \$500 each – four high school graduates and two continuing education.

The four high school graduates are as follows:

Sarah Harkness: SRHS graduate, full church member, daughter of James and Susan Harkness, attending Ocean County College in the fall, and enrolled in General Studies.

Derek Kettig: SRHS graduate, full church member, son of Bob and Lisa Kettig, attending Stockton University in the fall, and enrolled in Environmental and Marine Science.

Nicole Kondrk: MATES graduate, full church member, daughter of Joe and Melissa Kondrk, attending the College of New Jersey in the fall, and enrolled in Computer Science.

Mackensie Shields: Graduate of BHS, granddaughter of church members Nick and Mary Sue Pignato, attending Montclair State University in the fall, and enrolled in Fashion Design.

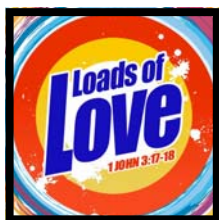
The two continuing education recipients are as follows:

Erik Anthony Hauge: Graduate of Cambridge-South Dorchester High School, grandson of church members John and Susan Hauge, entering Senior year at Salisbury University in Maryland, majoring in Exercise Science, and will also pursue certification as an Emergency Medical Technician.

Kathleen Ries: Graduate of Temple University and Mount Union College, full church member, mother of Warren Ries, has pursued real estate courses, and has attained a New Jersey Real Estate License as well as a Notary Public Commission.

Hearty congratulations to all of the scholarship recipients. May each be blessed and have much success in their studies, and future careers. Our beloved Emily Eismann's legacy continues through each of the recipients.

Submitted by:
Eileen Mahan
Scholarship Chairperson



Loads Of Love Mission

May and June were amazing months for our Loads of Love Mission. Due to the high volume of participants we started using a new record keeping system. A very simple form is filled out for each visitor. This makes it easier to keep track of exactly how many loads are washed and dried, how much money is used, and how many people attend each night.

It was great to have Beverly Jonas help us out in June! We can always use more volunteers. We operate in two shifts -- 6-7pm and 7-8pm. Come to one or both!

Thanks to Pauline and Jim McShea for donating several folding chairs. Nice for "taking a load off" between loads!

It is wonderful to see so many new participants. A few have commented on seeing our free laundry sign but thinking it was too good to be true. Nice to be able to tell them there is no "catch". A lot like God's love -- free and seems too good to be true!

Please keep the Loads of Love outreach in your prayers. Next two dates are July 25th and August 29th.

Loads of Love Team

GARDEN MISSION

Our blueberries have really grown in three years, but while Don was constructing the trellis to cover it, the birds were scheming ways to get in. About two pints will be harvested, but next year we expect more, Thanks, Don.



Jim, Art, and Don are putting the wire around the berries as fast as they can. The tomatoes have gotten bigger and Janet is still battling the weeds! We planted snow pea pods and grew the most gigantic vines you have ever seen. Art is looking for the pods, and we only collected about three pints. It was decided to pull them out and plant more green beans. Ava helped to plant the tomatoes and cucumbers. They are growing well and have 6 green tomatoes.



Our peppers are starting to produce and the broccoli in the background gave us ten large heads and many smaller side heads. Now it has been pulled out and squash is growing in its place. Millie and Janet pull weeds from the fence line before the weeds can get away from us. We have loads of fresh mint that is available for the congregation to come and pick. Our potatoes are in flower and are growing tubers below the soil. When the plants start to die back, the potatoes are ready to dig Hurrah!! Don finished the door to the blueberry trellis and now the birds will not be able to get in. Look for berries next year!! This morning glory is a weed but looks pretty on the fence. We are in the garden every Tuesday night from 5:00 to whenever and Saturday from 9:00 to 10:00. Come and see how the produce grows. We give it to St. Stephen's and the Barnegat food bank. Hope to see you!!



REGISTRATION IS OPEN! Follow the Trail to VBS...Life with JESUS is SWEET!

Follow the gumdrop trail down to Vacation Bible School as Manahawkin United Methodist Church is transformed into Candy Land!

Satisfy your sweet tooth by learning more about God's word as we take a trip into Candy Land (a.k.a. Manahawkin United Methodist Church) from July 15 to July 19, from 6-8pm each night.

Event Details: Come join us as we explore the SWEET message of God's word and learn about his love for us! We will follow the GUMDROP PATH to story time, participate in SUPER OUTRAGEOUS games, eat some GOOEY DELICIOUS snacks, make MINTY COOL crafts, and most importantly, share in this special time of fellowship with each other!

Registration is now open at <http://ss.manahawkinmethodist.org/>!! **REGISTER YOUR CHILD EARLY TO GET THEM A FREE VBS T-SHIRT!** Invite family, friends or anyone who may be interested to join us! The program is for Kindergarten (or age 5) through 6th grade. Anyone over 6th grade who would like to participate is invited to join in on the fun as a VBS Helper!

For anyone wishing to volunteer at the event or to help decorate in the days prior, please contact Marissa Barry/Vanessa Estelow at sundayschoolmumc@gmail.com or 732-720-9779.

We have a VBS WISH LIST for various items we would like to purchase. If anyone would like to contribute towards the items on our list, please reach out. No donation is too big or small... we appreciate everything you may be able to help provide towards this event!

We suggest early arrival on the first night to ensure a quick and smooth registration process as well as t-shirt distribution for early registrations.

We can't wait to see everyone there!!





Family Promise 2019

August 4th – August 11th

Your help is needed.

Family Promise of Southern Ocean County is a non-profit, interfaith hospitality network --providing temporary shelter, meals, hospitality, and case management for families experiencing homelessness.



Our MUMC congregation will be serving as a Host Site for families who have qualified for support from the Family Promise program. **We will be housing up to 14 homeless people from August 4th through August 11th.** Our Family Promise guests (homeless families) will arrive each evening after 5:30PM and depart from our church the next morning by 7:30AM. We continue to need support and volunteers from our congregation in order to fulfill our promise to help the homeless from our local communities.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

We need volunteers to help with setup, tear down, provide evening meals, and to serve as sleepover hosts. At this moment we will be hosting 3 families (a total of 13 people) from August 4th through August 11th. To be successful again this year we need your help. We know you've been thinking about how you can help so this is a list of areas that need your support.

Here is the way you can volunteer to help:

Setup: Sunday, August 4th 4:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M. – get cots off of the trailer, make beds and set up four rooms.

Evening meals: We need to provide 7 evening meals during our hosting week. Someone has volunteered to cook and serve one evening meal BUT we need 6 more volunteers to provide the rest of the evening meals.

Sleepover hosts: We NEED volunteers to serve as sleepover hosts for all 7 nights.

Tear down: Sunday, August 11th 7:00 A.M. – 8:00 A.M. – put cots back on the trailer, carry linens up to the large classroom, and tidy up rooms.

Bed linen washing: Sunday, August 11th take a bundle of sheets and/or comforters to wash and dry. Bring clean linens back to church on Sunday, August 18th.

FOOD DONATIONS:

This year we will be requesting donations of Shop Rite gift cards in order to purchase food for our Family Promise guests. We think this strategy worked well for us last year. We will use the gift cards to cover the cost of providing ... breakfast, lunch, snacks and beverages for up to 14 people for 7 days. Our MUMC Family Promise Coordinators (Pauline and Beth) will use the donated gift cards and do the shopping for you. **So again, we are requesting donations of Shop Rite gift cards.** If you wish you can purchase Shop Rite gift cards in the Narthex each Sunday after church services. Our Shop Rite Dollar sales person will save the cards for us. ... Thank you!

Please consider lending a hand to help make our Family Promise hosting week a success.

If you can volunteer please call or email: Beth Schenck, Pauline McShea or leave a message with Kathy in the church office.

Many hands make light work ... and we need your help!

Family Promise and Chefs on Call



“Chefs on Call” is a new branch of our Family Promise Mission. As you know many churches in our area serve as Host locations for Family Promise families. Sometimes these churches need help. We’ve decided to lend a hand to support our local church neighborhood friends.

MUMC is going to be **“on stand-by” or “on call”** to provide meals for the homeless families being cared for by Family Promise. We are calling this mission work “Chefs on Call”.

MUMC’s “Chefs on Call” were called into action to provide the evening meals for families that were housed at Harvey Cedars Bible Conference in Harvey Cedars. It happened the first week in December. We provided the dinner meal for five days for two mothers and their little children. We took the dinner, set it up and cleaned up too. In addition, our Chefs also served as hospitality hosts. Family Promise was very grateful for our church’s help. Please think about joining “Chefs on Call”. Ask Jackie C., Jo-Eva A., Sue & Jim L., Jennifer & Nathaniel E. or Beth & Bob S. about their experiences as they provided an evening meal and hospitality fellowship for needy families. If you are willing to help, please tell Kathy the church secretary your name and she’ll share it with our MUMC “Chefs on Call” coordinator.

A new Mission begins – “Operation Thanks”

As a result of our Shalom in the Community discussions during the Shalom Retreat in May – our church has made its first step toward a new mission – it’s an “act of kindness” mission. This new mission will take place once a month for the next six months. The new mission is called Operation Thanks.

We will pray for and honor the commitment of people who participate in various groups within our community: EMTs, first responders, at-risk groups, Firefighters, police force, Boy Scouts, and others.

Once a month MUMC will select a community group and celebrate their commitment by providing that group with some snacks and/or ice cold bottles of water. These groups will be added to our prayer list. We will pray for blessings upon their dedication to the community and for their safety as they make a positive impact in our neighborhoods.

In June we selected the First Aid Building located on Bay Ave. in Manahawkin. We provided the EMTs and first responders with cookies, chips, and cold bottles of water. So please remember to honor these community helpers when you pray. Pray for their safety and ask for blessings to be upon this dedicated group of community helpers.



July Calendar

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

Communion: Sunday, July 7, both services

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, July 13, 8:15 A.M. @ Horizon Diner

Shoprite Gift Cards: Sunday, July 14 at both services

VBS: July 15-19, 6 – 8 P.M.

Trustees Meeting: No meeting in July.

Loads of Love: Thursday, July 25, 6 – 8 P.M.

Prayer Group: every Thursday, 11 A.M.

Pastor's Office Hours: Monday and Thursday 9:30-11:30 A.M.

Pastor on Vacation: July 8 – July 25

Secretary on Vacation: June 30 through July 10

Secretary Hours: Monday and Wednesday—9 A.M. to 12 Noon. Thursday 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.

June 30th

New MUMC

Members

WELCOME



Joanie D'Atrio

Jennifer Lacey



Noelle Riccio



August Calendar

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

Communion: Sunday, August 4, both services

Baptism: Sunday, August 4, @ 11 A.M. service

Teen Challenge: Sunday, August 4, at both services

Family Promise: Sunday, August 4 -11

Shoprite Gift Cards: Sunday, August 11 at both services

Worship Committee: Monday, August 12, 7 P.M.

Preschool Meeting: Tuesday, August 13, 7 P.M.

Choir Picnic: August 17th at Cheryl Conti's home

Nurture Committee: Tuesday, August 20, 12 Noon @Mahan's

Trustees Meeting: Tuesday, August 20, 7 P.M.

Men's Breakfast: TBA

Loads of Love: Thursday, August 29, 6 – 8 P.M.

Prayer Group: every Thursday, 11 A.M.

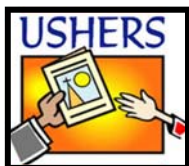
Pastor's Office Hours: Monday and Thursday 9:30-11:30 A.M.

Secretary Hours: Secretary Hours: Monday and Wednesday—9 A.M. to 12 Noon. Thursday 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.

**HELP**

Volunteers needed to cut the Church Lawn

***Contact Rich Mueller 609-384-0936
or Edna Winans 609-304-3403***

Help Wanted

**Greeters,
Ushers**



**Candle
Lighters**



Readers

**Contact: Don Estelow dhestelow@aol.com
kyewoon choi <pastork.choi@gmail.com>**

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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Crossword Newsletter
July/August 2019