

Second Thoughts---

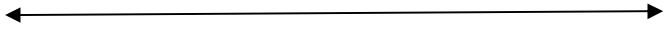
The Second United Methodist Church Newsletter
Church and McNeal Streets * Office: 911 Church Street
Millville, NJ 08332

Join our Sunday Worship

8:45 am Traditional

10:00 am Sunday School for all ages

11:15 am Contemporary Worship



The Ascension challenge

Ever wonder what it might have been like to be a disciple when Jesus ascended into heaven? He gave them the monumental task of making disciples of all the world. Plus, they'd have to do it without relying on Jesus' physical presence, as they had until then. Were the disciples overwhelmed, uncertain, afraid?

Maybe, yet they went on to spread the gospel throughout the world nonetheless. They rose to the challenge because they fixed their gaze above as they watched Jesus disappear into the clouds.

When we follow that example, offering ourselves as willing servants and keeping our eyes trained on Jesus instead of our circumstances, there's no limit to what God can accomplish through us.



Steven D. Elliott, Pastor
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OFFICE INFORMATION

Office Hours:
(8:30am – 12:30pm Monday - Friday)
856-825-7320

Email prayer requests to office@2umc.org

Or

whijkl@verizon.net

(Karen Johnson)

Or

davesmom5@verizon.net

(Sandy Brown)

Phone prayer requests to

Janet Blanck (825-7805)

Information deadlines

- Bulletin info due every **Wednesday** at Noon

- Next Newsletters information

due by **May 17, 2012**

Any information received earlier

is greatly appreciated.



"Millville is not the end of the world, but you can see it from there."

- Old Joke

Recently, to help clear my mind, I took a drive along down to East Point. Here the Delaware Bay meets the Maurice River Cove, and the water of the bay laps up against the first semblance of land, the limit, the margin, the verge of our southern shore. The marsh grasses are tall. The wind blows briskly off the bay. The pungent smell of decaying plant and other organic matter pervades the air. The unstable ground is saturated, mucky and muddy. The intrusion of salt water affects plant life, and makes drinking water impossible. Very few people live there. One sees the occasional pile of pilings where a house or fishing shack once stood, which has now succumbed to the ravages of tide and time. The instability of the ground, coupled with regular flooding, makes the narrow road uneven and rough. Try as one might, the road will never stay nicely paved. Piles of mulch have been placed along the road in a feeble, and I think futile, to fashion a berm to hold the water back. In summer, the mosquitoes and greenheads swarm and bite with abandon. The only "solid" structure is the lighthouse. Rising above the tall grasses, its lamp signals the approaching shoreline, and directs people into the safety of the cove, into harbor, and on to higher ground.

Which leads me to this insight: What a vast number of people live at the limit, the outer edge, on the verge, at the margins of the *spiritual* life. Multitudes live in a spiritual swamp, lost in the tall grass, blown about the cold winds of "fate", surrounded by the stench of hopelessness and despair, stuck in the muck and mud of the sin which has intruded into their lives, cutting them off from life-giving water. Often these are rough people, trying all kinds of worldly things in a futile quest for something better, yet constantly subject to the stinging attacks of the enemy of their souls. If only they would look to the Light of Christ to direct them onto higher ground.

Our job, as Christians, is to warn lost people of the spiritual danger they are in, point out the Light, built on a solid foundation, that rises above the swampy places of this life, and be reflectors of that Light, so we and they can all safely arrive at our eternal Home. In the words of the old Gospel song:

Brightly beams our Father's mercy from His lighthouse evermore, but to us he gives the keeping of the lights along the shore.

Dark the night of sin has settled, loud the angry billows roar; eager eyes are watching, longing for the lights along the shore.

Trim your feeble lamp my brother: Some poor sailor, tempest tossed, trying now to make the harbor, in the darkness may be lost.

Let the lower lights be burning! Send a gleam across the wave! Some poor fainting, struggling sea-man you may rescue, you may save.

May the Light of Christ shine through you!

Pastor Steve



May Mission Emphasis – Camps

Delanco Camp Meeting Association is a Christian Camp in Tabernacle, NJ dedicated to "the salvation of souls, the promotion of scriptural holiness according to historic doctrine of the Wesleyan movement, the strengthening and encouragement of believers and promotion of the work of the Christian church." Many of our youth have been challenged and blessed through the excellent youth program at Delanco which provides a summer camp experience for grades 4-12 as well as a place for off season retreats. Delanco Camp also provides an opportunity for adults to discover spiritual enrichment through the annual Camp Meeting and other activities.

Handi*camp-



Christian camping and conference programs for people with disabilities

Children, teens, and adults have opportunity for...

Fun! Fellowship! Recreation! Studying God's Word

Opportunities include all the exciting, "traditional" activities associated with camp and Bible conference; but each activity is carefully planned and supervised so every individual can participate fully in spite of any physical and/or mental limitations.

"We all have a great time with the Lord and with each other. The fun and fellowship have to be seen to be believed." (Bob Ash, participant)

*"I knew about God, but He wasn't my Savior until I met Him at Handi*Camp." (Esther Finlaw, participant)*

Each session is programmed to accommodate a specific age and/or ability level. Handi*Camp conducts overnight Christian camping programs in June and July at several camp locations in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The Bible emphasis at camp and conference sessions is non-denominational and Christ-centered. During the non-summer months the H*VMI Discipleship Team provides programs so campers and conference guests can have continued opportunities for fellowship and spiritual growth.

Handi*Camp began in 1974 with one camp session and ten campers. We now minister to over 150 campers and conference guests each summer.

An additional outreach of Handi*Camp is to provide encouragement and training for other camp ministries, helping them establish their own programs for people with disabilities.



Dave Stevenson
Youth Director

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**Youth Group** Sunday Nights  
6:00 PM ~ 8:00 PM

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**6:00 Wednesday Night Family Dinner**

**6:45 Jr. MYF**

**6:45 Wednesday Pastor Bible Study and  
Women's Bible Study**

**6:00 PM Every Thursday night-Choir**

**6:45 PM Every Thursday night-Praise Team**

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Worship Arts Festival for children K-12 to be held at Second UMC on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> has been postponed. Investigating a date in the Fall.

**May 5th**

**Mother and baby care  
Angel Event, silent auction and luncheon go  
benefit City Team.  
More information available in the office.**

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## Ladies' Breakfast

**May 12, 2012 at 9:00 AM**  
**Second United Methodist Church Annual  
Mother's Day Breakfast. The men will be  
preparing the meal.**

**Corine Elliott will be the guest speaker.**  
**Please let Irma Chance or the office know if you  
are attending.**

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**Remember those who have given their lives  
that we may have the freedoms we enjoy  
every day.**

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**Pray for Annual Conference in King of  
Prussia, May 31 thru June 2, 2012.**







**The office will be closed these days.**

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**JUNE 2, 2012**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Community  
Clean-Up Day  
Starts at 9 am  
Pizza for lunch at 2UMC**



| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                       | Monday                                                                                                            | Tuesday                                                 | Wednesday                                                                  | Thursday                                                                                                                                                                                      | Friday                         | Saturday                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                   | 1<br>10:00 AM every Tuesday, Bible Study at Joe Brown's | 2<br>6:00 Mid-week Family Dinner<br>6:45PM Pastor and Women's Bible Study  | 3<br><br>6:00PM Choir<br>6:45PM Praise Team                                                                 | 4                              | 5<br>Worship Arts Festival has been Postponed                                                                        |
| 6<br>Communion<br>8:45 Traditional<br>10:00 Sunday School<br>11:15 Contemporary<br>6:00 Youth Group                                                                          | 7                                                                                                                 | 8<br>7:00 Trustees                                      | 9<br>6:00 Mid-week Family Dinner<br>6:45PM Pastor and Women's Bible Study  | 10<br>6:00PM Choir<br>6:45PM Praise Team                                                                                                                                                      | 11                             | 12<br><br>9:00AM Ladies Breakfast |
| 13<br><br>8:45 Traditional<br>10:00 Sunday School<br>11:15 Contemporary<br>6:00 Youth Group | 14<br>7:00 Education<br>8:00 Church Council                                                                       | 15<br>Edna Dunham Circle Dinner                         | 16<br>6:00 Mid-week Family Dinner<br>6:45PM Pastor and Women's Bible Study | 17<br>June Newsletter info due in office<br>6:00PM Choir<br>6:45PM Praise Team                                                                                                                | 18                             | 19                                                                                                                   |
| 20<br>8:45 Traditional<br>10:00 Sunday School<br>11:15 Contemporary<br>6:00 Youth Group                                                                                      | 21                                                                                                                | 22<br>6:00 UMW Pizza Party and Game Night               | 23<br>6:00 Mid-week Family Dinner<br>6:45PM Pastor and Women's Bible Study | 24<br>6:00PM Choir<br>6:45PM Praise Team                                                                                                                                                      | 25<br>10:30 am Fold Newsletter | 26                                                                                                                   |
| 27<br><br>8:45 Traditional<br>10:00 Sunday School<br>11:15 Contemporary                   | 28<br><br><b>Office Closed</b> | 29                                                      | 30<br>6:00 Mid-week Family Dinner<br>6:45PM Pastor and Women's Bible Study | 31<br>NJ Annual Conference begins in King of Prussia until 6-2<br><b>Office closed 5-31 thru 6-2</b><br> |                                | June 2 8:00 AM<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Ward Clean Up Day Comm/Church                                                      |

**May Birthdays**

- 2. Susan Dilks
- 6. Joyce Braida
- 7. Ken Taylor Sr.
- 9. Acelia Jacoby
- 11. Donnabelle Hoffman, Christi Holbrook
- 12. Velma Brown, Philip Grafals
- 16. Wanda Tucker, Joyce Romer
- 17. Amanda (Newman) Ferzetti
- 18. Ely Medina
- 20. Phil Terry
- 23. Cheryl Sampson
- 24. Charles Thornley Sr,
- 25. Raelene Smith, Mike Cassady, Scott Gregowske, Leon Williams
- 27. Johna Marie Wettstein
- 29. Lindsey Elise Wettstein



**May Anniversaries**

- 13 Pete & Martha Spizzica (1951)
- 22 Gary & Jean Singer (1981)