

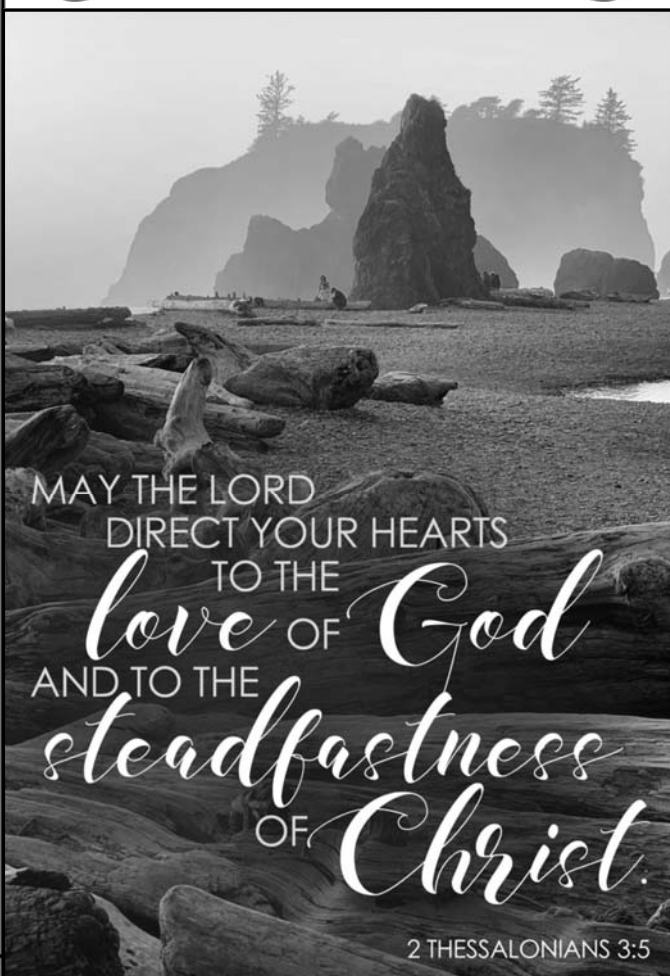


F
I
R
S
T

C
H
U
R
C
H

W
I
N
D
O
W
S

February
2020



MAY THE LORD
DIRECT YOUR HEARTS

TO THE
love OF *God*
AND TO THE
steadfastness
OF *Christ.*

2 THESSALONIANS 3:5

Worship the Lord with Us!

Sunday Worship

Traditional Worship Service: 8:30 am

Sunday School for all ages: 9:40 am

Contemporary Worship Service: 10:45 am

*Listen to our service online at
www.fumccollingswood.org.*

FIRST CHURCH WINDOWS is published by:

The First United Methodist Church

201 Dayton Avenue, Collingswood, NJ 08108

Phone: (856)858-1186

Fax: (856)858-1775

E-mail: info@fumccollingswood.org

Church Staff

Pastor Sam Mountain, Senior Pastor

(pastorsam@fumccollingswood.org)

**Shawn Zook, Pastoral Assistant for Outreach
and Youth (shawn@fumccollingswood.org)**

**Maria Gianfrancesco, Administrative Assistant
(maria@fumccollingswood.org)**

Will Walker, Organist

(will@fumccollingswood.org)

Pat Gunning, Children's Program Director

(pat@fumccollingswood.org)

Matt Peace, Connections Pastor

(pastormatt@fumccollingswood.org)




Tuesday - Thursday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

(Closed for lunch 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm)

***FIRST CHURCH WINDOWS is online at
www.fumccollingswood.org and is available via
e-mail. Send an e-mail to
ewindows@fumccollingswood.org to subscribe.***

In Windows This Month...

From the Pastor's Heart.....	4
Announcements.....	8
Sermons and Scriptures.....	9
Celebrating 40 Years of Ministry.....	10
Mexico Missions Trip	13
Calendar	14
Decision 2020	16
2020 Opportunities to Serve.....	18
Missionary Messages	20
Birthdays and Anniversaries.....	24
The Kid's Page	26



The submission deadline for the *March* issue of Windows is February 10th.

***THANK YOU FOR
SUPPORTING WINDOWS!***



From The Pastor's Heart



Wow, it is hard to believe we are already thinking February, the month of “LOVE” and Valentine’s Day and candy and more snow and Super Bowl! As I was thinking about all that is before us as a church in this year 2020, I have been asking the Lord to give me personally and our church a special kind of love to be the people and the place he desires. Last week, I came across this writing by Phil Ressler in my devotions. In my heart I knew this is what I was praying for so I want to share it with you.

“And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.” (Philippians 1:9–11, ESV)

These verses outline the purpose for which Philippians was written. In Paul’s fondness for the people of this church, he wants even more for them. His prayer for them is that:

1. Their love may abound more and more.
2. They would grow in knowledge and discernment.
3. They would experience the fruit of righteousness.
4. It would all be for the glory and praise of God.

These are not prayer requests for the Philippians alone. They are prayer requests for us as well. We would do well to regularly pray these petitions. They are four benefits to pray for ourselves and for others.

Breaking these requests down further:

◆ **To abound in love**

We pray for more than gushy feelings. We pray that we would love by serving God and others in a more selfless way. We pray we would make commitments that are not self-centered, but other-centered! We pray that we would love better.

◆ **To grow in knowledge and discernment**

We pray we would become more knowledgeable of the things and the ways of God. Reading the Scriptures! Studying the Scriptures! Memorizing the Scriptures! Teaching the Scriptures!

But we pray for more than knowledge. We pray for discernment. Another word for this is wisdom. I can be knowledgeable but not wise. Wisdom is the ability to use the knowledge we have to be able to do the right thing and make good choices. We pray we would live out our faith in ways that are wise.

◆ **That they would experience the fruit of righteousness**

We pray to be free from worry and anxiety and that we would have peace in our hearts and joy in our souls. Even though life may be crazy, we pray that we would be content and confident in God.

◆ **That it would all be for the glory and praise of God**

We pray that others would see Jesus in us and through us. We pray that heaven would be bigger because of the witness and the testimony that we gave. It's not to us, but to His name be the glory.

A few weeks ago, I shared a prayer vision the Lord put on my heart. I was encouraged to make it a part of my pastor's page this month. I share this with you as something I believe God wants to do in our lives both now and in the days ahead.

We thank God for His faithfulness to each one of us personally and our church family and community. We recognize that in these challenging times we live in, we must confess we cannot lead or carry out God's purpose for our lives on our own.

(Continued on page 6)

(From the Pastor's Heart - Continued from page 5)

Because we have the sovereign presence of God that makes an amazing difference in all things. "Presence Matters". We have great opportunities to love our world, and make disciples of all ages together as we practice the power of His presence.

As we live in Christ and in His presence, we can experience and share in His blessing, redemption, forgiveness, compassion, wisdom, grace, holiness, love, generosity and be transformed in His likeness to live out His purpose in our lives.

2020 PRAYER VISION

When Jesus told us to "Go make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19) - He was telling us to go DEEP and to go WIDE. He wants us to reach everywhere and nation (that's wide) and to teach each other "everything he commanded" (that's deep.) So below are specific ways we can **Go Deeper & Wider Together with a Prayer 2020 Vision.**

Be Presence Prayer Goals:

1. That we as a church family and community are resting in the presence of God more often and we serve Him from that rest.
2. That we as a church family and community, would desire a deeper desire for God's Word and prayer and worship, sensing its importance and urgency in our lives, every day.
3. That the Lord would guide our UMC denomination, leadership, pastors, staff leaders and people to hear from Him concerning the future for the future of His church. May we pray, fast and seek the Lord together praying to hear His voice above all others. To see His hand guide us by the power of the Holy spirit in unity and grace. In the midst of this journey, may we not lose our focus on our love and mission for Christ together.
4. More people experiencing Jesus' healing power in physical, mental, emotional, sexual, spiritual and relational breakthroughs.
5. More one-on-one discipleship relationships (mentoring men, women and students.)

6. See intentional discipleship growth in the following areas: children and their families, youth and their families, building relationships with our young adult and adult community as well. This growth can spur from Life Groups, Sunday School, or any other way we can reach others for Christ, both inside and outside our walls.
7. More Spirit-empowered boldness to share Jesus in our individual spheres of influence.
8. Twenty or more people fully surrendering their lives to Christ as Savior and Lord.
9. Serve the local surrounding community by meeting 2-3 more ongoing needs as the Lord leads.
10. Continue to pray, go, give generously and support financially all our mission opportunities and missionaries and continue to minister to Collingswood, Camden, Upper Darby, Ireland, Jamaica and Mexico, a new work and witness opportunity for our church in July.

May each of us take the opportunity to experience God's love so we might share it in the places and space in which we live.

In His Love and Grace,
Pastor Sam





In case of inclement weather, you can find updated service and event information at the following locations:

- ◆ Call the church at 856-858-1186.
- ◆ Visit our website at www.fumccollingswood.org.
- ◆ Visit the Collingswood FUMC Facebook page.

Seeking God's Face Week February 23rd - March 1st

We are putting aside this week for a special time of prayer, meditation and fasting to God so we might know God's mind intimately, know His will for our lives and our church, and for the future. We'll seek Him through...

- Daily prayer – challenging each to devote 30 minutes a day to prayer for God's will.
- Tuesday at 5:00 pm through Wednesday at 5:00 pm for 24 hours of prayer (sign up in the church office.)
- Wednesday evening prayer – meet in the sanctuary from 6:00 - 7:00 pm to pray (Holy Wednesday.)



FEBRUARY SERMONS AND SCRIPTURES



Fix Your Eyes on Jesus Series (On the Way to the Cross)

On the way to the cross Jesus had a purpose to touch and change lives. Jesus' purpose was not deterred by the many distractions that came His way. He kept focused, with his disciples, and transformed the people, places and spaces He entered. They were not the same after He passed through. This Lenten season, may we not be the same as we fix our eyes on Jesus. May we allow him to enter the spaces and places of our lives as He did 2000 years ago.

- February 2 *Amazing Faith in Broken Places* Hebrews 11:32
Communion
- February 9 *Amazing Faith Come in Many Varieties* Hebrews 11:33-38
- February 16 *Faith for the Race* Hebrews 12:1-13
Combined Service with lunch to follow.
- February 24 Fix Your Eyes on Jesus Series
Special speaker - Dave Wiedis
Serving Leader Ministry -
Equipping pastors and leaders
one at a time for God's glory!





On Sunday, February 16, 2020, we will be celebrating Pastor Sam's 40 years of ministry following the 10:45 am service. That morning, there will be a combined service at 10:45 am Discipleship Classes at 9:40 am.

There will be a cold covered dish luncheon. We need your help. We would like to serve finger foods – little sandwiches, salads such as taco, potato, macaroni, tossed, jello, etc., veggie and fruit tray, chips or cheese curls. Please bring a dish that would provide for your family plus 10 as there will be some visitors from Pastor Sam's former churches and his family. Beverage and dessert will be provided.

Please respond on or before February 9th if you will be attending, the number in attendance, and what you will be bringing. Call or email Kathy McGaurn or Carol Doron.

There will be a basket provided for cards and notes for Pastor Sam. Let's show our love and celebrate Pastor Sam's 40 years of ministry.



Indoor Wee Soccer 2020

Grades K-3. Games played on Saturdays, February 1st through
February 22nd. Times assigned to each team.



FAMILY
Movie Night

Save the Date:
Sunday Night March 22, 2020 at 6:00 pm.
Movie Night At First Church
A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood
The Life of Fred Rogers



We are showering expectant mothers in our neighborhood with much needed items for their babies!!

Please consider donating the items mentioned below!!
Bring to the church by Feb 16th. Questions? See Sharyn Bailey.

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Diapers | Sleep Sacks |
| Wash Clothes | Nursing Pads |
| Baby Bottles | Teething Rings |
| Baby Wipes | Burp Clothes |
| Infant Toys | Socks |
| Baby Bath Care | Onesies |
| Diaper Rash Cream | Pacifiers |
| Baby Safety Items | Receiving Blankets |
| Bibs | Nursing Covers |
| Board Books | |

Volunteers Needed

Shower: February 22 at 1:00 pm

Set up 9:00 am

Shoppers: 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Breakdown: 3:00 pm

Call or email dorothy@ncicamden.com

The Neighborhood Center

278 Kaighns Ave., Camden NJ 08103

856-365-5295

Missions Trip

July 18-25, 2020

Maneadero, Mexico

You are invited to join together in serving God's children in Mexico this summer! We will partner with our own youth and youth from other churches and come alongside local churches and ministries through children's ministry, prayer walking, evangelism, work projects, homeless outreach, and community events in addition to the specific focus of a location.

Our work in Baja will be centered on the 25,000 person town of Maneadero, a bustling community about 120 minutes south of San Diego.

We will be serving alongside local ministry partners in a myriad of ways from block parties, to community clean-up, work projects out at Oasis Boys Home (<http://centrooasisac.com/>), prayer on the streets, etc...whatever our local ministry partners have asked us to do.

The cost will be approximately \$599 plus airfare. If you are interested in going, please make a notation on the tear-off section of your bulletin by early February.



FEBRUAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wedn
2 8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 9:30 AM A Way Forward Discussion 9:40 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service 12:30 PM A Way Forward Discussion 6:00 PM Ryver	3 Church Office Closed 7:00 PM Church Council	4 10:00 AM Followers Bible Study	5 6:45 PM Mast
9 8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 9:40 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service 6:00 PM Ryver	10 Church Office Closed	11 10:00 AM Followers Bible Study	12 6:45 PM Mast
16 SH Mid Winter Advance 9:40 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Combined Worship Service 12:00 PM Pastor Sam's 40 years of ministry luncheon 6:00 PM Ryver	17 Church Office Closed <p style="text-align: center;"><i>PRESIDENTS DAY</i></p>	18 10:00 AM Followers Bible Study	19 6:45 PM Mast
23 8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 9:40 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service 6:00 PM Ryver	24 Church Office Closed Seeking God's Face 7:00 PM Finance Meeting 7:00 PM Trustees Meeting	25 Seeking God's Face 10:00 AM Followers Bible Study 5:00 PM 24 hours of prayer	26 Seeking God's 10:00 AM A W Discussion 5:00 PM 24 ho prayer 6:45 PM Mast 7:00 PM Ash Draw Near Ni <p style="text-align: center;"><i>ASH WED</i></p>

RY 2020

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:00 AM Wee Soccer
er's Men	6 6:30 PM Praise Team Practice	7 Church Office Closed	8 9:00 AM Wee Soccer
er's Men	13 6:30 PM Handi*Vangelism Support Group 6:30 PM Praise Team Practice	14 Church Office Closed SH Mid Winter Advance VALENTINE'S DAY	15 SH Mid Winter Advance 9:00 AM Wee Soccer
er's Men	20 6:30 PM Praise Team Practice	21 Church Office Closed	22 9:00 AM Wee Soccer
s Face Way Forward ours of er's Men Wednesday ght WEDNESDAY	27 Seeking God's Face 6:30 PM Praise Team Practice	28 Church Office Closed Seeking God's Face	29 Seeking God's Face LEAP DAY

Decision 2020

A Way Forward for FUMC Collingswood

It is clear from the events following the General Conference of February 2019, including the votes taken at the 10/26/19 Greater NJ Annual Conference, that the discord within the United Methodist denomination is not settled – and perhaps has even increased. There are various proposals getting some attention for what may transpire at the 2020 General Conference as well, but there seems to be universal agreement on only one point: some type of split within the denomination is coming – *and local churches will have a decision to make regarding their future affiliation.*

We at FUMC Collingswood have been praying and patiently waiting for the denominational issues to become clear, and though there are still many unanswered questions, we can wait no longer. We must recognize that 2020 will be a year of decision about the future of our local church, and to make that decision as an entire church body, we must make sure that all members are informed of the issues and are best-prepared to take part in that decision when the time arrives.

To that end, below is a schedule of meeting dates that are open to all members of the church. There are multiple dates when the same information will be discussed, because not everyone is available at one specific time throughout the week. People may attend as many as they like, but all are strongly encouraged to attend at least one meeting on each discussion topic, so that everyone is informed to a reasonably consistent degree. Please mark your calendars.

Part I – Background Basics: *What are the core issues causing the discord? What actually happened at General Conference in February 2019, and GNJAC in October 2019? How has FUMC been involved in discussions at the denominational level so far?*

Wednesday, January 29, 10:00 am & 7:00 pm – Parlor
Sunday, February 2, 9:30-10:30 am (Sunday School Hour) & **12:30 pm** (following Worship)

Part II – Understanding Our Options: *What are the different paths we have to choose from? What happens if we don't make a definitive choice? When do we really have to make a decision?*

Wednesday, February 26, 10:00 am – Parlor
Sunday, March 1, 9:30-10:30 am (Sunday School Hour) &

12:30 pm (following Worship)
Wednesday, March 4, 7:00 pm – Parlor

Part III – Form Your Opinions: Gather together to share thoughts and opinions on which direction members wish to see FUMC Collingswood go in the future.

Wednesday, March 25, 7:00 pm – Parlor
Sunday, April 19, 12:30 pm – Temple (lunch provided)

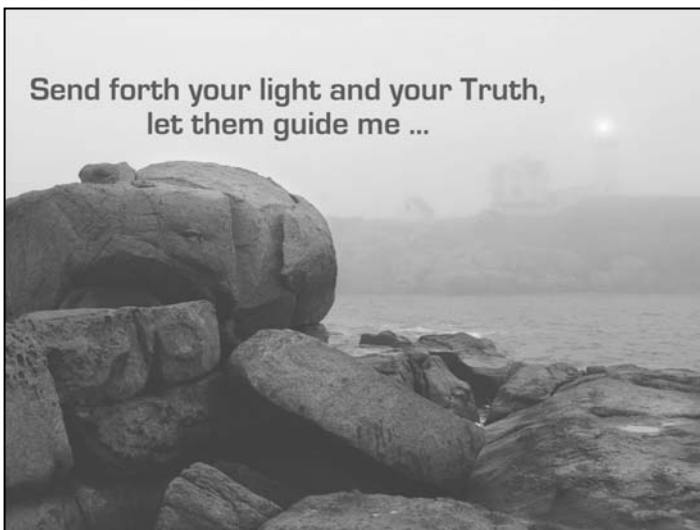
Church Conference 2020 (tentative date): Motion(s) will be heard and voted* upon as to the future direction of FUMC Collingswood. (*A simple majority of all members present – votes in abstentia may not be considered – so please make every effort to safeguard this date.)

Monday May 18, 7:00 pm – Temple

*Copies of all this information is available
on the front desk in the church office.*

As we approach these discussions, we encourage all members to pray fervently, be informed, ask questions, and take advantage of any advance materials that will be made available so that we may receive this time as a coming together of God's people, being led by the Holy Spirit, to discern our way forward as a local church committed to glorifying God.

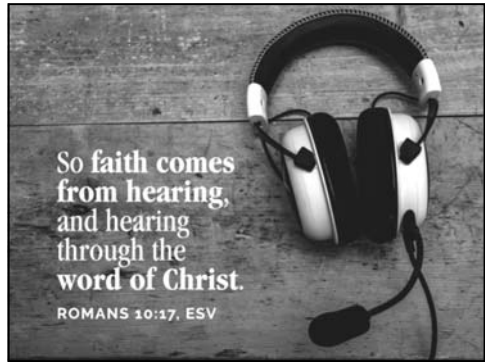
Please direct all inquiries, questions, etc. to Steve Schoch, Council Chair



Opportunities for Serving in 2020

**Looking for a resolution to make for the new year?
How about serving in one of our behind-the-scenes ministries?**

We are always looking for volunteers to expand our Technical Ministries team (including the laptop team.) Each Sunday, we are responsible for the lights and sound for our services, recording and editing the service for streaming from our website and for running the projection system in the Sanctuary. We serve the Lord by enabling His message to be seen and heard by others. You don't need any experience - just a willingness to learn. If you are interested in helping us out, you may contact Phil Boswell) or you are also welcome to drop by the sound booth or control room and talk to any of our operators.



We are also looking for new faces for our Nursery teams. Each week we staff the nursery at the 10:45 am service. No experience is necessary, just a love of children. Please contact Kathy Boswell if you are interested in helping in this vital ministry.

Can YOU Help?



LAPTOP MINISTRY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



Do you enjoy learning new things? Do you like working with computers or would you like to learn to work with a computer? Would you like to be part of the praise team but don't sing or play an instrument? You might be the right person to join the laptop ministry. There is a need for more people to work with the laptop ministry. The laptop ministry assists Pastor Sam as well as the praise team in providing a positive worship experience for the congregation.

Details: The person scheduled to run the laptop for the contemporary service attends praise band practice which is usually on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. and again on Sunday at 7:30 am. The service itself is at 10:45 am. The person running the laptop starts at 10:30 am. on Sunday. Programming is done by the person running the laptop. Training will be provided. See Will Walker or Phil Boswell for more information.

TREASURER HELP NEEDED

Can you balance a checkbook?

The church welcomes all applications from members who may be called to serve in this area. This is a critically important opportunity to serve the Lord and His Church through the faithful administration of the finances of the church. If you are interested in applying for the position, or even hearing more about what the role entails, please indicate that desire on the tear-off pew registration form, speak with any of the pastors, or any member involved in the Finance Committee or Church Council - all of whom can properly direct your inquiry to the Finance Team. THANK YOU!





Don and Norma Toland, PA

As many of you know, from 1972 to 2001, we were privileged to work among the Rawa people in the mountainous region of the Madang Province in Papua New Guinea. These people are subsistence farmers whose livelihood is producing lush, year-round gardens in their beautiful rain forest setting there. In 1992 they received their translated Rawa New Testament.

For about four years now there have been gangs of anti-Christian Rawas, who have been attacking their people, destroying their gardens, pillaging their homes, killing people, and in some areas, burning entire villages to the ground. To date we've been unable to get any accurate reports as to whom is causing all this evil destruction.

Satan is having a field day trying to totally destroy the Rawa people. The Rawa people have been fleeing for their lives to other Rawa villages, to the Ramu Sugar Town at the foot of their mountain range or to the Rawa settlements in the distant towns of Madang and Lae. People who have remained in their home areas where this is occurring, are afraid to even venture out of their homes to tend to their gardens or to hike along their trails to participate in any village activity.

Since our end-of-the-year letter was written, we have received some further sad news about the Rawa situation and what's been happening. The village of Tauta where we lived and worked for so many years, has been pillaged and totally burned to the ground leaving only two homes one of which was our former village home in which the Rawa Literacy Coordinator, Yunu Siwi, had lived since 2001. Many of them have fled for fear of their lives to other villages, and have been further routed from there as well.

A BIG NEED FOR PRAYER

Please join us in asking the LORD to do battle for these Rawa people, and to raise up some strong Christians who will take a stand to defeat Satan, our arch enemy.

Ken and Karen Pregizer, Yukon

Too close for comfort!

A few weeks ago, while driving to Anchorage for the two-fold purpose of working in the SEND office and flying out to Idaho, we came very close to sliding off a remote part of the highway! In

our 33 years of driving in winter/icy conditions, this experience was the most frightening of all. Without going into detail, suffice it to say that we both were convinced the van was beyond control and was heading off the highway. Our only explanation that we did not go over the edge is that God intervened and spared us from certain disaster. We know that many of you are praying for us and when we ask for safe travel, God knows

Just two weeks after our harrowing experience, friends, fellow workers and retired SEND missionaries, Don & Mille Ressler had a similar encounter on another stretch of the road while driving their van home to Glennallen. Three of the four occupants in the vehicle (including two nurses from California) escaped injury when the van flipped end-over-end into the ditch. However, Millie was medevac'd to Anchorage and was operated on a day later and is now recovering from lower back surgery. She is expected to recover fully but PT and time for healing is needed. Please pray for Millie as her body heals and is able to move around with the aid of a brace. The accident could have been much worse, and we see how God also intervened in sparing Millie's life, providing a cell signal where no signal normally exists, providing two UN-injured nurses on the scene and skilled doctors in Anchorage to operate, to name a few examples.

Our experience on the icy road last month again reminded us how fragile life can be. In an instant, we could be taken off the scene and ushered into God's presence. Although we look forward to the day when we will be reunited with our family members and friends who have gone on before us, we treasure our time on earth and pray that we will be found faithful to His calling.

Ken and Jan Hibbs, Maryland

Dear friends at First Church,

We are so grateful for your help as we continue ministry in Peru and to the Latinos here in Maryland. Sunday we'll be with new converts in a church start near us. It's a joy to see them grow in their faith.

In two months, we've had 41 overnight visitors in our home. They included a missionary family from Ecuador and our former co-workers at the Bible institute in Peru. You supported that so faithfully!

We were able to take Walter and Martha to see "Jesus" at Sight and Sound and to visit Washington, DC. We feel blessed that folks come here to share their joys and heartaches. Thank you for praying that we'll stay strong. Our daughter has some physical problems for your prayer concern.

(Continued on page 22)

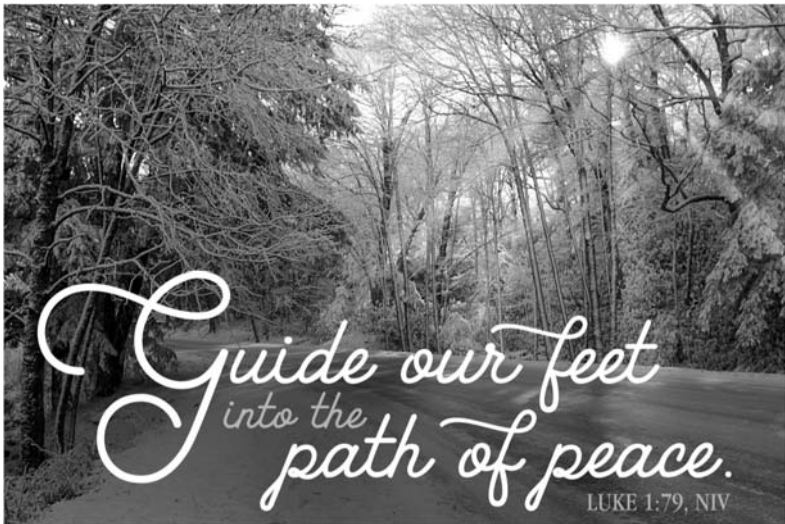
Lowell and Claudia Wertz, on furlough from Africa

At the start of our furlough, I didn't have time to learn the GPS system in our new truck. Our first few trips we navigated the old fashion way. After getting lost several times, Claudia laid down the law. "Get out to the truck and learn that GPS" she told me at 10PM one night. It took me about 15 minutes.

Most of the time it is a tremendous help. But it is not 100% trustworthy. It tried to put us on an interstate going the wrong way, brought us to a dead-end street instead of a church, and one memorable night it brought us to a field of deer instead of our campground.

Some people say all religions are good and are like spokes on a wheel, they all lead you to God. The thought is that all religious roads get you to the same place. I can assure you not all roads lead to the same place!

Christianity teaches there is only one way to God and that brings us to Christmas and why it is so very important. The cost of our salvation and forgiveness was so high that God has made it clear He will never accept any other way for our salvation. He will never allow anything to diminish what Jesus did and why it was necessary. He is the one plan, one way, one Savior, and one road to eternal life. No other road will get you there. You can trust God 100% on this.



A PRAYER FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

Lord of the winds,
I cry to thee,
I that am dust,
and blown about
by every gust
I fly to thee.

Lord of the waters,
unto thee I call.
I that am weed
upon the waters borne,
and by the waters torn,
tossed by the waters,
at thy feet I fall.

—Mary Coleridge (1861-1907)



OUR LENTEN FOCUS

Lent, the church-year season that begins on Ash Wednesday, is a time of penitence and spiritual renewal. Some people give up a luxury or vice during Lent as a form of self-denial; others undertake a project that benefits others.

The point isn't to denigrate ourselves or to see how much we can do without. Instead, Lent helps us reflect on Jesus' death. As Timothy Keller writes in *The Reason for God*: "The Christian Gospel is that I am so flawed that Jesus had to die for me, yet I am so loved and valued that Jesus was glad to die for me. This leads to deep humility and deep confidence at the same time. It undermines both swaggering and sniveling. I cannot feel superior to anyone, and yet I have nothing to prove to anyone. I do not think more of myself nor less of myself. Instead, I think of myself less."



If you have not already done so, please give your dates (birth dates and anniversary dates) to the church office in writing or by e-mail: maria@fumccollingswood.org.

Feb. 6 Jim Doyle
Marilyn Ellis
Sherry Rappe

Feb. 7 Stan Sheaffer

Feb. 8 John Vernon

Feb. 9 Ruthmarie Weinberg

Feb. 10 Carol Vernon Grant
Will Junglaus

Feb. 11 Julie MacNamara

Feb. 16 Jadon Hamilton
Rose Hamilton

Feb. 17 Tom Thompson
Lou VanPelt, Jr.

Feb. 18 Marva Wallace

Feb. 20 Jennifer Schwehm

Feb. 22 Cheryl Aversa

Feb. 24 George Hemphill

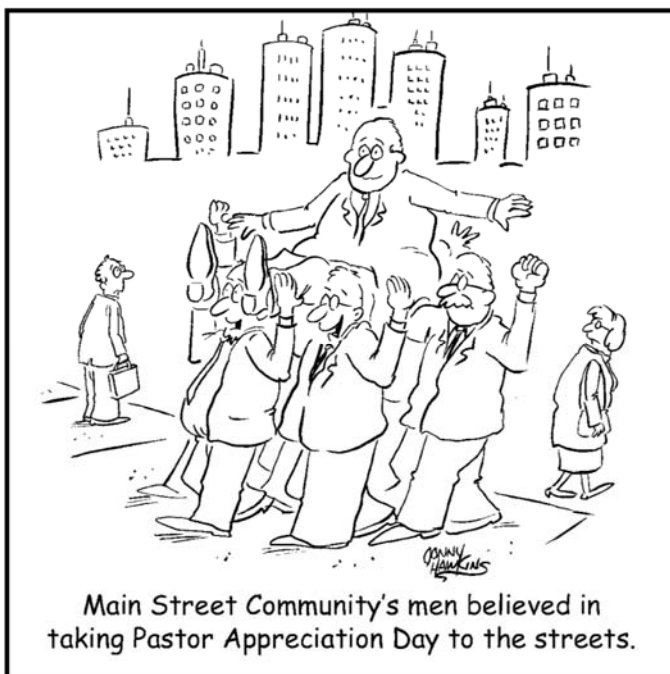
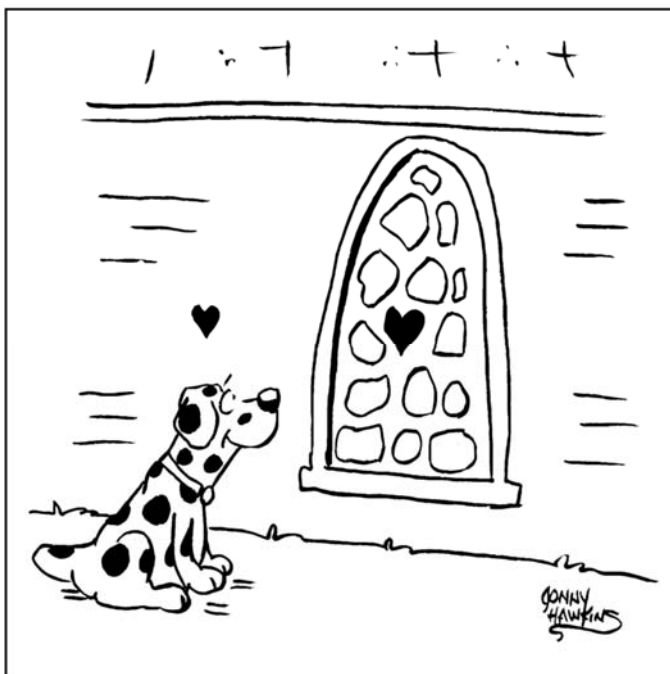
Feb. 25 Lori Vernon

Feb. 26 Jane Doyle

Feb. 27 Megan Bickel
Jennifer Kennedy

Happy Birthday!







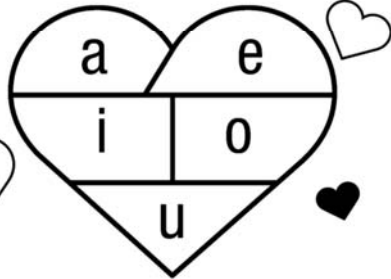
PUZZLE

A friend in Jesus

In the Bible, Jesus shares what it means to be a true friend.



Directions: Use the heart key to fill in the missing vowels from John 15:14, 17, NIV.



“Y _ _ r _ my fr _ _ nds _ f

y _ _ d _ wh _ t _ c _ mm _ nd. ...

Th _ s _ s my c _ mm _ nd:

L _ v _ _ _ ch _ th _ r.”

JOHN 15:14, 17, NIV

Answer: “You are my friends if you do what I command. ... This is my command: Love each other.” John 15:14, 17, NIV

Friendship Squares

This tasty treat doubles as a game to play with a buddy.



What you need:

- Graham crackers
- Chocolate chips
- Microwave-safe bowl
- Zippered baggie
- Scissors
- Raspberries
- Blueberries

What you do:

1. Gently break cracker sheets in half to form squares.
2. Heat chocolate chips in microwave for 30 seconds. Stir, then continue heating for 30 seconds at a time until melted.
3. Spoon melted chocolate into baggie and snip a small triangle from one bottom corner.
4. On each cracker, squeeze chocolate lines to form a Tic-Tac-Toe board. Let cool.
5. Using the fruit as X's and O's, play Tic-Tac-Toe with a friend. The winner gets to eat the treat!

Bible Quiz

The precise number varies depending on the Bible version, but roughly how many times does the word “love” occur in the Old and New Testaments combined?

- A. 200-300
- B. 400-500
- C. 600-700
- D. 800-900


Love

SHEPHERD'S CROOK

The shepherd's crook is a symbol for Jesus, the Good Shepherd. “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” (John 10:11) The crook also symbolizes the shepherds who visited the baby Jesus in Bethlehem. It's also used in connection with King David, who worked as a shepherd when he was young.



ANSWER: C


The First United Methodist Church
201 Dayton Avenue
Collingswood, NJ 08108



NON -PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #1125
BELLMAWR, NJ



*To see all people **WORSHIP** God, **CONNECT** with His people,
and join His **MISSION** in this world.*