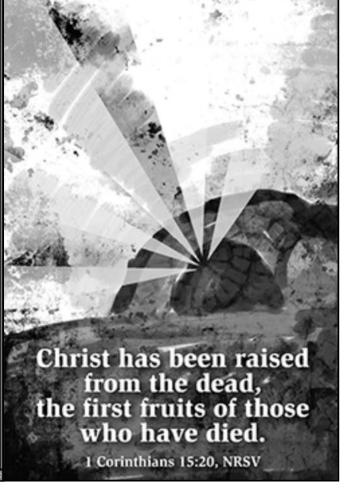


I R S T CHURCH **W-ZDOWS**





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

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Tuesday - Friday: 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...

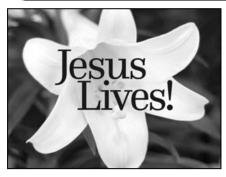
From the Pastor's Heart	4
Announcements	6
Reflections on Jesus' Last Week	7
Wednesday Night Live	8
Easter 2019	10
Calendar	12
VBS 2019	15
Missionary Messages	16
Birthdays and Anniversaries	19
Wings of Prayer	20
The Kid's Page	22



The submission deadline for the *May* issue of Windows is April 10th.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING WINDOWS!

From The Postor's Heart



Spring is finally on its way. I am especially grateful this year for seeing signs that the warmer weather is on its way. The grass and flowers are beginning to bud, and the Phillies are playing and the hopefulness of a new Spring season is upon us! As I have been recuperating from some medical challenges, I have

been blessed by your prayers and cards. The Lord is with us no matter what we face individually or together as his people.

This month, our worship sermon series is "Following Jesus Matters." I was struck by a simple phrase I recently read, God's love goes the distance. The more I thought about that phrase, it challenged me deeply. We will soon be reflecting upon Jesus' journey to the cross and all that took place in Jesus' life, death and resurrection. As the hymn writer declares: "Amazing love, how can it be that thou my God would die for me?"

That is why on the morning of Jesus' resurrection, we read: The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

Celebrating the resurrection is EVERYTHING. When Jesus walked out of the tomb, the people of God have celebrated ever since! "Death could not keep its prey, Jesus my Savior. He tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord. Up from the grave He arose, With a mighty triumph o'er His foes. He arose a Victor from the dark domain. And he lives forever with His saints to reign. He arose, He arose, Hallelujah, Christ arose!"

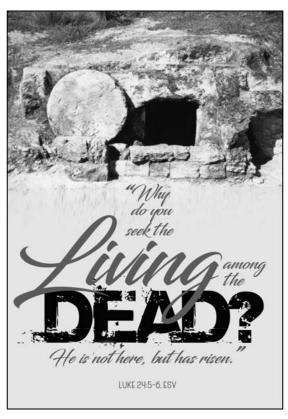
The empty tomb says, "He is risen." The disciples say, "He is risen." The church of Jesus Christ says, "He is risen." All creation says, "He is risen." I'm so glad He is risen. Jesus has

conquered our enemy. He solved the problem of death forever because he entered the realm of death on our behalf and he came out on the other side holding the keys of death and hell in his hands!

Good news that the tomb is empty. Good news that Jesus rose from the dead. Good news that death has lost its sting. Good news that the grave has lost its victory. Good news that we need not fear death any more. Celebrating the resurrection is EVERYTHING!

My prayer is that as we celebrate our Lord's resurrection this year, we reflect upon the fact that we can believe, confess, know and receive Him. We can have hope and confidence with an expectation that we are never alone and we can spend forever in eternity with Him! Now that's the way to celebrate Easter! May we pursue and celebrate the risen Lord together, living our lives out of the love and passion of what Jesus has done for us, sharing with everyone everywhere. There is no greater way to begin our Spring.

In His Love and Grace, Pastor Sam





STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS (2018 – 2019 Academic Year)

All applicants must submit a completed application and written essay.

You may download the PDF form from the FUMC website or you may pick up a printed version in the church office. Directions for completion of the application are included.

First-time applicants must submit references. Repeat applicants do not need references.

All applications and supporting information are due to the church office no later than Sunday, April 28th. They may be mailed, hand-delivered, or e-mailed to maria@fumccollingswood.org.

GAME NIGHT — held the 2nd Saturday of every month from 6:00 to 9:00 pm in Stokes Dining Room. Feel free to bring your favorite game or come and learn a new one! Also, bring your favorite snack to share. Hope to see you there. Any questions, please See Emily Davis.





 ω

THE NEXT MEN'S BREAKFAST WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY.
MAY 18TH AT 8:00 AM.

Reflections on Jesus' Last Week April 14th to April 21st

Sunday The Triumphal Entry – Hosanna!

Matthew 21:1-11, Mark 11:11

Monday Clearing the Temple

Matthew 21:10-17, Mark 11:15-18

Tuesday Day of Controversy and Parables

Matthew 21:23-24:51, Mark 11:27-13:37,

Luke 20:1-21:36

Wednesday Day of Rest

Thursday The Lord's Supper (Passover)

Matthew 26:17-30, Mark 14:12-26,

Luke 22:7-23, John 13:1-30

Friday Crucifixion

Matthew 27:1-66, Mark 15:1-47,

Luke 22:66 – 23:56, John 18:28 - 19:37

Sunday Resurrection - He is Risen!

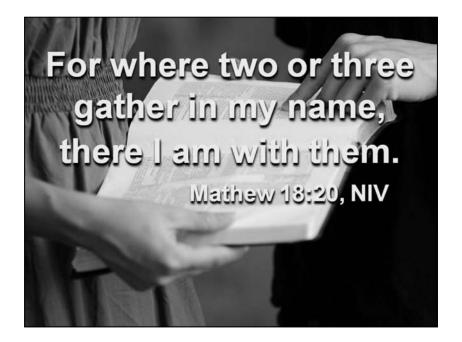
Matthew 28:1-13, Mark 16:1, Luke 24:1-47, John 20: 1-31

"EUCTUONE Who Delieues in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE (WNL) Something for Everyone!

Bring the whole family for an amazing, home-cooked dinner at 6:00 pm, followed by gatherings for all ages! Reserve your spot for dinner by signing up on the tear off. Kids will gather each week at 6:40 for exciting activities and relevant Bible lessons, led by our wonderful children's team. Then teenagers (6th grade up) and adults gather at 6:50 for their own experience, involving prayer, Bible study, training, and hands-on serving. Don't miss this opportunity to grow as a church and as individuals - making disciples who make disciples!

4/3 - "First Night" Prayer 4/10 - Celebration - sharing 4/17 & 24 (off for Easter break)



APRIL SHOWERS

Bring May Flowers...to the residents of the UM Communities of Collingswood. Join members of other local congregations to shower the residents with blessings of various and often needed items. Bring any of the following items to your local collection point by Sunday, April 7th. Thank you for your generosity!

The Collingswood Manor Auxiliary

Body Wash Sponges Tissue Boxes **Pocket Tissues** Hand Cream Candy Bars Scotch Tape Toothpaste Peanut butter crackers Ziplock bags Liquid Hand Soap Dish clothes Body lotion Writing tablets Hard candy Greeting cards Dish detergent Paper napkins Paper Towels Nail polish Nail files Disposable Razors

Puzzle and Game Books Emery boards
Combs & Brushes Toothbrushes
Shower caps Deodorant

NEW REQUESTED ITEMS

Dental Floss Anniversary cards

Saltine/Crackers

Baby powder

Lip Balm

Rain Bonnets

Stamps

Tums

Band-Aids

Slipper socks

Small paper plates Pens

Mouthwash Weekly Pill Boxes



EASTER 2019

PALM SUNDAY

April 14th

9:40 am Sunday School 10:45 am Combined Worship Celebration





HOLY THURSDAY

April 18th

Holy Thursday Service with Communion, 7:00 pm

GOOD FRIDAY

April 19th

Good Friday Service, 12:00 - 3:00 pm

A special time of meditation from Jesus' last words from the cross with special music. Various speakers will be sharing with us. You are invited to come when you are able and leave when you must.





EASTER SUNDAY

April 21st

Worship Services - 8:30 and 10:45 am



Good Friday Men's Breakfast April 19, 2019

Guest Speaker: Rob Maadi



A multi-media personality, bestselling author of "Birds of Pray" and dynamic speaker, Rob Maaddi has covered the NFL and Philadelphia sports full-time for The Associated Press since 2000. Rob is a sports talk-show host at 97.5 Rob has appeared locally on NBC Sports Philadelphia and FOX 29 Good Day Philadelphia and nationally on CNN, ESPN, MSNBC, Sirius XM, FOX News and numerous other radio and television stations across the United States and Canada.

The Scottish Rite Ballroom 315 Whitehorse Pike Collingswood, NJ

6:55 AM – 8:15 AM Starts and Ends ON TIME Tickets \$20 - all included



For Tickets:
Go to "Eventbrite.com" OR
contact Gary McGaum
OR on Facebook: "Greater South
Jersey Annual Men's Good Friday
Breakfast" and click on "Eventbrite"

APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wedn
	1 Church Office Closed 7:00 PM Church Council	2 10:00 AM Followers Bible Study	3 6:00 PM WNL 6:45 PM Mast 7:00 PM The Experience
7 8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 9:40 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service 6:00 PM Ryver	8 Church Office Closed 7:00 PM Discipleship Meeting 7:00 PM Missions- Evangelism 7:00 PM SPR	9 10:00 AM Followers Bible Study	10 6:00 PM WNL 6:45 PM Mast 7:00 PM The Experience
5 th SUNDAY IN LENT			
14 9:40 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Combined Worship Service 6:00 PM Ryver	15 Church Office Closed	16 10:00 AM Followers Bible Study	17
PALM SUNDAY			
21 8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 9:40 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service	22 Church Office Closed 7:00 PM Trustees Meeting	23 10:00 AM Followers Bible Study	24 6:45 PM Mast
EASTER SUNDAY			
28 8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 9:40 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service 6:00 PM Ryver	29 Church Office Closed	30 10:00 AM Followers Bible Study	

esday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
. Dinner er's Men WNL	4 6:30 PM Praise Team Practice	5	6
Dinner er's Men WNL	11 6:30 PM Praise Team Practice	12	13 11:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt 6:00 PM Game Night
	18 7:00 PM Holy Thursday Service	19 6:55 AM Good Friday Men's Breakfast 12:00 PM Good Friday Service	20
	MAUNDY THURSDAY	GODD FRIDAY	
er's Men	25 6:30 PM Praise Team Practice	26	27



FUMC EASTER EGG HUNT

Date: Saturday, April 13th

Time: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Location: Church Campus

Ages: 2 years – 5th Grade (Children hunt by age group.)

Donations of wrapped candy are needed. (No nuts please.) Thank you!









VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2019



When? **June 24 through June 28 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

Where? First United Methodist Church

Collingswood, NJ

Who? Children ages 4 through entering 6th grade

What? In the Wild! Amazing Encounters with Jesus!

Throw on your camera strap and buckle your seatbelt for Amazing Encounters with Jesus. VBS 2019 takes you on a wild adventure—with elephants and egrets, polar bears and penguins, cockatoos and crocodiles. As you seek out exotic animals, you'll also find snapshots of real-life encounters with Jesus in Scripture. Kids go from bewildered to believing as they get In the Wild at this summer's VBS.

WISSIBBIB WESSIBES



Chuck and Bev Truxton, PA and Nigeria

When our friend Nuhu said, "The children will ever live to remember, 'WE HAD A TAP IN OUR SCHOOL!" we knew that something really exciting was happening! The kids in Miango village all know one of life's realities: Water comes from a bucket; and it's no small job fetching what you need for the day. Every day.

In late October when Chuck got back from Nigeria he let you know of the need for boreholes in the village of Miango. People were trekking long distances each day to find water and many wells were drying up because of increased demand. You gave and we started the first borehole. The yield was so good we decided to run a pipe to a nearby primary school. For kids who are used to being sent out to search the area for water each day, the idea of a tap in the school with water flowing out is incredibly exciting. And it's really

good, clean water too!





There's not a real drinking fountain in the school yet; think of this excitement next month when Chuck arrives with a simple one to be installed in the school premises! Thank you for your prayers and gifts that have made the water project possible.

There's more! We've started a second borehole in another part of the village near the village market. And it's nearly completed! What is still needed is a solar power source for the pump since the electrical power available in the village is spotty. This will ensure availability of water always. The solar power unit will cost \$1,800.00.

Chuck will be working on various projects for SIM Nigeria including work with HIV & AIDS patients and those at the Pro-Life Safe House at our hospital in Jos as well as some projects at the mission's Retreat & Conference Center at Miango. And he hopes to make significant progress with the ongoing cemetery project --writing the stories of the missionaries and missionary children buried in our little cemetery at Miango. Most of the research is finally completed and writing of the exciting stories is under way. The little stone gazebo you can see below (upper left) is the spot in the cemetery where most of the writing happens!

We are so grateful for your prayers and also for your emails and letters of encouragement.



Lowell and Claudia Wertz, Tanzania

Our house is bustling with activities. Get the newsletter done, get the Tanzanian annual report done, get the IRS foreign bank accounts report done. Visitors are coming! Start packing for furlough! And so on...

In the middle of the work, there is a happiness that comes from knowing we have finished another term of missionary service strong. Our longest term ever — seven years. I wouldn't try to put a number on the lives saved, the suffering relieved, the hungry fed, the people that have come to Jesus. But the numbers are large.

But numbers don't tell the whole story. The smile of a child when given food, the mother who can't find words to express her gratefulness that her child lives because of a surgery, and the woman falling to her knees weeping because we helped her kids get into school. These moments, (and there are many of them,) make us rejoice that God has permitted us to be His missionaries.

My missionary mentor told me that the call to missions is a call to a life of sorrow. I know of the sadness he was talking about. There is a cross we are called to carry. But he didn't tell me the whole story. The joy that Jesus sets before us makes the cross seem lighter. And at times, so light it is almost not even there.

(Missionary Messages - Continued from page 17)

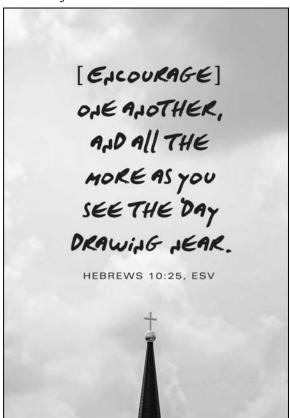
So where do you fit in?

Every joy I experience, you are in my heart. Every penny given, I am eternally grateful to you, the giver. Every day I know you care. Your partnership with the Lord is the foundation of all the good things happening here. You care about things beyond yourself.

You amaze me because you are faithful to the Lord even though you don't see those smiles, healed bodies, and the tears of a desperate woman. You don't see all those who received your love. You challenge my faith and commitment with your own. You make me want to work harder and longer, and do more for the Lord.

So we are headed back to the USA for a furlough. Claudia needs her shoulder operation on April 10, we need some rest, and most important, we need to come see you. We need to say "Thank You!"

P.S. The police called us into the police station. They just wanted to thank Radio JOY for the effect on the population and that we have made their job easier. Crime is down!





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.

Suzanne Hoover

Bob Gordon

April 11

April 13

Dir	thdays	7 Ipin 13	Bert Stevens Will Walker
April 1	Jacob Burkett	April 15	Adrianna Adams Cindy VanPelt
April 2	Heather Chamberlain	April 18	Bill Bittle
April 4	Lisa Santulli	April 19	Beth Stefano
April 6	Bernard Beals Debbie Cherry	•	Grace Alkuino
	Charles (Bud) Shropshire	April 24	Blessy Alkuino
April 7	Ken Steward, Jr.	April 25	Michael Hoover
April 8	Aaron Atkinson	Scott Shannon Asher Walker	
April 9	Gregory McGaurn	April 27	Mark Burgoon
April 10	Marion Shallcross	71pm 27	Mike Tribulas



April 3	Harry and Linda Remeriz
April 5	Tom and Cheryl Averell
April 6	Frank and Susan Liberi
April 20	Ken and Margie Underwood
April 23	Doug and Julie Schmitt
April 27	Bayani and Grace Alkuino



Wings of Prayer



How do you pray for something when deep down you realize you don't fully believe that the prayer will be answered?

This is something that I'm struggling with as I write this article. My sister has been battling a very aggressive form of cancer. When first

diagnosed they said without treatment she would be dead in 6 weeks. That's a pretty grim prognosis. She started with standard chemotherapy, and when that didn't work, she was placed in a clinical trial using an experimental drug. This cancer is such that she will need treatments for the rest of her life. The chemo holds the cancer at bay. If she stops, the cancer advances. It's been a year and a half since her diagnosis and the chemo drugs are starting to build up and take a toll on her body. Recently, she had to pause treatment several times due to the cumulative effect of these toxic drugs. It's catching up to her. What kills the cancer also destroys healthy organs. It's a delicate balance and there is no telling how long this treatment will work before the side effects are causing as much harm as the cancer.

When I heard that she was hospitalized this week in need of a blood transfusion I stopped to pray. But the words wouldn't come. I wanted to pray for healing. For the cancer to be taken away. I'm a Christian. I'm supposed to believe that God can do all things. But I have also seen what cancer does; seen how often there is no healing. I have a very practical, analytical brain that knows the odds. So I just sat there, struggling to find words to form a prayer that I could believe.

It was there that God met me. First through a friend who I shared my pain with. When I said, "I don't know how to pray," he said, "Then let me." And prayers were said. Powerful prayers. After I hung up the phone, I picked up my Bible. God met me there too.

More than that, he led me. We started in Isaiah, where he reminded me that we will not always understand what He does. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:9. Then in Job, where many passages spoke of His sovereignty. Then in Psalms where I repeatedly saw David crying out in despair, but always finding God at his side, even through trials and difficult circumstances. I saw how he praised God in all of those circumstances. Finally, I came to the verse above from the story of the father who brought his son to Jesus to be healed from a spirit which tormented him. He used the phrase "If you can do anything, take pity on us and help him." Jesus told him that everything is possible for one who believes. It was then that the man confessed his unbelief at the same time he said that he believed. That is where I am. I have a feeling we have all been there. We don't want to make God small, but when we let our worldly knowledge take over, that's when doubt creeps in.

This is where we must lean on our faith. Look around for examples of when God did answer prayers, even seemingly impossible ones. It may have been in your own life, or something that you saw in someone else's life. Take your doubts to God. He will meet you where you are. Go to His Word. Look around for reminders of God's power and faithfulness.

As you pray, please keep the needs of the following in mind: Carol Phillips, Carol Harding, Bud Shropshire, Ginny Morrow, Sherry Rusk, Barbara Edelman, Joyce Schoch, Betty Alber, Elizabeth Hollows, Bea Williams, Jantzen Aurig, Audrey Diehl, Arnie Arnold, Cheryl Averell, David Shropshire, Holly Gibbons.





Through his death and resurrection, Jesus offers the free gift of eternal life.

Directions: Match each clue from Holy Week with the correct image. If you get stuck, look up the Bible verses.

People spread these on the road for Jesus. (Matthew 21:8)

Mary pours this on Jesus' feet. (John 12:3)

Jesus shares this with his disciples. (Matthew 26:26)

This is placed on Jesus' head. (John 19:2)

Soldiers may have used these to compete for Jesus' coat. (John 19:23-24)

Jesus carries this himself for a while. (John 19:17)

Marks caused by these help Thomas identify Jesus. (John 20:25)

While on the cross, Jesus is thirsty and is given this. (John 19:28-29)

This is rolled away from Jesus' tomb. (John 20:1)

These are used to prepare Jesus' body for burial. (Luke 23:55-56)

These remain in the tomb after Jesus rises. (John 20:6-7)

Judas betrays Jesus for this. (Matthew 26:14-15)















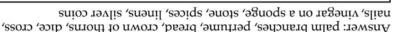












Remember God's special gift of Jesus by making this craft.

What you need:

- Large piece of blue paper
- Large bowl
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Paint (green and red)
- Paintbrush
- Wet wipes
- 3 wooden craft sticks
- Craft glue
- Black marker
- Bible

What you do:

- 1. On the paper, trace around the bowl. Cut out the circle.
- 2. Paint your palms green, one at a time, and press them in the circle side by side. (Clean your hands with wet wipes.)
- 3. Dip a finger in red paint and make a dot on the center of each handprint.
- 4. Between the handprints, glue two sticks end to end vertically. Glue the third stick horizontally to make a cross.
- 5. In marker, write the words of John 3:16 around the blue circle.



After Jesus raises Lazarus from death, what does his family do to thank Jesus?

- A. They host a dinner for him.
- B. Martha serves the meal.
- C. Mary anoints Jesus' feet with an extravagant amount expensive perfume.
- D. All of the above.





Answer: D (See John 12:1-3.)



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



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