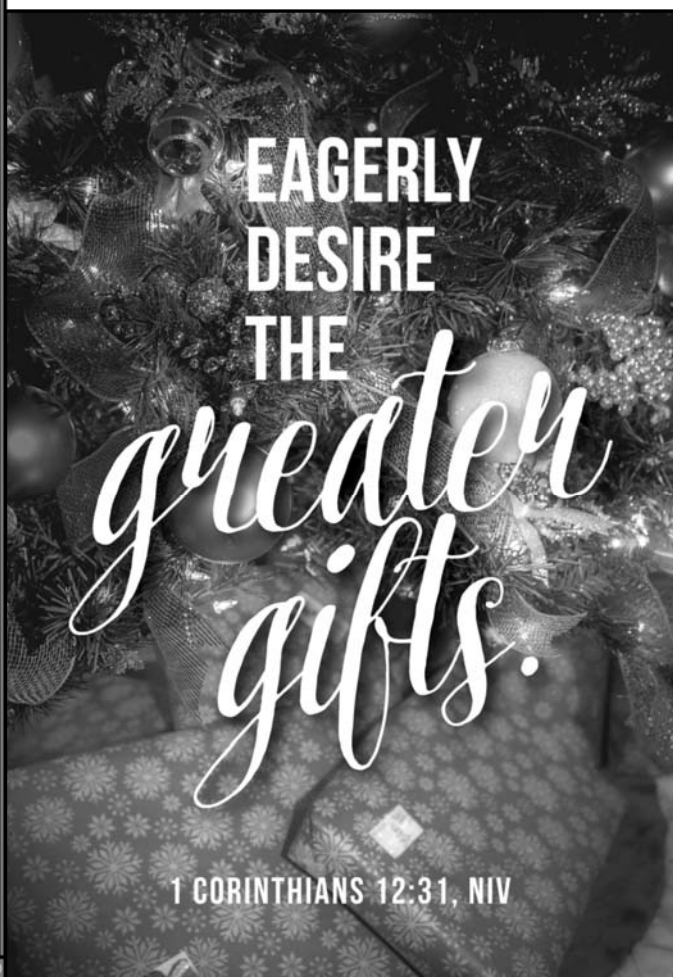


Holiday
2018



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:

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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.***

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

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



From The Pastor's Heart



Christmas is a time for memories... memories of special times, special people, and special gifts and miracles. I love the story of the twin boys. Although they looked identical, they were completely different in personality. One boy was very negative in his outlook on life and the other was very positive. One saw difficulty in every opportunity and the other saw opportunity in every difficulty. For

Christmas one year, their parents decided to conduct an experiment. They gave the negative boy a great present—a brand new laptop computer! As he unwrapped his gift, he began to mutter under his breath, “I don’t like this brand. The screen is too small. The memory is not big enough and I don’t like the color of it.” For the positive twin, they gave him a box of horse manure. As he opened the box, he sifted through the manure. After processing this strange gift, he began to giggle with excitement, “You can’t fool me, mom and dad. Where there’s this much manure, there’s just got to be a pony!” Which twin best describes you?

Sometimes our desire for some things, even Christmas gifts, can be like that. No matter our age, we all have a Christmas list in our mind, whether it’s about gifts, expectations, hopes about what the holidays will hold or how our time with family or friends will be. The expectations around the holidays are often impossibly high. But I found then and still find today, that it is the unexpected gifts of time, people, or presents, that often bring me back to the true meaning of Christmas.

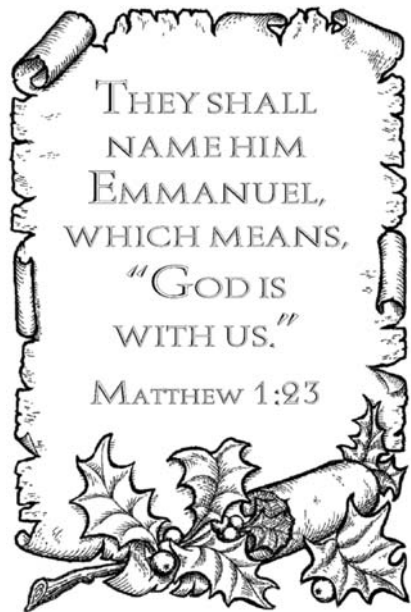
Here’s why: When we celebrate the birth of God’s Son, Jesus Christ, He, too, was an unexpected gift found in an unexpected place that brought hope and joy. Most of us know the story well. Jesus was born around 2,000 years ago in the city of Bethlehem. His parents, Mary and Joseph, a young maiden and a carpenter, had travelled there from their home in Nazareth. When they arrived there was no vacancy at any of the local inns. The only place they could find to stay was a poor man’s stable, and this is where Jesus was born. They laid Him in the only bed they could find—a

manger. His bedding was the animal's hay. His clothes were pieces of cloth. It is amazing that God's own Son would be born in such a humble way, so unexpectedly, so tenderly, without a press release or marketing plan, and, you see, this is itself part of the gift. For, the way Jesus came to us is just as important as the fact that he came at all.

Max Lucado puts it this way: "In Jesus, God joins us in our struggle for goodness and peace. God enters our world and our lives to transform them—to bring us hope, healing, forgiveness, and love. In the birth of Jesus, God collapses the great distance that once existed between us, so that we might be as close to God as a mother to her child—the human and divine, God and us, now wrapped in a tender embrace. Jesus came to us in this unlikely and unexpected way to show us the depth of God's love for us—to show us that God is so in love with us that God would go to any length for us, even to being born silently in a stable. And Jesus still shows up in the unexpected places in our world and in our lives bringing hope."

Jesus was an unexpected gift found in an unexpected place that brought hope and joy. I look forward to continue to focus our "Miracles Everywhere" theme with a Christmas focus. Our Christmas sermon series is "Experience the Miracle of Christmas." Christmas is far more than knowing about the miracle of Christmas. We need to experience the miracle of Christmas in our own hearts and lives. God sent Jesus to live out his message in a way that we can understand and that would change and transform lives! The miracle of the message is that God speaks to us today so that we can know Him and draw near to Him!

Jesus is given many names in the Bible: "Lord, Savior, Prince of Peace and Messiah." But the one we use most around Christmas is "Emmanuel," which means "God with us." In Jesus, God entered into our reality and our lives. God knows what it is like to be human. God knows intimately what we go through. God knows what it is like to have hopes and dreams, fears and doubts, to



(Continued on page 17)



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.



Holiday Events



December 16th Discipleship Classes at 9:40 am.
Combined Service at 10:45 am.
Family Christmas Presentation (*Children's Play*)
Presentation of Staff Love Gifts

Parsonage Open Houses - 4:00 to 7:00 pm
The open houses will be held at BOTH the Zook
and Mountain homes!

December 24th Christmas Eve Candlelighting Service at 6:45 pm.
"Experience the Miracle of the Manger"
John 1:1-5



This year we will once again decorate
our Sanctuary with poinsettias placed by
members and friends. Please fill out the
envelopes placed around the church in honor or
memory of loved ones! The cost is \$6 per
poinsettia. Please turn in by Sunday, December
9th.

REMINDER: Our postponed Church Conference will be held on
Sunday, December 9th after the 2nd service.

DECEMBER SERMONS AND SCRIPTURES



Experience the Miracle of Christmas

December 2	<i>Experience the Miracle of the Moment</i> Communion	Galatians 4
December 9	<i>Experience the Miracle of the Message</i>	Hebrews 1:1-3
December 16	Children's Christmas Presentation "Experience The Christmas Miracle" Combined Service at 10:45 am.	
December 23	<i>Experience the Miracle of God's Method in Jesus</i>	Romans 11:33
December 24	Christmas Eve - Experience the Miracle of the Manger	John 1:1-5
December 30	Student Sunday - Experience the Miracle of the Marvel Combined Service at 10:45 am.	Matthew 2

Family Christmas Celebration Children's Christmas Play

Sunday, December 16th at
10:45 am (combined service)

Rehearsal for children:
Saturday, December 15th
10:00 to 11:30 am

If another rehearsal is needed,
we'll schedule it.





COME LET US ADORE HIM

A Prayer Service of Remembrance and Hope

Do you find yourself unable to join in the joy
of the holiday season?

We are offering this special service to
support those experiencing grief, loss or
sadness during the holiday. If you are facing
this Christmas season with a heavy or
anxious heart please plan to attend.
Everyone is welcome!

This service is a service of prayer reflection
and hope focused on the One who is with us
in the darkness of our sorrow and will see us
through until joy shall return.

December 5, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

**There is a special gift for everyone who
RSVPs in advance to the church office so we
might be able to honor your loved one.**

**Call (856)-858 -1186 or email
maria@fumccollingswood.org.**

IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR!



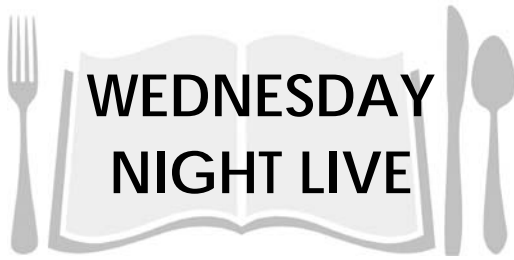
We have the opportunity to make it so for the children at Neighborhood Center! Please bring new toys, \$5-\$10 gift cards for stores such as Wal-Mart, games, etc, and place them in the collection chest in the front of the sanctuary. Thank you for your generosity!



We need 56 dozen cookies by the morning of December 18th. Six dozen will be for the First Responders Christmas Party which will be held on December 18th.

50 dozen will be for a cookie giveaway for the homeless in Camden. Our life groups will be giving them away during the breakfast on December 22nd. Please see Pastor Sam, Matt or Shawn if you would like to help or you can email the church office maria@fumccollingswood.org





Don't miss being part of WNL!! We know that involvement in Worship, Connect, AND Mission are all crucial for our lives to be thriving in God's love. So while many other programs in the church hit the Worship and Connect pieces, WNL will help you grow in Mission.

It starts with a wonderful dinner at 6:00 pm.

Cost: Adults 11 & over, \$6.00, \$3.00/child 10 & under, Free 3 & under, family maximum \$25)

After dinner, youth (grades 6-12) and adults are encouraged to be part of the WNL Experience beginning at 6:45 pm. It's not just a class - it's so much more!! Through Bible teaching, training, prayer, and hands-on serving experiences, you will be equipped to live in Mission with our community and the people you love!

12/5 Prayer and Remembrance Service

12/12 Serving Night - caroling at Collingswood Manor

WNL also includes a great program for kids! Classes begin at 6:45 pm.

Grades 3, 4, 5 – Survive and Thrive

Grades K, 1, 2 – Bible Art



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 or Susan Gibbins-Davis.



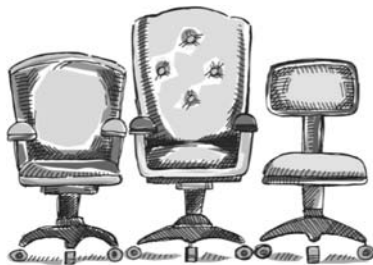
LAPTOP MINISTRY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

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 a.m. The service itself is at 10:45 a.m. The person running the laptop starts at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday. Programming is done by the person running the laptop. Training will be provided. See Jonathan Schwehm for more information.

SHOWING OUR LOVE TO OUR STAFF

Our staff works diligently to serve the Lord and to serve us. Each year we give you – our church members and friends – an opportunity to show them love and thank them for all they do. In mid-November you'll receive a letter in the mail describing this annual event. Every gift is important; any amount is welcome. The letter will describe how you can give and asks that all monies be received by the church no later than Sunday, December 9th so we can present checks to our staff on Sunday, December 16th. Any questions can be directed to the SPR ministry team. Thank you in advance for your generosity toward our selfless staff.



Carol Doron, SPR Chairperson.

What a privilege it has been to serve you as your pastoral staff this year. We hope and pray that the peace Jesus brought as the baby in the manger may be yours this Christmas.

The Staff of First United Methodist Church wishes you and your family a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year! It is a privilege and joy to serve you! We pray God's love and blessings upon you.



Pastor Sam,
Shawn Zook, Will
Walker, Matt
Peace,
Pat Gunning,
Maria
Gianfrancesco,
Ed Davis and
Mike Tribulas.

As we come to the end of another year, I would like to extend a BIG thank you to:

- Phil Boswell for all his hard work (and patience!!) each month with the church newsletter.
- The volunteers who help with the church mailings and those volunteers who cover the church office when I'm out.
- Bob Gordon for being our bulk mail delivery person.

I appreciate each and every one of you for all the special help and things you do for the church.

God bless you in the New Year.

With love,
Maria

We approach the end of yet another year. As always, I'd like extend my thanks to everyone who helps get Windows out the door every month. Special thanks to Maria for making sure that submissions get to me on time each month and Kathy for proofreading each issue.



I would also like to extend my thanks to everyone who helps to keep the ministries of our church going. Thank you to all of our teachers, helpers, ushers, greeters, musicians, singers, tech crew, nursery workers and everyone who has helped out and pitched in this year. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Have a
**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**
and a
**HAPPY
NEW YEAR!**



DECEMBER			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
2 8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 9:40 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service 6:00 PM Ryver 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	3 Church Council Church Office Closed	4 11:00 AM Follower Bible Study 12:00 PM Followers Bible Study Christmas Luncheon	5 6:00 PM WNL 6:45 PM Mast 6:45 PM Pray Remembrance
9 8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 9:40 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service 6:00 PM Ryver 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	10 Church Office Closed	11	12 6:00 PM WNL 6:45 PM Mast 6:45 PM WNL the Manor
16 Children's Christmas Presentation 9:40 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Combined Worship Service 4:00 PM Parsonage Open Houses 6:00 PM Ryver 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	17 Church Office Closed	18 First Responders Christmas Party	19
23 8:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 9:40 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary Worship Service 6:00 PM Ryver 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	24 Church Office Closed 6:45 PM Christmas Eve Family Worship Service CHRISTMAS EVE	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!! CHRISTMAS DAY	26 Church Office
30 Student Sunday 9:40 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Combined Worship Service 6:00 PM Ryver	31 Church Office Closed NEW YEAR'S EVE		

ER 2018

Tuesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1
Dinner Men's Men er and e Service	6 Keswick Hymn Sing 6:30 PM Praise Team Practice	7	8 Lineage of Love 6:00 PM Game Night
Dinner Men's Men - Caroling at	13 6:30 PM Praise Team Practice	14	15
	20 6:30 PM Handi*Vangelism Support Group 6:30 PM Praise Team Practice	21 <i>FIRST DAY OF WINTER</i>	22
Closed	27 6:30 PM Praise Team Practice	28	29



JANUARY EVENTS



Communion will be held on Sunday, January 6th
at both services.

Men's Breakfast January 19th at 8:00 am.



Wee Soccer for grades K through 3rd.
Registration will be held on January 26th
from noon to 2:00 pm.
Games will be played on Saturdays in February
starting at 9:00 am.

SHARING GOD'S LOVE IN 2019

Finding more intentional ways to share Gods love!

Sermon Series:

Miracles Everywhere - What a Way to begin the New Year!

Do your kids need to burn off some energy?

Indoor Wee Soccer 2019



The First United Methodist Church of Collingswood is sponsoring an indoor soccer program for children in grades Kindergarten through 3rd grade which will begin on February 2nd. There will be 2 age level programs — Kindergarten and 1st grade and a 2nd and 3rd grade program. All games are played on Saturday mornings in February beginning at 9:00 AM. Sign up Saturday, January 26th from 12:00 - 2:00 PM (Use office entrance on Dayton Avenue) There is a registration fee of \$10.00 per child to participate in the 4 week program. The church is located at the corner of Park & Dayton Avenues in Collingswood. (201 Dayton Avenue)

For more information on the program please call the church office @ 856-858-1186 or register at our website: FUMCollingswood.org.

SAVE THE DATES!

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

belong and to be rejected, to succeed and fail. Jesus is God's love made visible. His humble birth puts that love on full display. It is a beautiful and unexpected gift in a humble and unexpected place.

My prayer for you is that that your Christmas journey may be filled with unexpected gifts. They may be presents, relationships, or moments of grace and hope. May they remind you of the original unexpected gift of Christmas, Jesus, and of God's great love for you. Let's share that love with others, everywhere we go, in all that we do, bringing real joy and hope throughout this advent season to the world around us. What a joy it is to celebrate our Savior's birth with you, our church family. You are a great blessing to Lisa and I and our staff.

In His love and grace,
Pastor Sam

MISSIONARY MESSAGES

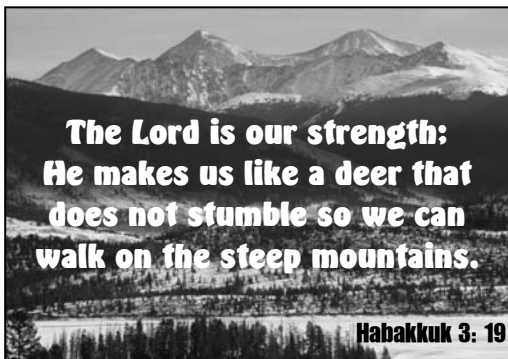


Walt and Pat Stuart, France

The joys and sadness's of life, how do you deal with them? (We come to the Father, His Word, and prayer. Pat journals, calls our kids, grandkids, sisters, and friends!)

Our joy in seeing a beautiful sunset, smelling a rose, watching a child

playing in the sand, having a cozy nook to rest in, talking to people who want answers and are interested in what God is doing in our world; seeing a church with vision and enthusiasm as they practice what they preach. Yes, and then there is joy and sadness as we see our kids go off to college! And of course, joy in seeing God at work, in us, and performing daily miracles as He proves that love in practical ways for His children and His children, yet to be around the world.



A major part of our sadness, is seeing the constant, relentless, pain people suffer. For example, we just spent 3 hours in a Pain Management Clinic with sister, Shirley. Other painful experiences - hearing of another young one with cancer, saying "good-bye" at the death of Walt's sister, Marjorie; and the pain of broken trusts. We have great sadness as we listen to government leaders in turmoil, *juvenile* back biting, and actions, etc.

Loss, of all kinds, grief, and suffering is all around us! *And, we have a job to do!* Sure, some physical pain can be alleviated by drugs. Yet somehow the disappointment and disillusionment of broken, conflictual relationships can be more painful! Without the possibility of honest communication, forgiveness, and change, there is little hope of joy, restoration and peace in the soul.

"Teach us, Father how to live in Your joy, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, until death do us part and to live out what we believe and teach."

'TIS THE SEASON TO REMEMBER MISSIONS AROUND THE WORLD

As we celebrate the holidays and approach the year 2019, let us remember all our missionaries in prayer. Pray for:

- Peace during festivities where distance separates families during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons.
- Strengthening of each missionary in his or her daily walk with God.
- Enthusiasm and renewed commitment to each of their ministries.
- Health and safety in many unstable political situations.
- Adequate finances to do the job well.



REMEMBER OUR MISSIONARIES

In this season of Christmas, pray for the missionaries you know who are far from their children, their parents, or their extended family. Their hearts are divided, loving the people with whom they live and minister to in their adopted country, and missing the traditions, smells, and sounds of their home country. Pray for wonderful times of ministry in this season when many hearts are more open than any other time of year.



Wings of Prayer



And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name."

Luke 1:46-49

As we approach the Advent and Christmas seasons my thoughts turn to Mary. The radio is playing, and one of my favorite Christmas songs is on: "*Mary Did You Know?*" The song wonders what Mary's thoughts were before and after Jesus was born. Did she know that her baby boy would one day walk on water, or give sight to a blindman? One of my favorite lines is "Did you know... This child that you've delivered, will soon deliver you?" We can't know what she was thinking, but we do know that she trusted God through it all.

In Luke when the angel first appeared to Mary he said: "*Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.*" That's quite a pronouncement! I don't know about you, but I would have been terrified and told him that he must be talking to the wrong person. Not Mary though. Her response was one of obedience and faith: "*I am the Lord's servant... May your word to me be fulfilled.*"

The angel had told Mary that her cousin Elizabeth was with child also, even though she had not been able to have children.

Mary went to visit her and the Bible tells us that the baby leapt within Elizabeth. Being filled with the Holy Spirit, she declared to Mary, “*Blessed are you among women and blessed is the child you will bear!*” Again, my response would have been to start crying and tell her how frightened I was. Mary responded differently. She responded with a prayer, or some call it a song, known as The Magnificat. Her first words are “*My soul glorifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.*” Lord, may these words be the opening words of every prayer that I ever pray.

We can learn so much from how Mary reacted to what was happening to her. Even though the situation was going to turn her life upside down, she was able to experience peace and praise God in the midst of it all. She stayed close to her God, trusted Him and remembered the good things that he had done in the past. She spoke them out loud in her prayer to remind herself and everyone else, including us 2000 years later, that God is in control of everything.

This Christmas season I wish you all the same peace that Mary experienced, especially if you are going through something that seems overwhelming and frightening. When you pray, try starting each prayer with the words Mary used to remind yourself who is in control.

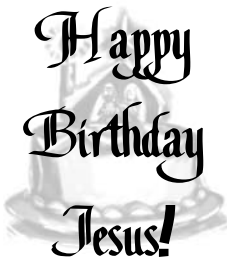
We keep in our prayers those who are missing loved ones or going through difficult times. Please also pray for *Brian Berryhill, Tim Sheetz, Bea Williams, Jantzen Aurig, Audrey Diehl, Arnie Arnold, Cheryl and Tom Averell, David Shropshire, Holly Gibbons.*





Dec. 4 Keith VanPelt
 Dec. 9 Carol Shiropshire
 Dec. 10 John Cluelow, Sr
 Dec. 12 Michele Cobert
 Linda Sabin
 Dec. 17 Tyson Chamberlain
 Dec. 19 Leslie Wallace
 Dec. 20 Zachary DeRue
 Dec. 22 Bill Doron
 Lillian Schwehm
 Dec. 23 Doug Wagner
 Dec. 24 Joyce Cluelow

Jan. 4 Jean Adams
 Jan. 5 Carolyn Thompson
 Jan. 7 James Jungclaus Jr.
 Jan. 12 Neil Kinky
 Jan. 17 Linda Adams
 Jan. 18 Jessica Brown
 Jan. 22 Myrtle Aurig
 Jan. 23 Armand LeBlanc
 Jan. 24 Rebecca Burgoon
 Jan. 26 Nicholas Santulli
 Jan. 30 James Jungclaus Sr.



Dec. 23 Louis and Cynthia VanPelt

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.

ADVENT: A TIME OF CELEBRATION

Join us each week as we celebrate the Advent season together. The word “Advent” means “coming” or “arrival.” The focus of the next four weeks is the celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ in His first Advent and the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in His second Advent.

Daily Scripture Readings for Advent

The weeks of Advent remind us to set aside some of the hectic business of the Christmas season, and to quietly reflect on the promise of the baby born in Bethlehem 2000 years ago. The Bible readings listed below relate to the Advent themes of waiting, preparation, light in the darkness, and the coming of the promised Messiah.



First Week of Advent

Sunday - Romans 13:11-14
Monday - 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Tuesday - Mark 13:33-37
Wednesday - John 1:1-5
Thursday - John 1:6-9
Friday - Jeremiah 33:14-16
Saturday - Isaiah 60:19-22

Second Week of Advent

Sunday - Romans 15:4-13
Monday - Psalms 43:3-6
Tuesday - Psalms 27:1-4
Wednesday - Psalms 119:105-106
Thursday - John 12:35-36
Friday - Ephesians 5:6-14
Saturday - 1 Peter 2:5-9

Third Week of Advent

Sunday - Isaiah 60:1-3
Monday - 2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Tuesday - 1 John 1:4-7
Wednesday - John 3:16-21
Thursday - Isaiah 40:1-11
Friday - John 9:1-7
Saturday - Luke 3:1-6

Fourth Week of Advent

Sunday - Isaiah 11:1-10
Monday - Zephaniah 3:14-17
Tuesday - Matthew 1:18-25
Wednesday - Luke 2:8-20
Thursday - Matthew 4:14-16
Friday - Isaiah 2:1-5
Saturday - Luke 2:25-33



Joy to the
WORLD

In Luke 2:10, the angels share good news that continues to bring great joy today.

In Luke 2:10, the angels share good news that continues to bring great joy today.

Directions: Circle all the complete small “joy” words — forward only. Count the total. Bonus: See if you can find “Jesus” amid all the joy!

[illegible]

TOTAL JOY=_____

Answer: 36 (10 in the J, 15 in the O, 11 in the Y); Jesus is at the bottom of the large O

CHRISTMAS

joy

Make this fun decoration as a reminder of the joy Jesus brings.



What you need:

- Pencil
- Poster board
- Scissors
- Craft pompoms (red, white, green, silver, gold)
- Glue

What you do:

1. Trace large capital block letters J, O and Y on the poster board.
2. Cut out the letters.
3. Glue pompoms on one side of each letter, completely covering it.
4. Share JOY by displaying the letters in your home.

Bible Quiz

According to the fourth Gospel, "There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the _____."

- A. love
- B. life
- C. light
- D. Lord

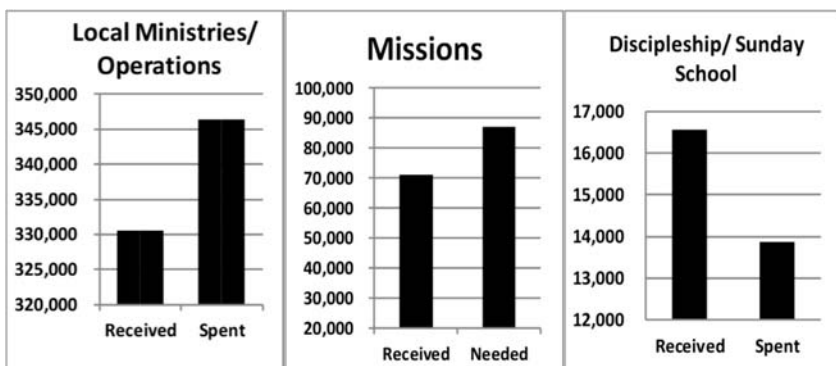


Answer: C (See John 1:6-7, NRSV.)

Financial Notes



OCTOBER 2018 FIRST CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT -
We appreciate your consistent, generous giving as we build the kingdom together. Finances through October were as follows:



Local ministries/operations Account - This account supports our church's personnel, property, program and administrative expenses and the Greater NJ Annual Conference shared ministries. The 2018 local ministries/operations budget is \$464,763. It is funded by 90% of the 90%/10% local ministries/operation-missions offerings, 100% of the local ministries/operations offerings, 90% of loose plate offerings, conference apportionment-world service offerings and miscellaneous income.

Missions Account - This account supports First Church-related missionaries, First Church-related ministries and other missionaries and ministries. The 2018 missions budget is \$104,288 or \$8,691/month. It is funded by a 10% tithe of the 90%/10% local ministries-operations/missions offerings, missions offerings, 10% of loose plate offerings and the Easter and Christmas missions offerings.

Discipleship / Sunday School Account - This account supports the Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and certain youth expenses. The 2018 Sunday School/Discipleship budget is \$17,000. It is funded by offerings given in Sunday School classes and by offerings to the church designated for Sunday School/Discipleship, Vacation Bible School and youth.

Designated Funds - In addition to their support of the local ministries/operations, mission and Sunday school/discipleship budgets, members and friends of First Church gave \$1,552 as follows to designated funds during October:

- \$750 in memorial gifts
- \$514.26 for the Local Benevolence fund. These funds have been transferred to the Benevolence treasurer.
- \$253.34 for the Sunday school, VBS and youth programs. These funds have been transferred to the Sunday school treasurer and are in addition to offerings taken in Sunday School classes. They are reflected in the Sunday school / Discipleship portion of the September 2018 First Church Financial Report.
- \$34 for Operation Christmas Child

Consistent support of our local ministries/operations, missions and Sunday School / Discipleship ministries by members and friends of First Church enables us to do all we do. Thank you. We report finances to the congregation each month.

Contact local ministries-operations account treasurer, Ted Robb [856-858-4523] for questions on the local ministries-operations account report, missions account treasurer, Jean Robb [856-858-4523] for questions on the missions account report and Sunday School treasurer, Charles Hill [856-854-4010] for questions on the Discipleship/Sunday School report.

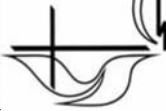
(Missionary Messages - Continued from page 18)

A French doctor once said to us, “please come and open an office next to mine, most of the people, I see, I cannot help, I wasn’t trained to do that, *but you were*, please help us, help them.” WOW!

A Swiss psychiatrist friend said to Walt, “I was afraid you wanted to become a psychologist, don’t you know that the greatest influence a person can have on others is in the *pulpit*?! You have a captive audience for one hour each week!” Walt assured him he had *no intention* of becoming a psychologist!

A Japanese psychiatrist pleaded with Pat, “Help me stop seeing people through the eyes of Freud and start seeing them through the eyes of Jesus.” OK, we get our calling.

This is the challenge we all have each day. We’re all in the same boat! **Please pray for us, as we do for you**, to remain kind, compassionate, merciful and wise as we “live out” with courage, what we believe.



The First United Methodist Church
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*And they went with haste
and found
Mary
and Joseph,
the baby
lying in a manger.*



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