



FIRST CHURCH WINDOWS



Goodbye,
Best Wishes
& Thank You
Pastor Sam!



WELL DONE
GOOD AND
FAITHFUL
SERVANT!



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

Worship the Lord with Us!

Sunday Worship

Live-Streamed Service at 10:00 AM

In person worship has resumed!

Pre-registration is no longer required to attend our services in-person, but sign-in for attendance purposes is needed.

***Please visit www.fumccollingswood.org
for our online worship experience.***

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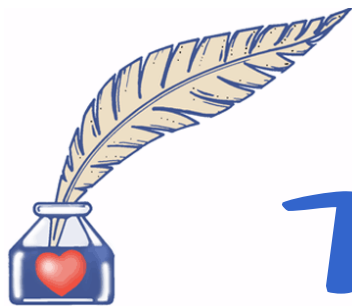


The submission deadline for the *Summer* issue of Windows is June 25th.

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



First Church Windows is only available online and in full-color due to the COVID pandemic.



From The Pastor's Heart



Wow!!! We give God praise as we conclude our ministry together here at FUMC after 13 years. I thank God for leading Lisa and I and our family to FUMC (it took a rainbow and the call of God in our lives) and we can hardly believe 13 years have past! We thank the Lord for a special, loving and caring church family and community that we have been blessed to serve. You all are a special blessing to us. It has been a joy to watch God work through our journey together. We all know there have been some challenges but many more blessings. We look forward to the days ahead to live out the journey and vision God has for us as the Lord leads us into a new season. We now pray for Pastor Scott, Meg and family and the great staff, leadership and church family to continue to see many people's lives transformed and discipled from the influence of FUMC. My prayer also is that you will encourage and help win everyone you can in Collingswood and surrounding towns to Jesus Christ. I hope the lighthouse on Park Avenue will continue to be a constant reminder of Jesus' words for us to shine; may you continue to do that together for His will and glory

When we began our journey here in Collingswood, Psalm 34 was a favorite scripture of mine in the beginning days. I found great strength and direction in God's Word from David's writings in verses from Psalm 34:

*I will extol the Lord at all times, his praise will always be on my lips. I will glory in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt his name together. I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them. Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him. Fear the Lord, you his holy people, for those who fear him lack nothing. **The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their cry; The Lord redeems his servants; no one will be condemned who takes refuge in him.***

This passage reminds me of the importance of praising and seeking and trusting God for the future and that the Lord sees and hears his people. David says, God is ever *attentive to our prayers*. I was reminded of something I read from Rick Warren recently about trusting God no matter the circumstances. I found it encouraging and I would like to share with you:

When you can't count on anything else, you can count on God and the promises of God. We have the power of Jesus Christ and the leadership of the Holy Spirit to guide us every day. That's what Paul told his shipmates when they were being battered by a storm in Acts 27. All looked lost. But God had told Paul that they all would be safe. Paul trusted God and told the others: "So take courage, men, because I believe God that it will be just the way it was told to me" (Acts 27:25 CSB). Paul didn't place his faith in the ship or the captain. Paul trusted God. That boat wasn't going to last forever. Paul understood that, but he knew the promises of God would last.

Are you trying to put your trust in a puny lifeboat? Maybe it's your sparkling personality. You're sure that you can get through anything because your personality will shine through. Maybe it's your looks. They've always been the key to your success. You figure you can lean on your looks when troubles hit. Maybe it's your money. You plan to buy yourself out of whatever problem you face. But all of those puny lifeboats will someday perish.

The only safe place to be in the middle of a storm is directly in the center of God’s will. Just ask Paul. Acts 27 ends with an incredible comeback—the Bible says “everyone escaped safely to shore” (Acts 27:44 NLT). Like they always have, God’s promises came true—even though things might not turn out like we planned or hoped for. When you lean on God’s promises during a storm, you won’t be the only one who is helped. God just might save the whole ship and those around you too!

Looking back at our journey together, I’m so grateful for how God has been attentive to our prayers together. God has touched many lives. God has touched my life too, as I have served as your pastor over these years, and as we have served together. I thank the Lord as we have partnered together for His will and His glory. Let’s trust Him together and see what He has in store for the future in this new season ahead. We love you all and thank you for the privilege of being a part of your family.

In His Awesome Love and Grace,
Pastor Sam and Lisa



On June 13th, we will be honoring our Senior Pastor Sam and Lisa for all they have done for us over the past 13 years of service here at First Church! SPR will be presenting to them our “love gifts” and tokens of our appreciation. After the service, there will be a walk - through reception, in the church parlor, to bid them “farewell!” We hope you will be able to join us!

Pastor Sam and Lisa have recently accepted a new assignment, at the Woodstown Asbury United Methodist Church, in Woodstown, NJ for this upcoming year. They are grateful for watching God's hand at work. They ask that we continue to pray for Pastor Scott and Meg Rambo and their family in this pastoral transition.

Dear Church Family,

First of all what I want to say is very hard for me to put in words, to explain how blessed I was working here at First Church, but I will try!

I would like to thank my church family for your gifts and your kind words on my retirement. Many of you thanked me for my 21½ years of being your church secretary. But in reality, I want to thank all of you for making this “job” the best place I’ve ever worked! How grateful I was to be able to come to work every day happy to be here and looking forward to talking and seeing all of you. You made my years here so wonderful!

While everyone is special to me, I would like to thank the staff at First Church. I care about each and every one of you, past and present. We were a great team and some of the nicest people I know. I would also like to thank my volunteers, who helped me month after month with everything from sitting in for me, stuffing envelopes and the newsletter and other things. You know who you are! And the Pastors I worked for were and are the best! I especially wish to thank Pastor Sam for his patience with me and my “crazy Italian South Philly girl” as I loved to tell him! I consider myself lucky to not only have had him for a boss, but more importantly as my friend. I feel the same about his family, also!

I could go on and on as you all know how much I love to talk. But, so this newsletter does not become a novel, I just want to say again how much I care and love all of you. FUMC will always be special to me and in my heart forever.

Love and prayers to all,
Maria





Do you miss serving the church?
Do you have a passion for serving the King behind the scenes?
Do you enjoy learning new things?
Do you like being around technology?
Do you like working with computers or
want to learn to work with a computer?

JOIN THE TECH CREW! It is as easy as pressing a button!



We are looking for volunteers to expand our tech crew. Each Sunday, we need operators to be responsible for the lights and sound for our services, overseeing the livestreaming of the service and running the projection system in the Sanctuary. You don't need any experience - just a willingness to learn. Now that we have resumed in-person worship, we want to teach new people and expand our team. For more information contact Will Walker at will@fumccollingswood.org or Phil Boswell at phil@fumccollingswood.org.

Job Opportunity



We're still actively seeking an Office Manager (aka Church Secretary). If you know of anyone who has moderate computer skills, good organizational skills, and a heart for Jesus, who might be interested in this paid position, please ask them to contact Carol Doron at the email listed below:

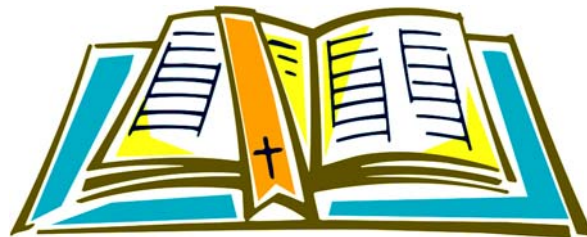
Office Manager for FUMC Collingswood
20 hours/week: Tuesday - Friday, 9:00am - 2:00pm

If interested, please contact Carol Doron at bcdoron@aol.com.

During our service on Sunday, June 13th, we will be awarding Student Scholarships.



UPCOMING SERMONS AND SCRIPTURES



REAL LIVING

Please join us in our sermon series called *Real Living*. We are going to learn some powerful truths about how living like Christ makes all the difference. What a great way to reflect on Christ together in a time of transition. Join us as we journey through the book of Philippians and learn how to really live!

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|---------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| June 6 | <i>Living with Real Peace</i> | Philippians 4:4-9 |
| | Communion | |
| June 13 | Graduation Sunday | |
| June 20 | Father's Day | |
| | <i>Living with Real Contentment</i> | Philippians 4:10-23 |
| June 27 | To Be Announced | |

OPTIONS
♀ FOR WOMEN



Our “Baby Bottle” collection to support Options for Women, a pregnancy care center, in Cherry Hill, NJ continues until Father’s Day, June 20th. Be sure to check out their website (<https://optionsnj.org>) for other important needs. Our contributions will help pregnant women make the correct choices during their pregnancy. Thank you so much. If you have any questions, please contact Judy Boswell. Bottles will be collected on Father's Day.

MISSIONARY MESSAGES



Mark and Carol Hepner

The consultant checking work I've been doing via Skype for Andy and Sylvia Grosh and the Kaluli translation team wrapped up at the very end of January with the completion of Genesis 29-50. Another language community in PNG will soon have access to a fair chunk of God's Word, including the entire New Testament, in their own language.

And I'm still working away on the big job of producing interlinear Tok Pisin - Greek New Testament resources for Papua New Guinean translators. That task has been going on for a very long time, and I plan to keep chipping away at it for the foreseeable future. It's the same tedious, detailed, labor-intensive and headache-inducing kind of job that it's always been. Nothing much new to report on that front either, except to say that the interlinear texts for Mark, Luke, Galatians, Colossians, Titus and James have been thoroughly re-read and revised and printable versions of the four short epistle books are ready for initial distribution to as many reviewers in PNG as I can think of to send them.

Finally, I could tell you again for the umpteenth time that we continue to be amazed at God's generous goodwill towards us, providing for us all we need day after day. But thankfully(!) that's old news too, except to say once more how grateful we are to all of you who pray and give to sustain us in this work. Thanks so much for being so faithful to us all these years!

Neale and Barbara Goetsch

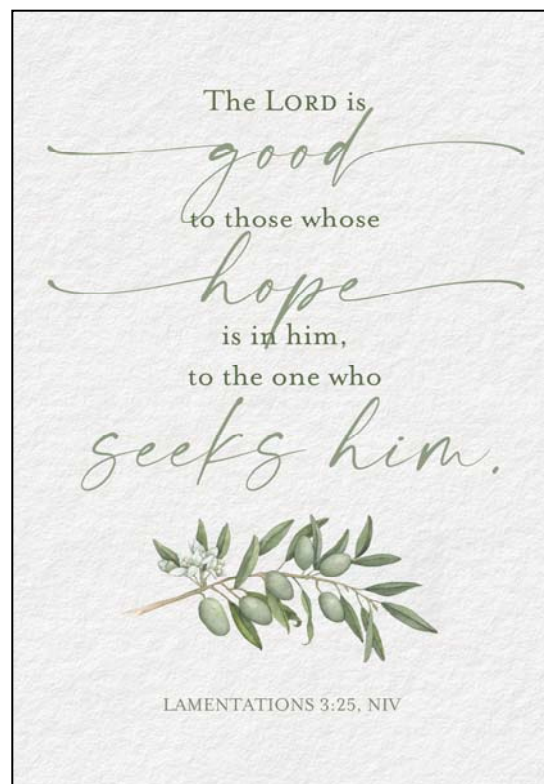
Remembering! Our kitchen counter and my desk are littered with forget-me-not notes; each calendar square reminds of coming events/appointments. Add to those the often repeated "Where did I put that?" and the resulting treasure hunt—um! Memory is a daily challenge at number 126. Thank you for your many notes and emails of encouragement and most of all for your prayer fellowship.

The Scriptures are full of encouragements to remember along with warnings about forgetting. One of the special grace gifts given is recalling the Lord's past faithfulness and blessings. Each time we gather around the Lord's Table, our hearts are overwhelmed by a fresh realization of His eternal, immense love. Our faith is also renewed as we recount past guidance and blessings. How different today would be without the faithful blessings of our Father in Heaven. And yet, as other lines of Dottie Rambo's song remind,

The things that I love, and hold dear to my heart, are just borrowed, they're not mine at all.
Jesus only lets me use them to brighten my life, so remind me, remind me, dear Lord.

Or, in David's words, *"Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives...who heals...who redeems...who crowns...who satisfies...so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's."* (Psalm 103.1-5) Remembering renews!

Daily we marvel that He loved and loves us. He really is the *One who forgives...who heals...who redeems...who crowns...who satisfies*. And we thank Him for you!





June 1	Jeremy Wallace	June 20	Audrey Diehl
June 3	Virginia Morrow	June 24	Aryana Zook
June 5	Maxwell Schoch Samuel Schoch	June 26	Janice Bittle Miles Tribulas
June 6	Lisa Mountain	June 28	Prin Pappas Brian Steward
June 13	Jean LeBlanc Dawn Molloy	June 29	Jason Meyers
June 15	Shirl Latch	June 30	Nathanael Meyers
June 19	Linda Schoch		

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: office@fumccollingswood.org.



June 1	James & Katherine Jungclaus Jr.
June 2	Phil & Kathy Boswell
June 4	Stan & Pat Scheaffer
June 20	Leon & Rhonda Fraley
June 21	Michael & Dawn Molloy
June 23	Dean & Beth Stefano
June 28	Tom & Carolyn Thompson

Nicholas Ferrara, grandson of Charles and Joan Ferrara, was deployed to Saudi Arabia in February 2021. Please keep him and all our troops in prayer.

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Bible Quiz

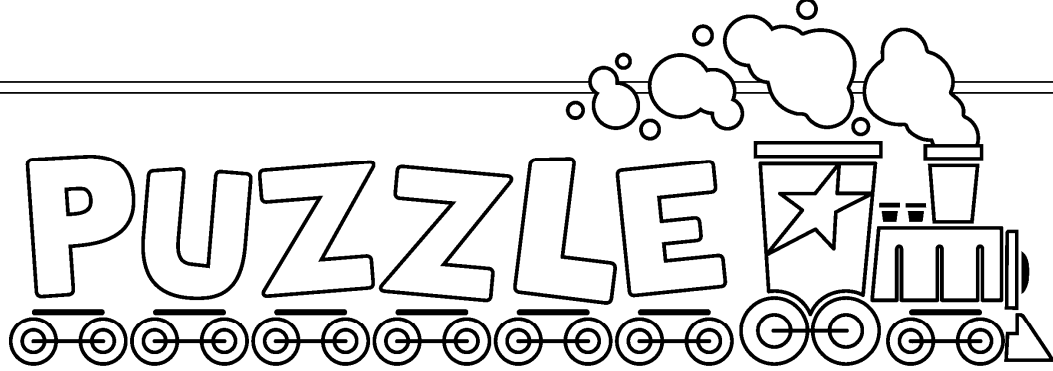
Complete this proverb: "Like snow in _____ or rain in harvest, so honor is not fitting for a fool."

- A. springtime
- B. summer
- C. seedtime
- D. autumn

Answer: B (See Proverbs 26:1, ESV.)

We want to wish the Alkuino family happiness and the Lord's continued blessings as they move to California in July. We have appreciated your praise team participation, sermons during Good Friday services, teaching, support and friendship. Each one of you will be deeply missed. Always remember that you have a church family in New Jersey that loves you.

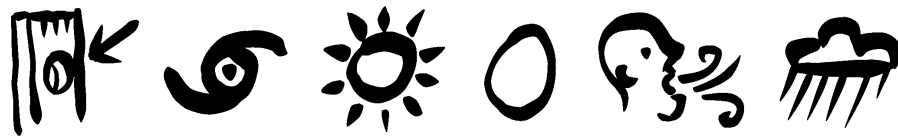




Conundrums of creation

God's creation is filled with amazing and sometimes puzzling works.

Directions: Use the bank of picture clues to answer the riddles.



You can hold but not touch this. _____

Before using this, you must break it. _____

This falls without getting hurt. _____

This gets bigger the more you take away. _____

This has an eye but cannot see. _____

“In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the _ _ _.

It is like ... a champion rejoicing to run his course.

It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit
to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth.”

P S A L M 19 : 4 - 6 , N I V

Puzzle!

For this cryptogram, use the clues to decode
Proverbs 3:5, NRSV.

CLUES:

Y = T, D = I

Y K T P Y D X Y J Z

— — — — — — — — — — —

V Q K R F D Y J O V V

— — — — — — — — — — — — — —

C Q T K J Z O K Y, O X R

— — — — — — — — — —, — — — —

R Q X Q Y K Z V C Q X

— — — — — — — — — — — — —

C Q T K Q F X D X P D L J Y.

— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

Answer: Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not rely on your own insight. Proverbs 3:5, NRSV

**Real strength is neither male nor female but is,
quite simply, one of the finest characteristics
that any human being can possess.**

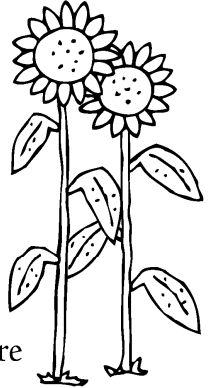
—Fred Rogers



Make a sunflower, which turns its head to follow the sun.

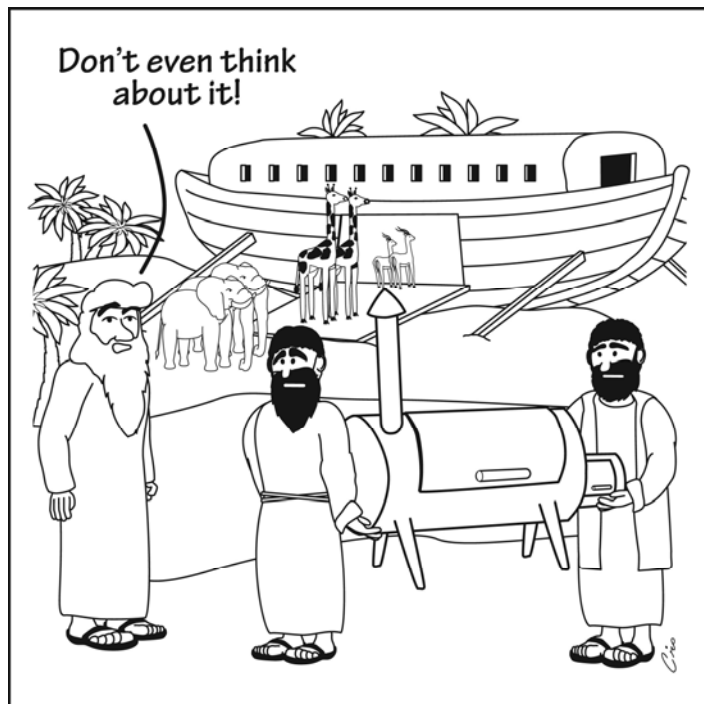
What you need:

- Paper plate
- Yellow marker
- Scissors
- Yarn (black and brown)

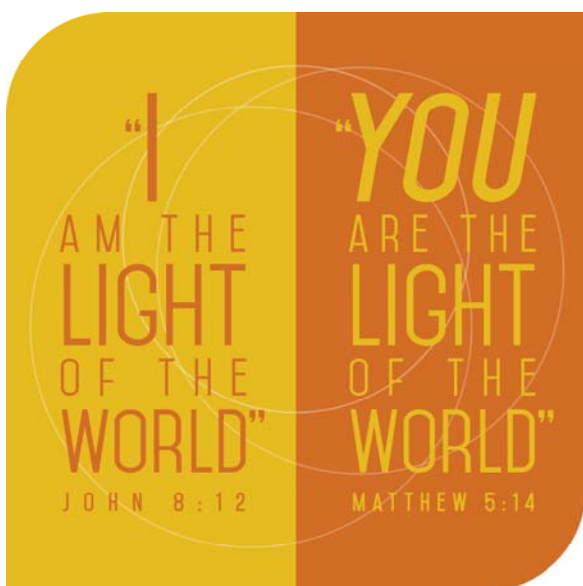


What you do:

1. Color the entire plate yellow.
2. Around the edge, cut out an odd number of triangles. Evenly space the cuts to form flower petals.
3. Poke a hole in the plate's center. String black yarn through the hole and over one triangle cut. Tie a knot at the back of the plate.
4. Continue looping yarn through the hole and over the remaining cuts. Secure the end. The flower should look like a wagon wheel with black spokes.
5. Tie the brown yarn to a black "spoke." Weave the brown yarn over and under the spokes in a circle. Continue until the sunflower has a large center. Then tie the end.
6. Display your craft as a reminder to follow the Son, Jesus!



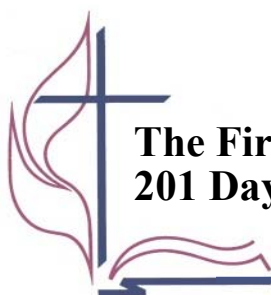
SEE LIGHT, BE LIGHT



In January 2021, National Youth Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman presented her poem "The Hill We Climb" at the presidential inauguration. The final lines read: "For there is always light, / if only we're brave enough to see it. / If only we're brave enough to be it."

How often we long for light! In recent years we've agonized amid pandemic, angry politics and new awareness of racism. Some have suffered deep sorrow. But Jesus says, "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12) and invites us to turn to Him. God is always bringing light into darkness, through helpers, healers, peacemakers, friends. Sometimes bravery is required to turn our focus from the negative to the positive — to see the light of God.

Jesus also says, "*You* are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14, emphasis added) and calls us to brighten the gloom. That requires bravery, as Gorman notes, but as Christians we're urged to look for light not just to make our own lives better but to shine into others' lives too. The Holy Spirit gives us the needed courage — to both *see* and *be* light.



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