

NEW MARKET UMC NEWSLETTER FOR JULY 2010

On July 1 I will be beginning my fifth year as pastor at NMUMC. The last four years have been years of growth and discovery for me and I hope for the congregation as well. I have come to know and love the members of this congregation, I have developed a good understanding of where you are coming from and have also developed what I hope is an adequate feeling for where we want and need to be going as a community of faith. Admittedly over the past decade there have been struggles and set backs. We continue to struggle to meet our financial obligations as we struggle to fill the pews on Sunday. At the same time there are wonderful signs that our efforts are bearing fruit having recently confirmed eight young people; having completed a successful Vacation Bible School; we now have a very dynamic bible study taking place on Wednesday nights, and we have several people inquiring about membership.

As I have been preparing to begin my fifth year I have been looking to the future and attempting to discern the next steps that need to be taken. A primary goal is of course numerical growth and consistent growth will help to support our budget. However I feel that numerical growth by itself should not be our only goal. Accompanying this goal there should be others which include: growing disciples, worshipping and praising God, and providing the means by which individuals can be connected with the Holy. These are goals that will foster hope in individuals and our community.

Over the past few months I have been prayerfully struggling to form a statement of mission and vision that will lead us toward these goals. Several times during my tenure here we have gathered to plan and to dream. We have attempted to form statements expressing mission but have been only partially successful. Considering all that I have learned in this community and having shared your hopes, dreams, and expectations of this community, I have put forward the following as a Mission Statement to guide us. I have borrowed from an old hymn in wording this statement. The mission of NMUMC as I see it is to "Brighten the corners wherever we are".

We are to shine the light of Christ into our community here in New Market but also wherever

we find ourselves when over the week we are a scattered community fulfilling our separate tasks and responsibilities throughout the region. We are to share Christ's light of hope and joy brightening whatever dark corners we may find.

We are called together to be a community of Christian love and mutual support where we are nourished through prayer, worship, the study of scripture, fellowship, recreation and renewal, so that we may grow our faith and conform our lives to the example of Christ. Having been thus prepared we extend ourselves in ministry to the world through mission, service, and the practice of hospitality. This is the vision for the church that I intend to pursue.

The plan I propose we follow is to provide a balanced ministry using the following criteria as a framework: Prayer and Praise, Study, Work, Hospitality and Recreation/Renewal. So as we proceed we will ask ourselves these questions. 1) What opportunities are there in our community for prayer and worship? Are our worship and prayer opportunities adequate to meet the needs of not only our established congregation but any unchurched people in the wider community? Are there opportunities for prayer and contemplation offered at times other than Sunday morning? 2) What opportunities are there in our community for the study of scripture and matters of faith? Are they adequate? How are we encouraging the growing of disciples? 3) What opportunities are there for attenders to enter into Christian mission and work? Are hands on work opportunities being offered and encouraged? 4) How are we practicing hospitality? Are we a welcoming church? Are we a comfortable and accessible place for the unchurched? Recognizing that hospitality also encompasses ministries of standing along side those who need comfort, companionship, advocacy, etc. Are we present in the lives of people in the wider community who are in need of comfort? Hospitality isn't just about coffee hour. 5) What opportunities for recreation and renewal are provided? For example Bike Trips, Game nights, spiritual retreats, etc. Are these opportunities adequate?

I am currently working with the Administrative Council to "unpack" and further refine this plan. It was received enthusiastically at our last meeting. As a council we are also engaging in discussions which are being guided by readings from Adam

Unchurched. These discussions, along with the plan I have outlined above, will I believe, guide us in to a fruitful ministry over the next few years.

Please be in prayer for me and for our church leadership team as we forge ahead in enabling NMUMC attenders and members to brighten the corners of our community and world with the hope and joy of Christ.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Mike

MESSAGE FROM THE LAY LEADER

Welcoming You All Home!

September will be Homecoming month at New Market United Methodist Church. We are planning several activities throughout the month, including an Ice Cream Social, Old-fashioned Picnic Lunch after an Outdoor Tent Service circa 1820, and many more surprises.

However, right now we are looking for local artists or crafts persons who would like to take part in an Arts and Crafts Exhibition as part of the Homecoming month. The church will be displaying the arts and crafts in the historic schoolhouse building as part of a weekend program showcasing the local talent in New Market and surrounding areas.

Please contact New Market United Methodist Church at 301-865-3530 no later than September 1, 2010, if you are interested in participating in the arts and crafts exhibition. Space is limited, but we are attempting to include as many local

artists as possible, so please notify us right away to reserve your space.

Additional information regarding Homecoming month will appear in the September edition of the New Market newsletter. Also, you can visit our website at newmarketumc.com for more details and to e-mail us with reservation requests or questions.

We at New Market United Methodist Church sincerely hope you will come and join us in Christian worship and the coming together as a congregation to celebrate the joys of past and present homecoming events.

Patty Robinson,
Lay Leader

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT NMUMC

- 1 MMPAC 1940's "Swing it" free concert
6:30 pm in the schoolhouse
- 4 Independence Day
- 6 Trustee's meeting 7pm Schoolhouse
SPRC meeting 7pm Schoolhouse
- 13 UMW Afternoon circle outing 11:30 am
- 19 Salt 'n' Light Youth Rally 6:30-8:30 pm
Otterbein UMC Hagerstown
- 20 Church Council meeting 7pm Schoolhouse
- 22 Homecoming meeting 7pm Schoolhouse
- 24 Bike Trip C & O Canal trail Brunswick to
Harper's Ferry- Meet at 8:30am
- 25 Church Picnic Old National Pike Park
Rt. 144 shelter 2- 11:00am
- 27 Outreach Committee 6 month planning
meeting 7pm Schoolhouse

Volunteer Choir

This summer the choir will sing through Father's

Day and then take a well-deserved break until September.

Our summer tradition has been to fill the spot in the service where the choir usually sings an anthem with volunteer talent. We have no tryouts, no auditions. If you think you are confident enough to sing, dance, or play an instrument in church, your talents are welcomed.

So far, Edith Hunter and Nick are planning to play a piano/organ duet, and on Aug. 1 Ron and Betty Hunter will be driving up from Southern Maryland to sing and possibly bring Ron's flute.

We might persuade Glenn Pritchard and Marilyn Brooks to sing another duet, or coerce some of the talented Fauconnets to perform, or maybe Walt and Joan Russell could impose on their orchestral housemates. And who knows what other talent lurks in the congregation?

If you are at all inclined, call Nick Wood at 301-865-5378, or see him at church.

THIS & THAT!

LESSONS - In the 17th chapter of 1 Samuel in the Old Testament we read the story of David and Goliath. Goliath stands before David in heavy armor head to toe - plus he is 9ft tall (they didn't call them giants for nothing.) Seeing Goliath, King Saul wants David to wear his own armor but David refuses. His defense is his sling and stones. David knew how to use it well because of fighting off bears and lions to protect his sheep and he was not use to doing it weighted down with gear.

There are so many lessons to be learned from the scriptures and one I get from this story is, do we weigh down ourselves with what isn't necessary? What might be right for someone else isn't right for us. Our God given talents and abilities may not be like someone else and if we try to be something were not meant to be we do more harm than good.

I'm not a leader but I can be there for those who are. In God's economy it takes us all to work together to make the whole picture. By the way, David knew God was with him but

God didn't say, "David you just sit there and I'll zap Goliath." David had to use the sling for the result. Therein lies another lesson.

Blessings, Marilyn Brooks

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who collected food for the End Hunger in Frederick County campaign. We collected 168 lbs. of food which was donated. What a great job! Thank you to MaryLou Bernota for coordinating this.

Thank you to the following people who helped with VBS and/or donated snacks and supplies:

**Barbara Zimmerman
Leslie Fauconnet
Mike Fauconnet
Aaron Fauconnet
Paul Fauconnet
Maria Fauconnet
Stephen Fauconnet
Patty Robinson
Dave Robinson
Joan Price
Marilyn Brooks
Cathy Gamble
Ashley Gamble
Justin Gamble
Toni Carnahan
Catherine Lugez
Thelma Gelsing**

**Doris Ashbaugh
Angela Ashbaugh
Daniel Ashbaugh
Nick Wood
Sue Wood
Margaret Tollefson
Scot Morrow
Richard Riley
Sharon Riley
Jenson Riley
MaryLee Matthews
Julie Grenier
Zach Grenier
Rod & Linda Miller
Joann Russell
Steve & June Oden
Dillon Kerns**

We also shared a wonderful dinner fellowship time before VBS every night and hope to make it a monthly tradition! Thank you to all who attended.

On June 17th the Hospice Liaison Group put together 51 comfort care bags for the care givers. Many thanks to Evelyn Gaver, Cathy Gamble and Patty Robinson for donating items for the bags. When the Hospice staff visits a home they take a bag with them. Each bag contains a prayer shawl or lap cover, puzzle book, journal, pen, lotion and tea. The people who care for their loved ones really appreciate it. If you have any questions about Hospice and their services, please let me know.

Marilyn Brooks, Hospice Liaison

HOMECOMING

This coming September promises to be an exciting one for NMUMC. September has been designated

as Homecoming month and planning for homecoming events are well under way. There will be events taking place each weekend in September all of which are intended to build an awareness of NMUMC in the wider New Market community; celebrate our own heritage; and provide opportunities to invite “church shoppers” to pay a visit. Everyone reading this notice has a key role to play in the success of Homecoming Month. Please consider inviting family members, friends, neighbors, acquaintances that you know might be interested in attending one or more of the events and worship services. Don’t just invite them, bring them! Pick them up! You may be the person responsible for connecting someone with a church home. The sermon topics through September are ones that will be of interest to the unchurched and may answer some of the burning questions and objections that people have about “church”.

The plan, as it stands now, is as follows. The first Sunday (which is Labor Day Weekend) will be the opening day of Sunday School and the Sunday School Ice Cream Social. The second Sunday will be an outdoor worship service in a tent set up in back of the Church. The service will be in the style of Worship in the year 1800, the year the congregation was founded. The preacher will be Francis Asbury who will arrive on horseback. (Francis Asbury was the first Methodist Bishop and was preaching in the area in 1800.) The service will be followed with a “Bring Your Own Picnic Lunch” along with a dessert to share. We are hoping the games from the period will be taught and played. Period dress is encouraged but is by no means necessary.

On the Third Sunday (and preceding Saturday) there will be an exhibition in the School House where we are hoping to show the Art (and Crafts) talent of people in the community. If you are a photographer, sketcher, painter, or artist of any kind, or if you would like to display a craft that you are talented in please consider putting your work in the show. This will not be a sale. If you are interested in selling your work you will be able to provide contact information along with your work. In conjunction with this we are planning a concert on Sunday afternoon highlighting the performing talents of people in our community.

On the Fourth Sunday will be the homecoming service. We are inviting former pastors to attend and to take part in the service. This will be followed by a reception luncheon at the school house. These plans are still very fluid and still subject to change. Your prayers and your invitations to others

in the community will be key to making these events a success. If you want to participate in the homecoming committee, please call the church office for details.



FOR JULY

& Birthdays Anniversaries	
Jeanne Beard	7/5
Matt&MaryLou Bernota	7/6
Nick&Sue Wood	7/10
Richard&Sharon Riley	7/13
Beth Crandall	7/17
Thelma Gesling	7/17
Daniel Ashbaugh	7/20
Luc Lugez	7/26
Linda Miller	7/26
Steve&Marjorie Young	7/26
Mabel Heider	7/28

New Events Upcoming!

Pastor Mike is planning several new weekly events to begin this fall. Both are aimed at providing opportunities for individuals to develop their prayer and meditation life. There will be a Prayer and Meditation group forming and meeting on Wednesday evenings after Bible Study. The time will be either 7:45 or 8:00pm and the group will meet in the sanctuary. The purpose of this weekly gathering is to introduce individuals to the practice of Contemplative Prayer in the Benedictine tradition. The people who become involved in this group will learn what Christian Contemplative prayer is all about, they will have the opportunity to develop their meditative skills and learn how to create a sacred space in their busy lives where they can simply rest in God’s presence. Though new to many in our church, Contemplative prayer is a wonderful resource for achieving spiritual growth and a sense of inner peace. If you are interested, please let Pastor Mike know or call the church office.

The other weekly event is an intercessory prayer group. We will gather on Thursday evenings, at 6:30 for a half an hour to pray together for community needs and concerns. This group will meet in the Kitchen of the Education Building.

I also encourage you to attend the Wednesday evening bible study. This group has been meeting for over a year now and is always engaged in scripture and lively discussion.



This month's mission offering will go to support the Officer's Wives Club of Frederick. Our membership consists of 56 members who are wives, widows, and single women who share a deep love of country and of those putting their lives on the line to defend it. Many have been in the military themselves or are married to retired, deceased or active military officers. We are united in a mission to bring support to our troops any way we can.

We raise money throughout the year so that we can send care packages to our troops. The money helps purchase items for the boxes and pay for the postage to get them to Iraq and Afghanistan. We also collect items to put in the boxes. These include: food, powdered drinks, toiletries, feminine products, books, cds, stationary, pens/pencils, flashlights, games, etc. Each box contains a letter from our club, a personal note from the person who packed the box, and a card from local schoolchildren. Last year we sent about 165 boxes to our troops. Many that receive our boxes write us letters back. Some even request certain items they need and we try to send what they request.

We also send boxes that the troops can pass out to the locals as a gesture of goodwill. We collect toys, books, blankets and stuffed animals to put in these. Last year we sent 30 of these boxes. We will accept any donations of new or gently used items and monetary donations as well. For more information about the Officer's Wives Club and what we do or to donate items, please see Cathy Gamble. Thank you in advance for giving to such an important mission.

Cathy Gamble

Officer's Wives Club of Frederick member since 2009

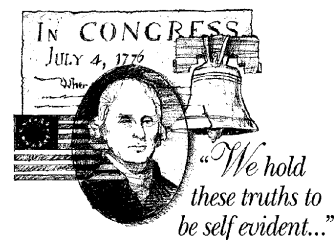
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Blessings, Marilyn Brooks



This year, the Nancy Watkins Winterberg Memorial Scholarship Fund that benefits active members of New Market United Methodist Church has awarded a college scholarship of \$685.99 to Jonathan Crandall, which will go toward his college education.

This scholarship is possible because of a generous bequest made to the Frederick County Community Foundation by one of our

former ministers, the Rev. Ron Winterberg, honoring a wish of his late wife. Nancy Winterberg was herself the daughter of a minister of New Market United Methodist Church. She married a local man, Clifford Watkins, and lived many years in New Market, teaching at the elementary school just across the street from the Watkins home. Later, she was a reading supervisor for Frederick County.

Her husband died of cancer. Beyond her interests in education, she was active in the church, serving as chairwoman of what is now the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, among other activities. It was in that capacity that she came to know Ron when he came to serve New Market, and they eventually married. They moved to serve a church in Alabama, then to the Norfolk area, and she spent the last years of her life at Asbury Methodist Village in Gaithersburg, where Ron still lives. At her death, Ron established the Nancy Watkins Winterberg Memorial Scholarship Fund to benefit children who have been involved with New Market United Methodist Church.

In the fund's initial year, 2008, Jonathan and Greg Gaver shared \$500 equally, so the fund has been growing. Jonathan also was a recipient of the scholarship last year, as was Maria Fauconnet. This year we had two applicants, but one did not meet the modest criteria, which is that the person must be an active member of New Market United Methodist Church. Anyone wishing to contribute to the fund can send a check to the Community Foundation in Frederick, noting that it should go to the Nancy Watkins Winterberg Memorial Scholarship Fund. In three years, the fund has awarded \$1,785.99.