



The

MESSENGER

Monthly Newsletter of the

FLEMINGTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SUMMER, 2011

Beth LaPenta, Editor

From the Pastor's Desk...

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I read a horrific news article yesterday. An 8-year-old girl, Christina Ovilde, was found dead in an apartment in Irvington, NJ. According to the Star Ledger, an autopsy released Monday showed the 8-year-old girl died of an "unattended/untreated fracture of the femur in a severely malnourished child." Her death has been ruled a homicide. The siblings were "malnourished, frightened and refused to speak to authorities." Her mother, Venette Ovilde, 29, has been charged with aggravated manslaughter and child endangerment in Christiana's death. She faces additional counts for allegedly injuring and neglecting her two younger children.

My heart was very sad when I read this story. Can this kind of atrocity happen in modern day America? It is unbelievable, isn't it? Yet, it is true. It happens. When this happens, we blame the parents for being irresponsible, negligent or ignorant. We are all appalled by such happenings.

This happens not only to children. It also happens to our spiritual life and church. How many of our spiritual lives died of being "unattended, untreated, and malnourished?" How many churches died of the same way? If these are chargeable offences, how many Christians will be found guilty? I am afraid to imagine.

This can easily happen especially in the summer when we are so engrossed in having a good time, having a great summer, we leave our church "unattended, untreated, and malnourished."

As we plan our summer life and activities, let us consider these gruesome possibilities. Do not become someone who is irresponsible, ignorant, and negligent. Stay in touch with our Heavenly Father and our church.

May your summer be filled with joy, fun, growth, and spiritual vitality.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Paul

Inside this issue:

PASTOR'S MESSAGE	1
CHURCH COUNCIL	2
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	3
SUNDAY SCHOOL	4
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	4
MINISTRY TO MEMBERS	5



Flemington United Methodist Church Council
Meeting Highlights - May 11, 2011

Following are the highlights of the Church Council meeting held on May 11. After an opening prayer:

Pastor Jaw reported that we will have two guest preachers during May: Lauren Godwin will deliver the sermon on May 22 and Rev. Richard Dudinak will visit us on May 29.

The Trustees annual Pancake Breakfast held on May 7 was a success with nearly \$600 raised.

Robert Shore reported on three Trustees projects:

1. The oil tank leak is not the serious issue originally feared, however, we are evaluating options for conversion to natural gas.
2. A number of options to more effectively manage the trust account are being considered.
3. Means of leveling the sidewalks around the church are being studied.

The Evangelism/Missions Committee held a meeting on May to become organized to better assimilate new members into the church family and to follow up with visitors.

Grace reported that the American Legion has a number of tables and kitchen items for sale. Members of the Women's group will visit the Legion and determine our interests.

The Mark Cable Concert is scheduled for October 15. Within the next few weeks, we need to get organized to host this outreach event.

Church Growth Workshops are being held every two weeks with the immediate focus being the development of a Small Groups Ministry for the church. Everyone is encouraged to participate.

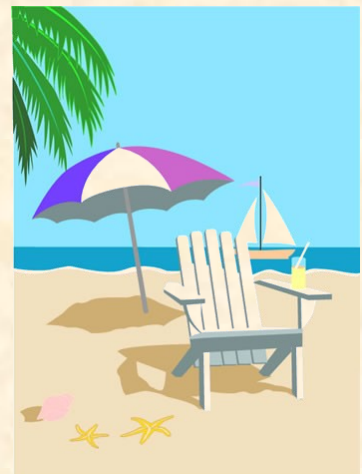
The Willowcreek Global Leadership Summit is scheduled for August 11 - 12. This annual conference features recognized leaders in a wide variety of fields. Anyone interested in broadening their leadership skills is encouraged to attend - see Pastor Paul.

It was agreed that the Council will not meet during July and August. A special meeting can be called if any urgent issue needs to be addressed.

After a closing prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

In His name,

Sam Guynes



Flemington United Methodist Church - Calendar of Events 2011

June

Confirmation Day - 6/12
 Sunday School Promotion Day - 6/19
 Youth Missions Trip to Manassas, Va. 6/26 - 7/1
2nd Mile Month

July

Vacation Bible School - 7/11 - 7/15
 Family Photo Organization - 7/26

September

Church Picnic - 9/11
 Our Home to Your Home Vendors - TBD
2nd Mile Month

October

Family Photo Directory - 10/12 - 13
 Mark Cable Concert - "The Great Date Night" - 10/15
 Pumpkin Picking - 10/22

November

Christmas Bazaar - 11/5
 Annual Charge Conference - TBD
 Thanksgiving Eve Service - 11/23

December

Greening of the Church - 12/9
 Sunday School Christmas Pageant - 12/11
 Christmas Eve Service - 12/24
2nd Mile Month

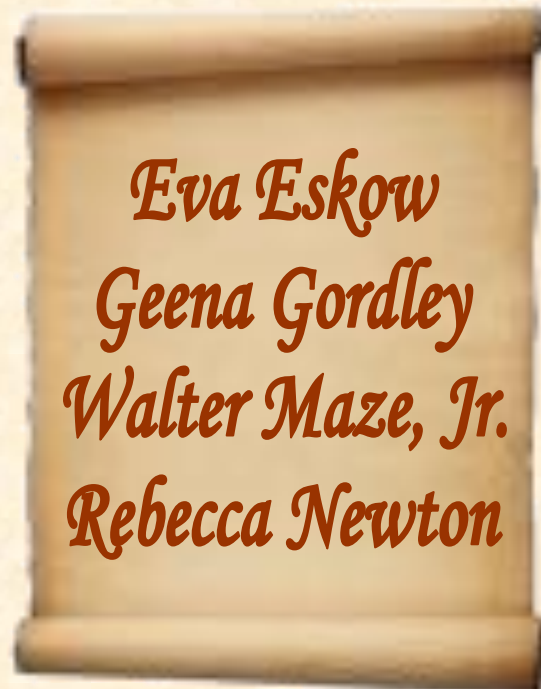
REVIVAL 2011

The second FUMC Revival is now complete and by all measures, it was an astounding success. For 5 evenings beginning May 16, you could literally feel the Holy Spirit moving throughout our sanctuary. It was truly an inspirational week featuring a diverse group of dynamic, challenging speakers, and inspirational music. We are indebted to the pastors and musicians who gave so freely of their time for this event. For the week, nearly 500 people attended including many from the community not associated with our church. A special thanks to the Revival Planning Team who has worked so hard for the past several months to make our Revival a success. Another thanks to those of the congregation who worked diligently in a number of areas each night and welcomed our many visitors in the usual friendly way we are noted for. We have every right to be proud of our church. Our objective is to make the annual Revival a transformational event for our church and an event on which we can build a solid reputation of service to the surrounding community by providing an avenue for people to come and hear the good news of Jesus Christ. We strongly feel we turned a corner with last year's Revival which was the first in many years and we have continued to build momentum this year. Now, we are looking forward to May, 2012 and will begin planning in early September.



CONGRATULATIONS!
2011

The FUMC family proudly congratulates our 2011 graduates!



FUMC Sunday School News

We have five children's classes and one adult class all studying FaithWeavers curriculum from Group Publishing. This Spring, we are studying the later part of Jesus' ministry as recorded in the Gospels and the Acts. Every class studies the same passage of scripture, has fun activities, and crafts. The students are having fun and learning about God's word all at the same time.



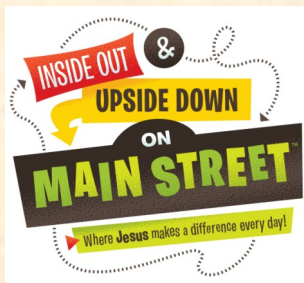
Sunday School

Bible Bucks Store

Coming to Fellowship Hall
in June 5, 2011



The **Sunday** School Bible Bucks Store will be open after Sunday School on June 5. Now is the time to exchange those hard earned Bible Bucks for great items from the store. A special thank you for our sponsors that donated items: Then and Now (Clinton), Country Griddle (Flemington), Jason Madson Photo Gallery (Chicago), and the congregation of the Flemington United Methodist Church.



Vacation Bible School

July 11 - 15

9:30 am - 12:00 noon



Check the Church Webpage in the Children's section for additional details.

Confirmation Sunday

June 12, 2011



Sunday School Promotion Day

June 19, 2011

Last day for Sunday School!

MEMBERS MEMOS

Thanks will go to everyone on the Revival Team for their great planning, perseverance, and production. Participants have given rave reviews on the spiritually uplifting services.

SAVE THESE DATES in 2011:

June 10th M2M at 5:30 p.m. in the meeting room

July 26th Photo Directory
Organizational Meeting

With Life Touch Photography at 6 p.m.
All volunteers are encouraged to participate.

September 11th All Church Picnic
Deerpath Park

October 12th and 13th Life Touch
Photo Sittings for Family Portraits
And All Church Photo Directory

KEEP AN EYE on the M2M Bulletin Board near the Sanctuary at church for more details. **There will be an opportunity for you to serve.** We'll be needing people to work with us on both the Photo Directory and the Picnic.

**Taste and see that the Lord is good;
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.
Psalm 34:8**

Thanks to all of the Members of the Confirmation Class for your faithful work and service to the church over these past two years of class. Your efforts have been noticed and appreciated by many people in our church. The flowers that you planted to beautify our church yard and the steps to the Fellowship Hall for the Revival have added an especially lively touch to our surroundings. Thank you for all of the many tasks you've willingly taken on. Some of them have been: oiling woodwork and furniture, writing thank you notes and cards, making stamped cards, cleaning the refrigerators, sanitizing doors and light switches, raking leaves, stacking wood, doing seasonal yard work, and assisting Sunday School teachers in preparations only name a few. There are many ways in which to serve God and his people. We are pleased with your growth and look forward to welcoming you into the fellowship of the congregation of the Flemington United Methodist Church on Pentecost Sunday, June 12th 2011.

In His Service,
The Ministry to Members Team

Erma Bodine Bonnie Hanna Grace Hong Jay Hong Pastor Paul Jaw Bruce LaPenta
Joe Lettiere Shirley McPherson Sharon Stevens