



The

MESSENGER

Monthly Newsletter of the
FLEMINGTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Dec. 2011—Jan. 2012

Beth LaPenta, Editor

From the Pastor's Desk...

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

This is the last issue of 2011. When I realized that the year is ending, my thoughts turn to making an inventory of my life. Most people are too busy to make any inventory of their lives. Consequently, they live year after year without much change or improvement.

In his prayer, David wrote, "Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." **Psalms 90:12 (NIV)** So, it is important for us to develop a habit of "numbering our days" and take an inventory of our life so that we can start anew smarter.

Just what kind of inventory do we need to make? I suggest that we think of the following areas:

- A. Where Have We Been In our Stewardship? Have I been using my time, my talents and my treasures responsibly and according to God's will?
- B. Where Have We Been In Our Discipleship? Does the Lord Jesus consider me a Good and Faithful Servant? Am I Growing In Grace or Stagnating in Sin?
- C. Where Have We Been in Our Fellowships? Is the World Changing Me or am I Changing the World? Does the fellowship of others mean more to me than fellowship with Christ?
- D. Where Have We Been in our Worship? Do we truly delight in God?
- E. Where Have We Been in our witness? Do we live a life that's honoring Jesus?
- F. Where Do We Want to Go Next? Where will we be this time next year?

A good ending will ensure good beginning. I wish you a very good ending and an even better beginning next year.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Paul

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Flemington United Methodist Church - Calendar of Events 2011

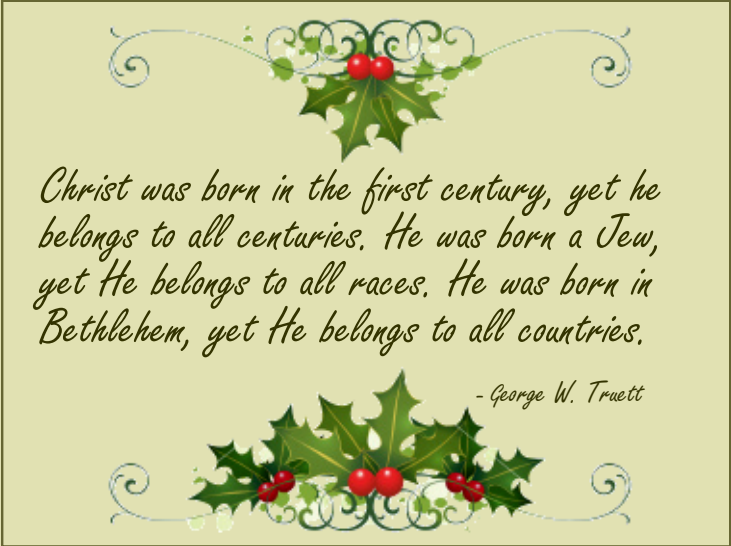
December

Greening of the Church - 12/9
Sunday School Christmas Pageant - 12/11
Christmas Cantata - 12/18

Christmas Eve Service - 12/24
2nd Mile Month



Both the Worship Committee and the Vision Team have recently determined that we should be addressing more of current issues related to our lives. Therefore, we will start our new year with a series of messages on Achieving Financial Freedom. We will cover four areas of money management – earning, spending, saving and giving. We hope you will be able to achieve financial freedom for your life. This is also something your neighbors may need to hear. So, think of someone whom you can invite to our church in the New Year.



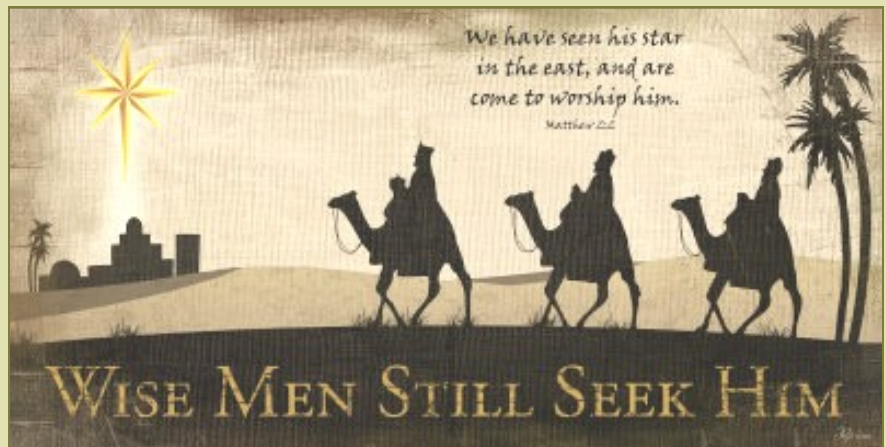
The Youth Group would like to thank the congregation for their continued support. The Spaghetti and Baked Potato Lunch fundraisers were a huge success and we couldn't have done it without you.

UPCOMING EVENTS for December and January:

The Youth Group will be participating in hot chocolate distribution at the Christmas Parade. We will also be providing babysitting services so parents can go Christmas shopping. The Youth will be holding a two-church "lock-in" or a sleepover with the Whitehouse Methodist Church in January. We are planning on meeting with their youth for multiple fun activities throughout the year.



There will be a planning meeting for the Women's Ministry on Saturday morning, January 14, 2012 at 9:30 AM. We welcome your input and ideas for the coming year. All women of the church are invited and encouraged to attend.



*I give you this thought to keep...
I am with you still, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glint on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in morning's hush,
I am the swift, uplifting rush
of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not think of me as gone.
I am with you still, in each new dawn.*



*In Loving Memory
of
Annie Zhu*



Please note that the newsletter will be on sabbatical until the end of January, 2012. Although the next edition of the newsletter will not be published until February, you are welcome to submit articles at any time to

not-in-oz@embarqmail.com

Please remember to provide the wording for your article but keep in mind some editing may be necessary for space and content. Also, be sure to put Newsletter in the subject line of your email. Those who do not have email may submit their articles in person to Beth LaPenta or place them in the Newsletter mail slot in the church office.

