

# The Lantern

SEPTEMBER 2013

MOUNT LEBANON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WILMINGTON, DEL. | EST<sup>d</sup> 1812



*Welcome*

## Introduction to our interim pastor, Rev. Dr. C. Karen Covey Moore

Pastor Karen will begin her ministry with us on October 1, but we wanted you to have a chance to get to know her before that time. Many of us have already met her and look forward to hearing more from her in the weeks to come. You will not want to miss this gifted and loving woman of God.

Pastor Karen has been ordained as a United Methodist minister since 1985. She has served churches throughout the Peninsula-Delaware Conference of The United Methodist Church as a pastor, served two years as the pediatric chaplain of the Medical Center of Delaware and three years as a bereavement counselor at Delaware Hospice, Inc.

She currently serves Chabereth Ministries, Inc. as Founder and Spiritual Director. As a spiritual director, she meets with individuals regularly to companion them in their Christian walk and leads workshops and retreats.

Karen is the co-founder and President of the Board of Directors of Hearts On Fire: Fellowship of United Methodist Spiritual Directors and Retreat Leaders (FUMSDRL), an affiliate organization of the Upper Room Division of the General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church. She serves as the Chairperson of the Conference Spiritual Formation & Discipleship Team for the Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church.

She has facilitated a Survivors of Suicide Support Group in Wilmington, and is the co-founder of Healing Hearts Ministries: Ministry to Survivors of Suicide.

She earned her M.Div. and D.Min. degrees from Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C., her MS in Pastoral Care and Spiritual Direction, Neumann University in Aston, Penn. and the Certification in Spiritual

Formation from the General Board of Higher Education of the United Methodist Church. She completed the two-year Academy of Spiritual Formation #21 sponsored by the Upper Room of The United Methodist Church.

She has been active in Delaware Spiritual Directors, Spiritual Directors International, Association of Christian Therapists, the Wilmington Bereavement Professionals, Association for Death Education and Counseling, American Association of Suicidology, Suicide Prevention Action Network, and International Association for Suicide Prevention.

Karen is the mother of three and the proud grandmother of six and enjoys photography, painting, and playing the Native American Flute, guitar and zither. She organized and facilitates Whispering Woods Native American Flute Circle in Wilmington.

## Thursday Night Small Group Study

We would like to share a Thursday night Bible study group that has become a powerful time of fellowship in the Holy Spirit.

We have been studying from a series of videos and text books that are radically eye opening and life changing. These mini courses were created and narrated by Senior Pastor Craig Groeschel of Life Church. We just finished the course entitled "Christian Atheist; believing in God but acting as if he doesn't exist." We now move on to a study entitled "Weird." Yep that's us; weird in Christ.

Joining a small group can help you grow closer to God while building relationships with other people; having a strong community of friends to laugh, grow, and serve with will make a lasting difference in your life.

We meet at church Thursdays at 7pm and all are welcome. Join us as we work together to become fully devoted followers of Christ through a solid foundation and loving interactions.

## SAVE THE DATES!

Just because the Pastor is away for the next four months, doesn't mean you should be too! In fact, the church has an amazing schedule of learning, service and fellowship opportunities that you will want to make note of now to save the dates...

**Saturday, Sept. 21 at 5pm** – Food & Fun Night, organized by Deb Oliva & Amy Schoenleber

**Saturday, Oct. 5 at 5pm** – Family Promise Dinner at Aldersgate UMC

**Wednesday, Oct. 9 at 7pm** – Annual Charge Conference in the sanctuary with Rev. Derrick Porter, Wilmington District Superintendent

**Saturday, Oct. 12, 10am-3pm** – The Well Training Event at Grace UMC, Wilmington

**Saturday, Oct. 26, 10am-2pm** – Prayer & the Holy Spirit Workshop at Mt. Lebanon

**Saturday, Nov. 9, 5-7:30pm** – Dinner and Silent Auction at Mt. Lebanon

**Sunday, Nov. 17, 4-6:30pm** – Interfaith Thanksgiving Food Basket Project at Christ Episcopal Church, held in conjunction with Beth Emeth Synagogue, Christ Episcopal and The Sikh Center of Delaware.

**Saturday, Dec. 7 at 5pm** – Ronald McDonald House Dinner

**Saturday, Dec. 14** – Angel Tree Christmas Party in the morning and Family Promise Dinner in the evening.

**Sunday, Dec. 15** – Christmas Advent Event, organized by Maxcy Page Hanby & family

## “The Way” – Wed. AM Bible Study

Throughout the fall, a powerful study by Rev. Adam Hamilton will be offered at our Wednesday morning Bible study, each week at 10am. With a study book and video presentation, we will be led through the land and practice of Jesus' ministry. Each week we share in a time of prayer and study together as we seek to draw closer to Christ and follow in his footsteps. We hope you will join us and bring a friend!

## Giving Hope & Promise to Families

Family Promise of Northern New Castle County is a non-profit organization that helps homeless families with children move toward independence by providing a safe place to eat and sleep, intensive case management, and support. Over 80% of their families move on to stable housing after approximately 70 days in the program with 85% leaving with employment.

There are currently 15 congregations in New Castle County that serve as host congregations and provide lodging, meals and welcoming care. There are another fifteen congregations that are support congregations and help with meals and transportation. Mt. Lebanon has served as a support congregation for the past year and a half with our Emmaus Reunion Group taking the lead.

Carolyn Gordon, Executive Director of Family Promise of NNCC will provide our message at worship on September 8th. Please try to be present to hear about the issue of homelessness in Delaware and how Family Promise is trying to address this tragedy, one family at a time.

## Africa University Sunday – Sept. 22

Kevin Goodwin, the Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference Missions Czar, will lead our worship service on September 22. His sermon, “One God, One Family” will include information about Africa University, founded by the worldwide United Methodist Church as a connectional ministry in March 1992. The initial class of 40 students from six African countries was offered two concentrations of study in natural resources and theology.

Four thousand graduates later, the university now has over 1600 students from twenty-three African countries with academic programs in six areas. In addition, there is an institute focusing on peace, leadership and governance.

It has been said that Africa University is simply the best project that our church can support. A special offering will be taken for Africa University on September 22. Please know that 100% of all donations go to Africa University to educate students in careers of medicine, national politics, education agriculture and the church. and nurture their hopes to become world leaders. Their leadership changes their communities, their nations and our world!

## Cleaning Buckets Challenge

Natural disasters continue to occur locally, nationally and internationally. Since we have been blessed in our immediate area to experience such only minimally, we want to respond to our brothers and sisters who are experiencing these events in significant ways. One small way that we can assist is by preparing cleaning buckets for use in areas where flooding and other natural disasters have occurred.

Your Missions Team is inviting you to participate in collecting the required bucket items for use by Volunteers in Missions which is a part of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Members of the Mission Team will be serving as leaders of the various teams, classes and ministries. Each group will be asked to fill at least one bucket with a second bucket option. The value of each bucket is approximately \$55.

The teams with their leaders are as follows:

Youth Classes and Choir	Helen Brown
Bible Study Classes	Bob Lathem
Finance / SPRC / Trustees	Barbara Ewing
UMW / Men of the Mount	Kay Frick
Missions and Emmaus	Iva Boardman

Each team is asked to complete their bucket(s) by September 29th for delivery to The Hub located at Christiana UMC, a collection depot for Mission Central in Mechanicsburg, PA. Each team can decide whether to have single or multiple shoppers.

Special recognition will be given to the team that fills their bucket(s) first.

### Cleaning Bucket\* Contents

(\*buckets will be provided)

- Liquid Laundry Detergent - one 50 oz. bottle (or two 25 oz. bottle)
- Liquid Household cleaner - 12-16 oz. liquid cleaner that can be mixed with water. (No spray cleaners, please.)
- Dish Soap - 16-28 oz. bottle of any brand
- Can of Air Freshener - aerosol or pump
- Insect Repellent Spray - 6-14 oz. aerosol or spray pump with protective cover
- Scrub Brush

- 18 cleaning wipes - handi-wipes or reusable (No terry cloth towels, please.)
- 7 Sponges
- 5 Scouring Pads
- 50 Clothes Pins
- Clothes Line - one 100-ft. line or two 50-ft. lines, cotton or plastic
- Roll of 24 Heavy Duty Trash Bags
- 5 Dust Masks
- 2 pair Disposable Waterproof Gloves - rubber or latex
- 1 Pair Work Gloves - cotton or leather

### *Thank you in advance for your help!*

Important notes: For shipping reasons, no substitutes can be accepted. All items must be new. All cleaning agents must be a liquid and in plastic containers (no powders, please) If you cannot find the requested size of liquid item, please use a smaller size. Using larger sizes will prevent the lid from sealing.

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



07-01-2013

SORRY ... IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE MY LAST OFFERING

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



07-05-2013

I DECIDED TO BE PREPARED EVER SINCE THAT ONE WENT ALMOST AN HOUR OVER

## Back to School with Christ

The Back to School Rally on August 17 brought approximately 350 children with their parents to the Sunday Breakfast Mission on the most perfect of days that only God can create. Thanks be to God that approximately 100 adults and children committed to Christ upon Rev. Laymon's invitation. Thank you to all who provided supplies and volunteered at the rally.

## A Call to Generous Giving

"Now I want you to know dear brothers and sisters, what God in his kindness has done through the churches in Macedonia. They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity... Since you excel in so many ways — in your faith, in your gifted speakers, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love for us — I want you to excel also in this gracious act of giving." (2 Cor 8:1-2, 7)

Generous service through Mt Lebanon's mission activities and collections continue to be strong, thanks be to God!

Mt. Lebanon has given to a variety of mission opportunities totaling approximately \$10,230 (YTD). We generously supported the food ministry at Brandywine Community UMC (\$5,763), Human Relations Day special offering (\$170), One Great Hour of Sharing (\$382), Central Congo Partnership (\$50), Annual Conference Appeals (\$249), Emergency Assistance Fund (\$825), Prison Ministries of Delaware (\$245), Crossworld/Global Service Network (\$1185), Interfaith Projects (\$55), Urban Promise (\$356), Sunday Breakfast Mission (\$40), Conference Pension Initiative (\$100), Megan Mercy Mission in India (\$430), and matching contributions from Shipley Manor donations (\$261) and the Dominos Group donations (\$121).

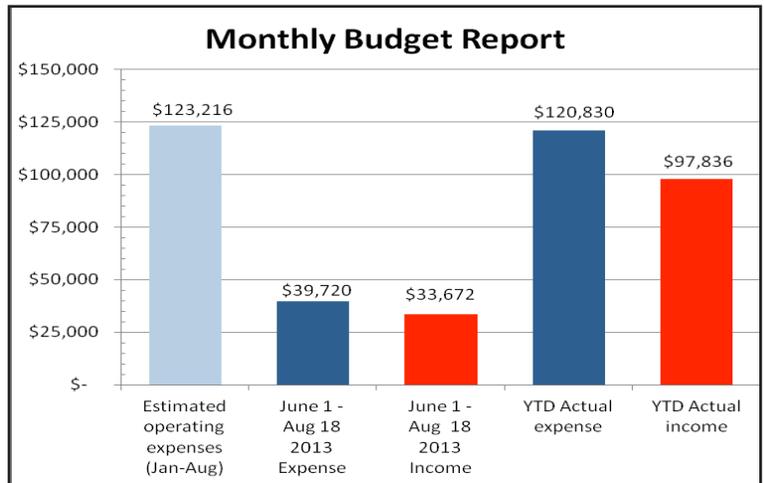
From *Forty Days of Fruitful Living: Practicing a Life of Grace* by Robert Schnase:

**"We talk about money, not because of what we want from you, but because of what we want for you. Giving is not about the need of the church to receive; it is about the need of the giver to give."**

What God wants for you is a fruitful life and this fruitful life is found through extravagant generosity, the practice of giving.

## Budget Update (June 1 - August 18)

During the summer months we have continued to fall behind in financial support for our church. Our Year-to-Date shortfall in income is now approx. \$23,000, which averages a shortfall of about \$2,800 per month. Operating expenses are on track for the year to date.



Just as a reminder, the breakdown for our operating expenses is as follows:

63% (approx.) staff compensation

17% building and grounds maintenance

10% (approx.) apportionments

The remaining 10% is distributed across the various committees and activities of the church (e.g. Christian education, evangelism, administrative, youth ministry).

With our declining financial situation we could soon be in a situation where we do not have the cash flow (i.e. money in the bank account) to support our operating budget.

## Trustees Update

We are blessed to have an Endowment fund that provides us with money to be used for capital improvements at our church. This year we received \$12,868. The Trustees have prioritized using some of the money toward improvements or additions to the audio, video and computer systems within the church. The plan is to build a foundation of audio and video equipment for Bambury Hall and the Sanctuary that can be integrated and expanded over the next year or two as we are able.

The first big change that you will notice is the big screen TV in Bambury Hall. This is still a work in progress but once completed we will be able to use the flat screen for showing videos at Bible studies, showing movies at family fun and youth events, and making presentations at meeting. Also, we plan at some point to be able to have our church announcement scrolling on the screen during fellowship hours. We hope that there will be many more ideas for using this technology to share the Good News!

We have also purchased new wireless microphones for the sanctuary and Tim Page and Doug Hanby are still looking into replacing the amplifier system which we will do either this year or early next year.

The computer systems in the offices are very old and in the next few weeks we will be purchasing and installing replacements that will also include a laptop computer that can be used in conjunction with the flat-screen TV in Bambury Hall.

**Renovation of the parlor area** will be starting sometime in September. We have hired a carpenter who will remove and replace the ceiling and add better lighting fixtures to the parlor. Molding will be added and the ceiling, walls and trim will be painted. The majority of this project is being paid by 'Special/ Restricted' contributions that have been made to the church.

One more project that we hope to complete during the remainder of the year is **renovation of the Pastor's office and administrative area**. While Pastor Jennifer is away on Study Leave it is the perfect time to have access to the area to do some much needed work. We're still working on the plan so if you have ideas and want to be involved please contact Barbara Ewing (302-764-3572 or ewingbj@verizon.net).

**Please help if you can. There are church projects that need to be done before winter!** Our next Trustees Work Day is September 14 from 9am to noon. We have maintenance and cleaning jobs and small projects (inside and outside) that are needed for the general upkeep of our church facility. All are welcome to come and help out during Saturday workdays, these are not just Trustee committee events. You can contact Barbara Ewing (302-764-3572 or ewingbj@verizon.net) if you have questions or requests.

Bless you for your commitment to the Good News of Jesus Christ and to this church!

## **Prayers of Sympathy and Comfort to family and friends of...**

**Mildred Murphy**, long-time member who had recently moved to Lewes, Delaware, died July 6. Services were held at Barratt's Chapel on July 15. Cards may be sent to daughter Pat Murphy at 111 S. Washington Ave., #4, Lewes, DE 19958.

**Robert "Butch" Winward**, uncle of Sheri Videtto, died July 16. Butch was part of the large Winward family who grew up in this part of Wilmington and attended church here as a child. Services were held at Mt. Lebanon on July 20. Cards may be sent to Sheri at her home, 7 Fieldstone Rd., Bear, DE 19701.

**Sheila Miller Holmes**, long-time best friend of Tracy Hopkins, died July 24 after a brave fight with cancer. Sheila was a faithful visitor and committed friend to this church. Services were held at Christiana Presbyterian Church on August 7. Cards may be sent to Tracy at her home, 505 S. Clayton St., Apt. B, Wilmington, DE, 19805.

**Marian Littleton**, wife of Mt. Lebanon friend Jack Littleton died on July 26. Services were held at McCreary and Harra Funeral Home on July 31. Jack is a frequent visitor and good friend to Mt. Lebanon. Cards may be sent to him at his home, 2723 Shipley Rd., Wilmington, DE, 19810.

**Alfred Rawlins Jr.**, long-time member of this church died July 29. His service was held on August 3 at Stoney's Restaurant on Concord Pike. He was the husband of Kathleen Rawlins, a descendant of the church's founding fathers. Cards may be sent to the family at 3312 Englewood Rd., Wilmington DE 19810.

**Jean Sechler**, sister to former member Emma Jane Lane, died August 2. We give thanks to God for her presence among us for the time she worshipped here with us.

# WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

During the month of September as Pastor Jennifer has vacation before her study leave begins on October 1, we will be blessed to have worship led by our lay servants and guests from mission ministries. In order to highlight our proposed purpose statement, our lay servants and guest speakers will be asked to incorporate attention to our core values of Christian discipleship, generous service, welcoming, accepting, caring and praying as the Spirit leads.

## Sunday, September 8

Jeremiah 18:1-11

Psalms 139: 1-6, 13-18

Philemon 1:1-21

Luke 14: 25-33

Guest Speaker: Carolyn Gordon, Executive Director,  
Family Promise of NNCC

## Sunday, September 15

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Psalms 14:1-7

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15: 1-10

Lay Speaker: Kay Shoemaker

## Sunday, September 22

Jeremiah 8: 18- 9:1

Psalms 79:1-9

1 Timothy 2: 1-7

Luke 16: 1-13

Sermon: One God, One Family

Guest Speaker: Kevin Goodwin, Pen-Del Annual  
Conference Missions Czar Coordinator

## Sunday, September 29

Jeremiah 32: 1-3a, 6-15

Psalms 91:1-6,14-16

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Luke 16: 19-31

Healing Service

Student Pastor: Wendy Owen

## Upcoming Worship Services

Oct. 6 - World Communion Sunday

Oct. 13 - Tim Page, Lay Speaker

Oct. 20 - Pastor Karen Covey-Moore & Youth Puppet  
Ministry

Oct. 27 - Ann Brechtel, Lay Speaker

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## *Readers*

9/1 Harry West

9/8 Tracy Hopkins

9/15 Ann Brechtel

9/22 Chris Portante

9/29 TBD

## *Fellowship Helpers*

9/1 Iva Boardman/Gale Ziegler

9/8 TBD

9/15 Tracy Hopkins

9/22 TBD

9/29 TBD

## *Ushers*

9/1 Harry and Joanne West

9/8 Iva Boardman, Tracy Hopkins

9/15 Iva Boardman, Tracy Hopkins

9/22 TBD

9/29 TBD

## *Altar Guild*

9/1 Jerry & Sylvia Eubanks

9/8 Harry & Joanne West

9/15 Ann Brechtel, Marilyn Hetrick

9/22 Iva Boardman, Gale Ziegler

9/29 Sheri Videtto, Kay Frick

# September

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>1</b> Holy Communion	<b>2</b> Labor Day Holiday Church Office Closed	<b>3</b> Domino Group 10am Trustees Meeting 7pm	<b>4</b> Bible Study 10am CD Group 5:45pm Prayer & Praise 7pm NA Group 7pm	<b>5</b> Growing in Faith 7pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Teachers Team Mtg 9-11:30am UMM Retreat
<b>8</b> Emmaus Reunion 12:30pm	<b>9</b> Painting Class 1pm Admin Council 7pm	<b>10</b> Domino Group 10am Shiplely Bible 7pm Lay Leadership 7pm	<b>11</b> Bible Study 10am CD Group 5:45pm Prayer & Praise 7pm NA Group 7pm	<b>12</b> Growing in Faith 7pm	<b>13</b> Food Closet @ BCC 9am-noon	<b>14</b> Church Work Day 9am-noon
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> UMW Meeting 11am Painting Class 1pm	<b>17</b> Domino Group 10am Shiplely Bible 7pm	<b>18</b> Bible Study 10am CD Group 5:45pm Prayer & Praise 7pm NA Group 7pm	<b>19</b> Growing in Faith 7pm	<b>20</b> Nurture Mtg. 10am	<b>21</b> Youth Kick-Off Event Food and Fun Night 5:30pm
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Painting Class 1pm Missions Team 7pm	<b>24</b> Domino Group 10am Shiplely Bible 7pm	<b>25</b> Bible Study 10am CD Group 5:45pm Prayer & Praise 7pm NA Group 7pm	<b>26</b> Growing in Faith 7pm	<b>27</b> Food Closet @ BCC 9am-noon	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Painting Class 1pm					<b>2013</b>

# *Reflections from the Pastor...*

September has arrived and with it the onset of this time apart that has been planned for and prayed over for more than a year! Words cannot begin to describe how faithful this congregation has been in terms of supporting me in this pursuit of a Study Leave. Now the time is upon us. Let me begin by saying how very much I appreciate your support. Taking leave of one another is never an easy task; even when it's only for four months. I am trusting that the love between us, and even more importantly, the strength of the unity that we share in our love of Jesus Christ will carry us through.

What I know for sure is that this time apart is right on time for our congregation, for each of you and for myself. For our congregation, in the sense that our leadership base has grown by leaps and bounds in the last several years. More and more people have heard and responded to the call of service in this congregation. Now is the time for you to live into the fullness of the images provided in 1 Corinthians, chapter 12 of the body of Christ (that's you) operating together as a unit composed of several members each with their own purpose and function. "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body...Indeed the body doesn't consist of one member but of many."

I also have the firm assurance from God that this time apart is right on time for each of us. There are times when we lose sight of the essential relationship that we must have first and foremost with Jesus Christ. We turn our focus onto one particular person or one particular way of doing something and forget that in all things, Christ is our Lord and Savior, the head of all that we are and all that we do. Again 1 Corinthians, chapter 12 reminds us: "Now there are a variety of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." Our church family exists for the expression of the Spirit in the world for the common good. This is the great and holy purpose that each of us share in common. I pray that this time apart will be a new awakening and a renewal of our walk with the Spirit as we discover again how God has called us to help with the building of God's great kingdom in the world. ~ **Pastor Jennifer Kerby**

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## **MOUNT LEBANON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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Worship Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School at 9 a.m.