



August 14, 2011



Vacation Bible School

Submitted by Katy Yates Brungraber, DCE

You should have seen it!

- Amy Schnurr coordinating non-member volunteers to offer a kick-off spaghetti supper.
- Lyn Kita and Barb Wood transforming the chancel into a Biblical setting for storytelling.
- Jeannie Alexander teaching children wearing aprons to cook healthy snacks.
- Denise Alexander creating a wonderful environment for creative crafts.
- Beth Curtiss and Wes Gardner braving the heat to lead games on the lawn.
- Marilyn Shenenberger and Carol Houghton preparing children to sing and ring the worship music on VBS Sunday, July 17.
- A cadre of shepherds (or, should I say, chefs) and teen helpers – 60 volunteers in all.

This year's Vacation Bible School was indeed (you've heard me say it before) "one of the best weeks on the planet" with children making connections between the Old and New Testament festival stories. We celebrate that half of our VBS campers were from Weekday Nursery School and the community. Many thanks to the congregation for your prayers.





Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends in Christ,

What a privilege it is to be part of the vibrant Christian community we call MPC! And what a gift!

In Life Together Dietrich Bonhoeffer writes:

*"It is easily forgotten that the community of Christians is a gift of grace from the kingdom of God, a gift that can be taken from us any day—that the time still separating us from the most profound loneliness may be brief indeed. Therefore, let those who until now have had the privilege of living a Christian life together with other Christians praise God's grace from the bottom of their hearts. Let them thank God on their knees and realize: it is grace, nothing but grace, that we are still permitted to live in the community of Christians today."**

As you make the transition from your summer schedule to the fall, I want to encourage you to renew your commitment to a discipline of weekly worship with the community of Christians that is MPC. The ability we have to gather together each week is truly a privilege for which we should give thanks to God .

The Session and Worship Council have designated Sunday, September 11 as "Homecoming Sunday." We want to encourage every member who resides locally and who is able to attend worship to be present on this first Sunday of our new program year. Please mark your calendar, and plan to attend the 10:30 a.m. worship service with your fellow members of MPC as we gather together to "praise God's grace from the bottom of our hearts."

The peace of Christ be with you all.

Ron Rosenau
Pastor



Our Church Family

90+ Birthdays

Edith Koch, 90
on August 4, 2011
Hellene Schultz, 90
on August 7, 2011
Sophie Collier, 90
on August 11, 2011
Norman Dibble, 90
on August 23

R. Edwin Allen, 94
on September 7, 2011
Mary Loretta Ellis, 96
on September 8, 2011
Mary Ingraham, 90
on September 18, 2011
Florence Gustafson, 94
on September 25, 2011

Congratulations

Congratulations to Staci and Matt Shade on the birth of their son Jacob Scott Shade on June 16, 2011. Jacob is the grandson of Becky and Ray Hendrickson.

In Loving Memory

In loving memory of Betty Sue Campbell, a member since 1959, who died June 15, 2011; Margaret Clark, a member since 1963 who died July 22, 2011 and Harry Hyatt a member since 1982 who died July 26, 2011. *"I am the Resurrection and the Life. . ."* says the Lord.

For Your Information

Jennifer and Dan Jones have a new address: 936 Big Oak Road, Yardley, PA 19067. Their telephone number remains the same, 215-428-0320.

Condolences

Condolences to Carol Coles on the death of her sister, Peggy Kornstedt on May 20, 2011 and to Melanie Burgess on the death of her father Robert Small on June 19, 2011 and to Kathy Larkin on the death of her husband, Frank, on July 21, 2011.

Welcome New Members

We welcome Craig and Karen Dupee who joined the church on May 22, 2011 by letter of transfer from First Presbyterian Church of Ewing. Craig and Karen have two daughters, Cora, 6 ½ and Samantha, 3 ½. The Dupees heard about MPC by visiting local Presbyterian Churches. They were influenced to join by the MPC church family and vision. They look forward to getting to know the congregation and learning and strengthening their faith.



Sacrament of Baptism

The sacrament of Baptism will be celebrated September 25, 2011 with pre-baptism instruction on September 18, 2011. Parents who wish to present their child for Baptism are asked to contact the church office by September 9, 2011.

2011 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Each year the Youth Ministry Council awards several scholarships to college and graduate students. The scholarships are made possible through generous donations given over many years



Sam Jones, a rising sophomore at the Rochester Institute of Technology was awarded a scholarship from the McClannon Scholarship Fund.



Shannon Waite, who completed her first year at Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia, was awarded the Roberts Scholarship designated for men or women preparing for vocations in a theologically or medically related field. This summer Shannon is working with Project Burning Bush – a program that works with high school students who are discerning a call to ministry.



Frank Bingham, recently completed his Freshman year at Penn State, majoring in Biology. Frank was awarded the Birks Scholarship.



This year, for the first time, we were pleased to present the Patti-Jane Reeves Memorial Scholarship, made possible through the generosity of many donors and the Reeves family. The Patti-Jane Reeves Memorial Scholarship is awarded to the high school graduate or college student who best exemplifies the following qualities: (1) academic excellence, (2) service to the community, and (3) commitment to, and participation in, the life of Morrisville Presbyterian Church. The recipient of the Patti-Jane Reeves Memorial Scholarship for 2011 was **Tori Zbinden**.

MPC APPLE PICKING PICNIC



Come Join the Fun!!

Date: Sunday, October 2, 2011
Time: 4:00 pm TO 7:00 pm
Place: Styers Orchards
 Woodbourne Road
Cost: \$6.00 per person
 \$12 per family

Let's kick off autumn together with our annual Apple Picking Picnic. We'll provide the hotdogs and you bring a dish to pass. Everyone goes home with a bag of apples and the warm feeling of fellowship. Please sign up in the Communication Center throughout September.



Hike Against Hunger

October 8, 2011

Plan to join us for the 8th Annual Hike Against Hunger to raise funds for the Food Center at MPC. Our goal is to raise \$25,000!

Hike Day Schedule

9:30 a.m. – Registration
10:00 a.m. – Hike Begins
11:30 p.m. – Celebration Picnic

Volunteers are essential to the success of the **Hike Against Hunger**. To volunteer on October 9th, or to find out more about volunteering at **The Food Center**, please call **215.295.4191**.

Registration forms will be available starting in September at www.mpcusa.net, from the Church Office or on Sunday mornings. Consider making a generous donation this fall to the work of the Food Center at MPC.

Benefits The Food Center at the Morrisville Presbyterian Church
 Helping Hungry Families in Bucks and Mercer Counties





Stewardship

by Patrick Gilbride, Chair Stewardship Council

As we live our lives each day, we are constantly reminded of what we **don't** have. We receive reports of global scarcities of fossil fuels, clean water and healthy food options, to name a few. We are told that we need the latest iPad, the newest game system, or a bigger car. In our own homes, we lament our perceived shortages of "disposable" income, storage space, travel experiences or free time.

The truth is that we are blessed with great abundance. A great deal of our time is actually spent sifting through the excess. Consider how often you've noted the following:

I have more than enough...

- ...features on my phone,
- ...shoes to wear,
- ...boxes of cereal in my pantry,
- ...appliances in my kitchen,
- ...lawn to mow.

1 Chronicles 29:14 says, "...But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to make this freewill offering? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you." Is it possible that we have forgotten that everything belongs to God? Have we allowed ourselves to perceive *wants* as *needs*, that what we have is really ours and we just want more? And more? And more.

I have more than enough...

- ...neckties,
- ...dessert on my plate,
- ...channels on the TV,
- ...magazines to read.

The excess can be stifling. The stuff we collect can be like a towering wall that keeps us from seeing each other. Worse, it keeps us from helping each other. Consider your own excess of *stuff*:

I have more than enough _____.

Why did I buy that _____?

Who needs another _____?

Let us pray: God of "more than enough," release me from the fear of not having enough, of not being enough to participate in the abundant life you have revealed in Jesus Christ. Amen.



Summer painting and repair of MPC's 112 windows and 30 doors was accomplished in July. Rich Drabb, Property Manager, co-ordinated this and other maintenance projects over the Summer months.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

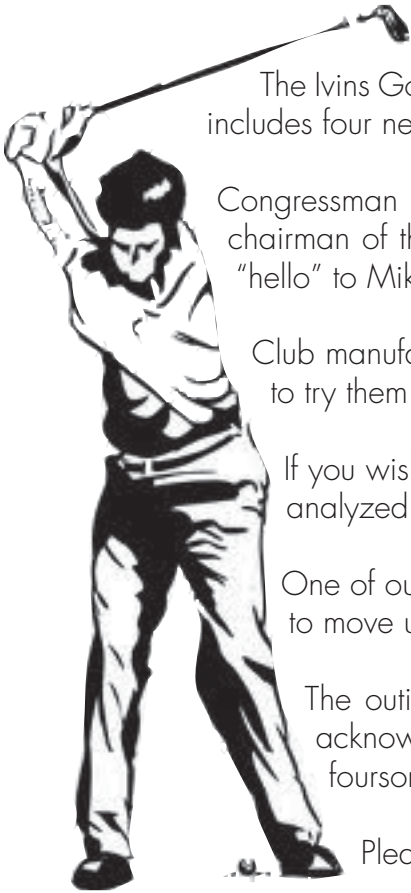
The focus of Presbyterian Women is to support and nurture all women of MPC and in-turn to help serve the needs of the Morrisville community. This is done through individual circle projects as well as through the PW budget. If you have never joined us before, consider participating by supporting our mission budget by shopping or helping at the craft fair, attend a circle meeting, or join us at a luncheon. The large bulletin board outside the toddler room has posted upcoming events, contact information and announcements. If you have any questions, please email Beth Curtiss at curtissfam@gmail.com. Mark your calendars and join us!

September 12th (second Monday)

Circle meetings in the lounge:
Sarah - 9:30 am , Deborah - 12:30 pm,
Rebecca – 7:30 pm

October 22 (Saturday) Craft Fair 9 – 2

IVINS GOLF OFFERS NEW FEATURES



The Ivins Golf Outing, slated for **Monday, September 19** at the Yardley Country Club, includes four new features for the same low price of \$175 per golfer.

Congressman Michael Fitzpatrick graciously accepted our offer that he serve as honorary chairman of the event and has placed it on his schedule. So come to the outing and say "hello" to Mike!

Club manufacturer Taylor Made will bring its latest clubs to the driving range for everyone to try them out.

If you wish, you'll have an opportunity to have your golf swing recorded and personally analyzed after the meet by YCC Golf Pro Matt Esposito.

One of our four holes in one - the \$10,000 prize hole - will offer golfers an opportunity to move up to the 150 yard tee box for a low, low price of \$10 per golfer.

The outing also offers a new schedule of fees for a variety of sponsorships, and to acknowledge the debt ceiling debate in Washington we've lowered the price of a foursome to \$650.

Please join us on September 19 for lunch, golf, dinner and prizes. Thanks!

DEACON'S FUNDRAISER FOR FOOD CENTER BIG SUCCESS!

A Karaoke Night was held to benefit the MPC Food Center on June 18, 2011 at the American Legion Post in Yardley. Over \$2,000 was raised for the Food Center. Thanks to all who came out to join in the festivities.



Tom Drake and Tom Evans singing a country song.



Carol Romano, director of Food Center with back-up singers.

Education for All begins September 11

submitted by Katy Yates Brungraber, DCE



After a summer of praying and preparing, Educational Ministry Council (EMC) is excited to kick off the new year. Room locations will be listed on hallway posters.

Children study relationships this fall using the PC(USA) curriculum "God's People Together," including stories of Jacob and Esau, Miriam and Moses, and Elisha and the Widow. Three Workshop Rotation Model units (fondly known as (WORM) will follow in November, January, and March.

Youth enter year two of a four-year cycle that includes denominational, stewardship, biblical,

and faith and spirituality studies, with a focus on the gospels and devotional practices.

Adults again have their choice of *Bible Study* or *Faith Exploration* classes. The year begins with a *Lectionary Sermon Discussion* (9.11-12.18) with pastors Ron Rosenau and Trent Hancock, and *Rediscovering our Spiritual Gifts* (9.11-10.23) with Dori Clough and Katy Yates Brungraber. See the Adult Education Flier for more information.

EVERYONE is encouraged to attend education classes. As "disciples of all ages," we realize that spiritual formation doesn't stop after Confirmation!

Please pray for our teachers – Teacher Orientation will be Saturday, September 17:

PreSchool	Gail Flesch, Alex Zbinden, Beth Keys
Grades K-1	Jen Jones, Rachel Truelove, Greg Neiman
Grades 2-3	Bob Krajci, Helen Hill, Sue Rushing
Grades 4-5	Kathy Foster, Dee Ann Martin, George Pingor
Grades 6-7 Quest	AK Triebel, Beth and Eric Becker
Grade 8 Confirmation	Elizabeth Dugan, Wes Gardner, Mark Schnurr
Grades 9-12 High School Seminar	Sharon Smith, Tom Evans, Paul Clough
WORM Coordinator	Beth Curtiss
Substitute	Rebekah Lang

If you have any ideas or questions regarding Educational Ministry, please contact:

Educational Ministry Council Chair	Jeannie Alexander
Church School Superintendents.	Heidi Dous, Jamie Neiman
Confirmation Coordinator	Elizabeth Dugan
Adult Curriculum Coordinator	Paul Clough
WORM Coordinator	Beth Curtiss
Library Coordinator	Jeannie Alexander
Advent / Lenten Resources Coordinator	Jessica Vincent
OGHOS / Fish Boxes Coordinator.	Charlotte Triebel

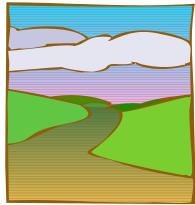
Is God Calling You?

Educational Ministry Council seeks two people to work with DCE Katy Yates Brungraber to serve as Children's Curriculum Coordinator and Youth Curriculum Coordinator. If you have gifts for organization and administration and a passion for education in the church, please contact Katy to learn more about the responsibilities and see if this is a match for you!



Wednesday Brown Bag Bible Study: Book of Acts

Come explore the Book of Acts verse by verse with Pastors Trent Hancock and Ron Rosenau beginning September 7, 2011. Noon to 1:00. Conference Room. Bring lunch, a Bible, and questions!



New Member Classes

God continues to bless MPC by bringing new members to join in our mission to serve Jesus Christ as Lord and spread his message of love, forgiveness, transformation, and reconciliation to others. Anyone interested in exploring what it means to be a Christian, a Presbyterian, and a member of MPC should contact Rebecca Crawford in the church office at 215.295.4191. New member classes, called Pathways, will be held three times this year on Sunday afternoons: **October 16, January 29, and May 6.** Pastors Ron Rosenau and Trent Hancock will lead these seminars with the support of the Evangelism and Communication Council and various church leaders. Attendance does not mean that one is obligated to join MPC...but we hope that if you feel God leading you here, you will become an official active member!



Come be a part of this year's MPC Youth Club!

MPC Youth Club was created in 1966 for 7th through 12th grade youth to come together in a safe, caring Christian environment. Youth club is a place to have fun together, build relationships with peers and adults, and be reminded of our special identity as children of God.

This 46th year we will continue to build relationships through fellowship, activities, learning and service and experience firsthand the power to touch and transform other's lives through service.

REGISTRATION AND ORIENTATION NIGHT

**Wednesday, September 14, 2011
7 – 8:30 pm Fellowship Hall**

Please Come Join us!

Lead Parents: Tom Drake:
thomasdrake@verizon.net
Nancy Stoner:
sstoner5@verizon.net
Membership Chair: AK Triebel:
akalsomom@verizon.net

YOUTH RETURN FROM WEEK OF MISSION WORK IN WEST VIRGINIA

Editor's Note: *The following Minute for Mission was presented by Jackie Moruzzi and Cara Evans during worship on July 24.*

From eight hour drives to using power tools, from braving 98 degree heat to walking under waterfalls, from taking on class five rapids to seeing a copperhead, I believe I can safely say that the mission trip group of 2011 has done and seen it all in the past week. Every morning our days started with a 7:30 breakfast and an early start off to work. Our group aided two people; a middle-aged man named Jimmy and a sweet lady named Lisa.

Personally, I worked on Jimmy's site, a barren piece of land that once had a house on it, but which had been consumed by fire a year and a half ago. His

parents also lived in this house but while Jimmy stayed after the fire his parents moved away. He was left with piles of debris, burnt memories, ash and all that remained of his home was an old electrical pole. The progress made in one week was amazing due to everyone's hard work. Everyone's teamwork and cooperation was great. At the end of each day, we were able to cool off with either a treat from D.Q. or a swim in a lake. After showers, everyone enjoyed intense games of baseball with MVP Pastor Trent. Each evening we gathered for devotions which included singing and discussion. We were frequently asked where we saw God each day. Some said it was in the time they were able to spend with their friends. Others said it was in the nature surrounding us. However, we all agreed that we were carrying out God's mission, which brought us closer to Him.



BOOMERS and BEYOND . . .

By Linda Seaman

Big edition of Currents this month . . . so . . . I'll make my short. I am planning on assembling a folder of helpful info, forms, recipes, humor, etc . . . which will be available later this Fall.

Here are some things I wish to pass along. > Plan to join us for a festive picnic on **Sunday, Aug. 21** after the service sponsored by MPC's Congregational Ministry Council. New . . . a **10 by 13 gazebo**

to shade our seniors. There will be something for all ages! > Over 30 MPCers participated in a dinner group at Café Antonios. I'll be sending out info. soon to invite diners to attend a gathering at **Non Solo Pasta.** The dated is TBD as yet. This is a great way to meet and greet . . . even long time member J'Ann Ellis learned something new at our last dinner! > **Mary Birkbeck** deserves my thanks for her regular deliveries of cards, calendars, etc..



GALA

Saturday, September 24th

5:30 p.m.

Appetizers • Dinner • Show

Tickets \$15

Morrisville Presbyterian Church

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Please submit articles for the October 2, 2011 Currents by September 13, 2011. Thank you.



Looking Ahead

August 21	11:45 am	Congregational Picnic
September 7	12:00 noon	Brown Bag Bible Study, Conference Room
September 11	10:30 am	Homecoming Worship Service, Communion
September 12		Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings
September 14	7:00 pm	Youth Club Registration, Fellowship Hall
September 17	9:00 am	Teacher Orientation, Room 220
September 18	11:00 am	Ice Cream Social
	11:45 am	Confirmation Class Kick-off, Conference Room
	4:00 pm	Junior High Youth Group, Room 220
September 19	12:30 pm	Ivins House Golf Outing, Yardley Country Club
September 23/24		High School Youth Group Lock-in, Room 220
September 24	5:30 pm	Gala Fellowship Hall
October 2	4:00 pm	Apple Picking Picnic, Styers Orchards
October 8	9:30 am	Hike Against Hunger Registration, 10:00 am Hike Against Hunger Walk Begins
October 22	9:00-2:00	7th Annual Presbyterian Women Craft & Vendor Fair, Fellowship Hall

