

THE MESSENGER

September 2009

Rev. Joy Hulslander Mansfield United Methodist Church 67 E. Wellsboro St., Mansfield, Pa.

Dear Friends in Christ,

Grace and peace in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1—NIV). Each of us has the creative desire to do something well, stand back and look at it when we it is completed, and say, with satisfaction and pride, “I did that, and look at how good it is!”

From the time when we first sit on the floor of our parent’s living room and stack blocks, one on top of the other, to the time when we perform a difficult task or think through a difficult problem—if it represents something which we have created ourselves—we take pride in our accomplishments.

Our quest for the satisfaction of seeing something we have done, apart from us and our work, of being able to say, “I did that, and behold, it is good,” is a very normal thing. People express themselves in their work. It is a way of releasing their creative energy, and a way of contributing to the common life of humankind.

In the beautiful creation story, there is one musical refrain which answers each part of the creation, “and God saw that it was good” (Genesis 1:9—NIV). This is the timeless truth from the opening pages of the Scriptures which speaks to people everywhere. When we can say that of our work, our actions, our decisions, our life, we have reached the highest expression of the dignity of our work.

On September 7th we celebrate Labor Day, a day set aside to pay tribute to working men and women. Whether you are a farmer, homemaker, teacher, secretary, student, nurse, banker, accountant, custodian, engineer, painter, or politician, take pride in the work you do. Take a moment to step back and look at your good work and say, “Yeah! I did do a good job!” God did just that! God created the earth, stepped back, looked at what He had done, and said, “Yeah! I like it! It is good!”

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving” (Colossians 3:23-24—NIV).

Peace,

OFFICIAL WELCOME FOR PASTOR JOY

Plan to stay after church on Sunday, September 13 for an Official welcome for Pastor Joy. There will be coffee cake and beverages. We will be playing a game to get Acquainted with Pastor Joy. Put it on your calendar now!

STEWARDSHIP

People come to life -- become fully alive, aware
And joyful -- when they help others.

Author unknown

Submitted by Joyce Taylor



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Alice Abrams
Jose Piquero
- 3 Betty Sumner
Steve & Joanne Meringer (A)1976
Russell & Arlene Welch (A) 1966
- 4 Warren & Bernadene Waltz (A)1948
- 8 Alexa Buckheit
- 11 Bill Roesch
- 12 Steve Gehringer
- 14 Dorothy Colegrove
- 15 Pastor Rich Berg
- 16 Lydia Howe
Terry VanOrden
- 17 Daniel Lawrence
- 19 Jan Fuller
- 21 Lucile Packard
Gladys Schirmer
- 22 Paul & Connie Shaw (A) 1979
- 23 Mark Spohn
- 24 Jane Spohn
Gary Wilston
Jack Wise
- 26 James & Dorothy Colegrove (A)
- 30 Chet & Kathi Reed (A) 1978

Scripture Reading (Tentative)	
September 6	Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 Psalter Reading #846 Psalm 125 James 2:1-10, (11-13), 14-17 Gospel Reading Mark 7:24-37
September 13	Proverbs 1:20-33 Psalter Reading #750 Psalm 19 James 3:1-12 Gospel Reading Mark 8:27-38
September 20	Proverbs 31:10-31 Psalter Reading #738 Psalm 1 James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a Gospel Reading Mark 9:33-37
September 27	Esther 7:1-6, 9-12, 20-22 Psalter Reading #846 Psalm 124 James 5:13-20 Gospel Reading Mark 9:38-50



FIRST CHOIR MEETING

**Wednesday, September 2, 2009
6:00 pm**

September 2009 Helpers	September 6 9:30 AM	September 13 9:30 AM	September 20 9:30 AM	September 27 9:30 AM
Greeters	Dot & Jim Colegrove	Betsy Kuhl	Rosalie Connelly	Sue & Tom Howe
Acolytes		Seth Watkinss		
Liturgists	Ellen Wise	JoAnne Davis	Laurie Piquero	Joyce Taylor
Altar Flowers	Oliver Bartlett	Joe & Betsy Kuhl	Jim & Dot Colegrove	
Refreshments for Coffee Hour		UMW Welcome to Pastor Joy	Joyce & Lloyd Colegrove	Betsy Kuhl
Cleaning Donation	Jackie Buckheit	Jim & Dot Colegrove	Rich & Jane McGee	Barb Rundell

HISTORY MOMENT
Chester Bailey

A meeting between the officials of the Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian churches Was held in December 1914, and it was decided to call Evangelist Miller to conduct a campaign in Mansfield beginning January 24, 1915.

At the meeting it was also decided to erect a tabernacle. The lot south of the Dewitt house on S. Main Street and near the railroad was agreed upon. (That site is where the Commonwealth Bank and the Donut shop was located.)

On The Light Side

Oppressed by the noonday heat, a tired farmer sat under a walnut tree to rest. Relaxing, he looked at his pumpkin vines and said to himself, "How strange it is that God puts such big heavy pumpkins on a frail vine that has so little strength it has to trail on the ground!" And then looking up into the cool branches of the tree above him, he added, "How strange it is that God puts small walnuts on such a big tree with branches so strong they could hold a man!:

Just then a breeze dislodged a walnut from the tree. The tired farmer wondered no more as he rubbed his head ruefully and said, "It 's a good thing there wasn't a pumpkin up there instead of a walnut"

Hopefully, when the breezes of life blow, you will remember that God, who is great and wise, makes no mistakes. He deserves our praise under any circumstances.

Drew Mentzer

LIBRARY NOTES

The United Methodist Women's District Annual Day is on Saturday, September 19 here in our church.

In the library we have some of the books from the past United Methodist Women's reading program.

We encourage you to read them.

**34th ANNUAL LADIES' SPIRITUAL
LIFE DAY**

Tuesday, September 8, 2009
Bakerburg Community Church

9:00 AM -Coffee Time

9:30 AM - Opening

11:45 AM - Lunch

2:15 PM - Closing

SPEAKERS: Renee Dockery and Natalie Taylor. They both are serving the Lord with their husbands as Church Planting Missionaries with Continental Baptist Missions. They are currently ministering in Cleveland, Ohio. Natalie Taylor will also be providing the special music for the day.

THEME: ROAD TRIP

LOCATION: Bakerburg Community Church located just off Route 6, 8 miles east of Mansfield, 8 miles west of Troy.

REGISTRATION: As space is limited, we need to know you are coming! Please call the church office at (570) 549-8129.

"COME AND BRING A FRIEND"

**WELLSBORO DISTRICT UMW
ANNUAL DAY**

The Wellsboro District U.M.W. Annual Day is on Saturday, September 19 here at the First United Methodist Church of Mansfield.

Registration begins at 9:30 am. Opening, worship and business meeting begins at 10 am.

The guest speaker will be Brian Myfelt of the Tri-County Parish. He will be speaking on the Sudan.

Lunch will be provided by the First United Methodist Churches United Methodist Women. We invite all women of the church.



Profile—Ben and Lois Garrison

Ben and Lois are among the members of longest standing in the church. Ben was baptized here at the First United Church of Mansfield and began teaching Sunday School at the age of 17. Lois has been a member of this church since their marriage in 1947, except for the time they lived in Florida and Tennessee. Both have taught Sunday school for many years, as well as serving in a number of ways through the years.

It can truly be said that they are faithful members who form part of the bedrock on which the church exists, following in the path set by Ben's parents. Ben for many years fired and stoked the coal furnace which was the heat system for the church, and Ben spent most Saturday nights keeping the furnace burning during that time.

They have two daughters and a son. Their son is currently the Mansfield chief of police. Ben and Lois met at a 4th of July picnic, thanks to Ben's brother who was dating Lois's sister at the time. Both state that their first meeting was "somewhat uneventful", but that soon changed.

Lois was born in Sylvania, Pa., and terms herself a "farm girl" with a memory of almost falling off a horse on a steep slope while riding the horse without a saddle while going to bring in the cows.

Lois enjoys weaving and quilting, but says she doesn't particularly enjoy cooking. Ben says that she is a very good cook, even though she claims not to enjoy cooking. Lois is currently learning to use her new laptop and hopes to be sending and receiving emails in the near future.

Ben was born and raised in Mansfield, and is a graduate of Mansfield University. Ben served in the US Navy during World War 2 as a medical corpsman. He enjoys woodworking and is an expert at caning chairs, and also has a garden most every year. For many years they owned and operated a retail business - Garrison's of Mansfield which specialized in men's wear.

You will very much enjoy their response if you ask them to tell you some of their memories of Mansfield First United Methodist Church during their many years of service to their Lord and the church.



**Installation Service for
Rev. Greg Rapp
Wellsboro District
Superintendent**

Sunday, September 27, 2009

**4:00 p.m.—United Church of Nelson on the
grounds next to the church**

Take 49 west past the lake. Turn at the first available road to the right; take the next immediate right -- there are signs indicating church, fire dept and post office. The church is located east of the fire hall.

Chicken Barbeque will provided by the local volunteer fire company and other food will be provided by the clusters.

Come and join us for an afternoon of celebration as we officially welcome our new District Superintendent!

**Please Mark Your Calendar!!!!
Church Conference
Thursday, October 15, 2009**

All are welcome to come and celebrate the mission and ministry of First United Methodist Church, and to plan for 2010. This year's Church Conference will be a celebration led by our new District Superintendent, Rev. Greg Rapp, with a weaving in of our business reports, so please make plans to attend our annual Church Conference.

None of you expects "thank you's," but I think it is so important to say "Thank You" to the members and friends of the congregation who give of their time and energy because they love the Lord!

- Thank you to the trustees who work so diligently to maintain our Lord's church here at Mansfield.
- Thank you to Tom Howe who keeps the grass mowed around the church, and for doing repairs at the parsonage.
- Thank you to everyone who spent time at the parsonage cleaning and clearing out in June and July.
- Thank you to Rich Magee who built the rack for our children's activity bags.
- Thank you to Lloyd and Joyce Colegrove who made sure we had coffee for the pastor's coffee hours in July and August.
- Thank you to everyone who came to have coffee and pie with me. It was great getting to know you, and I appreciate you sharing your thoughts and telling me about your families.
- Thank you to Ellen Wise for hosting the UMW. We had a wonderful time of fellowship and good food in Ellen's beautiful home.
- Thank you to Betsy Kuhl for coordinating the flowers to make sure we have flowers in the sanctuary every Sunday and for making sure everyone in the congregation receives cards for their birthdays and anniversaries.
- Thank you to Deanna and Jerry Rumsey for preparing Communion each month.
- Thank you to Betsy and Deanna for coordinating our community dinner in August and to everyone else who helped cook, serve, and bake those delicious desserts!
- Thank you to Dick Jackson and Jerry Rumsey for pulling weeds in the flower beds on a really hot afternoon a couple of weeks ago.
- Thank you to Rich and Jane McGee and Leo Packard for cleaning up around the back of the building and along the fence.

First United Methodist Church
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Mansfield, Pennsylvania 16933
E-Mail: firumc@ptd.net
Phone: (570) 662-2411
Dining Room: (570) 662-7719

Address Service Requested



*This Newsletter is sent with a blessing
and a prayer to....*

September

TIME FOR NEW CHURCH MEMBER AND GUEST DIRECTORY

It is time to update our directory and we are asking for your help. Please fill out the bottom portion and return it to the church office, or tear off and put it in the offering plate. If your information has not changed, it would still be helpful for the church secretary to know this, so you can just print your name and put the same after your name.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

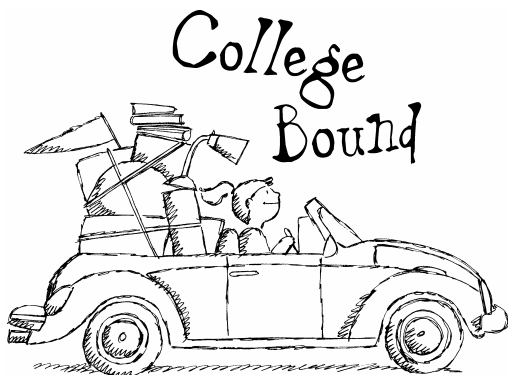
CHILDREN STILL LIVING AT HOME: _____

- Thank you to Rosalie Connelly who works so diligently in the library to put it in order.
- Thank you to Tom Howe and Laurie Piquero for playing and leading our praise music!

*Thank you!
Pastor Joy*

If you would like to thank someone for what they do, please call me to let me know.

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Attention College Students!

We would like to keep in touch with you while you are away at college, so please contact the church office at 662-2411 or e-mail us at firmc@ptd.net with your address and e-mail at school.

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Attendance Pew Pad Records

Beginning Sunday, September 6th, we will be using the pew pads to take attendance and record our visitors. If you sit on the end of the pew near the center aisle, please make sure everyone in your pew has recorded their name.

We are asking our greeters for each Sunday to collect the attendance sheets in the pads and place them in the mail slot on the secretary's office door.

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Harvest Festival



October 10th

11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

1st United Methodist Church Mansfield

- HMS playing from Noon—1 p.m.
- Face painting and games for kids!
- Free Food
- Cake Walk for all ages!

Join us for fun, fellowship and a rewarding day for the whole family as we reach out into community!

Everything Is Free!

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Mission Central Hub

The following items were delivered to Kay Hoag at Calvary UMC for our Mission Central Hub in Westfield:

26	Notebooks
12	Notebook Paper
17	Rulers
404	Pencils
29	Erasers
24	Boxes of Crayons
17	Pencil Sharpeners
11	Scissors
10	Pens
1	Book Bag
1	Toothbrush
25	Washcloths

Thank you to everyone who gave so generously!

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