

The Circuit Writer

Mt. Jackson United Methodist



The Pastor's Epistle...

The Wonderments

More amazing to me than the wonderments we can see with God's help, are the wonderments which exist just beyond our sights. I spent a lot of time looking up at the sky while vacationing last week with family. Beginning with the stunning art the sun introduces the new day with and ending with the vast array of tiny dots which connect the night sky, a story of Wonderment is resounded daily. Standing still at ocean's edge receiving the beaming light of the sun's first gaze, I felt each time as if God's love was in those finite moments being targeted into the depths of my own soul. God's attention towards me! Encouraging a much different experience, laying flat under the dancing night sky the experience of wonder was no longer an experience of God's attention towards me, but rather my attention towards God! In contrast, the morning message is an experience of God's personal care and attention to the details of love and the evening message is an exercise in worship which reassures us that God's thoughts and ways are beyond our abilities to view or comprehend. When we pulled out the telescope, rather than being able to see the details of a single star, we were rather able to notice that the stars in sky were more numerous than visible to the naked eye. The lesson to me was the age old lesson about how the more we learn, the more we find out that there is much more to learn!

As worshippers and followers of God, the morning sun can be a reminder to us that we will not exhaust God's love toward us. As believers and listeners of God, the night sky can be a reminder to us that however convincing and conclusive our thoughts and feelings may be, God wants us to be comforted by the understanding that our visibility is limited and by the reminder that the awesomeness of God as Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer is big, very big!

Mt. Jackson UMC & Quicksburg UMC have come to the end of their first year with their new pastor and hopefully are experiencing both sunrise and night sky messages where things can be affirmed as good and where things can remain secure in the hope of what is yet to come. For those of whom have already become like family I pray for God to guard and to grow. For those of whom I remain just another pastor who doesn't know them, I pray for God to grant the opportunities in the year to come for friendship and genuine connections

to become established! As your pastor I am asking you to make a new-year's resolution in July to not make conclusions about how things are just going to be between you and your pastor, but rather to play an active role in helping me become a better pastor to you. Most people would say year one is the most critical year for connections to be made between churches and their pastors, but I say it is year two as the temptation becomes much more tangible for people to pass judgments on what is to come by what has been experienced in a very complicated orientation year one. I am actively praying for those of whom I am still a stranger and am looking with anticipation to what God will do in the year ahead of bringing people together! More amazing to me than the wonderments we can see with God's help are the wonderments which exist just beyond our sights.

Sincerely,
Pastor Ken



Continuing Connections...

You can reach our sister, Eldo Wheat, at
Morningside Assisted Living
491 Crestwood Drive, Apt. 336
Charlottesville, VA 22903
434-295-0173



Some Words of Wisdom From Church Displays...

“There Are Some Questions That Can't Be
Answered By Google”
[Claude Presbyterian Church]

“Free Coffee
Everlasting Life
Yes Membership Has
Its Privileges”
[Goodwood United Church]



Budget Update Thru June 2008

MJUMC's '08 Budget \$86,152.12
52 Sundays

	June Offering	Year-to-Date Offering
Actual	\$8,081.00	\$47,104.90
Needed	\$8,283.85	\$43,076.02
Difference	- \$ 202.85	+ \$ 4,028.88

Happy July Birthdays!

- 7/3 Shirley Bock
- 7/10 Richard Barb
- 7/12 Bill Golladay
- 7/12 Troy Hackenbracht
- 7/16 Linda Cave
- 7/23 Steven Spittler



Methodist Men's Message



The Mt. Jackson United Methodist Men held their June 18th. meeting in the church Social Hall with the ladies serving 20 members a good meal. Howard Hackenbracht opened the meeting. Old and new business were discussed with no action being taken on anything.

Jack Sperry quoted scripture taken from the *Upper Room* and gave a brief history of the publication.

Pastor Ken explained some news about our mission trip to Kentucky in August. We may have 18 making the trip.

Program Chair Jack introduced our speaker for the evening, Dr. Steve Forster. Steve and his wife Fredericka (Freddie) attend our church, both sing in our Choir, and they are very active in our church activities. In his last year of college, with only a little more work to receive his PhD, Steve was drafted into the Army and ended up in Vietnam. After he came home, he received his PhD degree and went to work for the Federal Highway Administration at their research center in McLean, VA. Freddie worked for the same agency. They worked in D.C. and lived in Northern Va. They started looking for some land in the Shenandoah Valley after going to many auto shows in the valley from Winchester to Harrisonburg. After looking for a year or two, they purchased

about 40 acres close to Beverly Fleming near Red Banks, at the foot of the Mountain. [Steve notes that sometimes he wishes he was 18 when bush-hogging the fields!]

The Forsters are antique car buffs. They have many cars which Steve showed us photo's of and told us the history of each. He has a 1928 Model A Ford—a first year edition, and many others. His pride and joy is a 1951 Ford V-8 which he will drive to church on cool, dry Sundays. He went to Detroit for the 100th Anniversary of Ford in that beauty.

All enjoyed the speaker and there was a lively discussion afterwards.

Our next meeting will be July 16th. We eat at 6:30 PM and invite all men. We will not have a meeting in August, but **will** meet at church the third Wednesday at 5:30 PM for a work night with the ladies to get the church cleaned up for Homecoming on the 24th. A simple dinner will be served that evening, too.

Jack Sperry, Reporter

Canned Meat Mission



Once again, what a blessing our Church members have been for our local Open Door Food Pantry. We have donated 350 lbs. of canned meat items for community children in need. We thank everyone that has donated towards this mission project. And special thanks go out to Scott Carpenter and Onie Frye for their help.

Pat Sperry, Organizer

**Mark your calendar!
Our Mission Trip
Silent Auction and Luncheon
will be held Sunday, July 13th
after church services.**

Vacation Bible School



**Mt. Jackson United
Methodist Church**

July 26, 2008

9am – 2:15pm

**Ages 4 years old – rising 5th grade
Please Pre-Register**

For more information and to register call
Pastor Ken at 477-2128 or
Sharon Clark at 477-3514



Vacation Bible School Volunteers Needed for the Following Positions:

Welcome Table/Registration
Group helpers
Timekeeper

Recreation Helpers
Craft Helpers

Music/ Bible/ Storytime Helpers

To volunteer or for more information please contact
Sharon Clark 477-3514.

**Sign up sheet is in the back hallway, so sign up to
help today!**



Upcoming VBS Meetings and Events

July 6th after Church Youth Team VBS Planning Meeting

July 20th VBS Volunteer Planning/ Information Luncheon
after Church.

(If you are a VBS Volunteer, please join us for this
information meeting to learn about your role in VBS).

July 25th VBS Work Night/ Pizza Night
(Join in the fun! Fill up on Pizza and then work on
setting up decorations for VBS)

Kids Caring 4 Kids 08



Each Sunday in the months of July and August, the youth will continue to collect elementary school items to be given to the Open Door Food Pantry for distribution to as many children grades K - 4 as possible on August 21, 2008. Our goal is to supply 50 children with a book bag and supplies! We want to give as many children as we can a great start back to school, and also lessen the burden on some parents, too. We already have boxes and bags piling up in the vestibule containing the wonderful outpouring of support for this mission. Sunday, August 17th, is the last day to contribute. We will assemble the book bags and have them ready for the children to pick from at the Food Pantry right after that date.

Here is the list of the items we are collecting for the next few Sundays...

07-06: Colored Pencils

07-13: Packets of Erasers

07-20: Washable Markers

07-27: Child Lunch Boxes (plastic or material ones -
cheaper ones)

08-03: Glue Sticks

08-10: Wide-Ruled Loose Leaf Paper

08-17: Child Book Bags (characters or bags appealing
to elementary children)

If you have any questions, please call Heidi
Allen at 540-975-0085 Thanks in advance for helping
with the Mission project "Kids Caring 4 Kids 08."

Heidi Allen & Sharon Clark



E-Mail Anyone???



Did you know that you could
receive your church newsletter
by email?

Just send Jack Sperry a note at
docjack1@shentel.net
and let him know you are online.
He'll see you get your monthly newsletter
beginning the following month
and save us a little in postage:)

Thank you!



Mt. Jackson United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 27
Mt. Jackson, Virginia 22842

Phone: 540-477-2128
 Pastor's Phone: 540-333-3854
 Email: mjumc@shentel.net
 Web: www.mtjacksonumc.com

Church Calendar for 2008



		7/18	Fri.	8:00 PM	AA, Library
		7/20	Sun.	Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, Green	
				9:45 AM	Sunday School
				10:00 AM	Pathfinders
				11:00 AM	Worship
				12:00 AM	VBS Volunteer Luncheon
		7/21	Mon.	8:00 PM	AA, Library
		7/22	Tues.	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
		7/25	Fri.	5:30 PM	VBS Pizza/Work Night
				8:00 PM	AA, Library
		7/26	Sat.	9:00 AM-2:15 PM	VBS
		7/27	Sun.	Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost, Green	
				9:45 AM	Sunday School
				10:00 AM	Pathfinders
				11:00 AM	Worship
		7/28	Mon.	8:00 PM	AA, Library
		7/29	Tues.	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
		8/1	Fri.	8:00 PM	AA, Library
		8/2	Sat.	2:00 PM	Newsletter Prep in Library
		8/3	Sun.	Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, Green	
		7/6	Sun.	Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, Green	
				9:45 AM	Sunday School
				10:00 AM	Pathfinders
				11:00 AM	Worship
				12:00 AM	VBS Planning Meeting
		7/7	Mon.	8:00 PM	AA, Library
		7/8	Tues.	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
		7/9	Wed.	7:00 PM	Church Council Meeting
		7/11	Fri.	8:00 PM	AA, Library
		7/13	Sun.	Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, Green	
				9:30 AM	Sunday School
				10:00 AM	Pathfinders
				11:00 AM	Worship
				12:00 PM	Mission Luncheon & Silent Auction
		7/14	Mon.	8:00 PM	AA, Library
		7/15	Tues.	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
		7/16	Wed.	6:30 PM	UMM Dinner