

THE Wesleyan



September 2011



John Wesley
United Methodist Church
The Official
“Welcoming Congregation”

open hearts • open minds • open doors

PO Box 696 • Falmouth, MA 02541 • (508) 548-3050 • www.jwumcfalmouth.org

Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9 am to 12 noon

Pastor's Message Around The Church & Beyond

Summer Time! What a beautiful time of year. I hope your summer has been filled with refreshment and renewal. I know it has been a wonderful (but busy) time for me. It won't be long . . . school will be starting again. Summer gives way to fall so we can share the joy of another gorgeous season on Cape Cod.

In the meantime, there are some important events in the life of our church that I would like to share with you. Mid-August found things “Shakin’ Up” at John Wesley as Vacation Bible School was underway. We all spent a fabulous week learning to “Shake it Up” as the children learned more about God and some important times, places, festivals, and celebrations of the Bible. It was so much fun to see the kids learn through music, storytelling, crafts, recreation, and much more. We had a wonderful group of adults who guided, taught and fed the children. Thank you to all! A very special “thank you” to our Director of Christian Education, Debra Cormier for her incredible leadership and organization of Vacation Bible School. It was an exciting week, and a successful outreach to many

families outside our church.

Our Capital Campaign is nearing completion. A little over three years ago we embarked on an ambitious campaign to eliminate the debt of the new parsonage, and to do some much-needed remodeling projects in our beautiful facility. In what turned out to be one of the most challenging economic times in recent history, we managed to successfully complete our goals. The mortgage for the new parsonage has been paid off, and we got a good start on some of the projects that need to be done to care for our large facility. We have also been able to

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reach out to the “unchurched” in our community to offer quality programs and to introduce John Wesley church in new and unique ways. A very special “thank you” to Bob Dinsmore, for his skilled leadership as campaign chair for the past three years. Please remember, there is still time to complete your pledge.

A final item I would like to highlight is our fall homecoming that will happen on Sunday, September 18th. It will be a great time of offering a ministry of joy to the neighborhood. This “block party” will feature an open house for our Sunday school, special music, games for the whole family, food, and much more. Mark your calendar! It will be great fun!

Make plans to be with us as we kick off another outstanding year at John Wesley with ministries that continue to grow each day.

As always, I am looking forward to seeing you on Sunday's at John Wesley!

Yours in Christ,

David

... An Why Not?

by Sue MacKenzie, Lay Leader

When you read about our Bible, do you always look up the references (?), sometimes look up the references (?), never look them up (?)

Well, this time, you'll need to if you're to get the gist of what I'll be trying to say here. There are only two and they are Joshua 10:1-15 and 2 Kings 20:1-11. Each of these passages has to do with the sun and the story in Joshua includes the moon too. I'll wait here while you locate your Bible and read . . . You might also want to see the expansion of the Hezekiah story as written in Isaiah, Chapter 38.

PASTOR
Rev. Dr. David V. Calhoun

DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
Debra Bostwick

CHOIR & MUSIC DIRECTOR
John Yankee

KEYBOARDIST
Dr. Robert Wyatt

CHURCH SECRETARY
Eva Peterson

EDITORS
Ed & Mary Jane Dyer

INDEX...

Ushers 3

Block Party 4

Capital Fund Drive 4

Dinner Dance 5

Christian Education Message..... 6

So, in the Joshua verses we see God's people defeat a coalition of Amorites for control of a city called Gibeon. God, Himself, even gets into the fray and His weapons are large hailstones. After hearing recently so much about tornadoes and the hailstones they often generate, I think we can get something of an idea of the enormity of hailstone destruction!

Anyway, after the battle and the flight of the enemy, Joshua says the words in verses 12 and 13 - "as it is written in the Book of Jashar". Here is where a skeptic will want to somehow "explain" God's workings. Remember that God is the God of omnipotent creation and He has chosen to include this account in our Bible and there it has remained for thousands of years. If He says so (and the words say that He kept the sun and moon still for "a full day" at Joshua's request), then He must have done it and "there has never been a day like it before or since, a day when the Lord listened to a man". Some refer to this miracle as The Long Day of Joshua. I don't think that God lost control of His creating powers after Day 4 in Genesis 1:14-19. Notice in the Joshua story that the sun and the moon stood still - they did not go forward.

NOW FOR THE STORY IN 2 KINGS:

Hezekiah is one of the (very few) claimants to being a "good" king of Israel and he is a contemporary of the great prophet, Isaiah. At some point (perhaps when he was 37 or 38 years old) Hezekiah becomes very ill - to the point of dying. Isaiah tells him that he will not recover but after some personal and emotional conversation with God, Hezekiah is healed and promised another 15 years of life (here on earth). Meanwhile, Hezekiah asks Isaiah "what shall be a sign that the Lord will heal me . . .?" And

(how about this?), he is given a choice! Shall the shadow (on the "Stairway of Ahaz") go forward ten steps or shall it go back ten steps? Hezekiah chooses "back ten steps". And the shadow, of course, moves back. Again, skeptics beware (you might want to look at Revelation 22:18-20 and think about those words). This account of Hezekiah's healing and God's sealing sign is often called The Sun Miracle. As I said, another and somewhat expanded telling of The Sun Miracle can be found in Isaiah 38 where, in addition to a retelling of the miracle, we can read Hezekiah's beautiful hymn of thanksgiving in the (much admired by him) style of the Psalms of David and Asaph.

In these accounts the sun (and moon) stand still or move back. Would you want to speed up or move time ahead? When bad (or perhaps boring) times occur, I think one is tempted to want to speed things up, to get them over with. But do you really want to eliminate your existent activity and experience? Are you really ready to "meet your Maker" - like now?, like soon? However you choose to answer that one, may God bless you in your reading and your understanding of His word.



"Forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

MATTHEW 18:35, NRSV



THIS USHERS MONTH



If anyone has to cancel please find a replacement for your spot or call Marilyn Mugno, 508-564-5283. Please team - do not forget to help straighten up the pews after the service so it looks nice for the next service or function. Thank you and God Bless you all.

September 2011

- 4th Mel Trott, Betty Bailey, Sandra Berkley, Carlton Hack
- 11th Sharon Mulcahy, Karyn & Larry Briggs, Greg Brown
- 18th Ken Whitcomb, Linda Duane, Jackie Johnson, Barbara Swenson
- 25th Al Croft, Eric Tinglof, Karen Dean, Lorraine Hunt

October 2011

- 2nd Mel Trott, Betty Bailey, Sandra Berkley, Carlton Hack
- 9th Sharon Mulcahy, Karyn & Larry Briggs, Greg Brown
- 16th Ken Whitcomb, Linda Duane, Jackie Johnson, Barbara Swenson
- 23th Al Croft, Eric Tinglof, Karen Dean, Lorraine Hunt
- 30th Russell Brown, Dick MacKenzie, Suzanne Shermer, Marilyn Mugno

November 2011

- 6th Mel Trott, Betty Bailey, Sandra Berkley, Carlton Hack
- 13th Sharon Mulcahy, Karyn & Larry Briggs, Greg Brown
- 20st Ken Whitcomb, Linda Duane, Jackie Johnson, Barbara Swenson
- 27th Al Croft, Eric Tinglof, Karen Dean, Lorraine Hunt

Dear David,
On behalf of People for Cats, I want to thank you for the use of the church grounds for our annual cat fair, which was held yesterday.

It was a great success, as always, due, in part, to the ideal location!

With sincere gratitude,
Joy Stosz

Sow for yourselves
righteousness,
reap the fruit
of unfailing
love ...

Hosea 10:12, NIV





Block Party

Mark Your Calendar!

WHAT: Homecoming Celebration at John Wesley United Methodist Church! Open House for our Sunday School, Jumping Toys on the Church Lawn, Hotdog's, Hamburgers, Music, Games, Face Painters, and much more!

WHEN: September 18, 2011 after the 10:30 AM Worship Service

WHERE: On the Church Lawn

WHY: We are celebrating the arrival of Fall and the start of a new and exciting church year at John Wesley! Everybody is welcome. Bring your family and friends! You will be glad you did . . .

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP:**

Please call Rev Calhoun at 508-548-3050

Capital Fund Drive Nearing End

The Capital Fund Campaign will end on September 30th. Of the 115 commitments which have been made, 78 are fully paid up, 7 are terminated for various reasons, and 30 are still outstanding. Those who have not yet fulfilled their commitment are requested to check their records and plan to complete their pledge by the end of September. Anyone who needs information on amounts pledged or paid so far should contact Bob Dinsmore, Fund Treasurer, at (508) 540-2183 or rpdinsmore@aol.com. Those whose economic status makes further payment difficult should contribute whatever they can and no further action is necessary. Those who have not made a commitment to the Campaign are asked to consider making a one-time contribution marked "Capital Fund".

Attention Senior Singles

Our first luncheon will be on Saturday, October 1, 2011 at the LaCucina Restaurant on Main Street, Falmouth at 11:30 A.M. At that time we will discuss the future of our group and talk about any different restaurants that we might want to try. If any one has ideas about what we want to do within the group, please come ready to share with all of us.

Hope you all had a great summer, look forward to seeing everyone with your appetites. If you have any questions, please contact, Linda Duane at 508-457-4407.



Time to Say Goodbye

Almost five years ago, the first Sunday after we moved from Maine to Cape Cod, we stepped into John Wesley United Methodist Church one Sunday to worship. There we found a very warm and friendly congregation, and have appreciated the many friendships which have developed there. A month ago, my daughter Mary and her family moved from the Cape to Charlottesville, VA, as her husband Erik begins serving a new UU Church there, and we decided to move there too. We will be renting a Cottage only ten minutes from them, which means lots

of time to see my grandchildren, Theo (almost 10) and Lester (7). Mom and I will miss you all, and are grateful for your many kindnesses. We will also miss the inspiring worship Services and sermons of our pastor David (and the fine music), even though there are five UM Churches in Charlottesville, and know how blessed you are to continue with his spiritual leadership and guidance, and the presence of his good-hearted wife Julie and their precious children. It was a special privilege to have been invited to serve those members of our congregation who were homebound, ill, or be-

reaved, for two and a half years. We are fortunate that my oldest daughter Joanne decided to fly from Texas to Boston to make the long ten hour drive with us over two days, and we will be leaving on Aug. 30th. Would enjoy hearing from you sometime... Our new address will be 3962 Ivy Road, Charlottesville, VA 22903..... Though it is time to say goodbye, you will continue to be in my thoughts and prayers.

Love and peace,
Barbara Brand-James.



WE NEED YOUR HELP

***The Second Dinner/Dance Meeting
Thursday, September 15th At 7:00***

***Our 14th Fundraiser Dinner/Dance Will Be On
Friday, November 4, 2011
At The Coonamessett Inn***

Everyone Reading This Newsletter - Please Make Your Friends Aware Of This Date And Pass The Information Along! We hope that all of our dedicated committee from the past years will once again provide your expertise. We are also looking for NEW PEOPLE to join us, with NEW IDEAS and NEW CONTACTS so that we may have a bigger and better event! If you cannot attend every meeting we would appreciate it if you could just come to one and hear what is involved so that you would feel comfortable spreading the word to people and letting them know what an enjoyable evening this is. We have a Save the Date card that we send out. Should you know of someone that you think would be interested - sending out a short personal note on our post card has improved our attendance a great deal and this would be a big help - distributing our flyers (your business contacts - if you work outside your home) it is very important to get the word out. This Dinner/Dance is open to everyone. Please consider it.

If you wish more information feel free to call Sharon Mulcahy or Marilyn Mugno. Hope to see you at the September 15th meeting or get a phone call from you. To everyone that reads this Newsletter remember - nearly half of the price of your ticket is profit to this fundraiser - and you are getting hors d'oeuvres (fruit & cheese) - three course dinner and a chance at winning a door prize, plus dancing to a live Band! This event is for everyone of all ages (singles - couples - dancers and non-dancers) and not just our own church family. You can enjoy a lovely evening out and be raising money for our church at the same time! The next meeting after the 15th will be on September 29th - Thursday at 7:00.

Sharon Mulcahy
508-457-0950 - smulcahy1@comcast.net

Marilyn Mugno
508-564-5283 - mamugno@comcast.net

Kindness

Take time to be kind;
 It's a state of mind;
 If someone hurts you,
 Just smile; start anew;
 For good deeds will show
 How friendships can grow;
 To touch someone's heart...

A gift to impart,
 For we never know
 On whom we bestow
 Those kind words of praise
 To brighten one's days.
 The stranger could be
 None other than He
 Whom by chance we meet
 While crossing the street,
 The poor child who cries,
 The man with blind eyes,
 Or someone who needs
 Some kind words or deeds;
 It just takes awhile
 To evoke a smile;
 You never know who
 Will be watching you;
 So be kind always,
 To others give praise.

Joy Stosz
 December 16, 2010

Message From The Director of Christian Education

Welcome Back! September will be an action packed month! There will be two very exciting events! First, Sunday September 18th, will be our Open House, to welcome all members, new members, volunteers, and new volunteers to our Sunday School and WOW programs! Please join us at our Welcome Table after both services.

Our Second exciting event will be the start of our new Sunday School year! The classes will be: Pre-K and Kindergarten, First and Second grades, Third and Fourth grades, grades Five- Eight and grades Nine - Twelve. Please join us!

September's theme is God's created nature; forest, land, wilderness outback and rivers. The emphasis is the community of all creation, sacred land, scarred land, to listen to and in the wild and to flow in the life giving river of the spirit, and to bear witness of creation renewed!

