



THE NEW DOVER HERALD

May 2023

Vol. 200 (Special Volume)

A Ministry Newsletter of New Dover United Methodist Church

Chuck's Church Chat



Saints,

Grace to you and peace...

Still coming down from the spiritual high of Holy Week, I'm thinking of all the hard work so many in the church put into making our Palm Sunday to Easter journey so meaningful and inspiring to everyone who attended the events as well as those who tuned in online. It was, without a doubt, the most resurrected our church has felt since before the pandemic! As I write this it's the Tuesday following Easter, and like many of you, I'm feeling the need for a sabbath rest. But given what we have coming up, that feeling will be a fleeting one!

First of all we will be hosting our first big **175th Anniversary Event** on Sunday, May 7th with a worship service celebrating New Dover's long history of ministry in and around Edison. Following worship, we will gather in Fellowship Hall for a **Potluck Luncheon**, and we're asking everyone to bring in cuisine representative of your family's heritage. Being part German and coming from South Jersey, I'm probably bringing scrapple (*yum, yum!*). We've invited a number of local dignitaries to celebrate with us and there will be a PowerPoint slideshow featuring many of the photographs you have been submitting to the 175th Task Force.

Next on May 14th comes our annual **Mother's Day Service of Worship**, always a congregational favorite! I don't know about your family, but my Mom was always so proud on Mother's Day to have the whole family around her as she worshipped in our hometown Quinton Methodist Church. Why not have your entire family at New Dover this year to either worship beside or honor the memory of your beloved and loving Mom?

Now, are you ready for this? On Saturday, May 20th, after a four-year hiatus, **Rise Against Hunger** is back! If you were in one of the assembly lines at the last one we put on you'll recall the energy, the enthusiasm, and the overall joy of accomplishment as we put together and shipped 26,500 meals to our global neighbors in food crisis. This year we're upping the ante and raising that number to **30,000!** So many of you have already signed up, but if you haven't, please do so ASAP or spaces are going to run out (if they haven't already!).

Finally, the day after Rise Against Hunger, Lay Delegate Brian Richards, Pastor Rosie, and I will be heading to Wildwood for the first live Great New Jersey Annual Conference in four years. We're very excited to be heading back, even more so because we will be hosting a focus event presenting Bread Breakers to the Conference! We are so excited to be sharing what we've been able to accomplish with other churches throughout great New Jersey, and spreading the Bread Breaker concept near and far!

Like I said, sabbaths around here are usually short-lived. Looks like May will be yet another memorable month in our church's 175 year history! Why not play a part?!

Peace,

Rev Chuck



CELEBRATING

175
YEARS

NEW DOVER UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

YOU'RE INVITED TO A
CELEBRATION!

SUNDAY MAY 7

WORSHIP AT 10:15

MULTI-CULTURAL LUNCHEON AT 11:30

687 NEW DOVER ROAD
EDISON, NJ

KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS



Manny & Nora De La Paz
Debbie Ladym
Shirley & Lamont Shaffer
Beverly Vollmar
Victor Vilela
Peggy Silva
Evelyn MacKenzie
June Ebbets
Service men & women

Veterans
Homeless, unemployed
& uninsured
All affected by Covid-19 and
their families
The People of Ukraine
Victims & their Families of
the recent mass shootings
All Elderly of NDUMC

Pray for all those affected by Natural Disasters, those suffering with addictions, those suffering from depression, Victims of terrorism & violence, all national leaders, and all those serving at New Dover UMC.

All doctors, nurses, EMT, teachers, grocery store workers, janitors, and all other frontline workers. Thank you and God Bless.

If you wish to add anyone to the 2023 permanent prayer list, please contact Karen Rowland at krowland648@yahoo.com

FROM YOUR PRAYER FELLOWSHIP

In This Issue:

- Chuck's Church Chat
- Keep Us in Your Prayers
- Sermon of the Month
- 175th Anniversary News
- Dates to Remember
- Membership Corner
- Mildred Vollmar Scholarship
- Handbell Choir
- May Birthdays & Anniversaries

PRAYER IS TO BE ACTIVE,
NOT PASSIVE. BOLD, NOT WEAK.
CONSTANT, NOT CASUAL.
IT REQUIRES ALERTNESS.

-Pastor Chuck Swindoll

Come join us for prayer fellowship - every Wed. 10 AM

SERMON OF THE MONTH

“I’m Telling You for the Third Time!”

(Preached on Sunday, March 26, 2023)

Mark 10:32-34

They were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, 33saying, ‘See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; 34they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again.’

“How many times do you have to be told?” How many of you have or had parents who used *THAT* line? How many of you *ARE* parents who have used that line? By the way, mine did...plenty!

“Chuck, how many times do you have to be told, hang up the phone and clean up your room!...Chuck, how many times do you have to be told, get off your bike, put down that fishing pole and mow the front lawn!...Chuck, how many times do you have to be told, turn off the TV and get your homework done? Now!”

So, how many times did I have to be told to do something? Easy to figure out because Mom and Dad would give me the running count. *“Chuck, for the second time, clean your room! Chuck, I’m telling you for the third time, that room better be clean before you leave the house, and I’m not going to tell you again!”* Yeah, when Mom or Dad got to that *“telling you for the third time,”* it was time to get serious!

Now Jesus, in the scripture passage from Mark didn’t use the *“I’m telling you for the third time”* line exactly, but who would blame him if he did?! It was, after all, literally the third time he had told his disciples what to expect when they get to Jerusalem, and what lay ahead was a lot more serious than cleaning their room, mowing their lawn, or doing their homework.

Up until now, they had it relatively easy, chiefly because they had spent the past three years in a region known as the Galilee. Translated “Circle of Gentiles,” it was the region that Jesus and the vast majority of his followers called home, and where his messianic journey had begun three years before. The Galilee was in northern Palestine, far from the political and religious power concentrated in Jerusalem.

But Jesus had recently told his disciples that they would be leaving the relative safety and security of the Galilee behind, and turning south. And now he was telling them for the third time to expect the very worst once they entered that Holy City. Once again, Jesus didn’t pull any punches. He told them that he would be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and that they will condemn him to death. They will hand him over to the governmental authorities, the Romans, and they will mock him, spit upon him, and flog him, and they will execute him.

And then, almost sounding like an afterthought, he utters a cryptic little phrase that they obviously had no clue as to its meaning: that *“after three days he will rise again.”*

This is some serious stuff he’s sharing with those who are closest to him. You’d think they’d get mentally prepared, steel themselves for what they were about to face. But like ornery, stubborn children who don’t pay attention to what their parents tell them, the disciples somehow either misunderstood what Jesus was telling them or chose to ignore it completely, and because of that, when the events of Holy Week occurred precisely the way Jesus predicted, the disciples were at best unprepared, and at worst shocked. How shocked? So shocked they would abandon Jesus, the man they had, up to that point dedicated their lives to. How shocked? So shocked they left him to die forsaken and alone.

Of course we look back on the disciples and tend to judge them pretty harshly, right?

How could they not comprehend how dangerous Jesus arrival in Jerusalem would prove to be?

After all, Jesus told them three times, **THREE TIMES**; he held nothing back. Why didn't they believe him when he said he would be captured, tortured, abused, and crucified like a common criminal?

Why didn't they believe him when he warned them that discipleship, by its very nature, is a hard, dangerous road to walk, with the potential for conflict and peril around every corner?

Why didn't they believe him when he said that any of them who chose to follow him will be asked to shoulder their own cross, that terrifying Roman killing apparatus, and be willing to sacrifice their lives if necessary for the Kingdom of God? He was pretty clear about all that, wasn't he? How could they not realize what was expected of them?

Well...do we? Do **WE**? Because doesn't this one **WE** also call "Messiah" asks the same of **US**? And isn't the warning he gave his followers 2,000 years ago the very same warning he whispers in **OUR EARS** in 2023, just as we prepare to wave our own palms as he enters **OUR** city? Hasn't he warn **US** that the road of true discipleship is a hard one? Hasn't he taught **US** that if **WE** obey his command to go forth into a reeling and hurting world and regard all people with dignity, and serve all people with compassion, and lift up the oppressed, and get food to the hungry, and lead the fight for justice for all, Hasn't he told **US** that following in his footsteps will get us criticized, roughed up, scorned and hated by many? Hasn't he told **US** that it can even get us killed?

Saints, three times on Mark's Gospel he tells us this. But are we really listening? Three times on Mark's Gospel he tells us this. But do we get how serious this is? Three times on Mark's Gospel he tells us this. But will we follow him to the cross? Or, will we, like the disciples before us, leave him forsaken and abandoned? Saints, three times on Mark's Gospel he tells us this. But are we listening? Have we ever? Is that not the question we should be asking ourselves as, with the disciples and followers in our wake, we head south, leave the Galilee behind and decide whether or not to enter Jerusalem?

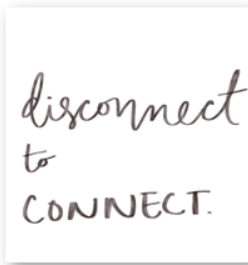
Halford Luccock, a prominent scholar, author, professor at Yale Divinity School, and Methodist minister, calls it "*the Jerusalem threshold*." In his exposition on the Gospel of Mark he writes that

"...to Jesus, going to Jerusalem meant the ultimate witness to his truth, the ultimate demonstration of his love, the laying down of his life...No wonder the twelve were gripped with amazement and fear at such an issue...It is the ultimate issue from which so many of us shrink...Going to Jerusalem, in the sense that Jesus faced it, means going from the place of comparative safety to the place of danger, from the place of comparatively little cost to the place of tremendous cost."

To paraphrase Luccock, many of us never cross that frontier. We stay in quiet Galilee. We tour the safe pleasant place, avoiding the land of bondage, that great area of social injustice where the people whom God loves and for whom Christ died are under the yoke of oppression. We look at one another and say, 'Let us **not** go up to Jerusalem, but stop somewhere this side of it. There is no use going to extremes.

Saints, the border between Galilee and Jerusalem is the most important borderline in any life, because tests the reality of our commitment. When we cross it we go from comfort into pain, from ease into jeopardy, just as Jesus did. But if we do not cross it, we leave the one road which leads to fullness of life, and to power.

Saints, this morning Jesus has told us **for the third time** what lies ahead if we dare cross the threshold from Galilee into Jerusalem. How many times do **WE** have be told before we believe it?



A Look into New Dover's Disconnect to Connect (D2C), Creative Space for Peace & Mental and Emotional Health, An Intergenerational Ministry **PART 2**



Crocheting Reduces Stress

Studies have shown that sewing, [crocheting and knitting can reduce your levels of cortisol](#), the stress hormone, and increase the levels of dopamine

and serotonin, the happiness hormones. By reducing stress, your body will relax, your heart rate will decrease, and you'll feel better.

Since you don't need much stuff, you can crochet anywhere.

Betsan Corkhill, a British therapist, has conducted research on the effects of knitting and crochet. A survey of over

3,000 knitters showed that knitting made them happier. Many even stated that the activity helps them relax, reduce stress, and improve creativity.

This same study showed a relationship with how often you knit and how happy you were. Those who knitted or crocheted three times a week were calmer, happier, less anxious, and more self-confident. Corkhill concluded that knitting provides significant psychological and social benefits.

Focusing on knitting allows you to enter into a meditative state because you need to count the stitches. Crochet allows you to take care of your mental health.

"Knitting has significant psychological and social benefits, which can contribute to wellbeing and quality of life."

Quilting is Good for a Healthy Brain

In addition to reducing stress, **crochet and other creative activities allow you to keep your brain healthy.** Completing a [crochet project](#) can improve your cerebral abilities.

- You can overcome mental challenges.
- You can improve your hand-eye coordination and spatial awareness.
- You'll constantly learn new skills and can pass these onto others.
- You'll improve your concentration.
- You'll become more patient and persistent.

You just need to follow a crochet pattern and you'll improve your memory and mental arithmetic skills. Even Albert Einstein was known to have crocheted between projects to clear his mind!

Crochet Can Improve Your Dexterity

While crochet, knitting, and sewing are usually thought of as grannies' hobbies, **they're great for improving your dexterity.** Crochet can reduce the risk of arthritis in the young and improve fine motor skills. These precise movements require a mastery of your hands. Additionally, you'll get increasingly better your hands. Crochet can develop our sense of touch too.



skills.
with

Improving Your Self-Confidence with Quilt

Crochet brings you a sense of accomplishment and pride. By overcoming certain difficulties, **you'll improve your problem-solving skills and self-confidence.**

NEEDleworks is Social

Crochet is coming back everywhere around the globe! You might not know it because your're too preoccupied. All the more reasons why you should **SAVE THE DATE** for our Disconnect 2 Connect, NEEDleworks Saturdays from 2-4pm.

You can be a complete beginner and not have a single needle at home. We can get you started.

Having a shared passion is a way to create an instant bond with people. Especially here at New Dover, we've got a handful bunch of really awesome artists who are patient and attentive you can connect with. Don't you think now is the perfect time to start taking care of yourself? Come out and join us.

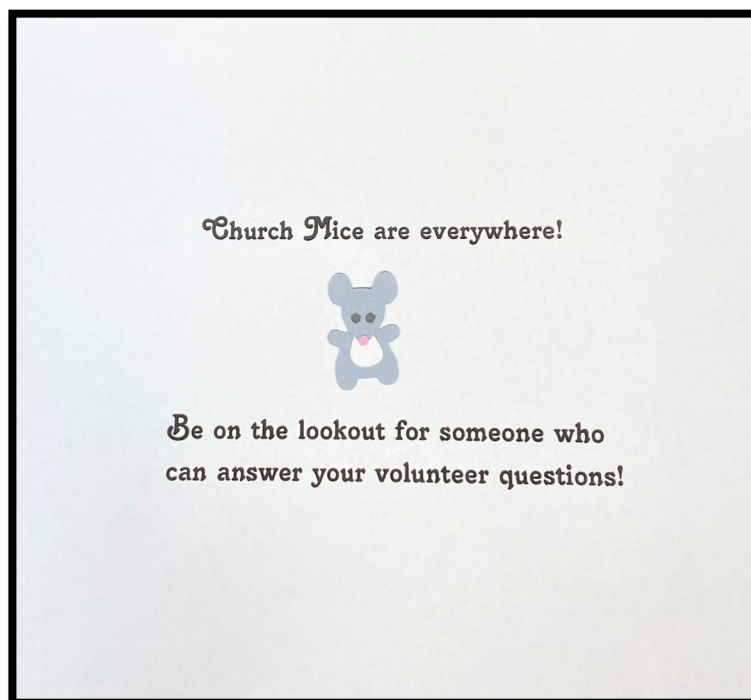


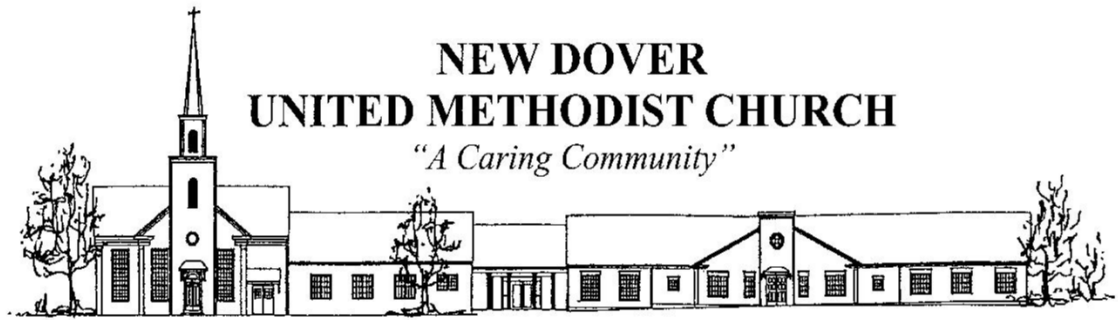
Here's a schedule for the next half of 2023 (Subject to change without notice).

2023 Meeting Dates	NEEDleworks (Crochet & Quilt)	Fun & Games
D2C runs from 2-4PM on the meeting dates.	May 6 th only	#7 May 20 th
	June 3 rd and 10 th	#8 Special June (Strawberry Festival) Saturday-Sunday, June 11 th
	July 1 st and 8 th	#9 July 22 nd
	August 5 th and 12 th	#10 August 19 th

Contact Rosie Pang or Stephanie Rademacher at 732-423-6171.

(Source: Mabel Amber)





NEW DOVER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"A Caring Community"

Dear Saints,

As you know, New Dover UMC is celebrating it's 175th Anniversary this year. The committee is working diligently to make it a memorable year. We are also trying to capture as much history as we can for our archives.

You can go online using the QR code to complete the questionnaire or you can obtain a copy of it at the church. Some of this may be used in a video montage, all of it will be archived.

Submissions must be in by May 31, 2023 to be included in the montage.

If you would like to submit photos and videos (related to New Dover), please send the file to: **RLManglapus@gmail.com** using **WeTransfer.com**

(Photos and videos may be used as part of a video montage celebrating New Dover's 175th Anniversary.)

You may use this QR code to access our online questionnaire.





New Dover 175th Anniversary - Celebrating the Present



Please join us on May 7th for an International Pot Luck lunch after service. We will be celebrating the diversity of our congregation. Please bring a dish to share that reflects your heritage. We will have a special sheet cake for dessert to help mark our anniversary. We look forward to seeing you there!



Food Packing Event

May 20, 2023

Two shifts AM & PM

Register to participate at the church,
online on the website or Signup Genius

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0949afa623a2ffcf8-rise#/#](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0949afa623a2ffcf8-rise#/)

SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS 2023!



STELLAR VBS
JULY 17 - 21, 2023
9AM - 12PM

Send your kids on an
out-of-this-world adventure at
New Dover United Methodist Church
Vacation Bible School!



JOIN THE VBS TEAM!
SIGN UP
TO BE A VOLUNTEER.

Are you looking for a meaningful way to serve
and make a difference in the lives of children?
Join the VBS team! We are seeking volunteers
to help create an unforgettable experience
for kids as they learn about Jesus' love.
Scan the QR code to sign up!

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

REFLECTIONS ON THE CHRISTIAN LIFE:

SALVATION...

Salvation concerns an eternal, spiritual deliverance. When Paul told the Philippian jailer what he must do to be saved, he was referring to the jailer's eternal destiny ([Acts 16:30-31](#)). Jesus equated being saved with entering the kingdom of God ([Matthew 19:24-25](#)). What are we saved *from*? In the Christian doctrine of salvation, we are saved from "wrath," that is, from God's judgment of sin ([Romans 5:9](#); [1 Thessalonians 5:9](#)). Our sin has separated us from God, and the consequence of sin is death ([Romans 6:23](#)). Biblical salvation refers to our deliverance from the consequence of sin and therefore involves the removal of sin. We are saved from both the power and penalty of sin. Who does the saving? Only God can remove sin and deliver us from sin's penalty ([2 Timothy 1:9](#); [Titus 3:5](#)). How does God save? In the Christian doctrine of salvation, God has rescued us through Jesus Christ ([John 3:17](#)). Specifically, it was Jesus' death on the cross and subsequent resurrection that achieved our salvation ([Romans 5:10](#); [Ephesians 1:7](#)). Scripture is clear that salvation is the gracious, undeserved gift of God ([Ephesians 2:5, 8](#)) and is only available through faith in Jesus Christ ([Acts 4:12](#)). How do we receive salvation? We are saved by *faith*. First, we must *hear* the gospel—the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection ([Ephesians 1:13](#)). Then, we must *believe*—fully trust the Lord Jesus ([Romans 1:16](#)). This involves repentance, a changing of mind about sin and Christ ([Acts 3:19](#)), and calling on the name of the Lord ([Romans 10:9-10, 13](#)). A definition of the Christian doctrine of salvation would be "the deliverance, by the grace of God, from eternal punishment for sin that is granted to those who accept by faith God's conditions of repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus." Salvation is available in Jesus alone ([John 14:6](#); [Acts 4:12](#)) and is dependent on God alone for provision and assurance. Faith in Jesus Christ as the Savior is the only "step" to salvation. The message of the Bible is abundantly clear. We have all sinned against God ([Romans 3:23](#)). Because of our sin, we deserve to be eternally separated from God ([Romans 6:23](#)). Because of His love for us ([John 3:16](#)), God took on human form and died in our place, taking the punishment that we deserve ([Romans 5:8](#); [2 Corinthians 5:21](#)). God promises forgiveness of sins and eternal life in heaven to all who receive, by grace through faith, Jesus Christ as Savior ([John 1:12](#); [3:16](#); [5:24](#); [Acts 16:31](#)).

Salvation is not about certain steps we must follow to earn it. Yes, Christians should be baptized. Yes, Christians should publicly confess Christ as Savior. Yes, Christians should turn from sin. Yes, Christians should commit their lives to obeying God. However, these are not steps to salvation. They are results of salvation. Because of our sin, we cannot in any sense earn salvation. We could follow 1000 steps, and it would not be enough. That is why Jesus had to die in our place. We are absolutely incapable of paying our sin debt to God or cleansing ourselves from sin. Only God could accomplish our salvation, and so He did. God Himself completed the "steps" and thereby offers salvation to anyone who will receive it from Him. Salvation and forgiveness of sins is not about following steps. It is about receiving Christ as Savior and recognizing that He has done all of the work for us. God requires one step of us—receiving Jesus Christ as our Savior from sin and fully trusting in Him alone as the way of salvation. That is what distinguishes the Christian faith from all other world religions, each of which has a list of steps that must be followed in order for salvation to be received. The Christian faith recognizes that God has already completed the steps and simply calls on the repentant to receive Him in faith.

From gotquestions.org

(in *June: transformation*)

THE MILDRED VOLLMAR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION IS AVAILABLE. ANY 2023 GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR WHO ATTENDS NEW DOVER AND WHO INTENDS TO PURSUE THEIR POST-HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION IS QUALIFIED TO APPLY. APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE DOOR OF THE MAIN OFFICE. DEADLINE FOR THE APPLICATION IS MAY 1ST, 2023. PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE (732-381-9478) WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS.



Trinity Sunday Special Worship Planned

The 4th All-Bells-Ring will be happening this year at New Dover UMC on June 4th-Trinity Sunday. The Wesley Ringers from Bound Brook UMC, the Jubilee Ringers from Scotch Plains UMC, the Silver Bells, the Golden Ringers and the Jubilate Handbell Choir from New Dover will be ringing their music during the morning worship. New Dover UMC is celebrating the 175th year of our church and the 40th year of Handbell Music Ministry. Please spread the word to family and friends to join us for this festive occasion.



May Birthdays

- 1 Arul Reddy Duggimpudi
Evan Gumbs
- 4 Anthony Harland
- 6 Desdimona Christian
- 13 Joseph Bonner
- 14 Thomas Reddy Duggimpudi
- 15 Jake Engel
- 19 Aaron Christie
- 20 Mary Jane Manglapus
- 22 Rajiv Dialle
- 23 Herold David
Christopher Greve
Shirley Shaffer
Fran Livecchia
Sharonda Meade
- 25 Kalindu De Alwis
- 28 Sanjay Christie
Jonathan Lettieri
- 29 Melissa Owsiany
- 30 Luke Colon
Jeffrey Rowland

May Anniversaries

- 7 Mukesh & Sangita Christian
- 12 Tim & Elaine Lindner
- 17 Jeffrey & Karen Rowland
- 24 Tony & Cindy Bonito
Elton & Michele Nyema
- 27 Dave & Lisa Chesney



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**NEW DOVER
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

"A Caring Community"

