

NEW DOVER HERALD

June 2018

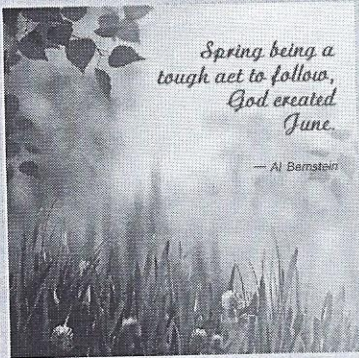
Holiness unto the Lord

Vol. 146

Highlights

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CHUCK'S CHURCH CHAT

Saints,

Grace to you and peace.

Spring awakening is in full bloom...*finally!*

I don't know if there was ever a year when I more deeply appreciated the sound of songbirds, the opening of flowers, or the greening of the foliage. Heck, given the clinging of gray winter through March into April I actually found myself singing praise to the pollen as I washed it from my windshield!

Walking Marconi and Mikey through Oak Ridge Park every morning has become an adventure in new discoveries, from red tail hawks perched on pine trees, to the red fox stalking the tree line, to thousands of earth worms trying to make that trek across the sidewalk before the rising sun deprives them of their moisture and they end up brown and crispy, frozen in time like the racked human molds of Pompeii.

As some of you know, one of my favorite writers is Annie Dillard. In her Pulitzer Prize winning Pilgrim at Tinker Creek she wrote,

"After the one extravagant gesture of creation in the first place, the universe has continued to deal exclusively in extravagances, flinging intricacies and colossi down aeons of emptiness, heaping profusions on profligacies with ever-fresh vigor. The whole show has been on fire from the word go. I come down to the water to cool my eyes. But everywhere I look I see fire; that which isn't flint is tinder, and the whole world sparks and flames."

What a gift to perceive Creation in all its extravagance, but it's a gift available to each and every pilgrim who dares open her or his heart to the fire! While much of nature's wonder is absorbed through sight, an equal amount arrives via our hearing, smell, taste, and touch. God wasn't fooling around putting us together out of earth's elements. In the words of the astronomer Carl Sagan (of Rahway) we are made of "star stuff," and it is our intimate connection to the universe that brings with it a responsibility to care for the earth and its environment, a command so clearly spelled out in the first chapters of Genesis.

Saints, our years, the number of our spring awakenings, are limited by our mortality so my advice is to not waste one of them! Again the words of Annie Dillard:

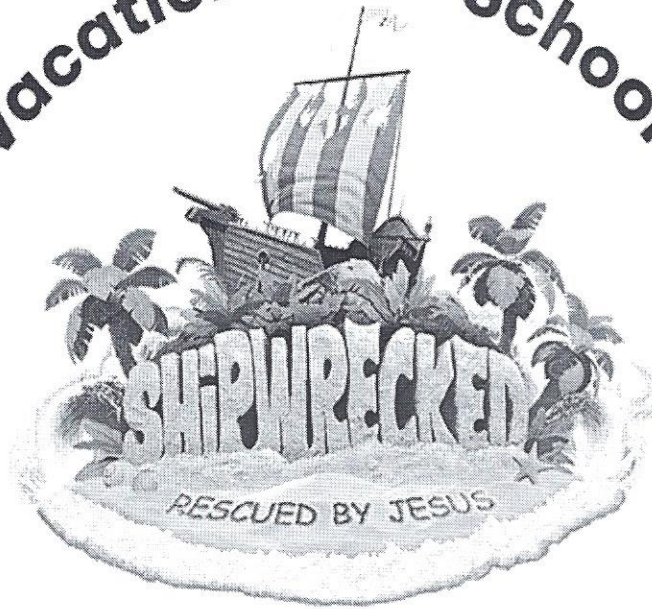
"At a certain point, you say to the woods, to the sea, to the mountains, the world, Now I am ready. Now I will stop and be wholly attentive. You empty yourself and wait, listening."

Each day is that "certain point." And so praise God! Praise Creation! Praise Sabbath!

Peace,

Chuck

Vacation Bible School



Shipwrecked
Rescued by Jesus

July 16th - 20th
9am - 12pm

Children are invited to join us for a fun-filled, faith-building week at New Dover UMC where they venture onto an uncharted island where kids survive and thrive and are anchored in the truth that **Jesus carries them through life's storms.**

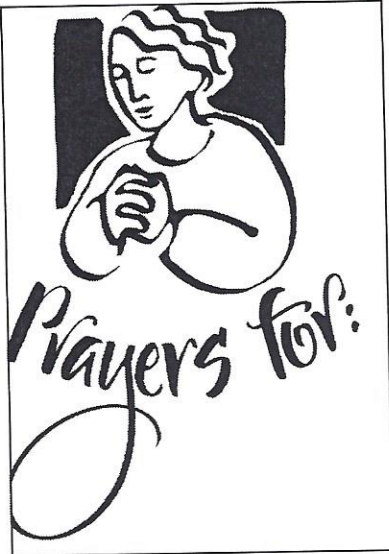
Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play games, experience one-of-a-kind Bible adventures, and collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of Jesus' love.

Registration forms can be found
outside the church's office and online at
www.newdoverumc.org/vbs

Send your kids on an imaginative, impacting adventure!

Register now!

KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS



Bob Meckler & Family
Manny DeLaPaz & Family
Spencer Kolb
Christine Rowland
Eric Myers
Nayan Vyas & Family
Robert Rozmus
Christine & Judy Tymitz
America

Christians of India
Marion Jones
LuLu Kamenas
Doug Sargent
Carol Mota
NDUMC Missionaries
Family of Wally Curtis
Preston Family
Boyce Family

Jeff & Karen Rowland
Protection of the Unborn
Our Schools
Robyn & Carolyn DeCicco

Pray for all those seeking employment, those affected by Natural Disasters, those suffering with addictions, those suffering from depression, those affected by acts of terrorism, all national leaders and troops, and all those serving at New Dover UMC.

Any names that may have been left off are not intentional. We trust in God to know all our needs.

To activate the prayer chain contact Nancy Preston @ 732-381-1205
or Anita Davis @ 732-815-0597

NEW DOVER YARD SALE

Thanks to everyone who expressed interest in the NDUMC yard sale. Unfortunately there was not enough interest to go ahead with the project, so we are postponing the event until a later time. If you are still interested in donating items, please contact the flea market crew.



SAVE THE DATES

June 9	Pedals for Progress
June 10	Strawberry Festival
June 17	Annual UWM Father's Day Bake Sale
June 24	9:30 Summer Worship Begins
July 16-20	Vacation Bible School



SERMON OF THE MONTH

*The following was delivered at the JCC of Middlesex County on
Wednesday, April 11, 2018 for the Yom Hashoah Holocaust Remembrance Service*

“Never Again?”

Their voices cry out “Never again!”

Can you hear them?

Their voices cry out “Never again!”

And we answer, “Of course not...how could we?”

Listen. The voices whisper, “Remember... remember how it all started...”

A ultra-nationalist minority led by a political ideologue, leading marches under torchlight, shouting his vision of a homogeneous society led by a master race and stoking the fear-driven flames of racism and xenophobia.

The voices cry out “Never again!”

And we answer, “Of course not...how could we?”

And then we see them splashed across our TV screen- the young men in white polos and kakis hoisting Tiki torches, marching down our streets, chanting racist slogans, some wearing swastikas, some shouldering semi-automatic rifles, waving anti-Muslim and anti-Semitic banners.”

Listen. The voices whisper, “Remember... remember

...how against all expectations those fanatics of the 1920s grew in number capturing political power, running roughshod over the rule of law and scapegoating an entire people, to the point where neighbor turned on and turned in their neighbor.

The voices cry out “Never again!”

And we answer, “Of course not...how could we?”

And then we see the headlines: That hate crimes in general have risen to six year highs. That anti-Semitic incidents in the US alone rose 60 percent in 2017, the largest single-year increase on record.

Listen. The voices whisper, “Remember...remember...”

... the attacks on our houses of worship including two dozen synagogues burned to the ground during Kristallnacht alone.

The voices cry out “Never again!”

And we answer, “Of course not! How could we?”

And then we see not only synagogues, but mosques and churches in our country desecrated and vandalized and church members in Charleston, South Carolina gunned down by a young white supremacist they invited in to Bible study.

Listen. Their voices whisper, “Remember...remember...”

...four score years ago, before the war even began, we fled our homeland to seek refuge in other nations merely so we could raise our families in safety and security, and how thousands upon thousands of us were turned away.

The voices cry out “Never again!”

And we answer, “Of course not...how could we?!”

And then we see the photographs- refugee camps throughout Europe, rimmed with barb wire, the lifeless bodies of Syrian children washed upon the shores of the Mediterranean; the bones of emigrants bleached and broken on the floor of the southwestern desert of the United States.

Listen. The voices whisper, "Remember, remember..."

...the martyred Lutheran pastor, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, executed at Flossenburg concentration camp, in the midst of those he sought to save, just days before the war ended, who warned, **"Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act."**

His voice cries out "Never again!"

And we answer, "Of course not!"

And then we read how 44.4 percent of eligible Americans didn't vote in the last presidential election. Had apathy been a candidate it would have won the presidency in a landslide.

Listen, everyone. The voices plead, "Remember, remember!"

They plead, because they know, we cannot afford to forget.

Because it's true- "Those who don't remember history are doomed to repeat it."

The voices plead, "Remember! Remember!"

Because there are those who, for the same ideological reasons that led to the Holocaust, shout "Never again to *what*? Who deny that it ever happened, and spread such lying propaganda over the Internet to be read by our children and grandchildren.

Listen everyone. The voices plead, "Remember, remember..."

Because **"Those who deny history are itching to repeat it."**

We close with a plea from another young man who gave his life to elevate the oppressed and embrace the marginalized. Last week we celebrated his life on the 50th anniversary of his martyrdom. The words of Martin Luther King:

"We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history, there is such a thing as being too late. This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is a time for vigorous and positive action."

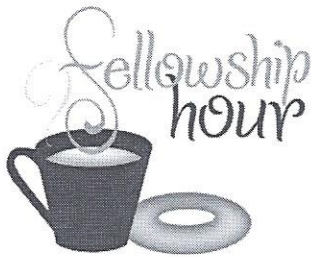


COFFEE HOUR

I would, once again, like to thank the many people who assist with the coffee hour each Sunday. They include the United Methodist Women (first Sunday of the month); Youth Group (second Sunday of the month); the Kingsly Family and the Trustees who alternate on the third Sunday; and the Girl Scouts (Troop 81045) on the fourth Sunday. Where there is a fifth Sunday, I usually ask Mark Sojak, Mike Baidowsky or other members of the congregation for assistance.

I must especially thank Jen and Corbiey Ouellette, who have been doing the coffee hour form many years on behalf of the Youth Group. They will be giving up this task after the June commitment.

Of course, this opens up the second Sunday each month wherein I will need new volunteers. Perhaps two other groups from our church would be willing to do the coffee hour on an every other month basis or possibly someone from the congregation. If anyone is interested, please contact me at 732-287-2231 or see me in church.



In His Service,

Connie Thomas

SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS

The Social Justice Task Force continues to grow in numbers and enthusiasm! Because we live in a world with an overabundance of challenges when it comes to injustice, at the last meeting it was decided we will focus on a different issue each month of the church year starting in September. Among those we will present to the church are Christian persecution in India, prison reform, and childhood poverty. In addition we are planning a major community-wide event to address hunger to take place in March. In the meantime we will use the summer months to meet and plan our agenda. If you are interested in becoming a part of this vital, Gospel-based ministry please email our chair, Erin Markan (eemarkan@gmail.com). The committee is on Facebook under NDUMC Social Justice Committee.

Remember "No justice, no peace! Know justice, know peace!"

OUTREACH

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Do you have an old bike or sewing machine
that you aren't using?

New Dover UMC can help take it off your
hands!!!

Our Annual Pedals for Progress Drive is right
around the corner!

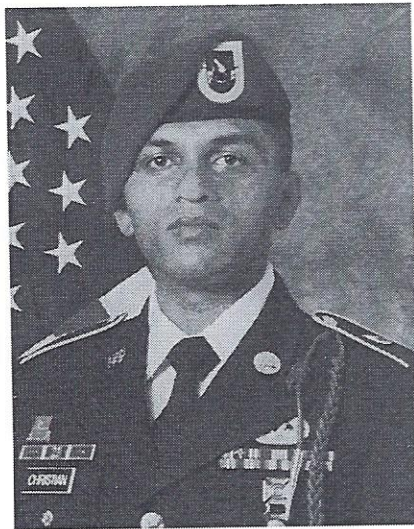
Saturday June 9 - 9:00am to 12noon
New Dover UMC
687 New Dover Road
Edison, NJ

For more information call:
Church Office @ (732)381-9478
Paulette Harland @ (732)259-0852



ATTENTION UPCOMING GRADUTES!

If you or a church member you know is grad-
uating from high school or college, please
email Janice Wilson at
janice7827@yahoo.com or let her know in
person. We want to make sure we recognize
you at our Sunday School closing ceremony
in June!



With great pride, Robin and Desdimona Christian announce their son, Calvin, has been awarded the 2017 CSM Doug Russell Award for Excellence in Military Intelligence. The award will be presented on June 29th at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. See insert for detail announcement from the Department of Army.

This is a brief history of the award: In 1943, Russell entered the U.S. Army and began a lifelong career of military service. He served in the Armed Forces during World War II, the Korean Conflict, as well as two tours of duty in Vietnam. In 1975, after 32 years of service, Russell retired from the Army with the rank of command sergeant major. During his distinguished military career, he was awarded the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, and numerous other commendations. He then moved to

Washington, D.C. where he became the director of Enlisted Services for the Association of the United States Army, a position he held from 1979 to 1993. From 1995 until his death in 2009, he held the position of president of The American Military Society. In 1999, the annual CSM Doug Russell Award was created to recognize the outstanding achievements of Soldiers within or on behalf of the Military Intelligence community.

We, at New Dover United Methodist Church, thank him for his service and congratulate him on receiving this prestigious award.

Sunday School News

Another Sunday School year has come and gone, and so ends my position as Superintendent. I have had a wonderful five years working with this staff, including all the teachers, Lori Perrine, and Trish in the office, who deals with my constant emails. I have watched the Sunday School grow, while getting to know the children of New Dover and seeing them learn about the wonders and blessings of God and Jesus. I am sure their learning will continue under the guidance of Janet Greve, who will be taking over as Superintendent this summer. Thank you so much for all the support and love you've given me over the past five years, and I will continue to watch the Sunday School grow as a weekly member of the church congregation.

Happy Summer!

Janice Wilson



FLEA MARKET

**Flea Market is open every Tuesday
from 7:30am-1:30pm**

FLEA MARKET ITEMS WANTED: need small appliances and household items, toys, stuffed animals and games. No clothes, jewelry, books and electronics. You can drop-off on Mondays from 12-2pm.

HELP NEEDED: anyone interested in helping out at the Flea Market on Monday (11a-2p) for setup and/or Tuesday (anytime between 6a-3p), please see Jeff Rowland for details.

SIGHT AND SOUND TRIP

As of this writing (May 14th), I am happy to state that we only have two seats left on our trip for October 24th to Sight and Sound. If anyone decides that they might want to attend the trip, please give me your name and I'll put you on a waiting list. There have been many times in the past that people have needed to cancel at the last minute due to illness, etc.

I can be reached at 732-287-2231.

Connie Thomas
Trip Coordinator

UMW NEWS

Our next meeting is scheduled for June 13th at 6:30. This meeting will be our Annual Summer Picnic. Please bring a covered dish to share.

The UMW will hold the Annual Father's Day Bake Sale on Sunday, June 17th. Tables will be set-up in breezeway between services and after the 10am service.

Surprise dad with a delicious homemade treat for Father's Day!



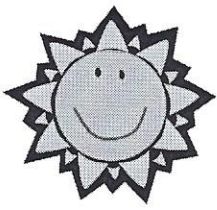
MEMBERSHIP BLOG

The third weekend in April was one of contrast, sunny and hot for the Saturday service and cold with rain on Sunday. Nevertheless, the steadfast were in attendance. On Saturday Kyle S. led the praise band, while Rev. discussed psychographics and social media. Sunday services began with "Morning Has Broken", an old favorite. The Scriptures for the day were Zechariah 8:1-8 and Ephesians 2:1-10. Rev. harkened back to one of his first sermons given here at New Dover. He noted that we can never be complete in the growth of our faith and knowledge of God, and that as His children we need to take His light out of the sanctuary and bring it into the world. Are we accepting His grace without strings, continued to be bound by the world's standards, or are we choosing to receive this FREE gift and in turn offer our lives to Him in gratitude? Let's row out into the thick darkness and take it on with the strength of Christ. At the next weekend's service, Kyle S. and Emma P. provided special music. During the offering, Kyle had the congregation clapping and stepping to "I Hear You Calling Out My Name", a song of his own creation! The Scriptures for the day were Psalm 37:28-32, also John 11:38-44 and 12:9-11. Using the story of Lazarus, Rev. asked us to consider our reaction when threatened by the truth. Do we accept and adapt to it, bend it to fit our views, accept only the parts we can live with, or try to discard it entirely? The Jewish leaders of that time knew they had to destroy the truth before it destroyed their power. The same continues today through "confirmation bias" (looking for truth that conforms to our beliefs rather than looking for it objectively) and "manufactured doubt" (being deceived by controversy and confusion covering the truth). Despite the "Lazarus Plot", we need to continue believing in Jesus' truth and challenge those who try to suppress it. On the final weekend of April, our pastor was away and Corbiey O. took the pulpit. The Scriptures for the day were Proverbs 16:20-30 and Hebrews 12:5-10. Corbiey discussed diligence and vigilance in being and doing good, consulting Scripture regularly and trusting God to train us in His way. Let's continue to focus on Jesus by praying unceasingly, reading the Word and practicing our faith. Our thanks to Corbiey for stepping up in Rev.'s absence.

May services began with Communion on the 6th. The Scriptures for the day were Psalm 32 and 1 John 1:5-9. Our pastor discussed the power of confession; the sinner must be at a place where he realizes and regrets his wrongs and is ready and willing to be reformed and redeemed. Confession is not reactive but proactive; not done because we have been caught, but because we realize we are guilty. Confession leads to change in ourselves and our relationship with God and others; failure to do so means living in a way not intended by God. The next weekend was Mother's Day. Although cool and rainy outside, the sanctuary was filled with the warmth and light of the faithful. As has been their tradition for 30 years, the bell choir was in attendance for the holiday and provided the congregation with several of their pieces. Flowers were distributed to the ladies of the church by our youth. The Scriptures for the day were Exodus 20:12 and Ephesians 6:1-3. Rev. Chuck began by noting that honoring parents was a part of religious piety for the Israelites, the commandment originally meant to caution adult children to watch over their elderly parents. Today we need to be aware of our attitudes and actions toward the oppressed and downtrodden, not only elderly parents and relatives in need, but toward all those being treated unjustly. In this way we honor them AND God.

In other news, many congregants turned out to attend an April 14 service of death and resurrection for Carl Livecchia, a much-loved long time member of New Dover. Both church members and friends recalled that he lived his faith everyday and did whatever he could to help others while he was on this earth. A time of fellowship was provided through a repast for family and friends following the service and interment. We will never forget you Carl-you were a true example of God's light shining in the darkness. At the end of April we lost another long time member of our church; a service of death and resurrection for Wally Curtis was held on May 2 accompanied by military honors, followed by a repast. Thanks Wally for working so hard for your church, especially in the flea market and with your music. We will always remember your solo performances during services and the love you had for your church family.





June 2018

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

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							10:00-11:00 Karate 1:00-4:00 KFC 5:00 Praise Service 6:30-8:00 Telugu Service 7:30 AA & AI Anon
3 8:30 Worship 10:00 Worship & Church School 11:15 Bell Choir Practice 11:15 Choir Practice 11:30-1:00 ADC Bible Study 5-6:30 Telugu Service 6:30 Girl Scouts	4 10:30am Hot Topics	5 7:30-1:30 Flea Market 7:30 Scout Troop 44 (WH)	6 10:00 Prayer Fellowship 6:00 Karate 7:00 Trustees	7 7:00pm Hot Topics 7:30 AA	8	9 9:00-12:00 Pedals for Progress 10:00-11:00 Karate 1:00-4:00 KFC 5:00 Praise Service 6:30-8:00 Telugu Service 7:30 AA & AI Anon	
10 Strawberry Festival 8:30 Worship 10:00 Worship & Church School 11:15 Bell Choir Practice 11:15 Choir Practice 11:30-1:00 ADC Bible Study 5-6:30 Telugu Service 6:30 Girl Scouts	11 Herald Articles Due 10:30am Hot Topics 7:00pm Nurture	12 7:30-1:30 Flea Market 7:00-8:00 Little Friends (WH) 7:30 Scout Troop 44 (WH)	13 10:00 Prayer Fellowship 6:00 Karate 6:30 UMW	14 7:00pm Hot Topics 7:30 AA	15 7-9pm CS #318	16 10:00-11:00 Karate 1:00-4:00 KFC 5:00 Praise Service 6:30-8:00 Telugu Service 7:30 AA & AI Anon	
17 Father's Day/UMW Bake Sale 8:30 Worship 10:00 Worship & Church School 11:15 Bell Choir Practice 11:15 Choir Practice 11:30-1:00 ADC Bible Study 5-6:30 Telugu Service 6:30 Girl Scouts	18 10:00am Herald Team 10:30am Hot Topics 7:30pm BS Troop 44 (6)	19 7:30-1:30 Flea Market 7:30 Scout Troop 44 (WH)	20 10:00 Prayer Fellowship 6:00 Karate 7:00 Worship	21 7:00pm Hot Topics 7:30 AA	22	23 10:00-11:00 Karate 1:00-4:00 KFC 5:00 Praise Service 6:30-8:00 Telugu Service 7:30 AA & AI Anon	
24 9:30 Worship 11:15 Bell Choir Practice 11:30-1:00 ADC Bible Study 5-6:30 Telugu Service 6:30 Girl Scouts	25 7:00pm Ad Council	26 7:30-1:30 Flea Market 7:30 Scout Troop 44 (WH)	27 10:00 Prayer Fellowship 6:00 Karate	28 7:30 AA	29	30 10:00-11:00 Karate 1:00-4:00 KFC 5:00 Praise Service 6:30-8:00 Telugu Service 7:30 AA & AI Anon	