

The Vine

From Pastor Doug

Much has been made recently of the Presidential pardons that were handed down by President Obama when he left office. Some feel there were too many, and others understood why he did what he did. However, Presidential pardons are nothing new. Here are a few of the more well-known pardons: President Obama has not been the only U.S. president to issue pardons. Here are some other famous Presidential pardons:

The Whiskey Rebellion (1795) -- Eager to put down a rebellion by Western Pennsylvanians who refused to pay the Federal excise tax on whiskey, President Washington led an army of 13,000 men to the area and quickly squashed the rebellion. It was the only time an American president has directly commanded an army in the field during his term of office. Two rebel leaders were convicted of treason and sentenced to death by hanging. Eager for reconciliation and no longer worried that the rebellion was a threat to the new nation, Washington pardoned the two men.

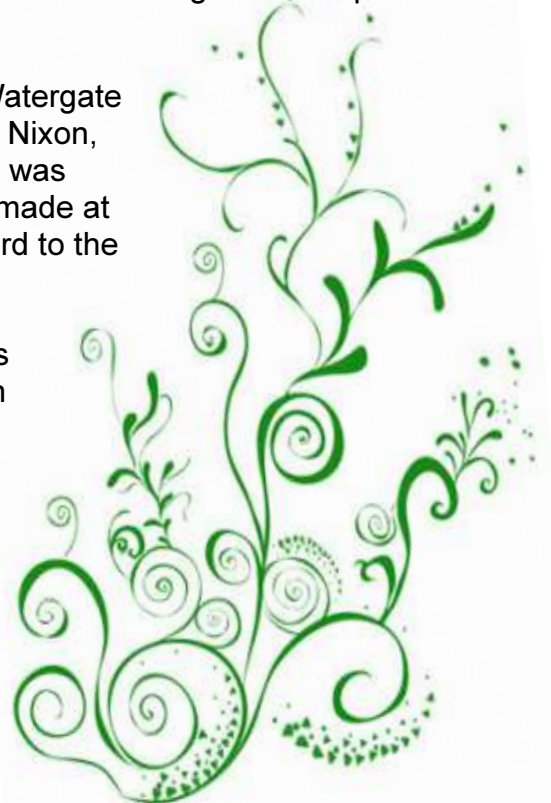
Brigham Young (1858) -- In 1857, the United States went to war with a church: the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (the Mormons). Alarmed by Mormon control over the Utah territory, and scandalized by reports of Mormon polygamy, President James Buchanan sent an army expedition to reassert federal control. There was never a question that the U.S. Army would prevail, but one incident proved an obstacle to peace. In September, 1857, the Mormon militia massacred the members of a non-Mormon wagon train of settlers at a place called Mountain Meadows. Although it is unclear whether Brigham Young -- head of the LDS church -- had personally ordered the massacre, he was widely blamed for it. Buchanan pardoned Young in order to end the conflict peacefully.

Eugene Debs (1921) -- The Socialist labor leader and firebrand Eugene Debs polled over a million votes when he ran for president in 1920, even though he was in jail at the time. Debs had been given a 10-year jail term in 1918 after giving a speech encouraging men to dodge the military draft. In 1921, President Warren G. Harding commuted Debs' sentence, although he stopped short of awarding him a full pardon. In 1976, Congress posthumously restored Debs' full citizenship rights.

Richard Nixon (1974) -- Eager for the nation to move on after the Watergate scandal, President Gerald Ford pardoned his predecessor, Richard Nixon, heading off what could have been a lengthy prosecution. The move was controversial because some suspected it was part of a secret deal made at the time Nixon resigned his office, elevating then-Vice President Ford to the presidency.

Patty Hearst (2001) -- In 1974, newspaper heiress Patty Hearst was kidnapped by a terrorist group known as the Symbionese Liberation Army. In a bizarre psychological twist -- possibly an example of the "Stockholm syndrome" -- Hearst switched sides, took the name "Tania" and joined her captors, eventually participating with them in a bank robbery. Sentenced to seven years, Hearst's sentence was commuted 22 months later by President Jimmy Carter. In 2001, at Carter's urging, President Bill Clinton offered her a full pardon.*

As we approach Holy Week, we have all received a pardon. That is what the story of the cross is all about. All of us deserve to be sentenced to death because of sin, any sin. Romans 6:23 says the



wages of sin is death. Jesus' death on the cross, though, carrying the weight of all our sin, broke the power that sin has over us. God's gift of love has conquered sin, so that we are pardoned. Then he rose again so that the death sentence no longer holds. The second part of Romans 6:23 says that the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. The best part is that we don't have to wait for someone to pronounce it as is has already happened. This Easter Season, let us give thanks to God for our pardon and the gift of eternal life!

*as reported in Homiletics Journal, March/April 2017.



Easter Egg Hunt

(For children 2 years -6th grade)

United Methodist Church of Mantua

McConnell Hall

Saturday, April 15th

11:00 A.M.

Rain or Shine!

Light lunch will be served

(Hot Dog, Chips, Beverage, Fruit)

All children **MUST** be accompanied
by an adult.

Bring your basket, and join the fun!!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!! Have you been looking for an easy way to serve here at Mantua UMC? Our coffee fellowship needs YOU! One of the Sunday School classes that has been providing coffee and snacks is no longer able to help in this manner. We are looking for a group of 6-8 people to host fellowship during the months of January, May, and September. All supplies are provided, you just need to make coffee, put out snacks, and clean up. "Training" will be provided during the month of January. If you are not involved in a Sunday School class, but would be willing and able to help, please let Pastor Doug or Nancy Overton know ASAP!! Thank you in advance for answering the call!

Raising the Bar is the name of our new Open Door Ministry opportunity meeting weekly on Wednesdays at 7:30 PM at the Barnsboro Inn. The purpose is to provide a place outside of church to talk about faith, so we are encouraging you to invite you friends and neighbors who may not feel comfortable in church to join us. Meeting in public places can be far less intimidating. So come out and join us for a cup of coffee or tea and good conversation.

Women's Community Bible Study meets on the 2nd & 4th Tues. September-May at 9:30 am. Please join with us as we study God's Word. All are welcome. Please contact the church office at 468-2711 or call 468-5549 with questions.

A colorful graphic for a community event. At the top, it says "SAVE THE DATE!" in white on a green background. Below that, "9th Annual" is written in white on a blue background. The number "9" is large and red. To the right of the "9" is the text "ROCK the BLOCK!" in blue. Below this, it says "Community Event! Saturday, June 3rd, 3-7pm" and "Hosted by The Mantua United Methodist Church". The background features stylized houses in red, orange, and green, with musical notes floating around them.

The choirs of our church will present their Easter cantata

The Cross Changes Everything
on Palm Sunday, April 9, 2017
at 4:00 in the afternoon.

All are welcome to join us as we prepare for the events of Holy Week and Jesus' resurrection.

The Corinthian Cupboard is in need of the following items:

Boxed & Canned Potatoes



Canned Pasta



Canned Fruit



Spaghetti Sauce



MTV Painless Fundraiser

Buy Shop Rite (\$20) Cards The Church receives 5%
You receive gift cards dollar for dollar. It costs you nothing!

Where does the money go? It pays for some of the equipment needs of MTV. In addition, contributions have been made to UMC Mission Trips and The Waterproofing Fund.

Goal: We have a goal of **\$1,000 per week**. This is easily achievable! We managed to achieve it 2 weeks in 2016! If we only had 50 families that shop at Shop Rite and each family bought one card per week, that would be \$1,000. The church would earn **\$2,600 per year**. **When we meet this goal, MTV would not only be mostly self-supporting, we would also be able to make larger contributions for other church needs.**

Action: LET'S DO IT! Exchange your cash or check for Shop Rite gift cards and go food shopping for your family or donate cards to The Corinthian Cupboard or Family Promise! It costs nothing but reaps great rewards!

Keep up the Good Work!

2015 Yearly Average
\$425 per week

2016 1st Quarter
\$552 per week

2016 2nd Quarter
\$521 per week

2016 3rd Quarter
\$338 per week

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!
Bruce Reyher, MTV Treasurer

Wawa Hoagie Coupons! The JUG Class is selling Wawa Hoagie Coupons. They make great small gifts! Your purchase helps support JUG projects and is sincerely appreciated.

Krispy Kreme Donut Sale-Members of this summer's mission team going to Steubenville, OH, will be selling Krispy Kreme Donuts for the month of April, beginning April 2 and ending on the 30th. The donuts will be delivered on Sunday, May 7th. See a mission team member to order yours!

High Elevations The acolytes will be going to High Elevations on April 23 from 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM. The cost will be \$13.00 which includes socks. Families and Friends welcome.



The Coffee House

at Mantua UMC Welcomes

EONS

Followers of Christ committed and dedicated to spreading the word through praise and worship

Friday, April 21st,
7:30pm
Free Admission
Free Coffee, Tea,
Baked Goods!

"We are the worship team that leads the 11 am Praise Service here at the United Methodist Church of Mantua. We are a group of individuals that are all on separate walks, yet we come together as a group, with the common goal of sharing our love of Christ. Our prayer is that anyone who listens has an open heart and the Spirit just fills them."



Mantua United Methodist Church
201 Mantua Blvd. Mantua, NJ 08051
856-468-2711.

Check out www.mantuaumc.org for more info or email mamakreh@gmail.com

Donations of Baked Goods Gratefully Accepted. Call Maria if you can help.

UMYF SCHEDULE & EVENTS

April 2	7 pm	Meeting at the Church
April 9	4 pm	Easter Cantata The Cross Changes Everything—no meeting
April 23	7 pm	Meeting at the Church
April 28-30		Spotlitter's Concession Stand Fund Raiser
April 30	7 pm	Meeting at the Church

The J.U.G. Class will have two collections this year to benefit the MILITARY SUPPORT GROUP OF NJ. These will take place during the months of May and November. A list of items needed is available. However, if you would like to donate items for them at any other time, collections bins will be available in the J.U.G. Classroom. Thank you for supporting this project.



Vacation Bible School 2017 Hero Central

Are you ready to start your summer with an amazing week at Hero Central!

We hope you can join us for a week of fun and learning with family and friends at The United Methodist Church of Mantua VBS 2017. Vacation Bible School will be held Mon. June 26th - Fri. June 30th from 6pm 8:30pm. We will begin with dinner every night, then music, missions, classes for all ages, games, crafts, snacks and prayer.

For more information or if you would like to help, please see or e-mail

Jenise Fraser at vbsumcofmantua@gmail.com. Thanks. Don't forget to Like Us on Facebook @ VBS UMC of Mantua



- 1 Lisa Thren
- 2 Sean Gorman
Justin Kruithof
Craig Rudisill
- 4 Joe Gelormini
Lorraine Litle
Debbie Sullivan
- 6 Carter Ingram
George Shute III
- 7 David Heiss
Savanna Schaekel
Christopher Skalit
- 8 Joshua Yannerella

- 10 John Fuchs
Wayne Histan
Emily Langer
Shelby Smith
Joel Szychoski
- 11 Ashlee Sullivan
Stephen Tumminia
- 12 Walt Seibel
Cecilia Wyckoff
- 14 Kitty Gardner
- 17 Leah Carelli
- 18 Howard Aaronson
Evan Godsey
Isla Heiss
Tyler Kreh
- 19 Benjamin Joseph
- 20 Ryan Drucker
Jenn Kraft

- 21 Karl Dickel
Sadie Drucker
- 22 Elizabeth Bobzin
Michael Gorman
Elise Jennings
- 23 Beverly Covert
Jim McManamy
Walter Rouh
- 24 Brynn Cusano
- 26 Dan Gooch
Nick Kreh
- 28 Jacob Shutman
- 29 Tricia Eckert
- 30 Jim Kruithof



Happy Birthday!

Happy Anniversary



- 2 Ed & Marcie Daniels
- 12 Paul & Lori Brooks
- 19 Heather & Joe Vincent
- 24 John & Corrine Brickner
- 26 Neil & Heather Riggs

