



## *The Vine*

***“Come, follow me.” (Mark 1:17)***

Knowingly or not, all of us follow someone. We can do so with great intention and care, or we can do so haphazardly, stumbling from here to there but nevertheless moving in a general direction. We identify those persons whom we most desire to emulate, and we make our decisions accordingly. We all have some general conception of what the good life looks like, either through exposure to a model, or by piecing together a patchwork ideal all our own. It remains with us to discern whether or not our focus is on Jesus as our model, or on something or someone altogether different.

As we begin this journey toward discipleship, our first stop is Jesus Christ. We must consider his invitation, his life, his path, his truth. We must ask whether or not Jesus is truly worthy of our devotion, our dedication, our wholehearted discipleship.

God has supplied us with the grace necessary to bring us to a place where we can consider what a life committed to Christ entails. Trust him, whether for the first time, or yet again. Turn your life over to him, and see what good and beautiful things he might bring.

Having done that, over the weeks of October and the first two of November, you will be invited to take the next steps in being a disciple of Jesus. We will be looking at prayer, Bible reading, worship, witness, giving, and serving as means of increasing our discipleship. I would invite you to be present for all of these weeks as much as possible. If you should miss a week, there will be information available during the coffee fellowship time in McConnell Hall. You are also invited to join us on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM for a deeper discussion about these topics. Hope to see you there.

Pastor Doug

## ***Women's Community Bible Study***

Women's Community Bible Study led by Pastor Gene Wilkins meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays September through May at the United Methodist Church of Mantua. Starting at 9:30 am for coffee and fellowship, with the study beginning at 10:00 am. Currently, Pastor Gene is leading a study on Biblical miracles. All are welcome. If you have any questions, contact the Church office at 468-2711 or call 468-5549.

### ***Realville Youth Group News***

The school year is underway, and fall is in the air. The summer was filled with incredible experiences such as the Service Blitz, the mission trip to Goochland, Virginia, and meeting almost weekly. We thank the Lord for an incredible few months. That being said, we can't wait to get going.

First off, we praise the Lord in the fact that we've been growing in numbers since the beginning of the school year. We've blessed with many new faces and also old friends who been away from group for a while. We welcome them all and hope that they are comfortable enough to stay with us for the insanity that is the years to come.

So exactly what are we doing? Well, on Sunday nights the youth group has begun looking at different superheroes to see what DC and Marvel can teach us about the gospel. While we are studying the different superheroes the nightly game/challenge mirrors that hero with some hilarious and crazy outcomes. Some examples of this is that on one night, the youth designed their own superheroes and another they went "hulk" and got their anger out on some produce.

In addition to the Sunday night study we've got a lot of things going on in October and into the Fall in general...

The first big thing going on in October is that Mantua is hosting my old church, Chews and we're having our very own Olympics! During the course of the overnight we'll be playing some of the standards that you may find during the summer or winter games, but also, some things unique to our games. Additionally, we'll be praying, singing and worshipping together. I would suggest we'll be sleeping at some point during the overnight, but really who sleeps during an overnight?

Also in October, we begin try outs and working on dinner theatre style mystery which we tentatively will be doing as a fundraiser early in the New Year. The youth have been talking about this for months and the leaders are just getting around to making it a reality. As the dates draw closer, we'll let you know as we'd love to see you all out for it.

Lastly, the youth group has already committed to being involved in trunk or treat this year. After speaking with a few youth it would seem that we'll be doing a superhero themed trunk this year and a game is in the works. We hope to see you all at that event as it is always a great time.

There is so much more going on in the coming weeks and many of the things simply can't be explained, and must be experienced. With that being said, if you have youth or know of any youth looking for a place, they're always welcome!

# Halloween Costume Fundraiser, 2012

## Support Family Fun Mantua UMC

Buy Halloween Costumes at **WHOLESALE PRICES** & Support our **FUNDRAISER** at the Same Time. It's as easy as **1-2-3**

### Guarantees

- **Free Membership** and the lowest member price on all merchandise.
- 15% of your purchase will go to our organization when you use the code \*
- The same costumes as the big name stores plus 1000's more at Wholesale Prices.
- **\$5.99 flat rate** shipping no matter how big your order.
- Order by 3PM EST and get same day shipping.
- Delivery by Halloween when you use our In Home Delivery Calculator.

**WHOLESALE CLUB** Use **PROMO CODE: FUN1326**  
at [www.wholesalecostumeclub.com/fundraiser/](http://www.wholesalecostumeclub.com/fundraiser/)

# 15% of your purchase goes to Support our Organization

### HOW TO ORDER: (All Orders Must Be Placed Online)

1. Go to [www.wholesalecostumeclub.com/fundraiser/](http://www.wholesalecostumeclub.com/fundraiser/) to shop for costumes.
2. At checkout, choose the option **Secure a Member** (If you are already an existing member, use the member checkout)
3. Enter **Promo Code FUN1326** in the promo code box on the right and click "Apply Code" then continue with your checkout.



Wholesale Costume Club reserves the right to disclose your name and order total to the fundraising organization for any purpose, including the calculation of fundraising payments and commissions. Customers who use the New Member checkout will receive free membership and member pricing. Customers using the Promo Code in Non-Member checkout will pay non-member pricing. No price adjustments will be made for customers using the Non-Member option. Cannot be combined with any other discounts, promos or offers from any third party savings or coupons.



**Family Fun of Mantua UMC - Fundraiser: September 12th thru Oct. 30th 2012**  
All proceeds will go to the purchase of new costumes for the Children's Annual Christmas Nativity.  
Donations also greatly appreciated... Please make checks payable to: Mantua UMC.  
Questions, please contact: Family Fun- Children's Coordinator, Kimberly Wagner 856.415.0610

## Family Fun 4th Annual

# Trunk or Treat

*Mark Your Calendars!*



*Trunk or Treat*

## Saturday, October 20th

## 6:00 - 8:30pm

## Mantua UMC Parking Lot

Sign Up Forms due on 10/15  
Please contact Kimberly Wagner  
FamilyFunMantuaUMC@hotmail.com  
Raindate: Saturday, October 27th



# The Coffee House

at Mantua UMC Welcomes

## Legacy By Right



Friday, Oct. 19th, 7:30pm

Free Admission

Free Coffee, Tea, Baked Goods!

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

Check out [www.mantuaume.org](http://www.mantuaume.org) for more info or email [mamakreh@gmail.com](mailto:mamakreh@gmail.com)

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

## **Upcoming Meetings**

October 3	7:00 pm	Bible Study
October 10	7:00 pm	Bible Study
October 14	5:30 pm	Acolytes
October 17	7:00 pm	Bible Study
October 18	7:00 pm	SPRC Meeting
October 24	7:00 pm	Bible Study
October 28	1:00 pm	Acolytes will meet to go to Springdale Farms Corn Maze \$8.50 for children up to 12 years old and \$10.00 for ages 13 plus.

### ***Committed to Christ*** ***Six Steps to a Generous Life Bible Study*** Began September 26th at 7:00 pm

This is a six week bible study of the six steps to discipleship. The study began Wednesday, September 26 at 7:00 pm and ends on November 7 (there will be no meeting on October 31).

### **Everyone Is Invited**

All clergy and laity will benefit by this  
Gateway South Resource Event

Rev. Larry Homitsky  
Saturday - October 13, 2012 9:00 am to 2:45 pm  
Clergy and Laity Are Invited To Attend  
At St. John's UMC in Turnersville, NJ

There will be a very special day of training at St. John's United Methodist Church in Turnersville on Saturday October 13th from 9am to 2:45pm. Our speaker will be Pastor Larry Homitsky who was a great inspiration to all of us when he spoke to us at one of last year's Resource Days. This will be another chance for clergy and laity to hear the importance of having 'Radical Hospitality' toward those who visit our congregations.

Larry is well known in the United Methodist Church. He was the lead trainer for Igniting Ministries and Rethink Church for our denomination. These ministries centered in on reaching the lost for Christ and then welcoming them into the church. Education, inspiration, and information are yours by attending. You and your church will be blessed.

Larry is currently the pastor and director of Church Union which are four United Methodist churches seeking renewal on the north side of Pittsburgh.

**Teddy Bear Alert!** Teddy Bear Sunday will be held on Sunday, November 11 in preparation for our annual trip to Underwood Hospital. Please plan to purchase your **NEW TEDDY BEAR** in preparation to give on that day. Thanks for your support of this wonderful project.

# October 2012 II Mantua Methodist Vine

## Lilith, The Mythological First Wife of Adam

By William M. Crowley, Educational Research Director

**2 Timothy 2:15. "Study to show thyself approved unto GOD..."**

This exciting, unending series provides a learning journey researching the familiar and not so familiar Gospel passages. Biblical references are KJV unless noted.

### **Mythology Claims Two Original Female Creations**

Lilith first appears in the Babylonian Talmud during the Captivity. She is thought to be related to a class of female demons, *Lilitu*, in the Mesopotamian records (which includes Babylonia). So what has this to do with the Bible?

**Genesis 1:27, "So God created humankind in his image,... male and female he created hem." (Wife #1 is Lilith, the first female creation.)**

**Genesis 2:7, "...LORD God formed man from the dust ..., and breathed into his nostrils...life;..."**

**Genesis 2:21, "...the LORD God caused a deep sleep upon the man,...he took one of his ribs..."**

**Genesis 2:22, "...he made (the rib) into a woman..." (Wife #2 is Eve.)**

### **Lilith's Origins**

Lilith originated in the Ancient Near East. A wilderness spirit known as "The Dark Maiden" appears in "The Descent of Inanna" (circa 3000 B C). Lilith means "The Night". Her emotional and spiritual characteristics of darkness are terror, sensuality, and unbridled freedom. Circa 700 BC, another Syrian tablet states, "O flyer in a dark chamber, go away at once, O Lili!" (In my opinion this describes a modern day witch.)

### **Lilith Fails As Adam's First Wife**

Lilith rebelled against GOD's plan for Adam. Asserting her "independent rights", conflicts quickly erupted. According to legend, this bred rebellion with Lilith running into the wilderness screaming her defiance. The Angel Gabriel found her, weeping at a cold stream, fearful of GOD's wrath. Gabriel assured Lilith freedom from death. But, she would be a night demon smothering newborns (crib death) and sleeping with single men to breed more demons. Today, a red thread tied to a crib is supposed "stop" Lilith.

Lilith has made her way into the Bible. **Isaiah 34:14** placed her in an inhospitable wilderness. Isaiah states, "**Wildcats will meet with hyenas, goat-demons shall call to each other; there too Lilith shall repose, and find a place to rest.**"

### **Is Lilith's Spirit Active Today?**

The Talmud's Lilith is a night spirit, cursed with uncontrolled sexuality, breeding demons. Lilith's killer role of newborns is expanded thru modern-day selective abortions of the unborn. The feminist movement adopted Lilith, as a symbol, to reject virginity and accept sexual freedom. These spiritual followers of Lilith, unwittingly introduce AIDS, a medical catastrophe, with a soft, invitational "hello". Remember Fornication?

**(KJV Cambridge) Proverbs 7:27, "Her house is the way to Hell, going down to the chambers of death."**

## Advanced Lay Servant Ministries Class Fall 2012

### **Accountable Discipleship**

Instructor: Rev. Jeff Bills

Thursday Evenings

7:00 pm—9:00 pm

October 4, 11, 18, 25

And November 2, 9

*You may choose the class schedule that fits your schedule; you are not required to attend in your district. A copy of all district schedules is available in the office.*

**Requirements:** Those seeking Certified Lay Servant status must be a Basic/Local Lay Speaker/Servant.

**Registration:** Mail completed registration form with payment to the conference office or register on-line at [www.gnjumc.org](http://www.gnjumc.org).

**Registration Deadline is October 1, 2012**

**Cost:** \$50 per person (\$60 per person registering after the deadline).

Please call, email, or see Fritz Reynolds, Tom Beckett, or Pastor Doug with any questions.

## ***ALICE BUCK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP***

On Father's Day/Student Recognition Sunday, June 17, 2012, two graduating seniors who are continuing their education were each presented checks from our scholarship fund. They were:

Christopher Grabert, attending High Point University in North Carolina,  
Dillion Hanahan, attending Gloucester County College

Their beautiful essays, describing what this church means to each of them, were read to the congregation.

CONGRATULATIONS to all of our graduates.

*Remember – Donations can be made to our Scholarship Fund throughout the year.*

*Mantua UMC,*

*Thank you for offering me this scholarship. I will be using the gift for books.*

*Thank you again for your generosity.*

*Chris Grabert*

***Discover the Joy of being a Hospice Volunteer*** If you have a warm heart, a listening ear, and the gift of compassion you can make a difference in the life of a hospice patient or family member. Visiting Nurse Association Health Group Hospice is providing training for all individuals interested in becoming hospice volunteers in several counties throughout New Jersey.

Training and support will be provided by members of the VNA Health Group Hospice team on Wednesday, October 3 from 9:30am to 4:30pm at our Cape VNA office 1940 Rt 9 N, Cape May Court House. There are many rewards and opportunities available to hospice volunteers though home visitation, administrative support and special projects to support our mission of caring and compassion.

To register, please call Pauline De Palma, BSW (732) 224-6933.

# Happy October Birthday!

- 2 Debra Wescott
- 3 Florence Bobzin  
Steve Fearon  
Maggie Reid  
Debbie Wolf
- 4 Amanda Banff  
Kelsey Eckert
- 5 Kristen Armstrong  
Paul Brooks
- 6 Jennifer Humble
- 7 Laylah Farrell  
Todd Legg
- 8 Ethan Munch  
Susan Sullivan
- 9 Irv Quenzel
- 10 Heather Riggs  
Ruth Wolbert
- 12 Abigail Joseph  
Joseph Spencer
- 13 Lois Green  
Kimberly Metz  
Eric Rumbol  
Dalton Stetser  
Jillian Vincent
- 14 Michelle DeGirolamo  
Hope Miller  
Samantha Skupien



- 15 Doug Baitinger  
Liz Farrell  
Marissa Torino
- 16 Vanessa Fay
- 17 Natalie Banff  
John Goss  
Patrick Goss  
Paul Toppin
- 18 Monica Seabo
- 19 Cheyenne Burger  
Theodore Dorofee  
Kayla Romano
- 20 Joanne Pape
- 23 Courtney Hall  
Carl Wyckoff
- 24 Amanda Heise
- 25 Mary Golding
- 26 Adriene Davis  
Sean Sepsey
- 27 Lorraine Beckett
- 30 Anthony Prete
- 31 Joshua Jennings  
Wilma Nagtegaal

## Happy October Anniversary

- |    |  |    |                                      |
|----|--|----|--------------------------------------|
| 2  | <i>Ian &amp; Emily Preece</i>              | 20 | <i>Curt &amp; Lynn Bobzin</i>        |
| 3  | <i>Joe &amp; Chris Seabo</i>               |    | <i>Dan &amp; Debbie Gooch</i>        |
|    | <i>Gene &amp; Suzanne Wilkins</i>          |    | <i>Joel &amp; Dawn Shutman</i>       |
| 4  | <i>William Bessler &amp; Darlene Smith</i> | 23 | <i>Doug &amp; Jenn Wardrop</i>       |
| 7  | <i>Bruce &amp; Nancy Reyher</i>            | 24 | <i>George &amp; Adriene Davis</i>    |
| 10 | <i>Scott &amp; Kristie McMullen</i>        |    | <i>Hal &amp; Peggy Orens</i>         |
| 11 | <i>Todd &amp; Debra Heston</i>             | 26 | <i>Fred &amp; Mary Lee Patane</i>    |
| 14 | <i>Len &amp; Doris Donat</i>               |    | <i>Doug &amp; Kim Wagner</i>         |
| 17 | <i>Todd &amp; Lisa Legg</i>                | 29 | <i>Joe &amp; Robin Gelormini</i>     |
|    |  | 30 | <i>John &amp; Tara Gallagher III</i> |



# Just for Fun

## Obituary

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape.

He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as knowing when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm, life isn't always fair, and maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you earn) and reliable parenting strategies (adults, not children, are in charge)

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a six-year old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job they themselves failed to do in disciplining their unruly children. It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer Panadol, sun lotion, or a Band Aid to a student—but could not inform the parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband, churches became businesses, and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar can sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust; his wife, Discretion; his daughter Responsibility; and his son, Reason. He is survived by three stepbrothers; I Know My Rights, Someone Else is to Blame and I'm A Victim.

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.



## MOMS CLUB OF MANTUA

### Open House

October 15th

9:30 am—12:30 pm

At the United Methodist Church of Mantua

We will have a craft table, homemade treats for both moms and kids and some musical fun! For more information or to register for the open house call Amy at 856-381-2688.

Please visit our website at [www.momsclubmantua.org](http://www.momsclubmantua.org)



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Manager  
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