



The Vine

An Advent Invitation

December 1 begins the season of Advent. It is a season that is the favorite of many as the anticipation and waiting for the celebration of Christmas builds. I want to extend an invitation to all of us to make the most of this season. Be watching for times to come and celebrate with us at the cantata, Happy Birthday Jesus Party, the pageant, caroling with the teddy bears, and more.

Music is a large part of this season as well. During worship on Sunday morning for the four Sundays of Advent and Christmas Eve, we will be looking at some of the more familiar carols that speak the message of Christmas. We will be looking at *O Come All Ye Faithful*; *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*; *O Little Town of Bethlehem*; *Joy to the World*; and *Silent Night*. Each one tells the story in a different way, so we will look at the history of the carols, as well as the unique focus of each one. I am looking forward to this, and I hope you are too.

We will be led in the lighting of the Advent Wreath candles by the children's Sunday School classes. Let us prepare together for the celebration of Jesus' coming!

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.



Angel Tree 2013

Believe it or not, it is Angel Tree time again. Gifts will be going to needy families that have been provided to us through the Gloucester County Division of Social Services. The families are all from Mantua and Wenonah. Those who wish to participate should follow these directions.

Take an angel from the tree. **PRINT** your name and phone number on the color tag and place it back on the tree. Take the white tag with you.

Purchase your gift and return it **WRAPPED** with the white tag attached by **December 8th**.

Members of the SALT Class can assist you and answer any questions. Thank you in advance for your anticipated participation and cooperation.

Please share in the joy of Christmas with us
as we celebrate Christmas with Music

A praise and worship Christmas GOD Coming Down

Sunday, December 8, 2013
7:00 pm



The Friday Night Coffeehouse is taking a break in December to allow everyone to enjoy the holidays and upcoming events with their families. Please join us January 17 when Chelsea Musik comes to perform.

<p style="text-align: center;">SMITH FUNERAL HOME</p> <p style="text-align: center;">47 Main St. Mantua, NJ 08051</p> <p>Robert C. Smith III CFSP, CPC NJ Lic. No. 3161</p> <p>Daniel N. Smith, Sr. Manager NJ Lic. No. 3263</p> <p>Douglas W. Wagner NJ Lic. No. 4378</p> <p>Daniel N. Smith, Jr. NJ Lic. No. 4684</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Robert C. Smith, Jr. 1921-2003 (856) 468-0670</p> <p style="text-align: center;">www.smithfhmantua.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Let us answer your questions about funerals, cremations & pre-planning.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Nester & Wyckoff</p> <p style="text-align: center;">General Dentistry For The Entire Family</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">200 East Mantua Avenue • Wenonah NJ 08090 856-468-5858 • 856-468-9098 <i>fax</i> southjerseydental.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">MAYTAG FRIGIDAIRE WESTINGHOUSE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Woodbury Appliance, Inc.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">753 Mantua Pike Woodbury, New Jersey 08096</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Kitchen Aid Phone: 845-3710 Magic Chef Sales & Service</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Amana TAPPAN JEN-AIR</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS. THAT'S THE BEST WAY TO THANK THEM!</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday • Thursday 10-8 Friday 10-6 • Saturday 9-4</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Aim To Please</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">• Beauty Salon •</p> <p style="text-align: center;">256-1710 9 North Broadway Pitman, New Jersey 08071</p>		<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Shute's Enterprise (856) 456-2675</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BAT - A - RAMA</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">600 Gateway Blvd. (Rt. 45) Westville, NJ 08093 Indoor Batting Range & Pro Shop Baseball & Softball Camps, Clinics Private Lessons</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">George bat-a-rama.com Arlene</p>	

Just For Fun

A Sunday school teacher was speaking to a group of four-year-olds about Jesus, Joseph and Mary. After the lesson the kids were to draw a picture depicting their favorite part of the story. The teacher shared the pictures the children drew with the entire class. She got pictures of the Baby Jesus in the manger with animals, she got pictures of the three wise men and the like. Then she got to a picture from little Jimmy, a picture of an airplane with four people on it. She called Jimmy up to explain his picture. She told Jimmy that she could see Mary, Joseph and the Baby Jesus, obviously in their 'flight' to Egypt. She didn't understand why there was another man on the plane. Jimmy quickly explained, 'That's Pontius, the pilot.'

Acolyte Update

Acolytes and parents: Please note the change in our schedule. There will be no acolyte meeting on December 1. We will have no regular meeting in December. However, I hope that you will all come to the Happy Birthday Jesus party on December 21 and join us for caroling with the Teddy Bears on Sunday, December 22 after Sunday School.

REALVILLE UPDATE

I would like to first Thank you to the parents that were able to come out and meet us!!!! We threw a lot of information at them – Registration forms, Youth Group Calendar, Info and forms for Mid-Winter Advance & the Bethlehem Experience. If you did not get a packet of forms from your Youth – call me at 856-404-2080 and let me know. We are trying to get Registration forms back so we can get an accurate account of how many Youth we have attending. If your Youth has plans on attending the Mid-Winter Advance in January 2014 – your forms must be filled out and back to me by 11/30/13. The form must be accompanied by a check (made out to Mid-Winter Advance) of \$35.00 per Youth for the trip. Our 7th – 12th graders are going to MWA the weekend of January 31st – February 2nd. Our College Bible Study group is planning to go to MWA on January 17th – 19th. Please contact me if you have any questions.

11/30 – Craft Fair at MUMC: We would like to get donations of baked goods to sell at the Craft Fair. If you are willing to bake something for us, please txt me!!! I will be at the Craft Fair taking care of the table. Come out and see me!!!!

12/14 - We are planning to take the Youth Group to the Bethlehem Experience at the Laurel Hill Bible Church in Clementon. This is a Christmas experience that I really love to go see. We are meeting at MUMC at 5:30 – 6:00 pm on Saturday night; it runs till 9:00 pm. Families are welcome to come with us.

A special Thanks to the Parents & Youth that came out to help with our Service Project, 11/16. Nancy Overton had heard from a former Church Member (Janis Spina) & her daughter (Kelly) that they needed help emptying a storage unit. We thought it would be a couple of hours of work and it was sooooo much more!! Thank you to the youth that came out (Kristin, Missy, Steven, Tyler, Ian, Aaron, Anthony, Bella & Nichole) and the some of our Parents & Staff (Pastor Doug, Pam, Greg, Mike, Jim, Joe, & Lisa). It took 7 -8 loads in our vans and truck and 5 hours. Thank you again for your help!!!

Sincerely,
Penny Kirkbride

A Future with Hope Campaign Update

We want to thank all who took part in our Future with Hope campaign. As of this writing, the amount pledged for our 2014 budget is \$155,656. The amount for the special Future with Hope 3 Year campaign is \$30,470.00. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Some important information: One of the requests was that you not decrease your giving to the church budget in order to give to the Future With Hope. If you did that and would like to revise your commitment, just place a note in the offering plate.

Secondly, I said that the totals were as of this writing. That only includes the people who were here on Sunday and turned in a card. If you have not done so, you will be receiving a card in the mail and will have opportunity to make a commitment. Just return the card to the church as soon as possible so we can revise our totals.

This is the time to review your giving for the past year. If you need to know where you stand in your giving, you can contact Amy Durand. This is the time to catch up. Don't forget that you can use electronic giving to give regularly and keep up to date.

Lastly, there will be envelopes available shortly for contributions to the Future with Hope. If you choose not to use them, please clearly mark you gift for Future with Hope. Again thank you to all who helped with this campaign.

The Bethlehem Experience



***December 13 6 - 9pm
December 14-15 5pm - 9pm
Laurel Hill Bible Church***

Laurel Hill Bible Church will present Bethlehem Experience, a dramatic, musical presentation December 13-15 from 6-9pm. Visitors are invited to "discover the missing peace of Christmas." Tours leave every 1/2 hour with the last tour leaving at 9pm.

A cast and crew of over 100 people will tell the Christmas story through indoor, outdoor & unique musical scenes. Included will be the tastes and smells of an authentic Bible-times marketplace. Children will especially enjoy the live animals. Refreshments will be provided.

The congregation of Laurel Hill puts on this massive project every other year. This year will be the sixth time they perform the production. Their gift to the community, there is no charge to see Bethlehem Experience.

The church is located at 1260 Blackwood-Clementon Rd, Gloucester Twp, NJ. For further info call 784-6200. Groups of 10 or more can make reservations. Laurel Hill is fully handicapped accessible.

The Christmas Card Mailbox will be placed in the Narthex to gather Christmas Greetings for your Church Family December 8th through December 22nd. Please do not forget to check to see if you have received mail each Sunday. Thank you to the Pairs & Spares class for continuing this wonderful tradition!



Happy December Birthday!

- 2 Kristen Lisle
John Sfaelos
Taylor Ann Williams
- 3 Laila McDonald
Greg Miller
- 4 Danielle Kraft
Kathi Niewoehner
- 5 Laurie Kruithof
- 6 Gabrielle Salvatore
- 7 Ian Gorman
Harry Litle
- 8 Anthony Carelli
Kim Kraft
- 9 Julia Lisle
- 10 Donna Hanahan
- 11 Esther Fuchs
Barbara Makaro
Nakoa Reed
- 14 Janet Davis
- 15 Dylan Hasko
Robert Smith III



- 16 Aaron Reynolds
Carl Reynolds
Helena Reynolds
- 17 Kevin Rumbol
Joseph DiSalvio
- 20 Shawn Foster
Michelle Liloia
- 21 Jim Brickner Jr.
Reese Spencer
Alex Vincent
- 23 Kim Wagner
Ryan Weiner
Sarah Wyatt
- 24 Madeleine Lisle
- 26 Melanie Banff
Michael Golding
- 27 Holly Golding
Erik Heiss
- 28 Elda Barger
Erin Fuchs
- 29 Ed Covert
Chris Schaeckel
- 31 Sarah Jennings

Happy December Anniversary

- 2 Richard & Debbie Sullivan
- 7 Tom & Lorraine Beckett
- 8 Doug & Jenise Fraser
- 26 Mark & Beth Wyatt
- 30 Adam & Talia Eubanks
Frank & Laurie Rohrman



women of faith Christmas

AN EVENING OF HOPE & JOY FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

FEATURING



Max Lucado



Sheila Walsh



Lisa Harper

Rick
Warren



Special
Musical Guest
Francesca
Battistelli

JOIN US

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of MANTUA
201 Mantua Blvd, Mantua

Celebrate the birth of Christ with a simulcast event everyone in your family will enjoy. The United Methodist Church of Mantua is one of the many churches around the globe to host the 2nd annual Women of Faith Christmas on Friday December 6, 2013 at 8pm. You, your church family and friends can be a part of a special celebration where stories and songs will be shared bringing the wonder of Christmas to life.

Welcome and Worship with Gateway Worship
Message – Lisa Harper
Concert Part 1 – Francesca Battistelli
Message – Rick Warren
Special Music
Break
Special Music
Message - Sheila Walsh
Concert Part 2 – Francesca Battistelli
Message – Max Lucado / Gospel presentation
Finale and Closing

free will offering



womenoffaith.com **in:cast**events incastevents.com



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United Methodist Church of Mantua
**Ministering Through Video
Painless Fundraiser**

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

Currently:

We sell approximately \$1,000 of gift cards per month.
Annually we earn about \$600.

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

Goal: We have a goal of **\$1,000 per week**. This is easily achievable! 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!

2013 Results:

Jan-April	\$462 per week
May—August	\$487 per week

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

Shopping Online?

If you are an on-line shopper, you can help the UMC of Mantua. All you have to do is shop through the UMC Market website. Doing so does not change the cost of what you purchase. The retailers will make a donation to us. Please read below. It is a matter of signing up and putting Mantua in the church box. You will be asked to choose between Barnsboro and our church. Make sure choose Mantua.

The United Methodist Church, in partnership with major online retailers, has created a shopping portal that **gives your church a 1 to 9 percent commission** for purchases made by members of your church. They can donate to your church also by booking travel, hotel room and car rental through UMCmarket.

Many consumers prefer shopping online because it saves time and gasoline, avoids crowds, provides more variety and it's easy to do. More than 80% of the online population has bought something on the Internet. In fact, it's so popular that e-commerce sales in the U.S. amounted to \$289 billion last year.

All shoppers have to do is create an account and buy products and merchandise from partner retailers through UMCmarket.org. There's no increased cost or hidden fees. They buy items for the same prices they would pay on those retailers' sites.

It's simple and easy — it's [UMCmarket](http://UMCmarket.org).

What is required of you and your church members to make this happen?

1. Visit UMCMarket.org and create an account. During the account setup, designate a beneficiary church to which the commission for their purchases will go. (**Select Mantua**)
2. Log into UMCMarket and shop at the partner retailers or you can use the free downloadable add-on for their Web browser and shop at the partner retailers.
3. Your church will receive a check from UMCMarket.



AND MANY MORE!

"Jesus loves the little children--all the children of the world" and so does the congregation of Mantua Methodist Church! The goal set was 126 shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse. However, our incredible man of faith, Pastor Doug set 150 shoeboxes as a goal. We surpassed his goal and 153 shoeboxes are now making their way to the children around the world. Most of the shoeboxes had paid shipping. Thank you so much for your generosity. The children who receive the boxes will celebrate Christmas with your special gifts. Most of the children will receive only your box. Many of the children have been lead to Jesus through receiving the shoeboxes.

~J.U.G.Class

