

The Vine

From Pastor Doug

It is the first day of Spring and I am watching the snow come down with the promise of more to come. Having just arrived back home from Orlando, where it was in the 80's and sunny, I can't help but think that God has a sense of humor!

This year, we will once again be celebrating Holy Humor Sunday on April 8 at 10:00 AM (one service). The purpose of Holy Humor is to celebrate that God pulled a fantastic practical joke on Satan. Just when Satan thought that he had won, Jesus resurrected. We will have some fun on the 8th as we celebrate, but at the same time, there will be an important message about what this means for our lives. So come dressed comfortably, come dressed in bright colors, ready to celebrate Jesus' victory over sin and death.

This year, April Fool's Day, is the same day as Easter Sunday. Following Holy Humor Sunday, we will begin a sermon series in looking at passages that reflect the ways in which God has a sense of humor and will be looking at what we can learn from that. I hope you will join us on these Sundays as I am looking forward to having some fun with the series as we worship together!

Resurrection Renewal—We had a great couple days with Jim Hughes as our renewal speaker/music provider. Sunday night's covered dish was a great time of fellowship and evidence once again that Methodists know how to eat! We received a love offering of \$884.00 over the two nights. This was presented to Jim to further his ministry of sharing the good news of Christ. Thank you to all who made this such a Spirit-filled weekend!

KRISPY KREME FUNDRAISER! Orders are now being taken for Krispy Kreme doughnuts! Prices are \$10 per dozen for original glazed doughnuts and \$11 per dozen for specialty doughnuts (chocolate iced, Kreme filled, lemon filled, or raspberry filled). The doughnuts will be available for pick-up in McConnell Hall on Sunday, April 22nd after the 9:15 church service. Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit the August mission trip to Reading, PA. Please see any member of the Mission Team or email, call or text Jill Gorman with any questions (jgorman@comcast.net or 609-209-2989). Thank you for supporting the upcoming mission trip!

MANTUA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PRESENTS

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

APRIL 14TH @ 7pm

THE EONS WORSHIP TEAM
Maria, Pam, Curt, Nick, Rob & Sophia

www.facebook.com/TheEONS

PASTOR DOUG BAITINGER
201 Mantua Blvd., Mantua, NJ 08051
856.468.2711
<http://mantuaumc.org/>



Vacation Bible School 2018

Why not start off summer with a week of fun and learning with family and friends at The United Methodist Church of Mantua, VBS 2018. Vacation Bible School will be held Mon. June 25th - Fri. June 29th from 6pm - 8:30pm. We will begin with dinner every night, then missions, music, classes for all ages, games, crafts, snacks and prayer.



For more information or if you would like to help, please see Jenise Fraser. Thanks.

Like us on Facebook – vbsumcofmantua

**Experience a ride of
a lifetime with God!**



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.

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 Cup-board or Family Promise! It costs nothing but reaps great rewards!

Keep up the Good Work!

2017 1st Quarter
\$292 per week

2017 2nd Quarter
\$375 per week

2017 3rd Quarter
\$328 per week

2016 4th Quarter
\$387 per week

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



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.

Wawa Hoagie Coupons! The JUG Class has just received a new supply of Wawa Hoagie Coupons. They make great gifts for Easter! Your purchase helps support JUG projects and is sincerely appreciated.

Church pictorial directories—If you would like to purchase one of our new church directories, please see Kathy Durand or notify the office. There are still a few available for \$5 each

Hello from The EONS! Happy April to all of you!

HE is risen!!!! Glory be to God! March was another great month for us! Usually we are invited to the Pitman United Methodist Church to join other local praise bands to help raise money for the Methodist church in LaPalmilla Mexico. However, this year the date was March 11th which was the same date as the renewal/revival service here at our own church.

We were presented with an opportunity to be a part of the revival service so we of course wanted to be! So we respectfully declined with Pitman and we were part of the worship service on Sunday night, March 11th. What an honor it was. It was a moving experience and Jim's story telling was on point. We had such a great night of fellowship during dinner and a spiritual night altogether.

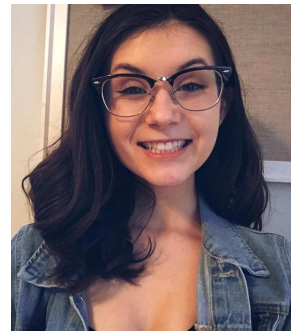
On Sunday, March 18th while Pastor Doug was away with his family The EONS were presented with another opportunity. We are a worship team and we do help Pastor Doug lead the 11am praise service every Sunday. While he was away we asked him if we could lead the entire service in his absence. As always, with his support, he said yes. So, Sophia was our greeter, Pam read the announcements, Curt did the prayer requests, Nick read the Scripture and Maria delivered the message. It was an honor and a blessing to serve the Lord with even more responsibility.

We are now getting ready for and preparing for our first ever Praise & Worship which will be held on Saturday, April 14th at 7pm. Please join us for coffee fellowship prior to at 6:30pm. We want the opportunity to get to know so many of you and for you to know us. Please save the date and plan to join us and please feel free to use the attached flyer in the bulletins every week to invite others. (Also please see the flyer here in the Vine.) There will be a love offering which will be put towards our ministry.

Lastly we would like to announce our newest member, Sophia Mastrogiacomio. She has joined Pam and Maria as a vocalist. Sophia has been coming to our practices since November of last year. She has spent time with us and knows and understands how we work. It's a blessing to have her.

Please see her bio in the Vine and help us welcome her.

Peace & Blessings,
The EONS



Bio for Sophia Mastrogiacomio –Vocalist

Sophia Mastrogiacomio grew up in Mantua NJ with her parents and her brother. She attended JMT School and went on to graduate from Clearview Regional High School in June of 2017. She is currently a Freshman in college at Rowan University where she is majoring in Chemical Engineering.

Sophia has participated in the Miss Mantua pageant and has won every level of the competition by age; Tiny Miss, Little Miss, Junior Miss & Teen Miss. Sophia has been singing since the age of 6 with her Mom for fun around the house and they would even at some point record CDs. She joined the Clearview Regional High School concert choir when she was a sophomore and participated in the group until she graduated. In Sophia's spare time she enjoys going to the movies, painting, playing the ukulele and spending time with her boyfriend and her family. Sophia accepted Christ as her Savior on February 7, 2016. Yes she knows the date and calls it her spiritual birthday. Sophia was watching Evan Almighty with her dad and Morgan Freeman said the following line "If he prayed for courage does God give him courage or does He give him opportunities to be courageous? If someone prayed for the family to be closer do you think God zaps them with warm fuzzy feelings or does He give them opportunities to love each other?" For so long Sophia was confused why God wouldn't give her what she prayed for but she always found herself in a situation that improved her or made her stronger. Sophia started to sob and that line in a movie hit her hard, she prayed and dedicated her life to Him.

Sophia's hope is that others around her and who she comes in contact with feel love and compassion and that for those that feel alone to know they are never alone and that if they seek, God will provide all the answers for them.

RESURRECTION RENEWAL. What an awesome time of worship, praise, music and prayer. Thank you to all who made it possible. First and foremost, Rev. Jim Hughes, who shared his message through his multiple God-given talents, who encouraged us to renew our relationship with Jesus through the message of the Cross and through Jesus' disciple, Thomas. Thank you to Pastor Doug and all staff and congregation members for any and all things done to make this special time of Easter preparation possible. The covered dish dinner was outstanding with the Youth so readily getting tables set up, putting the food out and doing so much to make the dinner the great success it turned out to be, and to everyone who brought the food, which was so delicious and plentiful. A special "thank you" to Pastor Karl Kraft, who created our publicity cartoon on such short notice. In other words, there are a lot of people to be grateful to for a glorious weekend, but most of all, we give God the glory for bringing it all together and blessing us and planting seeds of redemption and hope in all who attended.

Happy



Birthday

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

- 10 John Fuchs
Wayne Histan
Emily Langer
Shelby Smith
Joel Szychoski
- 11 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 Jim McManamy
Walter Rouh
- 24 Brynn Cusano
- 26 Dan Gooch
Nick Kreh
- 28 Jacob Shutman
- 29 Tricia Eckert
- 30 Jim Kruithof

Happy Anniversary



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

Please thank our sponsors by patronizing their businesses.



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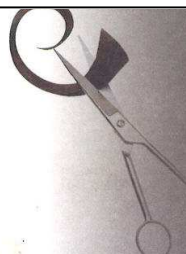
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