# The Vine

#### From Pastor Doug

We have seen much damage as a result of Hurricanes and Typhoons, both in our own country and around the world. As we see the pictures, we can't help but think of the damage caused by Superstorm Sandy which was right in our own back yard. We have heard numerous testimonies of how much folks who were assisted by UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) appreciated all that was done. Often times, UMCOR is one of the first relief that arrives and the last to leave an area. If you would like to help support the work of those who are helping to relieve the suffering, UMCOR is a great way to do it! As I have shared in church, 100% of what we give goes directly to whatever need for which we designate it. If you would like to make a gift, it can be payable to The UMC of mantua and mark it for UMCOR Hurricane relief. We will be sure it gets sent!

Another means of helping people that has been going on for a number of years. Several of you mentioned that we did not do it this year in May. That is because it has been re-scheduled for October. Registration will start at 1 PM at Chestnut Branch Park at the Pavilion on Sunday, October 14. The walk is 10 km. around the park. You can walk and get sponsors for a flat rate of by the km. We will have the sponsor sheets for anyone who would like to walk. All walkers are to bring a jar of peanut butter. A portion of the money stays local and supports the Corinthian Cupboard. Thanks for all you do to share God's love with others.

Pastor Doug



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 Cupboard or Family Promise! It costs nothing but reaps great rewards!

> Keep up the Good Work! Our Average Weekly Gift Card purchase is between \$325-\$350 per week for 2018

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

#### SAVE THE DATE -

This year's Christmas Cantata will be held on Sunday, December 16, 2018 at 4PM

*Women's Community Bible Study* will met on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday September at 9:30 am. In September we will resume meeting on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays. 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.

*Altar Flower Requests* If you have Altar Flower Dedications, please fill out a form located in the Narthex and return it to Debbie Middleton. Thank you!



#### ROLLING RIVER RAMPAGE VBS Mission Project 2018 Report

One part of our Mission Project this year was the collection of new and very-gently-used books to be distributed to various agencies and ministries. A total of 755 books were collected. 90 books were sent with our Mission Trip Team to Reading, PA. They will be used in a prison ministry called Mothers' Voice where inmates record their story and then the book and recording are given to their child so they can hear their parents' voices. 70 books will be distributed with our holiday food baskets and 36 will be available through the church library for our children's Sunday School classes. The remaining 559 books are going to The Greater New Jersey Methodist Conference Poverty Task Force to support pop-up libraries in Camden and surrounding areas.

The other part of our Mission Project collected money which will provide financial support for Rebecca Hickman, one of our church members, who is attending Bethany Global University. \$1,548 was raised to help her during her 16-month internship where she will experience what it is to be a missionary.

Both parts of our Mission Project were very successful. Thanks to all the children, families, church members, and friends who contributed so very much. GOD BLESS YOU ALL!!

#### Kathy Durand, Mission Coordinator for VBS

"I want to thank everyone at VBS who donated and have joined me on this journey. I am so grateful for your generosity and kind words. With the money we've raised together I can begin to reach my goal of funding for my internship. I promise to keep you updated as time goes on leading up to my trip and throughout it. Thank you again for all you have done. Love, Rebecca Hickman"

To my brothers and sisters in Christ,

To recap Rock the Block – it was, without a doubt, a gloomy day. We were unsure of who would come or if we would be able to serve in our ministry. I always have it in my head that it is Jesus' party and if he wants rain, then let there be rain. This year I was actually very calm, I gave it all to Him and what a huge difference that made. It rained all morning and into the afternoon. Let me say that at exactly 3pm, it just stopped, JUST STOPPED, God is so good.

It may have been a smaller gathering and not hordes of people but I can tell you that the hall was full of people eating, the street was never empty. People were smiling, fellowship was happening and the best of all was that I was able to <u>witness evangelism</u>. Those two things are the most important—witness & evangelism. We did what we as Christians are called to do.

I feel humbled to write to you and to say thank you for the support you have given this ministry. Yes it is a ministry as well as a day for us to open our doors, literally, to the community who surrounds our loving church home. Your support, by way of volunteering or financially, has gone down to make sure that the word reaches all of those that God wants us to reach. Thank you for your prayers and all of the giving that you do. I truly believe we have grown because of your life.

Keep on praying for this ministry so that the will of God can be manifested in us as we share His word to all corners of Mantua, our community and beyond.

May God continue to bless you and thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Your sister, Maria Kreh

*Clean Coffee Can Collection* for packing Christmas Cookies for Pitman Manor residents. Please bring in your clean, empty coffee cans to Lori Brooks. Thank you.

*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.



#### **Christmas Shoe Box Ministry**

Hi, I am Hannah Quast. I am a junior at Liberty University. My grandparents are Jan & Janet Fuhrer.

I want to tell you about the awesome time I had in Jamaica. I was involved in the Shoe Box ministry that the J.U.G. class has been sponsoring for a long time. The Shoe Boxes were delivered in February. The children that came to the mission center everyday were taught about Jesus' life from the time he was born through to his resurrection. When they completed 12 weeks of learning they received their very own Shoe Box.

What a beautiful ministry and what a joy to see the children of Spicy Grove Youth Center open up their boxes.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES** will be collected again this year during the month of October. Your support has enabled us to share in the 11 million Shoebox Gifts sent to 114 countries and territories in 2017. This year Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box is celebrating 25 years!

We were blessed to have an eyewitness to children receiving these boxes in Jamaica, as shown in the "Christmas Shoe Box Ministry" article, which included a picture of Hannah Quast (on the right) with some of the children who received the Shoebox Gifts.

An easy guideline to follow is to fill your shoe box with simple gifts, as follows: something to wear; something to play with; something for school; something to love, something special; something for personal hygiene and a personal note and/or photo. Also, please remember to pray for the recipient. The following items are NOT to be included: candy, toothpaste, used or damaged items, war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powder or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; or aerosol cans. If you are unsure about any items, you can check with a JUG member or check out Samaritan's Purse's website.

It was heartening to hear so many at Rock the Block stop by our shoebox display and state they have been collecting items for the boxes all year long, as many of us in the JUG Class do. It makes it so much easier and not a lastminute rush to fill the boxes. But...however you prepare them, know that they are deeply and happily appreciated by the children who receive them — as witnessed by Hannah. If, however, you are unable to prepare a box, donations are gladly accepted toward the cost of shipping, which is \$9.00 per box. Remember, the boxes are sent all over the world!

Our goal this year, as it has been in years past, is to get at least one more than the year before. Your partnership in this ministry is greatly appreciated!

## Happy October Birthday!

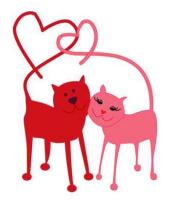
- 2 Debra Wescott
- 3 Florence Bobzin Steve Fearon Todd Hickman Debbie Wolf
- 4 Kelsey Eckert Rebecca Hickman Jim Jameson
- 5 Patrick Brooks
- 6 Jennifer Humble
- 7 Laylah Farrell Michael Tyson Jr.
- 8 Ethan Munch Susan Sullivan
- 9 Laura Freshcoln
- 10 Heather Riggs Ruth Wolbert
- 12 Abigail Joseph Joe Spencer
- 13 Lois Green Kimberly Metz Dalton Stetser Jillian Vincent



- 14 Michelle Biglin Hope Miller Samantha Skupien
- 15 Doug Baitinger Liz Gross Marissa Torino
- 17 John Goss Patrick Goss Paul Toppin
- 18 Monica Seabo
- 19 Ted Dorofee Kayla Romano
- 20 Joanne Pape
- 23 Courtney Hall Sadie Richards Carl Wyckoff
- 24 Amanda Heise
- 26 Sean Sepsey
- 27 Lorraine Beckett
- 30 Anthony Prete
- 31 Joshua Jennings Wilma Nagtegaal Mark Thompson Jr.

### Happy October Anniversary

- 2 Ian & Emily Preece
- 3 Joe & Chris Seabo
- 4 William Bessler & Darlene Smith
- 7 Bruce & Nancy Reyher
- 10 Scott & Kristie McMullen
- 11 Todd & Debra Heston
- 14 Len & Dorís Donat



- 20 Curt & Lynn Bobzín Dan & Debbíe Gooch
- 23 Doug & Jenn Wardrop
- 24 George & Adriene Davis
- 26 Fred & Mary Lee Patane Doug & Kim Wagner
- 29 Joe & Robin Gelormini
- 30 John & Tara Gallagher



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 Image: Comparison of the sponsors by patronizing their businesses.

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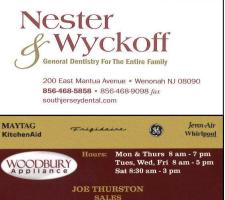


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