



the ^{on-line} church mouse

some squeaky news from the...
Chews United Methodist Church

September / October 2011
Editor: Thomas A. Flint

P.O. Box 152, Glendora, New Jersey 08029 ✧ www.chewsumc.com ✧ (856)939-1007

Rev. Dr. William B. Wilson, Pastor

Mr. John D. Zolty, Church Secretary

Dear Friends,

A new season of ministry is about to begin. The summer is quickly coming to an end and we are gearing up for a busy and exciting fall. What an awesome God we have! We gather together as a community of faith to serve and minister together. Don't miss the opportunities that God has in store for you.

This year we remember the tenth anniversary of the tragic 9/11 attacks. On September 11th at 9:30 AM we will unify in worship in the sanctuary to remember and pray for peace in a world filled with war and despair. Following the service we will join together at a **Church Family Picnic** at the Washington Lake Park in Washington Township (off of Hurffville-Cross Keys Road).

Also on September 11th, I will begin a new sermon series entitled "Why God, Why? Making Sense of God's Will." We will be looking at these

questions. Where is God when the innocent suffer? Where is God when my prayers go unanswered? Why is God's will so hard to understand? The complete series is listed in this edition of *The Mouse*. I hope you can join us for this thought-provoking series.

Many other ministries will start up again including: Wednesday Night Ministries, Kids Club, Little Lambs, Youth, Sunday School for all ages, Bible Studies, plus much more. Watch our weekly bulletin for the details. Invite your friends and neighbors to join you in these ministries.

Remember... people come by being invited by another.

God loves you and so do I. Please join us as we celebrate God's love together.

Loving Jesus & You,
Pastor Bill



Our church picnic will be Sunday, September 11th at 11:30am at Washington Lake Park in Washington Township. Join us as we come together in fellowship. We will be having a cookout with hamburgers, hotdogs, drinks, munchies, games for the children, and plenty of good times. Donation of \$2 per person please. **Please see Janine Flint, Michelle Schmidt, or Joanne Ducati to sign up for the picnic.**



**Welcome Service for Gateway South's
New District Superintendent
REV. DR. ROBERT COSTELLO**

September 25, 2011 — 5:00 PM

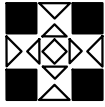
Haddonfield United Methodist Church

**All are invited to this service to welcome
Rev. Costello and his wife Marjorie Costello.**

**"Mission spreads the faith by exemplifying the
compassion, mercy, and justice of Christ in the world."**

— *Rev. Robert Schnase, United Methodist Bishop and Author*

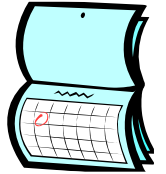




Youth Update

First, I would like to take a moment and thank everyone at Chews for your support and a chance to lead our youth here in this church. I'm grateful for the opportunity, and I'm very excited about the Fall. Our first youth group will be *September 14th* from 6:30 pm until 8:00 p.m. We will spend the first week getting to know each other more and focus on topics of interest which the youth would like to talk about, fund-raisers, and perhaps some events outside of the church. Starting in September we will begin a 5-week lesson on character building, which will include:

- September 21st — Forgiving Others
- September 28th — Honesty
- October 5th — Greed
- October 12th — Friends
- October 19th — Courage



I encourage all the youth to bring a friend not only during this 5-week lesson, but throughout the year. Once again, I thank God for this opportunity to serve my church family.
—Greg Ducati

If you are in need of prayer during the week, call the office or send an e-mail with your specific prayer request to prayers@chewsumc.com

Please note that we no longer use the old e-mail address (chews_glendora@yahoo.com).

Also, if you would like to be one of our Prayer Warriors and can commit to pray for others, please send a request to prayers@chewsumc.com.

Mid-Week Ministry

After a summer break, Mid-Week Ministry will return on Wednesday, September 21st. There is something for everyone (babies to adults).

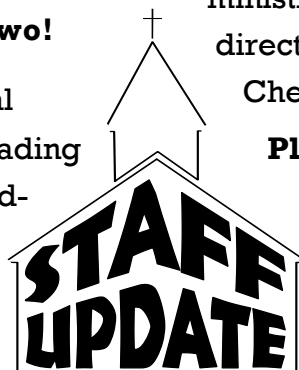
Every Wednesday night begins at 5:30 with dinner. At 6:30 there is a nursery for babies through kindergarten, Kid's Club for 1st—5th grades, and Youth Group for grades 6th—12th. Young Adults also meets Wednesday nights at 8:00.

If you would like to help with one of the age groups or with dinner, please contact Janine Flint at janine@chewsumc.com.

ASSISTANTS TO THE PASTOR

Instead of one, Chews now has two!

Janine Flint — Her professional ministry will include coordinating & leading Sunday contemporary worship, the Mid-week Ministry on Wednesdays, and work with the Nurture, Outreach, and Worship committees of the church.



Greg Ducati — His professional ministry will include providing leadership and direction for the focused youth programs at Chews UMC.

Please note: Effective September 1, 2011, Janine will no longer be a member of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee. Diana Callahan has agreed to serve in the capacity of SPRC Chairperson.



Adult Sunday School starts New year with an Old masterpiece

On September 18, the Adult Sunday School Class will begin anew in the Chapel beginning at 9:45 AM. This quarter we will begin with a study of the Book of Job and discuss why bad things sometimes happen to good people. The class is open to all adults who enjoy bible study, lively discussions, and prayer. One of the articles we will be discussing in the fall is the following article by Rabbi Aron Moss. Please read it and bring your thoughts to class. Newcomers are always welcome.

—Saralynne McDowell

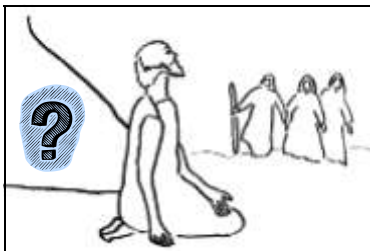
“Question:

Why do bad things happen to good people? Why is this world so unfair? Please don't tell me “We can't understand G-d's ways.”* I am sick of hearing that. I want an explanation.”

“Answer:

Are you sure you want an explanation? Do you really want to know why the innocent suffer? I think not. You are far better off with the question than with an answer.”

You are bothered by the fact that people suffer undeservedly. As you should be. Any person with an ounce of moral sensitivity is outraged by the injustices of our world. Abraham, the first Jew, asked G-d, “Should the Judge of the whole world not act fairly?”



Much tragedy befell Job. He was sad but also angry. He bravely questioned God. Students of the text will learn that God is patient with us when we mourn and particularly when we question, too.

Moses asked, “Why have You treated this people badly?” And today we still ask, “Why G-d, why?”

But what if we found the answer? What if someone came along and gave us a satisfying explanation? What if the mystery were finally solved? What if we asked why, and actually got an answer?

If this ultimate question were answered, then we would be able to make peace with the suffering of innocents. And that is unthinkable. Worse than innocent people suffering is others watching their suffering unmoved. And that's exactly what would happen if we were to understand why innocents suffer. We would no longer be bothered by their cry, we would no longer feel

their pain, because we would understand why it is happening.

Imagine you are in a hospital and you hear a woman screaming with pain. Outside her room, her family is standing around chatting, all smiling and happy. You scream at them, “What's wrong with you? Can't you hear how much pain she is in?” They answer, “This is the delivery ward. She is having a baby. Of course we are happy. “When you have an explanation, pain doesn't seem so bad anymore. We can tolerate suffering when we know why it is happening.



And so, if we could make sense of innocent people suffering, if we could rationalise tragedy, then we could live with it. We would be able to hear the cry of sweet children in pain and not be horrified. We would tolerate seeing broken hearts and shattered lives, for we would be able to neatly explain them away. Our question would be answered, and we could move on.

But as long as the pain of innocents remains a burning question, we are bothered by its existence. And as long as we can't explain pain, we must alleviate it. If innocent people suffering does not fit into our worldview, we must eradicate it. Rather than justifying their pain, we need to get rid of it.

So keep asking the question, why do bad things happen to good people. But stop looking for answers. Start formulating a response. Take your righteous anger and turn it into a force for doing good. Redirect your frustration with injustice and unfairness and channel it into a drive to fight injustice and unfairness. Let your outrage propel you into action. When you see innocent people suffering, help them. Combat pain in the world with goodness. Alleviate suffering wherever you can.

We don't want answers, we don't want explanations, and we don't want closure. We want an end to suffering. And we dare not leave it up to G-d to alleviate suffering. He is waiting for us to do it. That's what we are here for.”

—Rabbi Aron Moss

Join us on Sundays at 9:30 am in the Chapel.

**Editor's Note:* Jewish scholars sometimes omit the English vowels from written names for God, recalling that the ancient Israelites' principal name for God (“YHWH”) was too holy to even vocalize. Moss recognizes that particular oral tradition which renders the proper name difficult to speak. The Hebrew alphabet has no vowels for this reason.





About General Conference 2012:

The General Conference is the top policy-making body of The United Methodist Church, and meets once every four years to consider revisions to church law, as well as adopt resolutions on current moral, social, public policy and economic issues. It also approves plans and budgets for churchwide programs for the next four years.

The 2012 meeting will take place April 24 to May 4 at the Tampa Convention Center.

Chews UMC is on Facebook

Search for "Chews United Methodist Church" (the correct group is the one with a picture of the sky).

Members of the group can post comments & upload pictures of church events.



I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, phone calls, and concern. I have completed all the radiation treatments. Throughout this time I have had minimal problems and praise the Lord for his healing and comfort. I could not have gotten through this time without the prayers from my church family at Chews.

Love and God Bless you,
Kathy Eckels

Chews UMC — Annual Church Conference
October 30, 2011

Rev. Dr. Robert Costello
Preaching & Presiding

(The business portion of the Conference will be conducted at the end of the 11:00 AM Service)

LIFE

**'Tis said our life's from
Birth 'til death,
And then it will be gone
I know these words are not true;
Our essence lingers on.**

**The things we say, the things we do
We shall find at last,
Remain with kin and friends
When mortal life is past.**

**The form we bear while on this earth
May shrivel and decay;
The deeds and thoughts we pass along
Stay on in endless day.**

**Our life is not in days and years,
But in the heart and mind
Of those who follow after,
In the legacy we leave behind.**

**So give thoughtful mind and care
To the things you would aspire,
That your life will be found worthy
That those you touch may, too, desire.**

—Dorothy M. Bills

**"And I will walk among you,
and will be your God,
and you shall be my people!"**



Christmas In July

A huge thanks to all who supported the campaign. As our economy continues to worsen, this ministry is more meaningful than ever. There are various reasons that women and their children find themselves knocking on Trevor's door, including domestic abuse and job loss.

Imagine having an infant that you need to escape with and you have nowhere to go. Imagine also that you go for days on end without eating so that you can save enough to buy formula for your baby - at least enough to give him 1/2 can a day. You know this can't last this way for long and your baby certainly won't survive without permanent damage to his health. Then imagine you find respite at Trevor's Place and that waiting for you there is some formula, clean diapers and maybe even a new pair of jammies for your little one. You just sit and cry, so thankful for the blessing you've just received.



Well, people of Chews, you provide those blessings. Most of us have never even been close to this kind of situation, and we pray we never will be. So we do all that we can to help those who have found themselves in these dire situations. There are so many stories of desperation, and you give these women and children hope. I thank God for each and everyone of you and ask Him to continue to pour out His blessings on you.

—Anita Braun



Military Support Group

We currently have the **Boscov's "Friends Helping Friends" discount shopping pass** for sale now. The pass is good for all day 9am-9pm on Tuesday, **October 4th.**



The discount shopping pass is a **25% Coupon Discount Card**, and the cost of the card to you is just **\$5.00.**

ALL proceeds go towards the Military Support Group of NJ Inc. (MSGNJ) to help with our shipping costs for care packages for the troops. Last month, we sent off a load of boxes and it was over \$500 in shipping. We ship several times a month.

Won't you please help this worthy cause? Boscov's Cards are available at our Monthly military meeting on Sept. 8th or let me know and I can mail them off to you (856-783-1953 or email me at kjcardinal@aol.com).

MSGNJ meets on the 2nd Thursday @ 7:00 pm in the Davidson Room. Coffee available 6:30 pm.

Thank you,
Karen Jennings, Marine Mom

Date	Attendance	Operations	Capital Campaign
June 5	227	\$6,187.00	\$220.00
12	331	\$4,724.45	\$0.00
19	251	\$5,259.00	\$5.00
26	216	\$5,180.00	\$0.00
July 3	185	\$3,854.00	\$200.00
10	213	\$6,581.00	\$20.00
17	196	\$3,785.00	\$0.00
24	183	\$3,623.00	\$0.00
31	212	\$4,590.51	\$25.00
Special Giving	United Methodist Homes		\$ 181.00
	Good Samaritan		\$ 162.00
	Missions "World Service"		\$ 151.91





New Membership Class

Pastor Bill will be conducting a new Adult Membership class on the following Sunday evenings from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the Chapel:

October 9th
 October 23rd
 November 6th

Everyone is welcomed to attend this class whether you are joining church by transfer or by confession of faith.

BAPTISMS	
June 26 th	Bethany Grace Medlar
August 7 th	Mr. Mark Matteo, Jr.

Home Dept.



We visited the ladies at Pitman Manor. Florence Theisen was having a problem with her legs. The other ladies seemed to be doing well and enjoying the activities there.

Bill & Joyce Leap are visited, keeping them up-to-date with church activities. We were happy to see Marge Rathey at church a few weeks ago. We wish Betty Bagget a happy birthday at Collingswood Manor.

We had a visit with Betty Malcolm at Berlin, before they whisked her off for lunch.

—Amy Heberlig, Florence Theisen, Dot Bills, and Eleanor Harrington



Invite a Friend to Church



We are looking for addresses and telephone numbers for the following members of Chews. Please let the office (939-1007) know of any information you might have. Thank you.

Alexander, Hardman	Crammer, Brian	Griscom, David & Danna	Siracuse, Mabel
Anderson, Sr., Steve & Mary	Cranmer, Thelma	Hill, Marissa	Smedley, Joan
Bender, Jason	DeRemigi, Tony	Kilpatrick, Sherry	Smith, Shane
Ciotto, Michael & Teresa	Fiorella, William & Kimberly	McGahey, Kevin & Patricia	Sokoya, Anita
Cortez, Phillip & Rachael	Frattaroli, Sam & Kathleen	McNamara, Michael & Lisa	Testa, Frank & Lea Marie
Couch, Warren & Jillian	Graham, Joy	Samsel, Christopher	

Why God, Why? Making Sense of God's Will

Pastor Bill will be preaching this series for the Fall. The sermons and scriptures for this series will be:

Sept. 11 th	Why Do the Innocent Suffer? Part 1 Genesis 1: 27-28
Sept. 18 th	Why Do the Innocent Suffer? Part 2 Romans 8: 18-25
Sept. 25 th	Why Do My Prayers Go Unanswered? Psalms 22: 1-2 & Luke 22: 42-44
Oct. 2 nd	Why Can't I See God's Will for My Life? Colossians 1: 9-14
Oct. 16 th	Why God's Love Prevails? Romans 8: 28-39

	Other Sermons by Pastor Bill
Sept. 4 th	Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde Romans 7: 15-25
Oct. 23 rd	Maintaining Relationships on the Run 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8



A heartfelt thank you to Greg Ducati Sr. and Greg Jr. for helping me in my time of need. All kindness comes from God, and they are a shining example of God's goodness. Thanks again for your generosity of spirit.

Helen Albright Troxell





www.chewsumc.com
www.umc.org

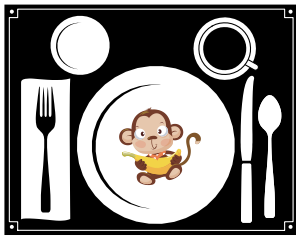
our local church's website
our denomination's website (excellent)

www.gbgm.org
www.umc-gbcs.org
www.gnjac.org
www.gbod.org
www.umc.org/infoserv

General Board of Global Ministries
General Board of Church & Society
our Annual Conference's website
General Board of Discipleship
our denomination's information service

Did you know ... The United Methodist Church has a 20-minute video summary of the general church's history and its present challenges at: <http://www.gbod2.org/methodistway/default.htm> ?

Welcome Back Potluck



The congregation will be joining together on Sunday, October 16th, at 6:00 pm to celebrate the re-appointment of Pastor Bill. **Each family is asked to bring a dish to share with 6-8 people.** Further details will be announced in the Sunday bulletins.

Vacation Bible School 2011

Another year of Vacation Bible School has sadly and ever so quickly come to an end. (Where has the summer gone??) I would just like to take this opportunity to thank each and every person who helped to make the *Hometown Nazareth VBS* a success, from the teachers and helpers, to the kitchen crew, crafters, prop makers, skit actors, market venders and to those who donated their time, talents and gifts to make sure that VBS was glorifying to the Lord and an inspiration to those children and adults who faithfully attended each week. (We averaged 100 people every Wednesday night for each of the five nights.)



Our mission project was to collect pennies for the purchase of a plane to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to those in remote parts of Africa and our children stepped up to the plate and brought in their pennies to help fulfill that mission. VBS is a wonderful outreach to our community and it enables our church family to reach out to others looking to draw closer to the Lord.

As this is my last year of directing VBS— I have either directed or taught for close to 20 years on and off— I feel that it time to pass the torch on in to a fresh, new director in order to keep VBS exciting with some new leadership. I can't wait until VBS 2012, and I know it will be better then ever and will be a blessing to the new director!

—Saralynne McDowell



NEWSLETTER DEADLINES:

Sunday, October 2nd
Sunday, December 4th



Submissions should be sent by e-mail to only newsletter@chewsumc.com or leave a typed or printed copy in the office mailbox, by the next published due date.

Items must be brief & include a contact.

Church Leaders: please share your message or upcoming announcement. Do you have an event occurring 1-2 months from now? What do you need the congregation to know about your work area?

Tell Us: How is God using your group's ministry to add to our collective witness to God?

ILLUMINATING THOUGHTS

*The Lord is gracious, and full of compassion;
slow to anger, and great mercy.*

Psalms 145:8

*My sheep listen to my voice;
I know them, and they follow me.*

John 10:27

Consider these Early-childhood Ministries ...

My name is Jenine Peters. I started coming to Chews UMC after losing faith in my church when my first born son, Brett Michael Peters, died at three-months old in 2004. I always assumed that my faith was strong until I lost my son. During the two years after Brett went to Heaven, my soul was searching for a new way to worship and to believe in Jesus and his word. I went to many different churches in all different faiths. A friend brought me to Chews UMC. From the first moment I entered the church in the summer of 2006, I knew I had found a home. The members were so friendly and inviting. My second son, Collin, was one year old at the time and I was pregnant with my third son, Gavin, when I found a place to worship. What made Chews UMC even more special to me were the other mothers I met who had young children my age. We bonded quickly and our little ones had playmates both inside and outside of church. It is wonderful to meet Christian families that can relate to my values.

The Parent & Tot Program on Sundays at 9:30 AM with Sue Glielme offered the first opportunity to meet other parents and children. Little Lambs was the second program at Chews UMC that became important to me. Both offered a "safe sanctuary" place where my children met friends at early ages and developed lifelong bonds. I work full-time and always wanted to attend "Mommy and Me" programs. Little Lambs and the Parent & Tot Sunday School gave me the opportunity to meet with other parents and our babies to celebrate Christian unity. Joanne Ducati and I now run the Little Lambs program. We welcome any new parent with children from birth to kindergarten-age to join us at Little Lambs from 6:30—7:30PM in the nursery, one Sunday night a month. Moms, Dads and grandparents are all welcome. We sing songs, say a prayer, do a craft and end with dessert. Please review the bulletin for dates. I look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,
Jenine Peters



**... Little Lambs Program and
Parent & Tot Sunday School.**



Chews United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 152
Glendora, NJ 08029

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Youth Character-Building Series

Sept. 21st—Forgiving Others
Sept. 28th — Honesty
October 5th — Greed
October 12th — Friends
October 19th — Courage

@ 6:30 pm

Special Sundays and Events

- September 4 **Labor Day Weekend** with Holy Communion at 9:30 AM in the Sanctuary and in the Davidson Room.
- September 11 **A Day of Remembrance and Peace** (tenth anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy) at 9:30 AM in the Sanctuary.
- September 18 **Rally Day** with the resumption of our three services, 8:30, 9:30 & 11:00 AM and Sunday School for all ages.
- September 25 **Baptism Sunday**
- October 2 **World Communion Sunday**
- October 9 **Laity Sunday** with our laity leading us in worship.
- October 16 **Baptism Sunday**
- October 23 **Bring a Friend with you to Worship**
✈ **Airplane Sunday**
- October 30 **Annual church Conference** with District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Robert Costello preaching and presiding.