

**A BRIGHT IDEA!**

In his book, *Peacemaker*, Ken Sande gives an example of how loving actions can communicate forgiveness...

When Thomas Edison and his staff were working on the incandescent light bulb, it took hundreds of hours to manufacture a single bulb. One day, after finishing one of these rare bulbs, he handed it to a young errand boy and asked him to take it upstairs to the testing room. As the boy turned and started for the stairs, he stumbled and fell and *the bulb shattered on the steps into a million pieces!*

Instead of yelling at the boy, Edison patted him on the back and then told his staff to start working on another bulb.

When the next bulb was completed many days later, Edison demonstrated the reality of his forgiveness in the most powerful way possible. He walked over to the same errand boy, handed him the bulb, and said, *"Please take this up to the testing room."*

Imagine how the boy must have felt. He knew that he didn't deserve to be trusted with this responsibility again. Yet, here it was, being offered to him again as though nothing had ever happened. *Nothing could have restored this boy to the team more clearly, more quickly, or more fully!*

So, as the cold weather in Jersey (finally) subsides and springtime is in the air...whom do you need to forgive? What walls have been put up which need to be knocked down? What hurt feelings are being harbored which need to be let out to sea?

The funny (and sad) thing about refusing to forgive is that it only hurts the person who doesn't forgive! Somehow, we humans have it backward. We tend to believe that if we don't forgive the other, we are hurting them somehow. In reality, we are only building up toxic feelings and regrets which will eventually cause us serious harm.

So, whom do you need to forgive...that relative who said something hurtful last year? Or the supposed friend who did you wrong back in high school? Or your spouse who you feel doesn't pay enough attention to you? How about that boss who is always on your case?

Whom do you need to forgive?

When Jesus was on the cross, paying for our sins, he prayed...

*"Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing..." ~ Luke 23:34a*

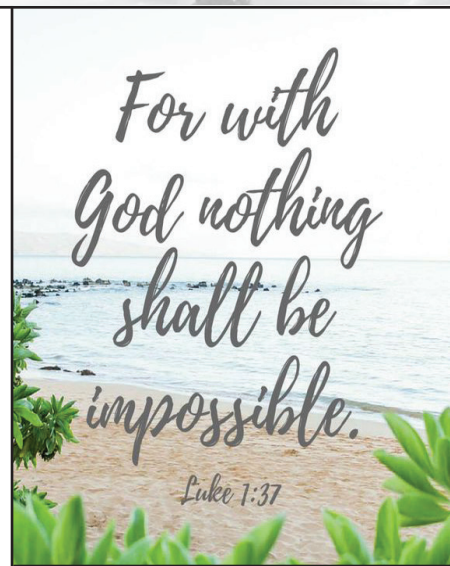
Now, I know people have been bad to you. They have done you wrong. Some of the things are so maddening; it's hard to speak about them. In fact, on a scale of 1-10, some of the hurt you have experienced is a 13!

But does it compare with bearing the sins of the past, present, and future world?

Jesus prayed, *"Father forgive them..."*

So, whom do you need to forgive? Now's the time.

I love you,  
Pastor Ed



**Sunday Worship Services and Sunday School**

9:00am  
Contemporary  
(Family Life Center)

10:30am  
Traditional  
(Sanctuary)

**Sunday School**  
9:00am  
Preschool  
5th Grade & Adults

10:30am  
6th-12th Grade

**Confirmation Classes**  
4:00-5:30pm

**Youth Group**  
6:00-8:00pm  
Thompson Hall

**First United Methodist Church of Toms River**  
**OUR MISSION...**

**BELONGING TO THE FAMILY**

**BELIEVING THE GOOD NEWS**

**BECOMING LIKE JESUS**



## OUTREACH REPORT

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During the month of March, the Hope Center helped out 42 households in the following ways: Emergency shelter- 69 nights for a total of \$4018.00; Utilities- 4 families for a total of \$557.70; Gas Voucher/transport- 6 families for \$130.00; ShopRite Cards- 1 household for \$30.00; Miscellaneous Gift Cards- 1 household for \$30.00; and Other Expenditures- rehabilitation fee - \$140.00. The grand total of services provided is \$4,905.70.

The Hope Center also distributed 25,261 pounds of food to 435 families consisting of 852 adults and 386 children.

The United Methodist Women made up 19 Easter baskets and donated them to the Hope Center. Just think about the children that received those unexpected baskets on Easter morning. The personnel of the Hope Center raved about the content and attractiveness of those baskets. That's what I call "doing it the F.U.M.C. Way!"

The Hope Center is sponsoring a fundraiser on Friday, June 8th at the Grunin Center at Ocean County College. The featured artist is Chris Pinnella, a member of the Trans-Siberian Orchestra singing The Billy Joel Songbook. Tickets may be purchased at the Hope Center or The Grunin Center.

### FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH REPORT

See the United Methodist Women in the Hope Center Report.

The United Methodist Men sponsor a monthly breakfast and have given monthly donations, thus far, to the following: 1) Care Givers; 2) Pastor's Discretionary Fund; 3) the Educational Assistance Fund, 4) the Youth Mission Trip, and 5) Church Property Expenses. The breakfast donation in June will be given to our Vacation Bible School. Come on out and treat yourself.

The next food drive for the Hope Center and Jackson Baptist Church will be held on Sunday, June 10th. Personal hygiene items needed are soap, shampoo, deodorant, sunscreen, bath

tissue, baby diapers, and baby wipes. Please remember that during the summer months, young needy children do not receive federal government funded breakfasts and lunches; therefore, there is a greater need of food in the summer.

Don't forget that our Second Quarter Mission Giving is for our Youth Mission Trip to Massachusetts. This trip will take place this summer. Please give prayerful thought to your contribution to this worthy cause and mission of our church.

The Paula Brown Soup Kitchen continues to do well because of your participation in supplying funds and food. Please continue to support our Paula Brown Soup Kitchens as they provide dinners for needy people in Ocean County.

The services of a volunteer bring about great results. An example of this is Charlie Burch and Dave Correll pick up sandwiches and other sundry items every Monday and Wednesday morning at the WaWa on Fischer Boulevard. Charlie also goes to the Ocean/Monmouth County Food Bank located on Hooper Avenue to pick up other donations. All the food picked up is gone by the end of the week. All items picked up are given to the Hope Center for distribution. Similar ministries could develop in the near future and more volunteers from our church might be needed. This is a program where true discipleship is at work. Read Matthew 25: 31 - 46.

Think about inviting a friend or acquaintance to church during the summer months and put him/her on the path of becoming a servant of the Lord.

Pray that our Vacation Bible School is a Great One and interests parents to begin attending our church based upon what they experienced at our V.B.S.

Make Matthew 5: 43-48 part of your life!

# WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY?

## HOW ABOUT A GIFT TO YOUR CHURCH AS PART OF THIS CELEBRATION?

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Independence Day is designed to honor and remember those whose lives have made a positive impact on our country and our Church through their dedication to our country's freedom including freedom of religion. Since the beginning of the Permanent Endowment Fund, members and friends have donated nearly \$700,000, much of it in honor/memory of Church's Saints. These donations are invested and only the earnings are used in the work of the Kingdom. Earnings have allowed the Church to receive \$39,600 this year alone for its use in our Church's Mission.

In addition to cash, members and friends have the Permanent Endowment Fund as a beneficiary of their wills, life insurance, and gift annuities. Also, some have given Stock because it has an additional advantage of saving "capital gains taxes." With the Holy Spirit's guidance, the future of our Permanent Endowment looks bright!

*Recently we have been highlighting the gift annuity since it allows a person(s) to receive a high rate of return on their gift until they no longer need it; at the time their gift comes to the Permanent Endowment Fund. We do have a booklet on this topic which is available explaining this type of gift in more detail. A gift annuity is an agreement between an individual(s) and the First United Methodist Church Toms River. The individual(s) can benefit by receiving lifetime payments that may be tax-free or taxed at lower rates than other income. Also, the donor(s) may enjoy income, gift, and estate tax savings as well as favorable treatment of capital gains. The payments to the donor(s) are based on the age of the donor(s) and once established remains the same each year. For instance, a person who is 77 years old will receive each year 6.2% of the amount donated. The Permanent Endowment Fund receives the remainder of the gift after payments to the donor(s) ceases.*

Any member of our Church's endowment committee will be happy to discuss the most beneficial way for you to make a gift. They are Jere Williams, Chair, Frank Strucki, Treasurer, Mary Bode, Chris Christiansen, Jim Graef, Fred Muller, Peter Rich, Sibyl Walczak, and Bob Wahlers.

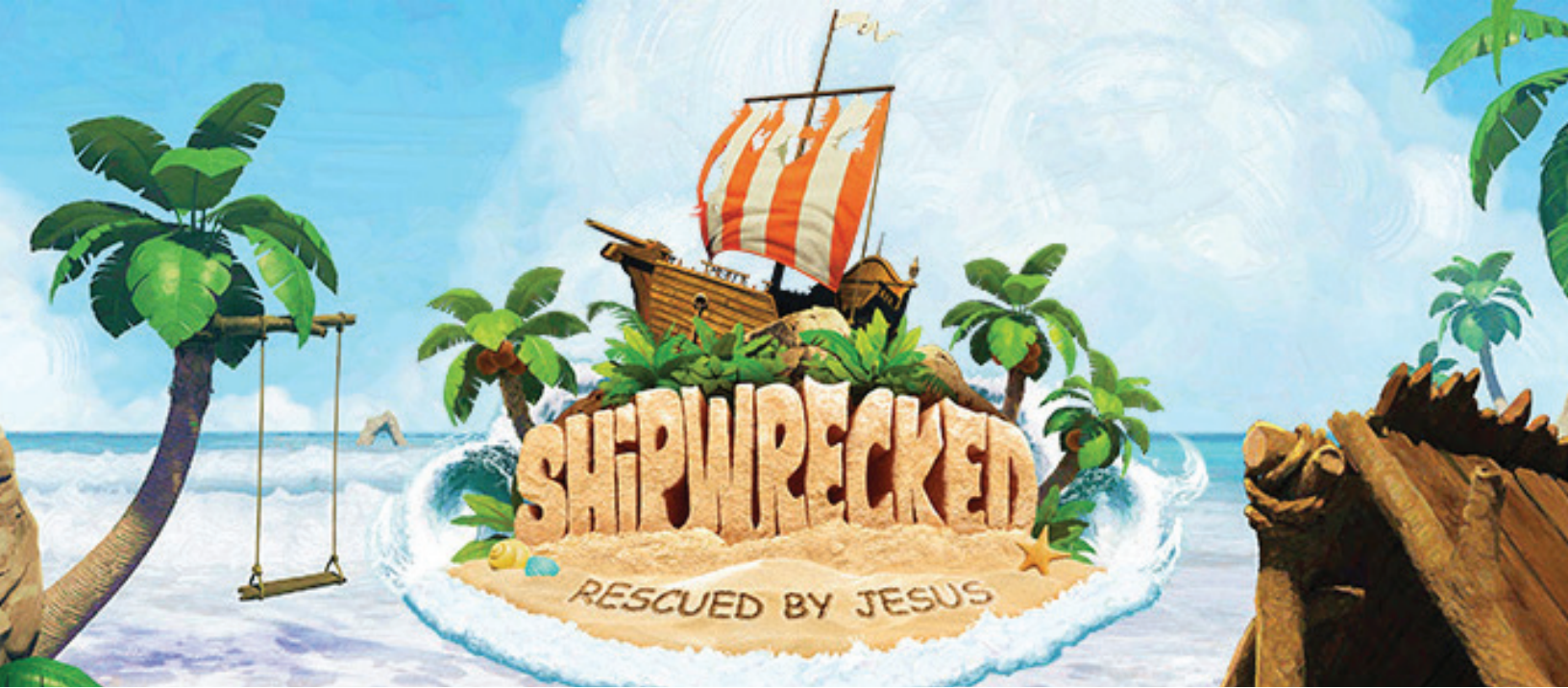
Members and friends donating or arranging for a gift in the future of \$5,000 or more, become members of First United Methodist Church Toms River Heritage Society named in honor of Rev Dr Harold Schmul and Carolyn Schmul. Anyone can join by just letting a committee member of their gift, either current or planned for future.



## THE TWENTY FIRST CENTURY OF THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF TOMS RIVER SPIRITUAL LEADERS OF FUMCTR (PASTORS)

1828- B. Weed, J. McLaurin, 1829-1838- No Record; 1839- Bromwell Andrew, Lewis T. Maps, 1840- No Record, 1841- Noah Edwards, Lewis T. Maps, 1842- Joseph H. Sleeper, Fletcher Lummis, 1843-1844- James Long, E.M. Griffith, 1845- A.I.J. Truitt, J.W. Putnam, 1846- A.I.J. Truitt, Isaac Hugg, 1847- Levi Herr, Mordecai C. Stokes, 1848-1849- Edward Page, C. Larew, 1850-1851- Samuel Jaquett, Edwin Waters, 1852- Edwin Waters, Benjamin F. Woolston, 1853-1854- D. Teed, John L. Souder, 1855-1856- William C. Stockton, John Connolly, 1857-1858- John I Corson, 1859-1860- Mordecai C. Stokes, William T. Abbot, 1861-1862- BENJAMIN S. SHARP- FIRST PERMANENT PASTOR- THOSE BEFORE HIM WERE VISITING CIRCUIT RIDERS, 1863- Joseph Atwood, 1864-1865- Albert Matthews, 1866-1867- Levi J. Rhodes, 1868-1869- William W. Moffett, 1870-1871- Henry G. Williams, 1872-1874- James H. Payran, 1875-1877- George H. Neal, 1878-1880- George C. Stanger, 1881-1883- George Reed, 1884- W. Williams

Christine, 1885-1887- Samuel E. Post, 1888-1889- Joseph B. Turpin, 1890-1892- Robert B. Stephenson, 1893-1895- Amos M. North, 1896- Charles S. Lawrence; 1897-1898- Samuel H. Hann, 1899-1900- Lucius O. Manchester, 1901-1902- Edmund C. Hulse, 1903-1904- William T. Valiant, 1905-1909- Ananias Lawrence, 1910-1912- Leon Chamberlain, 1913- J. Casper Culp, 1914-1916- Ralph S. Carlisle, 1917-1918- Woodburn J. Sayre, 1919-1922- William W. Payne, 1923-1924- John W. Wainright, 1925-1928- Oliver C. Apgar, 1929- George W. Hanners, 1930-1932- Charles St. C. Fees, 1933-1937- Howard W. Rash, 1938-1944- Harry Van Cleaf, 1945-1947- William H. Matthews, Jr., 1948-1956- Donald T. Phillips, 1957-1960 C. Wesley Crossley, 1961-1964- Leon Gibson, 1965-1974- Carl Halvorson, 1975-1985- C. Ross Collins, 1985-1988 Russell Shivers, 1988-1992- Joseph Hofer, 1992-1997- Harold Schmul (Pastor Emeritus-1997), 1998- Walter Quigg (Interim Pastor), 1998-2016- Bruce Quigley, and 2016-Present- Ed Davis.



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School is an awesome time for the kids of the Toms River community! This is for all kids from ages 3 to the end of fifth grade. You don't have to be part of FUMC (you don't even have to want to be part of FUMC!) to come to VBS, July 23-27, 2018. This is for everyone! For more information about VBS and to register, visit [www.fumctr.com/events/vbs18/](http://www.fumctr.com/events/vbs18/)

### TRUSTEES UPDATE - JUNE 2018

Greetings from your Board of Trustees. Numerous projects have been completed, are underway, or are planned for the near future.

Examples include: upgrades at the Ellis parsonage, plans to patch and reseal the church parking lot, conversion to wireless internet throughout the campus and many more.

Thompson Hall has undergone attic insulation upgrades. The east side interior and exterior doors have been replaced.

The sanctuary choir loft and sacristy steps have new safety rails.

The FLC has new thermostats and HVAC projects are completed or pending in order to be proactive rather than reactive.

There is an immediate need for sanctuary pew reupholstering. It is a major project with a major expense concern. We will update the congregation in future Messenger articles.

Acting as good stewards in your house of worship:

John Gatsch, Chairperson  
Scottie Gatsch, Secretary  
Pete Rich, Treasurer  
Dan Rubino, property  
Jen Bilquist

Liz Mitchell  
Jay Latshaw  
Sue Burch  
Charlie Burch



## DEATHS

REVEREND FREDERICK SAMUEL RICHARDETTE, JUNE 6, 1928 - MAY 3, 2018

LINDA MARIE SZCZYTKO, MAY 12, 1951- MAY 10, 2018

SUE MALINOWSKI'S BROTHER, GREGORY CHADWICK, MAY 2018

# JUNE

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 9:00 Family Life Center 10:30 Sanctuary Communion  4:00 Confirmation, TH 6:00 Youth Group, TH	4  7:00 UMW Exec. Bd R4	5  11:00 Phoebe Circle, TH  Confirmation class/Farminary	6	7	8  10:00 Breakfast setup	9  8-10 Church Family Breakfast
10 9:00 Family Life Center  10:30 Sanctuary Food Collection  4:00 Confirmation  6:00 Youth Group, TH	11	12  10:00 Knitters, TH  12:00 Eve Circle, TH  7:00 UMM, TH	13  3-5 Nine Patchers, TH	14	15  Messenger Deadline for June/July/ August	16
17 9:00 Family Life Center  10:30 Sanctuary  4:00 Confirmation  6:00 Youth Group, TH	18	19  3-4:30 Soup Kitchen FLC  6:30 Trustees, WR	20  CHNS Last Day!	21	22	23
24 9:00 Family Life Center  10:30 Sanctuary  4:00 Confirmation  6:00 Youth Group, TH	25	26  10:00 Knitters, TH  3-4:30 Soup Kitchen FLC	27  3-5 Nine Patchers, TH	28	29	30

**MONDAYS**

9am Crafters  
 6-8pm First Place for Health - FLC  
 7pm Boy Scouts - FLC

**TUESDAYS**

7:00 pm Praise Team - FLC  
 10:00 - Knitters - TH

**THURSDAYS**

7:30 Sanctuary Choir - CR  
 (June 7<sup>th</sup> & June 14<sup>th</sup>)

**CR** = Choir Room, **FLC** = Family Life Center, **MC** = Media Center, **R4** = Room 4, **TH** = Thompson Hall, **WR** = Wilden Room



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**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
OF TOMS RIVER**

129 Chestnut Street  
Toms River, NJ 08753  
(732)349-8155  
Email: [fumctr@verizon.net](mailto:fumctr@verizon.net)  
Website: [www.fumctr.com](http://www.fumctr.com)

**FUMCTR STAFF**

Ed Davis, Senior Pastor  
Wes Ellis, Associate Pastor  
Linda J. Hendrickson, Director of Music  
Dr. Harold E. Schmul II, Pastor Emeritus  
Bob Ferrara, Lay Leader  
Paula Smith, Administrative Assistant  
Kimberly Dillon, Nursery School Director

**CHESTNUT HILL NURSERY SCHOOL**

Phone: (732)286-9388  
Email: [chns1@verizon.net](mailto:chns1@verizon.net)  
Website: [chestnuthillnurseryschool.com](http://chestnuthillnurseryschool.com)

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Messenger Designer, Carrie Trotman  
Email: [carrie@zoeydesigned.com](mailto:carrie@zoeydesigned.com)