

Norrisville and St. Paul United Methodist Churches

Chapel Bells



July/August 2014

"I have been blessed." Haven't we all said that? Certainly Abraham and Sarah, in the Old Testament, would say, "God has blessed us beyond our dreams."

There is more. God promises them, "I will bless you ... so that you will be a blessing." In fact, through you "all the families of the earth will be blessed" (Gen. 12:1-4) The blessing of God is to be shared. Jesus pushes us even further: "Bless and pray for those who curse you" (Luke 6:28).

The typical closing words of many contemporary politicians' speeches are "God bless America." If we put that spin on the blessing given to Abraham and Sarah, then we would say, "God bless America so we can be a blessing to the whole earth and its inhabitants."

As we celebrate our nation's 238th birthday, let's remember that we are blessed to be a blessing.

As we worship together this summer, we'll learn more about Abraham and Sarah, and their descendants, as we journey through the Old Testament book of Genesis.

Blessings, Melissa

PS. Don't take a vacation from church this summer. We need you, and you need to be in worship!

Appalachian Service Project News

As you get this Newsletter, our ASP team will be in Kentucky. Please keep them in your prayers, and be ready for them to share their stories later in the summer. Some of our team this year are from Dublin UMC & Presbury UMC (Shannon's church in Edgewood), who are participating in ASP for the first time; so that's exciting that we're introducing others to this kind of ministry.



Our 2014 ASP Team: Marty Meehan, Joe DiGiacinto, Suzanne Sullivan, Donna Walters, Sydney Wyatt, Austin Nikirk, Ellen Nikirk, Alex Robey, Cassie Price, Janine Harrison, Brianna Sheets, Gayle Leaf, Matt Johnson, & Erich Wildberger.

Don't forget, save your change for each communion Sunday. All those coins add up quickly to support our ASP team!

Ruby Tuesday Fundraiser for HOPE: July 11, 12, 13.

Once again, HOPE will receive 20% of the net sales from patrons who have a HOPE flyer (available at church, or email Melissa), only at Ruby Tuesdays in Shrewsbury (1020 Far Hills Dr., 717-235-0223). Go out to lunch or dinner -- or both!

HOPE is a local cancer support group, which serves cancer patients and their families in countless ways. If you know someone who could use their support, talk to Melissa about it.



July Dates

Tues. July 1: Norrisville Church Council 7pm
Tues. July 8: Pauline Carico's 101st Birthday!
Thurs. July 17: St. Paul Church Council 7pm

Visit Boy Scout Troop 809
at Kefauver's in Jarrettsville
on
Saturday, August 9th
between 10 am - 2 pm
for a pit beef, turkey or ham sandwich



August Dates

Sat. August 16: St. Paul Peach Festival



Tues. Sept. 2: Norrisville Church Council 7pm
Sun. Sept. 7: Back to Sunday School at
Norrisville (regular classes resume)
Thurs. Sept. 11: St. Paul Church Council 7pm
October 11: Norrisville BBQ
November 22: St. Paul Christmas Bazaar
Cookie Walk, Sandwich Sale

Rudy Arnold (N) raised most money for HOPE in a Brake-a-thon at UTA Karate School. He raised \$1,398, and the school raised a total of over \$9,000! He broke 20 boards, and received a pink belt. Way to go, Rudy!!!

CONGRATULATIONS!



Kenny DiGiacinto (N) was honored by the Knights of Columbus at St. Mary's Church as Firefighter of the year!



Congratulations to our 2014 North Harford High School Graduates: Nick Taylor, Bailey Joyce, Stephen Dykes, and Will Ford! And to Miranda Poe, who graduated from Lycoming College.

Jewelry Ministry

Colesville UMC, in Silver Spring, accepts donations of used, unwanted, and broken jewelry. They disassemble the jewelry, and use the piece to recycle and repurpose entirely new jewelry, to sell to the public. Then, the money raised goes to mission, including UM Volunteers in Mission, hunger and housing programs, and more.

At both St. Paul and Norrisville, we have boxes to collect jewelry, and then we will send it to Colesville UMC. Thanks to Emily Troyer at St. Paul and the Lancaster girls at Norrisville for making us beautiful boxes to use!



STAPLES REWARDS PROGRAM

Over the last six months, we have recycled twenty ink cartridges a month and been rewarded \$40 each month from staples to be used for office supplies and a few other things (like coffee). In order to belong on this program, we must spend \$1,000 a year. We don't spend that much for just the paper and things the church uses, so we need your help!

For anything YOU (or your friends) buy at Staples, we will get 5% of your order in rewards money, and you get free shipping and tax free merchandise right to your door, if you use our rewards number. If we don't meet the \$1000 quota for all we buy, we are bumped down to a lower level, where we can only recycle ten cartridges a month and only get \$20 in rewards. But, with all of us working together, we can work to the higher level.

So, if you make a purchase at Staples, give them our rewards number (and pass it on to your friends). Our Norrisville UMC rewards number is 3581363920. If you purchase in one of their stores and don't have the number, give me the receipt and I will be able to get the rewards online. Remember, St. Paul benefits, too, it's just that this account is set up in Norrisville's name.

I just saved someone \$12 over what they would have paid in Walmart for their ink cartridges. If you have any problems or questions, please let me know. Joyce (N) 410-357-4939

HOPE "Celebrating 20 Years" Cookbooks are available for \$20 each. They contain wonderful recipes from patients and volunteers, wonderful articles and other useful bits of information. Give your money to Jeanette Keech or Melissa, and we will get you a copy.



Happy Summer!



Being Still - Taken from "The Upper Room", 1/29/14

I am a full-time student with a full-time campus leadership position and a part-time retail job. I love the Lord, but recently I've noticed that my prayers are mostly those of exhaustion. I feel like I'm being pulled in a thousand different directions. In the midst of crying out in moments of desperation, I shoot "arrow prayers" into heaven — impersonal, inattentive requests such as "Lord, let me have a good day today" or "God, please help me with ... everything!"

Whenever I have a moment for what should be quality time with God it is peppered with distractions: social media notifications, e:mail, phone calls, and text messages. In order to truly focus on God, I'm now compelled to put down the cellphone, close the laptop, and shut off all other distractions.

Psalm 46:10 says, "Be still, and know that I am God." I think God is just as eager to talk with me as I am with God. When I steal away in God's presence without distraction and really try to focus on God during that time, I find that God has something to say. When I am still and silent, I am finally able to listen.

Melissa McDade, Pastor
Norrisville Charge
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Norrisville Charge Worship Times

St. Paul: Worship at 8:15 am, Sunday School for all ages following worship
Located at the corner of St. Paul Church & Telegraph Rds, off Rt. 136

Norrisville: worship at 9:30 am, Sunday School for all ages following worship
Located on Church Lane (west of Norrisville Rd), near Norrisville Elementary School