



First United Methodist Church
211 West Third Street
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www.fumcirving.org

Connexion 13 Issue 6



CONNEXION

Volume 13 Issue 6

June 29, 2018

Read: Proverbs 3

Jack's Journal

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

Several years ago, my brothers and I planned a huge family reunion in honor of what have been my mother and dad's 95th and 96th birthdays respectively. One of the activities that we hoped many in the family would participate in was whitewater rafting. In the planning, my mind drifted back in time as a teenager.

I love to shoot rapids. I remember shooting rapids in a sixteen-foot aluminum canoe as a teenager. Of course, during that time, the rapids were probably category I or II in strength, but they seemed like Category IV from our perspective. As a teenager, it was a thrill, a heart-pumping, adrenaline-flowing moment as my brother and I came toward the first swell, water splashing in our faces, veering around one large boulder, and another. We paddled like crazy listening to each other above the "roar" of the Delaware River around Washington's Crossing (our Refuge ROCKS Youth Choir saw that part of the river in recent weeks). At the end of each run, we took a deep breath and relaxed in the calm of a smooth flowing pool below, baling out the water we took on in the previous rapids. Oh what a wonderful remembrance! In fact, as I type this, my heart feels the exhilaration again.

As amateurs, we discovered some of the keys to the successful conquer of those rapids. They are not limited to directional control or float with or ahead of the current, but also, looking ahead and not to the side or behind. Furthermore, in the process, there was the reciprocal trust of my brother and me as we traveled along the river.

It is the same as life. The river of life is like shooting the rapids of a twisting, descending riverbed. The river of life has a guide who wants us to listen to his instructions and plan. The Guide, calls out to us over the roar of the rapids, the noise of the riffles, and the peacefulness of the calm pools, calling us to trust him with our whole heart. Thus, Proverbs 3:5-6 reminds us to trust the Guide in our run in the river of life.

Prayer: O Lord Jesus, may we remember to trust you with our heart as we travel within the river of life with you as Guide. May we be an instrument of your guidance to others who travel along their rivers of life. Amen.

Shooting the river of life in grace and peace,

PS: Please invite the children in your family and neighborhood to participate in Rolling River Rampage VBS beginning July 9th!

ONLINE GIVING



<http://www.fumcirving.org>



Thank you to all the leaders who have been preparing for VBS. We are so excited for this summer's **Vacation Bible School**. (July 9-13) The online registration is still open on our website so get your children, grandchildren, neighbors and friends signed up.

The Mission Project for VBS is UMCOR's clean water and sanitation initiative. We are collecting money during VBS to send to one of their projects. The communion rail offering on Sunday, July 1st will go towards this effort. We would love to have Sunday School classes or anyone else contribute to this effort led by the children.

You may also donate on line via the church website.
<https://secure.sharefaithgiving.com/go/form.php?rid=4ea8b1c94d77&>

Watch for the Children's Ministry **float in the annual city July 4th parade**. Some of you might see some familiar faces on the float.



Nine of our students are at **summer camp at Bridgeport** this week. We are anxious to hear their about their experiences and all the new friends they made.

Blessings to all,
Ms. Bonnie Jones
Children's Director

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS
JUNE 2018

IN HONOR OF:
Brick in honor of Golden Anniversary of **George and JoCarol Adamson**
Myrtle Beard Scholarship Fund from Ruth and Harrold Henson
Jim and Betty McConnell for their faithful service to the church and its people from JoAnn Maykus

IN MEMORY OF:
Novice Nicholson to General Budget from Jean Tyrone
Daniel Harms to General Budget from Jean Tyrone
Harold Williams to Wednesday Work Crew from Mrs. Wilma Brockett

Finance Update for General Cost of Ministry

Beginning Balance as May 31, 2018	-\$57,457.00
Contributions & Other Income through June 26, 2018	\$48,247.00
Expenses through June 26, 2018	-\$67,119.00
Closing Balance, June 26, 2018	-\$76,329.00
Giving to ministries outside the General Cost of Ministry	\$69,233.00

Thank you for your offerings, blessings, and support!

FUMC REFUGE YOUTH

It is hard to believe that we are already finished with the month of June. This summer is absolutely flying by. We have already had some incredible events and had lots of fun but July is going to be full of even more awesome memories. Please be in prayer for our youth who are going to camp this summer, for those who are helping with vbs, and for those going to Guatemala with the mission experience team. Our youth are awesome and I cannot wait to see what other awesome things God continues to do this summer.

Kyle Powell
Director of Youth Ministries



Music Notes



Refuge R.O.C.K.S.

Please accept my sincere gratitude for those who supported, helped, and prayed for the 2018 Youth Choir Mission Tour.

Congregation, thanks for your generous support and praying. We could not make this happened without your support.

Sunday School Classes, thanks for your support and generous donations.

Chancel Choir, thanks for your generous gift of \$500.

Anonymous persons, thanks for those who donated large amounts of money without their name being known.

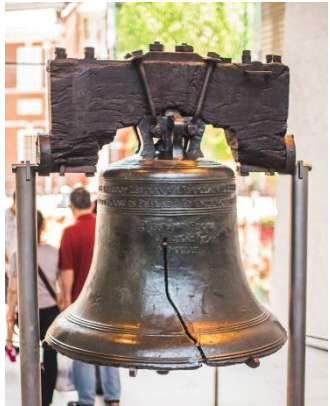
Parents, thanks for taking the time to help with the fundraising. I am so grateful to have great supports in the youth family.

Kyle, Jessica, Colin, and Yeonok, thank you for the time and hard work you gave during the tour. You set the tone as a servant leader by helping me, and the youth run a successful tour. I express heartfelt thanks for all you did.

Pastor Jack, thank you for surprising us at St. John UMC, it was a great surprise. Thank you for supporting the Youth Choir in everything we do.

The Youth Choir, we made it! Thank you for your hard works and following all the rules and the leadership. I am so thankful for the time you took to make this tour successful. You are such wonderful kids and I am so proud of you. I can't wait for next year's mission tour.

Milal Mission Organization, St. John UMC in Ivyland, Ray Satterfield family, Pastor Jack's brother, Dave's family, Cherry Hill Korean UMC, Princeton Seminary, thanks for your hospitality and giving us great opportunities to serve, and lead worship, concert, and community.



Summer Choir

Each summer from mid-June through the beginning of August, all singers ages 12+ are invited to come to church any Sunday at 10:00 a.m. for a short rehearsal in the choir room, then sing for the 10:30 a.m. service. Summer choir is simple (one anthem in hymns), and informal (no robes). No long-term commitment; no need to sign up in advance.

If you have any questions, contact David Lee at music@fumcirving.org or 609.439.2655.



Parent's Day Out



We are having a fun summer at PDO. Some learning and lots of friend fun!! If you haven't been to the PDO FACEBOOK page - make sure you check it out. There are some really fun pictures of activities happening daily. The pictures are priceless and will make even Oscar the Grouch smile.

Just a reminder - we are still open for FALL ENROLLMENT at this time. Classes are quickly filling and we are making plans for our upcoming new school year. School begins at PDO on Tuesday, September 4. If you know anyone who is looking for a great program - please pass the the info on. We are a Montessori-based program from babies up through Pre-Kindergarten. (Just a side note of pride - for the last 3 years our Pre K group has left our program reading.....just saying!)

All of the staff at PDO hope you are having a wonderfully blessed summer.

Ms. Sandi and Staff