

HILLTOPPER

United Methodist Church of Parsippany

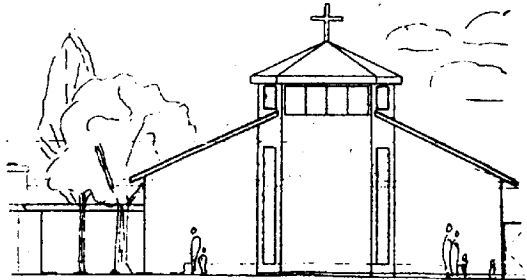
903 So. Beverwyck Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054 (973) 887-4657

<http://www.parsippanyumc.com> E-Mail: jedwards14@juno.com

Sunday Worship Celebration: 10:30 a.m.

In a hostile, hurting world we reach out to share kindness and laughter. Our spirituality is based on Jesus and his love and compassion. We provide a community of support and healing where all are welcomed and valued regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, disability, gender, or economic status. In a world where people feel they can love only those who are like themselves, we seek to celebrate the uniqueness of every human being.

"Making Room in the Circle"



SUMMER, 2016



**Beginning July 3rd our worship on Sunday mornings
will begin at 10 a.m.**

(continues through and includes Aug. 28th)

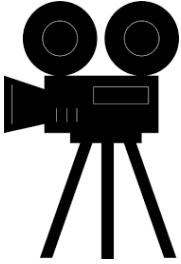
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**Saturday, June 4 – Church Spring Garage Sale and Shred
Event – 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Shredding only until noon)** Church

members will be selling their own wares – garage sale “stuff”, crafts, and other goodies. Table price is \$25. See Barb Bradley or Connie Keller if you would like to participate. There will be a bake sale as well, so get out your recipes!!

Also, bring all the shredding you’ve been holding on to – Bags are \$7 and Boxes are \$10. Hard Drives removed from computer are \$15.



Anyone interested in hosting a “movie night” in their home over the summer is invited to speak to Pastor Jeff.

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Q: How do you put together more than \$7,000?

A: One little bag of spare change after another.

I know, it seems hard to **believe**. **But in the few years that that PUMC has been doing the Summer Spare Change collection**, we've collected over \$7,000! That's just change that was lying around in your sofa, the cup holders in your car, in the bottom of your purse or pulled out of your pocket at the end of the day.

On Memorial Day weekend, we'll provide the bags. YOU provide the effort to collect your spare change and put it into the bag over the summer.

And here's another idea. This year when you put even a spare penny into the bag, say a prayer for the life of our church.

We'll collect the bags after Labor Day. Let's work together, and pray together, to keep our church vital!

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A sermon preached on May 15, 2016 -- Pentecost Sunday, based upon Acts 2:1-21 “What the Spirit is Up To”

Pentecost is about the Holy Spirit, and I think for most of us the Holy Spirit is a confusing subject. On the one hand we may think, what's the big deal? Why do we need another word for God? On the other hand, it can seem too weird with all those strange pyrotechnics that took place on that first Pentecost and those Pentecostal Christians who speak in tongues and get slain in the Spirit.

So to understanding the meaning and significance of the Holy Spirit it is helpful to start off with a brief review of some of the key references to God's Spirit that are found in the Bible.

Both the Greek and Hebrew words that are translated “Spirit” are the words that are also mean “wind”, and “breath”, implying that the Holy Spirit has some kind of metaphorical connection to wind and breath.



The “wind” meaning first appears in the second verse of the Bible. We are invited to imagine the original moment of creation when there was nothing but a formless void – dark, chaotic water over which God sends a great wind -- God's spirit that brings order and stability where there was chaos: light and darkness, water and land, a verdant, beautiful planet.

So the first thing we can say about the Holy Spirit is that its wind creates. It continues to blow as the power and wisdom behind of every act of positive creativity that happens in this world.

The second place the Holy Spirit appears is in the very second chapter of the Genesis, and here it is the breath metaphor that is used to describe the work of the Spirit. We are invited

to imagine the moment when the first human being was created – not as a description of a historical event, but as a reflection upon the mystery that is life itself. God takes a handful of dust from the earth – which in fact is what our bodies ultimately are -- and molds it into the shape of a human being. It isn't a living being until God breathes the divine breath into handful of dust. If you have ever been at the bedside of someone who breathed their last breath, you know the mystery to which this story points. One moment there is a living, breathing human being, and the next moment the breath exhales, never to return, and what remains is lifeless dust. So the breath of the Holy Spirit gives life.



In one sense the Holy Spirit is constantly within us and around us. It is the power of God's breath by which we have life and by which that life is nurtured and it is the power that blows through us that inspires every truly positive creative act that takes place, whether in a family a business, in the arts, or a church – anywhere.

When we think about God as Father or Creator, it is easy to conjure up an image of a being that is far off in heaven whose major piece of work happened way back in time bringing the creation into existence. And when we talk of God as the Son, Jesus, it is easy to think of him as remote, existing two thousand years ago. But to speak of the Holy Spirit is to speak of God right here, right now, continually creating and giving life.

Even though the Holy Spirit is constantly present, more often than not we are not in the flow of that Spirit, or breathing in that Spirit, at least to the extent that God desires for us. That's what "sin" is -- it's that power at work in this world that keeps us from being open to being led by the Spirit.

When we get to the New Testament, we are told that at the outset of his ministry, when Jesus was baptized by John in the River Jordan, the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus like a dove – taking possession of his life. It was by the power and wisdom of the Spirit that he taught and healed. He was filled with the Spirit in a way no one had ever been before, and as such he was the ultimate example of what it means to be a truly alive human being.

The extraordinary aliveness of Jesus was attractive to some, and threatening to others. In John's Gospel Jesus sums up his mission as having come to "give life and give it abundantly." In chapter three the Pharisee Nicodemus comes to see Jesus because he is attracted to Jesus abundant aliveness, but he does so by cover of night because such a visit was politically incorrect among his fellow Pharisees who felt threatened by him. In the course of their conversation Jesus speaks of the Holy Spirit with both metaphors. He speaks of the necessity of being born by the Spirit with an infusion of the divine breath, and he also compares the Holy Spirit to the wind:



"The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes."

Which is to say first, that like the wind the Holy Spirit is something over which we do not have any control, and second, that like the wind it is invisible, and its presence is sensed by what it does. The presence of wind is known by the fluttering of the leaves of the tree; the presence of the Spirit is known by moving people in the direction of greater aliveness, creativity and wholeness.

In John's Gospel during the last Supper Jesus talks a lot about the Holy Spirit, which he promises to give his disciples after he is gone. He says that with the Holy Spirit they won't feel like orphans; they will be given the wisdom they need to find their way forward. And it says the one thing necessary to receive the Holy Spirit is to strive to love one another.

So with this background we come to the strange story that the Gospel writer Luke tells of the Day of Pentecost – the day the God fulfilled the promise to give the Holy Spirit to his followers. The metaphor of wind is most immediately present, as we are told that a sound like the rush of a violent wind filled the house in which the disciples were gathered. They've been waiting

in Jerusalem to receive “power from above,” and now just as Jesus was infused with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, with “tongues as of fire” descending on each of them, filling them with the Spirit. They start speaking in languages they had no idea they knew -- the languages of the pilgrims who had come to Jerusalem for the festival of Pentecost. A large crowd is drawn by all the noise and the mysterious aliveness present in the apostles who spill out onto the streets. Most present are astonished to hear them speaking in their own native languages of God’s mighty deeds. speaking in these languages about the mighty deeds. Full of wonder, they ask, “Aren’t these men Galileans?” which would be a little bit like saying, “Aren’t these men hillbillies from Appalachia? How is it they are speaking like they have Phds?”

“What does this all mean?” they ask.

But others are dismissive of what is happening, “these are just a bunch of drunks!”

And then Peter, the same Peter who just fifty days earlier had been so dense and cowardly, stands up bold as can be, starting off with that delightful line about how, “Heck, we aren’t drunk, it’s only 9 o’clock in the morning,” as of the accusation might be reasonable if this was the cocktail hour. He proceeds to preach in a way he never would have imagined himself capable of, saying that what the crowd is seeing is the fulfillment of what God had promised -- that the Spirit would be poured out on all flesh, with young people seeing visions and old people dreaming dreams. Peter knocks it out of the park with a sermon which, at the end of the day, leads to the conversion and baptism of 3000 people who join the church, a community where people truly love one another and share all they have.

So the story gives us some more clues to what the Holy Spirit does. When it blows through a bunch of people, it breaks down the barriers of suspicion and mistrust, particularly between people of different languages, cultures and beliefs, allowing them to truly communicate and connect with one another. It gives birth to loving communities where people get past their innate self-centeredness and suspicion of people, particularly people who are outwardly different from themselves, so that they can truly care for one another.

What we also see the Holy Spirit do is empower people. It’s not a spirit of fear, said the Apostle Paul, but the spirit of being God’s beloved child and it allows us to stand up strong and speak the truth of our lives, without shame. Peter, the shame-filled coward gets transformed into the person God always meant him to be, courageous and well spoken. Along with this, the Spirit calls forth creative gifts from people. Hillbilly Galileans discover they have the gift of speaking eloquently about the truth revealed in Jesus in languages they never thought they knew.

Now this may be the part of the story that is the strangest, the hardest for us to believe -- hardest to make sense of. I heard a story this week that reminded me of this strange phenomenon. Derek Amato grew up an aggressive jock -- his life all about sports, aggressive. He had messed around some with a guitar, but never had any lessons, and hadn’t shown a particular gift for music.

Then one day a man in his twenties he was horsing around a swimming pool with some friends. He dived into the pool to catch a football, miscalculating the depth of the water, hitting his left side of his head very hard on the bottom of the pool. He received a severe concussion that kept him in the hospital overnight. He was released from the hospital the next day with instructions to get a lot of rest. A few days later he found himself in a room with a piano. Feeling himself mysteriously drawn to the piano, sat down and began playing beautiful music, elaborate original compositions, for hours on end, even though he still couldn’t read music.

Neurologists who studied Derek diagnosed him as being a rare case of something called “acquired savant syndrome”. His blow to the head had somehow awakened late abilities involved in pattern recognition, and with it the capacity to play the piano. Derek understands the science, but he also sees what happens to him as a gift from God. It gives him joy, it gives others joy.

What this story says to me is that inside the brains of all of us there are unimagined abilities beyond our wildest dreams, gifts we have never tapped into. What, apart from a blow to the head, might awaken some of those gifts?

There are stories of anthropologists studying primitive people who describe witnessing some pretty remarkable gifts of the sort we might call psychic healing or ESP. There are stories, for instance of members going off on an expedition of an unknown length, whose return is anticipated by those back at home because some form of psychic connection. If we, too were

not molded by the assumptions of the enlightenment and rationalistic thinking, what sorts of gifts might we be able to cultivate?

I use these extreme examples not that we might focus on them, but to simply be open to the notion that the Holy Spirit is present among us all the time seeking to awaken gifts, to make us more fully alive, to build and bless community and reconcile people when they are estranged. We've probably all experienced this sort of thing. A relationship is broken, and it troubles you. You strategize about how to mend the relationship, but you alternate between anger and remorse, paralyzed, and feel powerless to make an attempt to mend the relationship. Then one day you suddenly feel this impulse that the time has come, and you pick up the phone and you call the person, and the wall comes down. What you sensed was the Holy Spirit blowing.

One thing the Holy Spirit the Holy Spirit does is invite us to think outside the box – to imagine new and creative solutions to the problems that plague humanity. I saw a story online about a place where a nursing home and a pre-school share a building. Who thought of such a thing? The old folks find delight in the children, reading them books, and telling them stories. Young and old are both blessed.

So if we take seriously the notion that the Holy Spirit is indeed here among us, blowing and breathing, the question that occurs to me is, how do we get in the flow? The first thing to remind ourselves is that we aren't in charge of the Spirit. We can't make it blow when and where we decide it should blow. But perhaps there are ways we can move in the direction of being more open and receptive when the Spirit does choose to start blowing.



Our story gives us some clues about this, I think.

Not long before Pentecost happened, the disciples had been through the worst possible experience, a heart-wrenching experience in which the world as they knew it fell apart. Their leader had been crucified. Then came the surprising mystery of Jesus' resurrection appearances, which opened everything back up again. If they had stayed back in Galilee in the safety and routine of their familiar life they would have avoided the initial experience of their world coming crashing down around them, but neither would they have experienced the receptivity -- the broken-open hearts and minds -- that their experience ultimately led to.

Which is to say, and it is far easier to say than to actually believe when such times come, but those times when everything seems to be going terribly wrong, when everything is breaking down – such times might actually be creating space where the Spirit can do an altogether new thing.

One of the things that holds us back from being open to the movement of the spirit is the fear of failure. In a certain sense, the disciples had been a part of what initially seemed one of the great failures of all time, and on the far side of the great failure, something beyond their wildest dreams was discovered. In the days that followed, the possibility of failure was no longer so threatening.

In the story, there are basically two responses by the crowd to the extraordinary things they witnessed happening when the Holy Spirit descended upon those first apostles. One was to dismiss the mystery because it didn't fit into their world view. They claimed to know more than they did. They had a tidy interpretation for what they were seeing that allowed them to dismiss it. These people are just drunk, that's all! They approached the mystery from a posture of pride and arrogance, which might have masked a deeper level of fear. Perhaps deep inside they recognized that what was happening was a threat to the old order, the old way of doing things, in which they were highly invested and to which they felt the need to cling.

The other response was curiosity, wonder, a desire to move towards the mystery rather than to avoid it. "What does this mean?" It involved a humility that recognized this was beyond their usual categories of thought. It reminds us of the story of Moses when he was a shepherd when he first encountered the mystery of God in a burning bush (like the tongues of flames). He was in the midst of his job, and could have easily avoided the strange sight and gone on with

what he was doing, but he chose to approach the mystery, and in doing so, God spoke to him, giving him a holy calling, sending him on a path that brought forth gifts he never knew he had.

The accusation from the scoffers that “these men are just drunk” is an interesting one. The men weren’t drunk, and intoxication can at times lead people to do some pretty destructive things.

But presumably there were ways in which the apostles were acting that resembled some of the qualities of intoxication. (It is interesting that one of the accusations that was made of Jesus was that he was a drunkard, apparently because he enjoyed a good party where wine flowed freely.)

When the Spirit was poured out, the apostles let go of their inhibitions, they shut down that voice of shame that most of us have somewhere inside of us that constantly tells us not to appear foolish, to play it safe. Intoxicated people can sometimes speak truths that they would not be able to speak otherwise. And intoxicated people can become very playful in a way they may not otherwise allow themselves to be.

In short, intoxication can lead people to become like little children, which is something Jesus said was necessary to enter the kingdom of God. Social scientists are telling us that if children aren’t given ample opportunity to play, they will be damaged. And that play isn’t necessary for children; adults need to play. Play opens us up, gives the imagination permission to take flights it wouldn’t otherwise make.

In relation to the man who suddenly could play the piano, in the story I heard the point was made that when we were little children we effortlessly learned things like languages that later would take great effort. When children find learning fun, they are sponges ready to absorb knowledge and explore new realms.

And finally, the company you keep affects your capacity to get into the flow of the Spirit. You can be around people who are full of negativity, who are so rigidly attached to the way things have always been done that they will shoot down every new idea, who are incapable of thinking outside of the box, and are quick to shame those who dare to do so. The Spirit doesn’t move well in such a setting. It is interesting that Mark’s Gospel tells us that when Jesus went to his home town he couldn’t do the usual amazing things he did elsewhere because the people there were simply too closed minded, closed hearted.

Ideally a church should be a community of people who love one another and don’t believe it is necessary that we all resemble one another in order to offer love. A church should be a community of people who aren’t quick to judge and shame one another when we fall on our face, but rather who are there support one another when we take risks, and help us get back up when we fall. We should be a community that affirms one another, and calls forth gifts. All of us had people at certain moments in our lives who recognized the first signs of gifts possibilities in us. They named those gifts, calling them forth. We should be a community that does that routinely.

It is in such communities that the Spirit moves freely.

In the kindness of Jesus,
Pastor Jeff

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We are now having one of our children serve as **acolytes** at the beginning of our worship service, processing in front of the choir to light the altar candles. If your child would like to serve as an acolyte, please [speak to Betsy Adams](#).



United Methodist Women

Looking back... Bob Keller spoke to us on organ donor importance, including newer information. Speak to Bob.

All women are invited to join us at one of our next programs – bring a friend.....

Wed., June 1st – 7:00 p.m.
PROGRAM: David and Darryl
Will tell us about their trip to Spain
Refreshments will be served

June 14 – Flag Day

June 19 – Father’ Day (Bulletin insert)

June 20 – First Day of Summer

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6th – 6:30 PM
Summer Ladies Night Out – at TBD
Chair: Laurie Wilken & Connie Wallace

July 4 – Independence Day

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3rd – 6:30 PM
Summer Ladies Night Out – at TBD
Chair: Karen Wilk

GET WELL wishes to those of you who are ill, and
HAPPY BIRTHDAY to those of you celebrating in July with Elizabeth Polen and in August with Terry Germann.

God Bless,
Doris Bradley

Prov. 17:17 “A friend loves at all times.”

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YOUR PLEDGE
This Summer

During the summer we ask members and friends to keep your offerings up to date. There is a tendency for our church treasurer to struggle to pay our bills because we forget to carry through on our commitments to our church. Thank you in advance for your help.

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Interfaith Furnishings - Once every three months our church provides volunteers to assist **Interfaith Furnishings** in transporting donated furniture to people living in Morris County who would not be able to otherwise furnish their homes. **Our next Saturday to serve is Saturday, July 16th.** Please speak to Claudia Bartek or Maidie Erickson if you would like to volunteer



To make it easier for the Congregation to keep up with their financial pledges to the Church, a **PayPal link has been added to the PUMC Homepage**. If you've never used PayPal before, it's an easy and secure way to send a payment over the Internet. You can use your bank account or a credit card to make your payment, and PayPal takes a small transaction fee. For more information or a quick demonstration on how to use this new tool, please speak with Justin Cogan.

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On the second Thursday of every other month our congregation provides dinner for the families at **Homeless Solutions**. **Our next scheduled dinner is Thursday, June 9th**. If you would like to take a turn in helping with this outreach, or if you would like to donate money towards the expenses, please speak to Laurie Wilken or Connie Wallace.

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On **the third Thursday of every month** Pastor Jeff leads a **worship service at Troy Hills Center at 10:30 a.m.** If you would like to share in this ministry to the people living in a nursing home, please join us. Speak to Pastor Jeff, Pat Winz, or Greg Elbin who brings along his guitar if you would like more information. Our next service is June 16th.

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A day time men's discussion group with Pastor Jeff that meets on Fridays at 1 p.m. We discuss short readings or videos during the 90 minute sessions. Any men available in the day time are invited to join us.

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A **small gathering of men** from our church meet together **every Tuesday at 7:15 a.m. at the Empire Diner** with Pastor Jeff for breakfast, conversation, and a concluding prayer. All men are welcome.

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FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR ON SPECIAL OCCASIONS – If you want to remember or honor a special occasion in your life by putting flowers on the altar, please get in touch with Connie Keller. You are certainly welcome at any time to place flowers on the altar. If you want an announcement in the bulletin, please call Connie Keller or send her an email with the dedication. Contact information: Connie's cell: 973-568-5404; home: 973-887-4384;

email: connie@mhmlender.com

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Anyone aware of a **Prayer Concern** is invited to contact Grace Agre at 539-3855 who will put the **Prayer Chain** into action. If Grace cannot be reached, please contact Pastor Jeff. If you would like to add your name to the people who receive the prayer chain, please

speak to Betty Polen.

CHURCH CALENDAR and SCHEDULING EVENTS

The church calendar on our website www.parsippanyumc.com has been updated. If you want to schedule an event, you need to look at the website calendar to see if the date is available. All requests for use of the church facilities need to be approved by the trustees, Connie Keller or Amy Gripp.

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Parsippany Food Pantry - Wes Sitgreaves has called to our attention the ongoing need of the Emergency Food Pantry in Parsippany in these difficult economic times. There are more and more families turning to the food pantry for help. You can bring your donations of non-perishable food items to the church any Sunday. Wes takes the food over as the bin gets filled up. Supermarket gift cards are also welcome - buy them from Betty Polen and raise money for the church at the same time!!! This is a very easy way to give back to the less-fortunate in our own township.

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Consider becoming a part of one or more of our Musical Groups here at church:

Bell Choir – rehearses Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in joining us, please speak to Barb Bradley or Aimee Letsch - or just show up on Thursday and see what happens!

Choir – rehearses Thursdays at 7:45 p.m. We always have an "open robe" for anyone who loves to sing. We sing in 4-part harmony, so if you've sung in your high school chorus or any other equivalent, you have a great start! Speak to any choir member or Barb Bradley if you're interested.

Kids Bell Choir – rehearses Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. All children and youth in 3rd grade and up (including junior and senior high school) are welcome. Directed by Aimee Letsch (973-585-7634)

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SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR SUMMER

June 5
1 Kings 17:8-24
Galatians 1:11-24
Luke 7:11-17

June 12
1 Kings 21:1-21a
Galatians 2:15-21
Luke 7:36-8:3

June 19
1 Kings 19:1-15a
Galatians 3:23-29
Luke 8:26-39

June 26
2 Kings 2:1-2,6-14
Galatians 5:1,13-25
Luke 9:51-62

July 3
2 Kings 5:1-14
Galatians 6:7-16
Luke 10:1-11,16-20

July 10
Amos 7:7-17
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

July 17
Amos 8:1-12
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

July 24
Hosea 1:2-10
Colossians 2:6-15
Luke 11:1-13

July 31
Hosea 11:1-11
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

August 7
Isaiah 1:1,10-20
Hebrews 11:1-3
Luke 12:32-40

August 14
Isaiah 5:1-7
Hebrews 11:29-12:2
Luke 12:49-56

August 21
Jeremiah 1:4-10
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

August 28
Jeremiah 2:4-13
Hebrews 13:1-8,15-16
Luke 14:1,7-14

JUNE BIRTHDAYS			
1 st	David Armstrong	12 th	Anna Egorova
1 st	Dawn Armstrong	13 th	Ted Schnetzer
2 nd	Alison Christian	14 th	Melissa Scherzer
3 rd	Eric Mortensen	17 th	Reagan Moreng
5 th	Christina Scarafile	18 th	Andrea Christiango
6 th	Maidie Erickson	20 th	Amber Schnetzer
7 th	Charles Faulend	20 th	Russell Schnetzer
8 th	Sarah Bush	21 st	Elizabeth Scherzer
8 th	Maggie Letsch	22 nd	Jennifer Eng
10 th	Stephanie Weiss	22 nd	Christopher Coughlin
10 th	Dan Gourlik	23 rd	Kristopher Hawkins
11 th	Susan Smarth	25 th	Sangeetha Gunaseelan
11 th	Michael Zibura	26 th	Zachary Wilken
11 th	Barbara Christofferson	26 th	Jack Walsh
12 th	Jessica Calise (Parizo)	28 th	Jolie Rajasekaran
12 th	Bethany Brodock	29 th	Arlene Smith
12 th	Danielle Bianchi	30 th	Marcus Beckler
		30 th	Julia Beckler

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES	
12 th	Karen & Robert Wilk
23 rd	Betsy & Paul Adams

JULY BIRTHDAYS			
2 nd	Sydney Petzinger	17 th	Barbara Bradley
2 nd	Zachary Petzinger	18 th	Kristina Emodi
3 rd	Ruth Faulend	22 nd	Tim Tyler
3 rd	Nathan Petzinger	22 nd	Kelsey Gripp
7 th	Hwa Chun	22 nd	Eleanor Soriano
7 th	Mary Mihalko	24 th	Edward Cogan
9 th	Marguerite Schnetzer	26 th	Cassie Cogan
11 th	Carol Korab	27 th	Betty Polen
14 th	Lynn Agre	29 th	Fred Schlosshauer
14 th	Frany Patelia	31 st	Jim Steen
15 th	Roma Patelia	31 st	Bob Keller
16 th	Julia Miloslavsky		

JULY ANNIVERSARIES	
6 th	Bob & Lyn Krisa

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS			
1 st	Lorraine McKinley	21 st	Tom Albert
2 nd	Patti Wink	22 nd	Jenna Letsch
6 th	Natasha Valcoff	23 rd	Barbara Simmons
6 th	Jahn Michael Schnetzer	24 th	Tim Booth
9 th	Conrad Roelofs	24 th	Sharon Christian
11 th	Bobby Edwards	27 th	Terry Germann
12 th	Jacob Schnetzer	28 th	Tom Polen
16 th	Juliana Schimpf	29 th	James Curry
16 th	Michael Anastasi	29 th	Michael Keller
18 th	Lynn Barbarite	30 th	Bob Mortensen
19 th	Wes Sitgreaves		

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES	
17 th	Gloria & Ron Gounaud
28 th	Tom & Arlene Smith



This month's featured member is Don Gatto.

Don was born on May 17th, 1937 in Scranton, Pa, the third of nine children. Both his grandfathers were coal miners. The family did not

have much money, so early on Don worked delivering newspapers. At age 14 he got a job washing dishes. His Dad had a variety of jobs, the most interesting of which was analyzing handwriting for police work, a skill he passed on to his son.

Don joined the Marine Corp Reserves when he was still a senior in high school. He graduated on June 15th, 1955 and on June 27th he landed in Paris Island to begin active duty. At a Naval School in Jacksonville, Fl Don learned how to load nuclear weapons into firing systems, which he did on three different air craft carriers in the course of his naval career. The Marine Corp gave Don a great opportunity to see the world, as he visited all the ports of the countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea inspiring him to start a post card collection that he has to this day. Don also visited Puerto Rico and Cuba before it became closed to US citizens.



Discharged at age 22 after four years of active duty Don eventually settled in Lake Hiawatha after finding work at Rowe Manufacturing where he worked for six years. With a family to support Don took a civil service exam leading to employment with the Post Office where he worked for 27 years. Afterwards he worked for United Parcels, retiring in 1999. His work life was devoted to putting his three greatly beloved children through college. Chris now lives and works in NYC. Daniel lives in Middleton but works in NYC. Don's daughter Suzanne is a commercial pilot (as is her husband.)

For many years Don was a member at the Morristown United Methodist Church where Karen Wilk was his sponsoring member. He served as an usher and also worked with the Appalachian Service Project, accompanying youth for week long trips to work on homes for poor folks. On May 27, 2012 Don transferred his membership to the Parsippany UMC, and once again Karen was his sponsoring member. With his warm and welcoming heart Don served as a greeter in our church until the severe arthritic pain he suffers made it difficult for him to attend church.

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Hi Pastor Jeff,

I just want to thank you and the Parsippany UMC again for hosting the *Canticles for Life* AIDS Benefit Concert on April 10th. I am pleased to let you know that \$7,275 was raised from the three *Canticles* performances and associated contributions for the following organizations that care for persons living with HIV/AIDS and in remembrance of lives lost: The AIDS Resource Foundation for Children, the NAMES Project of Northern NJ, and New Jersey AIDS Services.



The spirit-filled music, the power of the memorial Quilt panels on display, the moments of sharing from representatives from the charities, and the times of reflection contributed to an incredible sense of community. While it seems that AIDS is not the epidemic it once was, it continues to dramatically impact the lives of so many right here in New Jersey. So everyone at Triad Arts Ensemble is very grateful for your support of this music ministry!

Peace, Ginny Johnston, Musical Director



FATHER'S DAY BULLETIN INSERT

Father's Day is right around the corner, and the UMW will be sponsoring their annual special Father's Day insert to appear in the bulletin on June 19th. The UMW offers you the opportunity to honor or memorialize your father, grandfather, uncle, etc. by placing his name on a special bulletin insert. \$1.00 donation per name is requested. Please use the form below and give it, together with your donation, [to Doris Bradley by June 12th](#).

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In HONOR of:

Placed by:

_____	_____
_____	_____
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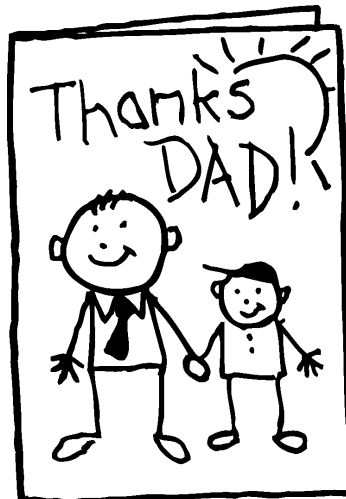
In MEMORY of:

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Total Names _____

Total Amount \$ _____



June 2016

United Methodist Church of Parsippany

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																								
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">May 2016</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Jul 2016</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>		May 2016							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					Jul 2016							S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							<p><i>1</i></p> <p>7:00 PM UMW Meeting</p>	<p><i>2</i></p> <p>7:00 PM Bell Choir 7:45 PM Adult Choir</p>	<p><i>3</i></p> <p>1:00 PM Men's Discussion Group 7:00 PM Garage Sale Set Up</p>	<p><i>4</i></p> <p>9:00 AM -2:00 PM Garage Sale 9:00 AM -12:00 PM Shred Event</p>
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