

# Sergeantsville United Methodist Church Circuit Rider

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2009

www.sergeantsvilleumc.com



## FROM the PASTOR

Every member of this congregation is a child of God who is loved and is seeking to be in a right relationship with God. What should a person be doing as a committed person to the Sergeantsville United Methodist Church? I think we mentioned several years ago that we should pray daily, read the scriptures, and be in conversation with other Christians. There are so many aspects which can benefit a church in the goal of making Disciple Bible study foundational to a congregation's ministry. In the groups gathered in a circle or around a table is the Bread of Life- the Word of God, the Bible. Disciple offers Scripture for the nourishment of the hungry under the power of the Holy Spirit. How exciting it is that we were able to complete our first Disciple Bible Study last year. I am thrilled that we have begun that journey and I am convinced that it will have a lasting impact on our church and on those individuals that participated.

On an individual level that means that 12 persons were nourished by scripture to live as disciples. They confirmed their

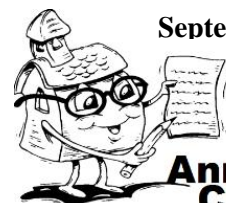
gifts for ministry. They formed relationships with others. Their decisions and practices came under the whole of God's word. They committed daily to reading and studying the Bible in a chronological way. They prayed for the group and became formed together as an accountable group. In this way many Laity were informed by the study of scripture. They were equipped to pass on the teachings of the Bible to their families and their coworkers because they now have really read and studied the Bible. When these persons are now involved in the mission and vision of the church they bring an informed understanding of scripture. Scripture is the building block of all ministry.

Because of their experience everyone who participated can initiate ministries and decisions out of a sense of calling inspired by scripture. Their witness in the world is renewed and they have a new awareness of their gifts for service.

I truly believe that a congregation which supports DISCIPLE study groups is doing the work God call us to do in the church. This program will enrich our congregation, our Sunday school and our impact on the community. When persons have studied the scriptures they come to worship with a whole new bank of scriptural images that they may recognize throughout the service. They may make new connections during the service

even before the preacher's sermon does. They have a foundation for Mission and evangelism which has come out of their studies and is grounded in the content and message of the Bible.

I hope and pray that Sergeantsville will strive for a total commitment to this program. Those who are in it will be formed in new ways that all of the church members will reaped the benefits. I ask all of you to consider the DISCIPLE CLASS as important to you whether or not you will be able to attend it. I challenge all of you to be a part of the group in some way. For those who cannot commit to the DISCIPLE studies they can certainly pray for the groups and support them in financial and emotional ways. Maybe you cannot attend but would like to fund \$35 for someone who may struggle to buy the book. Can you be a prayer partner for someone who is in the group? We will be listing the people in the groups in our bulletin and I encourage all of you to actively consider creative ways to be a support system for these fellow Christians. We are all on this journey together.



September 29th

**Annual  
Church  
Conference**

Parsonage Inspection 6 PM  
SPRC 6:30 PM  
Meeting 7:30 PM



Autumn

**BE TRANSFORMED**

It's Labor Day weekend — a time to rest from our labors. But this is also an opportunity to reflect on our daily work and discern whether our effort is thankless and uninteresting or something that gives us deep and lasting satisfaction. God intends for our work to be much more than a job, much more than a daily grind. It should be, instead, a vocation — which means, quite literally, a “calling.”

In Romans 12:2, Paul challenges us with the words: “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what the will of God— what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

The apostle's advice, then, is to be transformed by the renewing of your minds. Paul says be transformed by discovering what the Lord God is calling you to do.

**Thanksgiving in the Country**



November 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>



September 13<sup>th</sup>  
Church Picnic  
to follow

We are looking forward to an exciting start of our children's Sunday School program. This fall we will begin using the **Live B.I.G.** curriculum which will help the children come to know the love of God through Jesus and help them live out their belief in God in their everyday lives. **Live B.I.G.**, a DVD-based Sunday school resource is designed to excite and enrich our children's spiritual lives by bringing their everyday real world experience into Sunday school.

We are thankful that God has once again provided for the needs of our children. Judy Floyd and Angela Reilly will continue as teachers and this year Debbie Mueller has agreed to fill the open teacher position as Carol Schroeber has retired. We thank Carol for the many years of faithful service and she will be greatly missed. Thank you Judy, Angela, Debbie and Carol for your commitment to our children.

We are also preparing a list of substitute teachers who would be ready to step in for both unplanned and planned teacher absences. If you have ever thought of trying your hand at teaching Sunday school, please

contact Karen Zimm to be placed on this substitute teacher list. This is a great way to dip your toes into the realm of teaching our children the love of God.

If you know of any child who might be interested in joining our children's program, please contact Karen Zimm (609-397-0999) so we can extend an invitation to that family.



**Join the Choir...**  
**You'll Be Glad You Did!**

When the book of Acts (see 16:25-26) reports that Paul and Silas sang in the Philippian jail at midnight, it doesn't record whether they were basses or tenors. It doesn't even report if they sang on key. It simply says they sang. And as they sang, there was an earthquake and the prison doors were opened.

Many of life's doors open more easily when we sing. So why not open some doors by joining the choir?

**THURSDAY NIGHTS 7 PM**



For some years now I have read through the Bible twice every year. If you picture the Bible to be a mighty tree and every word a little branch, I have shaken every one of these branches because I wanted to know what it was and what it meant.

—Martin Luther



Christine Allen, Elaine Austin, Aaron Baker & Family, Louis Bainbridge's son, Kathy & John Bauer, Judy Bayer, Marge & Walt Beckmann, Phyllis Borzotta, Kathe Bryan, Chelsea & her Dad, Lois & Chuck Cline, John Chiles, Denise Clark, John Cochran, Dave's mother Sophie, Ester, Janice GaNun, Jeff Gurski, Mary Delaney Hidzik, Ginny Hook, Karen Humphries brother-in-law, Bobby Irven, Jan Irven, Jake Kaminski, Joyce Kuster, John, LaVera, Lauren, Lillian, Gene Maddelena, Marion, Mears Family, Gayle McCord, McClung Family, Frank Miller, Raymond Moore, Dave Mummy, Robert Newton, Rosedale Family, Laura Shannon, Family & Friends of Joe Shebchuk, Jeanette Smith, Pat Smith, Brianna Wenzel, Mackenzie Wright, Our President & all elected officials, Our Bishop & District Superintendent



**CONTINUED HEALING**

Alice, Becky, Daryl Behnke, Marge Behnke, Brenda, Jim Bush, James Clark, Dee, Dennis, Estelle, Seymour Feder, Sara Folk, David Fleming, Dorie Fleming, Harriet Fisher, Sandi Fisher, Bob Force, Hugh George, Roger Goodwin, Wendy Hansen, Helen, Bill Holcombe, Joann, Johanna, Grover Johnson, Horace Johnson, Julia Johnson, Susie Jorgensen, Kara, Red Kerr, Louise, Luke, Walter Macak, Rayanna Marrero, Max, Dottie Melovitz, Tom Nemece, Lois Parker, Emily Popiel, Phyllis, Riley, Tracy Roksvogg, Sherry, Dennis Sink, Flossie Srope, Dick & Marilyn Smith, Hazel & Roy Smith, Henry Smith, Anthony Tadero, Tammie, Tim & Family, Elaine VanDuyne, BJ York

**"The Shack"**



Have you read W. Paul Young's book, "The Shack"? Would you like an opportunity to talk about the issues it raises? Then this is for you!

**Study/Discussion  
Led by  
The Rev. Sue Moore  
One Evening Only  
Sunday – October 4<sup>th</sup>  
7 PM**

We will be using the storyline of the book to examine our understanding of the nature of God (especially of the Trinity), the existence of evil and the possibility of forgiveness, and the role of the church in our faith.

You are welcome to attend if you haven't read the book, but the conversations will be livelier if you have.

Please let Pastor Lin know if you plan to attend. You are encouraged to invite friends from beyond our church family that might be interested in this discussion.



- Nursery**
- 9/6 Kristina Shebchuk
  - 9/13 Carol Schroeher
  - 9/20 Jane Manley
  - 9/27 Suzanne Baker
  - 10/4 Carol Schroeher
  - 10/11 Jane Manley
  - 10/18 Suzanne Baker
  - 10/25 Lois Cline
  - 11/1 Judy Floyd

- Lay Reader**
- 9/6 Debbie Mueller
  - 9/13 Bill Schroeher
  - 9/20 Charlie Fisher
  - 9/27 Judy Ralph
  - 10/4 Jane Manley
  - 10/11 Debbie Mueller
  - 10/18 Sunday School
  - 10/25 Judy Ralph
  - 11/1 Charlie Fisher

- Ushers**
- 9/6 The Emery's
  - 9/13 The Shebchuk's
  - 9/20 The Pollard's
  - 9/27 L. Cline & P. Gares
  - 10/4 The Morris'
  - 10/11 The Pollard's
  - 10/18 L. Cline & P. Gares
  - 10/25 E. & A. Vanden Berghe
  - 11/1 J. Ralph & G. Guest

- Communion Steward**
- Sept. Pat Vanden Berghe
  - Oct. Lois Cline
  - Nov. Liz Gilbreath



## Young Adults & Young at Heart

The next gathering of will be held on Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00 either in the pavilion or at the parsonage. Join us for prayer, fellowship, and maybe even a "sing-along"!! Please bring a snack, appetizer or dessert to share with the group. If you have any questions, contact Patty Gares.



**PartyLite** *Tastefully Simple*

**Holiday Shopping Fundraiser**  
Now is your chance to start stocking up on gift supplies!! During the month of October, we will be collecting orders for **PartyLite** (candles) and **Tastefully Simple** (food products). A portion of the total sales for both products will be donated to the church to help with Sunday School expenses.

**Please help us make this a success!!** Catalogs will be available in the parish hall by late September....you can help by taking these catalogs to family, friends and co-workers and collecting orders.

If you have any questions, please contact Stacey Miller or Patty Gares.

## When Baseball was REALLY Baseball! 1957



*Front Row Left to Right: Dick Brown, Henry Fisher, Walter Burget, Henry Macelone, Bob Culberson  
Back Row: Left to Right: Arlie Emmons, John Johnson, Orville Emery, Bob Force, Bill Emery*

### GIFT CERTIFICATES PROGRAM

SUMC now has a dedicated email address for the purchase of Gift Certificates.

[giftcertificates@sergeantsvilleumc.com](mailto:giftcertificates@sergeantsvilleumc.com)

Judy Floyd will be monitoring this mailbox. The information has also been posted on the website and has posted a complete list of available merchants and available denominations. So now there are TWO ways to purchase these wonderful certificates. Purchase directly from Judy or through email and pay Judy later.





### SEPTEMBER

9 <sup>th</sup>	2PM	Planning Meeting Pastor Lin/
13 <sup>th</sup>		Rally Day & Picnic
13 <sup>th</sup>	12PM	Nominations Meeting
15 <sup>th</sup>	7 PM	Calendar Meeting
15 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 PM	UMW Meeting Linda Scott speaking
20 <sup>th</sup>	12 PM	Church Council Meeting
22 <sup>nd</sup>	7 – 9 PM	Disciple I Class
22 <sup>nd</sup>	7:30 PM	Trustee’s Meeting
23 <sup>rd</sup>	7 – 9 PM	Disciple II Class
26 <sup>th</sup>	12 – 5 PM	Delaware Township Community Day
29 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 PM	Annual Church Conference Meeting
30 <sup>th</sup>	7 – 9 PM	Disciple II Class

### OCTOBER

4 <sup>th</sup>	7 PM	“The Shack” – Book Discussion
6 <sup>th</sup>	7 – 9 PM	Disciple I Class
7 <sup>th</sup>	7 – 9 PM	Disciple II Class
13 <sup>th</sup>	7 – 9 PM	Disciple I Class
14 <sup>th</sup>	7 – 9 PM	Disciple II Class
20 <sup>th</sup>	7 – 9 PM	Disciple I Class
20 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 PM	UMW Meeting
21 <sup>st</sup>	7 – 9 PM	Disciple II Class
24 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 – 7:30 PM	Halloween Party
26 <sup>th</sup>	6 – 8 PM	Young Adults & Young at Heart Gathering
27 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 PM	Trustee’s Meeting



### ON GOING MEETINGS

Monday	7 PM	AA
Tuesday	10-11:30 AM	Faithful Friends Fellowship
Thursday	7 – 8 PM	Choir Practice

### WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday Worship	9 AM & 11 AM
Children Sunday School	9:45 AM
Adult Sunday School	10 AM

### CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Rev. Lin Smallwood – Pastor  
 Office Telephone: 609-397-2333  
 Parsonage Telephone: 609-397-3506  
 Pastor Cell Phone: 908-303-1891  
 Email: [churchoffice@sergeantsvilleumc.com](mailto:churchoffice@sergeantsvilleumc.com)  
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