

The Moscow United Methodist Church Newsletter

September 2010

“. . .Come with me! I will teach you how to bring in people instead of fish. . .”(Mark 1:17 CEV)

“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers for by doing rthat some have entertained angels without knowing it.” (Hebrews 13:2)

From the Pastor

With the arrival of September comes the realization that Summer is over and Fall officially begins. It means that our children are heading back to school and with it are a myriad array of new experiences and people that will be encountered. If you don't have children that have been getting into the Fall mode I'm sure you still remember previous Fall seasons. Going shopping for new shoes or an outfit or two... A mixture of excitement and nervousness as you headed into your school building wondering which of your friends would be in the same classroom... whether or not you will “fit in”... who would be your new teacher... how much homework you might have this year. Fall brings a mixture of emotions.

On Saturday, September 11 our new Susquehanna Conference is holding its second inaugural session and many will be heading to Williamsport with mixed feelings as well. (We held the first official session in June to officially open the conference and hold an ordination service.) This Fall session with a new larger conference means there will be new ways of doing things and many new people. In the old Wyoming Conference we were used to meeting at the University of Scranton; now we will be meeting in Williamsport and next Spring we will be meeting at Messiah College near Harrisburg. There will be many new and unfamiliar faces as we gather and some will find it all overwhelming and a bit intimidating.

On Sunday, September 12 our own church will be resuming our Sunday School at 9:30 and our 11:00 AM worship schedule. For some it will be a time to “get back into the routine” after being away due to vacations and family gatherings and re-connect with the church family. For others it will be a time to turn a new leaf and try something new in their lives by exploring this “faith thing” and finding out what is happening at Moscow UMC. There are many mixed emotions that will be experienced by all and we need to acknowledge that as we begin our Fall season of worship and activities.

It is a difficult thing for people to enter through the doors of our church who are new or haven't been for a while. It takes courage for someone to enter into a new place where they may not be known. I pray that all of us at Moscow UMC may recognize that fact and make a concerted effort to welcome new people by engaging them in conversation, listening to their stories, offering information and inviting them to participate in groups and activities. May we commit ourselves to making hospitality a hallmark of our church. And may we strive to find new ways to reach out to people who have not yet heard the good news of Jesus Christ. May we open new doorways for others as we offer “New Places for New People.”

Your fellow servant on the journey,

Pastor Jon



Worship Schedule

September 5th – 15th Sunday after Pentecost Labor Day / Communion Sunday

Scripture Reader: Dick Swartz
 Greeters: Audrey Pierre & Marquita Krause
 Ushers: Tom & Lynn Reese
 Nursery: Betty Koss
 Special Music: Deb Hafler

September 12th – 16th Sunday After Pentecost

First Day of Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Service Begins 11:00 am

Scripture Reader: Dan Schilling
 Greeters: Dave & Janice Lamm
 Ushers: Ann Sowers & Lois Linko
 Nursery: Betty Koss
 Multi-Media Specialist:
 Music: Adult Choir

Coffee Hour

September 19th – 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Reader: Cis Lyon
 Greeters: Dick & Joyce Swartz
 Ushers: Jack Carling & Nancy Schwenk
 Nursery: Betty Koss
 Multi-Media Specialist:
 Music: Adult Choir
 Baptisms: Lamm & Ritter

September 26th – 18th Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture Reader: Michael Shoff
 Greeters/Ushers: Garubba Family
 Nursery: Betty Koss
 Multi-Media Specialist:
 Special Music: Bell Ringers
 Baptism: Havenstrite



Office News

Member Information Update

The update of the church database has been completed. I will be sending all members, and regular attendees the current information we have. Please confirm existing information and provide us with any new information needed. Updating the church database with the new information will help us to report to conference more quickly and accurately, to help us assist you in a more timely manner and confirm existing information. When you receive this request please follow the instructions and return to the office as soon as possible.

Thank You!

Michelle Elmquist
Office Manager



October Newsletter Deadline Wednesday, September 20th

Please send us any information for October and other fall events, as well as any other communications you would like to be included in this issue.



If You Are a Hospital Patient

Please tell the hospital that you are a member of the Moscow UMC. If you would like a visit from the pastor, please give the hospital permission to notify the church/pastor and contact the church office or Pastor Jon. All information is kept confidential.

Upcoming Events

Regular Worship Hours(11am) and Sunday School(9:30) Resumes - September 12th
Moscow UMC's Church Conference October 17th
Mystery Dinner Theatre – October 23rd and 24th
Fall Auction – Saturday November 13th

Just for Fun

**A Dinner Theatre Experience offered by
"Tonylou Productions"**

"Mixed Emotions"

Luncheon
At the Radisson Hotel
Wednesday September 15th 12 pm

Mixed Emotions is a comedy that highlights the whirlwind courtship of Christine Millman and Herman Lewis. Christine, a lapsed Catholic widow, is moving to Florida – the next day. Into the chaos steps Herman a Jewish widower and carpet dealer. Out of the blue, he proposes marriage! Christine turns him down, but Herman stubbornly pleads his case for the next 18 hours. Woefully out of practice in the romance department, his non-nonsense approach to seduction is both comical and touching.

This is a luncheon and show at the Radisson. Luncheon starts promptly at 12:00pm. Tickets are \$23.50 make checks payable to "Tonylou Productions". Please call the church office at 842-7251 by September 7th to make your reservations.

Building Usage

SPRC Meeting – September 14th 6pm
Ad Council Meeting – September 14th 7pm
Roese-Genovese Wedding – October 16th
Mystery Dinner Theatre – Oct. 23rd, Oct 24th

Moscow UMC is Looking for A Church Treasurer

The church treasurer performs accounting activities of the church including payment of expenditures, maintenance of financial records, preparing of appropriate tax documents and periodic reports to the Administrative Council. This position will be filled formally on January 1, 2010. We hope to fill the position as soon as possible enabling the new treasurer time to work with Linda Verrastro for the last few months of the year and through the year end tax and final report periods. Linda has graciously agreed to help with training. Some accounting experience would be very helpful. Interested candidates contact Howard McIntosh by e-mail: plainsts@aol.com.

District Day Apart For all Clergy & Laity

**Oct. 21, 2010
9:00 am to 4:00 pm**

St. Gabriel's Retreat Center
Clarks Summit



www.moscowumc.com

The church has been actively involved in a process to update our website. The website can be found at www.moscowumc.com. Take a few moments to check it out! I am sure you will be impressed. A million thanks to J Croom for all his work on this project and bringing us into the age of technology. Join us for our WebSite Launch on Sunday September 12th in the narthex.

Treasurer's Report

Linda Verrastro

- For the month of May we received \$12,554 in the General Fund account, which included pledge income of \$9,879.
- For the month of June we received \$10,997 in the General Fund account, which included pledge income of \$10,069.
- For the month of July we received \$8,317 in the General Fund account, which included pledge income of \$7,194.
- Based on our 2010 budget, we need \$14,117 per month to meet expenses including ministry shares.
- As of Aug. 15th we have paid only 33% of our 2010 ministry shares commitment of \$22,515.

Regular church attendance is disrupted and revenue is reduced during the summer months, so it becomes a challenge to keep our general operating bills current. As fall begins, please help us catch up by making sure your pledge is current or by making an extra donation if you are able.



Entertainment Books

We are selling 2011 Entertainment Books as a general fundraiser for the church. Cost is \$25 per book. If interested please contact Tara Bassi @ 842-3505 or tarabassi@comcast.net Books will be on sale through December and make a great gift!!!

COMMITTEES

P/SPRC

Next Meeting will be held on Tuesday September 14, 2010 at 6:00 PM.

Trustees

Next meeting – To be Scheduled

Ad Council

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 14, 2010 at 7:00 PM.

Lay Leadership

Tuesday September 7th @ 6:00 PM
Wednesday September 15 @ 6:00 PM
Thursday September 23rd @ 7:00 PM
Wednesday September 29 @ 6:00 PM

A Few Groaners

Thieves who steal corn from a garden could be charged with stalking.

I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger.
Then it hit me.

Show me a piano falling down a mineshaft and I'll show you A-flat miner.

Why not switch to Automatic Bank Transfer?

Automatic Bank Transfer (ABT) is an easy cost-effective giving option for both you and the church. With ABT you can reinforce your commitment to give your tithes and offerings to God first, before anything else. One easy step each year guarantees that the church will receive your gifts on a regular basis, even if you are out of town or you forget one week. And on a practical note, ABT reduces the time of staff to process offerings. If you choose this option, complete the Estimate of Giving card and the ABT information found on the back of the card. Transfers will occur once per month on the first Monday of the month through the end of 2010, when you will be asked to renew your pledge. Church Treasurer, Linda Verrastro will be processing the monthly account transfers. Contact me at 842-8804 or glenn cz@cs.com at if you any questions or need help in filling out the form.

Glenn Czulada
Finance Committee

Automatic Bank Debit

Automatic Bank Debit is easy to setup. It is a convenient and reliable way to fulfill your financial commitment to the church. Changes can be made at any time.

Acct Name _____

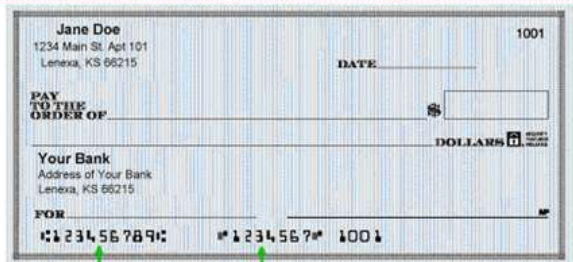
Telephone # _____

Email _____

Monthly Debit Amount \$ _____

Debit Amount will be equal to total monthly pledge on other side.

Transfers are made the 1st Monday of every month. If you have any questions contact Finance Chairman Glenn Czulada, 842-8804 or Church Treasurer Linda Verrastro, 689-2843.



Your Bank _____

City/St _____



Routing# _____

Account # _____

Authorized Signature _____

ESTIMATE OF GIVING Moscow UMC

YES!! I want to support the work of my church. I would like to pledge the following amount to the Moscow United Methodist Church for the year 2010.

	\$ _____ per week	
	\$ _____ per month *	
	\$ _____ per year	

I would like my support to be used in the following areas:
\$ _____ General Fund \$ _____ Maintenance

Signed _____

This Estimate of Giving may be increased, decreased, or canceled by notifying the church treasurer.



* Use per month option for Automatic Bank Debit



HELP – We need your eyes and ears!

If you know of anyone in our congregation who needs or would like to be thought of by receiving a card from our church we would be happy to send them one.

Please call 842-7383 with the information!

Thank You,
Cong. Care/Card Ministry
Dawn Biesecker & Carol Spadea



Recycle Your Inkjet Cartridges

Our church can get money for your old inkjet cartridges! If you don't recycle them on your own please recycle them with us. Help our church save money and help the environment at the same time.



Mark your Calendars!
Moscow UMC's
Church Conference
Is scheduled for Sunday October 17th

Our annual Church Conference is scheduled for Sunday morning October 17th during the 11:00 am worship time. Rev. Beth Jones, Scranton District Superintendent will be with us for the morning. The P/SPRC will be meeting with her before worship at 10:15 AM

A coffee hour will follow the service.

WEBSITE LAUNCH

Please join us on Sunday September 12th as we launch our new website. J Croom, our WebMaster will be in the narthex giving a demonstration of our redesigned church website, www.moscowumc.com. J will provide a walk through and answer any questions you may have.



Multimedia Specialist Training **Volunteers Needed**

September 19th
12:15 pm

Want to help in worship but don't like to be in front of people?

Be a Multimedia Specialist!!

This is not just for youth, adults are encouraged to participate!

Computer Humor

If you take a laptop computer for a run, you could jog your memory.



News From Our Music Department

Greetings from the music staff of our Church. The fall season is upon us and with that the beginning of our music programs. We hope many of you will plan to take part in our music rehearsals on Wednesday evenings. New youth and adult musicians are always welcome. Adult choir, children's choir, and ringers will begin rehearsals on September 8th. For anyone interested, a simple supper is planned for each Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. You don't need to be a musician to join in this relaxed mealtime.

5:00 – Fellowship Supper
5:30 – Children's Choir – downstairs
5:30 – Chime Ringers – music room
6:00 – Youth Choir – downstairs
6:00 – Junior Ringers – music room
6:30 – Festival Ringers – music room
7:30 – Adult Choir – music room

For more information you may call:

Michelle Elmquist—Church Office 842-7251
Debbie Hafler—Youth Choirs 842-9644
Michael Shoff—Bell Ringers 346-5998
Norman Campbell—Director of Music/
Adult Choir 785-3274

New

Choir Members
Welcome!

Nursery Volunteers Needed

We are blessed to have Betty Koss as our regular Nursery Caregiver every Sunday morning during worship. Yet, to be in compliance with our Safe Sanctuary Policy we need volunteers to assist Betty on Sunday mornings. If you can help our please call the office at 842-7251.

Sunday School Beginning for 2010-2011

The first day of Sunday School for the 2010-2011 year will begin on September 12, 2010 at 9:30 am.

We are in need of Sunday School Teachers!!

We could also use some of the following items, juice boxes, fruit snacks (individual packets), and paper plates.

To register new students or to ask any questions please contact Diane Croom at 842-8805.



Acolytes Needed

Acolytes play an important role in our Sunday morning worship services by leading the choir and lighting our altar candles. Being an acolyte offers our young people a chance to learn more about worship service and allows them to take a more active role. All children who are in 3rd grade or up are encouraged to sign up to help serve as an acolyte.

Please call Consuelo Brown 848-1390. We will be scheduling a meeting/training session soon.

Thank You!



Mystery Dinner Theatre

“A Perilous Night at Pirate’s Perch”

Saturday October 23rd at 6:00pm

Sunday October 24th at 5:00pm

“A Perilous Night at Pirate’s Perch”, a mystery dinner theater presentation of the MUMC “Not Ready for Primetime Players” is scheduled for Saturday, October 23rd at 6:00 and Sunday, October 24th at 5:00. Don’t miss it!

You’ll have a chance to visit a quaint old inn in Moosemouth, Maine and meet the owners, Gladys and Eli Hicks and their clutzy son, Wally. Little do they realize that their old inn, which hasn’t had a guest in years, is about to fill up with a bizarre medley of guests, including a crooked real estate developer, a suspicious investigative journalist, an archaeologist, and a greedy, grasping couple from Beacon Hill. Soon the quiet inn will become a hotbed of smugglers, swindlers, and even a murder! With your help, perhaps Sheriff Dwayne Dudley will be able to solve the crime.

Tickets, including a good ol’ fashioned New England dinner, are only \$15 for adults and \$7.50 for children age 10 and under. Call the church office (842-7251) by Monday, October 18th for your reservation.

“Not Ready For Primetime Player” Rehearsal Schedule

Mondays 9/13 – October 18 7:00 PM

Dress Rehearsals to be Announced!

Scranton District Fall Lay Academy

5 Tuesday Evenings

Sept 28 – Oct. 26

6:00pm-9:00pm

At Peckville UMC

*Spiritual and educational opportunities for
the Laity of the United Methodist Church*

Registrations Due Monday Sept 13, 2010

Registration forms can be found on table

under mailboxes or online at

Layspeaking.peckvilleumc.org



Fall Auction

Saturday

November 13, 2010

5:30 pm doors open

6:00 pm Auction begins

**We need volunteers to help
contact businesses for donation.**

Plases Help Us Out!

Please contact Michelle Elmquist at 842-4361 or Joyce Swartz at 842-2722 if you can assist or if you have any questions.



MOSCOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Diane Croom, Superintendent
Phone 842-8805
dpcroom@gmail.com

August 2010

Dear Friend,

Welcome to the Moscow United Methodist Church Sunday School. There have been several changes in the program for the upcoming year including a lot of new faces.

As in past years all of our children and youth meet in the sanctuary at 9:30 am for a brief time to sing, share joys and concerns, pray and give an offering before moving into the grade-level classes. Our preschool class is for children from age three to kindergarten age. This class will be led by Sharon Kelly. As in past years students from kindergarten through fifth grade will participate in a rotational program. The same Bible story or theme is presented for several weeks. Each week learners rotate through a different station of art (TBA), cooking (led by Michelle Marsh), games (led by Susan McLain), science (TBA), story time (led by Gail Simpkins) and video (led by Lori Brink). The Junior High class (grades 6th-8th) is led by Nichole McIntosh. The Senior High class (grades 9th-12th) will be led by Pat Verrastro.

The Moscow UMC has adopted a Safe Sanctuary policy to help keep all children and youth safe while participating in activities sponsored by the church. As part of this program windows have been installed in all classroom doors. We will have two teachers working together in each classroom or a hall monitor to check on classrooms periodically. All paid staff and volunteers have undergone a Child Abuse History Clearance and a Criminal Background Check. **In addition we will have a signed registration form on every child/youth participating in Sunday School. The form is attached and if you have not previously filled one out please do so for each child and return them to me or Michelle Elmquist, the church secretary, by September 12, 2010.**

The dismissal strategy is the same as it has been in past years. Junior and Senior High students will be dismissed on their own. Preschool children will be dismissed from the preschool classroom. **Students from kindergarten through fifth grade will be dismissed from two specified areas. Those students leaving after Sunday School at 10:30 will be dismissed from the rear stairwell of the education building to parents in the lower parking lot. Students staying for the worship service will be taken to the social hall in the basement at 10:30 am and offered a snack. Parents are asked to be prompt when picking up children in order to have time to take them to the restroom if needed and get settled in for the worship service.**

We are always in need of an extra pair of hands and would appreciate having you participate in the Moscow UMC Sunday School program.

If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions please contact me.

Thank you for the opportunity to allow us to work with your children as we learn together about God's love in Jesus Christ.

Diane Croom

**MOSCOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MOSCOW, PA 18444**

**Registration Form for Children/Youth Participating
In Sunday School/Youth Group/Choir**

You are being asked to fill out this application because we are committed to the safety and well-being of our children/youth. All information will be kept confidential.

Name: _____ Birth Date: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Father's Name: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Allergies or Other Medical Conditions: _____

I give the above named child/youth permission to participate in the following activities at the Moscow United Methodist Church:

(Please initial all that apply to your child/youth)

___ Sunday School

___ Children/Youth Choir

___ Jr. High Youth Group

___ Children/Youth Ringers

___ Sr. High Youth Group

___ Festival Ringers

Signature: _____ Date: _____

I give permission for my child/youth to be photographed for use with the congregation and/or promotional purposes. INITIAL _____

(over)

Moscow United Methodist Pre-School

The Moscow United Methodist Church Preschool, now in its 12th year, is offering 3 different classes again this year.

The Parent-Child Funtime Workshop, (which actually started one year prior to the Preschool opening), is a class for 2-year-olds accompanied by Mom, Dad, or caretaker and takes place Thursday afternoons from 12:00-1:00. The hour includes playtime, storytime, crafttime, musictime and snacktime. This class gives the 2-year-old the opportunity to experience an hour of structured fun and gives their parent/caretaker an idea of what to expect if they should continue on to Preschool.

The Nursery Preschool class is for 3-year-olds and is offered Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00 - 11:00. The Pre-Kindergarten class is for 4/5 year-olds and is offered Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9:00 - 11:30. Afternoon classes become available for both Nursery and Pre-K depending on demand. This year we have only morning classes for both groups. We offer an age-appropriate curriculum for both age groups with the intent to help the preschool student realize his/her fullest potential by developing their intellectual and social skills, helping them acquire a set of values and ethics, and achieve emotional independence.



CHURCH PICNIC

Our annual church picnic was held after church on Sunday, August 29th. We had great weather and were able to enjoy great food and fellowship together. Thanks to all who donated food and to Bill Fischer for donating and cooking the meat. Everything was delicious!!



Hello Youth Group!!! We are getting ready for a new exciting year. If you are not already a member and are in Middle or High School please come join us! Bring your friends!

Our regular meetings will begin again on Sunday September 26th immediately after worship.

Start Saving Shoe shoeboxes for Christmas gifts to our shut-ins!!

Keep an eye out for emails!! Call Miss Debbie or Miss Michelle at 842-7251 if you have any questions or need any information.

Parents and adults ... the youth group can also use help with meetings as well as helping to provide lunch when the youth meet.

Community Happenings

Thornhurst United Methodist Church Hoagie Sale

Saturday September 4
9-noon order 643-6605.

North Pocono Blood Drive

Thursday September 16
St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

Mission Opportunities

Items Needed for Container Shipment to Nicaragua

Calvary UMC and St. Paul's UMC in the State College District sponsor an orphanage and send medical teams to Nicaragua, along with St. Paul's Lutheran and Grace Lutheran. This is their first time sending a container. Steve Herman is handling the container with Missionary Expeditors and the project is confirmed at Mission Central. The ship date is Monday, Oct. 11, so items need to be collected by Oct. 2. They will be collected at Mission Central in Mechanicsburg.

Items needed:

- Toddler beds; if possible natural wood.
- standard sized mattresses for toddler beds
- cribs w/waterproof mattresses
- stroller for multiple children
- child sized table for more than 4 children to sit at
- gas dryer (ex: whirlpool 7.0 cu. ft. 10 - cycle super capacity)
- lawn mower; professional quality
- refrigerator
- professional food grinder and blender
- commercial stainless steel cookware; restaurant size
- solar hot water heater, passive (3 sets)
- well pump (like Franklin Electric Eagle 4000 series, model 244 508 90, 1 horsepower)
- lockable wooden teacher's cabinet
- lockable medicine cabinet to hang on wall
- tires for ministry Toyota truck: 215/75 R16C, 116/114R
- tires for yellow school bus: 10.00-20
- projector (minimum 2000 ANSI Lumen)
- TV - new enough to be used with a DVD player

Wheels for the World Mission Project

If you have any used wheelchairs, walkers, crutches or canes you can donate them to Wheels for the World, a mission started by Joni Erikson Tada and Friends. This organization takes these used items, rehabs them and sends them around the world to those with handicapping conditions. If you have wheelchair, walker, crutch or cane that you would like to donate you may contact the Myrtle St. UMC at 346-9911.

♥ FOR YOUR HEALTH ♥

Nurses Information Table

2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

Dear Members,

I want to invite you to stop by the nurse's information table in the narthex for information on returning to school this fall. Shifting from summer to school mode is a major transition, not only for your student(s), but also for you. Feel free to stop and browse and take some information if you like. A nurse will also be available to check your blood pressure. The table will be set up the second and fourth Sundays of the month and each month the information will change. Looking forward to seeing you!

Barb Buxton

A Laugh for your Health

A church deacon sat visiting with one of the shut-in members when the woman seemed to go into cardiac arrest. The deacon rushed to the phone and called 9-1-1, asking that they send an ambulance to the house immediately. The operator asked, "What's the address, sir?" the deacon wasn't sure of the exact address, but he knew she lived in the last house on Eucalyptus Lane. The operator asked, "Can you spell that for me sir?"

After a long pause, the deacon asked, "Um, how about if I carry her over to Oak Street and you can pick her up there?"

**THIS AUTUMN
at
SKY LAKE**

Fall Festival

Sunday, October 3 1:30pm - 5:00pm

*Scavenger hunt registration deadline Oct. 1
Silent Basket Auction, Pie Sale, Baked Potato
Bar, and Much More ..*

*"a fun way for families and youth groups to help
replenish the Campership Fund"*

Ladies of the Lake

October 8-10

*"a retreat just for women, featuring mild and wild
activity options"*

Save \$25 when registering by Sept. 17th

Sky Lake golf Tournament

Saturday, October 16

Registration due Friday Oct 8

*"a new and exciting way to help raise money for Sky
Lake"*

Ecumenical Scripture Institute

November 18-20

*"a top notch educational opportunity for clergy and
laity"*

Registration due by October 18, 2010.

*For more information on these upcoming events,
please see your sky Lake Representative, Pastor, visit
www.skylake.center.org or call the Sky Lake Office at
607-467-2750*



New Conference Information

Websites:

www.cpcumc.org Look for the Susquehanna
Conference logo.

www.NewConferences.info has a direct link to the
Central PA Conference updates page.

**Susquehanna Annual Conference
September 11, 2010**

Located at the Community Arts Center
Williamsport.



**Bus Trip to Williamsport
September 11, 2010**

From Scranton and Wilkes-Barre Districts

Because many people expressed the need and
desire to have a bus going to the Susquehanna
Conference at Williamsport on September 11,
2010 - -

ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE!

This bus trip is not being coordinated through the
District Offices. If you are interested in more
information please contact Jeanne Gordon at
842-8740, 1511 State Rt. 307, Roaring Brook
Township, PA 18444


The bus company being used is Avery Bus
Company in Beach Lake and will make stops at
Beach Lake UMC - - Honesdale Area - - Elm
Park UMC in Scranton and Sears at the Wyoming
Valley Mall near the auto center.

The cost is \$25 per person and is not refundable
unless a replacement is found and must be paid
by check prior to the trip.

Those who have already made reservations will
be receiving a letter confirming their place. (If
you feel you have made a reservation and do not
receive a letter this week, please contact Jeanne
Gordon at the number listed – since errors do
occur. Hope to hear from you.

Moscow United Methodist Church

September 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>North Pocono Food Pantry Food of the Month: Peanut Butter & Jelly/ Tuna North Pocono Dry Goods Pantry Item of the Month: Facial Tissues</p>			<p>1 9-12 Office Open 9 Wed Morning Crew 7 Watercolor Workshop 8 Open AA Meeting</p>	<p>2 9-12 Office Open</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 15th Sunday after Pentecost 10 Worship Service / Communion</p>	<p>6 LABOR DAY </p>	<p>7 9-12 Office Open 6 Lay Leadership</p>	<p>8 9-12 Office Open 9 Wed Morning Crew 5 Fellowship Dinner 5:30 Choir Practices 7 Watercolor Workshop 8 Open AA Meeting</p>	<p>9 9-12 Office Open 7 Trustees Meeting</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 Susquehanna Conference Williamsport</p>
<p>12 16th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 1st Day Sunday School 11 Worship Service / Coffee Hour</p>	<p>13 7 Mystery Dinner Practice</p>	<p>14 9-12 Office Open 6 SPRC Meeting 7 Ad Council Meeting</p>	<p>15 9-12 Office Open 9 Wed Morning Crew 5 Fellowship Dinner 5:30 Choir Practices 6 Lay Leadership 7 Watercolor Workshop 8 Open AA Meeting</p>	<p>16 9-12 Office Open</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 17th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Sunday School 11 Worship Service / Baptisms Lamm & Ritter 12 Multimedia Train</p>	<p>20 7 Mystery Dinner Practice</p>	<p>21 9-12 Office Open</p>	<p>22 9-12 Office Open 9 Wed Morning Crew 5 Fellowship Dinner 5:30 Choir Practices 7 Watercolor Workshop 8 Open AA Meeting</p>	<p>23 9-12 Office Open 7 Lay Leadership</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 18th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Sunday School 11 Worship Service / Baptism Havenstrite 12:30 1st Youth Group Meeting 6th—12th gr.</p>	<p>27 7 Mystery Dinner Practice</p>	<p>28 9-12 Office Open</p>	<p>29 9-12 Office Open 9 Wed Morning Crew 5 Fellowship Dinner 5:30 Choir Practices 6 Lay Leadership 7 Watercolor Workshop 8 Open AA Meeting</p>	<p>30 9-12 Office Open</p>	<p>OCTOBER EVENTS Mystery Dinner Theatre <i>Saturday 10/23 6:00 PM</i> <i>Sunday 10/24 5:00 PM</i></p>	

LOVE LETTER PROJECT

Thumbs Up!!

Many of you may remember a regular feature on WNEP news called, "Does It Really Work?" (It was hosted by Moscow-local Sherman Burdette.) In the segment, Sherman would test a product and give it either "thumbs-up" or "thumbs-down." Well, the same holds true for our Love Letter Project. After five years, we have put the program to the test...and the results are in!

"The only reason my kid wants to go to school anymore is to get his letter."

- phone call from a parent

"Your letters keep me going strong. Thank-you!"

- student response to a letter from Susan Shotwell

"Thank-you for listening to my problem. I feel better now."

- student response to a letter from Sarah Miller

"No one ever said they have faith in me before. But if you think I can, then I will try."

- student response to a letter from Lois Linko

(Teacher note: Student earned an A in math and raised her reading level.)

Is writing a letter an extraordinary thing? No. Does it yield extraordinary results? Yes!

The Love Letter Project began in response to our church's mission statement, "to share God's love...through word." After reflection on how I could incorporate this into my life, it occurred to me that my daily world revolved around a little classroom - a home to the marginalized in my school building. A plan began to take shape. If Paul could strengthen and inspire early churches through letters, then why couldn't this idea be applied to my students? I couldn't do it alone. I was going to need some help.

This is where God's army of letter-writing volunteers came in. Every year, about a dozen or so folks, commit to writing a letter every other week to one of my students. Together, they share the highs and lows of their lives. I rejoice and give thanks for all who have been involved this year, and in the past. A special thank-you to those who have been a part of this project for all 5 years, and for those who have been on stand-by, ready to jump in when new students arrive.

There's room for you, too! I am always on the look-out for new volunteers. It takes about 15 minutes of your time, at your convenience. It's a mission project you could do in your pajamas – no passports or immunizations needed. All materials provided – just add God's love! If you're interested, or need more information, please contact Ann Sowers. (I will need at least 15 volunteers for Fall, 2010.)

Does it really work? Thumbs-up! Amen!!

Ann Sowers