

Grace Notes

June, July and August

It's hard to believe it, but I've been Moscow United Methodist's minister for almost a year! As I look back on this challenging year of being a minister for Christ without the presence of wife and family, I couldn't help but reflect on all I've learned through this experience. Here are three things (among many!) that God has taught me...

Number One...a church truly IS a family! I couldn't have made it without you, friends! Through your cards, through your prayers, through your invitations to events and your many outreaches of love I've come to realize that I can make it through any tough situation because I'm part of a fellowship of Christ-followers who not only talk the talk of Christianity, but walk the walk as proven through your friendship, encouragement, and ministry to me, my family, the church and larger community we live in. Praise God for this family of Christ!

Number Two...I've learned that when our tendency is to feel sorry for ourselves, the best medicine in the world is serving others. Through the flood relief efforts of last fall, through visitations to hospitals and to various homes of people in need of a listening ear, I've come to appreciate and fully understand Jeremiah 58:10 which says, "Feed the hungry, help those in trouble, then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as day." Praise God for the healing we receive when we serve those around us!

Number three... I've learned the importance of staying attached to the Vine who is Christ, our Lord! Through devotions, Bible reading, and most especially through unceasing prayer I've come to realize once again that there is truly nothing that can ever separate us from the love of God found in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Friends, as we head into this season of summer filled with camps, trips to the beach, and other vacation destinations, take some advice from a pastor who has been through his own personal wilderness and back...don't take a vacation from God! Stay connected to the Vine through Sunday worship, through prayer, through daily time in God's Word, and through continuing your fellowship with this wonderful body of Christ at Moscow UMC, people who've been instrumental in my growth as a person, as a pastor, and as one who realizes more than ever the importance of family.

God's grace and peace to all of you!

Pastor Jeff Levy



June 3rd

1st Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Reader: Lorie Reigal
Nursery: Betty Koss
Music: Sunday School Choir

June 10th

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Coffee Hour

Scripture Reader: Dan Schilling
Greeters: Jean & David Chapman
Ushers: Joyce & Dick Swartz
Nursery: Betty Koss
Special Music: Women's Trio

June 17th

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Reader: Dick Swartz
Greeters: Carol Verrone &
Don Erhardt
Ushers: Holly & Pat Reid
Nursery: Betty Koss
Special Music: Norm Campbell

June 24th

4th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Reader: Joyce Swartz
Greeters: Muriel & Jim Smailes
Ushers: Chuck & Gail Johns
Nursery: Betty Koss
Special Music: Barb Buxton

July 1st

5th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Reader: *To Be Announced*
Greeters: Corey Fabricatore & TBA
Nursery: Betty Koss
Special Music: To Be announced

July 8th

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Coffee Hour (Need someone to sponsor)
Scripture Reader: Karen Morgan
Greeters: Tara & Chris Bassi
Ushers: TBA
Nursery: Betty Koss
Special Music: Hugh Miller

July 15th

7th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Reader: Dan Schilling
Special Music: Pat Miller

July 22nd

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Reader: Nichole Mc Intosh
Special Music: Deb Hafler

July 29th

9th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Reader: Michelle Elmquist
Special Music: Chris & Alicia Kulick

August 5th

10th Sunday after Pentecost

Special Music: Leesa Levy

August 12th

11th Sunday after Pentecost

Coffee Hour Sharon Kelly
Special Music: Sarah & Michael Shoff

August 19th

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Special Music: Janet & Taylor Brown

August 26th

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Special Music: Leesa Levy

September 2nd

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Special Music: John Andrews



COMMITTEES

Trustees

Next meeting will be held on
Thursday, June 14, 2012

Ad Council

Next meeting will be held on
Tuesday, August 14, 2012 at 7:00 PM.

SPRC

Next meeting will be held on
Tuesday, August 14, 2012 at 6:00 PM.

Hospitality Volunteers 2012 Coffee Hours

July 8th - *Need Volunteers*

August 12th - Sharon Kelly

September 9th - Brunch Hospitality
Committee

October 14th - Kim Morgan, Karen Morgan

November 11th - *Need Volunteers*

December 9th - Christmas Brunch -
Hospitality Committee

Social Hall Usage

Friday July 27th - Hall Set-up 6pm - 8pm

Saturday July 28th - Hall rental 8am - 8pm

Tuesday Evenings - Line Dancing 7 pm - 9 pm

Wednesday Evenings 8 pm - AA Meeting

Sanctuary Usage

Sunday June 3rd - Piano recital 362-1056



Please Pray For

Please pray for Robyn
Hockenberry, Family of Lois
Snyder, Family of Emily

VanLoavender, Charles Reuther, Helen
Hanna, Tom Reese, Connor Bruseski,
Amber Schieler, Jennifer Wall, Bruce
Fruehan, Terry Thompson, David Dios,
Today's Teens, Ray Walsh, Larry
Smallcomb, Chuck Olsen, Joe Petroski,
Leo Woelkers, Kathleen Anthony, Troy
Green, Father Scott Sturuski, Blanche
Bonitz, Margaret Brooks, Donna Swartz,
Alice Balutis, Scott Musewicz, Rev. Brolin
Parker, Bob Reimer, Bob Davis, Jake
Kieper, Ed & Marie Hoevermann, Lynn
Guse Lorenz, Jennifer Holdren Mease,
Meredith Ashton, Ed Kovac, Mike Oitak,
Wendy Cominsky, Harry Garris, Arthur
Grogan, Elizabeth Barrera, John Korea,
Jean Hoover, John Hollister, Polly Ciscoe,
Caleb Price, Darlene Fruehan, Jack
Jones, Ted Lysak, Marilyn Winkler, Kiara
Gilchrist

Psalm 41:3

*The LORD sustains them on their sickbed and
restores them from their bed of illness.*

Military personnel

*Brandon Swartz, Nathan Trygar, Kevin
Wood, Amanda Price, and Michael
DeLucy.*



Treasurer's Report

Linda Verrastro

As of May 31st, the general operating bills are current, but we have fallen behind in our ministry shares. Our 2012 commitment is \$2,047 per month, but we have only been able to pay \$1,000 each month. As we move into the summer months, we ask that you continue to support the church by keeping your pledge up to date. Even though vacations, family reunions and other activities may periodically disrupt your regular attendance at church, we still need your financial help during this time.

SAFE SANCTUARY

For all those that did not get their background check forms to Howard McIntosh please do so as soon as possible. Remember, background checks and training should be done every three years.

**SUMMER HOURS
BEGIN**

**Sunday June 17th
Worship 10:00 AM**

Office Hours

Wednesdays 9:00am – 12:00pm
Thursday 9:00am – 12:00pm



The Search for a new church Secretary is over!

Michelle Elmquist

Janet Brown has been hired as the new Church Secretary. I am confident that Janet is a wonderful choice for this position. She loves our church. It won't just be a "job" for her. As we go through the yearly church calendar, I will be training/helping out with the different seasons, conference reports etc. on an as needed basis.

Stop by and welcome Janet into her new role within our church.



September Newsletter –

Wednesday August 15, 2012

Information for "new year kick off", Fall events, articles from committees for what the new year holds, music info and Sunday school info should be included. Also any other happenings or News!!

Summer Vacations/Schedules

Pastor Jeff will be on the Mission Trip from June 17th through June 22nd. For Pastoral Support please contact Rev. Eric Luczak at 570-702-9808.

Pastor Jeff will be on vacation July 9th thru July 23rd.

Ministry Shares (Formerly known as Apportionments)

submitted by Michael Shoff

What are they, and why should I contribute? (Parts of this article taken from *Why We Apportion: A Theology of United Methodist Giving* by Bishop Lindsey Davis, President of the Board of Directors, GCFA (General Council on Finance and Administration – www.gfca.org)

In our monthly Administrative Council meetings, we discuss many topics pertinent to the ministries and mission of the Moscow United Methodist Church. One topic of vital importance is the operating budget for the church, and one significant portion of the operating budget is known as ministry shares. We have, for the last several years, failed to successfully pay in full our ministry shares. Perhaps it is because we do not fully understand ministry shares. Personally, when I see a charge on a bill for something I do not recognize or understand, I will often contact the company that sent me the bill to question, or even challenge, the charge.

What are ministry shares?

Ministry Shares, when we belonged to the Wyoming Annual Conference, were known as apportionments. Apportionments, or ministry shares, are our first mile of mission giving. They form the framework for the rest of our connectional ministry and mission. When we (*the congregation of the Moscow United Methodist Church*) give our money so our congregation can pay its apportionments, we (*The United Methodist Church as a whole*) give to these causes:

World Service Fund, which builds new churches, pays the salaries of missionaries, provides leadership for youth ministry, and much more.

Africa University Fund - When we support the Africa University Fund, we nurture students in Christian values and develop visionary leaders.

Ministerial Education Fund, which helps to defray the costs of getting a seminary education, and supports those who are called into ordained and licensed ministry.

Black College Fund, which helps the 11 historically Black United Methodist–related colleges and universities to maintain solid, challenging academic programs, strong faculties and well-equipped facilities.

Episcopal Fund – this fund pays our bishops' salaries and covers office and travel expenses; it also provides pension and health benefit coverage.

Interdenominational Cooperation Fund enables United Methodists to have a presence and a voice in the activities of several national and worldwide ecumenical and interreligious organizations.

General Administration Fund finances the administrative activities of the church, in addition to underwriting the basic costs of General Conference, funding work of the Judicial Council, maintaining United Methodist official documents and historical artifacts, and designating historical shrines, landmarks and sites.

Why should I contribute?

Apportionment giving transforms all—the giver, the church, the annual conference and especially the recipient. “We practice the rules; but God does the transforming; the renewing, and the building of the house—the house of our lives, the house of our church, and the house of our world.”

Apportioned giving holds central importance in our distinctive Wesleyan tradition of stewardship for the furthering of the mission and ministry of The United Methodist Church.

The 2008 General Conference summed up the church's apportionment goals in Four Areas of Focus:

- “Developing Principled Christian Leaders for the Church and the World”
- “Creating New Places for New People and Renewing Existing Congregations”
- “Engaging in Ministry With the Poor”
- “Stamping Out the Killer Diseases of Poverty by Improving Health Globally”

“The Earth is the Lord's, and everything in it” – 1 Corinthians 10:26 These thoughts “reflect a sense that all our resources come from God and should be received and managed by the church as God's representatives.”

John Wesley's theology of Christian stewardship is perhaps best summarized in his admonition to the people called Methodist: “Earn all you can. Save all you can. Give all you can.” Wesley encouraged Methodists to work with diligence and discipline, making wise use of the gifts and resources entrusted to them by God.

We would ask that you pray on this, and please consider giving as generously as you are able; your contributions will go far and wide, and may even help change the world.

“Bring your full tithe to the Temple treasury so there will be ample provisions in my Temple. Test me in this and see if I don't open up heaven itself to you and pour out blessings beyond your wildest dreams.” –*Malachi 3:10*

HOW MUCH DO YOU PAY?

Shares of Ministry by Member in the Susquehanna Conference 2012 PLAN FOR FUNDING MINISTRY

Here are some examples of how much each member pays for Shares of Ministry in the Susquehanna Conference. Perhaps these will be helpful in your discussion and interpretation.

Ministry Item	Annual Amount	Per Member Cost Per Year/Week
BENEVOLENCE		
World Service	\$1,658,024	\$10.34/.199
Africa University	49,106	.306/.006
Black College Fund	219,410	1.37/.026
Conference Program	550,000	3.43/.066
Neighborhood Center	80,000	.499/.009
Home for Children	110,000	.686/.013
Health Ministries	25,000	.156/.003
Racial Ethnic Scholarships	25,000	.156/.003
Parish Development	65,000	.405/.008
New Church Development Support	139,500	.870/.017
Social Ministries	95,000	.592/.011
Multi-Cultural Urban Ministry	105,000	.655/.013
TOTAL BENEVOLENCE	\$3,186,540	\$19.88/.382
CONNECTIONAL CHURCH MINISTRIES		
Conn Mty Executive Staff Salaries	\$ 259,300	\$1.62/.031
Conn Mty Support Staff Salaries	197,100	1.23/.024
Camp Properties	64,800	.404/.008
General Administration.	189,363	1.18/.023
Finance Office Staff Salaries	257,800	1.61/.031
Dist Supt. Office Administration	522,772	3.26/.063
Board of Trustees	386,400	2.41/.046
Workers Comp Insurance	350,000	2.18/.042
Stewardship Foundation	130,000	.811/.016
TOTAL CONNECTIONAL MTY	\$3,669,714	\$22.89/.440
CLERGY SUPPORT		
Episcopal Fund	\$ 505,041	\$3.15/.061
Pensions	702,000	4.38/.084
District Supt. Salaries	825,539	5.15/.099
Salary Assistance Support	220,000	1.37/.026
TOTAL CLERGY SUPPORT	\$5,455,080	\$34.02/.654
TOTAL SPENDING PLAN	\$12,311,334	\$76.79/1.48

Please note the above are only line items from the various categories of the Plan, not the total.

In addition the "Per year amounts are approximates based on your churches calculated ministry share commitment. Ministry share amounts are calculated based on your churches yearly operating expenses which include salaries, yearly general maintenance, utilities etc...

In the Case of Moscow United Methodist Church our per member giving amount would be more.

Senior High and Junior High Youth Groups

Pray for our mission trip attendees and sponsors as venture out to Rutland, Vermont to help those in need.

Stay tuned this summer for local mission work, trip to Hershey and kick-off meeting for the new school year.

Sunday School



it's for life!

Sunday School Resumes

Sunday September 9th

Pre-school through Adult

Come and Join Us!!

THE BRICK

submitted by Janice Lamm

A young and successful executive was traveling down a neighborhood street, going a bit too fast in his new Jaguar.. He was watching for kids darting out from between parked cars and slowed down when he thought he saw something.

As his car passed, no children appeared. Instead, a brick smashed into the Jag's side door! He slammed on the brakes and backed the Jag back to the spot where the brick had been thrown.

The angry driver then jumped out of the car, grabbed the nearest kid and pushed him up against a parked car shouting,

'What was that all about and who are you? Just what the heck are you doing? That's a new car and that brick you threw is going to cost a lot of money. Why did you do it?'

The young boy was apologetic. 'Please, mister ...please, I'm sorry but I didn't know what else to do,' He pleaded. 'I threw the brick because no one else would stop....' With tears dripping down his face and off his chin, the youth pointed to a spot just around a parked car.. 'It's my brother, 'he said 'He rolled off the curb and fell out of his wheelchair and I can't lift him up.'

Now sobbing, the boy asked the stunned executive, 'Would you please help me get him back into his wheelchair? He's hurt and he's too heavy for me.'

Moved beyond words, the driver tried to swallow the rapidly swelling lump in his throat... He hurriedly lifted the handicapped boy back into the wheelchair, then took out a linen handkerchief and dabbed at the fresh scrapes and cuts. A quick look told him everything was going to be okay. 'Thank you and may God bless you,' the grateful child told the stranger.

Too shook up for words, the man simply watched the boy! push his wheelchair-bound brother down the sidewalk toward their home..

It was a long, slow walk back to the Jaguar. The damage was very noticeable, but the driver never bothered to repair the dented side door. He kept the dent there to remind him of this message:

'Don't go through life so fast that someone has to throw a brick at you to get your attention!'

God whispers in our souls and speaks to our hearts Sometimes when we don't have time to listen, He has to throw a brick at us. It's our choice to listen or not.

FOR THE GARDEN OF YOUR DAILY LIVING

Plant three Rows of Peas:

1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash:

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness

Plant four rows of lettuce:

1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce really love one another

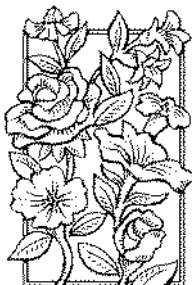
No Garden is without turnips:

1. Turnip for meetings
2. Turnip for service
3. Turnip to help one another

To Conclude our garden we must have Thyme:

1. Thyme for each other
2. Thyme for family
3. Thyme for friends

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There is much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow.



Dear Church Family,

I just wanted to thank you all for the last four years of allowing me the honor of being your Church Secretary.

It has truly been a rewarding experience. Working in the office gave me the opportunity to get to know so many of you better. A chance I truly believe I may not have had otherwise.

Your patience and support over the last year and a half has helped make me a stronger person, a stronger servant of God and truly has shown me how God's love exists in all of you.

However, it has come time for me to move on. Now mind you that is move on from the office not the church. You can't get rid of me that easily!!

On that note, I leave you in the capable and loving hands of Janet Brown. Please provide her with the same patience and support you have given me since my first day.

Again, thank you and God Bless!

*Peace and Love,
Michelle*

Summer Camp Info

Summer Brochures for
Susquehanna Conference UM Camps
www.susumcamps.org

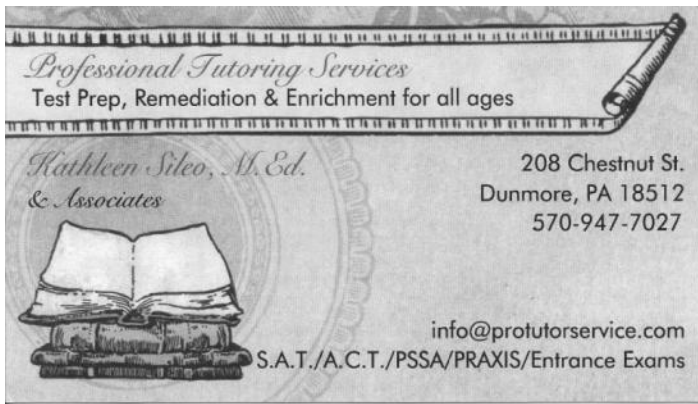
Sky Lake
skylakecenter.org

are available under the mailboxes. If you need more information you can speak to Sarah Shoff or visit one of the above websites.

Remember camp sponsorships are available thru the Moscow UMC camp and mission trip sponsorship fund.



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FOR YOUR HEALTH and SAFETY AND OTHERS

The North Pocono Pantries need our Help!!!

Dry Goods

Our items for summer are as follows

June - **Toilet Paper**

July - **Tooth Paste**

August – **Laundry Detergent**

but all donations are welcome.

FOOD PANTRY

Always urgently needed are: Beef Stew, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Tuna Fish, Oatmeal and Cereal.

Community Events

Flea Market Gouldsboro UMC

Saturday August 4th 9am – 2 pm

Vendors needed 8x8 space \$10

National Night Out

Tuesday August 7th

Chicken BBQ Gouldsboro UMC

Saturday August 25th

Tickets Gary 842-6106

COMMUNITY PRAISE FEST

Moffat Pavilion

September 9th

4 pm – 5:30 pm

Special Music from Each of the NP
community churches and
The Forgiven Band

Moscow UMC Pre-School News

The entire Moscow United Methodist Church Preschool held a "Big Blowout" end of school year party at Chuck E. Cheese's on Thursday, May 17, 2012, the day a after the Pre-Kindergarten class graduated. Pictured with Chuck E. Cheese are:



Front row:

Anna Havenstrite, Alden Ayers, Cayden Knight, Max Malec, Gavin Chapman, Lylah Placek, Isabella Forgione

2nd row:

Ashley Wright, Logan Olsommer, Emma Hollenbeck, Molly Jennings, Ryan Knight, Tommy Wood, Jake Reese, Callie Pica

3rd row:

Amaya Monacelli, Katie Klotz, Sarah Luczak, Lexie Poplawski, Lylah Placek, Mattie Poplawski

Back row:

Kiara Ferri, Lauren Gilgallon, Chuck E. Cheese, Kiera Knight, Hannah Luczak

On May 16, 2012, the Moscow United Methodist Church Preschool held its 13th annual Preschool Graduation of the Pre-Kindergarten Class of 2012. The graduates are pictured as follows:



Front row:

Matthew Jennings, Norah Smith, Logan Walton, Jimmie Klotz, Zander Cramer,

2nd row:

Ashley Wright, Ryan Knight, Logan Olsommer, Cayden Knight, Lylah Placek, Ava Page, Emilee Battle, Max Malec

3rd row:

Ava Moran, Tommy Woods, Mattie Poplawski, Lauren Gilgallon, Karon Gibson, Amaya Monacelli, Colin McGoff, Kiara Ferri

Back row:

Jori Poplawski and Jeannie Garubba, Director

**PARENT-CHILD FUNTIME WORKSHOP
REGISTRATION FORM
THURSDAY 12:00 - 1:00
\$175/SEMESTER
PERSONAL DATA SHEET**

NAME OF CHILD _____

AGE OF CHILD _____ DATE OF REGISTRATION _____

MALE OR FEMALE _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

NAME OF PARENTS _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

NAME OF PERSON ACCOMPANYING CHILD _____

RELATIONSHIP OF THIS PERSON TO CHILD _____

HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THIS PROGRAM? _____

**Moscow UIMC
Pre-School
Join the fun!**

INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS, YOUR FRIENDS,
ALL LITTLE PEOPLE WELCOME

MOSCOW UMC PRESCHOOL Rev.1/11
JEANNIE GARUBBA, 11 LANGAN ROAD, COVINGTON TOWNSHIP, PA 18444
REGISTRATION FORM

DATE OF REGISTRATION _____ HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE PRESCHOOL _____

CHILD'S NAME _____ BOY/GIRL? _____ AGE _____ BIRTHDATE _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE NO. _____

PARENTS' NAMES _____

MOM'S EMPLOYER: _____ DAD'S EMPLOYER: _____

ADDRESS _____

TEL. NO. _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

CAN YOU BE REACHED AT WORK IF NECESSARY AND, IF SO, DURING WHAT HOURS? _____

CHILD'S PREVIOUS PRESCHOOL EXPERIENCE (IF ANY) _____

PEDIATRICIAN OR FAMILY DOCTOR? _____

ARE YOUR CHILD'S IMMUNIZATION'S UP TO DATE? _____

PLEASE INDICATE WHICH PROGRAM YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:

- ____ NURSERY-(3-yr-old)-TUESDAYS/THURSDAYS A.M. 9:00-11:00 \$425/SEMESTER
____ NURSERY-(3-yr-old)-TUESDAYS/THURSDAYS P.M. 11:30-1:30 \$425/SEMESTER
____ PRE-K-(4/5-yr-old)-MONDAYS/WEDNESDAYS/FRIDAYS A.M. 9:00-11:30 \$550/SEM
____ PRE-K-(2 or 3 day option)-MON/WED/FRI P.M. 12:00-2:30 \$450/SEM OR \$550/SEM

OUR FIRST SEMESTER STARTS LABOR DAY WEEK AND THE SECOND SEMESTER STARTS THE FIRST WEEK OF FEBRUARY. PAYMENT IN FULL IS EXPECTED BEFORE EACH SEMESTER BEGINS. WE WILL FOLLOW THE NORTH POCONO SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR OF DAYS OFF. DETAILS IN HANDBOOK.

PARENTS' SIGNATURE (PREFERABLY BOTH) _____

PLEASE INCLUDE A NON-REFUNDABLE \$25.00 REGISTRATION FEE (THAT IS NOT PART OF THE TUITION) THAT WILL HOLD YOUR SPOT; PAYABLE TO MOSCOW UMC. PRESCHOOL ADDRESS IS 126 CHURCH STREET MOSCOW. THANK YOU.
THE HANDBOOK CAN BE FOUND AT <http://www.moscowumc.com/index.php?&m=preschool>