

# MILL-GREEN MESSENGER

PO Box 470  
Millville, Pa 17846



JULY/AUGUST 2017

**Love Jesus**

**Keep His Commandments**

**Change the World**



# Mill-Green United Methodist Church

PO Box 470 Millville, PA 17846

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**Pastor:** Robert W. Strozyk **Email:** [rstrozyk@susumc.org](mailto:rstrozyk@susumc.org) **Cell:** (570) 204-5478

**Administrative Assistant:** Louise Strozyk **Email:** [office@millgreenumc.org](mailto:office@millgreenumc.org)

**Pianist:** Laurie Glidewell/Janet Grecsek/Louise Strozyk

**Director of Music:** Sandra Lewis

**Director of Youth Ministries:** Colleen Temple

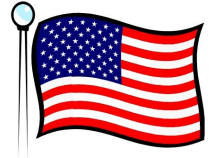
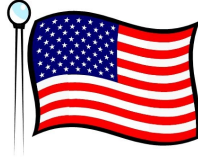
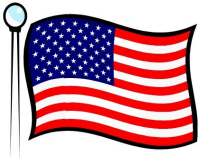
**Director of Children's Ministries:** Louise Strozyk

**Praise Team Leader:** Tara Holdren

**Mill-Green Preschool Directors:** Sue Burns & Barb Leighow (570) 458.4349 ext. 225

Mon. Wed. and Fri. 9-11:30am.

**Custodian:** Nancy Ruckle



You are warmly invited to join us at one of our services!

## Millville Building

## Greenwood Building

8:00 AM Contemporary Service

9:15AM Traditional Service

9:15 AM Sunday School for all ages

10:30 AM Traditional Service

6:30-8PM Youth Group

*"And let us consider how we may spur one another toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching."*

*Hebrews 10:24-26*

## "One Nation Under God?"

***I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.***

The pledge of allegiance, as many of us remember, has always used the phrase "one nation under God", yet prior to 1954 this was not the case. In 1954 President Dwight D. Eisenhower's urged Congress to legislate "under God" be added to the Pledge. Over the years, The Pledge of Allegiance, has been recited in schools, governmental meetings, scout meetings, and other events. Despite its recitation has the addition of the phrase "under God" changed America in any significant way? You have to stop and wonder what America would be like if the intent of the pledge would be honored? What if we truly lived as a nation that was directed by the hand of God? It truly is only conjecture because there never has been a time when America was one nation under God's rule.



There were moments in time after God created heaven, earth and human beings that this was reality; yet, the memory is a brief blip in the creation process God initiated. Ever since Adam and Eve's moment of disobedience humanity was faced with problems. We struggle to live as a church "under God" because we fail to live as individuals "under God"! So, the reality of living out the intention of President Eisenhower, in adding the phrase "one nation under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance, seems absurd and unachievable. Right?

Well maybe not!

In Exodus 20:1-7 we read, <sup>1</sup> *And God spoke all these words:* <sup>2</sup> *"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.* <sup>3</sup> *"You shall have no other gods before me.* <sup>4</sup> *"You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.* <sup>5</sup> *You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me,* <sup>6</sup> *but showing love to a thousand [generations] of those who love me and keep my commandments.* <sup>7</sup> *"You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name."*

The problem all people have stems from our sin problem. The sinful nature produces people who are focused on pleasing ourselves. We create other gods and they come before the one True God! We are experienced at creating all kinds of idols formed from anything in the heavens or on the earth. We are quick to bow down before them and worship them. We are steeped in the practice of humanism; therefore, we are idolaters.

One definition of humanism shares, *"Humanist beliefs stress the potential value and goodness of human beings, emphasize common human needs, and seek solely rational ways of solving human problems."* There is no theistic component that moves humanists to live a moral life. It is an ethical desire to lead moral lives in the pursuit of self-fulfillment. A humanist's regard is for humanity and creating the best possible life for oneself and others. It supposes that humanity has the potential to be inherently good without a religion or god! Therefore, the purpose of all human beings is to solve our own problems without the directive hand of God.

This leads us down a slippery slope based on half-truths and assumptions made by humans. Scripture points out this very important point, Romans 3:23 <sup>23</sup> *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...*". God's perspective on humanity shares that we are not inherently good, nor do we have the potential to be good, for we are all sinners

(continued on page 4)

by nature. If we are indeed all sinners and fall short of God's expectations then how can we seek rational ways to solve the complex moral problems inherent in all people? It is for this reason that people embrace a humanistic approach towards living life. Humanism focuses on living a moral and self-fulfilled life without subjecting one's-self to the teachings of God or following a theistic moral code. Religious humanists like the ideals of religious institutions, but do not want to adhere to a moral code that is attributed to any theistic belief. After all, why subject one's-self to any moral dogma if this life we live ends when we die?

Satan continues to lie and to place obstacles in the path of people who are struggling to make decisions on life, death, and morality. But, it is our responsibility as followers of Jesus Christ to live as people who reject Satan's work and cling to the heart of God. We are to live out the commandment of God written in the book of Exodus which instructs us to place no other god above the God of all creation. It is the purpose statement of our church to Love God, Keep His Commandments, and Change the World. We cannot do this if we place many other things above our commitment to God Himself.

As people saved by the Grace of God we have the responsibility to give thanks to God daily and to live as people under God's control. As the church, we are called to serve fully under the direction of God and not worry about how it was done in the past. Our only concern is how we are being obedient to God in the moment and in the present venue we are called to serve. We need to be serious about the first commandment that God provided for us in Exodus 20:2-3, *"I am the LORD your God...<sup>3</sup> "You shall have no other gods before me."*

This is my challenge for each one of us. Take a moment every day to ask God to help you live your life by His direction and under His guidance. As you do this, also ask God to help you to root out any of those pesky little gods that need to be named and removed from your life. In doing so we realize we cannot be moral people who can be self-fulfilled. We must rely upon God, the work of salvation through Jesus Christ, and the motivation of the Holy Spirit to live under God's direction! As for our country, we can be the hands and feet of Jesus who live in such a way that we are doing all we can to please Him, and thereby, affect those around us!



Campbell

"This man has some kind of complaint about the pie his wife bought at our bake sale, Pastor Bob."

## PA Dept. of Health Immunization Clinic

Friday, July 21, 2017

Friday, August 18, 2017

9am -12noon

Held at the Millville Building Social Hall for anyone without medical insurance, or if your insurance does not cover the immunization.

Please call ahead for appointment and the immunization you will be needing:

Shingles, Flu, HIV, STD's or children's immunizations.

**570-275-7092**





**VBS 2017**



**Very cool!**



**Don't spill the water, go faster, don't spill the water!**



**"What I'm trying to say is..."**



**And you thought wearing cones wasn't cool!**



**I know this one!**





Play food and a "living table"...hmmm.



"Go left, now right, now don't knock a cup over!"

VBS raised \$238.17!



The greatest message of all!



Wow! Raisins do really dance!



Maybe just one more cup?



This is going to take forever!

## Staying Positive and Not Worrying

Dear Church Family,

As many of you know, I spoke at the Easter Sunrise Service and I touched a lot on the concept of worry. Well, I can't help but expand on this topic. I am the textbook definition of a worry wart (aka someone who dwells on and stresses over almost anything). You can ask any of my friends and they will definitely agree with this statement. Furthermore, I can be a bit of a typical teenager from time to time. A classic example of this is Romeo in the play *Romeo and Juliet*. At the beginning of the play, Romeo is madly in love with the gorgeous Rosaline who does not return his affection. Romeo is heartbroken and "depressed" until he meets Juliet at a party, who he quickly falls in love with and is happy again in a split second. Romeo, like many people my age, is a moody teenager whose attitude can change in an instant. I also get this way, and with being a worry wart on top of it, I can get pretty overwhelmed at times. I often feel like one little drop of rain on my parade is the end of the world, and I get overly stressed. I get so caught up in these little issues and forget about the big picture. This reminds me of one of my favorite songs, "This Is The Stuff" by Francesca Battistelli. In the chorus she sings, "This is the stuff that drives me crazy. This is the stuff that's getting to me lately. In the middle of my little mess, I forget how big I'm blessed." These words always seem to hit close to home every time I hear them. Joel Osteen once said, "I'm too blessed to worry about it." Often, we get so caught up in our little messes that we forget to stop and pray and realize how blessed we are. We don't need to stress over the small stuff! But in certain cases, we do have some pretty big worries in our lives. Luckily, God promises us time and time again that we don't have to worry about a single thing. Mathew 6:24 tells us, "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." My grandmother and I have talked about this verse and it makes me realize how great it is. She and I, though we have many different stressors, both can definitely take this verse to heart. No matter who you are, this verse can apply to your life in some way. 1 Peter 5:7 tells us plain and simple: "Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." What a great feeling. We can cast not one, nor a few, but **all** of our anxieties on him. Every last one. Lastly, Jeremiah 29:11 reads, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." God loves you so much that he has a great plan for you, so rejoice and be thankful! Stay positive, God's got your back! Trust in Him! To close, I challenge you to look at the good in your life. Take time each day to step back, reframe, and cast all your worries on the one who loves you. Rejoice about all the good in your life, and look forward to the marvelous plan God has in store for you.

In Christ,

Allie Diehl

### KIDS FOR CHRIST

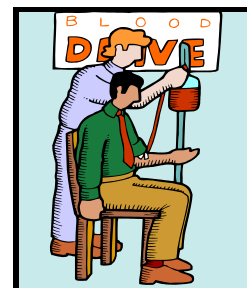
Opening Pizza Party!  
Thursday, September 14, 2017

3:15-5:00PM  
Grades K-6th  
Millville Building

Kids join us for a fun year of Bible adventures, special parties, games, food, crafts and activities!

### BLOOD DRIVE

Monday  
July 24, 2017



1-6pm  
Mill-Green  
UMC  
Millville

# Mill-Green Youth



## *Calling All Youth!!!*

(The brave, scared, weak, strong, outspoken, introverted, short, tall, athletic, musically inclined, academic, couch  
-potatoes...)

ANY/ALL 7<sup>TH</sup> -12<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS INTERESTED ARE WELCOME)

Join us Sundays, 6:30-8:00pm

AT THE WESLEY HOUSE

(white house located next to Mill-Green UMC parking lot)

Start up date TBD... late summer...

Text me to be added to group chat, including event dates!

Let's Get It Started!!!

We have a lot of business to attend to,  
Including, making you in charge.

Spread the word, bring your friends.

Your commitment/participation is VITAL!

Snacks, Prayer, Music, Decision-making, etc. provided

There is no YOUth (group)  
Without YOU!



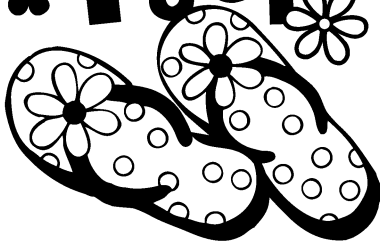
Happy 4th of July!

If you have any questions, or are interested in receiving texts,  
call or text Colleen at 570-441-0644  
or email me at  
colleenytemple@yahoo.com



# JUST FOR YOU KIDS!

## Happy Feet



This summer, put your best foot forward by brightening up a pair of flip-flops.

### What you need:

- Flip-flops in your size
- Metallic permanent markers
- Foam stickers
- Craft gemstones
- Plastic flowers
- Ribbon
- Hot glue gun (and adult help)

### What you do:

Use these ideas to decorate clean, dry flip-flops:

- Draw with markers on the soles.
- Decorate the sides and soles with stickers.
- Glue gemstones along the strap.
- Glue plastic flowers on the strap between your toes.
- Wrap ribbon around the strap and glue in place.



## BE HAPPY IN THE LORD

Happiness and joy are frequent themes in the Old Testament book of Psalms.

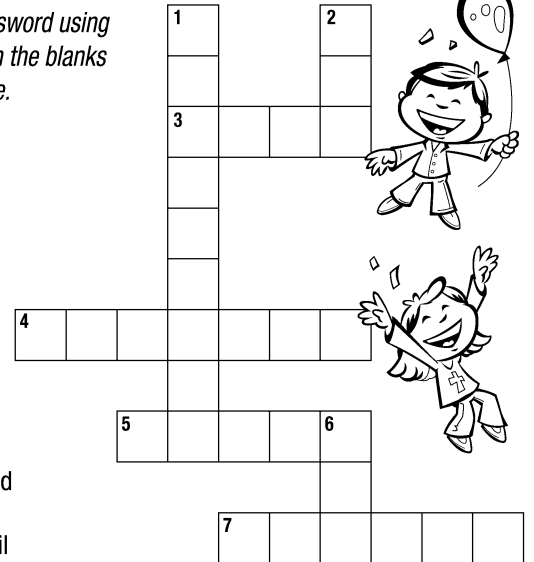
*Directions: Solve the crossword using the clues below. Then fill in the blanks to complete the Bible verse.*

### ACROSS

3. A word for happy (rhymes with had)
4. What you do when you're very happy
5. A song written by David
7. Full of joy

### DOWN

1. People who obey God
2. Our Creator
6. The month after April



"But may the 1. \_\_\_\_\_ be 3. \_\_\_\_\_ and  
 4. \_\_\_\_\_ before 2. \_\_\_\_\_; 6. \_\_\_\_\_ they  
 be happy and 7. \_\_\_\_\_." 5. \_\_\_\_\_ 68:3, NIV

Answers: (across) 3. glad, 4. rejoice, 5. psalm, 7. joyful; (down) 1. righteous, 2. God, 6. may and joyful." Psalm 68:3, NIV



## BIRTHDAYS AND \*ANNIVERSARIES



### JULY

- 2 Kurt Ringer
- 3 Nancy Diehl, David Dryer, Isabella Bodnar
- 4 Rachel Kindt, Bieonkia Lesho, Bob Strozyk
- 6 Grace Kindt
- 7 Jared Bangs, Brian Morris, Holly Weaver
- 8 Abigael Arner
- 9 Jessica Whitmoyer
- 11 Nathan Anderson, Peggy Kelchner, Danielle Rodriguez, Bill Sevisonm, Deanne Shoemaker, Nancy Walker
- 12 Diane Palmer
- 13 Greg Lyons
- 14 Sarah Shultz
- 16 \*Jeff & Lonna Hess
- 17 Michelle Reichner, Michael Renner, Kay Temple
- 19 Bonnie Reed
- 20 Helena Bower, Tiffany Straub
- 21 Mary Anderson, Helen Crawford, Bill Smith, \*Dick & Ginny Bower
- 22 Ann Zeisloft
- 23 Ross Crawford, Mark Smith
- 24 Bob Burns, Ginny Bower, Derl Crawford, Shannon Temple, \*Paul & Faye Vandine
- 25 Gale Dryer,
- 26 Rachel Hayes
- 27 Ron Temple, Bryce Kolk, \*James & Maria Hayes
- 29 Rees Ludwig
- 30 Wendy Utt
- 31 Jennifer Anderson, Bryan Renner, Diane Rider

### AUGUST

- 1 Chuck Johnson, Richard Temple, Dottie Steves, Debbie Michael
- 2 Alice Ringer, Isaac Thomas, Levi Roeder, \*Steve & Beth Smith
- 3 Jay Bangs, Mary Eves
- 4 Janet Watts, Ron Zeisloft, \*Chuck & Becky Johnson, \*Frans & Cheryl Verstraeten
- 5 Brynn Clark, Missy Crawford, Amanda Johnson, Brent Smith
- 6 Jon Thomas, Clay DeWald
- 7 David Moser
- 8 Jeanne Crawford, Kay Wallis, Justin Strozyk
- 9 Ken Kessler, Charles Morris, \*Don & Diane Rider
- 10 Grace Boone, David Slater, \*Jack & Sandra Lewis
- 11 Tim Kelchner, \*Dick & Shirley Leonard, \*Josh & Amanda Bangs
- 12 Lea Beishline, \*Don & Joyce Harding
- 13 Jim Blaggrave, Olivia Gaito, \*Kurt Eck & Donna Williams
- 14 Priscilla Dunn
- 15 Kim Mengle, Jennifer Bodnar
- 16 Bill Berger, \*Steve & Phyllis Smith
- 17 Caden Temple, \*Skip & Cindy Morgan
- 18 Steve Mengle, \*Keith & Diane Bangs, \*Karl & Felicia Girton
- 19 Lise Lund
- 21 Wade Bower, Kelley DeWald, Anna Deitrick
- 22 HJ Crawford
- 23 Brandon Frey, Ron Smith, \*Jeff & Brenda Craig, \*Lance & Aimee Diehl, \*Bill & Barbara Van Horn
- 24 Dan Faatz, Amy Slater, \*Bob & Louise Strozyk
- 25 Brad Johnson, \*Loren & LilliMae Johnson
- 28. Anna Horner, \*Greg & Sue Laubach
- 29 Greg Gordner
- 30 Neil Garner, Denise Poisson
- 31 Katie Mengle, \*Dean & Barb Evans