

The Messenger



July 2025

Matthew 11:28-30 (The Message)

“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.”

Summer is here! Families are making plans for that much needed vacation from school, work and routine life. Beaches, mountains, farms and family await those who understand that importance of stepping out of the same old routine to rest. Monday through Friday are days of work whether it be a job, school or just life. Saturdays often become chore days as we struggle to keep up the house and yard while running errands and for those with children, you’re often hauling kids to every sport or activity imaginable making it hardly a day of rest. Then there is Sunday, which to a Christian, also includes heading to church and hopefully followed by lunch with family and friends. God created the Sabbath as a designated day of rest for God’s people. This, to me, would indicate that God thought it important enough to incorporate into each week. Unfortunately, people have decided to cram pack Monday through Sunday to the hilt and run themselves ragged in the process. But alas, summer has come, the season of rest and restoration.

During the summer months when life seems to slow down with school out and offices sparse with many people taking time off, churches notoriously experience their lowest attendance. Why is that? People in pursuit of rest who decide they need a break from God. That's almost like wanting something to eat but leaving the kitchen and going to the bathroom to look for it. If your method and mode of serving God in church has become work, then maybe you are doing it all wrong. Jesus said, "Burned out on religion?" It happens when the practice of religion overtakes the experience of the relationship! Our relationship with Jesus Christ is the reason we live! Everything, including rest, is found in Jesus! Serving God is an amazing lifelong commitment that provides the rest for our soul that we desperately need. It's when we jam pack our lives with earthly activities and forget to walk, commune, communicate, love, worship, with Jesus that we become stressed and burned out. Ever notice that after a long vacation, it also takes time to recover from the time away. The "unforced rhythms of grace" can allow you to live in such a way that a vacation is a change of scenery but not necessarily a change of lifestyle! Going on vacation should create a longing to return to join in the fellowship of other Believers to worship and welcome the Presence of God.

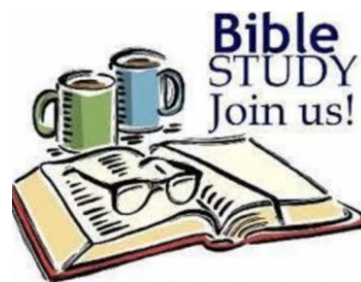
God loves giving us rest, but I believe it's impossible to be completely rested apart from Jesus Christ. This summer, in order to achieve the rest you long for, Jesus must be in the midst of it. The beach is a relaxing destination and the mountains a place of peace but outside the Presence of God these places are just stops along the way. It's in God's presence that we find peace and rest even in the midst of challenging times. Saint Augustine said: "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you."

So, my friends, wherever you choose to vacation this year, whether a faraway destination or a "staycation" at home, don't leave the Presence of God to do so! Take Jesus Christ on vacation with you this year! Better yet, take Him everywhere you go every day of your life! Never start the car without Him! Incorporate Jesus in every activity that is ever attempted! You will never be the same! He alone is rest for the weary! Your life may never slow down, but your Spirit will be on an eternal vacation!

Have a wonderful, rest-full, peace-full, joy-full summer my friends! Know that Jesus loves you, and so do I!

Peace,

Pastor Dianna



Tuesday Lunch Bible Study

* 12 pm – Lunch BYOL (“Bring Your Own Lunch”)

* 1 pm – Bible Study

ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

Join as we study the Book of “GENESIS”

Sunday School News

Please note that Children's Sunday school will be taking a break for the summer, and will resume in the fall. Watch for the start date!

Choir and Bells

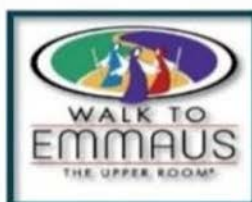
Choir and bell rehearsals will also take a summer break, and will also resume in the fall. Be sure to watch the calendar/newsletter for the return date!

Construction of Fellowship Hall

has begun in earnest! It is exciting to see the changes that are happening every day!

Please be mindful to be careful of the construction areas for your safety!





SKYLANDS UPDATE

FALL 2025 WALKS

Sacred Heart Retreat Center Newton

7pm Thursday thru 6pm Sunday

OCTOBER 16-19: Men's Walk

OCTOBER 23-26: Women's Walk

APPLICATION DEADLINES:

Men's Walk: September 25th

Women's Walk: October 2nd

The [Walk to Emmaus](#) is a spiritual retreat and renewal program that originated from The Upper Room, a ministry of The United Methodist Church. Participants embark on a three-day immersive experience designed to inspire and strengthen the faith of participants. It happens through a combination of worship, small-group discussions and reflections on a series of talks, guided by a team of both clergy and laity volunteers who have previously completed the Walk.

The Walk to Emmaus is not an exclusive club. Instead, it seeks to create a supportive community of believers who can support and encourage one another on their spiritual journeys. However, the primary mission of the Walk is to strengthen the local church.

If interested in attending the Skyland's Walk to Emmaus, please contact Pastor Dianna.



Suggested Donation List

- Canned chicken
- Canned fruit in juice
- Scalloped or au gratin potato mix
- Pasta sauce (prefer in plastic)
- Muffin mix
- Ketchup
- Diapers sizes 5, or 6
- Baby wipes
- Sanitary pads
- Food Store Gift Cards

The Flemington Area Food Pantry **ALWAYS** Needs our Help!

Please note the suggestions for July.

Items may vary from month to month, depending on where they have a need.

But anything you can contribute is greatly appreciated!

Flemington Summer Lunch

Grab and Go

Wednesday's 12-1PM

June 25 – August 27

Or until we run out

1 per person

Must be present to receive bag



Host:

Calvary Episcopal Church
44 Broad Street, Flemington
Parking off of New York Avenue

Participating:

Three Bridges Reformed Church
Rockaway Reformed Church
Flemington Presbyterian Church

Available Through a
Generous Grant from the
Classis of Delaware Raritan Foundation
Reformed Church in America

We are the hands and feet of Christ
Serving our community

For more information see link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094CA9AE2DAAF4C07-57200175-flemington>

MEET ALEX!



Flemington UMC Summer Intern

Alex Eckert will be interning at the FUMC this summer beginning June 22 – August, 2025 as part of the “Cultivate” program from the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference.

Cultivate is part of the Mosaic program, aimed at developing young leaders. The goal is to help students of all ages connect to God, discover their purpose, and provide them with experience and leadership development so they can go and change the world. This summer we will host Alex as a summer intern and allow him the opportunity to “try on” ministry for a couple months.

Alex comes with a deep love of God and the people of God and with great experience in missions. He will be working closely with Pastor Dianna, and with all of you, as he discerns and discovers God’s plan for his life.

Please welcome Alex into the Flemington UMC Family!

Engisch 50th Wedding Anniversary Wedding Vow Renewal







Sunday Selfies!









"Never be afraid to
trust an unknown future
to a known God."

CORRIE TEN BOOM



woman's day

JESUS TOLD THE STORY OF
THE PRODIGAL SON TO MAKE
A SIMPLE POINT:



Luke 15:11-32

NEVER MIND WHAT YOU'VE
DONE. JUST COME HOME.

Luke 15:11-32

He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.



Psalm 40:3