



Pearson Memorial United Methodist Church



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September/October 2018 Edition

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A Message from Pastor Jessica

The one constant in life is change and it has certainly been a season of change and transition for Pearson Memorial UMC from Pastors Michael Reed and Doug Meppelink both graduating from Princeton Theological and beginning new ministry opportunities to longtime administrative assistant, Gloria Kochenour retiring - the church office has looked a little different this summer.

I'm reminded of the famous quote and song lyrics "from every ending comes some other beginning." It's been a great beginning and it's hard to believe that Pastor Gift Magomero and I are entering our third month of ministry at Pearson Memorial UMC. It has been a busy summer filled with amazing opportunities to start getting to know the wonderful family at Pearson Memorial UMC through worship, the food pantry, Vacation Bible School and FROGS meetings.

Whereas, Pearson's last several pastors have both been students in the Mosaic program, I am an ordained elder. I will be serving at Pearson UMC as the senior pastor three-quarters time and at Florence UMC (about 15 minutes down 295) one-quarter time. Because of my shared appointment between the two

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Don't miss church!

Starting Sunday, Sept. 9th
worship is at 9:30 a.m.

Back to Church Picnic

Sunday, Sept. 9th at 12 noon

Join us for an afternoon of
good food, conversation and
fun for members of all ages.



Make sure the kids bring their

bathing suits and towels for the Hawaiian
Slip N Slide which is returning to Pearson!

churches, one other change had to be made - the adjustment of worship times. Starting Sunday, Sept. 9th, we will worship together at 9:30 a.m., allowing me to lead worship and greet members before leaving for Florence UMC. The 9th will also be our annual Kick Off Church Picnic at 12 noon with food and fun for members of all ages.

As we gear up for fall there is a lot happening, including new Bible Study opportunities, a movie night and much more, so make sure you look through your whole newsletter and mark the dates on your calendar. We will be sending out this newsletter, every other month, but I also send out weekly email newsletters including a recap from Sunday and the upcoming opportunities at Pearson. If you'd like to be added to our email newsletter list, send me an email at pastorjessica.pmumc@gmail.com.

In case you haven't met Pastor Gift and meyet, I've included a short bio below. We both look forward to getting to know you and being part of the Pearson family.

Rev. Jessica Stenstrom served the Sergeantsville United Methodist Church, before coming to Pearson. She has a heart for working beside the people of the church, building relationships both within the faith community and beyond as we each continue to nurture and grow our relationship with God. Pastor Jessica is also compassionate about intergenerational discipleship and reaching out to the community beyond the church. As someone who didn't grow up in a traditional faith setting, she realizes how important it is to build bridges between the church and community to offer God's love, joy, peace and hope to a world that is in need of the transformational power of a relationship with Jesus. She looks forward to joining the Pearson family, along with her fiancé John and their children Micah (4), Jasmine (10) and John (14), and getting to know each of you better.

Pastor Gift Magomero grew up in a pastoral family where ministry has been a part of her life for as long as she can remember. She enjoys working with children and young adults. She has worked as a youth advisor and taught Sunday school for several years. She also loves connecting with God through singing. Gift has been a part of Mosaic Ministries for 2 years. She has seen God at work through her and those around her and she looks forward to seeing what God has in store for Pearson Memorial.

Fall Bible Study Opportunities: Come Dive Into God's Word With Us

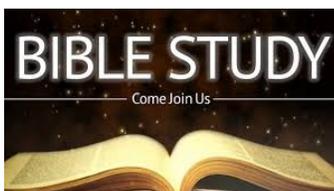
Sunday Mornings

Time: 8:15 to 9 a.m.

Place: Chapel

Come joins us as we read the morning's primary scripture with the question "what do we notice" in mind. Conversations are vibrant and there is no right or wrong answer.

All are welcome.



Tuesday Evening

Time: 8 p.m.

Place: Hamilton Applebees

Over drinks and snacks, we will discuss how life intersects with our faith as we look at some tough questions like "Where is God when bad stuff happens?", the intersection of faith & community, forgiveness, and faith vs. doubt. We will meet the following Tuesdays: Sept. 11, Sept. 25, Oct. 9 & Oct. 23. Please RSVP to Pastor Jessica by noon of the meeting day so a reservation can be made.

Wednesday Morning

Time: 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Place: Parsonage Dining Room

We will be looking at Sunday School favorites including Noah's Ark, David & Goliath, Joseph & the Coat of Many Colors, Daniel & the Lion Den, Peter Walking on Water, Mary & Martha, the Good Samaritan & Zacchaeus.



Small Groups Will Also Be Starting Again Soon. Stay Posted for More Information!

Pearson Ministry Updates

LOVING HANDS



You are invited to join our ladies on Saturday, Sept. 8, 2:00-4:00 pm in Willey Hall as we gather in a circle knitting and crocheting

prayer shawls, lap robes, baby blankets for baptism, baby hats for local hospital maternity wards, and hats and scarves for our food pantry.

If you are interested in joining us and would like to learn to knit or crochet, we have experienced ladies to assist you. We will be meeting Oct. 6th, Nov. 3rd and Dec. 1st.

Any questions, call Betty Schweder 609-341-8336.

Our circle is a witness/small group providing love, care and prayer, a warm embrace with these items. They are given out for free to church members, our many friends in nursing homes and those who are in need of comfort in our neighborhood who would benefit from our knitting and crocheting ministry.

It is our hope and prayer that we are able to serve and share with them holy expressions of our Savior's grace and compassion.

"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." Psalm 139:13-14

A Note From Our Mission Team

A special thank you to all who so generously donated backpacks and school supplies for the children of the patrons who come to our Food Pantry. They were distributed at our August food pantry.



Any grocery items are so appreciated, we especially ask for donations of condensed and chunky soups during the months of September and October.

Our September Communion Offering will be given to the Four Corners Navajo Native American Indian Ministry and October's Offering will be given to World Wide Communion Fund which provides aid for pastoral education in areas of great need.

Our June Communion Offering in the amount \$455 was given to Farmers Against Hunger, our July Offering in the amount of \$230 was given to No more Malaria

Our Mission Flea Market was held July 7th. The total profit of \$2,348.84 was donated to the following: \$1,137.79 to Pearson Church, \$568.90 to UM Missionary Susan Fuller and \$568.90 to the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen and bake sale proceeds in the amount of \$73.25 were given to FROG'S for their mission to support up to 20 local families in need through the school district each year. Many thanks to Nelly Wetzel who chaired the event and to all who contributed in any way.

Kid's Club & Youth Group Updates



The Kid's Club & Youth Group are getting ready for a fun & exciting fall. The youth group will begin meeting Sunday, Sept. 2nd with a kick off pool party and will meet every other Sunday after church.

For more information, contact Pastor Gift Magomero at pastorgift.pmumc@gmail.com.

The Kid's Club will participate in the Kick Off Picnic on September 9th and has a trip planned to Shady Brook Farms. Keep a watch on our facebook page for the date which will be announced soon.



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Church Movie Night
Saturday, Sept. 8th
 at 7 p.m.

Join us at Pearson for the newly released documentary "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" which has been deemed by critics one of the best documentaries of 2018 as we prepare to kick off our worship series on the Spiritual Teachings from Mr. Roger's Neighborhood.

Don't forget...
 our next roast beef
 dinner will be
 Saturday,
 November 3rd!



Upcoming Sermons at Pearson

The Spiritual Teachings of Mr. Roger's Neighborhood

- Sept. 9th ~ Won't You Be My Neighbor
 - Sept. 16th ~ In Some Ways We Are Different
 - Sept. 23rd ~ Look for the Helpers
 - Sept. 30th ~ The Neighborhood of Make Believe

 - Oct. 7th ~ World Communion Sunday with Pastor Gift preaching
- Three Simple Rules*
- Oct. 14th ~ Do Not Harm
 - Oct. 21st ~ Do Good
 - Oct. 28th ~ Stay in Love with God

If you miss a week, don't forget the audio of all sermons can be found on our Website