



# The Parish Print

September, 2021

Phone: 815-468-3722

A publication of The Manteno United Methodist Church

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## MIRACLE SUNDAY! WOW!

Thanks to every giver of every gift received for the Miracle Sunday effort to pay down the principle of the mortgage on our church buildings!! WOW! According to Mike Caparula, our resident math professor, paying \$30,000 toward the principle of our mortgage saves our church \$38,900 in interest over the course of our loan. HOORAY! YOU DID IT!

No, GOD DID IT! And each of you were instruments of God through generosity, one of the gifts of the Spirit!

Before the beginning of August, \$16,000 was pledged as a matching fund so that every gift given would be doubled! As of Sunday morning, August 29, \$14,240 was given, for a total of \$33,000 received. This means that we are coming close to bringing the principle of our loan down below \$500,000, and you have cut 19 months off of the mortgage! WOW!

What's really important, of course, is that we are continuing to do ministry in our community and in the world. The fellowship hall, church offices, narthex, sanctuary and

parsonage are all being used to do God's work every week! And the ongoing giving to the General Fund make it possible to do our mission, to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

The practice established by the Finance Team is to keep six months of mortgage payments in reserve, and to apply what comes into the Building Fund above that toward the principle. So your ongoing support of the Building Fund and the General Fund are used well to be a healthy and generous church.

THANK YOU! For giving to Miracle Sunday, and for the sacrifice each gift means as you trust in God to provide. Bless you!

Pastor Joy and the Finance Team



## Pecans for Sale

The United Methodist Women will not be

selling pecans this year. We still have last year's crop in the freezer. We have the following items for sale:

1 LB bags of Mammoth halves

1 LB bags of small pieces

Caramel Cluster candies

Cinnamon glazed pecan candies

Pecans are \$11 per bag and the candies are \$9.

If you would like to purchase some, please contact Sue Turner at 815-351-6894 or 815-468-6894.

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United  
Methodist  
Women

A big thank you to everyone that purchased Bundt cakes. It was a success. All the money will go to

help our mission work.

Our district UMW meeting is September 18th. We are collecting monetary donations to purchase gift cards.

This past year has been hard on Cunningham Children's Home, Lessie Bates and Babyfold. Gift cards will help them purchase the items they need. You can give your donation to Marty Howard or Denise Caparula, leave at the church office or put it in the offering plate by September 12th.

Our next meeting will be September 7th at 7pm in the fellowship hall. Ladies, please come join us.

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## Flexibility and Balance Classes

Free classes on how to maintain and improve your flexibility and balance will be held at the Community Presbyterian Church, 64 S. Walnut Manteno. Each Monday and Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 10:15. starting September 13. All are welcome, if you have questions call or text Carol Snyder at 815-954-4903.



Thanks  
for Your  
Support!

Finance Report  
as of July 31,  
2021

\$ 12,323.54	Income from Sunday/online offering to be used for the General Fund budget
<u>\$ 18,958.16</u>	General Fund expenses
- 6,634.62	<b>Shortage</b>
\$ 2,070.00	Income from Sunday/online offering to be used for mortgage payment
<u>\$ 3,466.76</u>	Mortgage payments
- 1,396.76	<b>Shortage</b>
<b>Mortgage balance as of July 31 is:</b>	
<b>\$539,029.63</b>	

If you have questions, please contact the Finance Chairperson, Park Hollenbeck, or the Church Treasurer, Sue Ross.

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The  
2nd  
Big  
Reach

Sunday, Oct. 3rd at 9:30 AM

On Sunday, Oct. 3rd we will participate in a brief worship service and complete service projects throughout our community. Please let Jenny Stawick know of any projects that need attention in our community.



Dear Friends,

I have appreciated your calls and cards while I recover from my back surgery. It means so much to be remembered.

Another, very warm thank you to the gals, who knit and crochet on Tuesdays. The beautiful prayer shawl is a treasure. A little bird told me that Mary Gibson's hands had a "hand" in making it. So special!

Sending my love and thank you!

God bless,  
Harriett Eckberg

I would love to thank everyone who has sent cards, called me and sent food while I was not feeling well. What a blessing you all are! A big thank you to the Tuesday Prayer Shawl group for the beautiful shawl. It means a lot to know that so many care. I feel blessed by my church family! I love you all.

God bless,  
Susan Gallois

## **A few thanks you's from Indian Oaks:**

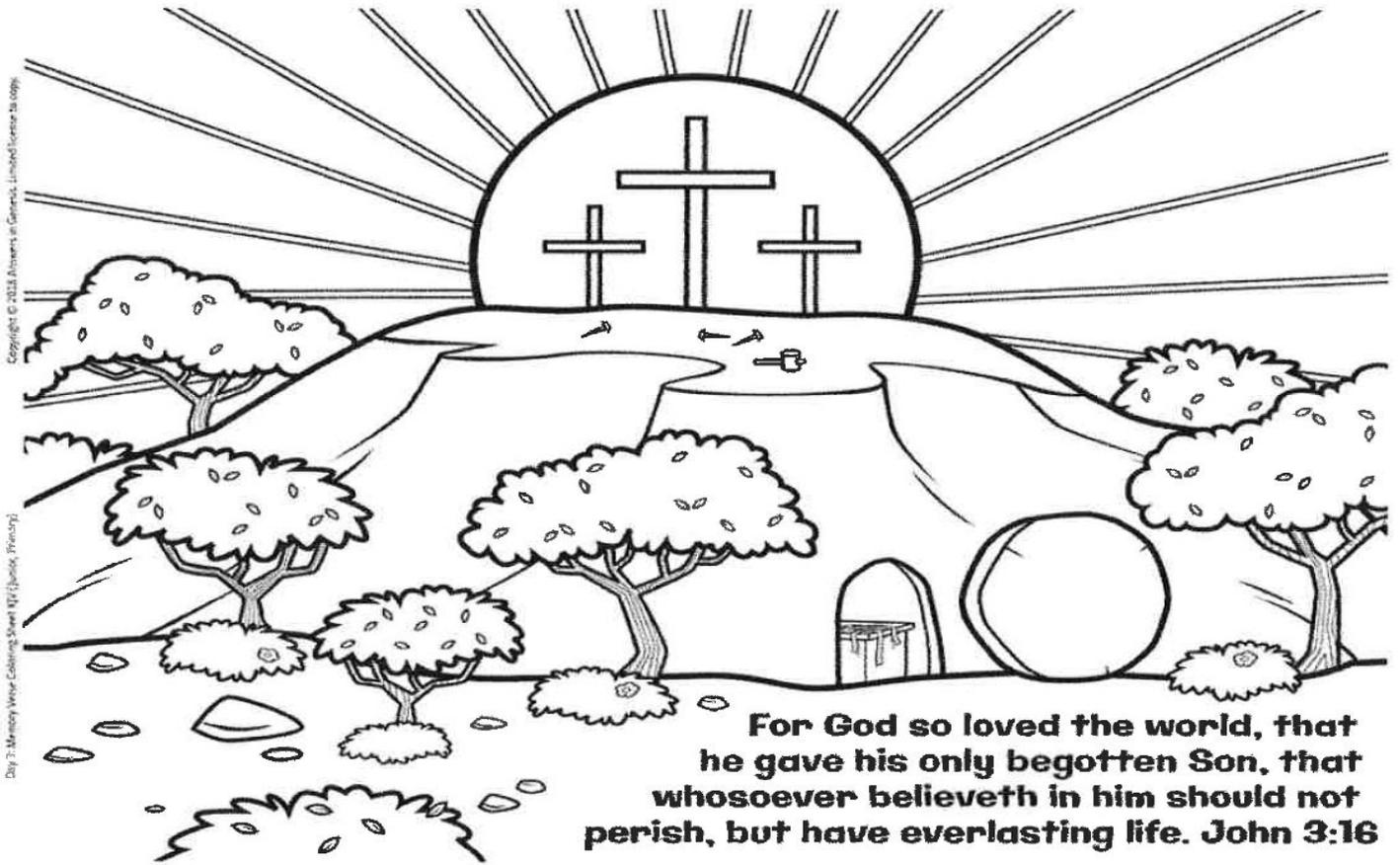
Thank you for cupcakes and the card. I can't wait to hang this card up. Y'all made my day even better. I hope y'all have a blessed day, and a great day. Dari

I'm very thankful for you women from Manteno United Methodist for sending me these cupcakes for my birthday thank you so much and have a great day. Makhai

Thank you and I love the card and I know I don't make a big deal about my Birthday but thanks anyway. Harmony

Thank you so much, for the cupcakes and I wish that on your birthday you get something special as well. Remember that you are amazing and can do anything you put your mind to. Ganya

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**For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16**

## From Education Committee

As we start Kid's Power Hour on September 12 at 9:30 AM we will be marking the end of the summer program and beginning of the fall winter program.

We would like to thank those who took part in our summer program: Megan Pilbean, Sue Turner, Lale Schram, Terry Daly, Carol Hollenbeck, and Gail Hulford. This fall the staff for pre k to 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be Diane Preston, Theresa Butterfield, Gail Hulford, Bob Hulford and helping with music Natalie Meyer and Jacob Stawick. Pete and Sarah Falk will be instructing the Junior High and High Schoolers.

When asked what is the most important commandment Jesus said "You must love the Lord your God with all your Heart, all your soul and all your Mind." And equally important: "Love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37) Jesus told us that love is the most important thing He also lived it and showed "greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13)

"But God showed how much he loved us by having Christ die for us even though we were sinful." (Romans 5:8) This is simply what God's love is all about. This is the theme of our curriculum: Simply Loved.

Bob Hulford,  
Committee Chairmen

## The Parish Print

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“Christian mindfulness is the practice of paying prayerful attention in the present moment to God’s abundant life.” Amy G. Oden, in Right Here, Right Now, The Practice of Christian Mindfulness. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2017.

Having come through a year of grief and sorrow, I wrote often in my journal, trying to cope with what it means now to live in the present. As I have come to really pay attention—“prayerful attention”—to what I see and what others are experiencing, I realize I am not alone. This has been a strange, painful and difficult year for millions of people around the world. Why would I want to pay attention, really?

Because, in the midst of challenge and difficulty, I have seen, heard and felt things that remind me of God’s presence.

The chimes hanging in my front yard, which were a memorial gift from some of you, are soothing, beautiful, and make me think of Ken.

The birds, squirrels, rabbits... and even a toad in my back yard are such a sweet reminder that God’s creative power continues!

Every time I get a chance to laugh, I find relief and release!

And every time I get to come to work at Manteno United Methodist Church, I am grateful to be able to do something meaningful that makes a difference. I am reminded that I am not here to figure out the problems of the world, or even myself, alone. There is so much for which I am so grateful!

“Paying prayerful attention” is not a message to cheer up. It’s a reminder to notice. See how God is providing “abundant life” right here and right now.

And it’s a reminder to keep on praying that God will continue to pour out healing, hope, and grace, in us and through.

Blessings,  
Pastor Joy



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Blood Drive – 2-6pm Men’s Bible Study – 5:30pm	2	3	4
5 Worship – 9:30am	6 <b>Labor Day</b>	7 UMW – 7pm	8 Book Study – 4pm Men’s Bible Study – 5:30pm	9	10	11
12 Worship – 9:30am Sunday School – 9:30am Confirmation Class – 4pm	13 Monday Night Bible Study – 7pm	14 Finance Team – 6pm AD Council – 7pm	15 Book Study – 4pm Men’s Bible Study – 5:30pm Outreach Team – 6:30pm	16 <b>Set up for Oktoberfest</b>	17	18
19 Worship – 9:30am Sunday School – 9:30am Confirmation Class – 4pm	20 Monday Night Bible Study – 7pm	21 <u>Articles due for Parish Print</u>	22 Book Study – 4pm Men’s Bible Study – 5:30pm	23 <b>Garage Sale</b>	24 <b>Garage Sale</b>	25 <b>Garage Sale</b>
26 Worship – 9:30am Sunday School – 9:30am	27 Monday Night Bible Study – 7pm	28	29 Book Study – 4pm Men’s Bible Study – 5:30pm	30		