Volume 1, Issue 4 Fall 2012

# Round Valley Faith Lift

Round Valley United Methodist Church

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#### News from the Pews

The combined services with Changewater and High Bridge over the summer was a huge success and enjoyed by all. What a wonderful way to support our sister parishes and enjoy fellowship with each other. Same Time Next year?

A luncheon was held in August in honor of our dear friend and member Judy Corrado. Judy has retired (at least for now) and in September she relocated to her new home in Delaware. We wish you well Judy! Come back to visit and worship with us as often as you can!

Timothy Paek has begun his Master's Program @ Cleveland Institute of Music. Good Luck Tim!

Lorena Cunningham has begun her college journey @ Rutger's University. Follow your dreams Lorena!

Pastor Andrew and Jeanne enjoyed some vacation time together in September. They embarked on an Alaskan cruise. Wonderful memories!

### Hunterdon County CROP Walk

#### Sunday, Oct 7th "Ending Hunger One Step at a Time"

Imagine a beautiful Sunday afternoon in Hunterdon County, a sunny Fall day. You are walking along River Road, near Camp Carr, Annandale NJ. The river rambles along the road, you see a variety of horses, cows, chickens, dogs and beautiful land-scaped homes along a peaceful road, while enjoying the company of your friends and family. You walk a relatively flat 1.5 mile out and 1.5 back to Camp Carr, feeling in-



vigorated by the experience. This 3 mile walk/run/bike represents the hard work some of our brothers/sisters face to find water and food for their families. There is a covered pavilion with

tables at Camp Carr, where we congregate. Please sign up to participate in our CROP Walk.

#### Loaves of Love

Dear Church Family,

This thank you is as always, warm and loving. The Families of the Loaves of Love food pantry are so heartfelt by our giving. Our door is always open for any need that they may have. Because of many generous donations I rarely say no...isn't that wonderful how God is working all the

have. Because of many generous donations I rarely say no...isn't that wonderful how God is working all the time? We have been helping families since 2009, going from a small closet under the stairs to a large room at the end of the hall is such a blessing for all.

Just a few numbers to live by...we have given out nearly 25,000 lbs of food. Along with smiles of relief and a moment of comfort knowing they have food to feed their families for a few days more.

So everyone, please know everything we do as a church family is so important, that we work together to help change people lives. "Share the Bread of Life with a Starving World."

Blessings, Sandy Dabb Hours—1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month...or anytime by calling 908-642-0531

## Greetings from the Sunday School

Greetings from the Sunday School. We are looking forward to a new Sunday school year, new curriculum and hopefully new students.

We are also putting out a call for substitute teachers. If you are interested in working with the Sunday School on occasion, please see Jennifer.

Thank you for considering this very important role with our youngest disciples. We will keep you up to

date with the happenings in our Sunday School as the year progresses.

Our VBS, Dare to Go Deep with God:
Operation Overboard, this past August
was a success. We had children from the congregation
and well as the community join together to learn about
God through stories, crafts, games, science and
fun. Thank you to all who helped make that week as
joyful as it was!

### Youth Sunday Night Live

All youth in Grades 6 to 12 are invited to join in a monthly interfaith event sponsored by Raritan Valley Ministry Team and Bridgewater UMC. Activities include devotions, open prayer time, Pizza, Snacks, Desserts and drinks and free time to use pool and gym. Cost is \$3 per person. Bring your swim suit, towel, sneakers and snacks and drinks to share.

**Location:** Somerville YMCA (2 Green St., Somerville)

**Time:** 5:30 - 8:15 PM

**Date:** Oct. 14, 2012; Nov. 18, 2012; Jan. 27, 2013; Feb. 24, 2013; Mar. 17, 2013

#### What d i d this summer...

Dear Church Family,

I just want to tell you what I did this summer. As you know I am in the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corp. and I attended two training sessions this summer. The first one I attended was in Pennsylvania at Ford Indian Gap. This was my Recruit Training, also known as boot camp for sea cadets. I woke up at 4:30AM to the sound of a metal trash can flying through the air and the lights suddenly shining in my face. We rushed to change into PT Gear, which stands for Physical Training. As soon as we changed we rushed out the doors of our barracks to the parade grounds. We PTed for about an hour and a half then we marched back to the barracks. We changed into our uniform of the day and proceeded with the plan of the day.

This included class time and a few surprises in-between for the two weeks that this lasted. When it was over, I graduated as Honor Company of RT 2012.

The next Training I went to was STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) or Sea Perch. This training was about 8 days long and it was at Fort Custer, Michigan. My mom was really nice and she drove me there. It took 13 hours of driving. During this training, I was instructed in ways to think like an engineer to solve problems when they occur. We then built Sea Perches, which are an under water ROV and follow the instructions and of course we had an engineer to help us with them. With this training they used a kinder method of wakening us up.

They used an air horn. After that, it was just like Recruit



We went to PT then back for chow. This was then followed by classes. Also, I earned my boating license through the Coast Guard during this training. Sadly we didn't earn Honor Company but we came close.

Out of both training sessions, I earned five ribbons and attained the rank of Seaman. This summer was great, having learned so much during my training sessions. I just want to say thank you for all your prayers during these trainings.

Thank you, Jonah Dabb

#### The Wells' Scouting Adventure



This past August, Brian, Andrew, David and I, along with other members of Troop 200, headed to the Boy Scout Northern Tier High Adventure base in Northern Minnesota, for 5 days of lake canoeing and camping.

Our crew spent our days canoeing and portaging (term for carrying canoes and gear on land between the lakes we paddled) over 50 miles through the Minnesota wilderness. Along the way we saw pristine lakes and forests, containing loons, beaver, and many bald eagles sitting in tree tops, and soaring over our heads! In the evening, we made camp, swam, prepared dinner, and enjoyed amazing sunsets, with a beautiful finale show of stars and meteors in the skies! Some of our Lords finest work in nature!

Steve Wells

#### From the Pastor's Desk

#### **Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ!**

Well, the lazy, hazy, and hot days of summer are over and we're all back! The stores have had their "Back to School" promotions. The children are off to school. The rest of us are back at work.

In a way, though, we're all going "Back to School."

Our school is the Academy of Christian Living.

It's located at the intersection of suffering and joy.

Our teacher is Jesus Christ.

Our classrooms are the family, the church, and our work place.

Our textbook is the Bible.

Our school spirit is vibrant: the Holy Spirit!

Our curriculum is Living the Arts and Sciences of "Grace-full" Sharing.

**Entrance requirements:** A desire for happiness and holiness.

**Lesson plan:** Conversion, justification and sanctification.

**Assignments:** Spread the Gospel.

Care for the poor.

Work for justice and peace.

**Promotion:** Full Life Now and Eternal Life "After School."

Our Teacher says: "Come to me... and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart.

Your souls will find rest, for my yoke is easy and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:29-30)

The way we come back and come together is vital. Let's take to heart and put into action the Holy Word of God.

It's so great to be "Back to School" with all of you.

God loves you and so do I, Pastor Andrew

#### Raritan Valley District Resource Day

#### Thursday, September 27th

Dr. Kevass Harding presents "Evangelism: Takin' It to the Streets!"

Location: Round Valley UMC Clergy: 9 AM to 12 Noon Laity: 7 PM to 9:30 PM

In 1998 Pastor Harding was appointed by the Kansas West Annual Conference to Dellrose United Methodist Church in Wichita, Kansas, where he currently serves as Senior Pastor. Within the past 14 years of his appointment, Dellrose has grown from 25 to over 800+ members. Not only is the church growing numerically, it is also growing spiritually and financially. Pastor Harding attributes the growth of the church to dynamic teaching, fellowship, praise and worship, and to the fact that Dellrose is a place where everyone will feel the love of God, find the joy of Christ, and experience the power of the Holy Spirit. Pastor Harding will share not only his experiences at Dellrose, but how he helped shape and grow a church community by going out into the "Community" itself. He will share a practical and powerful message of evangelism and the importance of "takin' it to the streets" to make disciples for Christ.

#### Thursday, October 25th

Dr. Joel Comiskey presents "Myths & Truths of the Cell Church"

Location: TBA

Clergy: 9 AM to 1 PM Laity: 7 PM to 9 PM

Joel Comiskey (Ph.D. Fuller Seminary) is an internationally recognized cell church coach and consultant. Joel has written best selling books on the worldwide cell group movement. He served as a missionary with the C&MA in Quito, Ecuador, planted a cell church in Southern California, and now coaches pastors in cell-based ministry. He also teaches as an adjunct professor at Tozer Theological Seminary. Joel and his wife, Celyce, have three daughters and live in Moreno Valley, California.

#### Furniture Sale

The furniture fundraiser sales have been going very well. Including the items sold at the September 22nd yard sale, we've passed raising \$3,000 during 2012! Over \$2,000 of the

money has been allocated to help the following very worthy causes: College scholarships to Tim Paek and Lorena Cunningham; feeding the homeless in Easton; Church Youth Group activities, Loaves of Love Food Pantry; Loaves of Love expansion project and the largest percentage going to Church operating expenses.

We are now winding down the furniture fundraiser as Fellowship Hall is needed for other activities including the upcoming Korean Dinner on October 13th. Over the next 2 weeks we need to sell the remaining furniture. If you know of anyone needing furniture, please let me know ASAP.

Next year we'll discuss whether or not another furniture fundraiser initiative will be undertaken. Thanks to everyone who donated furniture or helped in getting us donations. The biggest thanks goes to Jim, Steve and Brian for all of their time and muscle in picking up and moving the donations!

Lesley Wells

#### Make a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord..

Choir practice will be held every Wednesday @ 6:30pm with the first practice beginning on September 26th. If you would like to be part of Round Valley's dedicated and playful group please join us in our conscientious and earnest effort to "Make a Joyful Noise Unto The Lord" Everyone is welcome! No experience necessary!



#### Humor...Good for the Soul!

Tony & Yvonne were 85 years old & had been married for sixty years. Though they were far from rich, they managed to get by because they carefully watched their pennies.



Though not young, they were both in very good health, largely due to Yvonne's insistence on healthy foods & exercise for the last decade. One day, their good health didn't help when they went on yet another holiday vacation & their plan crashed, sending them off to Heaven.

They reached the pearly gates, & St. Peter escorted them inside. He took them to a beautiful mansion, furnished in gold & fine silks, with a fully stocked kitchen & a waterfall in the master bath. A maid could be seen hanging their favorite clothes in the closet. They gasped in astonishment when he said, "Welcome to Heaven. This will be your home now."



Tony asked Peter how much all this was going to cost. "Why, nothing," Peter replied,

"remember, this is your reward in Heaven." Tony looked out the window & right there he saw a championship golf course, finer & more beautiful than any ever built on Earth. "What are the greens fees?" grumbled Tony..."This is Heaven," St. Peter replied. "You can play for free, every day."



Next they went to the clubhouse & saw the lavish buffet lunch. "Don't even ask," said St. Peter to Tony. "This is Heaven, it is all free for you to enjoy." Tony looked around & nervously asked Yvonne "Well, where are the low fat & low cholesterol foods & the decaffeinated tea?"

"That's the best part, "St. Peter replied. "You can eat & drink as much as you like & you will never get fat or sick. This is Heaven!"

"No gym to work out at?" said Tony.

"Not unless you want to , " was the answer. "No testing my sugar or blood pressure or...l"

"Never again!"

Tony glared at Yvonne & said, "You & your Bran Flakes. We could have been here ten years ago!"



Have a Happy Life & Give Someone a Smile!



#### Apple

A few years ago a group of salesmen went to a regional sales convention in Chicago. They had assured their wives that they would be home in plenty of time for Friday night's dinner. In their rush, with tickets & briefcases, one of these salesmen inadvertently kicked over a table which held a display of apples. Apples flew everywhere. Without stopping or looking back, they all managed to reach the plane in time for their nearly-missed boarding...ALL BUT ONE!!! He paused, took a deep breath, got in touch with his feelings & experienced a twinge of compassion for the girl whose apple stand had been overturned.

He told his buddies to go on without him, waved goodbye, told one of them to call his wife when they arrived at their home destination & explain his taking a later

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flight. Then he returned to the terminal where the apples were all over the terminal floor.

He was glad he did. The 16 year old girl was totally blind! She was softly crying, tears running down her cheeks in frustration & at the same time helplessly groping for her spilled produce as the crowd swirled about her; no one stopping & no one to care for her plight.

The salesman knelt on the floor with her, gathered up the apples, put them back on the table & helped organize her display. As he did this, he noticed that many of them had become battered & bruised; these he set aside in another basket. When he had finished, he pulled out his wallet & said to the girl, "Here, please take this \$40 for the damage we did. Are you okay?" She nodded through her tears. He continued on with, "I hope we didn't spoil your day too badly."

As the salesman started to walk away, the bewildered blind girl called out to him, "Mister..." He paused & turned to look back into those blind eyes. She continued, "Are you Jesus?" He stopped in mid-stride...& he wondered. He gently went back & said, "No, I am nothing like Jesus—He is good, kind, caring, loving, & would never have bumped into your display in the first place."

The girl gently nodded, "I only asked because I prayed for Jesus to help me gather the apples. He sent you to help me, so your are like Him—only He knows who will do His will. Thank you for hearing His call, Mister." Then slowly he made his way to catch the later flight with that question burning & bouncing about in his soul:

"Are you Jesus?"



30 Main Street Lebanon, NJ 08833

Phone: 908-236-2332

E-mail: jetap6218@msn.com

#### Birthdays, Anniversaries & In Remembrance

# Birthdays are a special time to remember that God creates beautiful people...He created you!

Jeanne Dutka October 1 October 2 Ron Dabb Sandy Dabb October 6 **Tamara Cunningham** October 7 Rick Galando Sr. October 8 Ricky Galando October 15 Jonah Dabb October 17 Janet Meier October 17 Lynn Larmaour November 4 November 17 Bonnie Cerra Erin Dutka November 22 John Patuo November 26 **Andrew Wells** December 3 **David Wells** December 3 Nancy Wilson December 6 Susan Simpson December 9  $Jennifer\ Larmour$ December 9 December 9 Mary Walls Rob Larmour December 24 **Brian Wells** December 30 Anniversaries are a time to celebrate the joys of today, the memories of yesterday and the hopes of tomorrow.

Thatcher & Susan Simpson	October 2
Andrew & Jeanne Paek	November 9

#### Those we love don't go away. They walk beside us every day!

Round Valley U.M.C. has lost a very dear friend and member of our church family. Joseph Schultz passed away on July 24t 2012.

Warren (Mike) Edward Schiele, long time partner and friend of Cathy Hendrickson, passed away on July 31, 2012.

May your faith uphold you and God's love sustain you as you continue to hold your loved ones forever in your heart!

#### Dates to Remember

- Korean Dinner—Saturday, October 13th from 4:30-7:30PM.
- Annual Church Conference—Sunday, November 4th at 4PM at Round Valley UMC (PPRC from Round Valley, Changewater & High Bridge to meet with District Superintendent prior to church conference at 3PM)

#### Fall Bible Study Class

Will be offered this Fall from Oct. 4 through Nov. 15. The class meets every Thursday at 7PM until 8:30PM at Fellowship Hall for seven sessions. We will be studying Timothy Keller's book, "Gospel in Life." For more information, please speak to Pastor Andrew. All are welcome.

Weekly Bible Study held on Wednesday mornings at 10AM in the Pastor's Office.