

October 31, 2016

Third Quarter Newsletter Update

Volume 1

Living Stones

Swift Memorial Newsletter

What's INSIDE

A publication of Swift Memorial UMC

SPECIAL DATES”

- All Saints' Day- Nov. 1
- Daylight Saving ends - Nov. 6
- Election Day – Nov. 8
- Veterans Day – Nov. 11
- Church Conference – Nov. 14
- Thanksgiving – Nov. 24
- First Sunday of Advent – Nov. 27
- Hanging of the Greens and Christmas Bake Sale – Nov. 27



A Blessed Church

It has been 4 months since we moved to Swift Memorial Church and we are so thankful to be here. We have lived in a few different places in the past, but Sagamore Beach has become one of the greatest places for us since our move

here. We are proud to serve Swift Memorial and the people in our congregation. I would like to be a blessing to the congregation and to the community. I pray that our church continues to become a blessed church that is in our community and shares the good news of God's love through Jesus Christ.

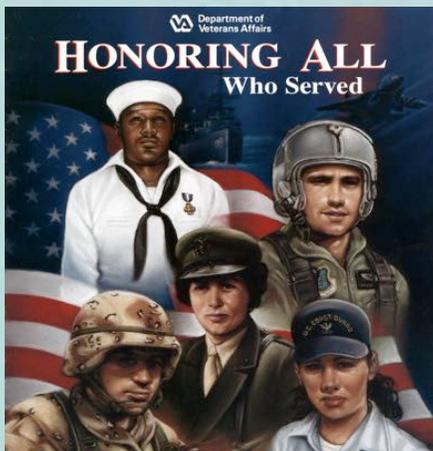
Pastor Joe

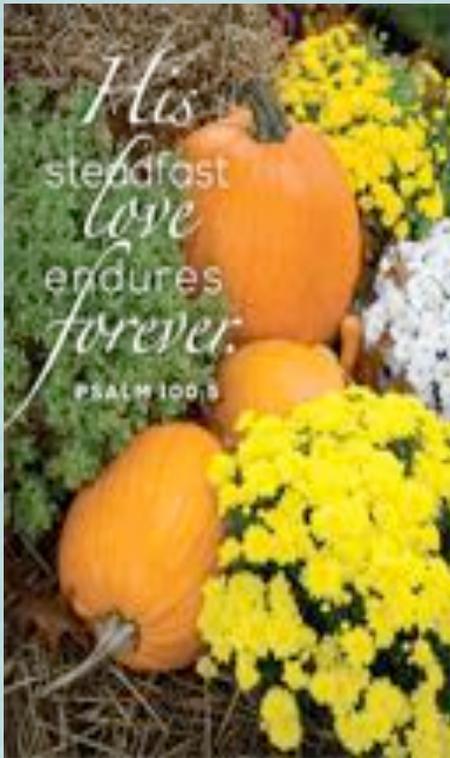
Youth Group Gathering



Under our new Youth Group Director, Dave Malcolmson the first youth group

pizza and movie night was held on Friday, Oct. 21st. Dave had 14 children and it was a great success. Stay tuned for the next event coming up!





Staff Parish Relations Committee

Swift Memorial is blessed with a strong SPRC. Our current committee members are Bill Held, Ann Burnham, Ruth Roughtvedt, Barbara Wales, Chip Raymond, Gean Richards and Lisa Malcolmson. Gean and Lisa are serving as the Co-chairpersons; we truly love our Lord and want to serve to insure we will strengthen our church so that it will be here for many years. This has clearly been a year of transition and it has been nothing short of bitter-sweet with a twist of excitement. Pastor Joe and Christine are an amazing addition to our church. They are kind, caring and loving. Their hospitality is refreshing and this does not go unnoticed. They

are both remarkable with involving themselves with the congregation including visitations, phone calls, cards etc. Pastor Joe's warmth truly shines through with each sermon. It has only been 4 short months since we welcomed them but in this short time it is very pleasing to see so many positive changes. Pastor Joe has brought a fresh perspective, new ideas and motivation to our church. He quickly recognizes the gifts in various people and encourages them to use those gifts. Christine is very caring, supportive and always ready to help wherever needed and her culinary talents are an added bonus too! **Lisa Malcolmson**



The church office is located in the rear of the building and the church office is open from 9:00am – 2:00pm on Monday, Thursdays and Fridays. You can call (508) 888-0170 or send an e-mail to: swiftmemorial@verizon.net



The Holy Yard Sale was a great success this year due to the hard work of many of our members. Special

thanks go to Chip Raymond for organizing this and our pricing master – Dave Stockbridge. Much hard work went in to this event but we raised over \$3,000, which goes to missions. Thanks to all our wonderful shoppers as well!!

Keep in Touch!

We want to keep in touch with you! Do we have your correct e-mail address? Would you like to be added to our list to be advised of upcoming events or would you like to be added to our prayer chain? Just let us know by sending an e-mail to swiftmemorial@verizon.net



Stewardship

 REPORT

The amount pledged for 2016 was **\$72,367.24**, and received as of 10-16 is **\$58,093.64** which is 80% of pledged amount. As chairperson of stewardship, I have been attending some training sessions as well as joining the Elder Team and Finance Committee in reading *Not Your Father's Offering Plate* to understand the way people look at giving today.

In discussions with Pastor Joe regarding a stewardship campaign, we have decided not to rush in to one this year. Pastor Joe is trying to meet the people of Swift and that is most important to him. We will pray that those who currently pledge will do so and will pray about the amount they can give. We will also pray that those who have not pledged will do so and pray about their giving. As we all pray, let us remember our pledge should be a joyful gift to the Lord. *Cathy Sharon-Matthews*

Words to Reflect on:
My giving is a reflection of my faith in the Lord and all He gives to me.



WHAT IS UMCOR?

Mission Statement

Compelled by Christ to be a voice of conscience on behalf of the people called Methodist, UMCOR works globally to alleviate human suffering and advance hope and healing. **UMCOR** spends 100% of designated donations on the projects donors specify.

Giving Prayer

Lord, I give you this offering
 As a sign of my vow,
And with all that I am,

And all that I have,
 I honor you;
 In the name of the Father,
 And of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen



What have the Trustees been doing? Well for starters, take a look at the parsonage! The outside has been painted except for some window trim but that will soon be completed. They are working on more outside lighting and have been investigating our options for the Activity Center. At this point in time, we are holding on to the Activity Center until we can find a mission-based use that will be sustainable and we are looking at options to see if are able to build an addition to our church. Stay tuned!



We had a wonderful prayer walk on Saturday, October 22nd. The rain held off until the very end! We dried off as we enjoyed a fellowship lunch in Gibbs Hall. Thanks to Lisa Malcolmson for organizing our event.

FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE



The Finance Committee comprising of Wanda Crowell, Bill Held, Bill Cifrino, Ann Burnham and Cathy Sharon – Matthews have issued the results as of September 30, 2016:

January 1 – September 30 Income \$125,53.25

January 1 – September 30 Expenses \$133,711.37



The Swift Memorial Choir is in the midst of learning this year's Christmas Cantata: *Appalachian Winter* by Joseph Martin which will be performed at the December 18th service. This piece is a mix of traditional choral Christmas songs and American folk songs. It is definitely a step outside of our comfort zone.

Over the past few months the choir has gained several new voices which helps add to the music we sing every week. We have been singing more songs, as a choir and congregation, from *The Faith We Sing*, a contemporary hymnal. Before every service the choir leads a ten minute Praise & Worship session to ready the congregation for worship.

SAVE THE DATE – CHRISTMAS CANTATA IS DECEMBER 18TH

Ben Healy

