

The Messenger

July 2019

SUNDAY, JULY 7

COMMUNION AND COFFEE HOUR

We will celebrate the **Sacrament of Holy Communion** on Sunday, July 7, during our regular Sunday Worship Service at 10:30 am. We'll have our coffee hour afterward and hope you will join us and bring a goodie for everyone to share.

SUNDAY EVENINGS IN JULY AND AUGUST

OLD RIVER CHURCH WORSHIP

Our churches of the Wapwallopen Ministerium and the Old River Church Cemetery Association will begin Sunday Evening Worship at the Old River Church on Sunday, July 7, at 6:00 pm. The following churches will host the services on:

July 7.....	Emmanuel UCC
July 14.....	New Hope UMC
July 21.....	St. James Lutheran
July 28.....	St. John's UCC
Aug. 4	St. Mark's Lutheran
Aug. 11	St. Peter's UCC
Aug. 18	Mt. Zion UCC
Aug. 25	Cemetery Association

We hope everyone will find time to worship in this historic setting.

Scrip Card Fundraiser

Scrip Card Fundraiser orders are collected the 1st Sunday of every month. Order forms can be found on the table in the narthex. If you have any questions or would like to place an order please see Lisa Ceaser. The profit for the Scrip Card Fundraiser for June is \$ 19.50.

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From The Pastor's Desk

I think about it all the time. While I'm driving, praying, eating. I guess I can call it one of my little obsessions. It is the question, "How can we get more people involved in church life. Well, understand I am not the only person on this church asking that same question. We as a whole are not the only church asking that question. As a person who *needs* to know the facts, I have turned to a group of researchers who have already explored these questions. They are called The Barna Group. In its 30-year history, Barna Group has conducted more than one million interviews over the course of hundreds of studies, and has become a go-to source for insights about faith and culture, leadership and vocation, and generations. Barna Group has carefully and strategically tracked the role of faith in America, developing one of the nation's most comprehensive databases of spiritual indicators. Barna Group has worked with thousands of business, nonprofit organizations and churches across the U.S. and around the world, including many protestant denominations, Catholic parishes, and faith leaders. Some of its notable clients have included the Salvation Army, World Vision, Compassion, the American Bible Society, and Habitat for Humanity. It has also served mainstream business and non-profit leaders at organizations like Sony, Walden Media, Easter Seals, CARE, the ONE Campaign, the Humane Society, the Gates Foundation, and NBC Universal. The firm's studies are frequently cited in sermons and talks, and its public opinion research is often quoted in major media outlets such as CNN, USA Today, The Wall Street Journal, Fox News, Chicago Tribune, Huffington Post, the New York Times, Dallas Morning News, and the Los Angeles Times.

Their research always surprises me. Here is a statistic I feel we can work with.

Millennial Non-Christians Show Greater Spiritual Curiosity Than Older Adults

Despite the growing indifference toward Christianity, especially among young people, there appears to be a spiritual curiosity among Millennials. Barna's recent report *Reviving Evangelism*, shows that Millennials report many more faith conversations or even evangelistic encounters than older non-Christians. For at least some young adults, there appears to be deeper interest in spirituality in general, and in Christianity specifically. This statistic appeared as a research release in the magazine *Faith and Christianity*, 2019.

What is a millennial? According to the US Census Bureau, they were born between 1982 and 2000. They are the largest generation in the workforce because of their birth years. Millennials are the children of the baby boomers and are also called the Generation Y or Gen Y. They possess several qualities and characteristics different from the past generations. And although the characteristics of a millennial varies on the culture and environment, they grew up in; these are the common characteristics of millennials today.

- 1. Millennials are Often Optimistic About the Future**
- 2. They Love Social Networking**
- 3. They are Tech-Savvy**
- 4. They Believe in Work-Life Balance (prioritizing family over work).**
- 5. They are Goal-Oriented**
- 6. They Want Recognition (feeling valued).**
- 7. Millennials Love to Multitask**
- 8. They Have an Entrepreneurial Spirit**
- 9. They Like Adventures**

10. They are Educated

I feel these are some great attributes, and I am sure you do also. As you read this list of qualities, imagine them being put to work in our modern day churches. I, along with many others in our church, are serious about considering these characteristics and putting them to work for the good of our world. Our older church folks have so much to share with this generation and they will embrace your thoughts and visions. So look out! Expect some changes at Emmanuel UCC. Changes for the good of all of us.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Lou



300 CLUB and SILENT AUCTION

THANKS to everyone who helped in any way to make this year's 300 Club and Silent Auction a fantastic success. Almost all the 300 tickets were sold, ensuring us a good profit. We also had additional guests who each donated \$15 to enjoy the great food and bands. We are still waiting for some of the Silent Auction payments to be collected and will have an update of the profit as soon as it becomes available.

Old River Church Services

Worship begins at 6:00 pm Sunday evenings beginning July 7 and continues to the end of August. If you can help with refreshments for July 15 when we are host, please see Cindy.

July 7	Emmanuel UCC
July 14	New Hope UMC
July 21	St. James Lutheran
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NEWSLETTER INFO DEADLINE

The deadline for information for the Messenger is Monday, July 22. Please get all information to me before this date. Thanks, Penny

VOICES AND INSTRUMENTS WANTED



It's summer and time for our choirs to be on vacation. But that doesn't mean that we want a vacation from music. Anyone who will sing, play an instrument or (if you're really talented) do both, is welcome to pick a Sunday to make a joyful noise to our God. Please see Denise Dean so we can fill the air with music on Sunday mornings.

PICTURE PERFECT

Check the front entrance bulletin board for the following pictures:

Dave Myers is shown at our Spring Turkey Dinner held on May 4 packing a box with a dinner for slocum resident Carl Peters to take home and enjoy.

Members of Emmanuel UCC are shown remembering the fallen at the Memorial Day ceremonies which were conducted at several locations across the mountain, including VFW Post 7918 Memorial, St. Martin in the

Fields, St. Mary's Cemetery, Emmanuel United Church of Christ, Albert Cemetery and Mountain Post 781 Memorial, on Sunday, May 26, 2019. Organizations participating in the ceremonies were American Legion Mountain Post 781, Dorrance Post 288, Ashley Post 673, and Slocum VFW Post 7918.

Among the 222 Graduates of Crestwood High School Class of 2019, was a very familiar face. **Morgan Rinehimer** received their diplomas and is now on her way to her new futures. Morgan is off to Stevenson University to pursue her degree in nursing. Congratulations and all the best.

2019 VBS PROGRAM

Emmanuel will host VBS July 14th thru 18th from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to join especially our youth, they are encouraged to help as leaders and decorating/design. Any questions please see Pastor Lou.

This summer, bring your kids to **SonQuest Rainforest VBS**. Based on 5 key Bible verses that will change a child's life—**SonQuest Rainforest VBS** transports young



minds into a **vivid rainforest** environment of jungle sounds, sights and smells, where they'll dig into the Bible and meet Jesus in every day's story.