

# MINISTRY@DHUMC



## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

*Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. (Mt. 5:6)*



## There is a tide

**By Pastor Russell Atkinson**

What do you wish for young people finishing high school and moving off to college? Fun? Achievement? Good grades? Meaning?

Dynamic shifts are occurring on college campuses today, but I cannot think of a more consequential time in American history to be on college campuses than the 1960s.

Half a century ago the new, exciting, radical, and subversive decade began. That first year, 1960, seemed sun-lit and hopeful. Nikita Khrushchev, the Soviet leader had visited the United States the year before and US-USSR relations seemed to be more positive.

Nineteen-sixty saw Kennedy elected President, the Beatles found their name, Martin Luther King Jr., began implementing his non-violent protests for civil rights, and Cassius Clay (soon to be Muhammad Ali) won a gold medal at the summer Olympics in Rome. Also in Rome that year the Archbishop of Canterbury met with the Pope resuming a conversation broken 500 years before. Historic opportunities for new freedoms, human progress, and peace had all appeared in alignment, uniquely it seemed; some of which opportunities we can now see were rejected, destroyed, or ignored. What had begun as an

enormously optimistic and hopeful decade on campus became strife-torn and distressed as racism and the Vietnam War divided the nation. Campuses were less safe places to be sure, but they had become more important places.

As Shakespeare's Brutus told Cassius "*There is a tide in the affairs of men. Which taken at the flood, leads on to fortune; omitted all the voyage of their life is bound in shallows and in miseries.*" Brutus may have been giving Cassius advice for a battle but his words have also served ever since as a warning to grasp opportunity when it presents itself.

Another great presence on US college campuses in the 1960s was poet Robert Frost. In 'The Road Not Taken' written, no doubt, for the benefit of a faltering friend, Frost considers opportunities lost and taken;

*I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I--  
I took the one less travelled by,  
And that has made all the difference.*

This is my prayer for the graduates of 2017:

*Lord, may they take the opportunity today  
brings to live life to the full. Let fear of the future  
not blind them to the possibilities of the present.  
Let them be trusting of your plans for their lives  
and be open to the gifts you offer them in their  
generation. Amen.*

**God bless you always,  
Russell J. Atkinson**

### MINISTRY@DHUMC

A monthly newsletter for the membership of Drexel Hill United Methodist Church.

June 2017

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Everyone!

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Everyone!

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## WORSHIP NOTES

# Wear Red on Pentecost

**Pentecost** is the great climax to the part of the Christian calendar that began with Ash Wednesday. The day marks the birthday of the church, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the commissioning power of our ministries.

This year Pentecost falls on June 4. Flame red is the liturgical color of the day. In order to celebrate the occasion visually we need a plenitude of red. A red dress, tie, scarf, or T-shirt would add to the splendor of the day. Please make your wardrobe provisions accordingly.

### Pentecost Picnic

Join us on June 4 after our festive Pentecost celebration for a picnic on the church patio.

Bring a salad or desert to share. Hamburgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers, and drinks will be provided.

The grill will also be available for anyone wanting to fix other barbecue cuisine. In case of inclement weather, our picnic will be enjoyed in the Rainbow Room (fellowship hall).

### Pentecost Dedication of Garden Plantings

We celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ with a special festival on Pentecost (this year June 4). In particular, we do so this year by also dedicating plantings around the church grounds as a conclusion to our worship service. Our service will conclude with a procession out of the sanctuary and into the gardens where formalities will include prayers and an offering by the Chancel Choir in celebration.



Volunteers gathered May 17, joined by Cub Scout Pack 92, to plant several trees and clear out brush on the church property as part of a commemorative garden landscaping project now underway. Check out our photos and videos at [www.facebook.com/drexelhillmethodists/](http://www.facebook.com/drexelhillmethodists/)

## Honoring our scholars

On June 11, our congregation will be recognizing graduates and the important efforts they have put into their studies.

The church is inviting families to submit names of anyone who has a graduate in their house, from elementary school to post-graduate. We want to know about any educational celebrations in your family. Contact the church office, [office@dhum.org](mailto:office@dhum.org), or call 610-259-2104.

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## June Sunday services

### **4 June Pentecost Communion**

John 7:37-39

Sermon: "Words Anger, Words Love" *Pastor Atkinson*

### **11 June Trinity Honoring Graduates, Children's Sunday**

Matthew 28:16-20

Sermon: "Power, Commission, Presence" *Pastor Atkinson*

### **18 June Second Sunday After Pentecost**

Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7

Sermon: "Sometimes You Catch Yourself Laughing" *Pastor Atkinson*

### **25 June Third Sunday After Pentecost**

Matthew 10:24-39

Sermon: "Lost and Found" *Pastor Atkinson*



## Happy Mother's Day!

The church celebrated Mother's Day May 14 by focusing on the family and keeping up with the annual tradition of having the children present flowers to the women of our congregation in appreciation for all they do.

## Risen Hope Church leases service space

Some months ago, Drexel Hill United Methodist Church was approached by Risen Hope Church to see if its congregation could worship in our sanctuary Sunday afternoons beginning in June.

Risen Hope is a non-denominational Bible-based church currently renting space in a local church. It has outgrown its present location and is looking at DHUMC as a worship space that will fill its needs.

This is a rental situation that encompasses the sanctuary, Sunday school classrooms and other areas. The Trustees view this as a source of much-needed revenue to help maintain our church.

There have been numerous meetings with Risen Hope to work out an arrangement that meets the needs of both churches.

Risen Hope uses a "praise band" and projects hymns and other information on a screen during services. You will notice a few minor additions in the sanctuary starting in June. Four additional speakers will be added and a small digital video projector will be mounted on a wall adjacent to the pew seating.

Since our service ends in the AM and Risen Hope service begins in the late PM, we will not have a confusing overlap of services. Risen Hope plans to start worshipping in our sanctuary in the afternoon of June 11.

If you have any questions about this change, speak with Alex Mullin or call him at 610-328-7381.



Drexel Hill United Methodist Church will be welcoming a new custodian beginning in June.

The gentleman's name is David Fingerle. He is a resident of Collingdale and has been working at a Darby Church. He will be working in the Church daily, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sundays, 9 a.m. to noon. If you see him around the Church, please say hello.

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The following thank you note was received at Drexel Hill United Methodist Church:

The Upper Darby Food Center  
May 14, 2017

**Dear Drexel Hill United Methodist Church,**

Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$350 to the Upper Darby Food Center. Your kindness and generosity help make it possible for the Food Center to continue to assist those members of the community who are in need. Thank you so much for your continued support to the Food Cupboard. Plus your wonderful volunteers.

**Yours gratefully,**  
Jane Usner,  
Coordinator  
Upper Darby Food Center



## IN THE COMMUNITY

### Upper Darby Food Cupboard in Narthex accepting donations

In the narthex of the church is a trunk in which to place donations for the Upper Darby Food Cupboard. The Upper Darby Food Cupboard is located within a church on Wayne Avenue in Upper Darby. It provides those in need, especially senior citizens, with a little extra food for their pantry to get them through the month. Canned soups, fruit and vegetables, pasta, rice, peanut butter, jelly, rice, tea

bags and cereal along with personal items such as shampoo and toothpaste are some of the items given to those who visit us



each month. The items are donated from churches, schools, scouts and other organizations and

individuals. If possible, think about the food cupboard when you shop and place an item or two in the trunk. Members from our Drexel Hill United Methodist Church assist at the food cupboard each Monday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.. We could really use some help. If you would like to learn more, or come with one of us to visit, contact the church office.

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The next RSC luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, June 24, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the Rainbow Room (Fellowship Hall). In addition to the lunch, there are free toiletries and clothing. The Project Reach Serve Care program provides a free hot catered lunch and friendly fellowship, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., to anyone in the community who wishes to attend.

Additional lunches are scheduled for the fourth Saturday of the month in July and August.

## Drivers sought for monthly Mission work in Philadelphia

Once a month, on a Sunday afternoon (usually the day After our monthly RSC luncheon on Saturday), sandwiches and snacks are collected for those in Philadelphia having a tough time and delivered to them at Aviator Park across from the Franklin Institute. The visit includes a small worship service. Clifton Heights United Methodist Church members make sandwiches and collect the snacks. More recently, members of Drexel Hill United Methodist Church have joined the monthly mission. At this time, drivers are needed to transport the food and volunteers. If you'd like to make difference in the lives of others, and are available to drive, or help out in other ways, please contact Pastor Atkinson.

## Learn more about Eastern Conference camps and retreats

The Eastern PA Conference owns and operates four unique, scenic camp and retreat centers spread across different regions of the conference: Pocono Plateau in the upper Northeast; Carson-Simpson Farm just north of Philadelphia; Innabah, more centrally located in Spring City; and Gretna Glen in the Northwest area.

Each of these beautiful, blessed oases are what they rightly claim to be: "God's place apart, transforming lives."

All four centers truly come alive during Summer Camp, with hundreds of excited children and youth learning, playing, being nurtured and making friendships and lifetime memories. But three sites—Pocono Plateau, Innabah

and Gretna Glen—are busy year-round, hosting retreats, picnics, confirmation classes and other special events of all kinds. Contact them today to plan or register for an event. Visit their Web sites at: [innabah.org](http://innabah.org), [gretnaglen.org](http://gretnaglen.org), [poconoplateau.org](http://poconoplateau.org) and [csfarm.org](http://csfarm.org).

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## BLAST FROM THE PAST

### Before DHUMC, there was Mt. Pleasant Church

(The following information is provided in "The History of the Drexel Hill United Methodist Church.")

In 1832, men and women living in this area who were familiar with John Wesley's church had no place to meet for worship, except in each other's homes. In 1835, there were enough interested people to form a society of Methodists, calling itself the Mount Pleasant Church.

Credit for building an actual church goes to George Burnley who had the church built in back of his home at Garrett Road and Burnley Road, next to a quarry.

The cornerstone of Mount Pleasant was laid June 27 in 1837. The church was built high on the hill near Darby Creek, near a point today where Burnley Lane meets Garrett Road. The site was chosen because of its nearness to the mills and to the people of Garrettford.

Cotton mills along the creek were gradually converted to factories, and by 1850, Mount Pleasant's membership grew rapidly. The village at the foot of the hill contained 50 houses and the population was estimated at 500.

By 1880, the mills were forced to close because of a severe depression. Members of the church were forced to move and membership declined. Mount Pleasant Church closed its doors in 1900. It reopened in 1922 after two local residents saw a need for a Sunday School in the area. Attendance at the church grew to more than 50 people on Sunday mornings.

In 1923, members of Broad Street Methodist Church, facing its own declining membership, decided to relocate and chose Drexel Hill because it had been a summer destination for many of its members. Mount Pleasant Church was seen as a perfect location and the two congregations merged. The name of the new church was Broad Street Memorial Methodist Church.

Three long-time residents of Upper Darby shared their memories of Mount Pleasant Church.

- A coal bin was located at the back of the church.
- The organ was pumped by hand.
- There were 100 steps from Darby Creek to the church.
- Boys would spit on pennies and drop them on bald heads.
- Scott's horse-drawn wagon took church picnickers to the grounds where the Idle Hour Tennis Club is now located, while an open moving truck was used to transport members when picnics were held at Lemon Hill in Fairmount Park.
- Scott's Market, at the corner of Garrett and Burmont roads, was opened originally by the Joe Sommers family who operated it as a general store.



(The following article comes from the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference website)



## Conference will celebrate 250 Years of Methodism in America

By John W. Coleman

In 1767, Captain Thomas Webb and Joseph Pilmore led the push to establish the first Methodist classes in Philadelphia and other venues along the East Coast of the new colonies.

They had remarkable success, building a foundation that grew into today's United Methodist Church.

New adherents in Philadelphia's fledgling Methodist Prayer Society gathered in warehouses and courtyards for two years before building a permanent meetinghouse in 1769. Historic St. George's United Methodist

Church, in the Old City neighborhood, is now the oldest church built by Methodists still in continuous use in the United States.

At our Annual Conference this year, June 15-17, we will celebrate the "Sestercentennial," or 250th anniversary, of that first Methodist society. We will mark the occasion with special commemorative performances, publications and displays. Historic St. George's, which houses a museum and our Conference Archives, is already making plans to celebrate its Sestercentennial in 2019. [READ MORE](#)

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## AROUND THE WORLD

(The following article comes from the People of the United Methodist Church website)



Photograph by Mike DuBose

## Manchester attack: 'Turn from evil and do good'

By Linda Bloom

May 23, 2017 | UMNS

British Methodist church leaders were among those praying for the families and young victims of the May 22 bombing at a concert site in Manchester, England.

The attack by a suicide-bomber has claimed 22 lives so far and injured nearly 60 others. The BBC called it the worst terrorist attack in Britain since the July 7 bombings in London in 2005. "We give thanks for the emergency services and for the many ordinary people who demonstrated compassion in responding to those caught up in the tragedy," said the Rev. Roger Walton and Rachel Lampard, president and vice president of the British Methodist Conference said. "We ask the Methodist people to hold the people of Manchester and beyond in their prayers as we remember the words of Psalm 34, 'Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.'" [READ MORE](#)

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## June 2017 church calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27 7:30p  Boy Scouts	28	29 7p  Cub Scouts, Fellowship	30 7:30p  Adult choir final rehe	1	2
3	4 10 Pentecost Sunday, picnic	5 7p SPRC meeting 7:30p  Boy Scouts	6	7 7p  Cub Scouts, Fellowship	8	9 Nursery school summer jam
10	11 10 Children's Sunday, Gradu	12 7:30p  Boy Scouts	13	14 7p  Cub Scouts, Fellowship	15	16
17	18	19 7:30p  Boy Scouts	20	21 7p  Cub Scouts, Fellowship	22	23
24	25	26 7:30p  Boy Scouts	27 7p Trustees meeting	28 7p  Cub Scouts, Fellowship	29	30 11:30 Project RSC luncheon
						Jul 1