

Millbrook Messenger

Millbrook United
Methodist Church

Summer 2018
July/August

Dear Members and Friends,

Happy 185th Anniversary!

On July 1, 1833, we will celebrate 185 years of ministry and faithfulness. The history of Millbrook United Methodist Church is a testimony to the grace and love of God demonstrated in the congregational life of His children. From generation to generation, Millbrook United Methodist Church has been a beacon of light and pillar of hope in Randolph.

For 185 years, men and women have been and continue to be touched by this ministry of God. On July 1, as we gather for worship and praise on the 185th Anniversary of our beloved Millbrook United Methodist Church, I am overjoyed with excitement and jubilation! Since 1833, members of our Millbrook Church Family have been preaching, teaching, sharing and spreading the good news Gospel of Jesus Christ. With each new generation, our Church Family has been actively engaged in very passionate ways in proclaiming the love of God in all things for the joy of all people through Jesus Christ.

Today we can celebrate a long and lasting legacy of charitable Christian service and traditions based upon vibrant worship services, religious training, and sustained outreach services that have uplifted those who have found themselves counted among the least, the last, and lost. It has been such an honor for me to serve as pastor of this church for the past one year. I feel so blessed standing on the shoulders of all the great men who served as pastor of this church prior to my appointment. Their pastoral leadership and sacrifices of service charted upon the simple Biblical responsibility of each generation teaching the next generation how to praise the mighty acts of God.

Thank you for your stewardship,

your love, and especially your support; but more importantly, thank you for your faithfulness. May God continue to bless you and your family in all that you endeavor. Although our history is very rich, I truly believe that our future will be even richer. I would like to remind you that we are a church whose vision is to: *“See as through the eyes of God, Open their hearts to honor God's word, Nurture all persons toward spiritual Growth, Celebrate the diversity of God's kingdom, Seek to deepen their relationship with God, Provide a rich and meaningful worship experience, Strive to follow the example of Jesus Christ, We share God's love with the community in order to make disciples of Jesus Christ.”*

I wish you a blessed Summer. I hope to see you at our Sunday Worship services and especially wish to see you all on July 1, at 8:45 at our Potluck Breakfast and at 9:45 for our Worship Service Celebration. I also would like to invite you for our traditional Worship under the Stars services, starting Wednesday, July 11 at 7:00pm at our Millbrook Church.

The mission of our congregation is to: *Learn the Word, Live the Word and Share the Word.* Once again, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all of our Church Family who have ‘hung in here through it all’ and have faithfully contributed to keep our Church ‘growing forward’ Thank You Millbrook United Methodist Church, for being a Church with open minds, hearts and doors – willing to go where God is leading us.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Nick, Stella, David and Evangeline Petrov

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ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Annual Conference 2018: “Miracles Everywhere”

This year I got my third opportunity to represent MUMC as your Lay Member to Annual Conference in Wildwood, NJ, May 20-22, 2018. My favorite part of the Conference this year was singing two anthems, “All We Ask” and “I Choose Love”, with the Conference chorus. In his 2018 “Episcopal Address”, Bishop Schol stated “Miracles are everywhere as we open ourselves to the Holy Spirit’s power working in our midst. Psalm 77:14: You are the God who performs miracles; you display your powers among the peoples. The Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke tell of Jesus’ miracle ministry as God’s power to transform life. The Gospel of John opens our eyes to a sign-a miracle that points to God’s activity in the world.” Bishop Schol cited various examples of how our prayers of expectation have been fulfilled in this past year and our goals for the future. Greater NJ churches had an increase in average worship attendance in 2017 due to our being a force and connection in the community. “A Future With Hope” has completed repairs on 271 homes damaged by Superstorm Sandy in 2012 and has raised \$17 million. The launch of 100 hope centers (community connectional) is the goal for NJ for the next 10 years. The Mission Fund offering collected 5/21/18 at this Conference totaled \$32,600 (supports our Miracles Everywhere mission partners, including our new missional partnership Bishop Schol signed with the Methodist Church of Puerto Rico along with that of Tanzania). For the sixth consecutive year, Conference participants packed over 30,000 meals for shipping to the world’s needy in a workshop entitled “Rise Against Hunger” (formerly “Stop Hunger Now”). There was a special emphasis upon the expansion of the 5 year strategic plan for the role of equipping the laity leadership to “be disciples who make new disciples.” The second “Laity Leadership Academy” has been scheduled for 10/6/18 (see pamphlet for details). I attended a workshop, “Creating Effective Pathways to Fruitful Discipleship”, led by Ken Willard. In his book, Stride, he says “making disciples is our job...an intentional process. New people are coming to church because they want to learn and grow spiritually...something is missing in their lives and we can help to identify it and make it relevant to them.” A major focus this year was on our vote for Greater NJ Conference to formally join

the legal complaint filed against the State of NJ on 5/17/18 (64th anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Ed of Topeka*) to dismantle segregation in NJ public schools. Current law requires that students must go to the closest school; this affects 275,000 Black and Latino students, denying them “the benefits of education to develop to their full God-given potential and narrowing their social experiences leading to risks of prejudicial stereotypes.” Our Conference Board of Church and Society has given each congregation the book, Faith & Facts, to help us understand/study in small groups these issues of “inter-cultural competency.” We elected a new slate of Conference officers for 2019 and the 2019 Conference budget was unanimously approved. 3 historic sites were designated. Unfortunately, 2 churches petitioned the Conference and were accepted for closure. It was agreed that to facilitate “A Way Forward” there would be “spirit-filled conversations” on all levels about “the differences of opinions on the topic of human sexuality”. Legislation on these issues was “tabled”, as the presenter was not present. However, Bishop Schol did mention that the Discipline already does provide on an individual basis for “gracious accommodation for property/asset disposition” for churches whose congregations cannot in good conscience remain in the UMC. Although our opinions on these matters may differ, we affirm our unity in Christ’s love: “Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.”

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Buschke,
Lay Member to 2018 Annual Conference

Soup Kitchen Food Suggestions

July 2 JELLY/PEANUT BUTTER

July 9 TUNA

July 16 SPAGHETTI SAUCE

July 23 CEREAL OR OATMEAL

July 30 SPAM (LOW SALT)

Aug 6 BEEF STEW OR CHILI

Aug 13 BEANS

Aug 20 FRUIT CANNED LOW SUGAR

Aug 27 TUNA



Randolph Food Pantry
SPAGHETTI SAUCE, PEANUT BUTTER, JELLY
AND/OR PANCAKE MIX (COMPLETE)

Rummage Sale

Our Fall Rummage Sale will be held on October 13th. Please mark your calendars to donate items, help setup and/or help with the Sale.



Worship Under the Sky

Worship Under the Sky begins on Wednesday night July 11th at 7:00 pm. This year our service will be held on the church grounds. Remember to bring your lawn chair.



Please remember to bring a lawn chair!

July 1, 2018
185th Anniversary Celebration

Ground was broken for the church in the summer of 1832 and people turned out generously to help raise the building. The Corner-stone was laid in September. During the winter and spring that followed the Church was completed. It was dedicated to the worship of God by the Man who laid the corner-stone, Rev. D. Kennedy of Brooklyn, New York on July 1st 1833.



Come and celebrate with us at 8:45 am on July 1st 2018 with a potluck breakfast.



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July 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:45 Potluck Breakfast 9:45 Worship & Communion	2	3 Trustees 7:30 PM	4	5	6	7
8 9:45 Worship	9	10	11 7:00 PM Worship Under the Sky	12	13	14
15 9:45 Worship	16	17	18 7:00 PM Worship Under the Sky	19	20	21
22 9:45 Worship	23	24	25 7:00 PM Worship Under the Sky	26	27	28
29 9:45 Worship	30	31				

August 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 9:45 Worship & Communion	6	7 Trustees 7:30 PM	8	9	10	11
12 9:45 Worship	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 9:45 Worship	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 9:45 Worship	27	28	29	30	31	



Check for upcoming events!

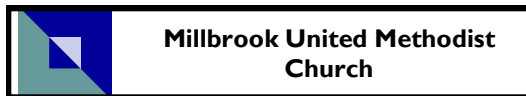
Newsletter Information
Our newsletter can be improved if everyone contributes. So, please leave anything that you would like to have included in the monthly

newsletter in the office mailbox slot on the bottom row titled "newsletter".
You can also email me patlbriant@gmail.com

The cutoff is the 20th of each month.



The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Open hearts, open minds, open doors.



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"A Small Church with a Big Heart!"

