

## The Mt. Fern United Methodist Church Welcomes You!

March 7, 2010

Third Sunday in Lent

9:00 & 11:00 A.M.

*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.*

### THE PEOPLE GATHER AND PRAISE

#### Choruses of Praise

**Greetings, Shared Joys and Announcements** (Those not listed in the bulletin)  
(Please sign friendship pads)

#### \*The Call to Worship

We are people who live in an environment of constant temptation

**If we are to survive, we must find strength to endure our temptations. Otherwise, we will be destroyed by them.**

God has promised to give us that strength which will give us victory, rather than defeat.

**We depend on God to be our source of strength to live the Christian life. Amen.**

#### \*Invocation Prayer

Erin Snyder

#### \*Hymn of Praise

*“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”*

No. 526

#### A Reading from the Old Testament

Isaiah 55:1-9

O.T. 685

#### Ministry of Music

*“Wonderful Words of Life”*

Junior Joy Ringers

**A Moment with Our Children** (Come forward)

#### \*The Fellowship Greeting of Peace

### EXPRESSIONS OF THE WORD

#### Prayers and Concerns for Others

#### Response: “Lord, hear our Prayer”

#### Words of Assurance and Prayer for Pardon

#### The Lord’s Prayer (All)

#### \*The Hymn of Preparation

*“Just As I Am Without One Plea”*

No. 357

#### A Reading of the Epistle Lesson

I Corinthians 10:1-13

N.T. 172

#### The Unison Prayer of Confession

**Temptation is so common, our Father, that we have accepted it as a way of life. Forgive us for thinking that because it is so common, its influence on our behavior is acceptable. Forgive us for giving temptation the right of way in our life. Give us the strength you have promised, that our temptations may be a means of testing, through which we become stronger in our faith and in our living. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

#### \*Gospel Lesson

Luke 13-1-9

N.T. 76

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### \*The Gloria Patri (all face the cross and sing)

No. 70

#### The Sermon

*“Tough Times Don’t Last But Tough People Do”* Rev. Jack M. Copas

### RESPONSE TO THE WORD

#### Worship in Tithes and Offerings

#### Offertory Musical Selection

#### \*Presentation of Offerings and the Doxology

No. 95

#### Invitation to Commune

Page 13

#### \*The Hymn of Dedication

*“Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling”*

No. 348

#### \*Benediction

#### \*Musical Postlude

(\* = all who are able please stand)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor: The Rev. Jack M. Copas, D-Min.

Organist/Choir Director: Jeff Evans

Fellowship Hour Hosts: The Fritch Family

The Usher at 10:00 a.m. - Dean Matienzo and 11:00 a.m.: Don Updike

### This Week's Activities – March 7, 2010

Today - **9:00 & 11:00 a.m. – Worship**

**9:00 a.m. - Sunday School**

10:30 a.m. – Blood Pressure Screening

2:00 – 6:00 p.m. – SAT

**5:00 p.m. – ASP Meeting**

6:00 p.m. – UMYF

**6:00 p.m. – New Member's Meeting**

Monday - 7:00 p.m. – Al-Anon/AA

Tuesday – **6:30 pm – Junior Joy Ringers**

**7:15 p.m. – Adult Bell Choir**

**7:30 p.m. – People with Differences**

Wednesday - 10:00 a.m. – Bible Study

**6:00 p.m. – Simple Supper**

6:30 – 9:00 p.m. – SAT

**7:00 p.m. – Communion & Worship**

Melanie Newton – The Homeless

Thursday - **7:00 p.m. – Trustee's Meeting**

**7:30 p.m. – Chancel Choir**

Friday – **9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. – Set-up for Fresh Ham Dinner**

Saturday – **4:00 – 8:00 p.m. – Fresh Ham Dinner**

**Lenten Simple Suppers are a long time tradition at Mt. Fern UMC. Sign up on the Welcome Table to bring Soup or Bread.**

**New Members Meeting - Tonight - 6:00 P.M. - Join on Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>** - The date for the next New Member Meeting where you can learn more about becoming a member of Mt. Fern is tonight at 6:00 p.m. New members will be received into the membership of the Mt. Fern UMC on Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>.

**The Fresh Ham Dinner will be next Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.** Look for sign-up sheets on the rolling bulletin board. Also, pick up fliers from the Welcome Table to pass out to local businesses. Contact Casey Crandall for more information.

**Pick up your Ham Dinner tickets today. See Casey Crandall for tickets.**

**There Will Be a New Ministry Meeting Soon. “People with Differences”** - Do you feel sometimes like you just aren't fitting into the societal “mold?” Have you ever been made fun of or mocked in society just for being who you are? Have you ever encountered crises at work or in social groups just because you have something about you that the societal “norm,” doesn't seem to accept? Perhaps you have Tourette's syndrome (or are the parent of such a child); Asperger's Syndrome or Autism (or are the parent of such a child); maybe you have a speech impediment that was never dealt with; maybe you are transgendered, gay, lesbian, or physically handicapped. Do you suffer from depression that makes it hard for you to survive at work when survive you must? Well, if you feel that we are all unique but that your difference is making it hard for you to get along in society, stay balance, or even threatens your way of making a living, this new support group is for you. “People With Differences” will meet every two weeks to discuss life – vent our frustrations, and learn to overcome – keeping Jesus Christ as our goal and guide. We will have a brief informational at a date and time to be announced. If you have questions, please see Pastor Jack or Kerri McCaffrey after the service.

**Mt. Fern Bell Choir Bowl-A-Rama Fundraiser – March 21, 2010** - The Mt. Fern Handbell Choirs are approaching the goal for the funds needed to repair and refurbish the handbells. On March 21, the Adult Handbell Choir and Junior Joy Ringers will be participating in the Mt. Fern Bell Choir Bowl-A-Rama. Please help this Ministry of Music by sponsoring an Adult Bell Choir Member or Junior Joy Ringer. A monetary pledge per pin or a flat donation will be graciously accepted. Contact Rosemary Kmush (973-366-4418) if you have any questions.

**Coming Again! CHRISTIAN FOLK GROUP - ALATHEA - March 28, 2010 - 3:00 P.M.**  
A free will offering will be taken. Any questions, contact Casey Crandall

**Mt. Fern UMC Softball Team is looking for a new captain for the team this year.** Ian Dodds has already arranged a field for us to use, so it is going to be simply registering online at the site [www.njcs.org](http://www.njcs.org) and then going to the meeting that will be at the end of March beginning of April. Any questions, speak to Ian Dodds.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

**Please pray for the ministries of:** The Greater N.J. Annual Conference; United Methodist Homes of N.J.; Interfaith Council for Homeless Families; and the churches and houses of worship in the Randolph area. Pray for Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar; and Skylands District Superintendent Renée McCleary.

**Prayer chain requests should be sent to Rev. Jack M. Copas at [copasjack56@gmail.com](mailto:copasjack56@gmail.com)**

**The United Methodist Women of Mt. Fern are collecting items for Health Kits for Haiti** and accepting donations to purchase necessary essentials to assemble kits on your behalf. See the list on rolling bulletin board or you may make out a check to UMW and put in memo Haiti Health Kits. For more info, contact Cary Hoffman.

**Attention All Tea Lovers** - Mark your 2010 calendar for Saturday, April 17th for the Mt. Fern UMW English Tea. The ticket price will be \$15 this year and tickets for Mt. Fern members and friends are on sale now. Please contact Betty Rice at 973-366-4418 for tickets for the 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. seating. Reservations only, no tickets sold at door.

**Save your items now for the Spring Garage Sale on May 1, 2010, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** For more details, speak with Carol or Bill Willersdorf.

**Drop your birthday pennies in one of the Heifer International Piggy Banks.**

**Snow Shovelers Needed to Shovel Walks and Stairways. Sign-up on the rolling bulletin board.**

**Pastor Jack is inviting people to meet with him one-on-one at some mutually convenient time. Sign up on the rolling bulletin board.**

**Support Our Troops!** Would you like to help a soldier with snacks, toiletries, games, or stationery? Monetary donations will help pay for postage (about \$12 per package). A more comprehensive list for donations is on the bin in Fellowship Hall marked "Collection for Persons in the Service" or contact Cary at 973-366-4418.

**The Morris County Food Pantry is very low on food and needs our immediate help.** The following items are most needed: Progresso ready to eat soups, spaghettios, ravioli, chili, or any meals that are ready/easy to make from a can. .



**Begin Wednesday Evenings in Lent  
with Soup and Bread Simple Suppers**

Lenten Simple Suppers are a long-standing tradition at Mt. Fern. Each Wednesday night during Lent, everyone in the church is invited to gather at 6:00 p.m. for Soup and Bread. It sounds simple, but the soups and breads are usually a rich mix of homemade delights. Sign-up on the Welcome Table to bring soup or bread. Children are welcome!!

**Wednesday Night Worship in Lent at 7:00 p.m.  
And  
Holy Week Services**



Following Simple Suppers, we will enter our sanctuary for a Lenten Communion Service of Renewal and Reflection. There will be a Special Maundy Thursday Communion Worship on April

1st at 7:30 p.m. and a Good Friday Service, on April 2nd at 7:30 p.m. for the Stations of the Cross. Join us for Easter Sunrise Service on April 4th at 6:30 a.m. in the Memorial Garden followed by a Pancake Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. And of course, join us for our Easter Communion Service at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. on April 4th.

March 3, 2010	The Reverend Dr. Carter A. Smith – Healing
March 10, 2010	Melanie Newton – Homeless
March 17, 2010	The Reverend Jack M. Copas, D- Min. Liberation Theology
March 24, 2010	Mr. David Edwards, M-Div – Social Principles
March 31, 2010	Mr. Charles Haas - Titanic



### **Invitation to the Observance of Lenten Discipline**

It has become the custom of the church to prepare for Easter by a season of penitence, fasting and prayer. It is a time when people who have committed sins and had been separated from the community of faith were reconciled and forgiven. We are reminded of the mercy and grace proclaimed in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the need we all have to renew our baptismal faith. To make a right beginning, to mark our own mortality, I invite you to share in the name of our Lord an observance of Lent.

Please join us for the 7:00 p.m. following Wednesday evening communion Lenten services:

February 24, 2010      Mrs. Langerine Aguilh - Haiti