



Kemble Connection Newsletter

Kemble Church is a welcoming, caring, and faithful Christian community offering hope and support to make a difference in the world through God's Word and our deeds.

April, 2015

Pastor's Page

By B.J. Funk

I have a theory about my generation of girls from the south. We have a harder time understanding repentance than most. Why? We were brought up to have manners, to wear white gloves and hats to church, and to be a lady. Somewhere in the sermons on love, acceptance and forgiveness, some of us received the wrong message. Not that this was taught, but it is what some of us heard. At least I know I did.

The message was this: Christianity and being good are synonymous. We were to be good, never talk back to a grown-up, be sweet, and to mind our parents.

As an adult, I stumbled on to Mark 10:18, in which Jesus says, "Why do you call me good? No one is good — except God alone." Oops!

I am confident that sin was preached, along with repentance and our need for a Savior. Yet, I reached adulthood without the clear understanding that I was a sinner in need of repentance.

In his book *I Surrender*, Patrick Morley writes that the church's integrity problem is in the misconception that we can add Christ to our lives, but not subtract sin. It is a change in belief without a change in behavior. He goes on to say, "It is revival without reformation, without repentance."

In some ways, the word Repentance is an obsolete word. The late David Wilkerson wrote in an article entitled "Whatever Happened to Repentance" that "You rarely hear the word in most churches today. Pastors seldom call for their congregations to mourn and grieve over wounding Christ by their wickedness."

"Some Christians believe repentance means simply to 'turn around' and go in the opposite direction," Wilkerson writes in another article. "But the Bible tells us repentance is much more than that. The full, literal meaning of the word repent is 'to feel remorse and self-reproach for one's sins against God; to be contrite, sorry, to want to change directions.'" The difference in

meanings here rests on the word want. True repentance includes a desire to change. "A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise" (Psalm 51:17).

It was not until I had lived a long time that I ever thought I could seriously wound Christ, that my sin actually hurt him. Oswald Chambers reminds us that obstinacy and self-will stab Jesus. Once I realized that, I was able to move from shallow repentance to deep repentance. I let go of the "good southern girl" image, and bowed before him as a sinner, in great need of a Savior. A refined Southern lady dressed in filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6).

Compare shallow repentance with that of the man who cries out to God with deep feelings of sadness over his life of sin, who hopes that God will accept him, even in his sin. He practically runs to the altar and falls on his face before God. He is tired of the old life and ready for the new. He can't stop crying.

John 2 reminds us that Jesus did not trust himself to any man because he knew the heart of man. He saw through the outward facade and into the darkness in man's heart. He knew that we desperately needed to understand repentance.

Streams in the Desert devotional book speaks of shallow repentance when it describes the serious implications of those who fall into that category. "The natural heartstrings have not been snapped, and the Adamic flint has not been ground to powder, and the bosom has not throbbed with the lonely surging sighs of Gethsemane; and not having the real death marks of Calvary, there cannot be that soft, sweet, gentle floating, victorious, overflowing, triumphant life that flows like a spring morning from an empty tomb."

Repentance is the first step toward a life of freedom in Christ. Without it, our ship sails on bumpy waters. Let it go. Give it up, and walk into newness in Christ. Breathe in the deep freedom that will now be yours. Repentance as life-changing as this could never be shallow.

(Reprinted with permission from B.J. Funk and Good News Magazine)

G.W.C.M. Report

Thank you to our volunteers and for your generous donations!

The Greater Woodbury Cooperative Ministries (GWCM), an organization made up of the various churches in the Woodbury area, sponsors seasonal and ongoing projects in the community.

Food Pantry -

Most Kemble members are aware of the Food Pantry, housed at the Seventh Day Adventist Church, on the corner of Barber and Evergreen Avenues. It supplies food for body and soul to people in need in our community. In 2014, 4,111 families were served. Clients included 3,166 children, 5,206 adults and 1,132 seniors, for a total of 9,504 people. Hours of operation are Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. The Food Pantry is a volunteer operation and is supported solely by donations. The Coordinator of the Food Pantry, Kathy Stackhouse-Cunningham, pictured below with Missions and Outreach Committee Chair Emmanuel Ehirim and Pastor Mike, gave a most inspiring sermon at Kemble on March 22.



Scholarship -

The GWCM offers an annual Peace Essay Scholarship, open to graduating seniors at Woodbury High School. This year, students must write and submit a 500 – 700 word essay on the topic, *“Is Peace an Outdated Concept? Why or Why Not?”* Each essay will be judged on content, correct use of language, and clarity of argument. They will be judged anonymously. The winner will receive a \$400.00 scholarship which will be announced at Woodbury High School Graduation

in June. All essays must be submitted to the Woodbury High School Guidance Office by **Friday, May 1, 2015**. Any questions should be addressed to Mrs. Heidi Louis at 856-845-9322.

Summer Lunch Box Program –

The 2015 Summer Lunch Box Program will soon be underway! In 2014 volunteers made up and distributed 8,500 box lunches (17,000 meals) to youth during the summer when free or reduced-cost school lunches were not available. A book was given to each child per week and school supplies were distributed, including a back pack for each child!

Vacation Bible School –

GWCM offers an ecumenical Vacation Bible School. This year it will be held at Kemble during a (yet to be determined) week in July. Volunteers are needed to help when and whatever time they can. Please contact Mary Jane Warfle (856-845-3805) if you have questions or can volunteer.

Handy Helpers -

GWCM's volunteer Handy Helpers assist seniors and those persons who are handicapped with tasks around the home and yard that they cannot accomplish themselves.

Jeanette's Closet

Used clothing and household items are available at Jeanette's Closet, housed by the Woodbury Friends Meeting. Persons in need of appropriate clothing for job interviews may find them there. Recently, the Closet supplied a young man with a shirt and jacket to attend a sports awards dinner.

Community Relations

Currently, the GWCM organization is working with City Council to improve relations between the church community and City Council.

What can you do?

*Donate items.

*Volunteer time to one of these programs.

*Hold a food drive in your neighborhood, with your organization or work place.

Items needed include:

Breakfast - cereal, package of dry milk, pancake mix, syrup.

Lunch - Peanut butter & jelly, mayonnaise, tuna, canned soup. (Lunch box items will be announced soon!)

Dinner - potatoes (box or can), rice, pasta (spaghetti/macaroni), spaghetti sauce, macaroni & cheese, green vegetables, corn, carrots, beets, canned fruit, juice, tea/coffee, crackers, pudding mix, Jell-o, cake mix & icing.

Other - hand soap, toilet paper, feminine products, shampoo, etc.



2015 Confirmation Class

Pictured above from left to right, Allison Martin, Elizabeth Giedosh, Justin DeCant, Olivia Catando and Karly Aigner, will be received into membership on Confirmation Sunday, May 17. Under the leadership of Donna Grebb and Robert Catando, they began meeting in January. They served as ushers during the month of March and received their first communion on Holy Thursday.

SING!

For the joy of your Spirit, for the health of your body, and for the glory of God.

Research is being done in many areas of our lives. One area of research that I like to follow describes the many benefits of choral singing. If you Google "advantages of choral singing" you can find many articles detailing the physical benefits of choral singing. *Time* magazine states, "Group singing has been scientifically proven to lower stress, relieve anxiety, and elevate endorphins." Singing contributes to the health of your body!

In addition to the physical benefits of choral music, the church choir offers the benefit of connecting with God's Spirit. Choir rehearsal, instead of being just another weekly responsibility, is actually a spiritual oasis in the middle of the week. We sing joyfully and prayerfully as we let the words and the music sink into our lives. We share community and prayer concerns so that we can pray for each other during the week. On Sunday, we have the privilege of sharing our joy as we are active participants in leading worship.

So - if you love to sing, we invite you to come

and reap the benefits of choral singing - for your body, for your spirit, and for the glory of God.

Christine Laquintano,
Music Director

Festival Choir Presents Cantata

The Festival Choir (Senior Choir and friends), convened to present "Journey to the Cross" by Robert Lau on Sunday, March 15.



The Chancel Choir also participated in the services.



All choirs participated in Easter services.

Welcome to Church Family

Owen Michael Budd, son of Ronald and Jennifer Budd was baptized on April 19. Owen is the grandson of Lois and David Budd and Michael and Karen Perrone.



Faith Circle, Kemble's Newest

When Molly Aigner was considering how she could become more involved in church activities, she consulted her Mom, Dottie McQuade, who suggested she start a new UMW circle for young women of Kemble. Acting on this advice, Molly gathered a group of 6 young ladies and the Faith Circle was born! Since the first meeting in January, 2012, membership has grown to 13, aged 20 and up. Elizabeth Cheshire is the current leader of the Faith Circle.

The group has been busy during the last 3 years. They have served as hostesses for the annual UMW May Dinner, the Prayer Breakfast, and Pitman Manor birthday parties. They made Christmas boxes for the Women's Shelter, sold \$500 worth of Joe Corbi's Pizzas and recently sold \$790 worth of Damask Easter candy. The proceeds from these fundraisers will support their future mission projects.



Left to right: Brenda Hufsey, Elizabeth Cheshire, Molly Aigner

The Faith Circle have set 3 goals for themselves in the coming years: (1) Welcome new members and young families into a friendly church environment; (2) Make the face of Kemble more

visible in Woodbury and surrounding communities; (3) Support mission projects that help the needy and underserved. Kemble appreciates the work of the Faith Circle, now and in the future.

Women!! Save the Date: May 4

All Kemble women are invited to attend the annual UMW May Dinner on Monday, May 4, 6:30 p.m. at the church. It will be catered by DePaolo of Penns Grove. The cost is \$12 per person, payable to the Silver Circle, Kemble Church.

In keeping with the theme, "Festival of Flowers", Raver Hall will be festooned with blossoms! Entertainment for the evening is by Synergy (Toni Benecki and Judy Skeels) who will present their hilarious program, "Menopause". Call 856-845-1627 or 856-848-4592 to reserve your place by April 30.

Knit Baby Hats for Inspira Medical Center! *(formerly Underwood Hospital)*

Knitters will be happy to know that baby hats for newborns leaving the hospital will now be donated to Inspira Medical Center in Woodbury.

For those who would like to get started right away, here is the pattern:
Using size 5 needles and sport weight yarn, cast on 76 stitches.

Knit in pattern (knit 2, purl 2) repeating across each row until piece measures 7 1/2 inches.
Decrease as follows:
(Knit 2 together, purl 2 together) repeating across row.
Next row: purl all stitches.
Next row: (knit 2 together) repeating across row.
Next row: purl all stitches
Next row: (knit 2 together) repeating across row.
Draw yarn through remaining stitches and gather together, forming top of hat.
Sew up side seam

Advanced knitters may wish to use a circular needle, working decreasing rows on double-pointed needles, thus eliminating the side seam.



Give completed hats to Mary Jane Warfle, who will deliver them to the hospital.

Support the CROP Walk May 3

The annual CROP Walk to end hunger benefits Church World Service, an organization that works with communities worldwide to determine the best solution to their challenges. Locally, the walk begins at Mantua UMC at 1 p.m. and finishes at St. Stephen's Episcopal in Woodbury.

How you can help:

1. Become a walker, and have others sponsor you.
2. Sponsor a walker by donating money.
3. Volunteer to staff a refreshment table along the route.

A small donation goes a long way:

+ \$12 can provide 200 micronutrient packets for malnourished children.

+ \$30 can drill one meter of a shallow borehole well, providing safe, clean water for a community

Register Your Child For Parents' Time Out

Director Normajeane McMichael is accepting registrations for PTO for the fall. Classes for children aged 6 months to 5 years will start September 10. PTO meets in the Sunday School rooms Monday-Friday 9 a.m. – noon. Lessons and activities focus on your child's educational, emotional and spiritual development. Classes are filling up, so register your child soon by calling the church office, 856-845-1627 and asking to speak to Normajeane.

Apply Now For Kemble Scholastic Assistance!

Members of Kemble Church enrolled in accredited post-secondary education programs may apply for assistance from the Kemble Scholastic Assistance Fund by submitting an application form by MONDAY, MAY 11. Application forms are available in the church office.

Members enrolled in all levels of post-secondary programs are eligible – certificate, associate, bachelor, master, doctor. Past recipients may apply again. Scholarship money will be sent directly to the institution, and not to the candidate who has received the award. All money must be utilized within a year of its being awarded.

Awards will be announced on Sunday, June 14. The Committee hopes that it can give three \$3000 scholarships but that will be determined by our investments and contributions. Questions may be addressed to Robert Catando at 856-848-8386 or Bunny Wilson at 856-845-3613.

Youth News

During a busy March, Kemble Youth joined youth from other churches nearby in the 30-hour Famine program. They raised money and collected food for the hungry locally, and packed 10,000 meals for delivery abroad. They also delivered the toiletry kits they had assembled to a homeless shelter in Camden. Finally, they enjoyed a Passover Seder.



Some of Kemble Youth at 30-hour Famine

Dawn Durkee Accepts New Position

Dawn Durkee has resigned her position as Youth Director to accept a full-time position as Director at Family Promise of Cumberland County in Bridgeton, an organization that helps homeless families meet the many challenges they face. We wish Dawn well as she begins this new opportunity! Pastor Mike and Ginny Kelly will lead the Youth Group until the summer break.

Youth Director Position Open

The job description for the Kemble Youth Director has been posted on the website, and is available at the church office. Applications are now being accepted for this paid, 20-hour per week position.

Sunday School News

On March 28, 2015, the Sunday School held its annual Walk to Golgotha and Easter Egg Hunt. All in attendance heard The Parable of the Lily by Liz Curtis Higgs, created paper lily flowers to take home, and planted real lily bulbs that will eventually be transplanted into the Prayer Garden at Kemble. The children also had the opportunity to experience what it must have felt like for Jesus to carry the cross to Golgotha, an experience they won't soon forget.



On Easter Sunday, the children of the Sunday School came together to start a new tradition called the Flowering of the Cross. During this event, the children placed silk flowers donated by Kemble's congregation onto the cross of Jesus. This symbolic gesture shows that "the cross of Christ is the new tree of life and that at Easter, every cross flowers with new life. Death has been defeated and Christ is risen. Alleluia!" The cross is now displayed in Fellowship Hall.

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Tracking Sunday Attendance

Progress on our goal of increasing Sunday worship attendance was impeded by winter weather in the first quarter of the year, but may quickly be reached now that better weather has arrived! In 2014, attendance in the first quarter averaged 155, whereas this year it averaged 149.



Summer Sunday School Notes:

On June 7, 2015, the summer session of Sunday School will begin. A multi-aged class will be held each Sunday at the 10am service for children ages 3 to grade 4. Nursery services will also be available. Students in grades 5 and up should attend the adult service with their families.

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2nd Annual Friends & Family Sunday: May 31

Bring your friends and family to services on Sunday, May 31. Both services will be dedicated to welcoming family, friends and visitors and will feature special music with choirs and instrumentalists. Coffee hour will be held between services at 9:30 and a complimentary lunch served after second service.

Men's Ministry Discipleship Group

At the April 6th meeting, about a dozen men, including two new members, attended an excellent meeting. We completed our discussion of the six marks of a Disciple: daily prayer, weekly worship, Bible reading, service, spiritual friendships, and giving. Discussion centered around challenging questions including, "How can both the leadership and those who worship in our congregation be mentored in effective spiritual practices?"

Two meetings remain before the summer break: Monday, May 4, and Monday, June 1. Pastor Mike will provide questions for discussion, continued readings in our text, *Power Surge*, and lead us in learning how to pray via the A.C.T.S. method. All Kemble men are invited to these last two sessions. We meet 7 – 8 p.m.

The group will lead the worship services on Father's Day, June 21, and will host the coffee hour following the second service.

Neighborhood Center News

In addition to its regular daily provision of meals to those in need, the Neighborhood Center in Camden provides an evening meal Monday-Thursday for the teens in its Leadership Academy. The Academy is one of the fastest growing programs at the Center, with its emphasis on character, leadership and a path to college, thanks to the Center's partnership with Rutgers Camden in this venture.

The Center is also proud to show off its refurbished indoor basketball court, baseball field and new soccer field which encourage youth to play, learn new techniques and make new friends. In addition to academics and athletics, its arts program is starting to blossom.



All who would like to learn more about the Center are invited to attend the annual luncheon on Saturday, May 2, at 12 noon at the Haddonfield Methodist Church. The cost is \$25. It will be

catered by the Center's Chef Lou's Catering. The menu will feature food from around the world, in keeping with the 2015 summer camp focus 'Around the World with the Neighborhood Center'. Speaker Dorothy Scott, the Center's Director of Education, will share plans for the children's Summer Camp at the Center. Proceeds from the luncheon will support the camp. To reserve your place at the luncheon, please contact Christa Galvin at Christa@ncicamden.com. For more information, contact Jane Butler at 856-545-6739 or see her after church!

P.S. Nineteen Kemble members attended the Neighborhood Center's recent fund raising gala at the Kove Restaurant in Audubon in February! Many thanks to all for helping make it a successful party!

In Remembrance

Esther Albertson Duncan, November 23, 2014

Thomas F. Lynch, March 8, 2015

Jill L. Johnson, March 28, 2015

The sympathies of the Kemble Church family are extended to the families of the deceased.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

May 10 – Mother's Day services to be led by UMW

May 17 – Confirmation Sunday

May 24 – Youth 'Invite a Friend' Sunday

May 31 – 2nd Annual Family and Friends Sunday

June 7 – Summer Sunday worship schedule begins; services at 8:30 and 10 a.m.

Kemble Memorial United Methodist Church
19 S. Broad Street
Woodbury, New Jersey 08096

Address Service Requested

(856) 845-1627
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
www.kembleumc.org

Senior Minister: Rev. Dr. Michael Harriott
Editors: Joan Zumoff and Grace Holdcraft

Sunday Services:
8:30 & 10:45 a.m.

Sunday School:
Nursery through 6th grade – 10:45 a.m.

Parents' Time Out:
Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.- noon

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Easter Sunrise

By M.J. Warfle

It was cold this Easter morning. The lake was dark and still.
I pictured a place called Golgotha, that haunting blood-soaked hill.
The majestic trees around me were reaching their arms toward the sky,
But I pictured the wood at Calvary, on which my Savior would die.
The geese glided onto the water with a trumpet sounding call.
And ,again, I was reminded that Christ died to save us all.

Then , the sun climbed over the horizon , and the light began to dawn,
And I seemed to hear from heaven a sweet, melodious song.
All nature seemed to come alive with the song that God had given,
Hallelujah! He's alive. Hallelujah ! He is risen.