

# The Honey Brook Grapevine



*Honey Brook  
United  
Methodist  
Church*

PO Box 178, 4510 Horseshoe Pike  
Honey Brook, PA 19344

Sundays  
9:00 a.m. Sunday School  
10:15 a.m. Worship  
Fellowship Time following Worship

**Church Office-----610-273-9548**

Pastor---Coleen Painter  
cell 610-291-1410  
Home-610-792-1489  
[collygay@gmail.com](mailto:collygay@gmail.com)

Pat Henry – Secretary  
Office Hours--Monday-Wednesday  
10:00 – 12:00  
Other times by appointment  
Church Office: 610-273-9548 Fax: 610-273-9549  
Church e-mail: [hbumc19344@verizon.net](mailto:hbumc19344@verizon.net)  
Church web site:  
[www.honeybrookmethodist.org](http://www.honeybrookmethodist.org)

Organist: Teresa DiPietro  
Choir Director: Ashley Rutt

Lay Leader: Jill Daly  
Delegate to Annual Conference:  
Jill Daly  
Treasurer: Faye Max  
Memorial Fund: Pat Henry  
Connecting Team Chairperson:  
Bert Rarick  
Membership Committee:  
Catherine Deshong  
Nurture Committee: Jean Refford  
Education Committee:  
Ethel Wingenfield (adults)  
Cathy Heagy (Children)  
Outreach Committee: Anne Wise  
Witness Committee: Karen Fellenbaum  
SPRC Chairperson: Jeff Heagy  
Finance Committee Chairperson:  
Byrnie Ellis-Ford  
Stewardship: Walter Labs  
Trustees Chairperson: Beverly Jackson  
Leisey Scholarship: Linda Leisey

Volume 4, Issue 1  
Fall 2014

## A New Parable of the Weeds

I know many of you are more experienced gardeners than I am, so you probably already know this; don't neglect to turn the compost pile once in a while.

My husband Mark and I have different ideas about what should go into the compost pile. He listens to Mike McGrath on NPR, who says never put weeds into the compost pile, because the seeds will sprout and the roots will take over when you use the compost in your garden. But I took the Penn State Extension Service's Master Gardener's course, where the soils agent's opinion was that weeds will grow wherever the soil will support it, and you're throwing away money if you send weeds to the landfill.

The result is that we have "his and hers" compost piles in our yard. Mark doesn't have much time to garden these days, but I keep his "clean" compost going for him.

For my weed pile, I had

one of Rick Ameisen's workers build me a compost-er out of pallets left from some landscaping pavers they used on our yard, following instructions from my Master Gardener textbook.

There is a science to composting; both Mike McGrath and the Penn State Extension Service teach that if you really want your compost to "cook" so that it breaks down into usable compost in a season, (and kill the seeds,) you need to get the right mix of "green" and "brown" compost. I'm supposed to have three composters like the one made from pallets to do this, but I don't have room, and I don't have time for that either. Even without the right mix, kitchen waste and plants will compost eventually if you give them

The  
Pastor's  
Corner

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## Report from Charge Conference

*I found it interesting, as I look over my Pastor's Reports for previous Charge Conferences, how it seems we follow a new theme each year. Some of the groundwork for this year's theme had been started by last year's Charge Conference, but now some of it is completed and the rest of it is well on the way.*

*This year we have been concentrating on making our congregation more welcoming and open to new people; much of that concerns our building, but some of it concerns our church program and life together.*

*First of all, I want to thank the Trustees for making me the envy of my peers, both United Methodist and Ecumenical, with the installation of an electronic sign for our church. This project was funded with a portion of the bequest that was given the church from the estate of Miss Jane Helms. I believe it has helped a great deal to raise our profile in the community.*

*Secondly, I want to thank Jill Daly for designing the renovation project going on in our downstairs dining room. She has presented us with a plan that will both solve some of the space and traffic-flow problems that we have been having at our church dinners, while also giving us a "coffee house" atmosphere that will make a very attractive space for various community and adult education programs. We got rid of a lot of furniture and other items that we no longer use and we took care of the most expensive piece of this project this summer. We had cabinets installed along the chimney wall, which has opened up that part of the room, making it more functional for our church dinners and other activities. These were funded through the Memorial Offerings given in memory of Midge Colley with a match from undesignated Memorial Funds by the Trustees. There is more to do on the project, and we will be seeking addition sponsorships of the other elements in the plan in order to get the project completed. Once it's done we're planning to do a coffee house with a jazz ensemble for the community as an opening event.*

*We finally have a website again! We have new URL; honeybrookmethodist.org. We hired Ran Birkins who is a member of Hope UMC in Douglassville to design and maintain the website. I want to thank Cathy Heagy for working with Ran to get the website up and running, and to the Trustees for supporting this project.*

*We took a risk in Worship this summer, and it worked out well for us. We dug out our old Contemporary Worship songs and added a few new ones. We used our screen and power points instead of a bulletin. Not only did most of the congregation stick with us, but we improved our summer attendance by about 4%. The thing we did differently this time that we kept the liturgical format of the United Methodist Church, and I believe that is why it did not split the church, like it did before. We also didn't throw the baby out with the bath water; people still had the opportunity to sing their favorite hymns. We've returned to a more traditional style for the fall, primarily because the Praise Team needs a break. We plan to hold a blended service once a month. If we can recruit more people to be on the Praise Team we can do it more often.*

*Children's Sunday School started last Sunday, and it is our plan to have two classes, not just one this year so that we can provide a more age appropriate experience for the youngest children in our church families.*

*I will be holding a New Member Class for six weeks this fall during the Sunday School hour, and so far I have 6 adults signed on to participate.*

*Continued on page 6*

## THE GIFT OF NEW LIFE

“My son might be dead. He should be dead.” At the very least, paralyzed. Those thoughts raced through Virgilio Maldonado’s mind as he dug through the big pile of bricks covering 10-year-old Denis. Frantically tossing rubble aside in the sweltering Honduran heat, Virgilio began to pray as he never had before. Denis had been playing in the basement of his family’s new home, overlooking an



idyllic valley in Barrio Santa Maria, Honduras. Virgilio and his wife hoped to raise their three youngest children there. But their dreams soon turned from the future to wondering if their son would even survive the day. Denis was passing by a freshly constructed wall, about 20 feet high, when it toppled over, burying the young boy under the heavy clay and concrete.

After his father freed him, Denis was rushed to a clinic 20 minutes away in Siguatepeque. He was stabilized, and transferred to a larger hospital in Tegucigalpa, another two hours from the family’s home.

Denis was in a coma, in critical condition. The doctors did not expect him to live.

The Maldonados asked their church to pray. Pastor Abraham Murillo and members of Iglesia Reformada in Siguatepeque faithfully started a prayer chain, and soon several churches in the region were crying out to the Lord to save Denis’ life. One day, as his parents kept vigil by the hospital bed, Virgilio’s sister called. Virgilio asked her to pray and held the phone to the boy’s ear. Suddenly, as she prayed, Denis opened his eyes for the first time in 15 days.

“He is a miracle,” Pastor Murillo said. “His life is a miracle.”

Still, Denis had a long road of healing ahead of him. He had fractured his skull and several bones in his leg, and he had to learn to walk and talk again.

He was several weeks into his long hospital stay when Pastor Murillo came to visit one day. Denis had missed a special event at the church. Iglesia Reformada had distributed shoebox gifts from Operation Christmas Child, the Samaritan’s Purse ministry that delivers good news and great joy to children around the world. Pastor Murillo saved one especially for Den-

*Continued on page 4*



In his box, Denis received crayons, a stuffed dog, a toothbrush, and other fun and useful presents.

“Also, they gave me a little book and in that little book I read the Good News [of Jesus Christ],” Denis said.

Pastor Murillo explained that God also sent another gift for everyone –salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. The shoebox was a representation of that free gift.

Denis had learned about Jesus before, but as the pastor shared with him about the gift of salvation and read him the Gospel booklet that is delivered with shoebox gifts, the words came to life for the boy. “Then, I knew that God is a big God, and understood what he wants for me through Jesus Christ,” Denis said. “I prayed for salvation and I opened my heart to Jesus. I know that Jesus came to my heart, and I felt so happy, and so much better because now I was saved.”

Denis said before his accident, he was lost. After understanding the story of salvation through the help of his shoebox and the Operation Christmas Child ministry partner who delivered it, he now calls Jesus his Lord.

Nearly three years after his accident, he walks with a barely noticeable limp. His doctors say he is fully healed, but Denis knows his healing was more than physical. It was also spiritual.

“Now I have Jesus in my heart,” he said. “I want to keep serving God because now I am a new person. I know that God made a miracle in my life and I am His son.”

Mark the correct age category:			<b>BOY</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	2-4 Years Old			
<input type="checkbox"/>	5-9 Years Old			
<input type="checkbox"/>	10-14 Years Old			
Mark the correct age category:			<b>GIRL</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	2-4 Years Old			
<input type="checkbox"/>	5-9 Years Old			
<input type="checkbox"/>	10-14 Years Old			

## NOVEMBER WORSHIP

November 2: Sacrament of Baptism and All Saints Sunday

November 9: Holy Communion and  
Recognition of Veterans

November 16: Contemporary Worship

November 23: Harvest Home Sunday,  
Ivan Stoltzfus preaching

November 30: First Sunday of Advent, Jill Daly preaching



### ...Weeds (continued from page 1)

enough time. So my plan was to have a big enough composter that I could keep throwing weeds in there for a very long time.

Problem was, the composter filled up a whole lot faster than I thought it would, I guess because of all the rain we had this summer. By the end of August, not only had I filled the pallet composter up, but it was mounded higher than my head.

I live in a development, and I doubted the homeowners covenant allows for haystacks, so I decided that I had better do something before the neighbors started complaining. Around the time our Sunday lectionary had me preaching on the "Parable of the Wheat and Tares", the weather broke, and I took a day to turn the compost. I reasoned that if I at least rearranged the weeds, they might fit back into the composter and at least

look neat for the winter.

So I got my pitchfork and started removing the weeds. About a third of the way down, I hit a layer of dirt. Last year I had to dig up a lot of my plants to make way for the pavers we were putting in. I had put them in pots and the ones that I didn't find places for when the project was finished (perennials need to be divided every so often anyway) had been thrown into the composter with their soil. I figured I had reached that layer, and that there would be more weeds underneath. So I got the shovel and began to dig. I dug, and dug, and kept digging. I never did hit a new layer of weeds. As I reached the bottom of the composter my mom showed up and asked "Where did you get that nice black loam?"

"From God," I guessed.

By the time I was done returning the top layer of weeds to the composter, it was about one third full. Plenty of room left for the rest of this season's weeds.

I think there is a spiritual metaphor in here somewhere. God makes good things come out of bad things. If we pull the weeds growing in our hearts and give them to God, God will turn them into something that gives back life. When we have had conflict in our lives or with one another, it behooves us to take a peek once in a while underneath the top layer. Don't just keep covering up the old hurts and anger. You might discover a blessing brewing below.

Don't forget to turn your compost once in a while!

*Pastor Coleen*

## DECEMBER WORSHIP

December 7: Hanging of the Greens  
with Lessons and Carols

December 14: The Children will bring the message

December 21: Reception of Members

December 24: Christmas Cantata

December 28: Christmas Hymn Sing



...Charge Conference (continued from page 2)

*We are doing a number of things in order to put us in a better financial position so that we can continue to grow our program and also address some of the major improvements and renovations that would need to be done in our church if it is to survive in this “post-modern” era, especially as relates to accessibility and parking. The Finance Committee and Trustees have met with a representative from the Mid-Atlantic United Methodist Foundation and are moving forward with a plan to better diversify our long-term investments so that they can provide a better return for our church and cemetery. I have investigated the process for the church to qualify for historical designation with the hope that will open opportunities to apply for substantial grants to help us with the things we need to do. This project is currently in the hands of Barbara Schoeber and the Honey Brook Historical Society, and if anyone knows where the architectural drawings of our church are located, we ask that you help us find them.*

*I want to thank Bert Rarick, Cathy Heagy, and Karen Fellenbaum for representing us on the Morgantown Area Connexion. The Connexion has been having trouble getting going, but Honey Brook is not the congregation that is holding them back—we understand the benefit of working together for the good of our community.*

*Over all, we have managed to keep ourselves in forward gear all year, and for that I am very thankful. It continues to be a pleasure to be your pastor and I look forward to seeing you finish all these important steps toward bringing your wonderful, historical building and organization into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.*

*Since last year’s Charge Conference I have officiated as the church received 1 new member, Elmer Plank, who is the oldest confirmand I expect that I will ever receive and this is probably a record for the Honey Brook United Methodist Church also, and I have conducted 3 funerals. I have been serving as Secretary for the United Methodist Metro Ministries, from which I resigned yesterday, and I continue to serve on the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference Board of Pensions, and am a member of their Health Insurance Committee. I am also chairperson of Pension’s Pre-funding Subcommittee, which has not met partly due to the fact that this past Annual Conference made a decisions that makes that subcommittee obsolete.*

*I would also like to thank Bishop Johnson and the Board of Ordained Ministry for approving my new Extension Ministry, which is to “On Track Behavioral Health Services.” This is a new group practice that one of my children’s therapists, her colleague and I are starting on our own that will provide Applied Behavior Analysis treatment to adults with disabilities. We are still in the organizing and planning phase of our practice, and intend to have our applications in to the 3 major government funding sources that provide services to adults with autism by the end of this year.*

*Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Coleen Brandt Painter, Pastor*

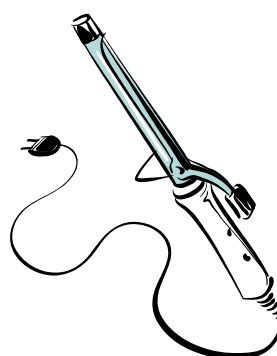


## Household Items

- Air Freshener
- Aluminum Foil
- Area Rugs
- Baking Pans - (non stick/not glass)
- Bathroom Rug Sets
- Bleach
- Can Openers
- Canister Storage Sets
- Casserole Dishes
- Clear Plastic Wrap
- Curtains/Drapes (Thermal Lined Sets) Neutral Color (84") Long
- Cutting Boards
- Dinnerware Sets
- Fabric Softener Sheets
- Floor Cleaner
- Food Storage Bags (Gallon Size)
- Food Storage Containers (Assorted Sizes)
- Full Size Comforter Sets
- Full Size Mattress Covers
- Kitchen Utensils - Spatulas, Lg. Knives, Sm. Knives, Lg. Cooking Spoons,
- Laundry Baskets
- Laundry Detergent
- Measuring Cups
- Measuring Spoons
- Mixing Bowls
- Mops
- Mr. Clean Magic Erasers
- Paper Towels\*
- Pillow Protectors (Bed Bug)
- Pot/Pan Sets
- Shower Caddies
- Shower Curtain Hooks
- Shower Curtains & Plastic Liners
- Silverware Sets
- Small Trash Cans

At Christmastime, we will be collecting items to support Clare House, a women's shelter in Lancaster. These are some of the things they need:

- Thermal Lunch Bags
- Trash Bags
- Twin Bed Protectors (Bed Bug)
- Twin Size Mattress Covers
- Twin Sized Comforter Sets
- Under bed storage containers w/ lids



## Personal Items

- Baby Monitors
- Diapers Size 4-5
- Face Wash and Moisturizer
- Feminine Hygiene Items
- Flash Drives
- Gift Cards (UGI, Home Depot, Giant, Weis, WalMart, etc.)
- Golf Umbrellas
- Hair Gel
- Hair Spray
- Mouthwash
- Pull-Ups: Larger (4T-5T)
- Rain Ponchos
- Razors
- RRTA Bus Passes (10 trip)
- Shaving Cream
- Small Umbrellas
- Soap Holder
- Toothbrush Holder

We will also be collecting warm clothing for men, such as socks, gloves, undershorts & shirts, etc. These will be given to the Salvation Army.



*Rear, from left: Rev. Mutwale Mushidi, Anne Wise, Amber Delikat, Betty Ranck, Pat Henry, Shirley Sweigart, Joyce Rock, Mary Jane Troyer. Front: Kabaka Alphonsine*

## **HBUMC welcomes missionaries from Tanzania**

On October 13, 2014, Honey Brook UMC welcomed the Rev. Mutwale Ntambo Wa Mushidi and his wife Kabaka Ndala Alphonsine for lunch and an update on their work in Tanzania.

The Mushidis last visited us in 2012, where they told of being sent by their Bishop from the Democratic Republic of Congo in 1992 to build a United Methodist presence in Tanzania from scratch. We heard about crossing the river amidst hippopotami, and killing a snake that tried to invade their new parsonage, which the neighbors considered haunted. Rev. Mushidi is now the Bishop's assistant in Dar es Salaam, and is working to build a United Methodist school as well as offices for the Tanzania Provisional Conference. Through the work of the Mushidis and their colleagues, the United Methodist Church is growing throughout the country, and they expect to be granted full Annual Conference status at the 2016 General Conference session. Kabaka talked about her work in the pre-school they have opened for children who have been orphaned by HIV/AIDS and her continuing work to teach women marketable skills, such as sewing, to support their families.

Many thanks to Amber Delikat for providing a wonderful luncheon for this event.

If you would like to support the ministry of the Mushidis or any of our United Methodist missionaries throughout the world, information is available through the General Board of Global Ministries website: <http://www.umcmision.org>, or from Pat or Pastor Coleen in the church office.



*Obrigado!*



...to our choir and Witness Committee for a WONDERFUL Sacred Concert held September 28, 2014. More than 80 people were present to hear your witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ through music.

...to all those who helped clear out the basement Dining Room and remodel in time for our August Peach Festival. If you would like to help us finish this project, see Jill Daly or Bert Rarick.

...to all those who volunteered to make the Peach Festival a big success.

...to our faithful quilting ladies for supporting our General Fund and special projects "stitch by stitch."

...to all who support the church through their tithes and offerings. We depend on your regular envelope offerings, as well as the special offerings at Thanksgiving and Christmas to keep the witness going!

...for supporting the United Methodist Committee on Relief, our clinics in Liberia and our witness in Palestine through the General Board of Global Ministries.

...for those who have signed up to support the Honey Brook United Methodist Church through [umcmarket.org](http://umcmarket.org). Information about how to do this is available from the church office.

...for those who teach in our Sunday School which is growing year by year.

...for the children who bless us with their presence and energy.

—We have so much to be thankful for!