

## Welcome Jody Swan as the New Church School Coordinator!

SPR is happy to welcome Jody Swan to the staff of SUMC as the Church School Coordinator. Jody and her family are already members of our church, and she sings with the CAYA music team at our 9:00 service. Jody will be a great fit for the role and brings many great qualities to the position. She has experience managing volunteers and has a strong foundation in faith.

Jody's goal is to make our church school program an inviting and vibrant ministry where children from surrounding towns can experience God and grow in His word in a safe and fun environment – a place where children feel connected in the classroom as well as in church community.

Please take a moment to read Jody's welcome "hello" to the church on page 8.

~ Jennifer Acheson, SPR Chair

## The Strawberry Festival Returns!

Our annual Strawberry Festival will be held on the front lawn after the joint 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, June 11. Plan to bring the family and enjoy hot dogs, strawberries, ice cream, and homemade shortcake.

We need volunteers to prepare strawberries and make the shortcake on Saturday morning. On Sunday, we will need helpers to move and set up tables and chairs, grill hot dogs, scoop ice cream, etc. Please sign up on sheet by kitchen door in Wesley Hall or contact Mary Gridley (860.651.0805 or [gridleymary@gmail.com](mailto:gridleymary@gmail.com)) or Marilyn Webber (860.658.2422).

## Annual Men's Fellowship Golf Outing

This year's golf outing will be held at the Simsbury Farms golf course starting at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 17.

It's an 18-hole scramble format so golfing ability is optional. Even Pastor Woody plays! The outing will be followed by a barbeque with lots of food and drinks. There are even prizes. We are dedicating this year's outing to Ed Dudley, who loved playing this tournament every year. Come out and have some fun and laughs and celebrate Ed's legacy. Contact Rudy Maurer if you'd like to join us.

## Important Dates

**June 3, 17:** Safe Sanctuaries training, 9:00 a.m. – noon

**June 4:** Pentecost; 30-mile and 14-mile bike rides, 1:00 p.m.

**June 5:** Deadline to send graduation notices to the office

**June 5:** Men's Book Club at Doug Morehouse's home, 7:00 p.m.

**June 7-10:** NY Annual Conference

**June 10:** Days for Girls Workshop, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**June 10:** SpiritGifts Workshop, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**June 11:** Combined service at 10:00 a.m. with recognition of graduates; Strawberry Festival at 11:00 a.m.; 2:00 p.m. hike with Pastor Woody

**June 17:** Men's golf outing, 12:30 p.m.

**June 18:** Father's Day; 2:00 p.m. hike with Pastor Woody

**June 25:** 2:00 p.m. hike with Pastor Woody

**June 28:** deadline to submit items for summer *Messenger*

**July 1:** ASP youth mission group departs

## Pastor's Page

Again the nightly news brings us pictures of terror events happening in our world. This time the pictures came from Manchester, England where a man killed himself in order to harm and kill children and youth attending a concert. What drives a person to act in this way is probably beyond our comprehension. We cannot fathom what thoughts go through the mind of someone willing to carry out such a horrific act. And we are left wondering why, but also wondering how to respond.

Do we strike out in anger against people "like" him? Do we limit the freedom we and others enjoy in the hopes of finding protection from such acts? What do we do?

My advice would be that we all avoid fixating on the evil doer; look instead at the goodness of humanity. Look at the first responders who rushed to the scene risking their own lives in order to help those in need. Look at the medical staff (many in Manchester happen to be Muslims) who spent hours caring for the injured. Look at the long lines of people waiting to donate blood and money. Look at the thousands who are doing good things rather than at the few who do evil because this is where we experience the presence of God.

I wish that I knew how to address the evil of terrorism in our world to make it stop. I have no solution. But I do know that fighting evil with evil simply allows evil to multiply. We need instead to set our hearts and minds of the goodness of life as expressed in acts of kindness and love. These are the weapons with which we must address evil if we are ever to overcome it.

~ *Pastor Woody*

## Pastors Are Like Firefighters

Pastors are like firefighters, rushing from one crisis to another — no sooner do they put out one fire than they are called to another one across town. But people need care long after the fire is out and the fire truck has moved on. That is where our Stephen Ministers come in. They come alongside and walk with people for as long as needed—to listen, care, pray, and extend God's hand of mercy and grace. By equipping laypeople as Stephen Ministers to provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care through Stephen Ministry, we help our pastors ensure that hurting people receive the care they need.

From the Stephen Ministry website.

***To find out more about how a Stephen Minister can help you during a crisis, contact Pastor Woody or Pastor Peter (860.651.3356) or Linda Swearingen, Referrals Coordinator (860.651.6250).***

~ *Charlotte Ray*

## Got Grads This Year?

We'll be recognizing our SUMC graduates during the 10:30 service on **Sunday, June 11.**

If you have a high school, college, or other adult-education graduate that you would like listed in the bulletin, please contact the office with the information (grad's name, school, and relationship to SUMC member) by June 5.



## Take a Hike!

We are truly blessed to live in a community with so many options for experiencing God's creation. Pastor Woody began leading nature walks on May 14, and they continue on most Sundays (meet at the church at 2:00 p.m.) as weather permits. (We don't hike in the rain!)

No need to RSVP – just meet up in the SUMC parking lot and we'll carpool to the hiking locale. (Leashed dogs welcome.)

## Ramadan Open House

Over 1.5 billion Muslims around the world marked the start of the Holy month of Ramadan on May 27. Ramadan is a month of intense prayer, dusk-to-dawn fasting, and nightly worship. The fast is intended to bring the faithful closer to God and to remind them of the suffering of those less fortunate. Ramadan is a time to detach from worldly pleasures and focus on one's inner self.

The community is invited to the Farmington Valley American Muslim Center (FVAMC), 35 Harris Road, Avon, for a Ramadan Open House on Sunday, June 11, from 7:00-9:30 p.m. Come learn about Ramadan, meet Muslims, experience breaking of the fast with dates and water and enjoy food from around the world. Dinner will be served at 8:30. The program will start at 7:00. Admission is free. RSVP is required by calling 860.673.9630.

## Prayers and Condolences

Our condolences are extended **Joyce Driscoll and Lewis Farrar**, and their families following the death of their father, **Guy Otis Farrar**, on April 25 at the age of 96. A funeral service was held at Canton Baptist Church.

Our condolences are extended **Lois Rommel and Pam Currier**, and their families following the death of their daughter & sister, **Lisa Rommel**, on May 4. A memorial service will be held at SUMC on June 3 at 2:00 p.m., followed by a reception in Wesley Hall.

Our condolences are extended to **Rita and Bruce Hale**, and their families following the death of Rita's father, **Frank Rancioles**, on May 14 at the age of 92. He was buried in Stewartstown, New Hampshire, where he resided.

Our condolences are extended to **Pat Dudley**, and her family following the death of her husband, **Edward Dudley**, on May 20. A funeral service was held at SUMC on May 24.

Our condolences are extended to **Jim and Charlotte Ray**, and their families following the death of his mother, **Beverly Louise Arnold Ray**, who died on May 21 at the age of 95. A memorial service was held on May 25 in Memphis, TN where she resided.

Our condolences are extended to the family and friends of **Phillip Schnell**, who died on May 23. A memorial service was held at SUMC on May 28.

## Birth Announcement

Our congratulations are extended to Megan and Ryan Reese on the birth of their daughter, Willa Drew Reese in late May. She joins her older sister Harper and all are doing well.

## New York Annual Conference

This year's annual conference held at Hofstra University on Long Island runs June 7-10. In addition to Pastor Woody, this year's delegates that will be attending are Deb Clifford and Bill & Leslie Kirkwood. Please hold them all in prayer as they head to conference to participate on behalf of SUMC.

## Peace with Justice Sunday June 11

Peace with Justice Sunday is one of the six Special Sundays of The United Methodist Church. This offering enables The United Methodist Church to have a voice in advocating for peace and justice through a broad spectrum of global programs and supports peace-related ministries around the world. Please look for the special offering envelope in the June 11 bulletins. Thank you for any amount you are able to give.

## Adult Spiritual Growth Opportunities

*Many of our classes are winding down in June as we prepare for summer vacations. The Adult Spiritual Growth Committee offers our sincere thanks on behalf of our congregation to everyone who shared the gift of teaching this year!*

### ***SpiritGifts One-Day Workshop***

*Saturday, June 10*

An exciting one-day workshop is coming to SUMC on Saturday, June 10 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Barn. SpiritGifts is a group workshop of exploration and self-discovery by looking at how to find meaning and joy in life, what God's plan and purpose is in your life, your special gifts and abilities, and how you can use your unique gifts for others. The workshop will provide a biblical foundation for understanding spiritual gifts and their importance to the church as the body of Christ. You'll work with others to discover one another's gifts and begin to recognize where God is calling you to focus your time, talents, and energies. The approximate cost will be \$20, which includes lunch and workshop materials. Please call or email Pastor Peter for more information or to register and pre-order participant materials.

### ***Letting Go, Letting God: A Creative Spiritual Journey***

*Friday, September 29, and Saturday, September 30*

SUMC women, mark your calendars for what is sure to be a memorable retreat experience! Music, poetry and art are among the most precious gifts we have received from our Creator. Join us for a weekend apart as we quiet our hearts and minds and let the Spirit in. This weekend is about process, not product, so you don't need to be "creative" to attend. Look for more information and registration forms in mid-June.

### ***Fellowship Opportunity: Bike Ride for Adults & Teens***

*Sunday, June 4*

There are two options for this ride on Sunday June 4. We will all meet at the corner of Route 10 and Floydville Road in Granby and roll out at 1:00 p.m. Everyone will head north on a friendly ride on the very flat, yet very scenic Rail Trail (Green Way) to Red Riding Hood's Basket near the Congamond Lakes.

Some of us will stop for a break and tasty snacks and will then return to the starting point. Lori Garcia will lead this 14 mile round-trip ride at a relaxed pace. Bring a sack lunch if you like and/or a few dollars for food at the rest stop.

The longer option, led by Rodolfo Garcia, will be to continue north on the roads and cover a round-trip of 30-40 miles of the Farmington Valley on mixed terrain at a more spirited pace. If you are an experienced rider, this one's for you.

We will re-group if necessary and no one will be left behind! Sign up for either ride in Wesley Hall.

### ***Sunday 10:30 Class Continues***

The Sunday 10:30 a.m. class will continue its study of *Moses* by Adam Hamilton on the following dates: May 28, June 4, and June 18. The class will not meet on June 11.

~ Lori Garcia, Chairperson

## Appalachian Service Project Team

During the first week of July, 14 people will be travelling from Simsbury to St. Paul, Virginia to serve the people there by working with them through a national organization to improve their housing. We were in West Virginia last year; this year we will be in WestERN Virginia, and still in the mountains where we are still needed! We won't have our actual work assignments until we get there, but we expect to be doing construction projects that may include such things as rough carpentry work, dry wall/painting, roofing, or other general repair items. And just as important, we'll also be 'building' relationships with the people there (and each other) by showing them the love of God in action.

Please pray for each our team members by name. They are:

### Returning Veterans:

- Aly Vasquez
- Dennis Jacobs
- Rebecca & Sidney Kelsey
- Robin & Lauren Dankyi-Ampadu
- Pastor Peter
- Zachary LePage

### New to the Project:

- Amber Bourgault
- David & Melissa Hollander
- Deb Clifford
- Marjorie Van Dusen
- Mary Beth Karpe

Our Trip is from July 2 - 8. During this time please pray for:

- Safe Travels
- Great Team-Building
- Relationships with other ASP-ers
- Friendships with the people who live in St. Paul
- Freedom from on-the-job injuries
- Personal growth in our closeness to God
- Anything else that is on your heart!

If you would like to be a daily prayer partner for a team member during the trip, please contact Pastor Peter.

Some members of our team were able to go on this trip this year through the generosity of scholarship dollars provided by Some of You at home. Others who are not going to Virginia have worked hard on logistics to send the team there.

Thank you all for your support & many blessings!

~ *Pastor Peter*

## Summer Newsletter Deadline

Please email items for the July/August issue of the newsletter to [hryan@snet.net](mailto:hryan@snet.net) by June 28, 2017. Please remember that there is only one summer issue of the newsletter. The next issue will be the September edition.



## Circles

The next meeting of the Susanna Circle will be the end of the year potluck on Tuesday, June 13, at 6:00 p.m. (instead of the usual 7:00 p.m.) at Jan Baker's home, 77 Maple Avenue, Bloomfield. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share if you can, and if you can't, come anyway! There is always more than enough food and we are more interested in your company than in what you bring. For information, contact Rolene Johnson at [halandrolene@gmail.com](mailto:halandrolene@gmail.com), 860.658.0634 or 860.305.8171.



On Saturday, May 13, Angela Church (in costume, in photo at right) led the Susannas on a very interesting tour of the Simsbury Cemetery.

The **Rachel Circle** will meet 9:30 on June 14 in the Annex.

The **Rebekah Circle** will meet on June 13 at noon in the Annex Living Room. Call Jane Welchel at 860.658.7356 for details.

**Prayers and Squares Quilters** will meet on June 6 and June 16 at 1:00 in the Annex Upper Room.

## SUMC Prayer Shawls

Whatever the weather, prayer shawls are always a comfort.

Summer sun and sand aren't ideal knitting conditions but if you plan to spend time in air-conditioning during the summer season, please consider knitting or crocheting prayer shawl. The SUMC Prayer Shawl Ministry has yarn and directions. Contact Carol Bressor ([cbressor@gmail.com](mailto:cbressor@gmail.com)) or Carrie Houghton ([choughton123@yahoo.com](mailto:choughton123@yahoo.com)) for more information.

## Men's Book Club

The next book that the group will be discussing is George Orwell's "1984" written over 60 years ago but still relevant today. Written in 1948, "1984" was George Orwell's chilling prophecy about the future. And while 1984 has come and gone, his dystopian vision of a government that will do anything to control the narrative is timelier than ever. All men are welcome. The next book discussion is scheduled for Monday, June 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Doug Morehouse.

## Days for Girls Workshop

SUMC Days for Girls makes washable, sustainable menstrual kits for adolescent girls in Ghana and Uganda. Kits are cut, sewn, and assembled by volunteers at monthly workshops. Volunteers (men, women, and youth are all welcome!) can trace, cut, serge, sew, and assemble; sewing experience is not needed—there is something for everyone! The next workshop will be held on **Saturday, June 10 from 9:00 am—3:00 pm** in Wesley Hall. Contact Jan at [bakerjan@aol.com](mailto:bakerjan@aol.com) or 860.242.8620 with questions.

## Guiding Light Orphans (GLO) GLO-Fest Returns!

Guiding Light Orphans (GLO), our 2016 Volunteers in Mission (VIM) Trip host, is holding another GLO-Fest fundraising event on Saturday, June 17 from 5:30-9:00 pm at Tower Ridge Country Club, 140 Nod Road, Simsbury, with a BBQ dinner, music, and silent auction. All proceeds go towards stocking medicines and supplies for the clinic in Masindi, Uganda and towards continued support GLO's community health programs. The event's theme is Empowering Women through Healthcare, with Emcee Yvonne Davis from Fox 61, Keynote Speaker Kathy McAfee, and entertainment once again by the Preiser & O'Brien Band! Tickets are \$65 for adults/\$16 for children 4-12, and may be purchased online at [www.GLO-FEST.com](http://www.GLO-FEST.com).

## Sunday School/Church School at SUMC

At the service on May 14, SUMC recognized Debbie Beckius as she “retired” from her position as Church School Coordinator and welcomed Jody Swan as the new Coordinator. Thus it seems natural that we provide some history of the Sunday School/Church School at SUMC. Finding older records are always a challenge, but we have some insight from various periods of time to provide some perspective of the operation and changes over time.

The history of the church goes back to its first quarterly meeting held in 1818 when there was no church building or any specific minister. This was during the time of the itinerant Methodist ministers traveling by horseback to different communities holding services so they were not in Simsbury on any regular basis. The church had been formed as a Methodist Society and would meet in various members' homes and other buildings with lay leaders leading the prayers and service when there was no minister in town. The start of the change to a more structured service and a church building are tied to the arrival of Joseph Toy in town from England. The following gives a little history about him before he arrived as written by one of his daughters: “At the age of nineteen my father passed the religious crisis of his life, and his conversion was thorough and complete. He united with the Wesleyan church, and threw himself with all the ardor of his nature into its Christian work. He was very active in the social meetings, and showed such decided talent in that line that he was soon appointed a class-leader. He was also a teacher in the Sunday School, where he showed such aptitude for the work as to incline him to the profession of teaching as a vocation. He became Superintendent of the Sunday School, and was soon licensed to preach, receiving an appointment as local preacher on a circuit.”

Upon his arrival in Simsbury in 1838, Toy’s primary job was to take over the lead at what became the Toy, Bickford Co., but he also immediately started holding services around the area. He also led the effort to build the first church building which also included obtaining a regular minister – though still shared with other near-by Methodist Societies. With the completion of the first church building in 1840, appointments of ministers started on a regular basis as well as the organized services – including Sunday School.

Again from the account by his daughter is some further accounting of the time of the early church and her father’s involvement: “In 1844 my father served as pastor of the Simsbury church, giving his services that the church might free itself from debt, which it did. He conducted during all those years a Bible class of ladies in the Sunday School, by whom he was greatly appreciated and beloved. The Sabbaths of those early days were far from being ‘days of rest’ to my father and mother. They were obliged to rise early to get the family ready for church, leaving home at about half-past nine for the two-mile ride to Hopmeadow. Then the two services with Sunday School between, and the drive home occupied the time till four p.m. Then my mother had to prepare the warm supper, and when all was over it was nearly time for the evening prayers, which were never omitted. Not until the restless children were in bed and soothed to sleep by the sweet hymns she used to sing to us, was there a moment of quiet rest for the dear mother. My father at that time always drove to Hopmeadow for the evening service, and later one or two of the older children were allowed to go with him. In pleasant weather, when my father was absent on his preaching tours, my mother would take such of the children as were old enough, and walk to church on Sabbath mornings, leaving the little ones with her friend Mrs. Whitehead.”

The reference to Mrs. Whitehead has a direct connection to the Sunday School as her husband, William H. Whitehead served as Superintendent of the Sunday School from 1865 to 1905 – 40 years! To understand the structure of the Sunday School at that time, the biggest change was the leadership of Sunday School were elected positions (and also all men!). From the records of the Sunday School, on March 15, 1885, the following were elected: William H. Whitehead - Sunday School Superintendent; W. W. Clark - Assistant Sunday School Superintendent; Ralph Case - Treasurer; William Weed - Librarian; Nelson Brown - Assistant Librarian; and Joseph R. Ensign - Secretary. In this same year, there were 11 classes with the following teachers: Henry M. Livingston, James Reid, Ralph Case, W. A. Stocking, Mrs. William H. Whitehead, Mrs. R. H. Ensign, Mrs. Ralph Case, Mrs. John Phelps, Miss Kate Stocking, Mrs. J. A. Simms, and Mrs. Aaron Eno (note: Women were in the roles as teachers, but at this time they were known by their husband’s name).

***The article continues on the next page.***

## Sunday School, *continued from previous page*

Records during these earlier times were kept in a formal Sunday School Secretary's Record Book (see photo of 1894 one, at right), where details such as all officers, classes, teachers, students, addresses (were only identified as areas/streets at that time as no house numbers existed), attendance, and weekly Sunday School collections (on a given Sunday in the late 1800s, this amounted to less than a dollar). Students were identified as scholars in these records and the materials used by the teachers other than the Bible were obtained and maintained by the librarians.



The church was growing in these early years with membership noted as 103 members in 1882; 202 members in 1894; and 210 members in 1908. To show the significance of the Sunday School, in 1908, the Sunday School membership was 150. There was one service held during these years at 10:45 with Sunday School afterwards at 12:00. A Home Department under the leadership of Mrs. Hamm was added to the Sunday School in 1895 to serve members who were unable to attend church for various reasons. For the regular classes, they started with what was termed the "Cradle Roll" for infants and continued through all grade levels through high school, but also included various adult classes. In certain points of time, classes were held for specific groups that were affiliated with the church including Camp Fire Girls and Boy Scouts. Adult classes were also part of this with both men's and women's classes as well as a joint M&W class. Rally Day was similar to our current ones in September with a specific emphasis for Sunday School with post cards sent out to the youth (see photo of 1912 postcard at left). During these early Rally Days, Bibles were presented to some of the members of the Junior Department and diplomas given to the children who were graduating from the Cradle Roll group to now join the Beginners Class. Regular meetings of the Sunday School Board were held to discuss any needs and actions, which included more than just the leaders. A record from a meeting in 1924 had 16 members in attendance.



The youth also presented a play or did songs, readings & recitations. In 1950, a historical skit was presented by children who were descendants of early families from SUMC history. Each related a part of the history when their ancestors were involved. Some excerpts provide some insight into their personal family involvement in the church: Bobby Darling said: "Well, Joseph Toy was the first one of my ancestors to be connected with this church. He belonged to the Wesleyan Church in England, so when he came here in 1838 he immediately joined the Methodist fellowship." Oliver Tuller related about the early Methodist start in Simsbury: "Yes indeed, there were Methodists - both in Simsbury and West Simsbury, then known as Farms Village. My grandfather Tuller told me that Methodists were organized in Farms Village first. They held their services at the house at that time next to the present Tuller homestead. That house was built by a Tuller, too, but it was once occupied by a preacher known as 'Priest Goddard.' Rev. Curtis Goddard worked in the gristmill during the week and on Sundays conducted the services. They held their first official 'Quarterly Meeting' as it was then called in the schoolhouse in Farms Village in 1818." Note: Charlotte Bidwell Bacon was one of the children in this play so ask her about her memory of it.

There are not detailed records for every year so it is not known when the transition of the name from Sunday School to Church School occurred, but there is a record from 1960 when it is now Church School. During that year, John Wiles was the Church School Superintendent, Mrs. Harold Tonseth was the Chairman of the Education Commission, Mrs. Thomas Seery was the Nursery Superintendent, and Mr. Melvin Roberts was the Youth Superintendent. So SUMC continues the legacy of Sunday School from its earliest days with its current Church School. This Church School will continue to evolve like it has over its history and new stories will be added to the archives.

~ Jim Ray, SUMC Historian





# Church School News

## ***Greeting from the New Church School Coordinator***

Hello! I would like to introduce myself to those who don't know me. My name is Jody Swan, and I live here in town with my husband Steve and two boys: Noah (13) and Cameron (11). We have been attending SUMC for six years. I am excited to be a part of our children's ministry as the Church School Coordinator. I want to extend a warm thank you to Debbie Beckius for her service over the years! I look forward to working with her during my transition into the position. I also look forward to meeting the children and parents I have not yet met.

My immediate plan is to include some summer fun into our Church School for lesson and activities for 3-10-year olds. As we get closer to summer, please check the church website or the weekly eblast for more up to date information. Another area of focus in the upcoming months is gathering a group to "brain storm" and share ideas on the future and the wonderful possibilities that we have for the church school here at SUMC! I'm looking forward to a fun summer! (Read on to see what's in store this summer.)

~ Jody Swan

## ***Summer Activities for Children***

On **June 4 and June 11**, children are welcome to participate in activities including working with soil and making decorations for our upcoming Vacation Bible School. These activities will take place during the 10:30 service, after the pastor's time for children.

**Summer Sunday School** will be held on **July 9, 16, 23, 30**, and **August 6 and 13** during the 9:30 service. There will be stories, crafts, and games intended for children preschool age through 4<sup>th</sup> grade in Creative Cove.

Parents and caregivers, soon you will receive a short survey via email from our new church school coordinator, Jody Swan. Please take a few moments to fill it out. ☺

## ***Safe Sanctuaries Training***

There will be Safe Sanctuaries training sessions on **Saturday, June 3**, from 9:00 a.m. to noon and on **Saturday, June 17**, from 9:-00 a.m. to noon in Wesley Hall. If you work with children in any capacity at SUMC, plan on attending one of these sessions. Michelle Ebert will be facilitating. Please contact Michelle in the church office at 860.651.3356 to let her know which session you will be attending.

## ***Vacation Bible School***

This year's Vacation Bible School theme is *Cokesbury's Hero Central: Discover Your Strength in God!* VBS will be held **Monday, June 19 – Friday, June 23**, 9:00 a.m. - noon at First Church of Christ, just down the road. Registration concluded on May 28. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Cole, Church School Director at First church, at [ccole@fccsimsbury.org](mailto:ccole@fccsimsbury.org).



## June 4 is Pentecost

One of the principal days of the Christian year, Pentecost is celebrated on the 50<sup>th</sup> day after Easter.

Pentecost is the day on which the Christian Church commemorates the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and others who were assembled that day in Jerusalem. It marks the beginning of the Christian Church and the proclamation of its message throughout the world. It is often referred to as the birthday of the church.

Check Pentecost out in the Bible:  
Acts 2: 1-21

*~ From the umc.org website*

**This newsletter is published 10 times a year by  
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