

THE OPEN DOOR

United Methodist Church of the Open Door - Kennett Square

Newsletter

Coming Up in Worship

New Sermon Series:

Season of Change

Oct. 2nd - World Communion Sunday

Oct. 9th - Coming Out Sunday -
Special Guest: Jonathan E. Rodriguez- Cintron

Oct. 16th - Animal Blessing -
Pastor Lydia preaches - Outside worship

Oct. 23rd - Hispanic Heritage Sunday - Pastor Lydia preaches

Becoming Equipped to Serve :

Join Deacon Deborah on October 29th @ Hopewell UMC for free Poverty Simulation. Applications are on Welcome table in Harrison Hall. RSVP, ASAP.

Family Promise- Please mark your calendar for UMCOD support service with Kennett Friends:

Dec 25-Jan 1, 2016
March 26-April 2, 2017
June 25-July 2, 2017
Sept. 24-Oct 1, 2017

A Word from the Pastor...

We had a great Open House/Welcome Back Sunday this week was so much fun and full of the Spirit. Thanks so much for all of you who helped to make it amazing. As we continue in this Season of Change, I want to invite you to do something for me. Sometimes, there might be things that make you disoriented and fill you with questions. When those questions come or when ideas to make things better come to you, please, please talk to your pastor! I have an open door/open phone/open email policy. I would love to hear from you. Your ideas, your energy, your passion is what we need to make Open Door everything that God calls it to be. Remember we are all about building the kin-dome of God when we prepare to assess and add ideas. Follow these simple rules that Wesley left us:

1. **Do No Harm:** Ask yourself these questions: Am I acting from a place of scarcity or fear which can lead to doing harm? Is what I'm about to say harm or hurt someone?
2. **Do All the Good that You Can:** What can I do today that will show the love of God to someone?
2. **Stay in Love with God:** God's love is the central piece of our lives. Anything that moves us away from God's love or that doesn't display God's love is what we measure our lives with. We are the Church of the Open Door, let's live up to our name!!

Peace,

Pastor Lydia





Opportunities to Get Involved!

Together for Education, a non-profit organization working with the Kennett Consolidated School District is looking for volunteers who can provide 30-60 minutes per week to work with all age groups (K - 8th grade) in reading, math, writing, or science. You can request the day, time, grade level, and subject. No experience is needed. Assistance with getting clearances provided. To connect contact: Jennifer Lewis at: 484- 899-0718 or jlewis@tfed.org, or visit: TogetherForEducation.org

Kennett After School Association - After - The - Bell - Kennett Middle School: Chaperones are needed for activities @ the Kennett Y, 1-2 hours for 6 weeks, Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday starting in September. To connect contact: Kathleen Meehan Do, Ex. Director @ 610-268-5889, cell - 484-653-7426, or www.AfterTheBell.org

Good Neighbors- Good Neighbors target date Project October 15th with West Grove UMC. Contact information to janicesemail2@gmail.com.

Project C.U.R.E (Commission on Urgent Relief and Equipment) located in the Mid-Atlantic Distribution Center (near Dansko), 8 Federal Road, West Grove, PA, collects medical supplies for distribution around the world (www.projectcure.org). Needed: crutches, wheel chairs, walkers, ect. They cannot provide pickup. Volunteers are also needed to help sort and pack.

“Staying the course to a Beloved Community”

As a faith community committed to being intentionally diverse and inclusive, the Inclusive Social Ministry for Solidarity (I.S.M.S.) continues to provide forums on social issues that call us to labor intensively through challenging and uncomfortable issues in pursuit of what makes for peace and justice for all.

In the midst of daily news on deadly police force against black men and women, and gender terrorism, on October 13th I.S.M.S. will host Bryan Stevenson’s TED Talk, “We need to talk about an injustice” at Church of the Open Door. A resource information station will be in place in Harrison Hall to acknowledge National Domestic Violence month. On Oct.9th, Celebration Worship at Church of the Open Door will acknowledge National Coming Out Day, candidate for ministry; **JONATHAN E RODRÍGUEZ-CINTRÓN** will bring the message.

To foster education, understanding, and advocacy, the I.S.M.S. team is creating a “Justice for All” bulletin board in Harrison Hall highlighting: **National Coming Out Day - Oct.11th, National Latino/Hispanic Heritage Month - Sept. 15th - Oct. 15th, and National Latino HIV/AIDS Awareness Day - Oct.15th.**

Submitted by Deacon Deborah
Outreach Mission Coordinator

Welcome to Church of the Open Door!!

Our Faith Community...invites and nurtures individuals into a relationship with Jesus Christ lives and grows in a **spirit of openness and caring** to all people, **seeks transformation** for ourselves & our communities **into God's image** and strives to be **intentionally diverse** and inclusive - racially, culturally, economically, in gender and sexual orientation.

Our Core Values...spiritual growth, Pursuit of peace, authentic relationships, celebration of diversity, unconditional acceptance, fiscal responsibility, and community connections and partnerships, valuing every person as a person of sacred worth.

Here are a few ways for you to get involved:

Small Group Ministries: Women for Women, Sat. Morning Men's Group, Faith on Tap Young Adult Group, and soon to come LGBTQ Community Group, and Families with Young Children's Group. Small groups can help us grow spiritually and emotionally. Get involved!

Music Team: Do you sing? Do you play an instrument? Or do you just have an interest in music? **WE WANT YOU!!!** Come and join us at 9 a.m. on Sunday Mornings for rehearsal, all levels of musical ability are welcome. Sign up with Pastor Lydia.

Worship Leader: Would you be interested in becoming a liturgist to help lead our worship experience? Come to a training meeting on Oct 2nd after church for more information.

Looking for Counters: We are looking for volunteers to help count and be a part of our Finance team. If you have any experience either with accounting, bookkeeping, or anything close please see Bro. Vince Dent and he will certainly love to hear from you.

Ministry of Prayer Partners: Deacon Susan Worrell leads our spiritual growth and formation at UMCOD. Every Monday morning at 10 a.m. she leads a time of contemplative prayer called Soaking Prayer in the sanctuary. We are expanding ways to being involved in prayer online, through texting, and by prayer walks. See Deacon Susan for more information on how you can get involved.

Children's Ministry: Children are an important part of the ministry of the Church and we want this ministry to continue to develop and grow. We are looking for people who like to play games, sing songs, do arts and crafts and help children

know that beyond anything they are loved, safe and encouraged to reach their fullest potential. See Pastor Lydia to sign up and begin making an impact in a child's life.

Social Media Ministries: Most of us do most of our information sharing and gathering online these days and the truth is we don't want to miss a beat. If you have experience or would like to help update our website, Facebook and/or create ways for us to communicate through social media our message and our events, I invite you to get involved! See Pastor Lydia and Bro. Dan Cornett to get involved.

Get involved with the work of Justice and Mercy:

ISMS: The Inclusive Social Ministry for Solidarity is the United Methodist Church of the Open Door's (UMCOD) response to racial, cultural, social, and religious polarization, misunderstanding, and disparity. The purpose of the ministry is to improve relationships, facilitate reconciliation, and decrease polarization. The ministry speaks to the educational and relational process of helping one another be the people we are created to be as neighbors, friends, and family of God.

We do this work by providing opportunities for discussion, TED talks, community forums and other training opportunities. We are at a point now that we are ready to expand our work even further throughout our district and we can use your help. For more information on how to get involved. Please see, Deacon Susan or Deacon Deborah as well as Bro. Dan Cornett.

Kennett Food Cupboard: Serving People in their Time of Need - KACS is a leader in fighting Hunger and Homelessness for families and individuals living in the area of Kennett, Unionville/Chadds Ford and Avon Grove School Districts
<http://www.kacsonline.net/index.html> See Deacon Deborah for ways for you to be involved.

Family Promise of Southern Chester County: is organized to help children and their families experiencing homelessness achieve lasting self-sufficiency and stability by providing shelter, meals, and comprehensive support services through a network of congregations and volunteers until they find sustainable housing. UMCOD partners with this organization to offer meals and mentoring for families. See Ginny Huestis and Deacon Deborah to get involved.

There are many more ways to get active and get involved at UMCOD, any one of the Pastoral leaders to find ways for you to discover and share your gifts!

October 2016 <http://www.umcod.org/umcod-calendar.html>

October 3rd- Leadership Team Meeting- 7:30pm

October 16th- Animal Blessing Sunday!- 10:30am

October 23rd- Celebration of National Latino Heritage Month- 10:30am