



# Circuit Rider

St. Paul's United Methodist Church  
714 Herbertsville Road  
Brick, NJ 08724

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May 2007

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## THE CROSS AND FLAME

Suppose you are vacationing far from home. You drive around, looking for a church in which to worship Sunday morning. Suddenly you see a familiar sight: a Cross and Flame insignia on a sign, pointing you to the nearest United Methodist Church. You've just proved how symbols and pictures provide instant recognition, meaning and a sense of belonging.

People in the community have asked what does that Cross and Flame on the outside of Norcross Hall represent. The information provided here will help us to share the meaning of the Cross and Flame with others. Indeed, the Cross and Flame emblem is a powerful reminder of who and Whose we are as United Methodists.

### **History and Significance**

The history and significance of the Cross and Flame emblem are as rich and diverse as The United Methodist Church. The insignia's birth quickly followed the union of two denominations in 1968: The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church.

Following more than two dozen conceptualizations, a traditional symbol—the cross—was linked with a single flame with dual tongues of fire. The resulting insignia is rich in meaning. It relates The United Methodist church to God through Jesus Christ (cross) and the Holy Spirit (flame). The flame is a reminder of Pentecost when witnesses were unified by the power of the Holy Spirit and saw "tongues, as of fire" (Acts 2:3).

The elements of the emblem also remind us of a transforming moments in the life of Methodism's founder, John Wesley. At the age of six, John was rescued from the burning rectory. This escape made a deep impression on his mind; and he regarded himself as providentially set apart, as a "brand plucked from the burning." Later when hearing Martin Luther's preface to Romans he wrote in his journal that he sensed God's presence and felt his heart "strangely warmed."

The two tongues of a single flame may also be understood to represent the union of two denominations.

The Cross and Flame on Norcross Hall were given in memory of Patricia B.

See you in worship. Pastor John

### **PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY**

*Lights! Camera! Acts!*

Find out who Tabitha and Cornelius were, walk with Paul as he is turned from persecutor to evangelist, discover what happened on the day of Pentecost and why we still celebrate today. Pastor D will be having a study of the Book of Acts on Wednesdays at 7:30 PM in the sanctuary.

Bring a Bible and a pen. All are welcome to come and learn about what the disciples and others did to spread the word of Jesus after his ascension into heaven.

## Joy's April 2007 Monthly Memo

The closest airstrip is about 45 minutes away. The road to get there is a one lane dirt road – and it's even one of the main roads through south Sudan. At one point there is a curve that you can't really see around so you hoot your horn in case someone is coming the other way to avoid a head on collision. Sometimes with life's curves and twists we can't see the road ahead.

And sometimes the scenery changes from what we expected to see. This morning I was looking out the window and was shocked to see a paradise flycatcher – a beautiful bird that I've loved sighting in Kenya but have not seen in Sudan. Mary, who shares my office with me, and I tip-toed outside to follow it around from the flame tree to the neem tree – enjoying its long white forked tail and black and rust colored body.

Twists and turns, surprises – that aptly describes life in Lui. The last 8 months have not been what I expected, except that they've been hard. That much I knew to expect. What I didn't expect was that I'd be leaving before I'd been here a year!

Samaritan's Purse has made the hard decision to transition out of Lui. They've been here for almost 10 years. We were invited to come and offer medical services during the war – which is over now. Running a hospital is not the typical activity that SP engages in.

This doesn't mean Samaritan's Purse is leaving Sudan. They actually want to expand what they're doing in Sudan. Their goal, like many other organizations, is not to be consumed in the running of large institutions. They want to take advantage of the current peace agreement between the north and the south to demonstrate the love of Christ through a variety of innovative activities that are being designed.

Lui Hospital has touched thousands of lives over the past 10 years. Last year alone we saw almost 20,000 patients. Almost 2,000 surgeries were performed, immunizations were given throughout the county preventing thousands of children from preventable diseases, nurses were trained and are now giving care at Lui Hospital and other health care facilities, and the list goes on. The ministry here has been a huge success but it is time to move on.

This news leaves all of us with many questions. Like, who is going to run Lui Hospital when Samaritan's Purse leaves? That is still under discussion! We're hoping that an interested organization will agree to fund

and supply staff so that the services of Lui Hospital will continue. The Ministry of Health and our partnering church are also involved in ongoing discussions. Please pray that we will have God's wisdom in knowing the way forward.

What am I going to do? is also a good question! My desire is to remain in Sudan and get involved in a new project. My idea is to work in communities by helping people identify their needs, whatever they may be, and then assist them to come up with solutions. Through the provision of both training and assistance communities are empowered and there is potential to see real change. Offhand I see that most communities struggle with poor health care, education, water, agricultural practices and lack of trained church leadership. With encouragement, training, some finances or supplies, and guidance by the Holy Spirit I believe communities can be transformed. Please pray with me about these ideas. I hope to be able to spend some time doing research and planning after I'm done here at the end of June. I'll keep you informed as plans progress.

You have been an incredible support team and I'm asking you to continue partnering with me. I will continue working at Lui Hospital for the next three months and then I will look at new ideas for the future. I believe God has an exciting future ahead. Thank you for being a part of what God continues to call me to do – even when I can't quite see beyond the next bend in the road.

Praise God with me for:

- Four successful wells drilled this week in town – it breaks my heart to see fifty 20 liter plastic containers lined up at a well because there's no more water to be pumped – the well has gone dry.
- A successful measles vaccination and malaria campaigns and slowing of the meningitis epidemic
- Requests include:
  - \* Ongoing spiritual ministry at Lui Hospital
  - \* A positive response from an interested organization to run Lui Hospital
  - \* A fruitful Board meeting on 30th April
  - \* A smooth transition for the Sudanese and Samaritan's Purse expatriot staff

Celebrating His resurrection,

Joy

Joy

Working in Sudan with World Gospel Mission and

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Dates to Remember:

May 1 – Executive Board 7 PM  
15 – Dinner & General Meeting 6:30 PM

# SALE

**Rummage/ White Elephant/Bake  
Sale  
& Lunch**

## Saturday May 26, 2007

**10 am-3 PM**  
**Clothing \$4/bag**  
**Lunch Available**

Donations of CLOTHING, WHITE ELEPHANT ITEMS, LINENS, BAKED GOODS, JEWELRY can be brought to Norcross Hall on Friday, May 25th only from 9 AM - 8 PM. Baked goods can also be donated on Sat. before 10 am.

### Garden of Remembrance

Effective July 1<sup>st</sup> 2007 the fee charged for the Garden of Remembrance will change. The new fees are as follows:

Scattering of ashes will increase from \$50.00 to \$100.00

Biodegradable urn will increase from \$100.00 to \$200.00

Permanent urn will increase from \$300.00 to \$400.00.

Anyone who would like to reserve a place in the garden before the increase takes effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>



should see Hal B

### Children's Specialized Hospital

Are you are interested in becoming a hands on volunteer with the Children's Specialized hospital? The training consists of a **one time only** 3 hour orientation. Orientations run every second Wednesday of the month, so if this month doesn't work for you, you can always be oriented the following month. Please contact Laura W. to RSVP for the training class. If you'd like to help out the hospital in any other way, please contact her with that information as well. Some of you have offered to do knitting and book drives (thank you). You must be at least 15 years of age to be allowed on the ward as a volunteer. Here is the list of training/orientation classes for the next couple of months.

May 16th from 1:30-4:30 p.m.

June 13th 6-9 p.m.

***Save the Date!***

***May 6, 2007***

***Please join us for lunch after  
second service to welcome***

***ED and CHRISTY H.***

***Ed and Christy are missionaries with  
Campus Crusades on***

***Penn State University's Campus.***

***The Communion Offering for May  
will help support Ed and Christy  
and their work sharing the Gospel  
with the***

*students at Penn State.*

## Adult Sunday School

Foundation for Families adult Sunday school class meets during 2<sup>nd</sup> service. We have just started an extended program studying the Gospel of John. If you are interested, please contact Diane or Brian) or Laura.

## Sunday Morning

Calling all those interested in starting your Sunday morning off with study of the Bible. There is an adult Bible Study meeting in the Library from 9 to 10AM on Sunday mornings. Join us for a Biblical fireside chat about our Lord and Savior. For more information contact Bill or just come into the library at 9AM next Sunday

## SUNDAY SCHOOL WALK FOR MISSIONS

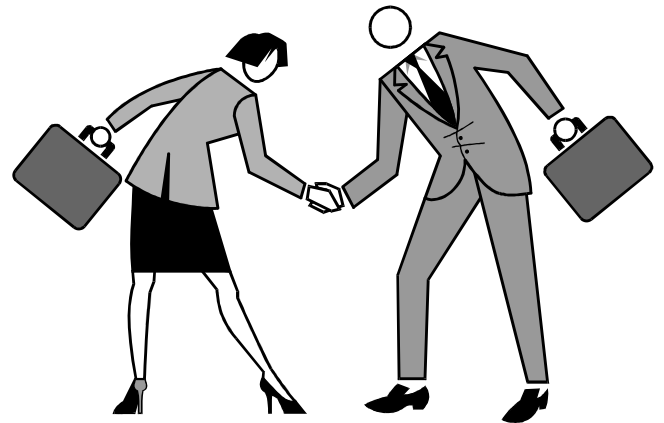
It is that time of year again. Spring has sprung and walking outdoors is wonderful at this time of year. The Sunday school classes will again be walking in order to raise money for Missions. The students will be asking for donations between services until the day of the walk on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, (rain date of June 10<sup>th</sup>).

This year we are keeping the focus of the Sunday school walk on missions that help children. On the day of the walk we will be collecting new and/or used books for Children's Specialized Hospital – Toms River Inpatient & Outpatient. The proceeds of the walk will be used to provide scholarships to those undertaking mission trips or attending Christian Summer Camp. Scholarship applications are available through the Sunday school office and must be returned by June 01, 2007.

Please reach out to the Sunday school classes by bringing in a new or used book or two, sponsoring a child (or two) and help them make this Mission a

success!! Please look for them between services. God bless you for your help.

## *"THE SECRET OF MY SUCCESS"*



*CHERUB CHOIR CANTATA*

*MAY 19, 2007  
4PM*

See Janet P for more information.

## Senior Joy

Senior Joy will be meeting on Thursday May 10th at 12:30. Bring a sandwich, dessert will be provided. Or speakers will be Debbie Shar and Kathy Kimm, RN's who will speak on preventing accidents in the home.

Please join us and be Blessed  
For more information call Ruth

## **CLEANUP DAY**

**MAY 5, 2007**

START TIME IS 8:00AM FOR CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST  
CLEANING WILL START AT 8:30AM

PLEASE JOIN US ANYTIME BETWEEN 8:00AM TILL 12:30PM  
IF QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL DAVID C.

## Youth

Hello again,

Hopefully with all of the April showers will come tons of May flowers this next month...we'll see. Anyway, I hope that all of you are doing well and you are finding yourself firmly planted in God's good grace this moment.

It was really good to see many of you at the basketball game last month. Because of your support, the game raised over \$500 to contribute to the O fund here at the church, which is going to help out a local family in need. The O family consists of Mary and John and their four kids, Frank, Eric, Chris and Jenna. About 15 years ago a contractor was hired to put a small addition onto their house. He took their money and left them with a mess that has deteriorated over the years to the point where their home is almost unlivable. For any further information on how you can help the Os, you can contact the church office or call Jen Burns at 732-899-3268.

Please be praying for the summer's transition of our eighth graders to move up to our Senior High youth group. It will be here before we know it, and I'm looking forward to having our eighth graders move up into our Senior High program. They have so much to offer and they are a joy to be around. Also, there are some fifth graders who have been anticipating coming to youth group for some time now, so please keep them in prayer as well as they enter our Junior High youth program. The transition can sometimes be intimidating for some young people, but I trust that things will work out just fine.

P.S. – Thanks again for all of your prayers and support for Erin and I. We're getting married this month and we're so excited!

Grace & Peace, Matt K.

## ***SPREAD THE WORD***

### ***ST. PAUL'S CHRISTIAN SCHOOL***

NEEDS TO FILL THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE HIRE**

*PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER AND  
AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS PROGRAM DIRECTOR  
(GRADES K – 8)*

#### **FOR 2007/2008 SCHOOL YEAR.**

*MIDDLE SCHOOL HISTORY TEACHER  
(GRADES 6 -8)  
BAND TEACHER (GRADES 5 – 8)  
GENERAL MUSIC TEACHER (GRADES K – 4)  
PRE SCHOOL TEACHER*

*RECESS & LUNCH MONITOR –  
1 ½ HOURS PER DAY*

For all positions please submit:

- ✚** Copy of Resume
- ✚** 2 written character references
- ✚** statement of faith
- ✚** copy of your teaching certification or license


Please submit to:  
St. Paul's Christian School  
714 Herbertsville Road  
Brick, NJ 8724

Any questions please call us at 732-458-2004



## St. Paul's United Methodist Church

### May 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Weekly Events &amp; Meetings - - - &gt;</b>  9:00AM Sunday School 9:00 Trad. Worship Service 10:10 Fellowship – Boyd Hall 10:45 Contemp. Worship Svc. 1:00PM Volleyball 6:30 Young Adult 8:00 Alcoholics Anon.	6:00PM Women's Softball games 7:00 Senior High Youth 7:00 DivorceCare/DivorcCare for Kids	5:30PM Men's Softball Practice 6:30 Webelos 2 – Rm. 8 6:30 Tigers Den – Rm 6 6:30 Wolves Den – Rm 6 6:30 Webelos 1 – Rm 5 7:00 Junior High Youth 7:30 Safe Place – Rm 10 8:00pm Men's Basketball	6:00AM Men's Breakfast 10:00 Staff Meeting 10:00 Ladies Share Grp-Penrods 4:30PM Cherub Choir 5:30 Youth Bible Study – SI Par 6:00 Women's Softball Practice 6:00 Clarion Bell Choir 6:30 Volleyball 6:30 Workteams 6:40 Carillon Bell Choir 7:00 Adult Bible Study	6:00PM Men's Softball games 6:00 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Alcoholics Anon. 7:00 Boy Scout Trp 33 7:00 Carol Choir 7:00 Celebration Choir 7:00 Bible Study 8:00 Chancel Choir	9:00AM Bulletin Team 7:00 PM Praise & Worship 8:00 OC Anon	7:00AM Men's Disciple
		1 7:00PM UMW Exec. Board	2 7:00PM Camden Mission Trip Meeting – S. Wall	3 <b>National Day of Prayer</b>	4 3:30PM Girl Scouts 7:15PM Koinonia Volleyball	5 <b>CLEANUP DAY</b> UMM Annual State Mtg – Ocean Grove
6 12:00 Luncheon for Campus Crusade	7 6:00PM Blair Comm. Mtg 7:00PM Admin. Bd.	8 9:00AM Miriam Circle 12noon Rebecca Circle 1:00PM Agape Homeschoolers 7:30PM Deborah Circle	9 7:30PM Lydia Circle	10 12:30PM Senior Joy	11	12 Wedding Matt & Erin Pack 33 Bike Rally
13 <b>Mother's Day</b> 	14 7:00PM Finance 7:00 Trustees	15 6:30 UMW General Meeting	16	17	18 3:30PM Girl Scouts	19 8:00AM UMM Breakfast 4:00PM Cherub Choir Cantata 6:00PM Fellowship Dinner
20 <b>Northern Shore District Pre-Conference Meeting</b>	21 7:30PM Leadership Mtg.	22 1:30PM Agape Homeschoolers  7:30PM SPCS Spring Concert	23 6:00PM Pack 33 Pack Meeting	24	25 9:00AM Rummage Sale Setup	26 10:00 RUMMAGE SALE
27 Pentecost Sunday	28 7:30 SPR Meeting  <b>MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED</b>	29 ← GNJUMC	30 Annual Conference	31 →		

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## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Our program this year is "LIFT OFF! Soaring to new heights with God's love."

We will be doing the same VBS program for Kid's Alley AND St. Paul's.

The Kid's Alley program will take place the week of July 9 - 13<sup>th</sup>.

Our St. Paul's program will take place the week of July 30 - August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**If you would like to volunteer to assist in the planning of either of these programs, teach a class or assist a teacher please contact Judy or Jan or the office at 732/458-2080**

There are many different opportunities available. The children really get a lot of joy and gain many valuable lessons from a VBS program like this one and you will surely feel blessed to be involved