



# TABERNACLE United Methodist Church

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**Missions help man find his fit in life's puzzle** - Rogers wasn't in the market for a new bike when he felt drawn to stop by a bicycle shop. But one look at the shiny chrome tricycle designed for adults, and he found himself purchasing it for Donna, a Florida woman whose home sustained damage during Hurricane Irma... "She had been so heartbroken and downtrodden," Rogers says.

The Rev. Wendy Vencuss, also part of the team, found out that the woman didn't own a car. "What I need is a tricycle," Donna said, laughing. One day Rogers and the Pastor passed by a bike shop and stopped to browse. "As soon as I saw it," Rogers says, "I knew I was going to get the bike for her. I felt so good about it ..., he said. It made me want to do more."

For much of his life, Rogers felt like a veritable reject. No matter where he turned up, he never seemed to fit. After decades of being perceived as a misfit by many, he has found his place and his purpose. And his faith in God, which had been trampled and left for dead, is now showing remarkable signs of life.

Rogers, who turned 71 in August, has become inspired by and involved in missionary work.

Through his church, New Paltz United Methodist Church in New York, he's using his skills to help renovate homes from Poughkeepsie, NY to Puerto Rico. Pastor Vencuss has witnessed Rogers' transformation firsthand... "Jackson is very skilled at construction and he's using his gifts in that way, but it was really his experience of helping others, connecting with others and hearing their pain, that changed him."

Born in 1947 on a cotton farm in Mississippi, Rogers experienced hardships by the bushel. A speech impediment left him scarred, emotionally and physically. "When I was younger, I stuttered badly," Rogers says. "I couldn't even say my name." Life on the farm was a struggle: no indoor plumbing or electricity. His dad then got a job in Connecticut, at the new school he became the target of taunts by students and teachers. "I was unwanted and unaccepted," Rogers says. Sadly, it got worse when they moved to New York City. "I spent all of my early years being bullied and beat up at school," he says.

In 1966, he joined the military flying to Vietnam and serving as an aircraft mechanic. By 22, he returned home disillusioned and defeated. Eight years later, Rogers got a job with the New York City Fire Dept. and experienced something he'd never felt before: the slightest tinge of pride. "I was proud of what I was doing," Rogers says. He married a nurse as his career as a firefighter took shape, but in 1985, their 6-month old son died. Rogers' lifetime of pain resulted in him feeling inadequate and apathetic about God, beliefs that began changing a few years back thanks to a visit from some men doing missionary work in the Hudson Valley area. Meeting them led him to connect to a nearby Methodist church, where Rogers put his experiences as a skilled carpenter and craftsman to work.

"I loved this idea about helping people," says Rogers. He has helped victims of Hurricane Irma in Florida and Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico, plus locally through his church's "Done in a Day" project in which church members spend a day working on someone's house. He's also looking forward to training his dog, Jake, to become a therapy dog. For Rogers, life's puzzle all makes sense now, and he sees how he's a part of it. "Service work is what brought me back to the church," says Rogers. "It all comes back to you 100% if you (help others), and it's coming back to me now, all of these years later. It's good for my soul."

## Announcements...

**Some "well deserved" R & R for our Pastor** - As announced last week, Pastor Glenn getting some well deserved rest and relaxation. Certified Lay Servant, Brian Robinson from First UMC in Court House will be leading us on August 23rd. His wife, Nancy, may also share her talents on the flute. On August 30th, Lourdes Turner, Certified Lay Servant from Oceanville UMC in Galloway, will offer the Word. Lourdes is the wife of one of PG's mentees, the Rev. Michael Turner, pastor of Oceanville. Pastor Mike also may be with us that day. Pastor Glenn will return on Sept. 6th, Labor Day Weekend. We will be sharing the Sacrament of Holy Communion and celebrating the gift of Laboring for our Lord.

**Basic Blessings** - We will continue the "Bring A Bag of Basics" drive on Missions Sundays, the next one coming up on Sept. 13th. Mission Sundays are held on the 2nd Sunday of each month. **Next distributions: Aug. 15th & Sept. 19th.**

**Listen to the service from your phone!** If you receive the printed copy of The Torch and are unable to access the internet, you may call-in to the 11am service and listen through your phone. **The phone # is: (929) 205-6099. The Meeting ID: 981 176 2526. The Password: 779813.**

**Shoprite cards** are available by calling Susan Scheyhing at (609) 600-7331, or after the Sunday service.



# Prayer Requests

Prayer reminds us that we are not alone in our feelings and we can ease our own fears by praying for others. As we pray for our friends and family listed below, please also remember in light of the Corona-virus pandemic, the extra challenges that we face from time to time... fear, anxiety, economic hardships, isolation, and many other stresses that are unique to the times we are living in.

## Prayer for those who have lost loved ones

- Janis Halbruner & Family
- The Chinn Family
- Bill Stahl & family
- Elizabeth Bailey & Family
- Flo Magee and Family
- The family of Mary Mason
- Jackie Matkowski & Family

### A CALL TO PRAYER

United Methodists are asked to join in prayer against racism at 8:46 am and pm for 8 min, 46 sec., the time the officer held a knee on George Floyd's neck.

## Covid Related Requests

- The Lords guidance for resuming services at the church
- Pray for an effective Covid-19 vaccine soon
- Pray for our First Responders
- Wisdom for leaders in Local & Federal Government
- Grant Approvals for Tabernacle Church
- Basic Blessing workers and distributions during Covid-19

## Those in Shut In & Convalescent Care

- Court House Center: Carol Cahill
- Wesley Manor: Shirley Rutherford & Shirley Halbruner
- Pitman Manor: Edna Dickinson
- Victoria Commons: Mary Still

**Those that live alone:** Doris Raker, Ella Elliott, John Leo, Ernie Long, Bob Jenkins, Alice Futti, Steve Brown and others who remain anonymous.

- Pastor Glenn & Family
- Jody Cathrall
- John Dickinson
- Tom Ackroyd
- Dawn Garretson
- Betty Wund
- Lewi Magnusson
- Carol Cahill
- Bonnie Vile
- Bob Nichols
- Ralph Genovese
- Flo Magee
- Andrew Wund
- Lyndsey Bolton
- Betty Church
- Betty Carlton
- Tandri Ankrum
- Tom Ankrum
- Jay Spurl
- Kenny Walker
- Cathy Oney
- Cass Pascali
- Steve Bistak
- Mary Still
- Ann Rea
- Mr. Phil Breden, Sr.
- Buddy Halbruner
- Steve Brown
- Bob Chinn
- Braden Brojakowski
- Jackie Matkowski



### **Bible Fact:** **FEAR**

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.  
**2 Timothy 1:7**

There is a total of 365 verses that tell us to fear not.  
**One for every single day of the year!**

### **HOW DO I GIVE MY OFFERING?**

If you are not ready to attend services in Michael Hall, you may mail offerings to:

Address ALL church mail & offerings to:

**T.U.M.C.**  
**C/O Marjorie Katity**  
**115 Aspen Drive,**  
**Swainton, NJ 08210**



## Daily Checklist

for a

## Happy Christian

- Don't let little things disturb you.
- Face each day knowing "Jesus does all things well."
- Give all your cares to Jesus.  
He heals - He guards - He guides - He saves completely!
- Stop worrying! Do good, and then let the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit give the results in your life.
- Remember -- what you think is "impossible", to God, is nothing more than a passing breeze.
- Trust Jesus that everything will be okay.  
For it's better to trust, than to doubt and miss a blessing.
- Do not do God's work for Him.  
He convicts; He convinces; He will be the Judge.
- Look for the good in everyone, and don't find fault.
- Live so that all who meet you, meet Jesus.
- Know that Jesus is with you and nothing else matters!