

Word of Hope

MOUNT HOPE
United Methodist Church



Pastor McGill Writes. . .

200th Anniversary Sunday

This will be an historic day for us as we celebrate 200 years of HOPE!

We will have the following time change for this Sunday:

- ◆ 8:15 a.m. worship, Pastor McGill speaking
- ◆ 9:30 a.m. Sunday school
- ◆ 10:30 a.m. Bishop Marcus Matthews of our Eastern Pennsylvania Conference will be our guest speaker. Luncheon in Habbersett Hall follows this service.

As is our custom, we will recognize our 25 and 50 years or more members. At the 10:30 a.m. worship

service, Bishop Matthews will present a plaque to our newest 50 year members, recognizing their years of membership and service. He will also present a special 200th Anniversary certificate and rose to all of our 50-year members who are in attendance.

Our newest 25-year members will receive special recognition from Bishop Matthews on reaching this milestone in the life of the church. A certificate and carnation will be presented to all of our 25—49 year members.

All who attend our 200th Anniversary Sunday service will receive a

beautiful bookmark prepared especially for this occasion.

Please mark your calendar *NOW* for October 14, 2007. This only happens once in the life-time of the church! It will only happen once in the life-time of each member. So that we can accommodate the entire membership, two unique services of worship have been planned.

Following the 10:30 service, a luncheon will be served in Habbersett Hall. Further information is provided in your Sunday *Messenger*.

I look forward to seeing each one of you on our Bicentennial Anniversary Sunday.

Pastor McGill

Looking Forward

November is Tithing Month!

Join the excitement of being a tither for the month of November. Each member of the Mount Hope Church family is asked to join together in giving at a rate of 10% of their income for the four

Sundays in November.

This means that a person will give in addition to their regular giving, an amount that would bring them to a goal of 10%

Plan now to Catch the VISION! And share the JOY!

December

This anniversary year, our Christmas tree in the sanctuary will be called the Family of God Tree. Begin taking your family pictures now for the tree. Put your names on the back of your photos.

(continued on page 4)

October 2007

Inside this issue:

<i>Our Church Family Musical: Wise Guys Messiah Youth Bell Choir Couples Fellowship Note'able Notes</i>	2
<i>Catch-Up Sunday Education Notes Craft Fair</i>	3
<i>Children's Center News Library Corner</i>	4
<i>200th Anniversary page Youth page</i>	Inserts
<i>World Communion The Lord's Table Christianity</i>	5
<i>Kids' Page</i>	6
<i>Calendar</i>	7
<i>Bishop Matthews</i>	8

Special points of interest:

- ◆ **Wednesdays: Devo Dessert**
- ◆ **5-6th: YF Retreat**
- ◆ **7th: World Communion**
- ◆ **14th: Anniversary Sunday Services at 8:15 and 10:30 a.m. Bishop Matthews, guest speaker; luncheon follows**
- ◆ **21st: "Wise Guys"**
- ◆ **24th: Charge Conference**
- ◆ **26th: Couples Fellowship**
- ◆ **27th: Craft Fair**
- ◆ **28th: Baptism**



WEDDINGS

Leslie Eppheimer to Joseph Bracken, on September 21

DEATHS

Ruth Scull, August 24

Frances Wiley, August 29

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Francis (Frank), Terri and Samantha Westenberger

313 Stratford LN
Glenolden PA 19036-1637

Patricia Boyer

3131 Meetinghouse RD
Apt M 12
Boothwyn PA 19061-2982

Lisa and Edward Jones III

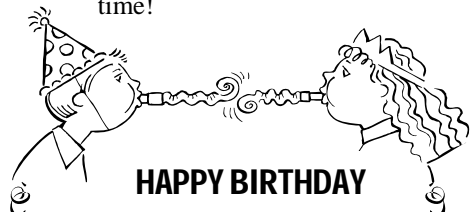
113 Seneca DR
Old Forge PA 18518-1598

Heather Mitch

4336 Mt Vernon AV
Brookhaven PA 19015-1639

Couples Fellowship

After the summer off, Couples Fellowship resumes on Friday, October 26th. We will meet at 6:00 p.m. for dinner, followed by a game and devotional time. *Location to be announced.* The food theme is hors d'oeuvres. By the way, men, we can not let the women continue to beat us at game time!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To Homebound member
Mrs. Virginia Ford
1800 Mill RD #T342
Boothwyn PA 19061-2545
October 14

Children's Musical: "Wise Guys"

Which path would you choose? The crooked path where you follow the crowd that leads you in the wrong direction

Or.....

The path that leads you to

wisdom?

If you need some help making that decision, make sure you're **HERE** on **October 21, 2007 at 8:15, 9:30 or 11 a.m.** The Children's Choir will present a musical

on Proverbs.

Please come and support the youth of our church. The children have put in a lot of time and effort, and you won't want to miss it!

Messiah

As part of our Advent and Christmas festivities this year, the Sanctuary Choir will perform Handel's *Messiah* on Sunday, December 23rd at

the morning worship services.

They are already beginning to rehearse. So won't you consider joining the choir

to be a part of this exciting experience? Give Sharon a call at 610.892.9607 or see her on Sunday after worship.

New Youth Handbell Choir

Middle school and high school age youth are invited to join the "Genesis Handbell Ringers," a Mount Hope bell choir now forming.

Rehearsals are Wednesdays, beginning September 12th, from 6:15

to 7:00 p.m. in Room 104. Sign up on the list near the main office, or call Mrs. McIntyre at 610.494.3697.

We plan to play for the annual Thanksgiving worship service and our Christmas Eve family service. We'll also participate

in a concert at the Rockwood Museum (near Wilmington) and play during some Sunday morning worship services.

Don't wait! Sign up NOW!

Eileen McIntyre
Handbell Choirs

Note'able Notes

In the spring of 2007 we agreed to purchase a third manual to be included with the building of the new organ. The organ is being paid for through fire insurance. We are only paying for the new manual, which cost \$59,000. Monies from the first Notable Notes Campaign paid \$18,763 toward the new manual. The Notable Notes Campaign II has raised \$8594 to date. An additional \$3000 is available from other sources, which leaves approximately \$28,000 more to raise.

It needs to be emphasized that this plan for the Mount Hope organ attaches no particular budget and allows freedom of giving without

placing undue financial burden on anyone. This plan provides an equal share to "Adopt a Note".

You may "adopt a whole note" with your donation of \$100. Or you can "divide" a whole note between friends and spread the joy of the project to a wider audience. We want everyone to have the opportunity to participate in the restoration of the church instruments. If at this time you cannot give a WHOLE NOTE (\$100), please consider giving a HALF NOTE (\$50) or a QUARTER NOTE (\$25). Offering envelopes are in the pew racks – just place them in the offering plate.

Please consider your participation in this project

prayerfully. The Lord loves a cheerful giver and together we can completely pay for this manual in time for the big 200th celebration and give God the glory.

Upon completion, Walsh Organ Company will give a recital and a tour of the organ. Watch for further details!

~~~~~

*Did you know that a pipe organ:*

*Offers a more vibrant and colorful sound than an electronic organ*

*Has a life expectancy of 100 years of more*

*Increases in value with age*

*Is known as the "King of Instruments"*



## Catch-Up Sunday: October 14, 2007

This is the Sunday we catch up with our offerings after the summer. Please look at your statement of giving and if you have been away over the summer, this is the time to catch up with your giving to the Lord.

This summer, with needed repairs and improve-

ments, we have fallen behind in our giving. The final organ payment is now due, and with the other expenses we could use a boost of \$80,000. Many of those expenses were one-time occurrences; however, the work was needed and expensive.

Prayerfully consider a large contribution to the work of ministry here at Mount Hope Church. Let's keep the joy of 200 years of hope strong as we close out this 200th Anniversary year.

## Craft Fair

The Education Committee is sponsoring our yearly craft fair to benefit our Sunday School on October 27, 2007, from 9 AM until 3 PM. There will be an assortment of beautiful hand-made

crafts for sale by local crafters. We are looking for anyone who can donate baked items to sell at our bake table. Baked goods may be dropped off the night before and left in the kitchen. We

greatly appreciate any donations! If you or anyone you know would like to participate in the craft fair, spaces are still available. Please call Kathy Simonds at 610-558-3253.

## Education Notes

### Volunteers Needed

This year we are planning to perform the Living Nativity. This has been an event of excitement and blessing for Mount Hope for years. If you are interested in participating please see Pastor Phil. We will need actors, sound people, animal helper...etc. Christmas is coming, let's make this year a special one!

### Wednesday Evening Bible Study

Wednesday evening bible study continues to meet each week. The book of Romans has the largest amount of doctrinal truth contained in the New Testament. People of all ages are invited. Dr. Bill Roe leads us as we marvel at God's boundless grace in spite of our sinful demeanor. The class runs from 6:30 to 7:30 each Wednesday evening (and usually lets out on time). Come and be blessed!

### Background Checks

In our ever changing society we as Christians face a consistent challenge to meet the needs of our members and the community as well. One area in which churches across the country have been lacking in, is doing a complete check of a person before they volunteer to help children. This is not limited to, but involves the police and child abuse clearances from the state.

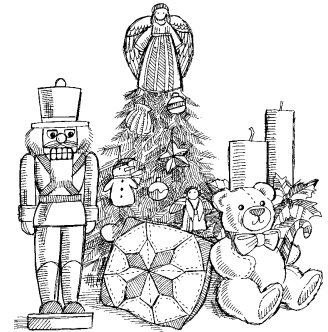
As a parent you need to know that at present all of our volunteers who work with children through youth group are required to have a background check on file. We also have a policy called Safe Sanctuary which sets rules for increasing the safety of our children.

At present our church has been given a directive by Annual Conference that all volunteers who work with children need to have a background check every three years. This will involve some expense and time on our part, but we can not afford to overlook this area of safety.

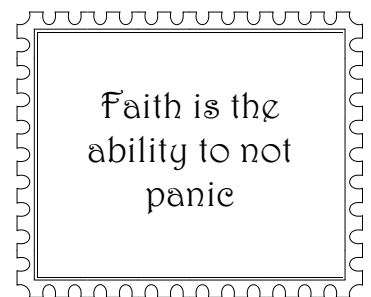
It is sad in some ways that we as churches have come to this point where we have to check our volunteers. It almost appears that we do not trust people. Someone has said, though, that churches are the last safe haven for pedophiles. The reason for this is that churches seem to be the last organizations on board to thoroughly check a person before they volunteer with children.

Mount Hope has had a long standing reputation in our community for quality youth, Sunday School and children's programs. We want parents to know that every effort is being done to ensure their children's safety. A good reputation and a safe environment enhances worship as much as the building itself or the programs contained therein. It itself is ministry. Proverbs says that a good name is better than gold. Let us do all that we can to continue to minister effectively in this area of Delaware County.

*Pastor Phil*



## Holiday Craft Fair





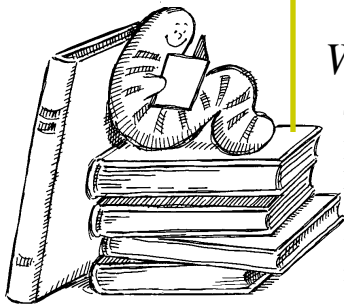
### Kids in Church

A little boy prayed:  
 "Our Father, Who  
 does art in heaven,  
 Harold is His  
 name.....  
 Lord, if you can't  
 make me a better  
 boy, don't worry  
 about it. I'm having  
 a real good time  
 like I am."



MOUNT HOPE  
CHILDREN'S CENTER

# LIBRARY CORNER



## Bishop Matthews (continued from the back page)

Council Director, a position he held until being named Washington West District Superintendent in 1999.

During his ministry, Bishop Matthews served on the General Commission on Religion and Race, General Board of Global Ministries, Connection Process Team, General Council on Ministries, Africa University Development Committee, World Methodist Council Executive Committee, and

the Northeast Jurisdiction Multi-Ethnic Center Board. In 2004 he was elected Co-Chair of the Endorsing Committee of The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of The UMC.

In 2005 Bishop Matthews was elected to the Board of Directors of Africa University and in 2007, was elected Deputy Chairperson of the Africa University Executive Committee. Bishop Matthews was elected President of the North-

east Jurisdiction College of Bishops in February 2006 and he is also a member of the Council of Bishops Executive Committee.

Bishop Matthews is married to Barbara Walker Matthews and they have two children, Jaime S. Matthews and Marci Michael, and four grandchildren. His other interests include movies, reading, jogging, and playing with his grandchildren.

## Looking Forward (continued from the first page)

After Christmas the photos will be made into a collage and the name of each person listed so that each one can

be identified.

This will be an historic occasion and the collage will be kept as a part of the

Mount Hope Church archives for future generations to see.

## Children's Center News

Our October Bible Verse:  
*"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth"* Genesis 1:1

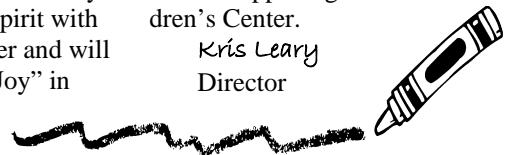
September was an exciting start to our school year. We started with a few tears, but they are all having fun and learning new things every day. This month is Fire Prevention Month and the local fire companies will be visiting us, showing what firemen look like when they

are all dressed in their gear, (like aliens) and teaching the children to "stop, drop, and roll!" We hope to have a trip to Ramsey's Farm again this year. At the end of the month we will be taking our class pictures and having teddy bear picnics and harvest celebrations.

We began our study of the Fruit of the Spirit with "Love" in September and will be learning about "Joy" in October. October's

chapel will be on October 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. We've changed the time for our Chapel, we start at approximately 11:30AM. All of the children are happy up here now, (they know that their moms are coming back for them) so this would be a great time to come up and visit to see what's happening at the Children's Center.

Kris Leary  
Director



## What's New In the Library

The Library now has a new DVD series entitled NOOMA. That is the phonetic spelling of the Greek word "pneuma" which means breath or spirit. Just as Jesus taught using simple stories, these are modern parables that tackle

such topics as anger, forgiveness, discipleship and unconditional love. Each one is only 10 to 14 minutes long -- easy to fit into a busy schedule, and an excellent way to kick-off a discussion in any group setting, from teens on up.

For Young Adult readers we have The Sierra Jensen Series. See how Sierra copes with a host of teen situations from mission trips to annoying little sisters.

Lynn Ward  
Librarian



## World Communion Sunday, October 7

I saw a plaque recently which read:

*“The light of love to live by... The wind of friendship for sharing... The bread of peace to nourish heart and soul...For these we give thanks each day.”*

As we come to the communion table and kneel to receive the elements of bread and wine/juice, along with millions of Christians all around the world...I hope we will remember both the commonness and the uncommonness of those elements.

Common in the sense of every-day, day in and day out, we need this to sustain life, to make life physically and spiri-

tually worth living. Christ has made the common uncommon, and has called us to be aware of God’s presence in every commonplace of life.

Worldwide Communion Sunday is itself both fact and symbol. As we enact this Lord’s Table spread around the globe, we are symbolizing our oneness in Him, transcending all that in our human frailty would divide us. And we are reaching...reaching out into His future, toward a Presence and a Oneness and a Brotherhood and a Day on earth when His Kingdom is made known.

It is bound up in the commonness of these element that our Lord chose to symbolize

His Sacrifice for us. For in His wisdom, He has laid before us the Feast of the Kingdom, and yet at once our daily fare.

And we are reminded of the story of the Risen Christ in Luke 24: 13ff. as He walked with two of the disciples on the road to Emmaus. *“When He was at table with them, He took the bread and blessed, and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognized Him”*; later *“they told what had happened on the road, and how He was known to them in the breaking of the bread.”* (v.35) May He be made known to you each time you break bread also.

-copied

## Why I Come to the Lord’s Table

*“I come not because I am worthy; not for any righteousness of mine. For I have sinned and fallen short of what I might have been.*

*“I come, not that there is any magic in partaking of the symbols of Christ’s body and blood, but I come because He bids me come. It is His table, and He invites me.*

*“I come, because it is a memorial to Him as oft as it is done in remembrance of*

*Him. And when I remember Him—His life, His suffering and death, I find myself humble in His presence and bowing before Him in worship.*

*“I come, because here is portrayed Christian self-denial, and I am taught very forcibly the virtue of sacrifice in behalf of another which has salvation in it.*

*“I come, because Here I have the opportunity to acknowledge my unworthiness*

*and to make a new start.*

*“I come, because here I find comfort and peace.*

*“I come, because here I find hope.”*

Remember: Sunday, October 7 is special because it is **World Communion Sunday**. Come join Christians all over the world in celebration of Christ’s death and resurrection.

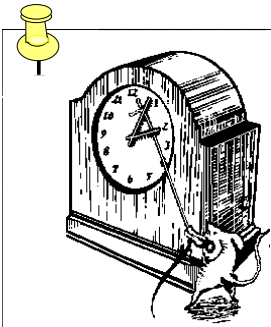
Pastor McGill

## Christianity...

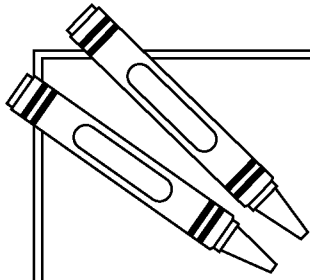
... is not a voice in the wilderness, but a life in the world. It is not an idea in the air, but feet on the ground, going God’s way. It is not an exotic to be kept under glass, but a hardy plant to bear twelve months of fruits in all kinds of weather. Fidel-

ity to duty is its root and branch. Nothing we can say to the Lord, no calling Him by great or dear names, can take the place of the plain doing of His will. We may cry out about the beauty of eating bread with Him in His kingdom, but it is wasted

breath and a rootless hope, unless we plow and plant in His kingdom here and now. To remember Him at His table and to forget Him at ours, is to have invested in bad securities. There is no substitute for plain, everyday goodness.



**Reminder...DON'T turn you clocks back yet! The Energy Policy Act of 2005 determined that Daylight Savings Time now ends on the first Sunday in November, not the last Sunday in October.**



# Just for KIDS

## THE POWER TO GIVE

In the New Testament, Jesus emphasizes the importance of giving and doing for others. In the Old Testament, Proverbs 3:27 (NIV) tells us what not to do.

Cross out ALL of the following letters to reveal Proverbs 3:27.

..... **B J K Q X Z** .....

Write the remaining letters (in order) on the spaces below.

B W J I T J H Q H O B L Z D G B O O K  
D K F Q R O M T B H J O B S Q E W H O  
X B D B E K Q S E Z X R Z V J E Z X I B  
T W K H Q E N I K Q T I Z S I Z N B Y  
J X J O Z U X R P Q O K W J J E B B R T  
O A Q C Z T

"DO NOT \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_."

PROVERBS 3:27, NIV

Answer: "Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act."

### What Now?

God: "Whew! I just created a 24-hour period of alternating light and darkness on Earth."

Angel: "What are you going to do now?"

God: "Call it a day."



There are many ways you can give to others. All you have to do is lend a hand!

### What you need:

- Colored paper
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Yarn or heavy string
- Clothespins or paper clips

### What you do:

1. With your parents' help, think of seven (or more) things that you can do for seven (or more) people. For example, you could clean out closets and donate the items to charity, help a neighbor bring in her trash, and so on.
2. Trace your hand on the paper seven times. Cut out each hand.
3. On one side of each hand, write a person's name. On the other side, write how you will help him or her.
4. Cut a long piece of yarn (or heavy string) and hang it in your room – like a clothesline.
5. Use the clothespins or paper clips to hang each hand on the "clothesline."
6. When you've completed each act of service, take the hand off, but keep it to use another time.
7. Do this activity over and over again by "giving a hand" to someone.





## *Bishop Matthews, speaker on Anniversary Sunday*

The Rev. Dr. Marcus Matthews was elected bishop on July 14, 2004, during the first ballot taken at the Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference held in Syracuse, New York. He was assigned to serve the Philadelphia Episcopal Area of The United Methodist Church (Eastern Pennsylvania and Peninsula-Delaware Conferences) effective September 1, 2004.

Bishop Matthews is originally from Florence, South Carolina, where his home church, Cumberland UMC, was a pivotal influence in his life. He graduated from South Carolina State College in 1968. In 1969, he was employed by Cumberland UMC as a community devel-

oper in the first wave of the Black Community Developers program of the General Board of Global Ministries.

In 1970, Marcus was selected by the Ford Foundation's Leadership Development Program to conduct a year-long study of religious institutions such as the Delta Project in Mississippi, The UMC General Commission on Religion and Race, and a project with juveniles in Syracuse, NY.

He enrolled at Wesley Theological Seminary in 1971 and served as a student intern at Douglas Memorial UMC for a year. He became an assistant pastor at Asbury UMC in Washington, where

he continued as associate for two years after his graduation from Wesley.

From 1976 to 1982, he served as pastor of Jones Memorial UMC in Washington, DC, where he oversaw the building of a new sanctuary and established a community development program. In 1981, he earned a Doctor of Ministry degree from New York Theological Seminary. He was pastor of Epworth Chapel UMC in Baltimore, from 1982 to 1986, when, during his pastorate, Epworth received 272 new members.

In 1986, he became District Superintendent of the Baltimore East District and in 1991 was named Conference

*(Continued on page 4)*



*Bishop Marcus Matthews*





Mount Hope  
200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Newsletter  
October 2007

October 14<sup>th</sup> is our official Anniversary Sunday. We pray that you will be there to see so many people recognized for their years as members of Mount Hope. The message will be given by Bishop Marcus Matthews at 10:30am. Everyone in attendance will receive memorable gifts to commemorate the occasion.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

REFLECTIONS

Interviews by Irma Taylor

Memories from Robert (deceased) & Louise Miles

Robert joined Mount Hope on April 6, 1952

Louise joined Mount Hope on March 29, 1953

*We remember the Sunday School buses picking up kids throughout Aston and taking them to Sunday School and back home. M.Y.F. meetings every Sunday night in Habbersett Hall followed by Sunday evening Church services. M.Y.F. "socials" on a weekend night – games, bowling, skating, scavenger hunts etc. and refreshments. Mr. Habbersett once loaned our group a pig (not real) for a scavenger hunt item. Hanging out in the parsonage every night for two weeks of the nativity – socializing, eating and taking turns participating in the Nativity. Also watching Rev. Worth decorate their tree and hanging tinsel on it one piece at a time. Going Christmas caroling – building fund banks – strawberry festivals every June – Annual youth weekend at Pocono Plateau where someone flew Rev. Worth's pj.'s from the flagpole. Louise says, "meeting Bob at Mount Hope and getting married 47 years ago."*

Memories from Jean Byrne

Jean joined Mount Hope on March 29, 1953

*I remember the Church Sexton, Mr. Joe Shisler, ringing the bell every Sunday. He would jump up and pull the rope up and down while his feet would almost leave the ground and he would ring it for such a long time. I remember how cold the nights were during the Living Nativity and how many people jammed the parking lot. The cars would be lined up in both directions for as far as you could see. I remember Mrs. Howard in the kitchen making her wonderful hot chocolate to warm us up.*

Memories from Ruth Winbourn

Ruth joined Mount Hope on October 1, 1956

*I remember when children attended Sunday School in their best Sunday Clothes. Easter Egg Hunts were fun and Christmas Programs were a family time to enjoy, and be proud of, the performances of children. Reluctance to accept the bright and cheerful atmosphere of the new sanctuary after being happy in the cozy warmth of the dark wood in the original sanctuary. To hear the church bell ring was always inspirational.*

## **Tid Bits from Our Past continued.....**

**1990** – the eternal Flame and Cross was erected near Concord Road in memory of the Rev. Harry Gommoll, by his wife, Fran. Rev. Gommoll served as the first visitation pastor for four years

**1990** – Rev. Melvin Sponsler becomes Senior Pastor

**1990** - Reverend Wesley Meixell became our second Visitation Pastor

**1993** - Capital Stewardship Campaign to raise \$600,000 for improvements and repairs. \$300,000 pledges were received

**1995** - 4 inch water line was run from Convent Road through the cemetery to the pumping area near the parsonage. Public water was finally put into the church and adjoining buildings.

**1995** - Electricity was run to the three crosses and floodlights installed

**1995** - Central air conditioning was installed in the Sanctuary

**1997** - Membership was up to 920

**1997** – 190<sup>th</sup> anniversary was celebrated. Bishop Peter Weaver of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference was the main speaker.

**1998** - Rev. Dan Roth was instrumental in forming a Contemporary Service

**Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> 1998** – First Contemporary Service held with 177 people in attendance

**1998** - Bill Everman was instrumental in getting the “Praise Band” started which plays at the 9:30 contemporary service



*Have a Blessed Fall!*

