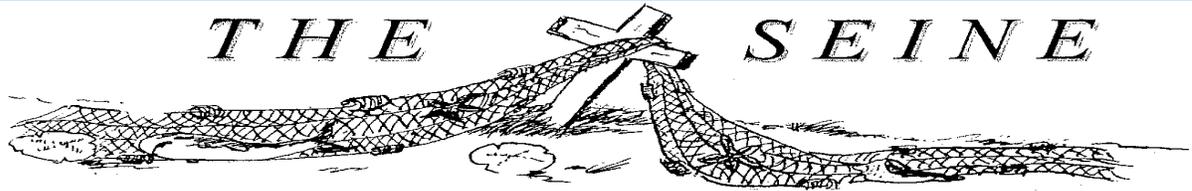


THE SEINE

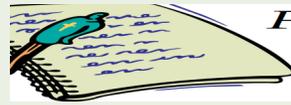


GROOME UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Matthew 4:19 "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men"

September– October 2018

On Making a Big Difference



From the
Pastor's Pen



A couple of weeks ago I preached a sermon about the obscure, "David & Goliath" type character, Shamgar. You might remember, he was the fellow who managed to slay 600 Philistines with an oxgoad. By way of illustration, I mentioned the events that took place in a small, semi-alpine town in south-eastern France during World War II, Le Chambon-sur-Lignon.

Le Chambon is one of a dozen villages that were settled during the Protestant Reformation by the Huguenots, a fiercely independent Christian sect that has for hundreds of years avoided extermination by worldly authorities. When France fell to Germany in June of 1940, it did not take long for the Nazis to engage in the extermination of French Jews. In one month alone over 12,000 Jews living in Paris were rounded up and sent to concentration camps in Germany.

By 1942 Jews in France were in desperate straits. Quakers in southern Vichy, France could get Jewish children away from the Germans but had no place to send them. Two Protestant clergymen in Le Chambon said they would take the children and put them in the local school. At that point, the trickle of refugees became an ever-increasing tide.

In the summer of 1942, the Vichy minister of youth affairs – a Nazi - paid a state visit to Le Chambon. He made it clear that the Third Reich wanted to set up youth camps like those in Germany, and Le Chambon was a prime candidate for such an exercise. To celebrate the "big event" much fanfare and formality was to be offered the entourage as they arrived to bombard the town with Nazi rhetoric. Nothing went as planned. At the huge stadium reception no one responded or said a thing. Eventually, a towns person got up and read from the Book of Romans, chapter 13, verse 8: "Owe no one anything except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law."

What I did not share with you, and believe you need to read for yourselves, is the letter that a group of school children wrote and handed to the Nazi minister of youth affairs. It is couched in the terms of the events that had taken place in Paris just a few weeks prior to this visit. Thousands of Jews had been rounded up and sent to an ancient prison south of Paris, Velodrome d'Hiver, and were subsequently sent to the concentration camp at Auschwitz.

Here is the letter; a remarkable statement in history, and perhaps an even more remarkable statement about the power of the human spirit at its best.

Mr. Minister, We have learned of the frightening scenes which took place three weeks ago in Paris, where the French police, on orders of the occupying power, arrested in their home all the Jewish families in Paris to hold them in the Vel d'Hiv. The fathers were torn from their families and sent to Germany. The children were torn from their mothers, who underwent the same fate as their husbands. . . . We are afraid that the measures of deportation of the Jews will soon be applied in the southern zone. We feel obliged to tell you that there are among us a certain number of Jews. But, we make no distinction between Jews and non-Jews. It is contrary to the Gospel teaching if our comrades, whose only fault is to be born in another religion, received the order to let themselves be deported, or even examined, they would disobey the order received, and we would try to hide them as best we could. We have Jews. You're not getting them.

From all accounts, the Nazis were only able to arrest two people in the region of Le Chambon, and one of them they had to let go. Sometimes the weak are not nearly as weak as one might think nor the mighty as strong as they would like you to believe. When the first refugee appeared at the door and asked for assistance, it never occurred to the pastor's wife to say no. When asked later if she thought of how dangerous this exercise would be it never entered her mind, and her response was no. For hundreds of years we have lived in danger, and yet we have survived. These folks were well past the danger issue. Again, when asked about the dangers involved, the entire town said they never even thought about the danger. The townsfolk drew up false papers for the Jews. They hid them in the places they had been hiding refugees for generations and smuggled them across the border to Switzerland along the same trails they had used for hundreds of years.

Magda Trocme, the pastor's wife, was asked numerous times: "In circumstances like these, how did you make a decision?" The response: "There was no decision to make. The issue was, Do you think we are all brothers or not? Do you think it is unjust to turn in Jews or not? Then let us try to help!"

In attempting over centuries to wipe out the Huguenots, the French and others created instead a pocket of people with such resolve, tenacity and resourcefulness that they grew to be all but impossible to wipe out. As Andre Trocme, the pastor, once said, "How could the Nazis ever get to the end of the resources of such a people?" There are some terribly important lessons to be learned from this story that apply to all times and civilizations, even our own.

In His Service, Will



**GROOME UMC WOMEN'S MINISTRY
MONTHLY MEETING w/ SHERRY MASSEY**

**DATE: WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 26 & OCTOBER 19, TIME:
6:30 P.M.**

**SEPTEMBER'S MESSAGE
"SHATTERED LIVES"**

*Faith
is not believing that
God can,
It is knowing that
God will.*

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE from The Finance Committee

We own the fruit of toil. We own the money we have amassed from hard work and long hours. We own the ideas that push us to excellence. We do not own them of ourselves. We own them by the grace of God, who planted in us the very talent that allowed them to come into being.

Stewardship is not about large giving but gifts given in small ways. A child's gift, although small, gives glory to the Lord in many ways. A gift of time to an elderly shut-in serves the Lord, too. A gift of a loaf of bread to a homeless family could mean the difference between going to bed hungry or going to bed satisfied.

Paying for our food and all the goods and services we use sometimes obscures our awareness of sense, to do with as we wish. The idea of absolute ownership of goods and money is a relatively recent idea. It comes from the 17th century English thinker John Locke. Before then, Christians saw themselves as stewards of goods, dependent on God for what they had. They possessed relative ownership of things. The medieval person saw that all belonged to God, and the person's task was to share the goods with the community. Stewardship, sharing and dependence were values built into a believer's faith.

The Bible references: giving in proportion to what God has done for each of us, Luke 12:48; giving regularly (weekly, monthly), as encouraged in 1 Corinthians 16:2; giving "first fruits" or the promised amount first, Nehemiah 10:35; giving sacrificially, 1 Chronicles 21:24; giving cheerfully and joyfully, 2 Corinthians 9:8; giving to care for the needs of others, Galatians 6:10.

Real stewardship means more than giving money for God's work on earth. It involves offering all that we are and all that we have to serve our Creator who is the Giver of all in the first place, body, mind, spirit, talent and energy. Stewardship is fulfilling God's plan for us as we live, serve and give our all for the one who made us and keeps us.

Prayer: If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not live with words or speech but with actions and in truth. 1 John 3:17-18

**Groome Anchor House Fundraiser
"Painting with a Purpose"**



**"Pascal Moon"
Fellowship and Fun
Wednesday, Sept. 12, 7-9 pm
Painting with a Twist Studio #190
17723 Coastal Hwy. Lewes
Art Supplies & Drinks provided
Bring Your Own Snacks
\$40 per person
50% Proceeds donated to Groome**

**Reserve at the following link by 9/5 or phone the studio (302)313-5769
<https://www.paintingwithatwist.com/studio/lewes/event/1680397>
ALL ARE WELCOME**



**GROOME ANCHOR
COFFEE HOUSE**

Groome is proud of the Anchor Coffee House, which benefits the “New Ministries Outreach” program and brings new people to the church! Started in September 2017,

there have been wonderful musicians, singers & songwriters. Also lectures and workshops are offered. Come meet friends and visitors who love music and knowledge exchange.

Upcoming Concerts

- September 29 Songs from Exotic Lands featuring David Reed on cigar box guitars
- October To be announced
- November 24 Delmarva Ramblers (bluegrass and Gospel)
- December 15 Celtic and Maritime Christmas concert featuring Charlie Zahn

COST-\$10 Cash at the Door.

Additional information about upcoming events is available on the Anchor Coffee House or Groome UMC Facebook page or Groome UMC website.

www.facebook.com/theanchorcoffeehouse

www.facebook.com/groomechurchlewes

www.groomechurchlewes.org

Melody Chime Choir

Dear Members and Friends,

Thanks to everyone who’s contributing to the Melody Chime fund raiser. As we reach our goal, we will be able to purchase the chimes and all accessories needed. We are looking forward to this new addition to our music department and the talented members of the group, along with our Choir, sharing through the gift of chimes and hymns as we worship HIM. Thank you again for your generosity and service to the work of the LORD. Deadline to contribute is Sunday, September 2.



Groome Breakfast Mission

The Breakfast Mission continues to minister to the lonely and the homeless with a delicious breakfast and fellowship every Saturday morning in the social hall from 7-10 a.m. The mission is serving on an average 25-30 each week. Sometimes more!

United Methodist Men



The United Methodist Men will begin their monthly meetings on Monday, September 10 at the Ocean Grill in Five Points Village at 8:00 a.m. All the men of the church are welcome to attend. Dutch Treat for breakfast, and share in fellowship and a brief meeting on the work of the church.

The Ocean Grill gives 10% of monthly receipts to anyone from Groome when dining there and signs GROOME UMC on the bottom of your receipt.



SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER

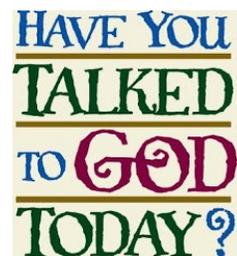
Norm Hansen	09/15
Gisela McCafferty	09/16
Bernie Welsh	09/29
Barbara Willin	10/24
Yvonne Martz	09/30
Tom Pierson	10/11
Ceil Pierson	10/13
Peg Stewart	09/03
Bob Stewart	09/17
Darlene Charles	09/06
Lorraine Messitt	09/15
Tracy Mitchell	09/25
Michelle Phillips	09/20
Ashleigh Martz	09/22
Barry Dietz	09/06
Joan Dietz	09/27



July—August

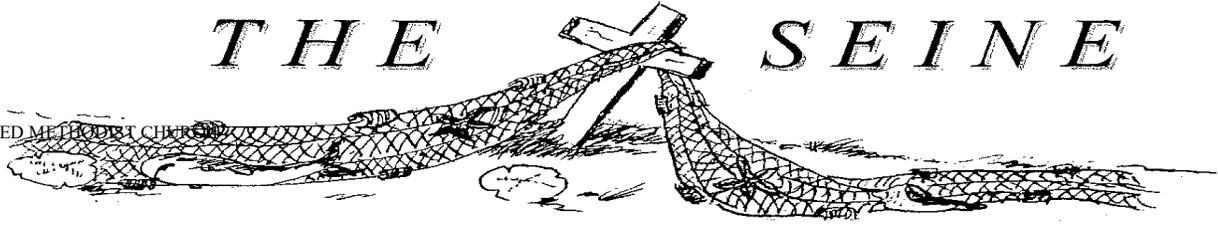
Norm & Jennie Hansen	10/15 (63)
Yvonne & Ron Martz	10/29 (58)
Jeff & Sherry Mitchell	09/12 (55)
Fred & Judy Miller	09/25 (53)
Bob & Eleanor Cordrey	10/30 (48)
Will & Debra Crossan	10/31 (37)
Bob & Peg Stewart	09/18 (36)
Ann & Dale Truitt	10/29 (35)
Tim & Lisa Martz	10/09 (19)

Please notify the church secretary of any additions or changes.



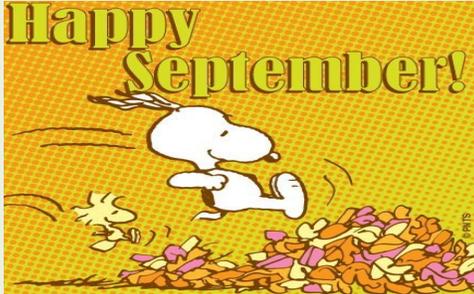
THE SEINE

GROOME UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Matthew 4:19 "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men"

September-October 2018



Groome United Methodist Church
Pastor: Reverend Dr. Will Crossan

Sunday Worship Service—Sunday, 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Children's Church & Nursery

Mid-Week Gathering—Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Soup & Sandwiches/Bible Study
(September-May)

*"Our Vision is to enhance people's belief in
Jesus Christ so they may live a life of holiness and service to others."*

Anchor Coffee House & Concerts-Monthly

Groome United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 299
Savannah Road & Dewey Avenue
Lewes, DE 19958
Phone: 302-645-6256
Fax: 302-645-6256
Email: gumcl@hotmail.com
Webpage: www.groomechurchlewes.org