

THE KEY

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Previous versions of *The Key* are available online: <http://www.cranburyumc.org/thekey.html>

From the pastor's desk...

I am writing this on the Wednesday of Holy Week. I'm sitting in my office on a quiet afternoon, thinking and listening to music. What I'm thinking about is the fact that my time is getting really short around here. By the time you receive this edition of *The Key*, I'll have about seven more Sundays to worship with you. It hardly seems possible, yet it's true.

I'm feeling sentimental I guess, reflecting on the wonderful times we have shared together, and the great support and love I have felt from you for all these years. I'm thinking of the kids I watched grow up right before my very eyes and the ones who are still little who call me by name—something I treasure greatly, by the way. I'm thinking of the people I've known through the years who have either moved away or those who have left life on this planet to enter that other realm of light and mystery.

I'm thinking of moments and times I wish I could relive or redo, but they are gone now—part of history, no longer available except through the windows of memory. I'm thinking of things I might have done or done differently—not with regrets, just with a knowing that we learn as we go along in life if we're open to it.

I'm thinking of the depth of the sad times we've shared—times when we virtually wrapped our arms around one another and felt the strength of being a family. And there were trying times, when we didn't always agree on everything, but mercifully made room for differences and continued to work together in the name of the One who made us all.

I'm thinking of the wonderful parsonage you provided as a home for my family. I will always treasure my memories of watching my boys grow up within its walls, safely and comfortably, and playing in the streets just outside our house, learning to ride a bicycle, shooting hockey pucks, and playing catch.

I'm thinking of the year when Chris and I got married and our families joined together with what we called the "Summer of Seven"—seven of us living under the same roof, yet there seemed to be plenty of room for everybody.

I'm thinking of the time she and I went to Ireland, and many of you, adults and youth together, were here working shoulder to shoulder tirelessly all night long during the flood to keep our church facilities from being totally ruined by the waters gushing in—a sign of love and dedication for our church. What an amazing event!

Just for your information, even though my last Sunday in the pulpit here is June 14, I will still officially be your pastor until June 30. Please feel free to continue to call me should you need anything. If you're not sure how to reach me, call the church office and Cheryl will help you.

I have some wishes for this church that I will share with you in next month's *From the pastor's desk*. But for now I just want to say to you that there could not be a more fortunate pastor than me. I have truly been blest in so many ways, simply from the wonderful opportunity of having been appointed here for the last 24 ½ years!

Much Peace and Love,

Jack

*Please remember our
members and friends in prayer.*

The Red Bird Mission	Thelma Alm
Martin Collins	Libi Crall
Peg Harris	Ruth Hemlin
Kay Milo	Steve Pierce
Kathy Roman	Joyce Schanck
Olga Shen	Barbara Smatusek
Chris Stahl	Bette Thielman
Marcella Woodward	
Pat Gambino's family	

To add or remove a name from our Prayer list,
please contact the church office at 609-395-1737.

Baptism

On Sunday, March 29, Rev. Foster baptized Zachary Erik Van Dillen, son of Melinda and Erik Van Dillen.

New Members

On Sunday, April 5, Richard and Mary Ellen Brennan transferred their membership to our church.

Thank You

I want to thank you for all your prayers, cards, and love before and after my hospital procedure. They are heart-warming, uplifting and most appreciated. God's Blessings.

Dolores Bergmann

How about This?!

The Men's Club has obtained (in early January 2009) an official Cranbury Township permit for our annual church picnic to be held in the Village Park on Sunday, **June 7**, from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM—right after our early summer church service.

Please mark your calendars for that date and watch for details in future bulletins and special notices.

We are already excited and hope you will be too!

Jack Seifert

Would You Like to be an Alternate?

We are looking for someone to be an alternate Lay Delegate to this year's Annual Conference in June. If you want more information, please contact the pastor.

Calling All Graduates!

Please notify the church office of anyone graduating from 8th grade, high school, vo-tech, college, or graduate school. We would like to put this information in next month's newsletter.

Our New Typewriter Arrives!

A special thank you to Patty Moser for buying a new typewriter for the church office. Yes, in the technological world we live in, we still need a typewriter! Now we can once again complete marriage licenses and baptism certificates.

We invite you all to join us in a Farewell
Celebration for

Jack Foster

He has served both the United Methodist Church and the Cranbury community for 25 years, and we want to offer everyone the opportunity to wish him well with a great send off.

Everyone is invited to an Open House

Saturday, June 13

3:00-7:00 PM

in our Fellowship Hall

Please join us at this special time. If you are unable to attend and would like to be remembered, you may send a written message or memory to umcfoster@gmail.com or mail to Pat Gavenda, 25 Station Road, Cranbury, NJ 08512.

All are welcome - Hope to see you there!

Clothing Drive



May 1-31

You can help our Mission Committee by cleaning out your closets. During the month of May, we will be having our Clothing Drive. This Mission project benefits the Rescue Mission of Trenton.

Please bag your gently used spring and summer clothing and drop them off in Room 4. Remember to mark the bags (men, women, children). We can't store any clothes after May 31 so drop them off before the end of the month.

Movie Night

Join us to watch "Sullivan's Travels" on Friday, May 15, at 7:30 PM. Joel McCrea plays a Hollywood director who wants stop doing comedies and make a serious movie about the poor. While pretending to be a hobo, he meets Veronica Lake's character.

Shop for Mother's Day

A fun morning of shopping for a *Mother's Day* gift is planned for Saturday, May 2, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. After choosing their gift, the kids will decorate a bag, wrap the gift, and make a card for *Mom*. The gifts are priced from \$2 to \$10. Snacks will be provided as we all know shopping can make us hungry. Please feel free to leave the children with us so that the shopping experience can remain a secret. You can give a hint as to your favorite color and as to whether you prefer tea or coffee.

If the kids aren't able to shop on Saturday morning, they can shop after Sunday School on May 3 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM. On Saturday, May 9, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, kids from the area who wish to get a gift for Mom are welcome to come and shop. Please let Gerry McClure know if none of the times fit into your schedule. Maybe we can arrange for your child/children to shop during the week.

Calendar of Events for May 2009

May 2: Mothers' Shop, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

May 3: Sunday School, 9:00 AM
Worship Services, 9:00 & 11:00 AM
Unity Lunch following 11:00 worship

May 5: Bible Study, 7:30 PM

May 7: Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM

May 9: Mothers' Shop, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

May 10: Sunday School, 9:00 AM
Worship Services, 9:00 & 11:00 AM

May 13: Administrative Council, 8:30 PM

May 14: Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM

May 15: *Key* articles are due in church office
Movie Night featuring
"Sullivan's Travel," 7:30 PM

May 17: Sunday School, 9:00 AM
Worship Services, 9:00 & 11:00 AM

May 19: Bible Study, 7:30 PM

May 20: Women's Circle, 12:00 noon

May 21: KIDS' Club, 5:00-7:00 PM
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM

May 24: Sunday School, 9:00 AM
Worship Services, 9:00 & 11:00 AM

May 25: Church office closed

May 28: Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM

May 31: Sunday School, 9:00 AM
Worship Services, 9:00 & 11:00 AM
Men's Club, 10:00 AM

