

**Christ United Methodist Church  
Raritan Valley District  
Greater New Jersey Conference**

**2012 Pastor's Report**

As I write this report I am reminded of the verse, "Each of you has received a gift to use to serve others. Be good servants of God's various gifts of grace" (1 Peter 4:10). Here at Christ United Methodist Church we have been truly blessed with persons not only with gifts but persons willing to use their gifts to serve others and God.

Over the last couple of years we have seen some of our servant leaders move from the area. I am thrilled that God is providing us with new servant leaders. These new servant leaders are not only continuing our ministries but helping to create new ministries. God has raised persons up to help create our Worship Design Team, Audio/visual Team, Vision team, and brought us some Vacation Bible School teachers. While we are getting new servant leaders we have also experience a decrease in worship attendance due to the moving of members to other areas. The good news about attendance is that we are seeing more young adults coming to worship.

I want to express a word of thanks and appreciation to our staff. This is a staff dedicated to making disciples for our Lord. Dr. Lynne Stallworth has completed her first year as Director of Music. Dr. Stallworth has done a remarkable job and brings high energy to our worship. Our staff genuinely cares for one another and all the persons associated with our congregation. What we accomplish here is truly a team effort for which I am most grateful.

I am equally appreciative of our ministry teams for the wonderful things that they do. This congregation has very gifted lay leadership and ministries. Having self-motivated servant leaders is a wonderful plus for this congregation and the communities that we serve.

This year we established two new teams. Both of these teams are laity led. We began a Worship Design team to create a more dynamic worship experience. Our hope is to have a worship service that addresses all the human senses and is an interactive experience. The Design Team will use all available resources to make our worship meaningful for those who participate in worship here.

The second new team is our Vision team. This Team is working to gain a better understanding of the people and communities we serve in order to create ministry that are meaningful to our area. The purpose is to create ministries that will be effective in making disciples for our Lord. The Team will also help to cast the vision for our congregation to the congregation.

We are praying for God to raise up a person that has a passion for evangelism. We do a wonderful job here of nurturing our people. We need to develop a better ministry that reaches out in love and concern to the world in order to make new disciples. Given the church's physical setting it is obvious that we need to be intentional in reaching out beyond the walls of our building. Steve Latus has helped us to begin this process by using all forms of media to get our story out to the surrounding communities.

As we move forward here at Christ United Methodist Church my prayer is that we will be open to God's leading. May we develop ministries that go into the world baptizing and proclaiming the "Good News".

In His Service,

Donald w. Tabler, D. Min.