



# Moore's Messenger

Summer 2004  
www.mooreschapel.org

Moore's Chapel United Methodist Church  
392 Blake Road, Elkton, MD 29121

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## An Interview with Kurtis LeMaire

by Jane Weaver

Kurtis LeMaire has already turned 18, but he said it wasn't a big deal. "I don't smoke, I don't gamble, and I can stay out just as late as I used to," said LeMaire with a smile. "18 means nothing in my house."



LeMaire is the corner man in the praise band at Moore's Chapel United Methodist Church. He sits in the corner and plays the drums. Electric drums at that. "It takes more skill to play the real set," LeMaire said. He's been playing drums since he was in 4th grade. Now a senior at Rising Sun High

School, LeMaire believes it is the praise band that is part of the growth explosion at the church.

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## What Can You Learn From A Cicada?

Our everyday lives are surrounded with examples that can be referenced to what the Bible tells us. If you're curious to know what a Cicada can teach us about God's Word, go to [www.mooreschapel.org](http://www.mooreschapel.org) and listen to this and other great sermons by Rev. Jack Cohen. Find out if Jesus is on your fridge, or learn what a big green ogre can teach YOU about the gospel of Christ.

## Jesus Helps You Power Up! Vacation Bible School 2004

See page 3 for details.

## Pastor's Pen

by Rev. Jack D. Cohen



## Grass, Grass, Grass

Here we are summer 2004 where the combination of rain and sunshine has kept us mowing our grass again and again and again. While mowing the lawn this year, I have been thinking about so many things and most recently this verse popped into my head.

In **1 Peter 1:24-25a** we read a paraphrase from the Prophet Isaiah about grass ~ *"<sup>24</sup>For, 'All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, <sup>25</sup>but the word of the Lord stands forever.'"* Grass is a very interesting thing and anyone who has tried to deal with it, knows how resilient, stubborn, and diverse grass is. Think about that comparison – "all men (and women) are like grass," – it is not that far off is it?

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## Pastor's Pen (Continued)

Take a good look at grass and its nature in comparison with people. First of all, grass is very resilient. Over the last few years grass has experienced drought, flooding and yet it continues to remain and grow. For all the negative things that are said regarding humanity, one thing that is true is that we are very resilient. Whether it is the atrocities of the unthinkable holocaust during WWII; the horror of slavery in this country and around the world; or the shock, pain and loss experience in the events of 9/11; humanity has displayed that we are very resilient. Throughout the Bible, we find time and time again how those who trust in God are extremely resilient through war, flood, famine, crime, persecution, etc. The story of humanity, especially those who trust in the Lord, is one of resiliency.

In addition resiliency, grass and humanity are both stubborn at times. How many times have you attempted to seed grass in that empty patch in your yard only to have to use sod and other means to fill it in. At the same time, that beautiful area you have dug out, edged, laid down paper, mulched and placed stone in for your flowers and shrubs; has those stubborn blades and patches of grass shooting throughout your flowerbed. How God must view us in the same way! Where the Lord wants and needs us to "grow and flourish" we often may leave bare, and where God does not want us to plant ourselves, we at times end up sprouting. God desires us to have positive growth in fertile soil and in **John 1:1** God reveals his landscaper talents when Jesus said, "***I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.***" Jesus reveals that God as the gardener "prunes away" those that do not bear fruit; thus, one can also assume that God will plant us where He desires us to be and uproot us where we are not supposed to be.

Finally, grass and people are diverse. To some, grass is just grass; however, many know that certain grasses are made for certain areas and climates. For instance, **Cool-season grasses**, such as Kentucky Bluegrass, hold up well to cold winters, but do not do well in very hot weather. There are Cool-season people, who hold up well when things are cool and even-keeled, yet, when the "heat is on" they tend to crumble under the heat. **Warm-season grasses**, such as Bermuda grass, love heat and sunlight. Think about those who love the lime-light; yet, when they are not the center point they too fall away. **Mixtures** are combinations of different types of grass. The various species all have different strengths and weaknesses, so collectively they hold up to just about anything. The question of life is: "Why am I here and what am I here for?" The fact is that God has a wonderful plan for each of us and he desires us to utilize our diverse gifts to further the ministry of Jesus Christ. If there is a Church that is made up of "cool-season Christians" it will often wither and fall apart when the heat is on. The church that

is full of "Warm-season Christians" will often "die off" when the Christian walk becomes a commitment, lifestyle, and calling — cooling down from the "heat" of early experiences and not being the center point church. Truly what God desires is that diverse, gifted mixture of "grassy Christians" where we find out that the weaknesses of some are balanced by the strengths of others; thus, the entire church and its ministry is strengthened.

For all who are reading this article, I strongly believe that God has planted each in this church, community, country, and world for this time and the "yard of Moore's Chapel Church," the community, and greater world surrounding it will get the "**GREEN THUMBS-up**" when we all truly recognize and utilize the mixture of gifts that we all have to be used in fertile ground God has given us.

Yes, no matter what shape the grass is in, one thing is for sure, God and His Word will stand forever.

Shalom & Agape (Peace & Love),



Jack D. Cohen, Pastor



### Rev. Cohen Recognized at the Annual Conference...

Each year the Board of Ordained Ministry honors the service of clergy in our Conference by recognizing the anniversary of a pastor's ordination. Pastors are honored on each five-year anniversary of their ordination as a Deacon.

This year the Board of Ordained Ministry of The Peninsula-Delaware Conference honored our pastor, the Rev. Jack Cohen for serving faithfully Five Years in the United Methodist Church. He was presented a certificate during the 2004 Annual Conference.

## Moore's Chapel – Worldwide??

It's not always what we planned to do that matters, it's what God has planned to do. The mooreschapel.org website is another example of what happens when you just "turn it over to God". Our little site was originally set up to "mirror" what was happening in our church – to bring our congregation a little closer together. Who would have thought that the "mirror" would reflect around the country and the world!

God "gave" us web space, software, and equipment. Nothing had to come from the church budget. He also gave us content for the site...the events and programs happening in His church. What happened next was hard to believe... the Internet search engines started to spread His word – big-time!! It all started just before Christmas; when our "Hanging of the Greens" service started to get visitors from all over the world. But the "fluke" didn't stop there; it just kept getting bigger and bigger.

Here are some of the latest statistics:

- An average of over 100 people per day have "attended" our church via the web during the past two months.
- Visitors have come from over 102 countries.
- Over 65,000 pages of content have been viewed.
- Over 30,000 inspirational hymns been sent around the world from Moore's Chapel. And we really mean around the world...
- Over 4,000 of our songs from the Praise Team, Choir, and Victory In Jesus have lifted the hearts of visitors.
- 1,200 messages from Pastor Cohen have been read.
- 775 audio sermons have been heard.
- 700 people have considered our site important enough to make it a "favorite" in their web browsers.
- 400 complete copies of our newsletters have been downloaded.
- 250 of our silly little "movie clips" and 7,148 of our cartoons have brought laughter.
- Only about 25 percent of our visitors are "local", the rest are nationwide and worldwide.

Yes, we have won some awards, but our reward is in knowing that God is using His church and His website to spread His word. We may never know whose spirit we have lifted and whose heart we have touched. So the next time you enter our little church, remember... God is there and the world is watching...



### Jesus Helps You Power Up ! Vacation Bible School 2004



This year's Vacation Bible School program provides biblically-based, powerful lessons that will have a lasting impact on children's lives.

**Love** One Another

**Accept** One Another

**Serve** One Another

**Comfort** One Another

**Forgive** One Another

Come and join us this year to **POWER UP !**

What: A fun time to learn about the Love of Jesus with your friends.  
When: July 11 - 16, 2004 Sunday 6:00-8:30 pm Mon.-Fri. 6:30-8:30 pm  
Where: Moore's Chapel United Methodist Church, Blake Road, Elkton, Md.  
Who: Ages 3 - 8th grade

Contact Jen Arter at [vbschool@mooreschapel.org](mailto:vbschool@mooreschapel.org)



## Update of the E x p a n s i o n of Moore's Chapel

6-6-04

Many Bible verses apply to the expansion of Moore's Chapel, but two stand out:

The first verse: *"Where there is no vision the people perish."* (KJV Proverbs 29:18A) God is fulfilling the vision of Moore's Chapel through expansion that will meet our needs and the community.

The second verse: *"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."* (NIV Ephesians 4:3) This can be achieved if we remember directions learned from a Bible study many years ago:

The purpose for building is to glorify God.

The power for building is the Holy Spirit.

The tools for building is: Prayer, Scripture

The model for building is Jesus Christ.

The motive for building is love and service.

The second Building Team Meeting was May 11, 2004. On May 7, several people from the team attended an excellent, informative, and timely seminar on Church Fund-Raising, Finance and Construction. The practical and useful materials were shared with the building team and others interested. One of the speakers stated, "the series of steps that precede the bricks and mortar are vital." That is exactly what we are in the process of doing.

During the May 11 meeting the team discussed information gathered and various plans. Several people from the congregation submitted their thoughts, plans, and visions. These were presented at the meeting and were helpful in implementing the building process. Preliminary building plans will later be displayed for the congregation to view.

Please contact Tom McDade or Linda Seward if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions. Thank you.

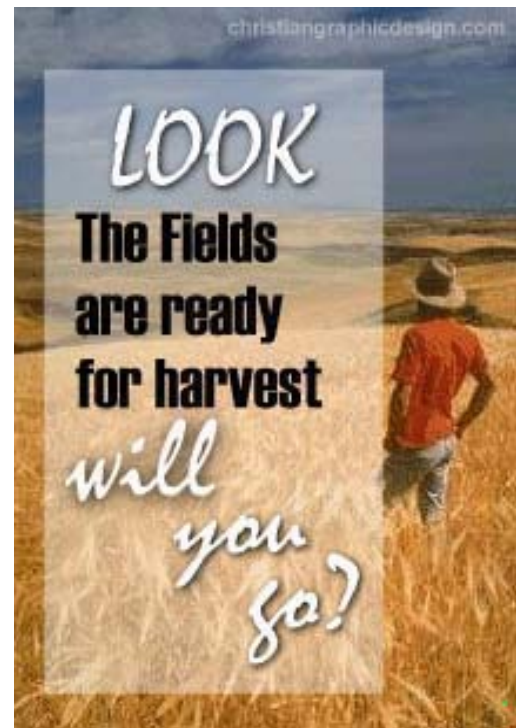
## Alpha Christian Study Course

We all have questions. What is the point of life?... What happens when we die?... What relevance does Jesus have for our lives today?... How do we deal with guilt?



Alpha is a once a week opportunity to explore the validity and relevance of the Christian faith for our lives today. It is a practical introduction to the basics of Christianity with loads of opportunity for debate and discussion. No matter what your background; whether investigating Christianity for the first time or revisiting your faith, participants get a lot out of an Alpha Course.

Moore's Chapel **is once again considering** hosting the 10-week Alpha Course. We would like to know who is interested in participating. **Remember, you do not have to be a member of Moore's Chapel in order to attend.** For more information go to [www.moorechapel.org](http://www.moorechapel.org) or



**Amber Reynolds**



*Amber ~ I want some of your energy! It has been a blessing getting to know you this past year. God bless your future ~ Love, Glenn & Christine*

*Congratulations to my daughter Amber Reynolds! May God bless your future mightily. Love, Mom*

**Dan Coleman**



*Congratulations Dan!*

**Congratulations  
Class of 2004!**



**Kurtis LeMaire**



*Jen,*

*They should have been triplets, or maybe even quadruplets! Bob Logan*

*Kurtis ~ What a willing servant you are! We admire your determination. God bless your upcoming year ~ Love, Glenn & Christine*

**April LeMaire**



*April ~ You are beautiful inside & out. We are honored to be your friends! Best wishes in SC & God bless all you do ~ Love, Glenn & Christine*



## Summer Music



Even though it's summer, the music goes on at Moore's Chapel. The Praise band will continue at the 8:30 service. Special guest musicians along with some of our own talent will be praising God at the 10 o'clock service. The choir will return in September after a summer's rest. They are not to rest their voices, however, but are to keep singing and keeping their voices in shape!

### Schedule:

June 27	Carolyn Spencer
July 4	Johnson Family Singers
July 11	Moore's Chapel Singing Cousins
July 18	Moore's Chapel Bible School
July 25	Jennifer Sabatino and her flute
August 1	Sandy Jackson
August 8	Yvonne King and Family
August 15	Debbie and Jake Schneider
August 22	Jill Hamma
August 29	Outdoor Service/Picnic



### Betty & Bill Rogers go whitewater rafting.....

While white water rafting trip down the New River in Fayetteville, West Virginia, Bill and I were off to our Memorial Day weekend to the New River. We are experienced at white water rafting. We had spent 16 days on the Colorado River in October -- 227 miles of River.

Bill and I had done the New River in 2002. It was below its water level at that time. Our 2 man inflatable canoe flipped on a level 5 rapid that year. That was my first experience of being pulled down a raging river rapid called Double Z. I never let go of the boat. That is what Bill had instructed me to do. Finally, God gave us a rock in the middle of the rapid to stop us. I got back in the boat after catching my breath.

Bill and I and a friend Larry left for the river Thursday evening. I was tired and had just been tested for 2 days for my trauma certification. We arrived at the campground at 2:30am. We were all pretty tired. We slept the best we could in the truck because it was pouring down rain. The next day we set up camp in the rain. We were waiting for Andy and Cindy to meet up with us, because you need at least 5 people in the boat to row and rudder. That gave me time to do my homework (an 8 page paper on Maureen Ham's Nutrition Assessment). Sometimes if you want to play, you have to do homework on vacation.

The next day we put on the river at 10:00am. Bill and Andy were at the front of the boat, Cindy and I were behind them and Larry was at the rudder (back of the boat). The river was very exciting. The water level was 12.6 feet higher than normal. They usually close the river to commercial boats at 13 feet, so you can imagine the water was really raging. We had been on the river about 3 hours; we pulled over and had a bite of lunch, then proceeded down the river to the next rapid.

It happened so fast. We were in this thrashing rapid. I could see a big circulating hole to my right. Next thing I saw was Andy fly across to Bill's side of the boat, then the boat flipped. I was under the boat, but I got out and held onto a ring with Cindy. Cindy attempted to go to the side of the boat for a handle to hold onto. Suddenly we were all knocked off the boat. We were not sure which way is up. I finally surfaced and I could see that boat. Andy was holding his hand out to me. Next thing I know I screamed for Bill and went under again. I started to pray for God to help me. I again rose above the water. I started swimming to the side as hard as I could. The current was too strong. I was soon exhausted. I closed my eyes and called on God to help me. The next thing I know I was reaching for a rock sticking up in the water. I started to thank God loudly and cry because he had heard my prayer and helped me. I clung onto that rock for a very long time. I thought I was left behind. I thought I would be out there alone. Again I prayed and the next thing I knew I heard someone calling my name. It was Andy. He had backtracked after the boat that had picked him up. I was so weak from exhaustion. Andy reached for my hand. I had to climb up a cliff that was covered with poison ivy. Andy let me know it was the only way and not to worry about the poison ivy. I made it up and down this cliff to the rescue boat. We went about a half mile and pulled over to the other boats and there was Cindy, Bill and Larry. God had answered my prayer; he took care of all of us.

One thing I have learned from my grandmother is that when you pray and ask God for something, don't ever think he is not going to answer. If you take it back and worry about your petition, it simply means that you don't trust that God will take care of it.

I have often thought why God cares so much about me. Sunday I got the answer, I belong to Him. *Betty Rogers.*

*Interview with Kurtis LeMaire continued from Page 1*

"I think our church is growing because of the early service," he said of the 8:30 Sunday morning worship. LeMaire has attended Moore's Chapel his entire life and credits his first Sunday School teacher, Mrs. Phyllis Scott, with setting the foundation for his faith. Even at that tender age, LeMaire said he saw "the commitment she had to our class." He remembers sitting next to her during the church service and drawing on paper as he listened.

While he definitely has a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, LeMaire admits he sometimes has trouble "being up front" with his faith. He said he takes his faith to school where he is active in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and tries to show his friends what his faith is all about. "I tell them it isn't a religion, it's a relationship. I have a Best Friend that is always there for me" he said confidently.

It wasn't always that way. Then he went to Chrysalis. This weekend retreat for teens often brings young people closer to God than they thought possible. "I went because everybody went," LeMaire said of the Chrysalis invitation. "I thought I knew what I was getting, but I got more," he said, still in awe even though it happened a while ago. "It's the closest experience you'll ever have with Christ," he said.



Kurtis always likes the cookie jar full!  
*Ruth Anne Johnson*

There is so much I could say about Kurtis, he is the most awesome person. I first met him about 15 years ago, I'm sure he doesn't remember, he was so little, so I have had the privilege of watching him grow up, both physically and spiritually. He is one of those kids that always has time to give even "old" people like me a hug and offer to help in any way he can.

We have this little thing between us. Every time we have an Emmaus event and go out to eat, and Kurtis likes to eat, I tell him I will pay if he will pray. He says some of the most heartfelt prayers, right in public, like a lot of people wouldn't do. If we all patterned ourselves after him it would be a wonderful world. I love him very much!! *Fay Pierce*



Kurtis is such a blessing to all of us at Moore's Chapel. He is always ready with friendly smile and a helping hand with whatever needs to be done. Kurtis is an inspiration to us as we witness his dedication to serving the Lord through his participation in the Choir, The Praise Band, Chrysalis, VBS, The Youth Group Activities, Worship Leader, helping with the sound system, the dramas and many other programs.

Kurtis has touched our lives as we have watched him grow from a boy into a young man and remain so committed to his faith and his walk with the Lord. It is awesome to see a teenage guy not be embarrassed to "walk the walk".

Best of luck to you Kurtis as you graduate from High School. I am assured the world will be a better place wherever you go and whatever you do and people will be blessed and come to know Jesus because of you. Fly With Christ! *Tom and Sue McDade*



## Pastor's Pick Book Review *The Gospel According to the Simpsons*

by Rev. Jack D. Cohen



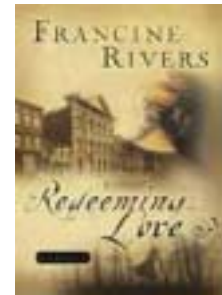
"DOH!" "Don't Have a Cow, Man!" These are some of the popular sayings of one of the longest running shows in television history: *The Simpsons*. In addition to the numerous websites, clothes, toys, books, and novelty items, author Mark I. Pinsky focuses on "The Spiritual Life of the World's Most Animated Family" in his book, *The Gospel According to the Simpsons*.

I personally have enjoyed the sarcastic and spoofing humor of *The Simpsons* for years; yet, even for those who do not appreciate the humor of *The Simpsons*, this book really makes a great point that this show really portrays religion in the United States better than any other show on television. Throughout this enlightening and at times humorous look at reality through the eyes of the Simpson family and friends, Pinsky looks at such topics as personal prayer; evangelical Christians; the preacher; heaven, hell and the devil; moral dilemmas; the Bible; Catholicism; Protestantism; Judaism; etc. In reading this, I was reminded that much of the teaching of Jesus dealt with the parables (*Jesus taking things from the world and revealing the things of God to others*) which is one of the reasons I truly love this book. As Christian humorist, speaker and professor Tony Campolo writes in the foreword of this book, "his (Pinsky's) book does provide a pretty good picture of our religious thinking and behavior with out the sometimes heavy jargon of social scientists. And beyond that, this book is just fun to read!"

As a supplement to this book there is a study group for *The Gospel According to the Simpsons* if this is something you may be interested in participating in, please call the church at 410-398-7245. For more information on Mark Pinsky and this book visit [www.markpinsky.com](http://www.markpinsky.com) on the web.

## Melissa's Pick ~ Redeeming Love by Francine Rivers

I can sum this book up in one word, AWESOME!! I am not much of a reader other than grading papers but this book was so great I couldn't put it down. This book sat on my book shelf for over a month and I decided to take it on vacation with me. I began reading it while on the beach the second day. I finished the 500 pages by the next night. I was sucked in! The first few chapters were unbelievable and I couldn't figure out why I was reading such a horrible story about a little girl. This is an incredible love story where Michael Hosea wouldn't give up. Through God's leading he would continue to fight for this woman. What a powerful message! This story is based on the book of Hosea and Francine Rivers does an excellent job taking God's word and showing us how much God loves us. I can't recommend this book enough. An excellent choice for summer reading material. Yes, I know 500 pages is a turn off but it is time well spent to renew the soul.




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## An Interview of Trixie Waddell by Mallory Underwood

**Question #1:** How did you come to know Christ?

**Trixie:** *I knew he was there all along, I just didn't know he was in me.*

**Question #2:** What was the final "connection" you felt between you and Christ?

**Trixie:** *When I took my first Communion here at Moore's Chapel.*

**Question #3:** How does God affect your life?

**Trixie:** *He smoothes out all the edges in my life, and he makes me understand that he's in charge.*

**Question #4:** What does your faith mean to you?

**Trixie:** *I now enjoy getting up early in the morning!*

**Question #5:** How has God answered your prayers?

**Trixie:** *Well, I wouldn't say this is an answered prayer, but he showed me something that I didn't want to pray about. I didn't want to forgive the girls that killed my son, but he made me see that I needed to do so, and it just happened.*

**Question #6:** What do you want to tell others about Christ?

**Trixie:** *He is awesome. He is always there, and you feel him everywhere.*

~\* Thank you Trixie, for taking the time to answer my questions!~\*

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## UPDATES

### Senior Fellowship

Please be thinking of ideas for activities and trips for our group to do his summer and fall. See me at church, give me a call or e-mail.  
Cooky Howett

### Sunday School

Sunday School is meeting during the months of June and July from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. while the second service is at 10:00 a.m. Junior Church will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Besides the youth and adult class, we have been averaging 25 to 30 children per Sunday. It can be really noisy downstairs, but we are plugging along and doing the best we can. Please encourage your children to attend Sunday School; they can make new friends while learning about Jesus.

As a **fundraiser** for the building program, the Sunday School is selling brooms for \$10.00. The brooms are located at the back of the Church. You need only to deposit your money in the jar; extra brooms are downstairs if anyone is interested in selling to their neighbors, coworkers, etc.

The **Church picnic** will be held on Sunday, August 29, 2004 beginning at 10:00 a.m at the Cherry Grove Pavillion on Wilson Road; please bring a covered dish, lawn chair and a friend. This is a great time for worship and fellowship.

### Vacation Bible School

**July 11 - 16, 2004**  
See page 3 for details.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### QUEST

Don't forget the upcoming events for our youth summer program QUEST. Every Tuesday night the months of June and July from 6:30-8:00 for ages 5-13. Bring your friends. We had a blast at the carnival with 80+ people in attendance!

### Movie Night

We had a great time at our first Movie Night. The smell of popcorn in the sanctuary was wonderful! Thanks for all who attended and helped make movie night a success.

Our next movie night will be Friday, August 13th featuring an outside Drive in movie at Moore's Chapel beginning at 8:30 p.m.

### Bill Gaither and Homecoming Friends Concert

The Bill Gaither and Homecoming Friends Concert is Dec. 3rd at 7:00pm at the Wachovia Center in Philadelphia. Tickets are \$30.00 and include bus transportation and tip. This event is for Moore's Chapel and friends. It will also be an outing for the Senior Group. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church. You may place a check in an envelope marked "Gaither Concert" in the offering plate.

### UMW Yard Sale

Start cleaning out your closets! The UMW annual yard sale will be September 10th and 11th.

# CALENDAR OF SPECIAL EVENTS

July 11-16, Sun.-Fri.		Vacation Bible School
August 13, Fri.	8:30 pm	QUEST Movie Night
August 29, Sun.	10:00 am	Church picnic at the Cherry Grove Pavilion
Sept. 10 & 11		UMW Annual Yard Sale
Oct. 31, Sun.		Moore's Chapel Homecoming
Dec. 3, Fri.	7:00 pm	Bill Gaither & Homecoming Friends Concert at the Wachovia Center



## Newsletter

This is your newsletter. You are encouraged to submit articles, pictures, information relevant to your committees and ministries at Moore's, cartoons, humor, poetry or anything else you would like to share.

*Please submit your information to Theresa Beeg or Susan McDade.*

**Remember to share your newsletter with a friend!**



## Mailing List

If you are new to Moore's Chapel and want to be on the mailing list, or if you need to update your address, telephone number or other information, please contact the Moore's Chapel Pastor's Assistant Diane Ristine at (410) 398-1422. **If you know anyone that you would like to receive the newsletter, add them too!**

www.mooreschapel.org

Contemporary/Praise Service - Sundays at 8:30 a.m.  
Christian Education - Sundays at 8:30 a.m./Junior Church 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.  
Traditional Service - Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

~ Summer Schedule ~

Jesus, Christ, God, Son, Saviour



392 Blake Road  
Elkton, MD 21921