



The United Methodist Church of Red Bank
247 Broad Street, Red Bank, NJ 07701
732-747-0446 Fax: 732-530-5715
www.umcredbank.org

THE OUTLOOK

**UMC Red Bank is a Church open to ALL to CONNECT with God
and others, to GROW in our faith, and to SERVE in love.”**

February 2018

Dear Church Family,

Even though it feels like we were just celebrating Christmas, Lent is already upon us. Our Lenten season begins this year with our Ash Wednesday services on February 14. Beginning on this day of repentance, we enter into a season of contemplation and inward searching, preparing our hearts and lives for the heart-wrenching journey of Holy Week.

This year, our Lenten worship series entitled Listen will invite us into the spiritual practices of deep listening – listening to our bodies, our scriptures, our heart, our brokenness and need for healing, and the still small voice of God that speaks, often beyond words. As we journey together into deep and reflective listening, I invite you to open your heart and mind, allowing the Spirit of God to work within – illuminating those places we frequently overlook in our lives.

So often we get stuck in the mode of talking AT God – mostly through prayer, as we pour our wishes and sometimes even demands out, expecting God to respond in just the way we desire. While there is nothing wrong with pouring your heart out to God, a step we too often forget is LISTENING. Listening for what God is saying in the midst of life. Most say they have never heard the voice of God, so they don't know what to listen for... but I believe that God communicates through more than just words. God is reaching out to us all the time, amid the created world, the words of Scripture, the emotions and intuitions within our own spirit, and through our everyday experiences. God is always communicating with us... the question is, are we listening?

It is my prayer that through our Lenten journey, you will enter into a spirit of deep listening, for as Margaret Wheatley wrote, “Listening moves us closer, it helps us become more whole, more healthy, more holy.” May we all emerge from this Lenten journey on a closer walk with God, centered in the love of Christ, and fueled by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

May God's blessing and peace be yours along the journey.

Rev. Jessica B. Naulty



Church Flowers

Dear Friends,

The lovely flower we see on the altar with the variety of green leaves and bushes of bright colors, remind us of God's beauty. What better way to lift our spirits and remember nature's beauty than to include some of that beauty in our church and worship.

Here is your opportunity to contribute to the beautification of our church. Please consider making a donation to purchase flowers. You may designate that you are placing flowers in memory, honor, or celebration of an individual or organization as you choose. Floral arrangements are available for \$45 each and you may subscribe for one or more arrangements. Your name and purpose of your donation will be listed in Sunday's bulletin. You may also specify a particular Sunday or Sundays (for an anniversary, birthday, or whatever) on a first-come, first-served basis. You may also choose to bring a "personal donation" of garden flowers or store bought.

Please note we will only purchase flowers on Sundays that are subscribed and paid in advance; other Sundays provide the opportunity to show off our potted plants. Orders should be submitted to Sheila at your convenience anytime during the year.

Please fill out the form below and return it with your check which may be placed in the offering plate or dropped in the mail slot in Sheila's office door.

I/We would like to give a gift of _____ arrangement(s) @ \$45.00 (per arrangement on any Sunday)

OR

I/We would like to design or donate a store-bought floral arrangement (No check needed for this)

Date:

In honor of:

In memory of:

In celebration of:

Given by:

Attached is a check for \$_____

From our Treasurer

Robin Foster

732-614-1438, rfosterumcrb@gmail.com

2017 Financials and Thoughts on Sustainability

Our 2017 year-end deficit was \$24,956, about 1/3 lower than the \$37,820 deficit we expected as we began the year. Thanks to all who gave generously as the year closed, including holiday giving, Close the Deficit giving (which totaled \$6089 for the year) and Building Use which has been strong all year. Shout outs as well to the HUBOB team which brought in a total of \$3,033 in 2017. We should also note that two members, Tiffany McCann and Janet Tartaglia generously lead Yoga and Fitness classes each week which now contribute to Building Use.

Now we turn our sights to 2018. How do we create a more sustainable future for ourselves? How do we set up patterns of giving and income so that The United Methodist Church of Red Bank remains strong and steady in its support of our community and in support of the causes dear to us? Sustainability is relevant to so many issues in our world, from the environment and our use of the natural resources given to our world, to our personal finances and business operating models. As you give in 2018, be mindful of giving on a regular basis. Can you set up your checking account to send a contribution each paycheck or each month to the church? (That's what Charlie and I do – the bank mails the check to the Church once a month.) Or use our online giving option to set up a regular contribution. Automating your giving is one great way to set up a steady pattern of giving on your part, and sustainable and predictable finances for the Church. And automated giving means you're never behind if you are absent from church for a while.

Please continue to be in prayer for our Church, for its programs to be sustained through the coming years, and for its finances. Give generously whenever you can, and always spend thoughtfully. Thank you again for your strong giving at the end of 2017.

Outreach

...Kathy Hackler

732-918-0344, hackler@optonline.net

Special thanks to everyone who participated in Outreach's Advent Options this past year. Our SERVV sale, in addition to supporting fair trade small businesses around the world, raised \$150 for UMCOR. \$2680 was donated to Heifer International, \$475 for Family Promise, and \$633 for the Tanzania UMC guest house. In addition, \$210 was sold in purses and dresses to support the women's craft projects at the Tanzanian church. Thank you so much church family for supporting these very worthwhile causes.

Adult Education

....Mark Hackler
732-918-0344, hackler@optonline.net

Adult Education has started a new series Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm or Sunday mornings at 9:30. The series - *The Challenge of Paul with John Dominic Crossan* - will run through February. Crossan, being an historical and theological scholar, will present Paul in the historical context of first century Rome and address how to understand arguably the most influential and controversial figure in early Christianity. He will address popular indictments of Paul - that he supported slavery, was anti-semitic, anti-women, and anti-gay. He will address the notion that Paul is overly confusing. Our expectation is that we will leave this series with a better understanding of who Paul is and what he wishes to say through his letters. Please join us!

This is a discussion based class and many ideas are shared. We do not all agree - and that is OK. We hope to deepen our faith by adding a historical context and by discussion that challenges us all to think about what we believe and what makes sense to us. All are welcome. We meet in the Lounge.

HUBOB

.....Marion Kleiner
732-918-9587, marionkleiner@gmail.com

It's time for chili: Stop by in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, February 4th before you head home for the Super Bowl game and pick up the best chili in town. Feed your family and friends while you watch the game. Choose between meat and vegetarian, and add some corn bread. Decide between one 16 oz. container for \$8.00 or two for \$15.00. Maybe keep one for a quick supper during the week.

REMEMBER: IT'S ALWAYS TIME TO HUBOB
(Help Us Balance Our Budget)

Scholastic Assistance

....Barbara Gunther
732-203-1970, bjgunther@verizon.net

Please mark your calendar for this year's **Annual Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner**. The date of the dinner will be easy to remember this year: *St. Patrick's Day, Saturday, March 17th!!!* More information to follow.

Learning Tree

.....Kara Crespo
learningtreepreschoolredbank@gmail.com

Happy Valentine's Day! Lots of love will be felt all around Learning Tree this month as we celebrate this holiday! We will also continue to enroll children in all of our programs for the 2018/2019 school year so please continue to share about our preschool!

Need a piano?

Barb Valenti
(732) 671-3107, barb.mellenti@gmail.com

The church needs to remove a few old upright pianos that are no longer needed. We are offering church members the opportunity to take them. You may make a donation to the church but none is required. First come, first serve. You must move the piano. You can move yourself or Monmouth Piano company in Neptune recommends Keyboard Express ([732-929-4111](tel:732-929-4111)). You may play them (room numbers provided). Please coordinate desire for piano and removal with Barb Valenti (barb.mellenti@gmail.com) or [\(732\) 671-3107](tel:732-671-3107) (leave a message). The pianos will be removed from the church by March 1, 2018.

Winter brand, Room 206



Fischer Unitized Construction, Room 206



Harrington, Peck & Co, New York, Room 208



Help is needed

A homebound woman in Tinton Falls needs a helper around once a week to do minor jobs in her apartment, run errands, pick up dry cleaning, etc. If anyone is interested in helping this woman, please let Gerri Poranski know ([908-247-1259](tel:908-247-1259)).

HEALTH AND WHOLENESS OPPORTUNITIES

BALANCE AND STRENGTH TRAINING - Join the group to strengthen balance and fitness led by Janet Tartaglia, on **Tuesdays at 12 pm** in room 206. A no impact, no mat workout for the older adult done standing or sitting on chairs. Call Janet at 732-284-8222 or the church office for more information.

PRANA FLOW YOGA – Join us **every Wednesday morning from 9:30-11 am** in room 206 for **Prana Flow® Yoga**. Tiffany McCann will instruct the class to calm your mind, strengthen your body and open your heart.

God Squad

....Greg Jansky
gjansky@gmail.com

....Jim Stonaker
Jimbo.stonaker@gmail.com

....Suzanne Dice
zannedice@aol.com

God Squad started the new year off with two big nights. On God Squad's first night back from the holidays we welcomed back our alumni to hear stories of their adventures and learn what life is like after high school. On the second Wednesday of January, God Squad participated in their second Annual Ask Us Anything - whereby the youth of God Squad were able to ask the leaders questions about anything the youth wanted. The youth heard lots of great stories and shared a lot of laughs. God Squad looks forward to the annual game night and preparing for the Spaghetti dinner.

God Squad members Dillon McCann, Jake Dice, and Ryan Moore spent time volunteering with Lunch Break on the second Saturday of January.

God Squad has a few important dates on the calendar:

February 3rd - 5 pm to 7 pm at the church. Come to the annual God Squad *Spaghetti Dinner*, hosted in Fellowship Hall. This all-you-can-eat event features spaghetti or ravioli and your choice of meat or meatless sauces. Did we mention **all you can eat**? And, for dessert, God Squad will be featuring their world renown bake sale table. Tickets are \$12 and \$5, and are available in Fellowship Hall between services and at the door.

God Squad is collecting clothes for the **Annual Clothing Drive**. **Clothes can be brought in Wednesday nights before youth group or at any of the Sunday worship services**. See a God Squad member to have your clothes brought to our collection point. Clean, wearable clothing, paired shoes, linens and handbags are all acceptable. The last day to bring in clothing is February 3rd.

All proceeds from all fundraisers go to the God Squad Mission Trip fund.

Men's Fellowship

....Jim Mellon
jim.mellenti@gmail.com

Attention! Fellow guys of UMC Red Bank!

We'll have our February gathering on February 3rd at 8 AM. I'll have the coffee hot, and some snacks, too. Come and share what's happening in your life. We'll certainly look into the changes underway with our education wing. You say what?!?! Contact Jim Mellon, cell: [732-647-5744](tel:732-647-5744) or e-mail: jim.mellenti@gmail.com for more information.

United Methodist Women - UMW

.....Linda Babler
732-741-1793, lsbabler@aol.com



UMW will be sponsoring an **Ash Wednesday Service and Light Lunch** on Wednesday February 14th, at 12 noon in Squire Chapel. Lunch will be served immediately following the service. Everyone is welcome to attend. Ashes and communion will be served.

Book Club meets the 4th Saturday of the month at 1pm in the Library. Please note the change of date and time during the winter months. Our book for February 24th is "The Grapes of Wrath" by Steinbeck.



Box Tops for Education - UMW collects these labels - they help the Red Bird Mission in Kentucky. Please take a moment and clip the label off the products you normal use and leave them in the box by the mail bins in the hall outside Sheila's office.



Lunch Break - Volunteers are needed to help cook, serve, and clean up on Saturday, February 3rd, from 8:30 am – 12 noon. If you can help please contact Barbara Valenti at barb.mellenti@gmail.com.

UMW has a **Prayer Shawl ministry** here at the church. If you can sew, knit or crochet you are needed. We also are making baby blankets for the children that are baptized at our church. We now are providing baby, preemie caps for Monmouth Medical. Our next dedication will be in May, lots of time to finish up a prayer shawl. If you would like to be part of this ministry contact Linda Babler. Normally, we meet on the 3rd & 4th Saturdays at 10 am, in the Lounge. But, during the winter months we will not be meeting on Tuesday evenings.

Mark Your Calendars UMW Sponsored **Tea** will be held on Sunday, March 11th in room 114 at 12 noon, mark your calendars and watch for much, more information to come.

Craft Group will be meeting on February 13th and February 27th (second and fourth Tuesdays) from 11 am till 2 pm in the Library Lounge area. Bring your light lunch for our short lunch break and join the fellowship. Help us create cards for distribution on Sunday mornings. All proceeds go to help UMW meet its pledge to missions locally and around the world.

Come out and celebrate with United Methodist Women on **February 11th at 12 noon in 114**. We will be honoring our **Women of the Year of 2017**. A light lunch will be served.

Reminder: Mission Team Meeting will be on February 26th at 1 pm in the Library, due to the office being closed on the 19th.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

....**BARB VALENTI**
732-614-4086, barb.mellenti@gmail.com

There is a Lost and Found Box in the hallway between the sanctuary and back door (the children exit through the hallway after Children's Hour). Please look for missing items there. If it is a valuable item, check with Sheila Leavitt (church secretary).

When there are big events on the weekends or holidays, you can park on the other side of the parsonage in the lawyer's parking lot (229 Broad St-McKenna Dupont Higgins & Stone PC). There is also 2-hour street parking.

Back Pack Crew

....**Suzanne Dice**
zannedice@aol.com

***Do Good.
And Good
Will Come to You!***

Plan to join us for our **Third Annual Backpack Crew Gala** on March 3, 6-10 pm, at Oyster Point Hotel. Ticket are \$135 for Dinner, Silent Auction and Entertainment by Junction 13. Purchase tickets via one.bidpal.net/backpackcrew or mail your check to The Backpack Crew, P.O. Box 68, Atlantic Highlands, NJ 07716.

Bible Study

....**Jim Mellon**
jim.mellenti@gmail.com

Tuesday Evening Bible Study, Gospel of John

On February 6th, we will restart with Chapter 12 of John. Additionally, we have moved the time of the class up to 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM.

Come join us at Jim Mellon and Barb Valenti's home at 134 Sleepy Hollow Road, (Middletown), Red Bank. We enjoy sharing an evening of Bible Study and fellowship. All are welcome. For more information contact Jim Mellon, cell: 732-647-5744; home: 732-671-3107; or email: jim.mellenti@gmail.com.

The Village

It takes a village to raise The Village!

Most of you know that in September we launched the 11:00 AM Village service, with the help of a \$30,000 Congregational Development Grant from the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference. We hope that you have taken the opportunity to worship with us in this new style at least once to check out what it's all about. The baby has been born! Now comes the challenge of nurturing its growth. The good news is that we have been awarded \$10,000 for a second year of the grant for 2018. The bad news is that this 2018 grant allocation leaves us \$10,000 shy of what we need for essentials to continue the service for the entirety of 2018. As a congregation, we had committed to support the Village service for 2 years to give it time to grow into its potential. Our Village Dream Team is hard at work evaluating the next steps to expand our community connections, through advertising, events, and relationship building. To give these plans time to come to fruition, please consider gifting any extra financial support you can towards The Village. You can also help by getting acquainted with The Village and what makes it special. This will help you talk up the service within the community. Let's work together to keep The Village going strong through 2018 and beyond!

Race Relations Forum

Georg Schildge

848-218-1847, ghs@crpindustries.com

***Save the date:
Sunday, February 25, 2018
3-5 PM
Fellowship Hall***

Participants:
Gilbert Caldwell, Retired Methodist Minister
Gilda Rogers, Thomas Fortune House
Sid Bernstein, Citizens for a Diverse & Open Society
Members of our Church and community

In today's atmosphere it is appropriate and needed to discuss the struggles and contributions of African-Americans and immigrants in our community. Join us for this discussion.

Need some muscle!!

....**BARB VALENTI**
732-614-4086, barb.mellenti@gmail.com

Bring your back brace, knee brace or just your glasses! We need people who can move furniture, boxes and other stuff between floors. We also need people who can sit and clean out files or shelves.

Come for an hour or as long as there is work to do (and believe me, there is lots to do)!

Clean up dates and times are: Saturday, February 3rd from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm and Saturday, February 10th from 8 to 11 am.

Contact Barb Valenti at barb.mellenti@gmail.com if any questions or really want to help but can't come on that day.

Church Family News

....**Chelsea Foster**
732-737-4382, cfoster_01@arcadia.edu

Your Church Family would like to celebrate Birthdays, Weddings, Retirements, Anniversaries, Births and many more momentous occasions with you. You can submit your celebrations to Chelsea Foster at cfoster_01@arcadia.edu or email to sleavitt@umcredbank.org or simply drop them in the office door mail slot.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers...

All those affected by natural and human-made disasters, economic conditions, famine, civil war and genocide, those serving our country, shut-ins, all who are ill in body and spirit, those struggling with illness and substance abuse. For strength and healing for all in the world who need it and for compassion and understanding in our relationships.

Please bother us!!

Communication is crucial in letting us know when members of this congregation are hospitalized or ill. We would rather be told multiple times than to not know at all. So, let Pastor Naulty and Pastor Zito know, leave messages at church, or email us at sleavitt@umcredbank.org. Remember that hospitals no longer contact clergy when members are hospitalized.



Please check our website www.umcredbank.org for an up-to-date church calendar.
The Outlook is a newsletter published monthly (except July and August) by The United Methodist Church of Red Bank, 247 Broad Street, Red Bank, NJ 07701.

Rev. Jessica B. Naulty, Senior Pastor
Rev. Christina Zito, Minister of Visitation
Elaine Dawson, Director of Children, Youth and Young Adult Ministries
Evan Courtney, Director of Music Ministries
Sheila Leavitt, Financial and Church Secretary
Bob Shindel and Tom Sutton, Sextons
Rev. David G. Henritz, Retired Pastor Emeritus

Worship Services
8:15 am Communion Service
9:30 am Traditional Service
9:30 am and 11 am Adult Education
9:30 am Sunday School
11:00 am The Village Progressive Service
11:00 am Children's Church

Church Office Hours
Monday through Thursday 8:30 am-3:30 pm
(732) 747-0446
Fax: (732) 530-5715

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