

Welcome Visitors

We're happy you joined us today! Visitor Bags are available – please ask an usher or greeter. Join us for fellowship in Fellowship Hall directly after the service. Thank you for visiting. We look forward to seeing you again!

Helpful information:

- Hearing assistance devices are available.
- Childcare is available in our nursery, room 109 at 9:30 AM.
- Bathrooms are located outside the Sanctuary and the Chapel.

Name Tags

We ask all members and regular visitors to please wear nametags on Sunday mornings. Name tags are in a rack at the rear entrance to Church and in the Narthex. Leave them where it is most convenient for you. New name tags can be provided by David Henritzky or George Schildge. Thank you for your co-operation!



Visit us at www.umcredbank.org or
at www.facebook.com/umcredbank or
at www.instagram.com/umcrb



In Our 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 sick in body and spirit, those struggling with depression, eating disorders, and substance abuse. Pray for our president and our nation, our newly elected leaders, John Murphy, Betty Hansen, Mildred Stout, Dottie Hay, Joan Weber, Lil Zimmerman, Roger LeValley, Terri Dinkel, Margaret Birkemier, Drew Thompson, Ron MacKenzie, Olivia Walradt, Barry Henritzky, Joe Fennell, Fred Tanis, Kim Maxson, Lillian Poling, Matthew Fiore, for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one, and for strength and healing for all in the world who need it and for compassion and understanding in our relationships.

REMINDER – If you know someone is in the hospital or needs a pastoral care visit, please call the office and let us know. Thank you for helping us care for all our members!

Our Staff

Contact Us: (732) 747-0446 or

Rev. Jessica B. Naulty, Senior Pastor	jbnaulty@umcredbank.org
Rev. Christina Zito, Minister of Visitation	czito@umcredbank.org
Evan Courtney, Director of Music Ministries	ecourtney@umcredbank.org
Elaine Dawson, Director of CYA Ministries	edawson@umcredbank.org
Sheila Leavitt, Financial & Church Secretary	sleavitt@umcredbank.org
Bob Shindel, Sexton	bshindel@umcredbank.org
Tom Sutton, Sexton	suttonto@yahoo.com
Rev. David Henritzky, Retired Pastor Emeritus	dhenritzky@umcredbank.org

Happening This Week

DECEMBER 24-30, 2017

Sunday, December 24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	Worship (Sanctuary)	9:30 AM
	Sunday School (Children/Adults)	9:30 AM
Monday, December 25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	Building closed	
Tuesday, December 26 <i>Learning Tree closed</i>	AA (B2, B3)	12:00 PM
	Meyers Counseling (UR)	5:00 PM
	Prayer Shawl Group (Lib)	6:30 PM
	Al-Anon (114)	6:30 PM
	Village Rehearsal (FH)	7:00 PM
	Bible Study @Mellon's	7:30 PM
Wednesday, Dec 27 <i>Learning Tree closed</i>	Yoga (206)	9:30 AM
	AA Women (114, B4)	1:00 PM
	Adult Ed (L TV)	7:00 PM
Thursday, December 28 <i>Learning Tree closed</i>	AA Women (B2, B3)	12:00 PM
	Meyers Counseling (UR)	6:30 PM
	AA Women (B4)	7:00 PM
	NA (114)	7:00 PM
	Sanctuary Choir	7:00 PM
	AA Mixed (B5)	8:30 PM
Friday, December 29 <i>Learning Tree closed</i>	Meyers Counseling (L)	9:00 AM
	AA (114)	6:30 PM
Saturday, December 23	OA (114)	9:30 AM

REMINDER - Please contact Sheila with your meeting and event dates. This includes all committees and fellowship groups. Items to be included in the announcements should be submitted by Tuesday. Please keep notices brief. Send to sleavitt@umcredbank.org.

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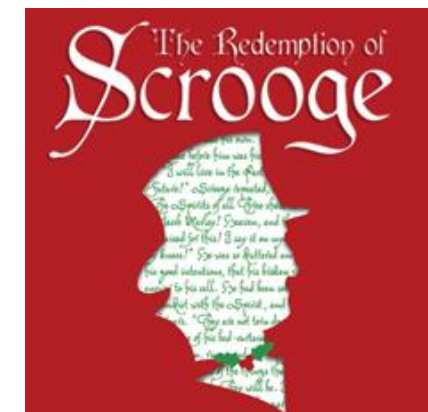


The United Methodist Church of Red Bank is open for ALL
to CONNECT with God and others,
to GROW in our faith, and to SERVE in love.

Welcome to worship!!!

December 24, 2017
9:30 AM Worship in the Sanctuary

The Hope of Christmas Future:
A Kind Hand in the Dark



When the last Spirit shows Scrooge what could be –
“how the story ends” – without some change in his life,
he is forced to witness the hardhearted response to his
death. Yet, our scriptures today draw us away from fear of
death... rather, into the joy of life lived with purpose.

Traditional Worship at 9:30 AM

Our worship service begins with the prelude.

As we gather for worship please make sure your cell phones are silenced and refrain from using flash photography.

The Church Gathers

Prelude "Silent Night" Calvin Hampton

Welcome and Announcements

If you are visiting with us, please take a moment to fill in the "Welcome Visitor" cards located in the pew racks. Cards may be placed in the offering plates or returned to a greeter.

*Passing the Peace of Christ

Invitation to Worship "While We Are Waiting, Come" Pastor Jess

Centering Prayer

Holy Living God, we open today to encounter You in our worship and to see Your future where grace abounds. Open us to Your miracle just begun and in this season transform us into those whose giving brings joy to the world. Open us to You, to each other, and to the voices no one hears so that Your reign of mercy, justice and love can be made known to all.

Lighting the Advent Wreath The Dice Family
Today we light the candle of joy. As we anticipate Christmas, we remember that our joy comes not from our preparations or celebrations, but because God has chosen to walk among us. We light this candle because we believe that joy is waiting for each of us as beloved children of God. May the joy of this season bubble up from within as you celebrate the coming of Christ once again.

*Opening Hymn #210 "All Earth is Waiting"

To Hear the Word

First Reading Romans 8:4b-17

Time with the Children Elaine Dawson

Choral Anthem "Lullaby" John Ness Beck
Sanctuary Choir

*Gospel Reading Luke 4:18-19

L: This is the word of the Lord. P: Thanks be to God.

Sermon *Redemption of Scrooge* Eric Hackler
The Hope of Christmas Future: A Kind Hand in the Dark

To Respond in Faith

Christmas Carol #219 "What Child is This"

Pastoral Prayer "Ring Out Your Truth"

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering our Gifts

Scan this code to use
our online giving tool



Offertory "Gentle Mary" arr. Raymond McFeeters
Genie Hoplock, soprano

Doxology #95

**Praise God who blesses everyone!
Praise Jesus Christ, who is to come!
Praise Spirit, making Three-in-One!
All Praise the miracle begun! Amen.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

And Scatters to Be in the World

*Closing Hymn #206 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

*Benediction

Postlude "Joy to the World" Raymond Haan

* Please stand in praise to God if you are able.

Reader, Greeters, and Ushers: The God Squad
Organist and Director of Music Ministry: Evan Courtney

Connect

Prayer Shawl Group 2nd Tues @6:30 PM & 3rd and 4th Sat @10 AM
Craft Group next meeting January 9th @11 AM
Christmas cards and many new handmade cards are available at the card table. Also, 2018/2019 pocket/purse calendars. Stop by today!

Grow

Education and Growth Opportunities

Children's Sunday school Sun @9:30 & 11:00 AM
Adult Education Wed @7 PM and Sun @9:30 AM
Bible Study Thurs @11 AM (Pastor Jess) – on break until January 4
Tues @7:30 PM (Jim Mellon) – Studying the Gospel of John
Youth Group Wednesdays @6 PM

Health and Fitness Groups

Balance and Strength Training Tuesdays @12:00 PM
Prana Flow Yoga Wednesdays @9:30 AM

Serve

Support the children of Camden Neighborhood Center

Stop by the UMW table in Fellowship Hall any Sunday in Advent, and give a gift to support the great work of the Camden Neighborhood Center - any denomination is helpful.

2018 Commitment Cards

If you have not yet returned your 2018 Commitment Card, please mail it to the church office to the attention of Sheila Leavitt. If you need one, you can pick up a card outside the main office.

Upcoming Worship Schedule

Sunday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

- 5:00 PM – Family Centered Worship
- 9:00 PM – Traditional Candlelight Worship

Sunday, December 31

- 9:30 AM – Worship & potluck breakfast in Fellowship Hall
(please sign up to bring a dish in the FH)