



The United Methodist Church of Red Bank
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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 2017

Dear Church Family,

This has been a particularly divisive time for our nation. Following a remarkably heated and negative election season, we have sworn in our 45th president and some are looking forward to the changes he has promised to bring to our country, while others are fearful of their consequences. Individuals in our church, like our nation are divided in our political opinions and conflict has already arisen from it. Living as a church community of NOT NECESSARILY like-minded individuals, it is challenging to know how to move past our differences and continue being one family, one body of Christ. Despite our differences, we are called to work together, to see the value and distinct personalities that we all bring to the table, making us who we are together. John Wesley, the founder of our denomination, believed that we don't all have to agree in order to be a community of faith. We don't all need to THINK alike, but we do need to LOVE alike. He is quoted to have said, "If your heart is with my heart, take my hand." In the spirit of Wesley and for the sake of unity and working together, I invite you to reflect on the ways we might work together in spite of the political tension and struggles our nation faces today.

The first thing that is of utmost importance is prayer; let's not forget to pray. For ourselves. Our country. One another. And our leaders. President Trump needs our prayers and our love. At the same time, he needs our accountability and engagement. His success, and our success as a country — whether you voted for him or not — depend on that. We can only hold him and other leaders accountable, appropriately, if we are spiritually grounded, well-informed and speaking from love.

The second thing is to become well informed – not simply of the news that confirms a bias you already hold, but ALL news. Step outside of the "echo chamber" that we often surround ourselves with, the like-minded people and resources that reinforce our beliefs and opinions, shutting out those who have different perspectives. Too often when we're presented with information that contradicts what we believe, we're more likely to dig in and resist the new information. A recent academic study found that attempts to debunk bad information simply solidified people in their position. Journalist David McRaney summarizes the study this way: "When your deepest convictions are challenged by contradictory evidence, your beliefs get stronger." We, as a church community who strives to be Christ-centered and focused on the "least of these" need to listen to one another with compassion and humility, looking for what we ALL have to learn from the different perspectives in our nation and in our community today.

It is my hope and prayer that we may come together, listen to and learn from one another, and live into the community of love and justice that God has called us to be.

In unity and prayer,

Rev. Jessica B. Naulty

Church Flowers



Dear Friends,

Winter is here with sometimes grey, dreary days, snow, sleet and rain, icy streets and sidewalks and sometimes with warmer, sunny days. The sun comes up late and goes down a little later now.

We long to be reminded of God's beauty often hidden beneath the snowdrifts. 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 \$35 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. 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 (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 \$35.00 (per arrangement)

Date:

In honor of:

In memory of:

In celebration of:

Given by:

Attached is a check for \$ _____

United Methodist Women— UMW

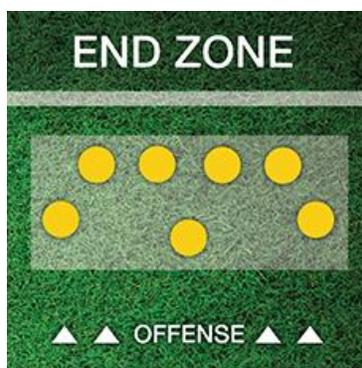
.....Linda Babler
732-741-1793, lsbabler@aol.com

United Methodist Women = Mission projects every month *Faith, Hope, Love in Action*

UMW General Meeting in February – Our first meeting of the year on Thursday, February 2nd between 12 and 2pm in room 114, we will be experiencing the “Games we use to Play”. Bring your lunch, beverage and dessert will be provided. Bring a game from your past or your present, we can all join in the fun of fellowship. We also will be installing our officers. A light snack and beverage will be provided. Admission for the meeting, bring an item that the Back Pack Crew needs. If you would like more information, contact LSBABLER@AOL.COM OR 732-741-1793. Everyone is welcome to come, join us for fun and fellowship.

UMW CHOCOLATES: United Methodist Women will be selling their famous chocolates on **Sunday February 12th**, for Valentine’s Day. You can purchase sweets for your sweetie. All proceeds go to our mission work. Please support your UMW. Sweets for the Sweet – Valentine’s Day is almost here.

10 Stop Human Trafficking



United Methodist Women joins interfaith and secular allies every January 11 to observe **National Human Trafficking Awareness Day**. This day also kicks off **Intercept the Traffickers**, our annual awareness campaign to teach individuals and communities how to prevent trafficking, to identify and protect trafficked persons and what can be done to aid in the prosecution of these criminals. Become aware of what is happening in our own community. Human Trafficking is happening all around us but we are blind to the signs that might be left for us to see. So, open your eyes, become aware and say something. The Super Bowl is happening on February 5th, the biggest trafficking day of the year.

United Methodist Women stands against the exploitation of those forced to submit to civil injustice as a result of their basic needs or position in society. As many as 30 million people internationally have fallen victim to human trafficking, and the epidemic has become the second largest criminal activity behind the sale of illegal arms. As advocates for social justice, United Methodist Women will continue to work for the rights of those exploited by this cruel trade and end this all-too-prevalent form of modern-day slavery.

Book Club - Meets every 4th Tuesday of the Month - The next meeting will be February 28th at 7:15 pm in the Library. Our book for February is “Sisters In Law” by Linda Hirshman.

UMW Red Bank Unit 2017 Emphasis: As in last 6 years the need is still great and even more so, our Mission Emphasis is to feed the hungry. We will be looking for some volunteers to help with this

endeavor for the upcoming months of February, April, June, August, October and December. Our next time is on February 4th from 8:30 am – 12 noon. We will be cooking a hot breakfast for the clients. We need volunteers for 2 shifts, one shift is 8:30 – 10:30 am and the second is 10 am – 12 noon. It may not seem like much, but it really helps Lunch Break! UMW provides the food and the volunteers on the first Saturday of the months listed above. Any leftover food stays with Lunch Break to help with providing breakfast on the next Monday. If you can help, call or email Linda Babler at (732) 741-1793 or LSBABLER@AOL.COM



Susanna Circle We will be meeting on Tuesday January 31th. If you think you might like to join us – just come on out. We will be meeting at Cyndi Skove's home (52 Jamestowne Road, Eatontown, NJ) at 6:30 pm. We will be making our famous UMW Chocolates for sale on February 12th, for Valentine's Day. Everyone is welcome! Contact Cyndi Skove or Linda Babler if you would like to attend.

Craft Group - Our beautiful **Valentine Cards** are available on Sunday mornings. The \$1.00 per card will help UMW fulfill its National pledge and our community commitments. Craft Group will be meeting on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays (February 14 and 28) from 11 am to 2 pm in the Library Lounge (near the Library). Bring something to eat during our short lunch break. Handmade cards are so special -- and we have fun together making them.

Red Bank UMW has a growing **Prayer Shawl ministry** here at the church and is need of members to help with the ever-growing demand of items. We make baby caps, baby blankets for baptisms, lap blankets, prayer shawls, and some shawls will go to our youth that are being confirmed in May. We will be meeting on February 18th and 25th at 10 am in the Lounge. Come join us – the next dedication of prayer shawls will be in May. So, there is still lots of time to finish a prayer shawl.

Reminder: Mission Team Meeting on February 28th in the Library.

Do mark your calendars: Ash Wednesday, noon time service and luncheon will be held on March 1st at 12 noon in Squire Chapel. Lunch will be immediately following the service in 114. The entire congregation is invited to attend, ashes and communion will be given out.

The Learning Tree Preschool

...Kara Crespo

732-530-5441, learningtreepreschoolredbank@gmail.com

Website: www.learningtreepreschoolredbank.com

Learning Tree is very busy registering students for the upcoming 2017/2018 school year. We still have spots in many of our classes if you or someone you know of is looking for a Mom and Me, preschool or Pre-K program. We schedule tours during the mornings any day of the week. Just give the Learning Tree office a call at 732-530-5441.

We wish everyone a very Happy Valentine's Day!!!

"All the flowers of tomorrow are in the seeds of today!"

HUBOB

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

Are you planning to head out to the February sales? Word is that Presidents Day offerings will be noteworthy. And winter apparel at Nordstrom's, Eddie Bauer and The Children's Place will be showing up as final sales with 60 – 70% discounts. Or perhaps you have a birthday on the calendar. And, of course you will be making a trip to the food store (Acme, Whole Foods, or Stop & Shop.) Oh, I almost forgot: you can't forget to stop at the pharmacy and Petco for Fido's kibble. Come to Fellowship Hall first to order some gift cards to help balance the church budget. No cost to you - - but money in the bank for all of us.

REMEMBER, IT'S ALWAYS TIME TO HUBOB

From the Treasurer

.....Robin Foster
rfosterumcrb@gmail.com

Financial Finish for 2016 and What's Needed in 2017

We finished 2016 with a deficit of \$3736. Which is a much smaller deficit than was projected at the beginning of the year (\$11,000). We had much higher Building Use income in 2016 compared to 2014 and 2015. We also took as income in 2016 \$25,000 of the one-time gift of \$50,000 given by a church member in 2014.

For 2017 we have higher expenses, much of it from increases in insurance costs. Fortunately, we expect even higher Building Use income based on commitments with key users of the building. We will not, however, have a repeat of the one-time gift to pad our income. What do we need from Church family? Our finances in 2017 will depend on strong giving. First, give regularly, not sporadically. If you miss a few Sundays, it's very hard to catch up. If you can, set up to have your giving sent from your bank to the Church each month or each paycheck so you can always be current in your giving. Secondly, give as generously as you can, whenever you can. If you don't have envelopes for your giving, ask our church secretary to get you some. You can call Sheila at 732-747-0446. And please be in prayer for our Church, that its work and mission can continue in a vibrant way!

Thank you!

Backpack Crew

.....Suzanne Dice
732-259-5971, zannedice@aol.com

Save the Date!!! Our **Second Annual Gala** at the Oyster Point Hotel is **February 25, 2017!**

From the Men's Fellowship

....Jim Mellon
732-647-5744, jim.mellon@verizon.net

--- ATTENTION ALL MEN -----

- Men's Fellowship will meet in Room 114, at 8 am on Saturday, February 4th. All are welcome, so, come join us!
 - I'll have coffee (both regular and decaf especially for Andy), but bring your favorite drink and breakfast item and enough to share!
 - We will plan to help-out around the church – there are always projects needing TLC.
 - I look forward to seeing each of you as we grow together in ways to serve and help each other.
 - Contact Jim Mellon (jim.mellon@verizon.net or cell 732-647-5744.
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Children, Youth and Young Adults

....Elaine Dawson
732-747-0446, Ext 11, ed45yrs@aol.com

All Youth Groups will participate in Game Night on February 1st at 6 pm. God Squad will have their **Annual Spaghetti Dinner** to help support our mission team. Please come and support this great event. Great food too!

Ash Wednesday is March 1st and all Youth Groups will attend our Ash Wednesday service at 7 pm.

The Young Adults are working for The Backpack Crew on Wednesday nights either packing backpacks, shopping, or organizing shelves. We recently built shelves for this worthy charity. Contact Elaine Dawson at ed45yrs@aol.com if you are 18-29 years old if you'd like to help. We will be cooking for The Asbury Park AIDS Center in February. We will prepare 25 meals to be delivered to the center in Asbury Park.

Our Youth groups are for anyone 3rd grade through High School on Wednesday nights from 6-8 pm for those through Jr. High and 8:30 pm for those in High School.

Our Sunday School program is run during our 10:30 Worship Service after the Children's sermon- 11:45 AM. See Elaine Dawson for any further information.

Vacation Bible School (VBS): Mark your calendars for our **Super Hero VBS June 26-30 from 9 am-12:30 pm**. Anyone 4 years old through 6th grade is eligible to attend. Get your registration in as soon as that time comes as we fill quickly. Also, anyone in 7th grade or older is eligible to help. We had to turn away 12 helpers last year because we had no more room for leadership. Please sign up early if you'd like to help. **WE ARE GOING TO HAVE A BALL!** More information each month. Call Elaine Dawson at church at 732-747-0446, extension 11 with any questions.

Outreach Committee

....Jim Mellon
732-647-5744, jim.mellon@verizon.net

Please join the Outreach Committee for a special showing of the film "13th.

On **Sunday February 12th at 5 pm in room 114**, we will be showing the documentary film "13th.

What, you ask, is "13th" about? Well, it is about the 13th Amendment to our Constitution which provides that "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction."

As February is Black History month, how appropriate to celebrate it by showing this film, which not only deals with the actual amendment, passed in 1865, but the subsequent treatment of blacks in the 150 years since that amendment.

Come join us! We'll have a lively discussion following the movie, so plan to be at the church from 5 to 7 pm. The film is 1 hour and 40 minutes long, and discussion of 20-50 minutes is reasonable.

Let me know if you need child care. Please bring a snack or meal to enjoy before, during or after the showing. Questions? Contact Jim Mellon (jim.mellon@verizon.net or cell 732-647-5744.

God Squad

....Gregg Jansky
gjansky@gmail.com
....Jim Stonaker
jimbo.stonaker@gmail.com

Benvenuto! Vieni e mangia! It's that time of year - **Spaghetti Dinner!** This year's spaghetti dinner will be hosted on **February 4, 2017 from 5 pm to 7 pm**. Like last year, we will be serving ravioli along with spaghetti; with both meatless and meat sauce. And of course, God Squad will feature our renown Bake Sale Table. This all-you-can-eat dinner will be available at last year's pricing, \$5 for children and \$12 for adults. If you haven't already purchased your tickets, sales are available at the door. Contact us by email to let us know you're coming.

The God Squad **Clothing Drive** is now in full swing! Bring in any clothes/linens/shoes in a kitchen-sized garbage bag and leave on the front of the stage. God Squad will take care of moving the bags. Articles can be brought in up to noon on February 4th. Any questions on what to bring in? God Squad can help you out.

Like the Spaghetti Dinner, ALL proceeds go directly to the youth Summer Appalachia Service project mission trip.

HEALTH AND WHOLENESS OPPORTUNITIES

FUNCTIONAL FITNESS - Join the group to strengthen balance and fitness led by Janet Tartaglia. Beginning **Tuesdays on February 7 at 12:15 pm** in Fellowship Hall. 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.

Please check *The InLook* or our website
www.umcredbank.org
for an up-to-date church calendar.

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.

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.

Condolences

Sincere condolences to Sharon Gades and the Gades family on the death of her father, Arthur Fernandez.