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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

Renewal Leave 2020 - Reflections

To pause and step back from one's regular responsibilities, at both work and home, to focus exclusively on renewing the mind, spirit, soul, and rest the body from the normal tensions and stressors was a wonderful gift. Thank you to our leadership and our whole congregation for your support of my taking a Renewal Leave. It was a much needed, spiritually deepening, restful time and as I come back and work on getting caught up on the past month's ministry happenings and planning ahead to Lent, I do so with a calm and groundedness that has remained with me. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

During my time of renewal, I took a lot of time to read... some were books that I have had on my "to read" list for a while, and some were chosen specifically to feed and facilitate my spiritual renewal. A few of the books I read and highly recommend to you are:

- ◊ Rising Strong: How the Ability to Reset Transforms the Way We Live, Love, Parent, and Lead by Brene Brown
- ◊ Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again by Rachel Held Evans
- ♦ Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others by Barbara Brown Taylor
- Or Peace in Every Step by Thich Nhat Hanh
- Educated: A Memoir by Tara Westover
- If Gifts of the Dark Wood: Seven Blessings for Soulful Skeptics by Eric Elnes

I also took time to walk, cross stitch, work on jigsaw and Sudoku puzzles, and kick back in front of my favorite movies. It was soul time, and I am incredibly thankful for it!

This time reminded me how important each breath is - how this is one of the ways that I personally connect deeply with the Spirit of God. I was reminded, in more than one of my readings, of the spiritual discipline of grounding breath prayers, and how God's very name Yahweh is thought to resemble the very sound of breathing - Yah- (on the intake of breath) -weh (on the exhalation). Whether walking outside with the fresh, crisp air of the Pocono Mountains filling my lungs, or while playing with my girls on our adventure in Hershey, PA, I repeatedly returned to my breath. This grounded breath was something that gave me strength as I led the memorial service for our most beloved Marie Heimann Davidson, which was the hardest funeral I've presided over.

People have been asking how my time away has been, and I have to say that it really was RENEWING. It fed my spirit - through word and spiritual practices. It afforded me the space and time away to really rest and destress. It gave me an opportunity to reflect on my calling and my journey, seeing where I have been and the road as it stretches before me. It is my prayer that as I lead from a deeper center of faith and spiritual wellbeing, that it can only benefit the church as we journey forward into where God is leading us for tomorrow.

Thank you for this opportunity! Thank you to Rev. Henritzy for taking such good care of our congregation in my absence. And while it was good to be away for a short season, it's good to get back to the work I love and feel like God created me to do.

May God bless us on the road ahead!

Pastor Jess Naulty

Pastor Jes

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

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Bagels and Faith: At 9:00 on a Sunday morning you can find a dozen plus teens in the basement God Squad Room learning about the life of Jesus, world religions, world and personal issues, outreach and mission and we all have a good time together. If you are in 7th-12th grade join us for bagels and Faith.

Sunday School: We are having a wonderful time in Sunday School this year. Join us during the 10:00 worship service if you have a toddler through 6th grade.

Nursery Care: 9:45-11:15 in room 109

Pre-K-2nd: Room 112

Toddlers: Room 110 3rd-6th: Basement Club 77 room

Lent is a time of sacrifice so we will look at Lent and see what we could sacrifice during Lent. Maybe we eat too much candy so we could take a break from that. Maybe we don't read the Bible enough. Maybe we could do that during Lent. What will you

do to sacrifice during Lent? How can we be better people?

Easter Egg Hunt on Easter morning, April 12. We will meet in the narthex at 9:00AM SHARP! The hunt will begin promptly at 9:15 and it goes very fast, so please don't be late.

MUSIC OPPORTUNITY

Lenten Evening Music Series

Every Tuesday in March, from 7:00-7:30, come to center yourself with the beauty of music. Each week will feature a different group of musicians, and we invite you to be fulfilled with meditative listening. In-depth information for each service is on the last page of this edition of The Outlook. Please join us!

Last Sundays Are All-Sing Sundays!

If you want to sing in the choir, but don't want to make a commitment to every Sunday, you can sing with us on the last Sunday of each month for the 10am service! Just come up to the balcony at 9am and helpful choir members will get you set up to YOUR VOICA sing! Contact Evan for more details.



EVAN COURTNEY

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ELAINE DAWSON

LEARNING TREE

KARA CRESPO

learningtreepreschoolredbank@gmail.com

Learning Tree students and staff are looking forward to Spring arriving. We celebrate spring with a visit from Quiver Farms. We will watch the miracle of life happen as we watch our baby chicks hatch from their eggs. Learning Tree will also be holding our annual Silent Basket Auction from March 23rd to March 28th. Make sure to check out the baskets that are displayed during school hours. The winners will be announced on Saturday,

We are currently enrolling for the 2020-2021 school year. Please share information with anyone you know looking for a preschool home.

Happy Spring Everyone!

March 28th after our Bunny Breakfast.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN - UMW

LINDA BABLER

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UMW General Meeting: March 7th at 10AM in Fellowship Hall. Our guest speaker will be Callie Crowder, Assistant Director of The Makers Place

Mission Team Meeting—March 16th at 1PM in the library.

Book Club – Meets the 4th Saturday of the month at 1PM in the Library. Our book for March 28th is Educated by Tara Westover.

Lunch Break: UMW will prepare a hot breakfast for the clients on April 4th. If you would like to help cook, serve and clean up please let Linda Babler know at Isbabler@aol.com. There are two shifts, the first is 8:30-10:30 and the second is 10-noon. All hands are a help!

Cooking for the Center in Asbury Park: If you would like to cook and assemble meals for the Center in Asbury Park on March 28th, from 12 to 4, at the church, please let Cyndi Skove know at cyndiskove@comcast.net.

Susanna Circle & UMW will be holding their first Craft Day on March 28th also from 12 to 4, in Fellowship Hall. We will be making stemware charms and holiday earrings. Lunch will be provided. If you plan on cooking for the Center, stay and make craft projects for the bazaar!

Mildred-Ruth Circle will meet on Thursday March 12th in Room 114 beginning at 12:30PM. Bring your lunch as we begin our meetings with lunch together. Dessert and beverages are provided. All are welcome to join us.

<u>Craft Group:</u> will meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays (March 10 & 24) in the Library Lounge area from 11AM to 2PM. Bring your snack to eat during our short lunch break. We will be creating Easter cards, Mother's Day cards, and Graduation cards! The Craft Group welcomes newcomers who would like to help create cards. Thanks to all who help UMW support our missions through purchasing cards on Sunday mornings in Fellowship Hall.

Maker's Place is an initiative of the United Methodist Church of Greater New Jersey. The goal is to connect neighbors in Trenton with neighbors from central New Jersey, by opening a new neighborhood resource center that empowers poor and marginalized families in our capital city. Last year we collected over 4,000 diapers for Maker's Place. We are collecting diapers again the month of March. We are also collecting donations for diapers. \$1 supplies a baby/toddler with diapers for a day; \$28 buys supplies for a month. Look for the UMW table in Fellowship Hall between services.

Prayer Shawl 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 and preemie caps for Monmouth Medical. We also make red prayer shawls for the confirmation class each year. Our next dedication of prayer shawls and caps will be in May, lots of time to finish up a prayer shawl or caps. If you would like to be part of this ministry contact Linda Babler or Helen Vetter. We meet on the 3rd & 4th Saturdays at 10AM in the lounge.

Box Tops for Education: UMW collects labels to help the Red Bird Mission in Kentucky. Please take a moment and clip the label off the products you normally use and leave them in the box by the mail bins in the hall outside the Church office.



H.U.B.O.B.

MARION KLEINER

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Thanks to one and all for supporting our Super Bowl Sunday chili event. We had several volunteers in the kitchen preparing, cooking, packaging, and selling chili. AND we had all of you who purchased the chili and cornbread! While you helped to balance the budget, we hope you enjoyed a meal (or 2) with friends or family. Just a reminder; you can purchase gift cards from the comfort of your own home, at any time. Stop by and talk to Kathy Hackler in Fellowship Hall on Sundays, or send her an e-mail at hackler@optonline.net to get directions (also see the SCRIPS section of this Outlook). Spring isn't very far away...time for a new outfit or some repairs to the house or garden? Let us help you out with lots of gift card suggestions!

REMEMBER: IT IS ALWAYS TIME TO HUBOB!

SHOP WITH SCRIP

KATHY HACKLER

hackler@optonline.net

Did you know you can now order gift cards online at shopwithscrip.com and get them almost immediately? Instead of bringing us a check on a Sunday morning, you can print out e-cards or reload cards that you already have. We still benefit from the rebates and you benefit from convenience.

You can reload cards that you already have such as Starbucks, Barnes and Noble, Target, Old Navy, Home Depot, Bath and Body Works, Acme, and about 170 others. You can also get electronic paper cards from such stores as Starbucks, Kohl's, Panera, Amazon, Apple, and about 410 others.

You can pay by securely linking your checking account (there is a 15 cent fee per transaction) or by paying with a credit card (there is a 2.6% per transaction fee).

We'd LOVE to enroll you into our program. You'll need our unique enrollment code, so please send an email to hackler@optonline.net with the subject "Gift Cards," and I'll send you an official invitation with our enrollment code and all the information you need to know to sign up.



OUTREACH

Over its history, Outreach has included both mission and service as well as church and society issues. In order to address more topics, get additional involvement, and be more involved in our community, it now seems to make sense to split into two committees. We will now have a committee known as Mission and Service chaired by Suzanne and Keith Dice, and a Church and Society Committee chaired by Kathy Hackler. More information will follow about your Outreach pledge and how it will be used in the future. After getting all the facts, you can, of course, change your pledge at any time.

CHURCH AND SOCIETY

KATHY HACKLER

hackler@optonline.net

Our guiding principles will come from the United Methodist Board of Church and Society and our UMC's Social Principles. We plan to educate, advocate, and reach out to the least, the last, and the left behind. This year we plan to concentrate on educating our congregation on our new Social Principles, sharing and carrying out our GreenFaith commitment, continuing to support and advocate for our LGBTQ+ brothers and sister through our Reconciling Committee, and working on issues of race in conjunction with our community partners such as the T. Thomas Fortune Cultural Center. All are invited to join us and be a part of this great new church ministry. Please contact me if you'd like more information.

MISSION & SERVICE

SUZANNE & KEITH DICE

zannedice@aol.com

We are excited to have kicked off our first Mission and Service meeting with a brainstorming session. Our meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:15 in the Upper Room. All are welcome to come and see what is being planned!



For the month of March we are all about Bridge of Books Foundation. This non-profit located in Holmdel provides a source of books to underserved children throughout New Jersey to support literacy efforts and encourage a love of reading. We will have a speaker on Sunday, March 8th and will be collecting gently used or new children's book the entire month of March. A collection box will be placed at the back door. Please note, we are looking to collect books appropriate for children from birth to 18. If a book makes sounds, it must work and if it has parts, it must be complete. We are not looking to collect textbooks, encyclopedias, coloring books, or used work books. The one exception is that we will accept parenting books for adults. We will have a sorting opportunity later in March. Watch for more info!

The Backpack Crew's 5th Annual Gala is Saturday, March 21st. We have a large THE group of UMCRB people attending. Join us for dinner, dancing, and silent auction, all to benefit the BPC!



Also on Saturday, March 21st, the **Rise Against Hunger** event is happening in Hamilton NJ. There, we will join others from across the state making at least a half million meals for those in need in the US and around the world. We will carpool from the church. The even is from 9-11 AM, so we will leave at 7:30 AM. All are welcome and families with youth ages 5 and up are encouraged to join us. A sign up sheet will be available in Fellowship Hall, or you can contact Kathy Hackler at hackler@optonline.net for more information and to sign up.

GREENFAITH FAIR

JANIE SCHILDGE & KATHY HACKLER

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Our lives are being poisoned by plastic-let's REfuse, REuse, REduce and REcycle plastic to keep our world livable for all species!

Join us as we work toward a sustainable future by Sunday, April 19th, 9:00am to 12:30pm. stewardship of the planet and all living things.

Come help us with displays and demonstrations, and projects from your environmental clubs for our Green Fair. All about bees, butterflies, gardening, healthy foods, cleaner water, green energy and transportation alternatives, less plastic and how we can work with our neighbors, corporate leaders and our local, state, and federal government representatives. To highlight our successful TREX project, there will be a display of how we did it and how we are inviting other churches and schools to try to do it with our help—and maybe even some bags of single stream plastic! We CAN DO THIS! The Sunday after Easter, please come to help, to learn, and to get some ideas for your garden and recipes for your table. Invite friends, family, neighbors, and teachers!!

Short meeting March 15th in the Lounge at 11am for those who want to do projects and help. RSVP to Janie Schildge or Kathy Hackler at the above emails.

Save the date for our Beach Sweep sponsored by Clean Ocean Action to be held on April 25th. More information will be coming soon.



GOD SQUAD

GREG JANSKY, JIM STONAKER, SUZANNE DICE

February was a big fundraising month for God Squad. Our spaghetti dinner was a big success, raising over \$2,100. Thank you to all who attended, and also to the parents who helped clean up! We also completed our annual clothing drive.

We had our game night where all three youth groups participated together. Always a fun night for all, the kids played games organized by Suzanne Stonaker. We also had a program on "mercy" and what that looks like in today's world to teenagers.





BACKPACK CREW

SUZANNE DICE

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Our food pantry is open to the public every first and third Monday evenings of each month. It has been steadily growing and we had over 30 families come for food in the month of February. We were pleased to get a refrigerator and a freezer chest delivered to 108. This enables us to give out frozen meats, cheese, eggs, produce, etc. to our food pantry clients. The pantry is set up as a "clients choice" in Room 114 so families can shop and choose which items they would like to bring home. Thank you to our dedicated volunteers-Peg Rizzo, Barbara Roguski, Sheila Leavitt, Dave and Elaine Baughman, Carol Rigler, and Helen Vetter for helping us grow our pantry!



Health and Wholeness Opportunities

BALANCE AND STRENGTH TRAINING - Join the group to strengthen balance and fitness led by Janet Tartaglia, on Tuesdays at 12PM in room B1. 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 9:30-11AM in room B1 for Prana Flow[®] Yoga. Tiffany McCann will instruct the class to calm your mind, strengthen your body and open your heart.

CHURCH LIBRARY

The Church Library Committee thanks Linda Cooper for donating books recently. The books are now ready for circulation. Some were Christmas books which have been put aside till next December. Others include



Joes Osteen's I Declare, Katie Brazelton's Pathway to Purpose, Curtis Martin's Made for More, and Jennifer Hahn's Light for My Path for Women. Several books will be of interest to teens including Alice Gray's Stories for the Extreme Teen's Heart, Jim George's The Bare Bones Bible Handbook for Teens, and Michelle Roehm's Boys Know it All.

Helen Vetter donated The Simple Art of Flying by Cory Leonardo. That book is recommended for ages 8-12. Helen is donating it in memory of Marie Frances Heimann Davidson.

CHURCH LIBRARY

Stop by the Church Library and take out a book you'd like to read. Instructions on how to check out a book are available on the Desk in the Library. When you have finished reading a book, please return it to the Library Desk. A Library volunteer will find the correct card and return the book to its proper shelf location.

