

United Methodist Church of Red Bank

247 Broad Street | Red Bank NJ 07701 | (732) 747-0446

Online: www.umcredbank.org

Email: office@umcredbank.org

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

Dear Church Family,

"Our Father, who art in heaven..." These opening words of the Lord's Prayer are so familiar that we often speak them without a thought, sometimes without any recognition of the depth and meaning contained within them. But to the disciples who first spoke them, the prayer was a thunderbolt, a radical new way to pray that would shape their lives and the world as they knew it. Far from a series of comforting words, the Lord's Prayer speaks of God's will for us, our responsibilities to one another and to creation, the meaning of "enough", and the moral obligations that come with living in God's kingdom.

This Lent, we embark on a spiritual journey as we deepen our discipleship and prepare our hearts and minds for the death and resurrection of Christ. We will approach this Lenten season through the lens of prayer – focusing during Sunday worship on the Lord's Prayer, helping us to fully grasp and engage with its depth. On Wednesdays at noon, we invite you to join us for a Lenten Prayer service, where we will seek the heart of God through silent and sung prayer, offering a variety of meditative practices to guide us through this time of reflection.

Our season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17th with our 7:00 PM Service of Centering. To aid us in our Lenten journey we have prepared Lenten Journey Bags. In each you will find ashes to mark your forehead or hand with the sign of the cross, as directed during our Ash Wednesday service, along with a variety of other items to guide you in prayer each week. Bags can be picked up during church office hours on Tuesday 2/16 or Wednesday 2/17 from 9AM to 2 PM. If you are unable to pick up a bag for yourself, please reach out to the office or Pastor Jess and we will arrange for your Lenten Journey Bag to be delivered to your home.

It is my prayer that through this season of Lent, we will grow together, engaging with God in deep and meaningful prayer for a time such as this, so we may emerge on Easter morning deeply grounded in our purpose and Our God.

May God bless us on the journey ahead.

Rev. Jessica Brendler Naulty

Pastor Jess

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

TAMMY YOUNG

732-299-6203, young@umcredbank.org

Our Sunday School (K-8) may still be online, but that hasn't stopped us from learning (each and every week) more and more about Jesus and all the ways God calls us to be like him! Starting Sunday, 14 February we'll even be trying out a couple of those ideas in our makeshift Zoom classroom as we move into our *Lent Made More Relatable for Kids* Lenten module. Child friendly prayer models, God's Word, technology fasting, service, and even a lesson on the Seder, we've got everything young disciples need to help them grow closer to God and make a difference in the world as we walk with the Teacher on the road to Golgotha.

By student request, our Bagels & Faith youth will be continuing on their quest to better love God and all of their neighbors through an interactive study of racism. This series includes a look back at the historical roots of racism, its present self-sustaining effects, and the concrete ways our youth can begin to dismantle this sin for future generations – all in the light of God's grace, justice, and reconciliation.

Sunday School kicks-off at 9:00 AM, while Bagels & Faith gathers at 11:30-ish.

Children and youth (grade ages 3-12) are invited to follow-up their Sunday morning learning with fellowship and fun Wednesday nights at 7:00 PM with our virtual Youth Groups. Youth Groups are a GREAT way for children and youth to unwind from the daily stresses of COVID, all types of learning, and social distancing, while also being able to connect with Church, their Church family, and friends.

Like our Sunday School teachers, our Youth Group leaders are working hard to make sure that not even an ongoing pandemic is strong enough to break the ties of these wonderful ministries. And just like the ancient Israelites, we all welcome guests! So, please encourage your child's friends to try out our hospitality by joining us!

Links for Sunday School and Bagels & Faith can be found on the Church calendar. Links for Youth Group are either accessible on the Church calendar or through Group leaders. Please contact Tammy+ at young@umcredbank.org for more information.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

EVAN COURTNEY

ecourtney@umcredbank.org

Join the Sanctuary Choir at UMCRB!

The Sanctuary Choir will resume rehearsing together via Zoom, and preparing music for our virtual choir. Video and audio recordings will be used for our Sunday morning service. If you would like to join the choir, or if you have questions, please contact the Director of Music, Evan Courtney at ecourtney@umcredbank.org

Flowers are the alphabet of angels

HUBOB can help you write poetry this spring

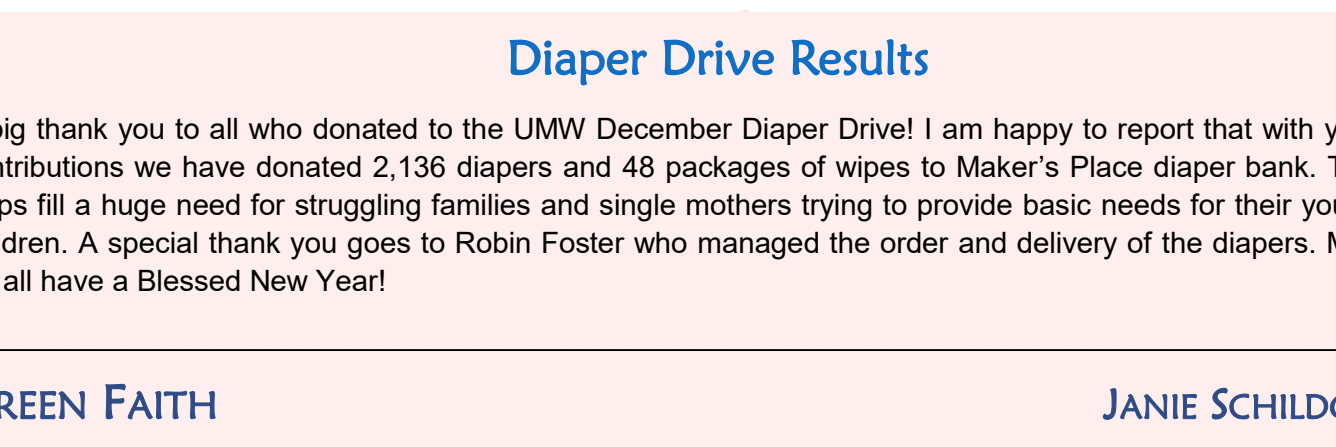
Buy guaranteed-to-grow bulbs and seeds for your garden or someone else's and Help Us Balance Our Budget!

FOR MORE INFORMATION—CLICK HERE

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN – UMW

LINDA BABLER

732-741-1793, lsbabler@aol.com



Diaper Drive Results

A big thank you to all who donated to the UMW December Diaper Drive! I am happy to report that with your contributions we have donated 2,136 diapers and 48 packages of wipes to Maker's Place diaper bank. This helps fill a huge need for struggling families and single mothers trying to provide basic needs for their young children. A special thank you goes to Robin Foster who managed the order and delivery of the diapers. May we all have a Blessed New Year!

GREEN FAITH

JANIE SCHILDGE

732.741.0528 jschildge@optonline.net

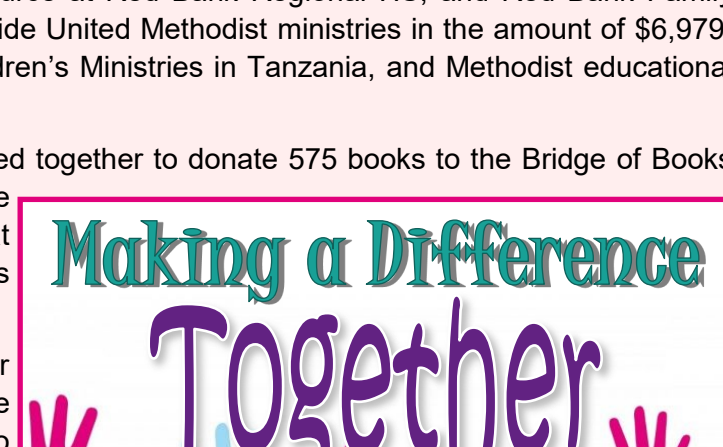
I write with hope for future efforts in green energy output with a new administration that has rejoined the Paris Climate Accords and is in favor of a much greener and more sustainable future. Our Green Faith Team encourages our congregation to continue vigorous recycling efforts as we move into our second year of COVID-19 restrictions and much more take out of food along with much more plastic use. As you recall, our beautiful playground bench was a result of TREX recycling efforts, and I observe that our local ACME grocery store has reopened its plastic bag recycling program, and we can continue to recycle one use plastic bags at local stores. Most important is the number of local bans on single use plastic, so please buy yourself some reusable bags for shopping to help with this effort to eliminate single use plastic.

A suggestion for recycling bubble wrap and air pillows that you get in packages. Do not crush, but save in a large trash bag and take to the UPS Headquarters on Hope Road where they are picked up and reused by eBay shippers. (no waste)

The Middletown train station has a very large and well attended recycling center in the parking lot, and you can even recycle Styrofoam (clean, white only) along with many different plastic and cardboard options.

Please recycle through your own town efforts and let's all work together. For any questions, check with George & Janie Schildge 732-741-0528 and we will work on solutions.

Thanks so much for your Green Faith efforts!



MISSION & SERVICE

SUZANNE & KEITH DICE


zannedice@aol.com

Because of you, UMC Red Bank continued our vibrant support of community and world mission throughout 2020! Due to your generosity our church was able to support 14 community partners through financial donations in the amount of \$15,250. These partners include 180 Turning Lives Around, Red Bank CROP Walk, Family Promise, HABcore, Habitat for Humanity–Monmouth County, Interfaith Neighbors, Lunch Break, Mary's Place by the Sea, Monmouth Daycare Center, No Limits Café, Parker Family Health Clinic, Pilgrim Baptist's Hope & Comfort Warming Center, The Source at Red Bank Regional HS, and Red Bank Family YMCA. Your contributions also supported 3 worldwide United Methodist ministries in the amount of \$6,979. These ministries include UMCOR, Women and Children's Ministries in Tanzania, and Methodist educational programs through Shared Ministry giving.

But wait, it doesn't stop there! Collectively we worked together to donate 575 books to the Bridge of Books Foundation and to deliver men's clothing items to the Hope & Comfort Warming Center - 13 pairs of sweat pants, 30 T-shirts, 30 pairs of socks and 12 pairs of briefs.

Even though 2020 was an unexpectedly difficult year for all of us, our church community rose to the challenge and continued the work we are called to do in our local community and the world. Over the next few weeks, during Sunday morning worship, we'll be hearing directly from our partners about some of the positive impacts we have made. Thank you for being a part of our Mission and Service community outreach.

Thank you for making a difference!



TANZANIA MISSIONARY REPORT

Our Mission and Service committee covenants with Kabaka to help with her salary, and it is good to share with the congregation. We visited at Drew University with Kabaka and Mutwale's son, Kita Jean Marc, his wife Falonne, and daughter Ketsia 2 in Feb. and Karen born Jan 9th. Janet Fell sent with us two baby blankets she had made, all wrapped up with a dear note to each sister. It was such a lovely gift and made them so happy. All are well and Kita is studying for his Doctorate of Theology. Thanks to Janet and the United Methodist ministry of knitting done by UMW members. Hopefully we can meet this young modern Tanzanian family in a few months.

January 2021 News from our United Methodist Missionaries in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

The Mission Center in Dar es Salaam continues to build and grow. The Secondary School opened January 18 and the Pre School needs some finishing – 10 windows, 5 doors, tiles, plaster, ceilings, paint, and furniture! This is high on the priority list as the Tanzanian government does not provide pre schools. The Advance #15051A supports the preschool if you would like to help.

Also the Guest House electricity is now installed at the church center, and just awaits the TANESCO's company meters to be installed. One has to be patient in this huge project and things are slowly moving ahead, thanks to faith, hard work, and support from United Methodists around the world. Advance #12635N supports the Church Center and our congregation has helped in many ways over the years with the building. There are now more than 83 UM congregations in Tanzania, and the congregants will help make bricks and will work to build the buildings so thank you for past support. Please let us know if you would like to be added to the email list to receive quarterly newsletters.

H.U.B.O.B.


MARION KLEINER

732-918-9587; marionkleiner@gmail.com

As we start out in a new year, HUBOB would like to thank everyone who helped us stay active during the challenging circumstances of the past year. We made assorted efforts to continue our mission of raising funds to balance the budget, and you came through! We began the year with our Super Bowl Sunday chili event, we had some gift card sales, a summer High Tea, and we concluded the year with Christmas cards. Like everything else about 2020, it was different; activities were limited and scaled down.

Now we are looking ahead to 2021 and we hope you will continue to review our offerings and then join us as we seek out new ideas and projects.

UMC OF RED BANK CHURCH REOPENING PLAN UPDATE



The COVID pandemic presents new challenges every day and our church community continues to do our best to rise to the challenge. Our online worship continues to meet each Sunday at 10am. Our building is open for pre-scheduled, indoor, small group, church meetings and the church office is open Tuesday-Thursday from 9-2 and Fridays from 9:13-20 pm. The calendar of events, available through our website, has up-to-date information about our many adult and youth ministries, and how to join in. For information regarding our Wednesday Night Youth Group contact our Youth Director, Rev Tammy Young

Our Senior Pastor, Reverend Jessica Naulty, may be reached by email or at her mobile number, 908-400-2343. Our remaining church staff may be reached by email or by calling our church office at 732-747-0446 during office hours.

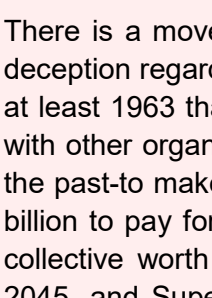
CHURCH AND SOCIETY

KATHY HACKLER

hackler@optonline.net

As Pastor Jess finishes her sermon series on how to be an antiracist, we encourage all of you to join us as we work to combat racism in our society for all people of color. Our next book study will be *How to be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi. A date for discussion will be announced in next week's E-Blast. Watch out for our next movie night/discussion which will also be announced soon.

Another book edited by Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha N. Blain comes out this week. *Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America, 1619-2019* gives us 90 writers who each write about a 5 year period from the year before the Mayflower landed until 2019. There will be historical essays, short stories, personal vignettes, and more. The audiobook will also be coming out shortly with such voices as Leslie Odom, Jr, Phylicia Rashad, and many other well known people reading each section.



Check out the new Red Bank History app presented by the T. Thomas Fortune Cultural Center. It is a walking tour app which provides information on historically and culturally significant locations in town, with pictures, audio recordings, and stories that bring Red Bank's rich history to life. You can explore the life of Count Basie and learn about influential Black Americans who lived in and visited the town. This information comes from the app description. You can get it from the App Store or Google Play.

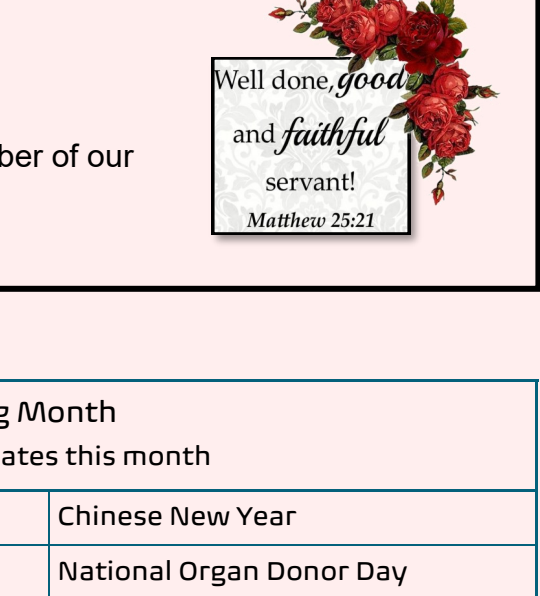
This year's Caldecott Award was given to Michaela Goade, the first Native American illustrator to win the award. The book, *We Are Water Protectors*, written by Carole Lindstrom, follows a young Native American girl as she takes a stand against a black snake threatening to poison her people's water. The snake, which is shaped like a pipe in the book, represents the Dakota Access Pipeline and is a reference to the Black Snake Prophecy cited by the Standing Rock Sioux in their fight against it. An ancient Lakota prophecy says that a black snake would slither across the land, destroying sacred sites and poisoning the water before destroying the Earth. Goade is a member of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, and author Lindstrom is a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Ojibwe.

There is a movement across the US to hold fossil fuel companies liable for their history of knowledge and deception regarding climate change. According to official documents, the fossil fuel industry has known since at least 1963 that their products were having an effect on our climate. [PayUpClimatePolluters.org](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdUkGikUkw04xbhJ3f2ux4esfQk1CV17URAZO6vQZ6SuVdr0Q/viewform) is working with other organizations to encourage towns and states to file suits-similar to the tobacco liability cases from the past-to make fossil fuel companies pay for the damage they have done to the climate. It will cost NJ \$25 billion to pay for seawalls to fight sea level rise, \$27 billion for the collective worth of 62,000+ homes at risk of chronic flooding by 2045, and Superstorm Sandy already cost NJ \$30 billion. If you would like to join in the fight to make these companies pay for the damage they have done to the environment, check out this link and join in a postcard campaign to Governor Murphy and Attorney General Grewal. Get your postcards here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdUkGikUkw04xbhJ3f2ux4esfQk1CV17URAZO6vQZ6SuVdr0Q/viewform>

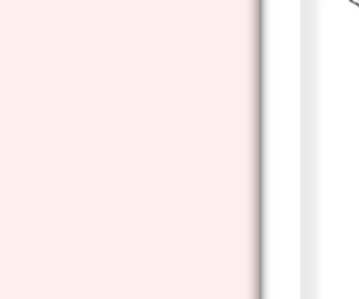
All postcard orders must be submitted by February 12th.

If anyone has any questions about any of the above, contact Kathy Hackler at hackler@optonline.net.



CELEBRATIONS


We celebrate **Kim Voorhees** who was awarded Teacher of the Year at Atlantic Highlands Elementary School



Condolences

It is with heavy hearts that we mourn the loss of a faithful member of our congregation.


Trudy Foster - January 26



February is National Bird Feeding Month

Here are some other important upcoming dates this month

2 nd —Tuesday	Groundhog Day	12 th —Friday	Chinese New Year
6 th —Saturday	Eat Ice Cream For Breakfast Day	14 th —Sunday	National Organ Donor Day
7 th —Sunday	Superbowl Sunday	15 th —Monday	President's Day
8 th —Monday	Boy Scout Day	17 th —Wednesday	Ash Wednesday
9 th —Tuesday	National Pizza Day	22 nd —Monday	International World Thinking Day
11 th —Thursday	Make a Friend Day	28 th —Sunday	National Chili Day



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 know, leave messages at church, or email us at office@umcredbank.org. Remember that hospitals no longer contact clergy when members are hospitalized.