



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,

Advent is an invitation. For many, it is the invitation to get into that Christmas spirit, to count down the days to the grand celebration, and let the holiday transform everything around us.

But there is a deeper and more profound invitation being offered in the season of Advent. The invitation is to remember that we are heading for home. Or if we're not, if we've forgotten that there is a home toward which to head, it is the invitation to long for the home we call the kingdom of God. It is where family resides, where peace resides, where justice abides, and hope will rise. Advent reminds us that we shouldn't be complacent about the way things are – not that we want to become angrily attuned to every perceived failing in those around us or the world at large; but that we want to be those who look forward to something greater, something more that is just on the horizon. Advent is the call to come home.

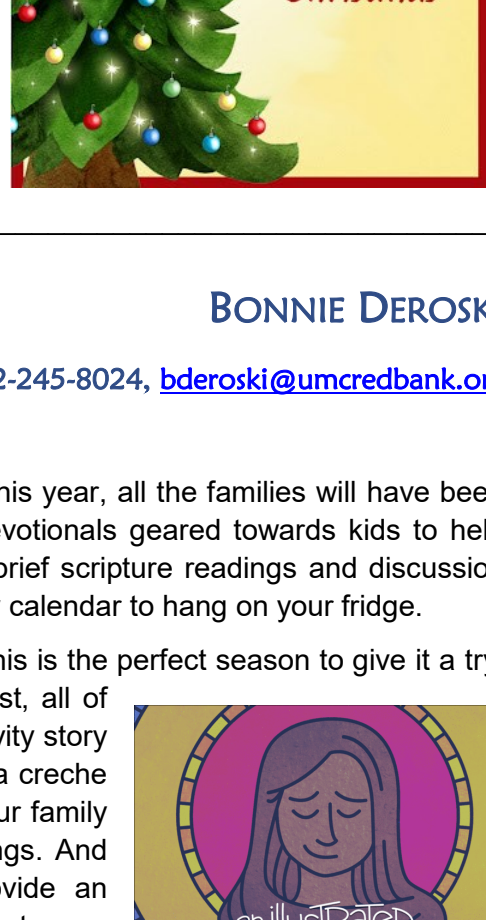
This year, we invite you and your families to come home and join us for our advent and Christmas celebrations as we celebrate the Incarnate one who comes to remind us that we are not alone, and God is with us. Let us join our hearts together as we long for the coming kingdom, where we will study war no more, where people will walk in the light, where joy will be found, and love will be the tie that binds us together.

That's the home for which we long. That's the invitation this Advent season: "Come home for Christmas."

May you and yours have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Pastor Jess

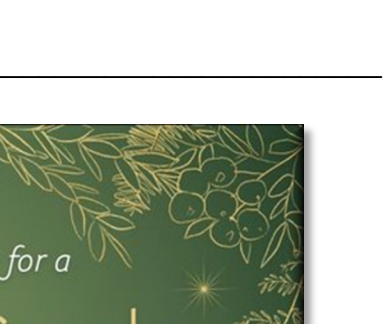
Rev. Jessica Brendler Naulty



Advent is a time of super and heightened anticipation for everyone. This year, all the families will have been provided with an Advent packet that will include 5 simple Advent devotionals geared towards kids to help guide that excitement toward Christmas. There are coloring sheets, brief scripture readings and discussion questions. The packet also includes nativity stickers and a daily activity calendar to hang on your fridge.

If you've never attempted to talk about bible stories with your family, this is the perfect season to give it a try. The weekly themes of Advent are Hope, Peace, Joy, Love and Christ, all of which are simple enough to be understood by most children. The Nativity story is a familiar one that most people already know. Many families have a creche or Nativity scene with the characters from the story. Maybe gather your family over dinner or in the living room around a candle on Sunday evenings. And lean into the questions that arise from your kids. Questions provide an excellent way to grow and engage with God and each other. Be willing to say, "I don't know," or "I wonder about that too." It's okay not to be sure.

Make the whole season about the anticipation and awe of the Christmas story. And plan to join us on Christmas Eve at 5pm for the family-friendly service where your family will be invited into the story once again. Merry Christmas.

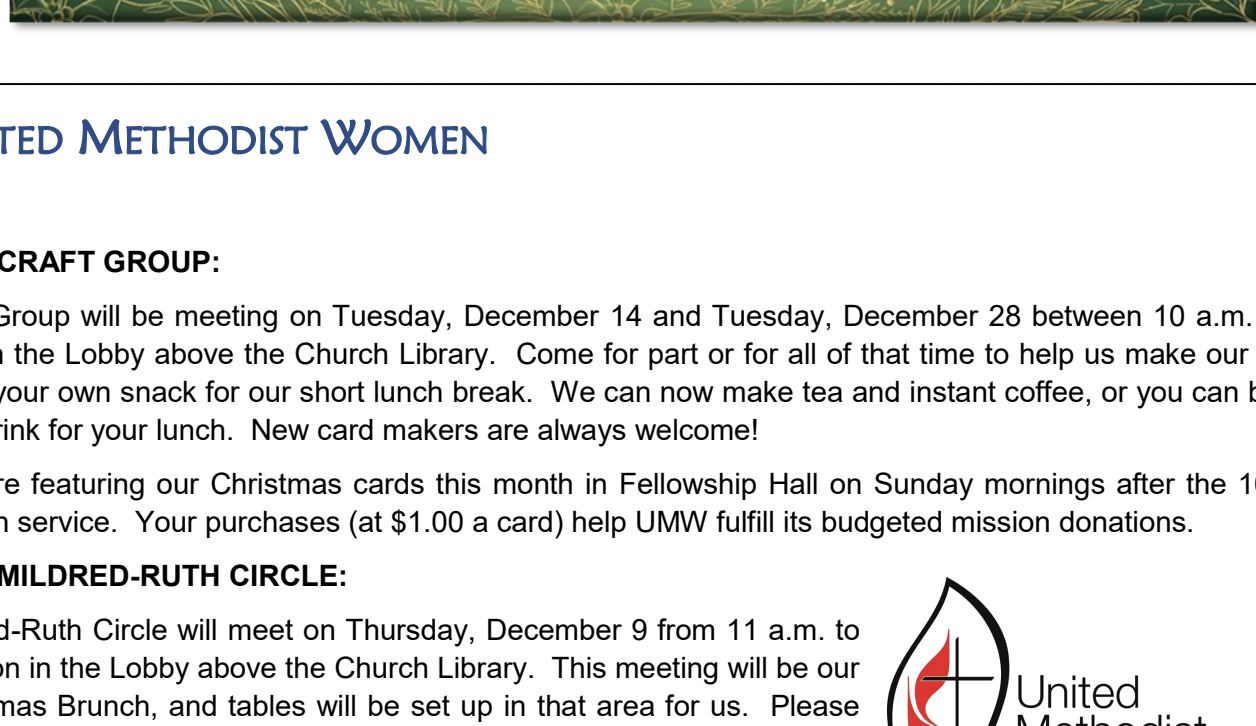


DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

EVAN COURTNEY

ecourtney@umcredbank.org

Singing has returned for in person worship! Warm up your vocal cords and join the choir in singing on the hymns during worship on Sundays. Reminder: masks are still required for all on Sunday mornings (because it's a large group indoor gathering), and there is a socially distanced section under the balcony in the Sanctuary.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

UMW CRAFT GROUP:

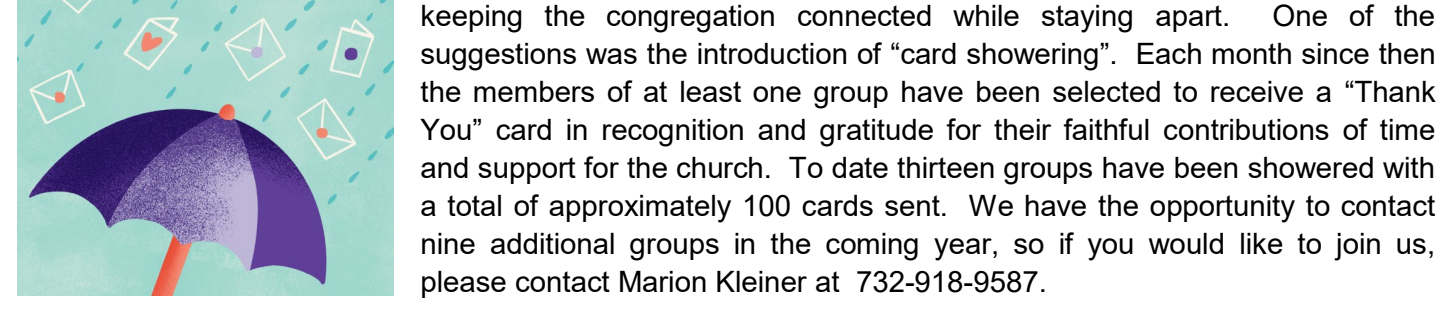
Craft Group will be meeting on Tuesday, December 14 and Tuesday, December 28 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the Lobby above the Church Library. Come for part or for all of that time to help us make our cards. Bring your own snack for our short lunch break. We can now make tea and instant coffee, or you can bring a cold drink for your lunch. New card makers are always welcome!

We are featuring our Christmas cards this month in Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings after the 10 a.m. Church service. Your purchases (at \$1.00 a card) help UMW fulfill its budgeted mission donations.

UMW MILDRED-RUTH CIRCLE:

Mildred-Ruth Circle will meet on Thursday, December 9 from 11 a.m. to 12 noon in the Lobby above the Church Library. This meeting will be our Christmas Brunch, and tables will be set up in that area for us. Please bring a food item to share. Let's get together for some holiday cheer as Christmas and the New Year are almost here!

Any questions? Contact Peggy Wien (twien@infionline.net).

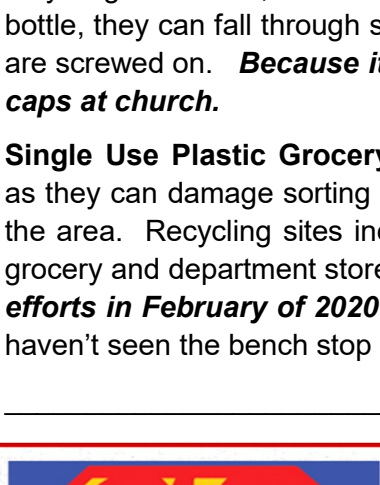


VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THIS EVENT. TO SIGN UP, CLICK THE ABOVE PICTURE OR CONTACT BONNIE DEROSKI

CARD SHOWERING

MARION KLEINER

732-918-9587; marionkleiner@gmail.com



At the beginning of the pandemic a group was assembled to discuss ways of keeping the congregation connected while staying apart. One of the suggestions was the introduction of "card showering". Each month since then the members of at least one group have been selected to receive a "Thank You" card in recognition and gratitude for their faithful contributions of time and support for the church. To date thirteen groups have been showered with a total of approximately 100 cards sent. We have the opportunity to contact nine additional groups in the coming year, so if you would like to join us, please contact Marion Kleiner at 732-918-9587.

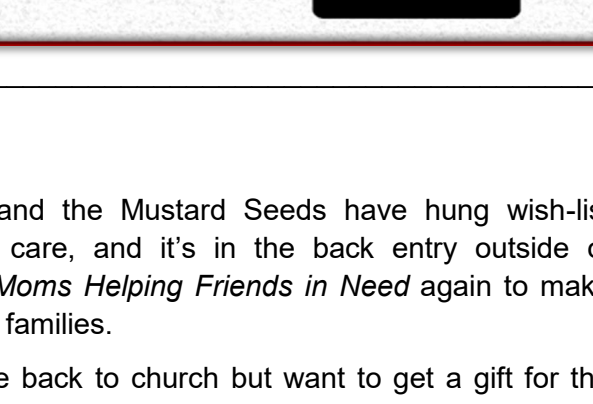
GREENFAITH

BOBBIE RIDGELY & JANIE SCHILDE

An Update on Bottle Cap and Plastic Bag Recycling
We are no longer collecting bottle caps and plastic bags at church. Read on to find out why and discover easy ways to continue your recycling efforts for a greener earth!

At a recent visit to Mazza's recycling center we learned **Bottle Caps** are now accepted in our single stream recycling! However, unless they've been twisted back onto a bottle, they can fall through spaces in sorting equipment. So before tossing into the blue bin, make sure caps are screwed on. **Because it is now so easy to recycle caps from home, we will no longer be collecting caps at church.**

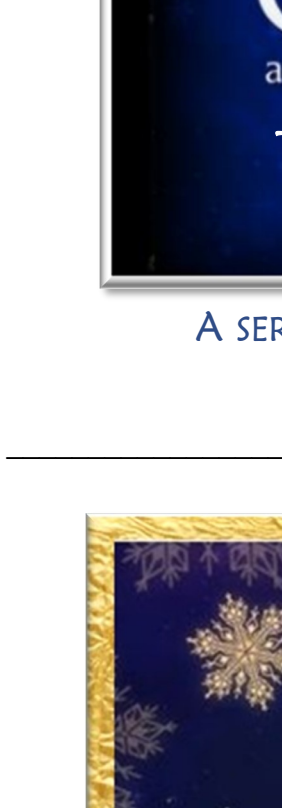
Single Use Plastic Grocery Bags and other stretchy plastics do not belong in your single stream recycling as they can damage sorting equipment. However, they can easily be recycled at any number of locations in the area. Recycling sites include Middletown Reclamation Center (for residents only) and a variety of local grocery and department stores such as Target, Whole Foods and Kohl's. **We ended our plastic collection efforts in February of 2020 when we completed our TREX Challenge and received a free bench.** If you haven't seen the bench stop by the playground and check it out!



Clean Out Your Closets and Help Fundraise for the God Squad!
WHEN: Saturday 12/18 from 10am to 2pm
WHERE: Back entrance of church
This is a 1 DAY clothing drive event. PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF CLOTHES PRIOR TO 12/18

Learn More Click Here

ANGEL TREE



The Angel Tree is back! Club 77 and the Mustard Seeds have hung wish-list ornaments on the Angel Tree with care, and it's in the back entry outside of Fellowship Hall. We're working with *Moms Helping Friends in Need* to make Christmas a bit happier for some local families.

If, however, you're not ready to come back to church but want to get a gift for the Angel Tree, visit our *Angel Tree* 2021 web page under the "Donate" section of the church website to access a list of the toys and games we're looking for. Gifts can be dropped off on Sundays mornings or left with the front office at Church during the week.

Moms Helping Friends in Need will be picking everything up on Sunday, December 12. Gifts on a Star, Stocking or Bell ornament must be in by 10 AM that Sunday.

[Click here for more information and to sign up for our Angel Tree](#)

Thank you all for your generosity in supporting the Angel Tree every year!

SAVE THE DATES

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE IMPORTANT EVENTS

- JOIN US EACH SUNDAY AS WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR CHRISTMAS.

10:00 AM – IN-PERSON AND ONLINE WORSHIP



A SERVICE FOR THOSE WHO STRUGGLE WITH GRIEF AND LOSS, ESPECIALLY DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON.



Christmas Poinsettias for the Sanctuary

Share the beauty of Christmas.
To order Christmas Poinsettias for the sanctuary, visit <https://www.umcredbank.org/special-occasions/christmas-poinsettia-orders/>.
or "In Honor Of," "In Celebration Of," they can be "Memory Of" the person/people of your choice. Cost is \$20 per poinsettia plant

[CLICK PICTURE TO ORDER POINSETTIAS](#)

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic
December 13, 2021 from 3:00 – 7:00 pm

The Pfizer, Moderna, and J&J/Janssen vaccines available.
PRE-REGISTER BY SCANNING QR CODE!
WALK-INS ARE WELCOME!

Pediatric COVID-19 vaccinations for children ages 5 to 11 and Booster are now available to everyone.

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER
Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey

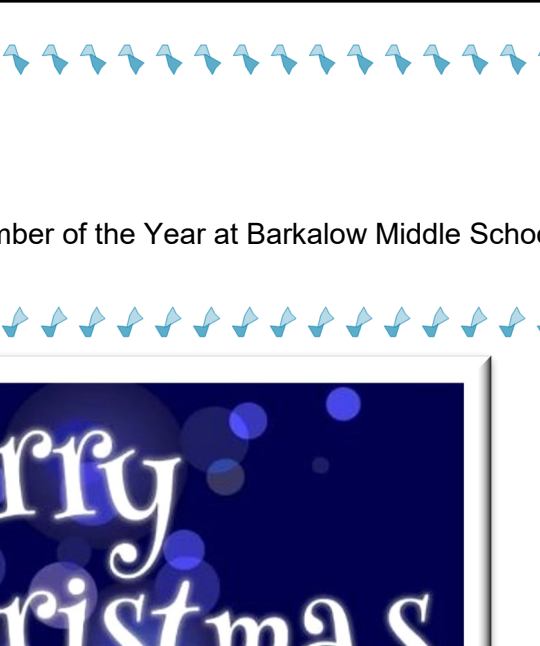
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December so soon!?! Let's celebrate these & other dates coming up this month...			
4 th - Saturday	National Cookie Day	21 st - Tuesday	Winter Solstice / Yule
7 th - Tuesday	Nat'l Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	23 rd - Thursday	Festivus
10 th - Friday	Nobel Prize Day	25 th - Saturday	Christmas Day
12 th - Sunday	Gingerbread House Day	25 th - Thursday	A'Phabet Day or No "L" Day
15 th - Wednesday	Cat Herders Day (do you have a crazy job?)	31 st - Friday	Universal Hour of Peace
17 th - Friday	Nat'l Ugly Christmas Sweater Day	To 1 st - Saturday	From 11:30 pm to 12:30 am

Cranberry / White Chocolate Cookies

Cookie Ingredients:
1 cup butter, softened
3/4 cup sugar
3/4 cup packed brown sugar
2 large eggs, room temperature
1/3 cup cranberry juice
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
3 cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 cups dried cranberries
2 cups vanilla or white chips

Glaze:
2 cups vanilla or white chips
2 tablespoons plus 1-1/2 teaspoons shortening



Directions
1. In a large bowl, cream butter and sugars until light and fluffy. Beat in the eggs, cranberry juice and vanilla.
2. In another bowl, combine the flour, baking powder and salt;
3. Gradually add to creamed mixture and mix well.
4. Fold in cranberries and vanilla chips.
5. Drop by rounded teaspoonfuls 2 in. apart onto greased baking sheets.
6. Bake at 350° until edges begin to brown, 10-12 minutes. Cool for 2 minutes before removing to wire racks to cool completely.
7. For glaze, microwave vanilla chips and shortening at 70% power until melted; stir until smooth. Drizzle over cookies.

Condolences

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

✦ **Doris Ward** - November 1
✦ **Genie Hoplock** - November 15
✦ **Barbara Harwood** - November 26

CELEBRATIONS

Suzanne Stonaker was awarded Support Staff Member of the Year at Barkalow Middle School in Freehold Township

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.