

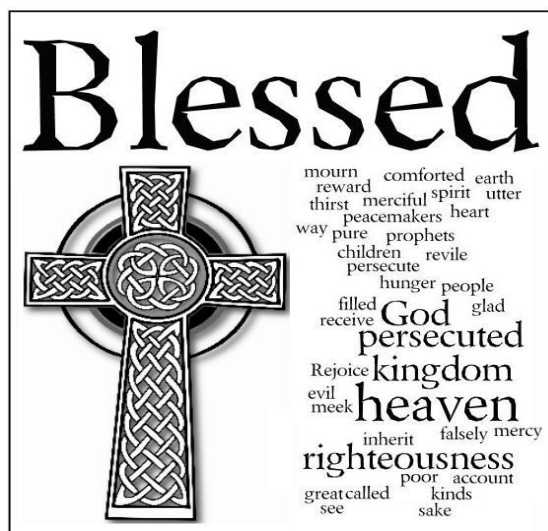
The Cornerstone

The stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

Psalm 118:22-23

VOLUME LXXIII NUMBER 38

September 25, 2025



***Blessed are
the Merciful;
for They will
be Shown Mercy***

Matthew 5:7

"Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense."

Proverbs 19:11

"Mercy has a mundane, everyday quality. Imagine for a moment the ordinary circumstances and moments mercy is needed: drink spilled at the dinner table, the insensitive comment from a co-worker, the presumptive demands of our children or our spouse. The scripture from Proverbs 19 reminds us that it is '*glory to overlook an offense*.' Every day, mundane mercy is lived and needed as part of all our lives.

In fact, this everyday mercy may be just as urgently needed in our world as the kind that seems superhuman. How might it change the climate of our homes, workplaces, communities, schools, nation if more often than not, we just let go of our offenses? How would it look to have caring conversations rather than hurtful rhetoric? How might it change our relationships if we're known to be a constant source of mercy instead of anger, and kindness instead of retribution?

'It's not simply something we need to do begrudgingly; it's truly a better way. We're "blessed" to be merciful. By trusting Jesus' words, we're invited to discover how mercy is a truly better way to live. The grand gestures matter: The gospel itself is the grandest gesture of mercy in history. But the smaller efforts at mercy matter, too—because they, in their own small way reflect the mercy we've found in Jesus.' (Mike Cosper)

There's no limit to God's mercy—no sin too great to forgive, no debt too large to pardon, so there should be no limit to ours as well. Yet such largesse never begins with us. As John Piper says, "*Mercy comes from mercy. Our mercy to each other comes from God's mercy to us.*" Those who have experienced such great leniency stand ready and willing to pardon others and are blessed for it. A life marked by this kind of radical mercy reveals a heart that loves God and seeks to walk and share life in the way of God.

I look forward to worshipping with you this Sunday as we dig deeper into our understanding of our blessedness and the call it has in our journey of discipleship. Jill



MENDHAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10 East Main St., Mendham (Borough) NJ 07945

SPEAKER EVENT: SEPT. 24, 2025 7:00PM

Join Us For An Enlightening Evening

Guest Speaker: Dale G. Caldwell, MBA, Ed.D

TOPIC: THE COST OF RACISM

In keeping with eliminating the sin of racism, a major goal of the United Methodist Church, this is the second in a series of events exploring racism, in its many forms.

Economic racism is not just a relic of the past—it continues to shape the lives of millions today.

Key topics will include: The legacy of discriminatory economic policies; how race influences access to capital, credit and housing; the role of corporations and government in perpetuating inequality.



Dale G. Caldwell, MBA, Ed.D. is the President of Centenary University and the Pastor of Covenant United Methodist Church in Plainfield, New Jersey. His experience includes serving as the CEO of Strategic Influence LLC, Senior Manager at Deloitte Consulting, Deputy Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) and Founding Executive Director of the nonprofit Newark Alliance.

Dale is the Founder and Board President of the Dale Caldwell Foundation whose mission is to reduce poverty through education, employment and entrepreneurship. He has written eight books, has over 33 years of K-12 public school board president experience and was named the New Jersey School Board Member of the Year in 2009. Dale has extensive tennis leadership and playing experience and was inducted into the USTA Eastern Tennis Hall of Fame in 2021.

He graduated from Princeton University with a BA in economics; the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania with an MBA in finance; and received his Doctorate from Seton Hall University in Education Administration.

His father, Rev. Dr. Gilbert Haven Caldwell, graduated from North Carolina A&T, and became a United Methodist pastor, who knew and marched with Martin Luther King, Jr.

Light refreshments will be provided after the speech, offering a moment to connect and reflect together.

For more information, please contact us at janetbell@comcast.net. We look forward to seeing you there.

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.” - Matthew 18:20



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2025 - SHOP 8AM - 11PM

25% OFF*
LOWEST SALE PRICE
SHOPPING PASS

This pass entitles you to 25% off* your purchases in-store or online and cannot be used in conjunction with other discounts and promotions.

Present this pass at time of purchase to receive your 25%* discount.

Valid in-store and online Wednesday, October 22, 2025 only.

\$5 DONATION PER PASS

100% of your donation benefits the local non-profit organization from which you purchased this pass.

*See reverse side for a list of merchandise receiving 15% and 10% Off as well as exclusions.

For more details visit [boscovs.com/friendshelpingfriends](https://www.boscovs.com/friendshelpingfriends)

See any UWIF member for your pass or stop in the church office.



Garage sale



UWIF Garage Sale

October 4, 8:30 am to 2 pm

Set-up days, Thursday & Friday October 2 & 3, 9-6 pm.

It's time to start gathering your unwanted "treasures" to donate to the UWIF annual garage sale! A few guidelines:

No books!

No heavy furniture!

No curtain or drapery rods!

No linens!

No heavy exercise equipment!

Please be sure your donations are clean and in working order!

Also GREATLY NEEDED are some hale and hearty volunteers to help clear the stage and to help clean up at the end of the day. Please contact Diane Maher at 732-513-8413 to sign up, or for information!



Calling All Bakers!

Once again, we will offer delicious baked goods for sale at the UWIF garage sale on Oct. 4th. Last year, over \$400 was raised just at the bake table!

We hope to do the same (or better) this year!

Please contribute home-baked items to raise funds to benefit women's and children's charities.

Helpful hints:

1. Bake now and freeze!
2. Pretty packaging helps things to sell!

Thank you so much! Questions? Contact Diane Maher at 732-513-8413

2025 CROP WALK

Sunday, October 19, 2025

45th Anniversary

CROP is a program of Church World Service working to combat hunger within the local community and world community. The annual **Red Bank CROP Walk** organized by ecumenical and interfaith congregations lets us walk as a family in our mission to combat hunger.

Last year the **Red Bank CROP Walk** was fourth in the nation raising almost \$120,000 and collecting 10,000 lbs of food that was shared among the local partner food pantries.

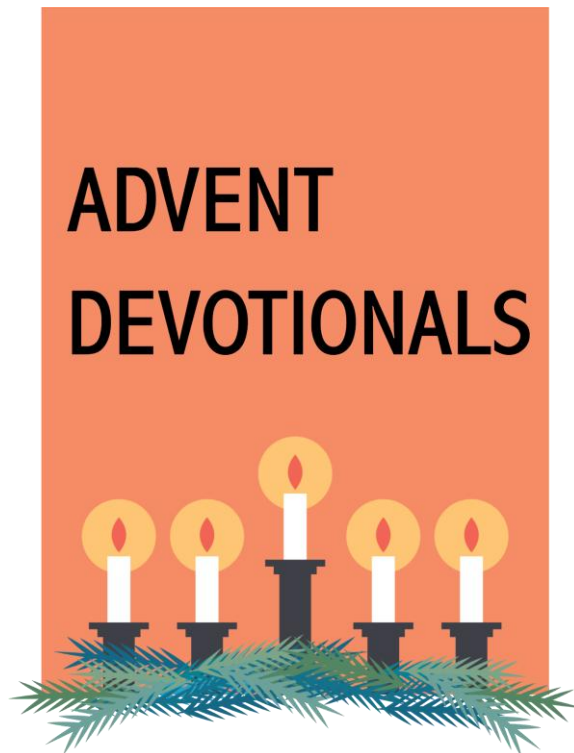
This year the **Red Bank CROP walk** celebrates its **45th anniversary**. Once again walkers from area churches, schools & civic groups will join together in the walk against hunger with a goal of \$145,000.

If you would like to contribute to this year's CROP walk, checks should be made payable to **CWS/Red Bank CROP Walk** and given to Jeff Danielson or mailed to the church. On-line donations can be made at events.crophungerwalk.org website-click on the **Browse a full list of teams** button, click on **First United Methodist Church-Oakhurst** and follow the prompts.

There will also be a table set-up during coffee hour starting **September 28th** with resources and materials. If you would like to join this year's walk, walker envelopes will be available if you choose not to register on-line.

Over the past 40-years, the congregation has been most generous in its support of the CROP walk ministry. On behalf of all the walkers throughout the decades, thank you for your continued support!





It's not too early to get your mental wheels in motion! Advent will soon be here! Once again, we are soliciting contributions to our very personal advent booklet. It's not hard to do. Just a Bible verse, a short anecdote or some thoughts, poetry, favorite hymn-just about anything that might be inspiring.

Yesterday, in the Adult Sunday School class, we discussed Jesus as the light of the world. Several people shared experiences where they'd found themselves in darkness due to a power outage. They felt lost, afraid, etc. I couldn't help thinking how easily those experiences could be used in an advent devotion!

How has God touched your life? Please give it some thought, and I am certain you could share your experience with your church family!

I am here to help! Diane Maher. 732-513-8413

Dianeserine07712@yahoo.com

Deadline for submissions: November 8



**16th Sunday after Pentecost
September 28, 2025**

Counters: Mary Bailey, Cheryl McLoughlin, John Montgomery

Greeter: Len Gruezke

Usher: Kitty Amato

Acolyte: Bonnie McNamara

Lay Reader: John Montgomery

Altar Flowers:

Given in honor of Kelly Pettit's birthday by
Hudson, Owen, & her family.
Given in loving memory of Betty Lou Smith by
Jeff & Melody Ragle.



**World Communion Sunday
October 5, 2025**

Counters: Patty Aria, John Montgomery, Judy Gorra

Greeter: Pamela Lynch

Ushers: Greg Scott/Robert Scott

Acolyte: Ashley Bailey

Lay Reader: Len Gruezke

Altar Flowers:

Given in loving memory of Woody Matthews
given by Arlene and Buster Stoll.
Given in loving memory of Marie Meadows by
her daughter, Sharron.



Java with Jill

Join Jill at the Blue Swan

**Diner for coffee and conversation (or the drink of
your preference).**

**This informal time of fellowship will be every
4th Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.**

Mark your calendar: October 28th



Coffee Fellowship

**FELLOWSHIP HOSTS
NEEDED**

Do you have what it takes
to be a fellowship host?
YES, YOU DO!

Please sign up in the upstairs kitchen. The very
simple requirements to be a fellowship host are
posted on the poster board. Or you may speak with
Bonnie McNamara.



Spaghetti Dinner

Every third Sunday of the month

5:00 pm-7:00 pm

Eat in or take out

Free to all

September's dinner will be **October 19th**



The Little Free Pantry

Please think of stocking shelf-stable milk, powdered milk, soup, stew, chili, whole grain cereal, toiletries, hygiene products, baby food, applesauce, canned beans, canned chicken, canned tuna, canned salmon, SPAM, canned ham, canned vegetables, olive oil, canola oil, crackers, dried herbs, spices, canned fruit, dried fruit, granola bars, instant mashed potatoes, meals in a box, nuts, pasta, peanut butter, & rice.

A good idea this week:
Velveeta

Tsedalech Tesfaye, our World Vision Child from Ethiopia, is sponsored for the month of September by Kitty Amato.

OUR SEPTEMBER COMMUNION OFFERING BENEFITS NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER OF CAMDEN



Mercy Center Collection

Mercy Center is in need of the following items: cooking oil, Ramen noodles, canned pasta, rice (1 lb. bags), crackers, SPAM, salad dressing, mayonnaise, pancake mix, ketchup, sugar, corn, Hamburger Helper, canned fruit, pasta sauce, tomato sauce, cereal, seasonings, jelly, syrup, toothbrushes (single packs), toothpaste, deodorant, diapers, pull-ups (size 5 and up), bar soap, body wash, shampoo, conditioner, laundry detergent, & dish detergent.



SAVE THE DATE

October 26th

1:30 p.m.

St. John's United Methodist Church: Hazlet

All are invited to this very important business meeting of our church.



Our homebound: David Miller, Bev Itell, Virginia Haydu, Bob Sproat, Bertha Ahrens, Cary Carlisle, Priscilla Smith, Elaine Gould

Sunnyside Manor, Wall: Nancy Burt

In Hospital: Avery Fallon

Our church family worshipping at a distance: Barbara Novick, Jean Gillette, Laura Eble, Jack & Caroline Chesbro



Something to think about:

If you're willing to admit fault, you have one less fault to admit.

WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

Sept. 28-Oct. 4

Lamentations 1:1-6
Psalm 137
2 Timothy 1:1-4
Luke 17:11-19

