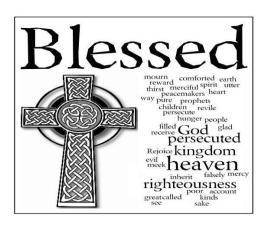
The Cornerstone

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 41

October 16, 2025



"Blessed are the Peacemakers; for they will be called Children of God."

Matthew 5:9

In this beatitude, Jesus views those who concern

themselves not only with the peace of this world, but also with the serenity that comes from knowing the Divine. He isn't giving instructions on salvation but instead says peacemakers will be called what they already are—children of our God.

In Galatians 4:6, we are reminded that God has sent forth the Spirit to be in our hearts, the hearts of all God's sons and daughters which means God's peace is ours. Welcoming God's peace includes laying down our grievances, pettiness, and extending this great gift to others. That's what allows us to pray for those who persecute us and to "be at peace with all God's children." (Rom. 12:18).

I look forward to worshiping with you this Sunday as we explore what it looks like to be peacemakers in our world today.

**A Different View of the Beatitudes, by John Greco; orig. pub. 10/1/2014 & reprinted 10/13/2018. intouch.org/read/magazine/features/a-different-view-of-the-beatitudes



NOTE: If you were unable to attend worship at last Sunday, October 12th and would like to read the sermon: *Blessed are the Pure of Heart;* Jill can email the sermon or mail you a copy.



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

2025 RED BANK CROP WALK

Sunday, October 19, 2025

CROP is a program of Church World Service that seeks to combat hunger within both the local community and world community. The 45th annual Red Bank CROP Walk will take place this Sunday.

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the walk this year. Your gifts are always greatly appreciated!

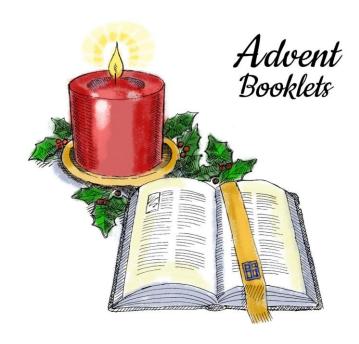
If you haven't donated to the walk yet, but would like to contribute, please see Jeff Danielson during fellowship time on Sunday morning. Please make checks payable to <u>CWS/Red Bank CROP Walk</u>. On-line donations can be made at <u>events.crophungerwalk.org</u> website-click on the <u>Browse a full list of teams</u> button, click on <u>First United Methodist Church-Oakhurst</u> and follow the prompts.

Over the past 45-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 steadfast support.

WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

2025 CROP HUNGER WALKS

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME



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.

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

New Information

Currently, Diane has only ONE submission. There will be no booklet this year if no one participates.



Saturday, January 24 – Saturday, January 31, 2026

We are heading to West Virginia to aid our neighbors in need.

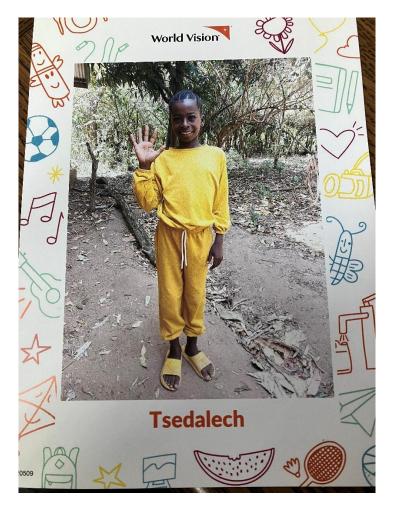
ALL are welcome to participate!!!

No skills needed – learn on the job.

Every talent will be utilized...cooks, listeners, errand runners, and of course those willing to paint, hammer, and learn something new. We don't yet know our projects but we know the meaningful message of love we provide AND receive.

Interested? Questions?

Contact Robyn Korsen robynpt21@comcast.net



We received an update from World Vision on how our sponsored child is doing and the improvements in her community. Tsedalech is now 10 years old. She is in primary school studying grade three. Currently her health is good. This year she and her family participated in and benefited from:

- School supplies
 - Her school received supplies to help with education and personal development.
- Agriculture resources and supplements
 - o The family received farming tools and seeds to help increase food and income.
- Children's camp
 - Tsedalech learned about her rights, responsibilities, and different skills to help in life.
- Birthday celebration
 - o Her friends and community celebrated her birthday which made her feel special.

Your support also made life-changing impacts on Tsedalech's community of Amaro, Ethiopia by aiding in nutrition programs, providing education kits and training to help children, parents, and caregivers learn at home, providing clean drinking water and new toilets at her school, and opening an early childhood center with a playground.

World Vision, Tsedalech, her family, and her community thank those of you who are sponsors each month.



In addition to raising money for missions through an annual pledge and year-round fundraising, United Women In Faith set aside two special days a year to focus on a "Call to Prayer and Self-denial" and a "World Thank Offering"

The World Thank Offering is an opportunity for personal Thanksgiving, and for participation in global mission outreach. Through this offering, mission projects in all 50 states and in almost 100 countries are supported. These vary from support to schools, hospitals and clinics, daycare centers and homes for senior citizens, educational training courses to prevent soil erosion to leadership development and nutritional courses and medical training. The funds collected are used in the total program of mission carried on through UWIF.

Many of us collect money over the course of the year, giving thanks and appreciation in either a blue and white World Thank Offering box or a container we have personally made for the purpose.

Being in mission is sharing our lives and gifts with others that all may be whole persons through Jesus Christ. Mission is creating a new society as we do away with those things that create barriers. It is working to eliminate racism, sexism, and loneliness. Mission is Christ's challenge to us to bring the possibility of food, shelter, and fulfillment to all of humanity.

To contribute to this mission work, please set aside a collection box and give with thanksgiving during the year. Attached is a monthly calendar that will give you some ideas and incentives to place money in your container during the year. Even the whole family could get involved! All money should be turned in at the end of November the following year.

If you have any questions, please contact Diane Maher at 732-513-8413 or speak with a member of the UWIF.



Dismantling Racism II: Christian Nationalism

On Saturday, November 8 from 9:00am-12:30 pm, Rev. Greg Holston will lead training that will focus on the timely and pressing issue of Christian Nationalism. Registration is open and more details will be shared soon. The cost for this event is \$15.00 per person.

To register go to gnjdigest@gnjumc.org.



Beacon UMC is looking for a new treasurer, The current treasurer has been working from TN, but she is unable to continue.

In terms of stipend, the treasurer has been getting about \$130 every other week. The church can be flexible in terms of the number of hours and work schedule.

If you are interested, please contact Beacon UMC at 732-291-0485 or Office@beaconumc.org.



19th Sunday after Pentecost October 19, 2025

Counters: Rand Danielson, Jane Gittines

Greeter: Melody Ragle

Usher: Mike Sheckler

Acolyte: Susan McRae

Lay Reader: Garry Smith

Fellowship Hosts: Jeff Danielson, Pamela Lynch

Altar Flowers:

Given in loving memory of Gail Danielson by Ron, Jeff, Scott, & Russel.

Given in honor of Debbie Henderson's birthday by her family.



We have an opening for altar flowers on Sunday, October 26. If you would like to donate, please contact Diane Maher at 732-513-8413. Price \$20.



20th Sunday after Pentecost October 26, 2025

<u>Counters:</u> Mary Bailey, Cheryl McLoughlin, John Montgomery

Greeter: Ruth Sheckler

Usher: Jim Scisco

Acolyte: Joy More

Lay Reader: Timothy Haider

Fellowship Hosts: Judy Gorra, Soon Hur

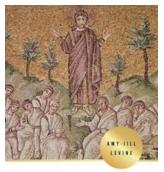
Altar Flowers:

Given by Susan McRae in loving memory of her mother, Jeanne Killian & her aunt, Barbara Davis.



FREE COMMUNITY SPAGHETTI DINNER

This Sunday (October 19th) 5-7 p.m. hosted by members of Old First UMC and FUMCO. Eat in or take out. The dinner consists of salad, bread, spaghetti with marinara, meatballs, and/or sausage, dessert, and great fellowship. No reservation is required. Please invite friends, neighbors, and family.



SERMON on the MOUNT

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Adult Sunday School starts a new study this Sunday (October 19) where they will explore the most popular sermon ever delivered! Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, a university professor of New Testament and Jewish studies will take a detailed and colorful overview of Matthew 5-7. Through Dr. Levine's engaging method

of biblical interpretation, participants will come away with a solid understanding of the Sermon on the Mount in its historical and theological context.

The class meets in Wesely Hall at 11 a.m.



The 2026 calendars are here! A huge thank you to Fiore-Buckley Funeral Home for their donation again this year. These calendars are full of exquisite scenic photos. You may pick up as many as you'd like-they are on the table on the second floor foyer.

Tsedalech, our World Vision Child from Ethiopia, is sponsored for the month of October by Robin Whitney and Tommy Vignola in loving memory of Pat & Jim Whitney.

OUR OCTOBER COMMUNION OFFERING BENEFITS WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY



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, deoderant, 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 Burtt In Hospital, Boston.MA: Avery Fallon

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



Something to think about:

God moves mountains...sometimes a shovelful at a time

WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS



Oct. 19-Oct 25

Jeremiah 31:27-34 Psalm 119:97-104 Psalm 19 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 Luke 18:1-8



Java with Jill Join Jill at the Blue Swan

<u>Diner</u> 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



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.



UP FOR GRABS

In Blair Chapel and Wesley Hall there are cushioned folding chairs that are free for the taking. The chairs are being replaced with a different kind of chair and before discarding them they are being offered to all of you. For more information or to set up a time to take them, call the church office 732-531-1150.

There are several chairs still left for the taking.



Please join the Board of Trustees at their fall workday on October 25th. They will be sprucing up the church properties starting at 9 a.m. There is something for everyone to do no matter what your capability.



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: Zero sugar drinks