
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

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The Risk of Saying Yes

Luke 5:1-11

This Sunday we begin a two-week stewardship series entitled "All In." In gambling (as I understand it), "all in" means putting everything you have on the table. In the recent World Series or other favorite sports, one needs to be "all in" when they go out on the field or the court. Is that not true for our faith as well? What does it look like to be "all in" regarding our discipleship? How does it feel to be "all in" and know that includes saying YES to following Christ into the unknown and uncertain future?

Join me Sunday as we explore the disciples who said YES and followed Christ AND as we reflect on what it has meant in your life to say YES to Jesus and be "all in" to your faith and our church. See you Sunday - Jill

NOTE: If ever you would like an emailed or printed copy of a sermon(s), please contact the FUMCO office or Jill by email or phone.

Sunday, Nov. 23rd 10:00 a.m.

Joint Community Thanksgiving Service

**First UMC of Oakhurst & Old First
UMC will join together for a
Thanksgiving Sunday Service at 10:00
a.m. Please note this adjusted
worship time for both churches.**



**Following the service we will enjoy a fellowship breakfast. A
sign-up sheet to assist with the breakfast will be available on
Sunday.**

*(A rough draft of that sign-up sheet is attached to this Cornerstone so that
you will get an idea of what is needed.)*



MERCY CENTER THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Once again, it is collection time for the annual Mercy Center Thanksgiving food drive. Families in need are provided Thanksgiving baskets containing all the ingredients for a complete holiday dinner. The Mercy Center food pantry currently serves over 3,540 families a month in the Neptune/Asbury Park area!

Since it is a large project, Mercy Center requires the food be delivered to them early. Therefore, starting **October 26th**, there will be a table in the church foyer to receive non-perishable donations. Perishables **clearly** marked for the **Mercy Center Thanksgiving Food Baskets** can be left in the freezer or refrigerator. The Thanksgiving Basket food drive ends on **November 16th**. Donations can be dropped off during church office hours or on Sundays.

The Outreach Committee and Mercy Center truly appreciate the congregation's continuing generous support of the Thanksgiving food drive!!!



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



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



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 gnidigest@gnjumc.org.

The Legacy Workshop

Nov. 17th @ 6:00 p.m.

All are Welcome.
Come learn how you might
leave a living legacy of faith

The First United Methodist Church, 103 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH



Daryl Junes-Joe

Daryl Junes-Joe is a member of the Navajo Nation from Shiprock, New Mexico. Junes-Joe spent years working as a Navajo Nation tribal prosecutor and as an advocate for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Junes-Joe pictured a quiet retirement, but God had other plans. Junes-Joe is a United Methodist Women National Board director; she testified on behalf of indigenous people at an EPA hearing in Washington, DC and she is on the board of the United Methodist General Commission on the Status and Role of Women.

CLUSTER UM CHURCH CALENDAR

Old First (Jill Hubbard-Smith) 197 Locust Ave., West Long Branch (Stream: Facebook)
Wayside (David Geller) 1229 West Park Ave., Ocean (Stream: YouTube)
Oceanport (Donna Nielson) 50 Mail St., Oceanport (Stream: YouTube)
St. Luke's (Chungmi Kang) 535 Broadway, Long Branch
Embury (Chungmi Kang) 49 Church St., Little Silver
FUMCO (Jill Hubbard-Smith) 103 Monmouth Rd., Oakhurst (Stream: YouTube, Facebook)

2025

Nov. 7 & 8	9 a.m-4 p.m. & 9 a.m-2 p.m.	Inside Yard Sale	Wayside
Nov 9	4:00 p.m.	Organ Concert-100 th Celebration	Embury
Nov. 11	7:30 p.m.	UWIF Guest Night	Oceanport
Nov. 15	5:00 p.m.	Harvest Home Dinner	Oceanport
Nov. 16	5:00 p.m.	Free Community Spaghetti Dinner	FUMCO with Old First
Nov. 23	10:00 a.m.	Thanksgiving Breakfast	Embury
Nov. 23	11:00 a.m.	Thanksgiving Breakfast	FUMCO
Nov. 23	Noon	Thanksgiving Lunch	St. Luke's
Nov. 30	2:30 p.m.	<i>One Silent Night</i> Choraliers of Eatontown/Northern Cluster Choir Reformation Lutheran Church	
Dec. 7	4:00 p.m.	<i>One Silent Night</i>	West Grove
Dec. 7	5:00 p.m.	Vespers & Tea	FUMCO
Dec. 14	5:00 p.m.	Christmas Party Covered Dish	FUMCO
Dec. 21	Noon	Christmas Lunch	St. Luke's
Dec. 21	5:00 p.m.	Blue Christmas	FUMCO
Dec. 28	5:00 p.m.	Free Community Spaghetti Dinner	FUMCO with Old First

CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00 p.m. - Family Candlelight Service - FUMCO
5:00 p.m. - Candlelight Service – Embury
7:00 p.m. – Candlelight Service – St. Luke's
7:30 p.m. – Candlelight Service – Old First
7:30 p.m. - Candlelight Service - Oceanport
9:00 p.m. - Candlelight Service - Wayside
11:00 p.m. - Candlelight & Communion – FUMCO

2026

Jan. 17	5:00 p.m.	Chicken Dinner	Oceanport
Jan. 24-31		Mission Trip to WV	
Feb. 17	5:00 p.m.	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	Oceanport
Aug. 19	5:00 p.m.	Peach Festival	Oceanport





**22nd Sunday after Pentecost
November 9, 2025**

Counters: Kitty Amato, Peg Kuchen, Chip Stoll

Greeter: Jim Scisco

Usher: Paul Bradley

Acolyte: Kayleigh Becker

Lay Reader: Diane Maher

Fellowship Host: Bonnie McNamara

Altar Flowers:

**Given in loving memory of Pat & Jim Whitney by
the Whitney family.**

**Given in honor of Ashley Bailey's 21st birthday
by Mom, Grandma, Aunt Mary, & Uncle Marty.**



**STEWARDSHIP
SUNDAY**

**23rd Sunday after Pentecost
November 16, 2025**

Counters: Rand Danielson, Jane Gittines

Greeter: Kitty Amato

Usher: Ron Danielson

Acolyte: Robert Scott

Lay Reader: Joy More

Fellowship Hosts: Jeff Danielson, Pamela Lynch

Altar Flowers:

**Given in celebration of Michael & Alina Haider's
wedding on November 14th by Tim & Michele.**

**Given in honor of Bonnie & Kevin McNamara's
25th wedding anniversary.**

Altar Rose:

**Given in honor of the baptism of Avery Jean
Fallon by her grandparents Len & Barbara
Gruezke & Tom & Loretta Fallon.**



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:
Chips**



**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.**





November is a 5th Sunday month. Your donations to this fund help with upkeep of the church properties. Please use the yellow envelopes for your donations. The Board of Trustees and the Finance Committee thank you!



Join Oceanport UMC's UWIF on Tuesday, 11/11 at 7:30 p.m. Their guest speaker will be Callie

Crowder from Maker's Place in Trenton. All who are attending are invited to bring diapers and/or wipes. Dessert will be served. RSVP: 732-542-9384.

Tsedalech, our World Vision Child from Ethiopia, is sponsored for the month of November by Diane Maher.

**OUR NOVEMBER COMMUNION OFFERING
BENEFITS
HOPE SCHOOL**



Embury UMC celebrates the 100th anniversary of their Möller Pipe Organ with a free concert featuring Dr. Gordon Turk. Sunday, November 9th at 4:00 p.m. A donation of non-perishable food is appreciated. Refreshments will be served.



children's Christmas choir

Calling all children and youth for a Christmas Choir! Do you have a child or youth in your life that would like to sing at Christmastime? Our Music Director Miss Denise is hoping to get a group together!

If interested, please have a parent email FUMCOMusicDirector@gmail.com for more information!

*Please be
Praying for...*

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

Sunnyside Manor, Wall: Nancy Burt

At home: Avery Fallon, Jack Chesbro

JSUMC: Peg Kuchen

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



Something to think about:
We don't judge the stars for falling...

WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS



Nov. 9-Nov. 15

Haggai 1:15b-2:9
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38



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.



UP FOR GRABS

In Blair Chapel, the side sanctuary, 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.



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: November 18th



The third Sunday of every month is a **FREE** to all community spaghetti dinner hosted by the Outreach Committee and Old First UMC. You are invited to Fellowship Hall for a dinner of salad, bread, spaghetti with your choice of marinara, meatballs, or sausages, and dessert. Birthdays are also celebrated with a cake for those celebrating their birthday during that month. You may eat in or take out. Service starts at 5 p.m. Please spread the word. Date for November: 16th.



NEW LIST

Please provide peanut butter, canned proteins, canned beans, pasta, pasta sauce, flour, sugar, condiments, canned vegetables, olive oil, spices, formula, and baby food. The Outreach Committee thanks you for supporting this long-standing mission of our church.