

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 Common Good 1 Corinthians 12:4-13

God activates gifts in every one of us for the common good. The gifts given by the Spirit are not to be used only at

First UMC, but also to bless the wider community of Oakhurst, Ocean Township, and beyond. What could happen in our church, and how could we be a blessing to the community if, together, we went all in?

What does it look like for you to go all in with your gifts and to encourage others with those gifts? This Sunday is our Commitment Sunday in which we will bring our estimate of giving cards forward to God, inviting God's blessing as we support the ministries of our church. I look forward to seeing you Sunday, Jill

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

Our CONGREGATION Family is invited and strongly encouraged to come and hear about what it means to gift the church a financial legacy that is invested for the ongoing future of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. Our investment advisor will be here to explain how this is helping build a solid foundation for us now and beyond. No matter where you are in your life journey and future decisions, we invite you to come and give a listen.

Light refreshments will be available as we begin the workshop for all to come at 6:00 p.m. in Wesley Hall. This

event is sponsored by our Endowment Committee. It will conclude before 7:00 p.m. when the Endowment Committee will gather to meet.

See you on Monday!! 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.

Java with Jill



Join Jill at the Blue Swan Diner for coffee and informal conversation and fellowship.

**Mark your calendar:
November 18th & December 16th
10 AM**

Please note date changes



NOVEMBER 16th is the last day for drop off.

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!!!



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.

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. 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





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.



Christ the King
November 23, 2025

Counters: Mary Bailey, Cheryl McLoughlin, John Montgomery

Greeter: Joy More

Usher: Gerry Busfield

Acolyte: Kitty Amato

Lay Reader: Chip Stoll

Altar Flowers:

Given in loving memory of Frances (Sis) Miller by her niece, Sharron Meadows.
Given in loving memory of Carol Allen's birthday by Abby.



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:
Dish soap



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!



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.

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

**OUR NOVEMBER COMMUNION OFFERING
BENEFITS
HOPE SCHOOL**



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.



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

Imperial Care, Neptune: Peg Kuchen

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



Something to think about:

Great opportunities seldom come, but small ones surround us every day.

WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS



Nov. 16-Nov. 22

Isaiah 65:17-25
Isaiah 12
Psalm 118
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Luke 21:5-19

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS NEEDED



Coffee Fellowship

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.



Now there are
varieties of gifts,
but the same

Spirit;

and there are
varieties of services,
but the same

Lord;

and there are
varieties of activities,
but the same

God

who activates all...

1 Corinthians 12:4-6, NRSV

