

Baptism of the Lord

January 11, 2026 9:30 a.m. at First UMC

*Congregation is invited to rise if able and comfortable.
Readings in **BOLD** are to be read in unison.

Hymnals: **UMH is Red or Purple-TFWS is Black-W&S is Green**

Please note that this service is being recorded and viewed on social media.

WE GATHER

PRELUDE *Cornet Voluntary* Travers

As you settle into the sanctuary, please open your phone and share the live service from your Facebook page as a way of inviting the larger community to worship.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies UMH 173, v. 1

**Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise, triumph o’er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.**

*INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
Ascribe to the Lord the glory of God’s name,
worship the Lord in holy array.
The voice of the Lord is upon the water.
The God of glory thunders, the Lord upon many waters.
The voice of the Lord is powerful.
The voice of God is full of majesty.
Let us praise the name of the Lord!

*SHARING THE PEACE OF THE CHRIST

We invite you to turn to the person next to you and greet them saying,
“Peace be with you”
You are invited to respond by saying,
“And also with you”

*HYMN OF PRAISE *How Great Thou Art* UMH 77

CENTERING PRAYER

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Grant that all who are baptized into his name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, One God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

ANTHEM *All Praise to You, Dear Father* Dunbar
Chancel Choir

WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD

LESSON FROM THE PROPHET *Isaiah 42:1-9* Pew Bible OT 670

For the Word of God in Scripture
For the Word of God among us
For the Word of God within us

Thanks be to God

HYMN OF RESPONSE *Sweet, Sweet Spirit* UMH 334

GOSPEL LESSON *Matthew 3:13-17* Pew Bible NT 3

MESSAGE *This is My Son, The Beloved* Douglas Fontenello,
Raritan Shore District Lay Leader

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

SHARING OUR PRAYERS

During this time, you are invited to name your prayers for the congregation.
After each prayer request, the congregation will respond...

Lord, Hear Our Prayer

PRAYERS FOR ALL GOD’S BELOVED PEOPLE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO THE MINISTRY OF GOD

*PRESENTATION *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious and loving God, we come before you today with humble hearts, dedicating our gifts, time, and treasures to your holy service. As Jesus stood at the waters of the Jordan, and the heavens opened above him, we remember that your Spirit descended, affirming him as your beloved Son, in whom you are well pleased. We ask now that your Spirit would rest upon these offerings, that they may be pleasing in your sight and used for your divine purposes. We dedicate all that we return to you, trusting that you who created the heavens and stretched them out are faithful to fulfill your promises. Take these offerings and multiply their impact for your kingdom. Use them to support those in need, to proclaim your good news, and to glorify your name. Amen.

*HYMN OF DEDICATION *Here I Am, Lord* UMH 593

*SENDING FORTH

*LIGHT OF CHRIST LEADS US INTO THE WORLD

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve TFWS 2241, v. 4

***Then let us go to serve in peace, the gospel to proclaim.
God’s Spirit has empowered us; we go in Jesus’ name.***

*POSTLUDE *Serenade* Haydn

*Please join us in Fellowship Hall for refreshments and fellowship.
An Adult Study is offered in FUMCO’s Wesley Hall at 11:00 a.m.,
located on the lower level of the building*


**Our Service Of Worship Has Ended.
Our Worship Through Service Begins.**

Altar Flowers:

Given by Scott & Russel Danielson in loving memory of Russel’s father,
Fulgencio Terrado, Sr.

Our Leadership Team This Morning

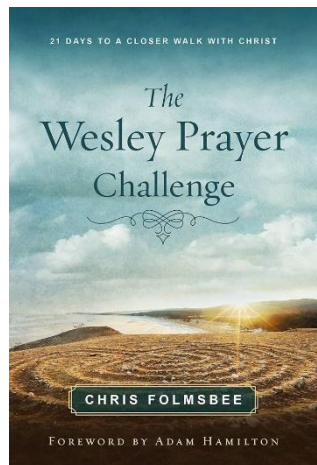
Acolyte: Sue McRae
Counters: Kitty Amato, Peg Kuchen, Chip Stoll
Fellowship Host: Bonnie McNamara
Greeter: Len Gruezke
Lay Reader: Pam Puryear
Usher: Mike Sheckler



At home: Avery Fallon, Peg Kuchen
Our homebound: Bev Itell, Jean Gillette, Virginia Haydu, Bob Sproat, Bertha Ahrens, Cary Carlisle, Priscilla Smith, Elaine Gould, David Miller, Nancy Burt

**FUMCO has a team of prayer warriors, known as the Prayer Chain. If you have a prayer need, please contact the office, 732-531-1150.
** If you know someone who needs pastoral care, please contact our pastor, Jill Hubbard-Smith, 732-209-4563 or revjmhs@gmail.com.

A New Year invites new opportunities, right?



This January Pastor Jill has decided to spend “21 days to a closer walk with Christ,” as her first goal of this new year. Would you like to join her?

The pastor discovered this book and decided that beginning Jan. 5th, she would take time each day to strengthen her prayer life as she enters 2026. She will be out of the office for 2 weeks in January...one on vacation and one on a mission trip. But she invites anyone interested in this challenge to gather with her via Zoom to chat about their highs and lows in the challenge. January 20th, February 3rd, &

February 10th at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Jill will be on ZOOM for anyone interested in gathering to share their experiences. Use these links to join her...

Jan 20 at 7:00 via Zoom Surrender and Suffering: *I am no longer my own... put me to suffering.*

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84980973175?pwd=9CryKpc9EYKfH2afXGLC760egYsPWG.1>

Meeting ID: 849 8097 3175 Passcode: 618428

Feb 3 at 7:00 via Zoom Honor and Humility: *Let me be employed by thee... to thy pleasure and disposal.*

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88469103303?pwd=J4jsS5dbxWLLqsO7txFHpBcWNClAet.1>

Meeting ID: 884 6910 3303 Passcode: 605673

Feb 10 at 7:00 via Zoom Community and Commitment: *And now... Let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.*

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85730555419?pwd=xfXFu5HJRqJiLdVMLfEBV0aUbQ4huG.1>

Meeting ID: 857 3055 5419 Passcode: 713435

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mission on the Move-From January 24th-31st, people from 3 area churches including ours are traveling to WV to work with a UM mission helping neighbors in need. C.R.O.S.S. is a ministry focused on serving lower economic communities with housing repairs. The group will be traveling in renal vans, living in host homes, and cooking their own meals. Supplies, housing, transportation, and food come with a cost. If you would like to participate in the ministry, your financial gifts may be mailed to the office or placed in the offering plates marked MISSION TRIP. Prayers are also appreciated.

Adult Sunday School is in session. Join them in Wesley Hall at 11 a.m. as they continue an in-depth exploration of Judaism from the “Great Courses” series.

Fellowship Hosts are always welcomed. Whether you are firmly established in the schedule or looking for a new mission opportunity, this is for you! Please speak with Bonnie McNamara if you are interested.

CHAIRS! CHAIRS! CHAIRS! There are still plenty of padded folding chairs that are in good condition available for the taking. Or perhaps you know an organization that could use them. Please call the church office for information, 732-531-1150.

Mercy Center-Our ongoing mission to Mercy Center’s food pantry is always in need of stocking. Right now, Mercy Center is looking for canned fish, lentils, pasta, whole-grain cereals, canned fruits, peanut butter, & nonperishable oils.

Java with Jill-Notice of date change: January 20th. Join Jill and friends at the Blue Swan Diner for a chat and a cuppa. They meet at 10 a.m.

Free Community Spaghetti Dinner-hosted by Old First UMC and FUMCO. January 18th, 5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Please invite your friends, family, and neighbors for good food and good fellowship.

Little Free Pantry-Even if the “bench” is stocked, there is an overflow area for donated items. You may leave the items in the office and Joy will take care of them. Please do not add items if the bench seat does not sit flush. Items are being destroyed and discarded. Needed at this time are hygiene products, canned ham, dried fruit, & shelf-stable milk.

Save the Date for the UWIF spring garage sale. Saturday, April 25th. More information to come in the days ahead.

January’s Communion Offering benefits the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund. Please use the LOVE envelopes for your much-needed donations to this congregation’s community mission.



First UMC of Oakhurst

...is a community of faith committed to Christ, seeking to learn the needs of others and responding with Christian love.

9:30 a.m. Worship Every Sunday Morning In Person & Streaming

103 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst, NJ 07755

732-531-1150

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Oakhurst.umchurches.org

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Follow us on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/FirstUnitedMethodistChurchofOakhurst>

CCLI #1588788

Pastor: Rev. Jill Hubbard-Smith

Secretary: Joy More

Director of Music: Denise Furda

Sexton: Lisa Costello

Streaming Team: Chip Stoll, Rob Crowther, Johnny Tocci

Director of Wesley Nursery School: Noel Worthington

Music Director Emeritus: Gary Farquhar