

April 12, 2026



HOLMDEL COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

40 W. Main Street, Holmdel, NJ 07733

Phone (732) 946-8821; E-mail: administrator@holmdelucc.org
www.holmdelucc.org

*Our mission: to deepen our relationship with God,
follow Jesus in service to our community,
and work for justice and peace.*

April 12, 2026

Second Sunday of Easter

❖ *Please rise in body or in spirit*
Large print bibles, bulletins and hymnals are available from the
ushers.
Hearing enhancement devices are also available.
Please remember to turn off your cell phones.

PRELUDE

Appalachian Sunrise

Wayne Gratz

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

❖PASSING OF PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

INTROIT

He's Alive!

Tom Fettke

❖CALL TO WORSHIP

Carol Schreier

In a world that cries out, "Fear me!"

We will listen to Jesus' words, "Don't be afraid!"

In a world that wants us to hate the other...

We will live Jesus' call to, "Love God. Love your neighbour, as you love yourself."

In a world that radicalizes...

We, too, will be radical. Radical with our hospitality. Radical with our hope. Radical with our love.

Then come to this place, ready to be who we are called to be.

Let us gather together and worship God.

❖ **HYMN**

He Lives

No. 226

❖ **PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION**

Don Pope

The prophet speaks of the coming light of God which calls all the people of the earth to come together in God's realm of shalom. Let us confess the ways in which we have rejected God's vision of wholeness.

God of light and darkness, we have seen the glimmer of your star-light beckoning to us, but we have turned away and followed other paths. We confess that we have not loved you with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind, and with all our strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, Holy One. Strengthen our faltering steps and guide us in your holy way of peace. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Don Pope

Lift up your eyes and see the grace of God poured out into your lives.

The light of God shines through the darkness. Our hearts rejoice for Christ is in our midst. Christ Jesus is alive in the world! We are alive!

❖GLORIA

to the tune of No. 35

**Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ,
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end, Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Amanda Spagnolia

SPECIAL MUSIC

Ring the Easter Bells

Joseph Martin

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Ezekiel 34:11-14

Carol Schreier

Luke 15:1-7, 20-32

Don Pope

SERMON

"What About Us?"

Don Pope

❖HYMN

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

No. 589

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Joys and Concerns

Our Father/Mother, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for visiting with us today! It is a pleasure to have you here. Feel free to take information about our church from the table by the church entrance. Please sign our guest book by the door, so that we can send you our monthly newsletter and other information (make sure to include an email address!).

Thanks to today's **Worship Leaders:**

Don Pope, Guest Speaker; Carol Schreier, Liturgist;
Susan F. Davies, Minister of Music;
Amanda Spagnolia, Children's Minister;
Michelle Ucciferri, Slide Changer;
Matt Snodgrass, Sound Board Operator;
Susan Shaw, Greeter/Usher

Pastor Rev. Nada B. Sellers
Ministers Members of the Church
Minister of Music Susan F. Davies
Children's Minister Amanda Spagnolia
Office Manager Lynn C. Hudzik

Church Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9:30am – 2:30pm

Pastor's Office Hours: **Tuesday**, 10am – 3pm,

Thursday, 10am – 1pm

and as arranged

Phone (732) 946-8821; Email: administrator@holmdelucc.org

www.holmdelucc.org

Words, lyrics, and presentation used with permission through

Holmdel Community United Church of Christ

Copyright License #2484082, via Church Copyright Licensing Portland, OR.

Webcast License through ChristianCopyrightsolution.com #10234

Land Acknowledgement: Our buildings stand on the ancestral land of the Munsee Lenape, Lenape Haki-nk (Lenni-Lenape). We acknowledge these Indigenous Peoples and decry the unjust taking of their land, the unfulfilled promises of U.S. treaties granting land access, and the still unresolved traumas of forced migration, genocide, and theft. We acknowledge and affirm Native American values and indigenous cultures while holding space for atonement and healing.

Open and Affirming since 2009

We rejoice in the good news that in Jesus Christ we find that we are all God's children through faith without distinction.

"For in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:26-28

God calls all faithful people together to be a community of justice and peace. We lament that throughout history, and even in our own time, churches have silently allowed or actively called for hatred, hostility, and exclusion, and have failed to live up to God's call to inclusion and sanctuary.

Therefore we, the members of Holmdel Community United Church of Christ, covenant together to welcome and embrace all people into the life and ministry of our congregation regardless of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, age, mental and physical condition, race, ethnicity, nationality, or economic status. With God's help, we promise to be a church of open arms and open doors, and to celebrate the diversity that reflects the glory of God's creation. We seek to live as a compassionate community united by faith and diverse in its expression.

APRIL						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10am Service with One Great Hour of Sharing (part of 5 for 5)	7:30pm Council	7:15pm Scouts	7pm Worship & Music 7:30pm Justice & Peace 8pm Lifeline Group of AA	7:30pm Choir	12pm-5pm American Red Cross Blood Drive	9am - Noon New Jersey Association Meeting, Short Hills, NJ 10am Meditation with Grace
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10am Service		7:15pm Scouts	2pm Care Team 8pm Lifeline Group of AA	7:30pm Choir	7pm-9pm Hall Rental	9:30am- Noon Making Earth Day Sandwiches 10am Meditation with Grace 4pm-7pm Open House for Village Foster Closet of Holmdel



The Calico Cat Food Pantry helps support local families in need by supplementing their pantry shelves at home. Holmdel Community UCC is part of a cooperative of churches that support the Food Pantry. During the month of March, the Church School is collecting **canned vegetables**. Donations for Calico Cat will be offered up **April 26th** on Food Dedication Sunday.

Seeking the Way of Welcome

Beginning April 10, our HCUCC member, Howard Kradjel, will begin a seven-day bicycle pilgrimage along the Camino Sanabrés in Spain.

Each day on the road he'll carry one simple practice of welcome:

To offer financial support for Ward's partnership with the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), please the QR Code below.



**Day 1 — Slow Down
Make space to notice people and places.**

**Day 2 — Listen First
Give others the gift of full attention.**

**Day 3 — Learn and Use Names
Recognize the dignity of each person.**

**Day 4 — Accept Help
Allow yourself to receive hospitality.**

**Day 5 — Practice Curiosity
Meet difference with openness rather than assumption.**

**Day 6 — Honor Dignity
See every person as worthy of respect.**

**Day 7 — Offer Gratitude
Acknowledge the many gifts received along the way.**



Follow along Howard's journey:
<https://www.facebook.com/howardkradjel>



We're hosting!!

American Red Cross Blood Drives
Held at
Holmdel Community United Church of Christ
40 Main Street

Holmdel, NJ
Friday, April 17, 2026 and Friday, June 26, 2026

12p to 5p
Monday, July 20th
1p to 6p

Tuesday, August 25th
12:30p to 5:30p

Appointments preferred, please scan QR Code to make an appointment or call 800 RED CROSS



Community Church of Keyport
proudly presents

TRIVIA NIGHT

featuring
our Host



Lady Gelestina
(She/They)
The Top Hatted Diva

Artist | Host | Entertainer | Producer
Performing courtesy of Pork Roll Egg & Queens

More Info:


Join us for
an evening of Entertainment/Refreshments/
50/50/Prizes/Fun - \$40 per person

4 PM - April 25

More Info:


RSVP: Community Church of Keyport
Fellowship Hall
42 Elizabeth St., Keyport
732-264-1198

Recycling Reminder: The Justice & Peace Committee is collecting the following items that are not accepted at curbside recycling in most towns. They are **EYEGLASSES, EYE CARE PRODUCTS, ORAL CARE PRODUCTS, and SWIFFER REFILLS**. All items must be dry. Place them in the blue recycling bins on the counter in the kitchen. Questions? Contact Regina at regcris35@gmail.com or 732 320-6210.

Do your part to keep these items out of the landfill!



EYE CARE PRODUCTS
All brands of contact lenses and cases, lens blister packs, and eye drop single dose vials.



SWIFFER REFILLS

All types of Swiffer duster, dry pad, and wet pad refills. **Must be dry.**



ACCEPTED WASTE



TOOTHPASTE CONTAINERS
Toothpaste tubes and caps, toothbrushes, plastic outer packaging, and floss containers. **Not accepted:** Electric/battery toothbrushes, or their parts. Remove as much toothpaste as possible.

HOLMDEL'S AMERICA 250TH COMMITTEE

SCAVENGER HUNT

APRIL 1-30, 2026

VISIT VARIOUS LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT HOLMDEL

Get Ready to learn about
Holmdel's history and its role
in the Revolutionary War

Scan the QR code to join on the Goosechase App



- PRIZES FOR TOP TEAMS
- FUN CHALLENGES FOR ALL AGES
- FREE TO JOIN
- FORM A TEAM WITH YOUR FRIENDS, FAMILY OR NEIGHBORS

Don't miss out on the adventure of the season — spots are limited!

FREE!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE RECREATION OFFICE AT 732-946-2820 EXT. 1225



PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN

Open House

FOSTER CLOSET
OF HOLMDEL

APRIL 25 | 4-7PM | HOLMDEL

Learn how the Village Inc leverages local donations and community partnerships to provide essentials to Central NJ's foster families. By keeping generosity local, we help neighbors help neighbors.

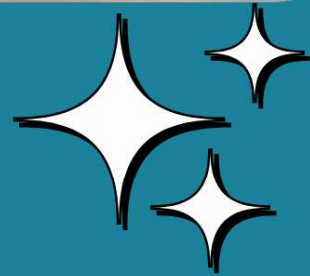
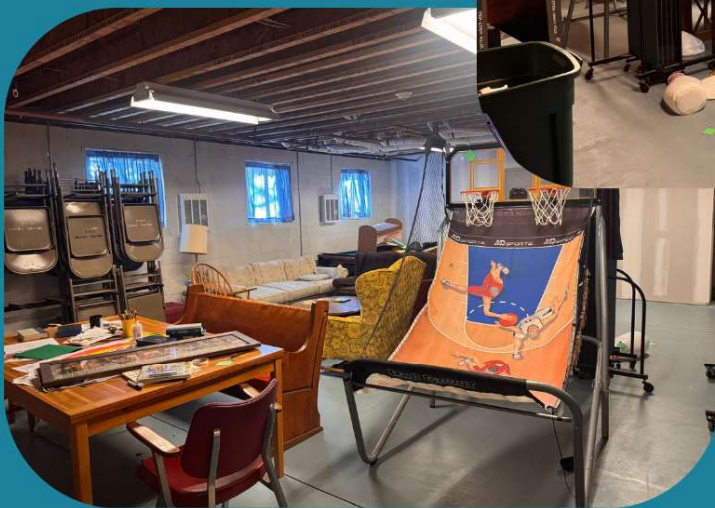
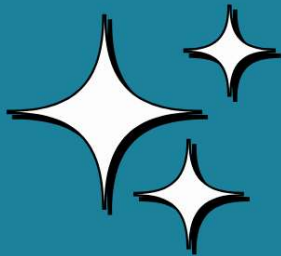
KINDNESS STARTS With you.



Attendance includes food, drinks, and swag bag. Scan QR code to RSVP.

BASEMENT

Large Item Drop-Off



SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 8:30AM-12PM

Help clean out our basement and bring items to
Holmdel's Large Item Drop-Off

Fellowship Hall Basement