

---

---

# The Cornerstone

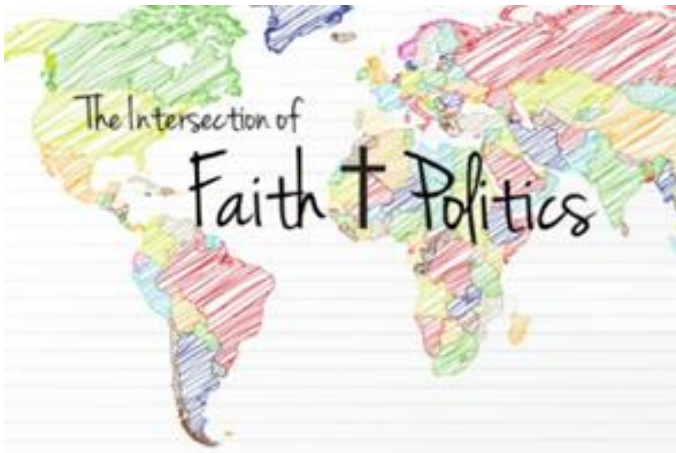
The stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.  
*Psalm 118:22-23*

---

---

VOLUME LXIV NUMBER 20

May 14, 2026



## *Faith In Action:*

*Political Community*

*Jeremiah 22:13-17 &*

*Romans 12: 14-18*

If you are like me, the topic of politics is not something I talk about in most gatherings of family, friends, or strangers. So, WHY today with my church family?

Why? Because the Bible addresses politics. Because our current contemporary issues need to be viewed through the lens of our faith. Because as United Methodists, our Social Principles have something to say about the intersection of politics and our faith.

This Sunday, we will not look at parties or persons in politics. We will look at how we are called as faithful Christians in the UM Church to look at the contemporary issues of our day (such as taxes, guns, abortion, race, identity, and relations between countries; to name a few) through the lens of our faith that commands us to *love God and love our neighbors* amid the politics and the noise around it.

So, don't avoid church this Sunday.

Come and let's talk politics as faithful and loving people who listen, learn, and grow in the Body in Christ, in the Family in God, in THE CHURCH.

I look forward to "seeing" you in church for Week Five of our Worship Series: *Faith In Action: Exploring Our UM Social Principles. Peace and prayers, Jill*

\*\*\* Each Sunday, I have invited you to read the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church.

Here is the link to do so [Our Social Principles | UMC.org](http://Our Social Principles | UMC.org).

You are further invited into discussion around the table during coffee fellowship.

I will be near the stage if you would like to meet me there for further discussion. \*\*\*



In the next few weeks, we will continue to dig deep into each social principal, looking to learn, grow and understand more about who we are as a United Methodist and how we engage new lives of resurrection faith into action.

- May 17 - Faith In Action: Political Community... *Jeremiah 22:13-17 & Romans 12:14-18*
- May 24 – We will pause our series.
- May 31 - Faith In Action: Embodying Our Principals... *Romans 12:1-2*

"See" you in person and online for worship! *Jill*



Our spaghetti dinner needs some cooks for this Sunday. If you can help out heating up sauce and cooking spaghetti, please contact the church office.

## Conference opportunities

### Morristown UMC presents *Supernatural: The Play*

A staged reading of collected monologues sharing Black women's experiences surrounding natural hair, identity, beauty, bias, and belonging.

**When:** May 23, 3pm & 7pm shows

**Where:** Fellowship Hall, Morristown UMC (50 Park Place, Morristown)

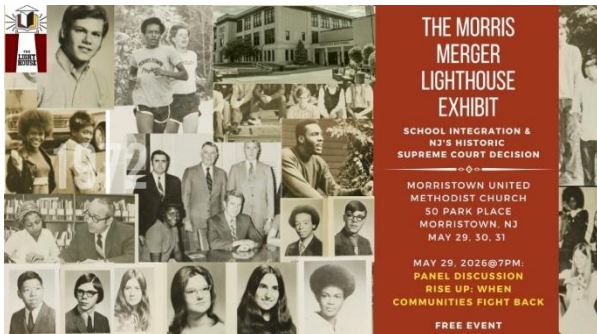
**Cost:** \$20



### MARK MILLER IN CONCERT

Belvidere UMC will host an engaging evening with singer, songwriter, musician, and storyteller, Mark Miller. Tickets are \$20 for general admission and \$15 for students. For tickets go to

[www.tix.com/ticket-sales/tix/7948/event/1467718](http://www.tix.com/ticket-sales/tix/7948/event/1467718).



### The Lighthouse: The Morris Merger

A free traveling art installation telling the story of eight courageous local plaintiffs who challenged segregation in Morristown's public schools, helping shape a more just community.

**May 29:** Kick off at 6pm, Panel discussion at 7pm

**May 30:** 1-3pm, 5-7pm

**May 31:** 1-3pm

**Where:** Morristown UMC (50 Park Place, Morristown)

## Summer Book Club



Summer is a great season to enjoy the beautiful weather and take in a new book. So, in the summer months of June, July, and August; Jill invites you to come together on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at noon for conversation and sharing. Bring your lunch if you choose and your thoughts on the book of the month. The book for June is: *Joyful Anyway* by Kate Bowler.



**Faith-filled Fieldtrips:** Jill is introducing a new opportunity to explore faith in new locations. This new ministry begins with a trip to the Cloisters in Manhattan on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Please RSVP to the church office if you are interested, so we can arrange transportation. There is a cost for entrance into the Cloisters.



### **FEMININE HYGIENE COLLECTION**

During the month of May, the Outreach Commission will be collecting feminine hygiene items to be donated to Mercy Center. These items are not covered by SNAP benefits and are a necessary expense. You may drop off items to the church office.



**Ascension Sunday**  
May 17, 2026

**Counters:** Randy Danielson, Jane Gittines

**Greeter:** Pamela Lynch

**Usher:** Buster Stoll

**Acolyte:** Ian Furda

**Lay Reader:** John Montgomery

**Fellowship Hosts:** Pamela Lynch & Jeff Danielson

**Altar Flowers**

Given in loving memory of Lou Sama by Peg Kuchen.

Given in loving memory of Jean Gillette by Diane Maher & Joy More.



**Day of Pentecost**  
May 24, 2026

**Counters:** Mary Bailey, Cheryl McLoughlin, John Montgomery

**Greeter:** Jeff Ragle

**Usher:** Kitty Amato

**Acolyte:** Garry Smith

**Lay Reader:** Nicola Mulligan

**Fellowship Hosts:** Judy Gorra & Soon Hur

**Altar Flowers**

Given in honor of Memorial Day by Bonnie McNamara.

Given in honor of our granddaughter, Avery Fallon's 1<sup>st</sup> birthday by Gram & Poppy Gruezke.

**5th Sunday**



May is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday month. An offering is collected during these months to contribute to the cost of snow plowing, landscaping, and more. Please use the yellow envelopes for your offering.



**Lord, empty me of me so I can be filled with you.**

Something to Think About

**Tsedalech, our World Vision Child from Ethiopia, is sponsored for the month of May by Len & Barbara Gruezke in honor of Avery Fallon's 1<sup>st</sup> birthday.**

**Please be Praying for...**

**Our homebound:** Bev Itell, Virginia Haydu, Bob Sproat, Bertha Ahrens, Carey Carlisle, Priscilla Smith, Elaine Gould

**At home:** Bonnie McNamara, Mike Zemo

**Jersey Shore Care Center:** Dave Miller

**Sunnyside Manor, Wall:** Nancy Burt

**Our church family worshipping at a distance:**

Barbara Novick, Laura Eble, Jack & Caroline Chesbro

**OUR MAY COMMUNION OFFERING  
BENEFITS UNITED MEHODIST  
COMMUNITIES**

## THIS SUNDAY



The next free community spaghetti dinner will be on **May 17<sup>th</sup>** at 5 p.m. Everyone is invited to Fellowship Hall for a delicious meal and community.



### MERCY CENTER

The Outreach Commission thanks you for your continued support of the Mercy Center food bank. Here are the current needs: canned meats, canned fish, beans, lentils, rice, pasta, oats, whole-grain cereals, low-sodium soup, canned fruits, canned vegetables, peanut butter, powdered milk, & nonperishable oils.



### 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:  
Evaporated milk



## **Beaded Crosses for Sale to Benefit Keswick Ministry.**

Debbie Eckert (Old First UMC) is making & selling these small, beaded crosses to support the Keswick ministry. Keswick provides a program for addiction recovery that costs approximately \$11,000.00 yet they only charge the participant \$600.00.



By providing a donation to this life changing ministry, you will receive a handmade beaded cross from Debbie. They are available from Debbie on Sunday mornings.

## WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

### May 17-May 23



Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47:8-20

Psalm 93

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24: 44-53

Acts 1:6-14

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

John 17:1-11



JAVA WITH JILL

May 26 10 a.m.

Join Pastor Hubbard-Smith and friends at the Blue Swan Diner for an informal gathering to share conversation and perhaps a treat of your choosing.