

July 5, 2026



*Reflections on
These "United States"*

*Holmdel Community, UCC
on the land of Munsee Lenape, Lenape Haki-nk (Lenni-Lenape)*

HOLMDEL COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

40 W. Main Street, Holmdel, NJ 07733

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

www.holmdelucc.org

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

July 5, 2026

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

❖ Rise in body or 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.

Words for Meditation

Our task is not to celebrate an unrealized democracy but to help realize it.

We are called to imagine and organize for a country
big enough and moral enough for all of us,
where citizenship is more than a legal status,
where freedom is more than a slogan,
and where every person can flourish.

*Rev. Dr. Cassandra Gould,
Faith In Action*

Gathering Music

Shenandoah American Folksong, arr. Philip Keveren

Welcome & Announcements

❖ **Sharing the Peace of Christ**

Share a sign of peace and greeting with those around you!

The peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you.

Music for Centering

This Is My Song

Lloyd Stone/Jean Sibelius

❖ **Call to Worship**

People of God, we know the church in all places and nations faces great challenges to find the way forward beyond “what has always been.”

We are called to embody the good news of Jesus Christ!

While some may fear the declining institutional church, we recognize the more urgent problem is that a church like ours can lose our way, our voice and our witness.

We are called to embody the good news of Jesus Christ!

Holy God, giver of life and love, call us to hopefulness and active participation in a world that needs your loving kindness.
Remind us that attentiveness and readiness are part of our calling.

We are called to be alert and to share the good news of Jesus Christ!

Together, let us celebrate the joy of this day...

Holy Spirit, come and enliven our worship in this place!

❖ Opening Hymn

What is This Place

No. 289

Moments for Mission

Sylvia's Children

"Christmas in July"

Prayer for Transformation & New Life *(as written...)*

Rev. Nada Sellers

Holy One, we come before you from different perspectives.
Some come in a spirit of celebration. Others bring lament and despair.
All of us benefit from the power of transformed lives, individually, in
relationship with others, and in community. We seek your forgiveness
for the things we have done and the things we have left undone, while as
people who are called to spread your message about the Way of Jesus.

Silent prayers ...

**We are caught up in a world mired in violence, and greed,
where the competition for attention is overwhelming.
We pray in the assurance that new life is available. We pray you
will teach us to trust your purposes for our church and for our
nation. We ask for the strength, courage, and persistence
to seek your kin-dom,
and to work for peace with justice
for all people and for all of creation. Amen.**

❖ Musical Response

**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. Amen.**

A Time for Children

Amanda Spagnolia

Special Music

This Land is Your Land Woody Guthrie/Pete Seeger

Scripture Readings (*NRSVue translation*)

Luke 11:1-10 Mary Beth Jones

Acts 12:1-17 Rev. Nada Sellers

Message

“The Church Prayed” Rev. Nada Sellers

❖Worship Activity

Offering - Call to Generosity

Mary Beth Jones

America the Beautiful Samuel A. Ward
Liam Mühler, guitar

❖ DOXOLOGY

(Tune: *LASST UNS ERFREUEN*, “All Creatures of Our God & King”)

**Like strands of beads, we offer gifts;
that one by one, your love will lift.**

Alleluia, alleluia!

**That all may have just what they need,
by this we’re bless’d and truly freed.**

**Hear our prayers, God.
Be our guide, Friend.
Holy Spirit, come and fill us.
Alleluia!**

Service of Holy Communion *(including Joys & Concerns)*

Invitation

Communion Prayer

Pastor: We pray this, using the prayer Jesus taught us to share, saying...
(version by John Philip Newell)

**Holy One beyond all names,
Eternal Wellspring
May love rise for every table
Shelter for every family
And reverence for every life.
Forgive us our failings in love
And free us from all falseness
That the light of our souls may shine
And the strength of our spirit endure
For Earth and all its people
This day, tonight, and forever.
Amen**

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration *(together...)*

**Holy Spirit, transform this meal and transform this body
so that we might be free to love without condition,
invite without hesitation,**

**go without reservation,
and proclaim your kindness to all the world! Amen.**

Sharing the Elements

*(Servers at stations at front, intinction or traditional method available;
if you wish to be served while seated, please let servers know)*

“Bread for the Journey” v. 1, 2 Bret Hesla (1990)

***Give us bread for the journey. Give us bread.
Give us bread for the journey. Give us bread.
When our legs are getting heavy and we’re handing down our
heads,
give us bread for the journey. Give us bread.***

***Guide our way as we travel. Guide our way.
Guide our way as we travel. Guide our way.
With so many roads before us, where to go is hard to say.
Guide our way as we travel. Guide our way.***

Prayer of Thanks *(together...)*

**Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have
refreshed us at your table by granting us the
presence of Christ.**

**Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one
another, and send us forth into the world with
courage and peace. Let the power of the Holy
Spirit guide us in our commitments to work for
justice. Amen.**

❖ Hymn

Go My Children, With My Blessing No. 431, v. 3

❖ Benediction

Rev. Nada Sellers

Parting Music

Hero's Dream

Jim Brickman

***We invite you to join us next door after the service.
This is a wonderful opportunity for us to get acquainted
and for our members to connect with each other.***

Liturgical Resources:

Portions of liturgy adapted from Worship Ways @ ucc.org (*After Pentecost 6A* by C. Lindsay)

Items from “All My Days” worship series, WDS, used with permission.

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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.

Please see the following link for more information about the native peoples of this region of New Jersey:

<https://www.hudsonrivervalley.org/Munsee-Lenape>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for visiting with us today! It is a pleasure to have you here. Feel free to get 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!).

Today's flowers are given by The Spagnolia Family,
"Happy 3rd Birthday, Carter!".

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

Mary Beth Jones, Liturgist; Susan F. Davies, Music Minister;
Amanda Spagnolia, Children's Minister; Susan Shaw, Usher
Matt Snodgrass, Sound Board Operator;
Michelle Ucciferri, Slide Changer

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



We all love Coffee Hour! It's a vital part of fellowship and a nice way to meet people. Looking for new team members & substitutes! If you can help, or would like more information, please contact Regina at regcris3@gmail.com or (732) 320-6210.

UPCOMING MARKETING

"PRE-COUNCIL RETREAT" Meeting

You're invited to come and get the latest scoop
on our marketing efforts!

Give Sylvia Allen a call at (732) 241-1144 or email Pastor Nada at revnsellers@homdelucc.org.

Join us **EVERY** Monday in July as we write to support issues in NJ, in the United States and encourage people to get out and vote!

Meet at Bell Works,
Honey Bee Café
9:15 am - 11:15



CRAFT WORKSHOPS to make crafts to sell at our October Fall Craft Fest. Dates are **7/10 and 7/18**, 9:30 AM until we're tired of it. Lunch is provided. To get advance notice of what we will be making, join our crafters email list by emailing Sue Field (sfield@georgian.edu). No email? No problem! We'll call you with updates. Call or text Sue at 732-546-1295 to get on the phone list..



Cleaning Supplies are not allowed to be purchased with WIC (Women, Infant, Children) Program dollars.

Holmdel Community UCC is part of a cooperative of churches that support the Calico Cat Food Pantry located in Middletown. During the summer, we are collecting Mayonnaise, Mustard, Ketchup, BBQ Sauce, Laundry Detergent, Dish Detergent, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels & Cleaning Supplies! Donations will be offered up on Food Dedication Sundays, June 28th, July 26th and Aug 23rd.

			JULY			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10am Service with Communion		7:15pm Scouts	8pm Lifeline Group of AA	5:30pm-6:30pm Waterspirit Meet & Greet	9:30am - 5pm Craft Workshop	12pm-6pm Hall Rental
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10am Service	7:30pm Council	7:15pm Scouts	2pm Care Team			9:30am - 5pm Craft Workshop
11:15am Marketing			8pm Lifeline Group of AA			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10am Service	1pm-6pm American Red Cross blood drive	10am-11:30am Monmouth Housing Coalition 7:15pm Scouts	8pm Lifeline Group of AA			
26	27	28	29	30	31	
10am Service with Food Dedication	10am Bayshore Lunch Program	7:15pm Scouts Office Closed	8pm Lifeline Group of AA			

JOYS & CONCERNS

Please call or email the church office at (732) 946-8821 /
administrator@holmdelucc.org to add or remove a person to the prayer
list.

Opening of the Obama Presidential Ctr
Choir

Celebrating Pregnancy (relative of
Natasha Beck-King)

Susan Davies, Minister of Music

Don Pope

Ellen (Brian Yesalonis' mom)

Spencer (relative of Natasha Beck-King)

Jenn (Diane Paquet's sister)

Alex & Cathi Baldi

Vincenzo Paul (new nephew of Matt &
Mary Kaye Snodgrass)

All who have lost or are losing
temporary protective status

Travis (Joyce Lee's grandson)

Worship & Music Annual Planning Mtg
Venezualan earthquake

FIFA international unity & fans

Maria (sister-in-law of Matt &
Mary Kaye Snodgrass)

Eleana, Chris & Sadie Eve (Mindy
& Jenn DeVries' daughter &
family)

Taryn (friend of Mary Kaye
Snodgrass)

Joanne (friend of Mary Kaye
Snodgrass)

Robin Paneque

Ginny Smith

Caleb Elijah (Joyce Lee's 5th Great
Grandchild)

Nicole (friend of Matt & Mary Kaye
Snodgrass)

Prayer of thanks for prayer, Care
Team, Stephen Polly from
Cynthia Lee

IT'S CHRISTMAS IN JULY ...

Thanks to Cindi Menard, a former alto in choir and chair of the mission committee 20 years ago, Sylvia's Children has been able to put on a Christmas party for children in Uganda, Africa who would normally not get any presents! Every Sunday during July, Sylvia will share the joy of giving and invite you to be generous. We travel there the first week of November and do this before their school year ends, which is around Thanksgiving. Last year and for many years before that, we put on a party for the Mbiriizi Advanced Primary School. Thanks to their self-sustaining businesses they can do it themselves this year! 😊



So this year the party will be at the Mustard Seed School in Lucaya, approximately 10 miles north of the Equator in Uganda, Africa. A friend from North Jersey runs the school and I have visited several times. They have a beautiful campus and approximately 500 children aged 2 to 15 in primary school. These children have NEVER had a Christmas party, so we are bringing them one! The Date is November 13, and every child will get a goody bag (the equivalent of a stocking by the chimney!) with sunglasses, candy, crayons, a mirror, Mardi Gras beads and maybe a kazoo)! We will have Christmas Cake (very important in Uganda!); Santa, Mrs. Claus and the elves; plus, lunch with meat sauce, rice, matoke and a soda. The afternoon will conclude with singing and dancing by the children.

In addition, the jewelry will be laid out on two 10' tables and the staff (100 people) can come in and shop, selecting up to four items each.

Donating is easy! In this bulletin, you have a handmade Christmas card plus a form to indicate your donation ... even an envelope for the check or cash (sorry we can no longer accept credit cards as the charges are too high)! It can go in the collection plate or can be mailed. In any case, the beautiful handmade card is yours to keep. Your donation will bring Christmas joy to children who are so kind and loving and who have so little. Thanks for considering this request and ... Merry Christmas!

