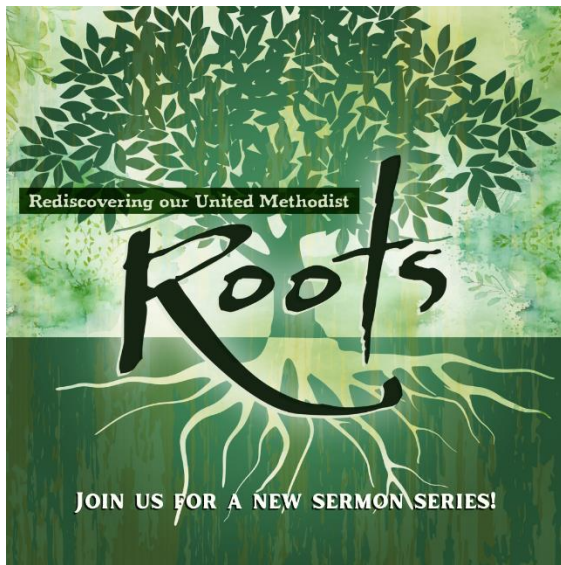

The Cornerstone

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 LXXII NUMBER 36

September 5, 2024



Grace:

Prevenient, Justifying, and Sanctifying

Ephesians 2:4-10

Roots give us the stability and nourishment we need to grow and break new ground. As we seek to grow in our faith as individuals and as the church, looking back at the deep roots of the Methodist movement can help us look forward to our future. More than mere traditions or rituals, our Methodist roots are evidence of God's Spirit moving through our history, the same Spirit who is breathing life into us today.

This Sunday, September 8, 2024; we will explore our understanding of Grace. Grace is a gift from God given freely to all people, and because of this gift we are saved. This grace is the spark that makes the Methodist fire burn, the starting point and an essential root of our theology. As UM we understand this grace in three ways: Prevenient, Justifying, and Sanctifying. We will touch on each of these understandings of Grace.



Like United Methodist Pastors, Bishops are appointed to Annual Conferences for 4 years at a time. Often, they will serve an annual conference for 2 – 4 year terms, thus serving for a total of 8 years.

This can vary under special circumstances. Bishop John Schol served the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference for the last 12 years due to the postponement of the 2020 General Conference. He has now entered retirement and is serving as the interim Bishop in Nigeria.

This weekend, the Greater NJ Annual Conference will welcome our new Bishop, Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi.



Bishop Moore-Koikoi's installation service will be Saturday, September 14th beginning at 10:30 a.m. at the Calvary UMC, 572 Ryder Lane, East Brunswick.



Java with Jill

Join Jill at the Blue Swan Diner
for coffee and conversation

(or the drink of your preference).

**This informal time of fellowship will be every 4th
Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.**

Mark Your Calendars: Sept. 24, Oct. 22, Nov. 26



*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."
Philippians 4:6*

In January, our region discerned that prayer would be a central focus for 2024. Since then, we've been sending weekly emails, lifting up each church and pastor by name. It's our hope that you've felt the impact of our collective prayers, fostering connections among leaders and congregations, as we support one another in prayer.

Continuing in this spirit of unity and intercession, we invite you to join us for virtual monthly prayer meetings from October to December. These gatherings will take place on the first Tuesday of each month, offering two sessions for your convenience at 12 noon and 7 pm.

Each meeting will last for a half-hour, during which we will break into small groups to pray. The dates for our upcoming meetings are as follows: October 1, November 5, and December 3. Please use the Zoom link included below for our prayer meetings. For those who prefer to connect by phone, a call-in number is also provided. We encourage you to share this invitation with your friends.

Together, let's come before the Lord, lifting up our churches, our denomination, our communities, and the world. We look forward to praying together and experiencing the power of collective prayer as a community united in Christ.

Here is the Zoom link to join us monthly:

<https://gnjumc.zoom.us/j/81274275381?pwd=Ui3fwsxzkaXKF6QbFzwp5No9Mqt6B6.1>

Meeting ID: 812 7427 5381

Password: 07753



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

FALL GARAGE SALE
Saturday, October 19th
8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall

The garage sale is coming soon. Please support this effort-all proceeds from the sale go to support women and children in need, at home and abroad. This is a great time to clean out some unneeded items that are just taking up space in your home or garage. Think autumn, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc. Come support the event itself by stopping by on the 19th. You never know what treasure you might find! You could even invite a neighbor!

We seek donations of toys, puzzles, games, books, jewelry, CDs, DVDs, videos, cameras, knick-knacks, kitchen items, garden items, tools, and more. Please note that we cannot, however, accept donations of large furniture or TVs, heavy exercise equipment, clothing, or linens,

Items may be delivered to Fellowship Hall from now until Friday, October 18th at 5 p.m.

Have you ever wondered why we hold garage sales? It certainly takes time and effort. As members of a local unit within UWIF, we raise money to support missions that help women and children in need, Hope (Ocean Township), United Methodist Communities, and missions further afield such as the Neighborhood Center (Camden), Heifer International, and Red Bird Mission.

Needed are some physically strong volunteers who are willing and able to help us take in donations and set up on the Thursday and Friday before, and/or help with the sale itself on Saturday, particularly with clean-up which starts at 2:00 p.m. If you can donate an hour or two to pitch in, that would be very much appreciated. All helpers: if you can, please sign up on the UWIF bulletin board in Fellowship Hall (by the kitchen) to help us plan. If you aren't sure yet, just come when you can. Thank you!



CALLING ALL BAKERS: WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Please help us raise money for the above-mentioned missions. We will be selling donated baked goods in the church foyer from 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Please drop off homemade items such as cookies, muffins, brownies, cakes, bread, and candies, packaged and ready for sale, on Friday, October 18th before 6:00p.m. Your help is appreciated. Any questions can be addressed to Diane Maher at dianeserine07712@yahoo.com.



September 8, 2024
16th Sunday after Pentecost

Counters: Kitty Amato, Peg Kuchen, Chip Stoll

Greeter: Jeff Danielson

Usher: Jim Scisco

Acolyte: Sue McRae

Lay Reader: Diane Maher

Fellowship Host:

Altar Flowers:

Given in loving memory of Bob More by his wife,
Joy.

Given in loving memory of In Hong Hur by Soon,
Kathy, & Elizabeth.



September 15, 2024
17th Sunday after Pentecost

Counters: Gerry Busfield, Rand Danielson, Jane Gittines

Greeter: Rand Danielson

Usher: Buster Stoll

Acolyte: Joy More

Lay Reader: Robert Crowther

Fellowship Host: Jeff Danielson

Altar Flowers:

Given in honor of Ron Danielson's birthday by
Jeff, Scott, & Russel.

Given by Noel Worthington in loving memory of
her mother's heavenly birthday.

Altar Roses:

Given in honor of Ryan Henderson's birthday by
his family.

Given in loving memory of Hilda Kupfer by the
Starkey & Drury families



SAVE THE DATE

This year's church conference will take place on
October 5th at 9AM. We will gather at St. John's
UMC in Hazlet. All are welcome to attend.



New Information

The UWIF is selling shopping passes for Boscov's
Friends Helping Friends sale day, October 22. If
you donate only \$5 to the UWIF you will receive a
pass for 25% off on items in most departments.
This includes both in-store & online shopping!
The UWIF gets to keep the entire \$5. It's a win-win!
Please consider buying a pass (or several to give to
family and friends.) Passes are available from any
UWIF member **OR IN THE CHURCH OFFICE.**



September is a 5th Sunday month. Your
donation to this fund goes to help with capital
improvement expenses on the church's properties.
Please use the yellow envelopes appropriately
marked.



Spaghetti Dinner

Sunday September 15th 5:00PM

This is a FREE DINNER FOR ANYONE & EVERYONE!

Please come as a guest or if you care to help out, please show up at the church at 4 p.m. Kitchen help and servers are needed as well as set up. Can you make a dessert? We need one person to make or buy a dessert (it can be anything) to serve 8 people. Contact the church office if you'd like to attend, help, or provide dessert. 732-531-1150



Chancel Choir rehearsals start tonight at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. All are welcome-no experience necessary!

Carillon Choir begins tonight at 7:30 p.m.



Jersey Shore Center, Eatontown: **David Miller**
At Home: **Jean Gillette, Virginia Haydu, Bob Sproat, Bertha Ahrens, Cary Carlisle, Priscilla Smith, Connie Bruckmann, Madeline Starkey, Sandy Elias, Jack Johnson**



Sunday school for all ages begins this Sunday. Children are welcome to meet downstairs at 9:30 and adults at 11:00 in Wesley Hall. NOTE: The adult class will have a review of the first two lessons of *Three Simple Questions: Knowing the God of Love, Hope, & Purpose*, Rueben Job and then continue with the next 3 sessions. If you were unable to attend last season, you will not be missing out if you start attending this week.

Tsedalech Tesfaye, our World Vision Child from Ethiopia, is sponsored for the month of September by Kitty Amato.



Something to think about:
The best place to be is together.

OUR SEPTEMBER COMMUNION OFFERING BENEFITS THE NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER, CAMDEN



WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

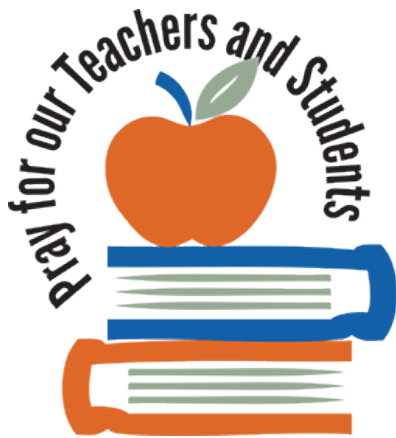
September 8-September 14

- Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
- Psalm 125
- Psalm 124
- James 2:1-17
- Mark 7:24-37



Mercy Center Collection

Mercy Center is in need of the following items: chicken soup, ketchup, mustard, mayo, SPAM, canned chicken, juice boxes, juice pouches, 64 oz juice bottles, pasta, oatmeal, pancake mix, syrup, tea, coffee, cooking oil, and wipes. Please place any perishable items in the Fellowship Hall kitchen refrigerator and tell the office that you did. All other items may be left in the bins in the foyer.



The Little Free Pantry
Please think of stocking applesauce, canned beans, canned chicken, canned fish, canned meat, canned vegetables, cooking oils, crackers, dried herbs, spices, canned fruit, dried fruit, granola bars, instant mashed potatoes, meals in a box, nuts, pasta, peanut butter, rice, shelf-stable milk, powdered milk, soup, stew, chili, & whole grain cereal in the bench.

A good idea this week:
Pop Tarts



BECAUSE OF WHO GOD IS

Thanks to who God is, we can talk to him in prayer.

Directions: Unscramble the descriptions of God, using the Bible references as clues. Then write the circled letters below to complete Psalm 109:26, NIV

Psalm 145:8	SGAICURO	<input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _
Job 36:5	HGIYMT	<input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _
Psalm 90:2	LTAVREENISG	_ _ _ _ _ <input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _
2 Peter 3:9	INETTPA	_ _ _ _ _ <input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _
1 Thessalonians 5:24	FUFHIATL	<input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _
Isaiah 40:25	OYHL	_ <input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _

Help me, Lord my __od;
save __e __ccording __o
your un__ailing l__ve.

Psalm 109:26, NIV