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# The Cornerstone

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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.

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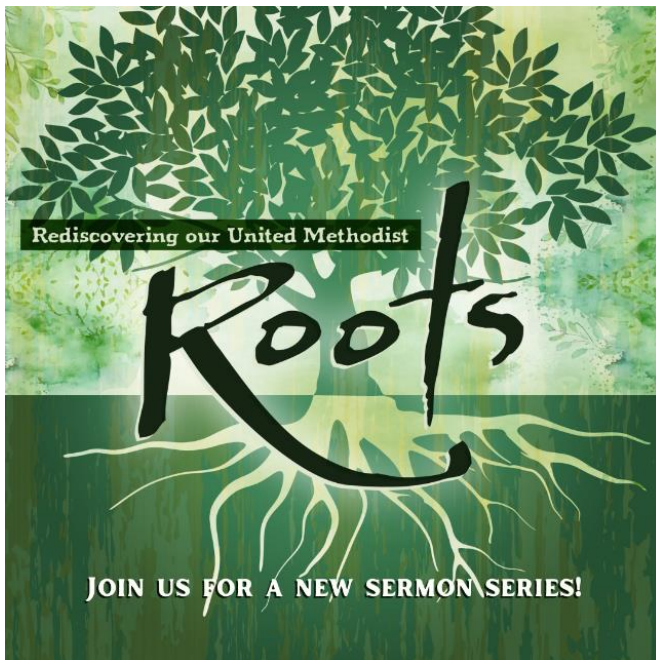
*Psalm 118:22-23*

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VOLUME LXXII NUMBER 38

September 19, 2024



## *Holy Conferencing And Connectionalism*

Colossians 3:12-17

In the United Methodist Church, holy conferencing focuses on the ability of laity and clergy to come together and discuss and discern difficult topics guided by the Holy Spirit, which can be a witness to the world. As we do so, we connect local churches, the global church of United Methodists, and worldwide Christians in the UMC. We do so by our common ministry and decision-making which begins at the local church.



## *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 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.

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



## Church Conference 2024

**Sat., October 5th @ 9:00 a.m.**

at St. John's UMC in Hazlet

All are welcome and encouraged to come.

**St. John's United Methodist Church**

**2000 Florence Ave**

**Hazlet**



This Sunday we will welcome four friends as official members of our church. Please join us as we celebrate Judy Gorra, Ryan Henderson, Garry Smith, and Michael Zemo, as they "come into the fold!" There will be a reception following the service. Please be sure to come and greet these fine folks personally and enjoy some coffee and cake!



*"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 can be dropped off on Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup> until 7 p.m. and October 18<sup>th</sup> until 6:30 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 18<sup>th</sup> before 6:00p.m. Your help is appreciated. Any questions can be addressed to Diane Maher at [dianeserine07712@yahoo.com](mailto:dianeserine07712@yahoo.com).

# 2024 CROP WALK

Sunday, October 20, 2024

**CROP** is a program of Church World Service that seeks to combat hunger within both the local community and world community. The annual **Red Bank CROP Walk** organized by ecumenical and interfaith congregations is a fun way to call attention to the need to combat hunger.

The **Red Bank CROP walk** celebrates its **44th anniversary** this year and walkers from area churches, schools, & civic groups will join together in the walk against hunger.

Last year's walk raised: **\$110,000** and **25%** of the walk proceeds remained in our local communities to support our partner food pantries. In addition to the money raised, **12,000 lbs.** of food was collected (peanut butter, soup, rice, & beans) and shared among the sponsored local food pantries.

If you would like to contribute to this year's CROP walk, checks should be made payable to **CWS/Red Bank CROP Walk** and given to Jeff Danielson or mailed to the church. On-line donations can be made at [events.crophungerwalk.org](https://events.crophungerwalk.org) website click on the **Browse a full list of teams** button, click on **First United Methodist Church-Oakhurst** and follow the prompts.

There will also be a table set-up during coffee hour starting **September 29th** with resources and materials. If you would like to join this year's walk, walker envelopes will be available if you choose not to register on-line.

Over the past 40-years, the congregation has been most generous in its support of the CROP walk ministry. On behalf of all the walkers throughout the decades, thank you for your steadfast support.



## Paper Doilies

If you have any you can donate to a craft project, please drop them off to the church office before October 1<sup>st</sup>.



**September 22, 2024**  
**18th Sunday after Pentecost**

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

**Greeter: Buster Stoll**

**Usher: Mike Sheckler**

**Acolyte: Gayle Fitzmaier**

**Lay Reader: Barbara Gruezke**

**Fellowship Hosts: Scott & Russel Danielson**

**Altar Flowers:**

**Given in loving memory of Stuart A. Serine by Diane & Joy.**

**Given in honor of Scott & Russel Danielson's 6<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.**



**September 29, 2024**  
**19th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Counters: Gerry Busfield, Rand Danielson, Chip Stoll**

**Greeter: Arlene Stoll**

**Usher: Robin Whitney**

**Acolyte: Mallory Mitchell**

**Lay Reader: Barbara Gruezke**

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

**Altar Flowers:**

**Given in loving memory of Marie Meadows by her daughter Sharron.**

**Altar Rose:**

**Given in honor of Kelly Pettit's birthday by Hudson, Owen, & her family.**

**NEW LIST**



**Mercy Center Collection**

Mercy Center is in need of the following items: canned or bagged beans, no-salt/low-sodium canned vegetables, canned tomatoes, organic or low-sodium spaghetti sauce, whole-grain and low-salt crackers, low-sugar fiber cereal, unsweetened oatmeal, unsweetened dried fruit or nuts, canned fruit, no-sugar added applesauce, low-sodium soup, canned or instant potatoes, whole-wheat pasta, olive or canola oils, vinegar, low-sodium soy sauce, dried herbs, evaporated skim milk, salsa, taco kits, non-stick cooking spray, condiments, all-natural jams/jellies, no-sugar or salt added peanut or almond butter, 100% fruit or vegetable juice, bottled water, Pediasure, Ensure, low-sugar Gatorade, coffee, tea, dye-free/fragrance-free wipes, toothpaste, toothbrushes, & hand sanitizer.



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.**





**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:  
Instant oatmeal

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



**Something to think about:**

The heaviest thing to carry is a grudge.

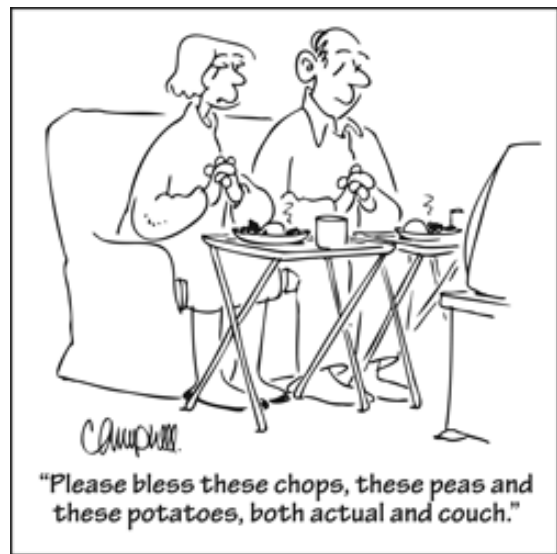
**OUR SEPTEMBER COMMUNION OFFERING  
BENEFITS  
THE NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER, CAMDEN**



**WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS**

**September 22-September 28**

Proverbs 31:10-31  
Psalm 1  
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8  
Mark 9:30-37



*Please be  
Praying for...*

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**



September is a 5<sup>th</sup> 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.