
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 LXXIII NUMBER 2

January 9, 2025



A Note from Jill:

Dear FUMC Church Family,

As many of you heard, my father's wife of 30 years suddenly and unexpectedly died on Christmas day. Marge was also my father's caregiver for the past two years since he has been in a wheelchair after 4 knee surgeries and unsuccessful rehab. During the month, I will head down to Alabama to attend Marge's funeral and assist in disbanding their home and relocating my father near my brother in Vermont.

I will be working with SPRC and the Worship Committee to ensure the ministry of our congregation. Joy will have the numbers of other clergy in our area for emergencies. I will also continue some work remotely. If you need to reach me during this month and always throughout the year, let me remind you of my contact information.

Work Cell

732-209-4563

Work Email

revjmhs@gmail.com

I thank you for your kindness, prayers, and grace in this season of my life.

Peace and prayers always as we journey together, Jill



January's Communion Offering

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

This month's communion offering benefits the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. This fund is used in helping members of our community with financial assistance with things like utility bills, rental assistance, and other situations that come before the pastor. It also provides money for gift cards to Dollar General for those who are low on essentials. Your donation to this fund will greatly grow this ongoing mission. Thank you!



Please take note:

DIAPER DRIVE: ALL OF JANUARY

The congregation is invited to bring diapers to the Christ Child's manger. This drive will help support a UM ministry, Maker's Place in Trenton. For every diaper brought to the manager of the newborn Jesus, Pastor Jill will match. Please drop off your donations in the church office.

*** Please note we are working to reduce costs in 2025. One of the many ways we are doing this, is a new bulletin layout. I understand change can feel a bit uncomfortable, but I hope we might all try new possibilities to help sustain our ministry here at FUMC. This style of bulletin will significantly reduce our copy count which is billed to us monthly. I will continue to inform you of other changes that might come along throughout the year. Thank you for your grace as our leadership works hard at these financial reductions. Jill ***

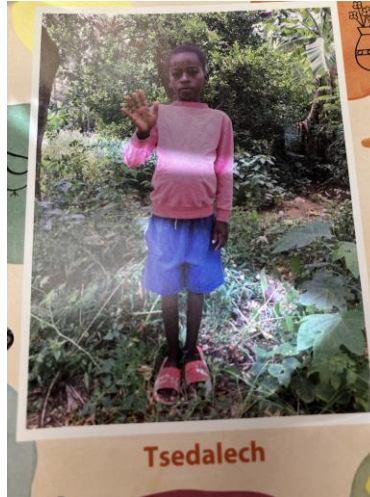


The flyer features a large group photo of team members in green shirts, two circular inset photos showing individuals working with tools, and a decorative blue and white dotted pattern on the right side.

ERT BASIC TRAINING EARLY RESPONSE TEAM

January 4	January 11
January 4, 2025 9:00am - 4:00pm	January 11, 2025 9:00am - 4:00pm
Calvary United Methodist Church 185 W. Madison Ave. Dumont, NJ 07628	Pennington United Methodist Church 60 S. Main Street Pennington, NJ 08534
https://tinyurl.com/yku3jxss	https://tinyurl.com/4jrje48

Questions? Contact Rev Cricket Denton: cdenton@haddonfieldumc.org



World Vision Child

It's time to sign up to sponsor our World Vision Child. **The following months are available: March, April, May, June, November, & December.** You may dedicate your sponsorship in memory of or in honor of loved ones or to mark a special occasion. The donation amount is \$39. Please contact the church office with your information. 732-531-1150



Pledge Envelopes

Your 2025 pledge envelopes are here!! They will be located on the foyer entrance table starting January 5th. Please pick yours up as soon as possible. If you see someone else's that you can deliver to easily, please take theirs as well. This will greatly cut down on the cost of postage.



**Baptism of the Lord
January 12, 2025**

Counters: Kitty Amato, Peg Kuchen, Chip Stoll

Greeter: Scott Danielson

Usher: Jay Aretino

Acolyte: Robert Scott

Lay Reader: Garry Smith

Fellowship Host:

Altar Flowers:

Given by Soon Hur in loving memory of her brother, Sam Koh.

Given by Scott and Russel Danielson in loving memory of the January 16 birthday of Russel's father, Fulgencio Terrado, Sr.

Altar Rose:

Given in celebration of the birth of Kallie Bree McRae, daughter of Sean and Samantha McRae, and granddaughter of Susan McRae.



**2nd Sunday After Epiphany
January 19, 2025**

Counters: Gerry Busfield, Randy Danielson, Jane Gittines

Greeter: Jeff Danielson

Usher: Chip Stoll

Acolyte: Kitty Amato

Lay Reader: Soon Hur

Fellowship Host: Jeff Danielson

Altar Flowers:

Given in honor of Vivian Gill's eleventh birthday by her grandma, Carol Whyte.

Given in loving memory of Pat Whitney by Robin Whitney & Tommy Vignola.

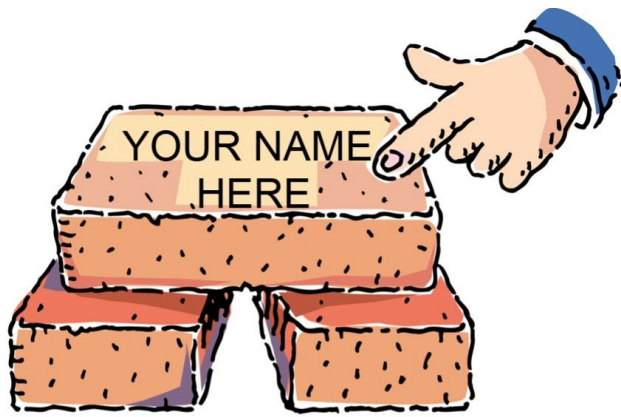


Thank you to the UWIF for the wonderful gift basket we received over the holidays. Thanks goes to Maha Boutros as well for delivering it. We appreciate our church family very much.

Cliff & Pam Miller



The next community dinner is on January 19th at 5PM. This is a free dinner to which everyone is invited. Please spread the word that there is good food and good fellowship. If you can bring or drop off a dessert, please let the office know. 732-531-1150.



Prayer Garden

If you would like to purchase a personalized brick for the Prayer Garden, please complete the form attached to the *Cornerstone* on or before March 1, 2025. The bricks will be dedicated to the Prayer Garden at the sunrise service Easter morning.

Questions can be forwarded to Jennifer Scisco at jeniscis@gmail.com



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: January 21st.

Thanks to Pam Lynch who will take the lead this month in Pastor Jill's absence.

Tsedalech Tesfaye, our World Vision Child from Ethiopia, is sponsored for the month of January by Diane Maher.



Something to think about:

If you find yourself with time on your hands, put them together and pray.



OUR JANUARY COMMUNION OFFERING BENEFITS THE PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND



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.

Please be Praying for...

Our homebound: David Miller, Bev Itell, Virginia Haydu, Bob Sproat, Bertha Ahrens, Cary Carlisle, Priscilla Smith, Madeline Starkey, Pam Miller, Nancy Burt

Genesis: Shirley Bailey, Cliff Miller

Our church family at a distance: Barbara Novick, Jean Gillette, Laura Eble



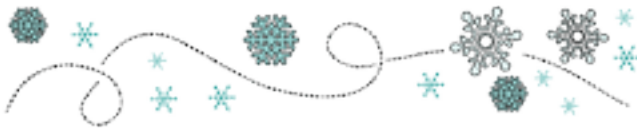
The Little Free Pantry

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:
Lentil Soup



Our 2025 calendars have arrived! Our thanks to Fiore-Buckley Funeral Home for this gift. You may pick one up on the table in the foyer.



The Meaning of the
Snowflake

Every new snowflake comes to the earth as a picture of our Saviour's birth, because they are sent from up above and remind us of God's care and love.

Each one is so intricate and small because Christ sees the details of us all, and just as two are never the same the Lord knows and calls us each by name.

Snowflakes gently cover the world in white and hide what's unlovely from our sight, showing us how He covers our sin and gives us His grace when we come to Him.

So may every snowflake bring Christ to mind and in every bit of white may you find a reason to celebrate anew and a reminder of His love for you.

—Holley Gerth—



WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

January 12-January 18

Isaiah 43:1-7
Psalm 29
Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22