

JANUARY 2023

The Maple

Morrisville United Methodist Church Newsletter

PASTOR'S PEN

Happy New Year!

Every new year brings changes in our lives and our community. As we embark on 2023 with great hope, may our faith be our guiding post. We celebrate the new year with joy and excitement for what God has for us.

Revive in 2023!

It's been three years of a global struggle physically, emotionally, spiritually, and politically. My hope and desire are that 2023 will be the year that revives us in all the areas of struggle we have endured the last few years.

Let's live in a revived spirit
and be a revived ministry in service to
God and each other in new and different ways.

Pastor Towanda



United
Women
in Faith

The Purpose

United Methodist Women is a community of women whose purpose is:

- **To know God** and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ
- **To develop a creative supportive fellowship** and
- **To expand concepts of mission** through participation in the global ministries of the church.

We welcome all women who commit themselves to our Purpose, including you. You don't have to be a member of The United Methodist Church to join. Our membership is diverse: women of many races, cultures, languages, young and old. There is no minimum age requirement.

We hope you will prayerfully consider joining this **multicultural, multilingual, and multiracial** organization of women. All women are welcome to attend!

January 16

MARCIA-RUTH CIRCLE – 7:00 P.M.
Youth Room (Tentative)
Hostess: Barbara Lombardo
Study/Devotion: TBD

JANUARY SCHEDULE

NO GENERAL MEETING

January 18

ELIZABETH CIRCLE – 1:30 PM
Luncheon – Garden of Eatin'
964 Woodbourne Road
Levittown, PA 19057
(Contact Deb Chapman for details.)

January Events

1/1

4PM 12/31 to 9AM 1/1 - AA Meeting
10AM – Communion Worship Service
No Children's Sunday School
No Small Group Bible Study
No AA Meeting at 7PM

1/4

No Bible Study

1/9

7PM – Finance Meeting (Library)

1/10

7PM – Worship Team Meeting (Zoom)

1/17

1PM - 7PM – Shared Meal (Hall)

1/28

8AM - 11PM – Contreras Baby Shower

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sundays

9AM – Children's Sunday School
(Youth Office)

9AM – Small Group Bible Study
(Youth Room)

9AM – Choir Practice (Choir Room)

10:00 AM – Worship Service

11 AM – Hospitality (Lounge)

11:30 AM – Latino Worship (Lounge)

7PM – Alcoholics Anonymous
(Rm 30/31)

Mondays

7AM – Prayer Call

10:30 AM – ESL Beginner Class
(Rm 10)

6:30 PM – ESL Intermediate Class
(Rm 10)

7PM – Boy Scouts (Fellowship Hall)

7PM – Nar Anon (Prayer Room)

8PM – Narcotics Anonymous
(Rm 30/31)

Thursdays

7PM – Choir

8PM – Bells

JANUARY 2023



The United Methodist Church
Bishop John Schol
Serving
Eastern Pennsylvania
& Greater New Jersey

Be transformed by the renewing of your mindset. -Romans 12:2

The birth of Jesus was a transformational moment in history, pure and simple. God did a new thing.

Change, shift, renewal, conversion was what God was up to through the birth of Jesus Christ. God has never stopped this deep call and expectation of humanity and the church. We are called to transform, first ourselves and the church and then the world. The birth story of Jesus is all about people who changed. The magi changed direction, the fear of the shepherds was transformed into belief and Mary let go of her childhood. God was transforming them through the birth of Christ.

Today, our purpose is to recruit and develop transformational leaders to make disciples of Jesus Christ and grow vital congregations for the transformation of the world. Our purpose statement uses the word transformation twice. We cannot expect the world to believe and change unless we change ourselves. The first principle in changing others, the world, is to first change ourselves. Jesus was a change in God's engagement with the world. God created a new way of connecting with us through Jesus the Christ.

We have seen a lot of change in the world, ourselves, our families, and the church in the last decade. Often it has been hard change and even forced change because it is coming from outside of us rather than transformational change that occurs within us. Transformational change renews, rekindles God's possibility through in and through us. Most of the change has

been imposed change because of what is occurring in the world. It comes from outside of us. God's transformation is a renewal.

I invite you to pray and ponder how Christ is renewing your mind, your mindset. Our mindset is how we think and feel about ourselves, others, and the world. Christmas transformation begins with the renewing of our mindset.

As our mindset changes, it opens the opportunity to transform our collective selves, the body of Christ, the church.

Recently I listened to a powerful story of how the church is transforming. I believe it is a call to the church for how to create new small groups or start new congregations or transform existing congregations. You may find it on our website [here](#).

God wants to and is ready to transform your life and others through you. It is your Christmas gift from God. My prayers continue for you and your family and congregation this Christmas.

May your joy be full and your hope eternal this Christmas.

John

Bishop John Schol
The United Methodists of
Greater New Jersey & Eastern Pennsylvania

BishopJohnSchol@epaumc.church | 484-474-0939
BishopJohnSchol@gnjumc.org | 732-359-1010

Equipping transformational leaders for
New Disciples | Vital Congregations | Transformed World

Current Prayer Concerns

We pray for Peace. We pray for Ukraine. We pray for Russia. We pray for the families of victims of mass shootings. We pray for Justice and Equality for all.

Barbara Gillis	Wanda Long	Eileen Antolino
Pam Manners	Janet Curcio	Isaac Whitter
Jim & Flo Dugan	Toby Ellsworth	Jimmy Ellsworth
Shirley Malmsbury	Thomas Manners	B.J. Lebegern
Evelyn Sipler	Paul & Marian Chapman	Sue Urbano

Andrew Kovalik (friend of Vera Straley)
Janet Stapleton (friend of Jenn Ayling-Arruda)
Joap Patel (friend of the Dugans)
Maureen Nash (friend of Charlotte Swenson)
Daisie Gasper (family member of Linda Mier)

Melba Shilling (sister of Wanda Long)
Sherri Bevenour (daughter of Wanda Long)
Mary Evelyn James (friend of Charlotte Swenson)
Ed Mier (brother-in-law of Linda Mier)
Kate Manners (daughter of Pam Manners)
George Mount (friend of Carol Young)
Sue Young (friend of Sue Friend)
Pearl Washburn (friend of Pam Manners)
Ron Bergey (friend of Lois Avery)
Brenda Jones (cousin of Phyllis Patterson)
Patricia Lumbardy (sister-in-law of Lynda Krause)
Alyssa Spangenberg (daughter of Barry and Kim Hartman)
Petra Schlatter (friend of Linda Mier);
Paulette Smires (cousin of Stella Smires)
Burphy Kyne (husband of Josephine Karpeh-Kyne)
Ella Miller (granddaughter of Dave and Marianne Miller)