## THE MAPLE

February 2024

Morrisville United Methodist Church



A message from my heart...

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him, shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him." John 3:16-17

February is here!! This month we have a two in one message. Why? Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> people celebrates the day of love and friendship. The Christian community begins the Lenten season with Ash Wednesday. For that reason, for this "A Message of my Heart" we're going to reflect on God's love and repentance.

## LOVE

The Scripture of John 3:16-17 is a very popular Scripture that most of us know from memory, but we probably not realize the importance this passage has in our lives. God so loved the world, that he gave his one and only Son. Because God loved us so much, He gave the most Precious for Him, His Son, for us to receive salvation and eternal life. It is God's intention that we all come to Him, that we understand His love in our hearts, so we can live abundantly here and now and for eternity with Him.

## REPENTANCE

What is your first thought when you hear the word repentance? I don't know about you, but some people feel threaten, guilty, condemn and ashamed. It is because this word has been used in a wrong way. To accuse, to condemn. But I have good news for you, we don't need to feel

that way anymore when hear the word repent or repentance. Do you know what the meaning of the word repentance in Greek? Metanoia = repent = change of mind. Repent or repentance means to change our minds and think the way Christ thinks. Romans 12:2: "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." When we talk about repentance, we talk about changing our minds to have the mind of Christ. That is why our Scripture passage for today's ends saying: "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him." It was God's plan, an intention to save us, to bring us close to him, not to condemn us.

As we celebrate God's love this month let us remember He wants us to come closer to Him. God wants us to repent, change our way of thinking, so we can be more like Jesus. On Ash Wednesday we use the words: "Repent and believe the gospel." In other words, change your mind and believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is my prayer that you have a blessed month full of God's love and to begin to change your mind by being in relationship with Christ through prayer and by the reading of The Book, the Bible. Amen and Amen!

In Christ's love,

Pastor Olga



## **February Calendar**

2/3

7:00pm - Girl Scout Day Camp Meeting (Rooms 26, 30/31)

3/6

5:00pm - IFA Backpacks (Main Entrance)

2/10

8:00am - Men's Bible Study (Lounge) 9:00am - IFA Backpacks (Main Entrance)

2/11

11:30am – Latino Ministry Breakfast & Bible Study – Fellowship Hall

2/12

7:00pm - Finance Team Meeting (Library)

2/13

6:00am-9:00pm - Election Polling Place (Fellowship Hall)

2/14

7:00pm -Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary)

2/17

9:00am-1:000pm - Vidala Private Party (Fellowship Hall)

2/19

6:30pm - Marcia-Ruth Circle (Lounge)

2/20

4:00pm - Shared Meal (Fellowship Hall) 5:00pm - IFA Backpacks (Main Entrance)

2/21

7:00pm - Latino Ministry Small Group (Lina Morales home) 7:00pm - Trustees Meeting (Library)

2/24

9:00am - IFA Backpacks (Main Entrance)

2/25

1:00pm Girl Scout Thinking Day (Fellowship Hall)

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sundays

9:00am - Small Group Bible Study (Youth Rooms) 10:00am - Worship Service 11:00am - Hospitality (Lounge) 7:00pm - Alcoholics Anonymous (Hall)

 ${\bf Mondays}$ 

10:30 am - ESL (Rooms 3, 10 & Library)
7:00 pm- Boy Scouts (Fellowship Hall)
7:00 pm - Nar Anon (Room 10)
8:00 pm - Narcotics Anonymous (Room 30/31)

Tuesdays

10:00 am - Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) starts 1/23 6:00pm - Girl Scouts 2192 (Rooms 10, 26, 30/31) 6:30pm - ESL (Fellowship Hall) 6:30pm - Girl Scouts 2692 (Room 21)

Wednesdays

10:30am - ESL (Rooms 3, 10 & Library) 6:30pm - Girl Scouts 2717 (Room 26)

Thursdays

7:00pm - Choir -Practice (Choir Room) 7:00pm - Bells -Practice (Bell Room)

Fridays

6:30pm - ESL Latino (Room 10) 7:30pm - NA (RM 30/31)



#### FINANCE UPDATE



Copies of the 2024 Budget for MUMC are out on the table next to Pastor Olga's Office. Please

take a copy if you are interested in how your offerings are used through the year to cover the church's expenses.

Please contact Jim Rea if you have any questions. Thank
You for your continued and important generosity. Jim Rea"

#### PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY TIME!

Tuesday Bible Study will resume on January 30, 2024 at 10:00am. We will be using the book "God the Deliverer, Our Search for Identity and Our Hope for Renewal" by Randy Frazee which can be purchased through Amazon.



## **Pastor Olga**



Our Men's Bible Study meets Saturday, February 10th, at 8AM in the MUMC church lounge. The

topic is "Wiser by Faith" (Genesis 24:1-9)" All men are welcome. All you need to bring is yourself, your Bible, and a cup of coffee if you need it to wake up. We can begin the weekend with good fellowship and encouragement from God's Word!

## **FOOD PANTRY UPDATE**



The food pantry has been very busy! Your generosity helps is help our neighbors in need! We

need canned pasta (ravioli, SpaghettiOs), boxed pasta and spaghetti, canned diced tomatoes, corn, and mixed vegetables (not green beans), canned meat (Vienna sausages), small packages of rice, canned fruit, laundry soap, dish detergent, toothpaste, deodorant, hand soap, diapers, toilet paper, fresh fruits, and vegetables.

Thanks for your continued generosity!

Deb Price & The Missions Outreach Team



#### THE PURPOSE

United Women in Faith 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 do not 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.

## **February Schedule**

Email for Call to Prayer and Self Denial to be sent in February, 2024

## FEBRUARY 19 (Monday, Presidents' Day)

MARCIA-RUTH CIRCLE - 7:00 P.M. - MUMC Lounge Hostesses: Elaine Bramante, Lillian Mannon Devotion/Study: Barbara Lombardo

## **FEBRUARY 21**

Methodist Ladies Who Lunch - 1:30 P.M. Luncheon - Miller's Ale House 2250 E. Lincoln Highway Langhorne, PA 19047 (Contact Deb Chapman for details.)

## SUNDAY MORNING SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY

We meet at 9AM in the Youth Room and are studying the book of Mark. Bring your Bible and be ready to enjoy good fellowship. Call David Miller at 267-614-3836 if you have any questions.



#### LATINO MINISTRY NEWS



Pastor Olga and I met to discuss and organize the Latino Ministry for 2024. There will be two events in February:

## Sunday, February 11th

Latino Ministry Breakfast and Bible Conversation 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall after worship

## Wednesday, February 21st

**Small Group Discussion** 7:00pm at the home of Lina Morales (contact Beditza Cadillo for the address)

The best is yet to come! Beditza Cadillo, Director, Latino Ministry

## FOOD AND VOLUNTEER MINISTRY

Romans 12:20

'If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. No one is exempt from the call to feed the hungry, God calls us to meet the needs of even those we might call 'enemies'.

What a blessing it is to feed those in need! Thankful we do not have to see those we help as enemies (which we do not) but as future friends, family, and children of God. That is awesome!

## **OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER**

Thank you for all that have helped during our shared meal season. We are always looking for more help as we beginning our journey to back to in person seating. Please come and help!

How can you help? We need people to: cook and prepare the meal; serve the meal; a prayer team for fellowship and pray with those in need; and, clean-up crew!

Call and leave your information at SIGN UP CENTRAL (Jenn) at 267-393-5381

## **OPPORTUNITIES TO DONATE**

We also need your help with rolls and cookies. They can be donated at any time of the month. We store them until they are needed.

#### **BLANKETS AND BOOKS**

There is still time left to donate a new warm blanket and a children's book! Please leave them in the lounge. I will be handing them out to children in need (Robbins Elementary School - Trenton New Jersey) in February.

With Love and Grace,
Jennifer Ayling-Arruda
Director of Food and Volunteer Ministries

#### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School is coming back! We have a teacher for younger and older students. We need



both adult and teen helpers. If you can be available one or more times a month to help, please contact Barb Lombardo. Thank you!



## **GRIEF SHARE MINISTRY IS BACK!!!**

"If you are grieving because of the loss of a loved one, you are NOT alone." We invite you to join the Morrisville United Methodist Church

Grief Share support group every Thursday beginning March 7th to May 30th, 2024, at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. For more information contact Elaine Joy Bramante to 302-740-9361 or call the Church office 215-295-9593 Mondays through Fridays 10am to 2pm.

## IMPORTANT NOTE FROM THE OFFICE

Bulletin announcements are due by noon on Wednesdays. Please include the date, time(s) and location in the announcement you send in. Thank you!



VK & Shilpa Macwana (25 years)..... February 8
Joe & Ann Colduvell (46 years)..... February 18



# Happy Birthday

| Emmanuel Abalo       | February 1  |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Olivia Evans         | February 5  |
| Dorott Abalo         | February 6  |
| Prince Bull          | February 8  |
| Pastor Olga Gonzalez | February 9  |
| Mark Mackwana        | February 11 |
| Linda Mier           | February 11 |
| Tom Miller           | February 12 |
| Jenn Koba            | February 13 |
| Jimmy Ellsworth      | February 16 |
| Denny Lowe           | February 19 |
| Thelma Nicol         | February 19 |
| Hal Long             | February 20 |
| Arianna Nagbe        | February 20 |
| Iyanna Nagbe         | February 20 |
| Barbara Lombardo     | February 22 |
| Steve Russell        | February 22 |
| Finnegan Hughes      | February 23 |
| Kaylin Hammer        | February 24 |
| B.J. Lebegern        |             |
| Rhonda Rea           | February 25 |
| Gail Lowe            |             |
|                      |             |

## Current Prayer Concerns



We pray for God's peace in the Middle East, our nation, and the world. We pray for God's peace to fill our hearts.

Pam Manners, Toby Ellsworth, Jimmy Ellsworth, Thomas Manners, B.J. Lebegern, Paul & Marian Chapman, Sue Urbano

The Somers family Florence Mannon (deceased mother of Allan Mannon) Terry & Lynn (friends of the Swenson's) Jimmie Richards (family member of Linda Herbster) Maureen's family (friend of the Swenson's) Elaine Miller-Wagner (friend of Jane Burger) Nephew, brother, and sister-in-law of Fran Pugh Clara Briggs (sister of Estella Smires) Marianne (friend of Joyce Bigley) Helen Van Note (Fran Pugh's sister-in-law) Darius (second cousin of Andrew, community member) Betsy (neighbor of Joyce Bigley) Brenda Jones (cousin of Phyllis Patterson) Sandra and Larry (friends of Jane Burger) Ellen (niece of Bev Hoyer) Carrie (Vera Straley's daughter)