

This year, I celebrate fifteen years of ministry as a UMC pastor. The fifteen years don't account for over a decade of ministry with youth and children, as well as in Christian Education. Recently, I have been considering how to celebrate this milestone of God's faithfulness and goodness. Taken alongside the gift of congregations that have allowed and continue to allow me to grow into who God is still calling me to be, fifteen years of ministry is a celebration indeed.

The idea of a celebration is wonderful, and I'll find some way to honor or mark this time of service. More immediately, I have been pondering what it means that I have spent the last fifteen years as a pastor in the United Methodist Church, most of that time preparing for ordination. I thought I'd share a bit about the ordination process; in case someone is considering this path or just wants to understand what it entails. In a later writing, I will share how the process has shaped me as a Jesus follower and a pastor.

## The Process

The ordination process in The United Methodist Church is a structured and prayerful journey designed to help individuals discern and prepare for lifelong ministry. It begins after one experiences a sense of calling—often affirmed by a local church—and moves through a series of educational, spiritual, and practical steps. Throughout the process, the church emphasizes and evaluates the candidate's personal faith and communal accountability, reflecting the United Methodist belief that ministry is always rooted in the community's life and discernment.

A candidate for ministry typically begins by working with their local pastor and the Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) before being recommended to the District Committee on Ordained Ministry (dCOM). Sitting for the dCOM interview for the first time can feel like stepping into a room where your entire journey of faith is laid bare. The atmosphere, infused with nervous anticipation and hopeful curiosity, makes the experience unforgettable, hopefully for the better. At this stage, candidates engage in spiritual formation, psychological assessments, background checks, and interviews that explore their call, character, and readiness for ministry. Educational requirements generally include a bachelor's degree and a Master of Divinity from a seminary

approved by the University Senate of The United Methodist Church.

As candidates progress, they may be commissioned as provisional members after completing seminary, typically meaning they are appointed to a full-time ministry position while continuing under supervision and evaluation. In the provisional stage, written and oral examinations are required to assess the candidate's knowledge of theology, United Methodist doctrine, and the church's expectations for ordained ministry after at least two years of full-time service. These exams help determine whether the candidate is prepared to live into the responsibilities and the covenant of ministry while continuing to grow through hands-on experience. It can also be a anxiety riddled time.

Ordination and election to full membership come after further evaluation and approval by the Board of Ordained Ministry and the Clergy Session of the annual conference. At this stage, candidates again complete written and oral examinations, this time focusing on their understanding of ministry as shaped by their lived experience in provisional service. Ordination marks a lifelong covenant between the ordained person and the church, affirming that their call has been tested, refined, and confirmed through collaborative theological reflection and faithful ministry practice. It is important to note that there are two tracks of ordination in the UMC: Elders and Deacons. I followed the Elder's route, which makes me eligible to serve as a pastor, appointed by the Bishop, in the local church. As I reflect on these milestones, I am both grateful and eager for what lies ahead. In future discussions, I will delve into how this journey has transformed me personally and spiritually, inviting you to consider how such transformations can influence our ongoing paths in faith and service.

I pray you are living into your own calling.

Grace and peace,

Pastor K

For pastoral concerns or emergencies, Pastor K can be reached at 281-620-9928 (cell) or [emailpastorK@gmail.com](mailto:emailpastorK@gmail.com). Please call the church office if you would like to set up a meeting with him during the week.

## February Calendar

2/5

6:30pm – Prayer Shawl Ministry – Lounge

2/8

7:00pm Girl Scout Day Camp Meeting –

Rooms 26,30/31

2/10

5-7pm – IFA Backpacks – Main Entrance

2/11

7:00pm – Trustees Meeting – Library

2/14

8:00am – Men's Bible Study - Lounge

9:00-11:00am – IFA Backpacks – Main Entrance

2/15

9:00am-3:00pm – Shared Meal Prep– Fellowship Hall

11:00am – UWF Meeting – Move to Mission

2/16

All Day – Office and Food Pantry Closed for President's Day

1:00pm – Marcia Ruth Circle - Lounge

2/17

5:30pm – Shared Meal – Fellowship Hall

2/18

1:00pm – Methodist Ladies Who Lunch – Golden Dawn

Cafe Esperitual – Janet's home.

2/19

6:30pm – Prayer Shawl Ministry – Lounge

2/21

2:00pm – Latino Service

2/22

Girl Scout Thinking Day – Fellowship Hall

2/24

5-7pm – IFA Backpacks – Main Entrance

2/28

9:00-11:00am – IFA Backpacks – Main Entrance

4:00pm – Private Event Setup – Fellowship Hall

### WEEKLY EVENTS

#### Sundays

9:00am – Small Group Bible Study – Youth Room

10:00am – Worship Service - Sanctuary

10:00am – Sunday School – Room 10

11:00am – Hospitality - Lounge

7:00pm – Alcoholics Anonymous – Fellowship Hall

#### Mondays

10:30am – ESL – Rooms 3, 10, Library

7:00pm– Boy Scouts - Fellowship Hall

7:00pm – Nar Anon - Room 10

8:00pm – Narcotics Anonymous - Room 30/31

#### Tuesdays

10:00am – Bible Study – Lounge

6:00pm – Girl Scout Troop 2129 – Room 23, 26, 30/31

6:30pm – Girl Scout Troop 2692 – Lounge

6:30pm – ESL – Rooms 3, 10, Library

#### Wednesdays

10:30am – ESL – Rooms 3, 10, Library

#### Thursdays

6:30pm – ESL – Room 10, Library

7:00pm – Choir Practice – Choir Room

#### Fridays

7:30pm - NA - RM 30/31

#### Saturdays

8:00-9:45pm NA – Room 30/31

## PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY TIME!

Continues Tuesdays at 10:00am in the Lounge. We will be using the Adult Bible Study series. Come join us!



Pastor K

## SMALL GROUP SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE

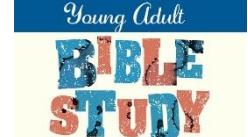
 STUDY is held every Sunday morning at 9AM in the youth room. Come join us!



## SATURDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP

Our next Men's Bible Study is Saturday, February 14th, at 8AM in the MUMC church lounge. We will continue to look at "The 12 priorities every man needs to know". All you need to bring is yourself, your Bible, and a cup of coffee if you need it to wake up. Hope to see all of you who want to start their weekend with good fellowship and encouragement from God's Word! If you have any questions, call Dave Miller.

## YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP



Dear friends, It is with great joy that I announce the revival of a Young Adult Fellowship here at Morrisville United Methodist Church. As we enter into a new year, fresh and new opportunities are on the horizon. Starting in March, there will be a 5 week bible study centered about Tom Berlin's guided study, "Restored: Finding Redemption in Our Mess". These sessions are open to all young adults looking to connect with each other and to be in fellowship with Christ. YAF will meet Wednesday nights starting on March 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the Youth Room. For more information and details, please reach out to Faith Macwana at 215-609-7110.



## A NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY IS

COMING IN MARCH Do we have your correct contact information including your email address? If you are not getting emails from church and would like them, please send your email

address to the office or give to Joyce Bigley or Barb Lombardo.

**E-GIVING** We now have a QR Code that you can scan that links you directly to our E-Giving site. When you scan the code below with your smartphone you can send your offering to the Church's General Fund, Communion/Pastor's Fund or Mission Fund. This is the same link that is available on our church's website. Thank you always for your faithful giving to Christ's work here in Morrisville.



### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Thank you to all the men & women who have graciously volunteered to present a children's sermon during each Sunday's service. We could always use other volunteers to lessen the teaching load in the future. If you are interested in joining this rewarding ministry for our children, please sign up on the Sign-Up Central table outside of the pastor's office.

Thank you for all you do for our children who are our future church. God bless, Joyce

**FOOD PANTRY UPDATE** We need instant coffee, lip balm, hand lotion, rice (1 or 2 lb. bags), peanut butter, cereal, deodorant, toothpaste, and fresh oranges, tangerines, onions, or carrots. Thank you for all you do to help us help our neighbors in need. Many thanks! Deb Price and the Missions Team



**SCRIP GIFT CARDS** See Dave Sample at the table located in the lounge to buy your Scrip gift cards. All Scrip proceeds benefit the general fund of the church.

If we do not have what you want, we can order most vendors on our list and have them for you the following Sunday. Thanks!

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School Classes for children up to age 12 take place immediately following the Children's Message each Sunday; Mr. Craig teaches the younger students and Ms. Joyce and Mr. John alternate with the older children. We love



sharing God's love with our younger ones. Helpers are always welcome! Barb Lombardo



### 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 16 (Monday, Presidents' Day)

Marcia-Ruth Circle – 1:00 P.M. – MUMC Lounge

Hostesses: Lois Avery

Devotion/Study: Lois Avery

Topic: The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for Trying Times – Jane Goodall and Douglas Abrams

### FEBRUARY 18

Methodist Ladies Who Lunch – 1:00 P.M.

Luncheon – Golden Dawn

7115 New Falls Road

Levittown, PA

(Contact Deborah Chapman for details.)

## FEBRUARY 22 – Unit Meeting

11:00 after church Fellowship Hall

“Move to Mission” event

**ALL are invited to attend**

## **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!

## **LATINO MINISTRY NEWS**



On February 18<sup>th</sup>, Cafe Esperitual will be at Janet's home.

On February 21<sup>st</sup>, there will be a Latino Service at 2:00pm.

Beditza Cadillo, Latino Ministry Director



**Interfaith Food Alliance**

Dear Members of Morrisville United Methodist Church,

On behalf of The Interfaith Food Alliance, we sincerely thank you for your generous donation of holiday gifts for 20 children. Your gifts brought smiles to many children's faces and comfort and joy to their parents. Our work is only possible because of friends and supporters like you!

We live in a land of abundance and believe that no child should go hungry. We look forward to your continued support as we work together to make a lasting impact. Your partnership is vital to our mission and inspires us to keep striving for change.

With hope for a world without hunger,

The IFA Board

Diane B. Coyle, IFA President

Executive Board of Trustees:

Annemarie Clark, Co-Vice President

Linda Carmona-Bell Co-Vice President

Carolyn Dorph, Treasurer

Liz Schenck, Secretary

## ***Current Prayer Concerns***



Pray for Bishop Tracy Smith-Malone as she recovers from a hit and run accident while cycling.

Prayers for Grace Terry, the Lebegern family, Merlene Taylor, the Swenson family, Michael Pugh, the Menei family, the Pierce family, Minnie Wilson, Tami Bernard, Alice South, Tyrone Frisby, Andy McCall, Tom Miller, Carol Hughes, Pam Manners, Toby Ellsworth, Jimmy Ellsworth, Thomas Manners, Paul & Marian Chapman, Sue Urbano

Dave Hoyer (former member)

Tyler (friend of Todd Whitter)

Valez family (friends of Beditza Cadillo)

Carrie Kovalik (Vera Straley's daughter)

Donna (community member)

Alan and Sandy MacKinnon (Steve Russell's parents)

Hugh Schlick (Steve Russell's father-in-law)

Jaines (friend of Beditza Cadillo)

Michael Pugh (Fran Pugh's son)

Myles (friend of Todd Whitter)

Elijah (community member)

Tim Doyle (nephew of Dave & Marianne Miller)

Debra Porter (friend of Hal Long)

Luisa Proaño (friend of Hal Long)

Arlene Eberly (Cheryl Scott's mother)

Leslie Eberly (Cheryl Scott's Sister)

Nanette (cousin of Hal Long)

Betty Hancock (friend of Debbie Eickhoff)

Jill Seagrass (friend of Vera Straley)



## Happy Anniversary

Diana and Walter Pabers ..... February 2  
Shilpa and VK Macwana..... February 8  
Ann and Joe Colduvell..... February 18



## Happy Birthday

Emmanuel Abalo .....	February 1
Dorott Abalo .....	February 6
Prince Bull.....	February 8
Mark Macwana.....	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
Iyanna Nagbe.....	February 20
Arianna Nagbe .....	February 20
Barb Lombardo .....	February 22
Steve Russell.....	February 22
Finnegan Hughes .....	February 23
Kaylin Hammer .....	February 24
Rhonda Rea.....	February 25
Gail Lowe .....	February 26