



The February Maple

Ash Wednesday coincides with Valentine's Day this year, and Easter happens on April Fool's Day. I am sure there will be a plethora of devotional thoughts shared dealing with these two occurrences!

Wednesday, February 14th: Ash Wednesday

Noon and/or 7pm Worship Opportunities:

In the sanctuary we will have the opportunity to receive the imposition of ashes on our forehead in remembrance of our human limitations and the weight of sin in our life. This is a sobering experience meant to begin our 40-day season of inner reflection and spiritual searching called Lent. We also share in the Lord's Supper together. Matzah bread is used, to recall the escape from slavery and time of wandering in the wilderness, both without the luxury of time, waiting for bread to rise.

Time is seen as a luxury by many, today, too. Making time for the things in life that matter most is often a challenge. I urge each one of us, in this time of Lent, to find new ways to bring meaning into the time that ticks away throughout our day. We may not be able to reschedule the way our day is planned, but we do have the ability to invite God into how those moments are lived.

- Pray for the clerk as we wait in line, determining to share a smile.
- Pray for our co-workers during our commute, asking for God to give discernment in office relationships.
- Use a Bible app on your phone as you sit in a waiting room.
- Deny yourself dessert, praying instead for those who have no food.

Look for God in your ordinary times, praying for them to be transformed into something with deep meaning.

*Grace and Peace,
Pastor Wendy*



Please be aware of this month's mission trip and hold our youth and adult mission team in your prayers.

WHO: Middle Schoolers, High Schoolers, & their Adults

WHERE: St James UMC in Philadelphia.

WHEN: President's Day Weekend, February 16-18, 2018.

We will arrive on Friday night at 7:30pm for worship and to get sorted into crews. On Saturday we will serve either at St. James church or in the local community and end the day with worship. On Sunday morning we are attending church with the St. James congregation or return home as schedules dictate.

MUMC Youth Revolution's Annual



March 10th

Open seating between 5:30 and 8:00 PM

*Tickets: \$10.00 – Adult / \$7.00 - Children ages 4-12 / Kids under 3 eat free

*Come and enjoy a fine dining experience in Ryan Hall, plus place a bid at the silent auction for a fabulous basket!

Missions Pancake Breakfast



Mission/Outreach Team's Pancakes and MORE Breakfast will be **Saturday, February 17th**. We'll be serving a good, hot breakfast of pancakes, sausage, and eggs. Join us between 8:00-11:00. If you're interested in helping with the breakfasts and/or going on the adult mission trip, please let Pastor Wendy, Jim Rea or Becky Kent know.



The Mission/Outreach Committee is thinking ahead and forming an Adult Mission Team to respond to the recent flooding disasters. Although still waiting for some direction from our VIM Coordinator, the forming of the team is starting now. If you are interested in being a part of the Adult Mission Team, or would like to help the team, please let Pastor Wendy, Becky Kent or Jim Rea know.



The Men's Group usually meets on the second Saturday of each month. On Saturday, February 10th Morrisville UMC is having the Activate Conference. We are encouraged to register! We want to join together with strong biblical foundations and principles to discover where God is leading the mission outreach of our congregation. The Men's Group will meet again on March 10th.



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.

February Schedule

FEBRUARY 4 (Sunday)

UMW GENERAL MEETING – 12:30 P.M.

Ryan Hall – Bring a bag lunch. Dessert and beverages will be provided.

Hostesses: Non-Circle Members

Program: “Welcoming the Stranger in Our Neighborhood,” Elena Raykova;

UMW Pledge Service

Mission Project: Bring feminine hygiene pads to donate to the Family Backpack Center

FEBRUARY 19

MARCIA-RUTH CIRCLE – 7:00 P.M. – Church Lounge

Hostess: Sue Urbano

Program: Lois Avery

FEBRUARY 21

ELIZABETH CIRCLE – 1:30 P.M. – Church Lounge

Hostesses: Nancy Sample, Susan Friend

COMING ... Saturday, February 10, 2018

ACTIVATE

Expanding Mission Outreach

For the past 3 years MUMC has worked to develop partnerships with the Morrisville Community to help those in need and to share the love of Christ whenever possible. This has been a ministry and a mission focus for us, which is taking us into the Morrisville School in practical and meaningful ways. As we all know with life, the way to accomplish great things is to set goals, work with focus, and measure outcome. This is also true for the mission work of a church.

So, on Saturday, February 10th, from 8:30 – 2:00, we have invited The Mission Society: Global to come and work with us in a planning session to mobilize our church for mission.

Put this date on your personal calendar NOW

Plan to join us for the entire DAY

You WANT to be part of God's Great Command!



Meals for Kids:

Check the “Opportunity to Serve” board to see when you can provide a meal for the Morrisville School children. There are Tuesday and Wednesday openings. Both groups have 15-25 teens and a few adults.

A Special
THANK YOU

The following thank you letter was received from Kathleen Foster, President of the Ivins Outreach Center Board, in response to a donation made to the charitable organization by our church's ISF:

*Dear Members of the MUMC Investment Stewardship Fund,
Words are powerless to express my gratitude to you for your most generous gift to the Ivins Outreach Center. We have enjoyed the partnership we have with MUMC, with the backpack program, and we have brought our older adults to meals hosted by your church. Your continued support is greatly appreciated and needed. A simple thank you seems so inadequate.*

I went grocery shopping with one of our "Staying Put" members last week, and she said several times how this program has changed her life...and how the weekly meal delivery has made such a difference - it stretches her limited food budget.

A percentage of the money [donated by MUMC] will be designated for the Staying Put program, ensuring that we can continue the food program and monthly outings. It will also allow us to scholarship some older adults who may not be able to pay the full yearly membership fee of \$250.

Thank you so much. You have made such a difference in the lives of many!



Tuesday Mornings in Lent
Passion, Promise and Praise
10:00 am in the Library

Beginning Tuesday, February 20th, we will begin a new study on the Psalms. The Bible will be our primary textbook.

Chapter 1: An Overview

Chapter 2: Prayers and Poetry

Chapter 3: Prayer book for God's people

Chapter 4: Psalms of Sacred History

Chapter 5: Psalms of Trust

Chapter 6: Psalms of Lament

Chapter 7: Psalms of Praise

This course will be co-taught by John Davidson and Pastor Wendy.

From Our District superintendent:

Greetings Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

On Saturday we had to pull out additional tables and chairs as clergy, members and friends from around the district filed into the HVUMC for the district's first clergy cook off. We raised nearly 3k at the event and have received so far \$4,200 in donations with more on the way towards our goal of at least 20k for the relief effort benefiting Puerto Rico - specifically the churches impacted and devastated by Hurricane Maria. Three DS's and other clergy will visit Puerto next month and tour the area with the Bishop there.

The attendance was amazing on Saturday and the jubilation phenomenal! I can't count the number of times I was asked could we do this again and not wait a year to do so. Yancey is still receiving calls! What an awesome effort for a worthwhile cause. We have truly shown that we are our brothers' keeper; we are our sisters' keeper:

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.
Galatians 6:2 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV).

Blessings!

Rev. Tracy L. Bass

