

Newtown United Methodist Church

**35 Liberty Street
Newtown, PA 18940**

**Rev. Rodney Brailsford, Pastor
Phone 215-968-2662**

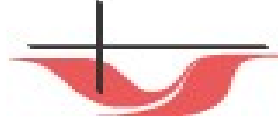
Office hours: Mon-Thurs. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

E-mail numc1@verizon.net

Visit us on the web at www.newtownumc.com



2024



**Sunday morning
Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School grades
Pre-school—6th,
Child care available:
9:45-11:15 a.m.**



Dear NUMC Family,

As the vibrant colors of spring begin to paint our world once more, I find myself admiring the profound beauty that surrounds us. As the flowers are blooming and the birds begin to sing, it is as if all of creation is echoing the message of renewal and hope that lies at the heart of our faith, the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Spring, with its awakening landscapes and budding life, serves as a beautiful reminder of the transformative power of the Easter story. Just as the earth emerges from the darkness of winter into a season of growth and vitality, so too do our hearts experience a spiritual awakening through the resurrection of Jesus.

In the Gospel accounts, we witness the disciples' journey from despair and disbelief to boundless joy and unwavering faith as they encounter the risen Christ. Their encounters with Jesus in the garden, on the road to Emmaus, and by the shores of the sea offer us profound insights into the nature of resurrection life, a life characterized by love, redemption, and everlasting hope.

As we embrace the arrival of spring, let us also reflect on its deeper spiritual truths. Just as seeds buried in the ground grow into new life, so too are we invited to embrace the promise of resurrection, to surrender our old selves and be transformed into new creations in Christ.

Furthermore, spring invites us to participate in the ongoing work of renewal and restoration in our world. Just as Jesus' resurrection ushered in a new era of God's kingdom, we are called to be agents of change, bringing light to the darkest corners of society, and spreading the message of hope to all who need it.

May we find inspiration in the beauty of spring to live out our faith with renewed passion and commitment. Let us embrace the call to love one another as Christ has loved us, extend grace and compassion to others, and bear witness to the resurrection's transformative power in our lives.

As we journey through this season of new beginnings, may our hearts be filled with gratitude for the gift of salvation made possible through Christ's death and resurrection. May we be ever

mindful of the hope that springs eternal, guiding us through both the sorrows and joys of life.

May God Bless You Richly,
Pastor Rodney

New Bible Study Starting April 16th!

Are you ready to dive deep into the timeless wisdom of the New Testament? Join us for an enlightening 5-week study of the Epistle of James, beginning April 16, 2024! James, often described as the "Proverbs of the New Testament," offers profound insights into living a life rooted in faith and action. In this study, we'll explore how James urges his readers to be not just hearers of the Word but doers. Together, we'll unpack the practical teachings found within James, learning how to apply them to our daily lives. From navigating trials with resilience to cultivating wisdom in our speech and actions, James offers invaluable guidance for modern believers. Take advantage of this enriching opportunity to deepen your understanding of the Word and grow in your faith. For more information, please contact Pastor Rodney Brailsford. We look forward to studying James with you! Come, let's be doers of the Word together! The study will be in Wesley hall and begin at 10:00 a.m.

Team Ministries Information Session

Join us on **April 6th** for a Team Ministries Information Session – open to the entire congregation! Team Ministries is a new leadership model, which has been adopted by many other United Methodist churches in our conference and across the country. We have the opportunity to adopt this model, which is allowed for by the UMC Book of Discipline at Newtown UMC. This model would replace the traditional administrative structure and allow for increased opportunities for missions at NUMC. The model would also provide new opportunities for growth and prosperity as we look toward the future of our church.

The meeting is from 12 noon until 2:00 p.m. Lunch will be served. You can sign-up online on sign up Genius.

Or you can join us on Wednesday night **April 10th @ 6:30-8:00 p.m.** for a session. A light dinner will be served.

Other UMW News

The United Methodist Women thank everyone who helped with our "Easter Meals for Families in Need" Giant supermarket gift card collection. Thanks to your donations of gift cards and/or the money to buy them, many families in need were able to buy ingredients for a complete Easter dinner!

The Outreach Committee thanks everyone who prepared an Easter basket for children in need. Twenty-five baskets full of candy, books, toys, etc. were given to children in time for Easter. Thank you to Cheryl Burd for coordinating this mission!

The Mission of the Month (Advance) for April is the State of Texas Agricultural Relief Fund.

Wildfires starting in late February in the panhandle of Texas combined to form the largest wildfire in US history. The governor of Texas has declared a state of emergency in this primarily agricultural area. Over 2000 miles, or one million acres, burned, resulting in some fatalities. Over 500 houses and barns were destroyed, and 16 schools had to close because of damage. About 9000 cattle were lost, and 20 miles of power lines are down.

If you would like to help the people of Texas, you can use the blue envelopes located in the pews in the Sanctuary. You can also send a check to Newtown United Methodist Church, 35 Liberty Street, Newtown, PA 18940. Please mark your check "Advance for April."



Caring for Friends: Will meet on Wednesday, April 17th at 9:00 a.m. to prepare meals for homebound people in and around the Philadelphia area.



Faith and Fellowship during the day! The Circle of Concern meets on Monday, April 15th, at 9:30 a.m., in the library. We are a group of women of all ages who gather to pray, study, and have a time of fellowship together. Any woman in the church is welcome to join us. If you have any questions call Gerry Hixson at 215-321-4315 or e-mail c_hixson@yahoo.com.

April Schedule

Ushers:

Tom He, Randy & Nora Schenk

Finance Stewards:

Randy & Nora Schenk

Fellowship Time:

April 7-Lucie Lyman & Bob Stickel

April 14-Barbara Burger

April 21-

April 28-Kathy Mershon

Lay Readers:

April 7-Eric Johnson

April 14-Cami Haneman

April 21-Susan Smith

April 28-Judi Swerk

Greeters:

April 7-Randy & Nora Schenk

April 14-Freeman Corson & Joanne Tomlinson

April 21-Dave & Kathy Mershon

April 28-Joe & Judi Swerk

GO NUTS FOR THE NUT SALE

We will be selling pecans, cashews, walnuts, bridge mix, fruit and nuts, almonds, mixed nuts, and assorted chocolates. They come in one pound packages and make great Easter gifts for teachers, friends, neighbors. Don't forget some for yourself! All proceeds will be donated to missions.

Scan here if you would like to be connected to our website.



April Birthdays!

4/1-Rich Selah

4/2-Lucie Lyman

4/5-Pat King

4/9-Chris Koelzer

4/11-K.J. Sweeney

4/13- Lois Brailsford

4/14-Barb Rabberman

4/17-Oliver Flint

4/17-Joan Mathias

4/19-Jane Swartz

4/20-Emma Sottile

4/21-Tricia Olmos

4/21-Morgan Fidler



Spring Rummage Sale

Our Spring rummage sale will be held on Friday, April 26 from 9am-3pm and Saturday, April 27 from 9am-12pm.

We are now accepting gently used items for our rummage sale.

Please place your items on the shelves in our rummage room in the basement from now until April 21. On April 22 and 23, you may put your items in the kitchen or the opportunity room.

If you are able, please join us on Sunday, April 21 immediately after church to set up the tables in Wesley Hall and bring up the items from the basement rummage rooms. Once the items are all upstairs, we will begin the task of sorting, arranging, and pricing. We will be working on Monday-Wednesday from 9am until 4pm. On Wednesday, we will serve lunch to all the workers. A small crew on Thursday will address final details. We will need people to help on the days of our sale to serve as cashiers and to assist buyers. We need many hands to make this a successful sale. Please sign up on the sheets in the gallery to help. **ALL** are welcome. Contact Judi Swerk or Nora Schenk for any questions.

PLEASE NOTE:

All clothing should be clean and free from stains, tears, missing buttons, and broken zippers.

All electric items and electronics must be in working order.

Only flat screen TVs (no older than 10 years) will be accepted.

WE WILL NOT ACCEPT:

China Cabinets, Hutches, and Entertainment Centers

Exercise Equipment of any kind

Mattresses. Box Springs, Bunk Beds and King-Sized Head & Foot Boards

VHS tapes

Baby equipment older than 5 years past the manufacture date

Baby car seats and cribs

Upholstered furniture that is stained, ripped, torn, or worn.

Computers, monitors, printers, fax machines and typewriters



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
MOTHER'S DAY GERANIUMS

_____ at \$6.00 each plant
(number of plants)

IN HONOR OF: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

GIVEN BY: _____

Plants can be taken after the worship service.

Please return this form by May 5th, with your payment to:

Chris Bethman or
Kathy Mershon
35 Liberty Street
Newtown, PA 18940

**The Newsletter
Newtown United Methodist Church
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED