

NEWTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 2025 Newsletter



Note from the Pastor's Desk

The Season of Grateful Living

Dear NUMC Family,

As November unfolds, the air begins to carry that unmistakable stillness between autumn's color and the first hints of winter. It is a season that quietly invites us to pause, to notice the goodness woven through our days, and to recognize that gratitude is more than a feeling reserved for one Thursday in November. It is a way of living.



Scripture reminds us, "Let them give thanks to the Lord for His unfailing love and His wonderful deeds for humankind" (Psalm 107:8). Gratitude is not dependent on the ease of our circumstances; rather, it is the recognition that even through seasons of change, loss, or uncertainty, God's faithfulness endures. When we practice gratitude, we see the fingerprints of grace in places we

might have overlooked; the laughter that lightens a long day, the friend who checks in at just the right moment, the strength to keep going when we feel weary.

William Penn once wrote *"The secret of happiness is to count your blessings while others are adding up their troubles."* His words still echo through the countryside and towns he envisioned as "a holy experiment," a community grounded in peace, equity, and thanksgiving. Penn understood that gratitude is not a denial of hardship but rather the lens that reveals grace even in hard seasons. To count our blessings is to affirm that God's goodness is not absent in difficulty; it simply takes a thankful heart to see it.

Thanksgiving, at its heart, is not simply about the abundance of what is on our table but the abundance of God's presence in our lives. When we give thanks, we are doing something sacred; we are choosing to remember. We remember that God has brought us through seasons we did not think we could survive. We recognize that even small blessings are evidence of great mercy. And we remember that gratitude softens our hearts toward others, allowing compassion to take root where complaint once lived.

This month, as we gather around tables filled with family, friends, and fellowship, may we do so with hearts awake to the quiet miracles all around us. Let us also carry this spirit into December and beyond, allowing gratitude to become not just a season, but a way of life; an outlook that keeps our hearts tender and our spirits strong.

May we be a church marked not only by thanksgiving words but by thanksgiving lives. Lives that reflect the grace we have received. Lives that remind others of the goodness of God. Wishing you and your loved ones a blessed and joyful Thanksgiving!

With a thankful heart,
Pastor Rodney

Join Us for the Fifth Sunday Pancake Breakfast!
Sunday, November 30th @ 10:00 a.m.



Advent Journey Through Scripture

This Advent season, Newtown UMC will offer a Bible Study designed to deepen our faith and prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. Together, we will explore Scripture, reflect on the hope of the season, and engage in meaningful conversation that points us toward God's unfolding purpose. Details will be shared soon as we embark on this Advent journey together.

Helping Families for Thanksgiving

Helping Local Families in Need with Thanksgiving Meals

For over 25 years we have been helping local families in need buy food so they can have a complete Thanksgiving dinner. There are so many families who are struggling, and we can help! The Outreach team coordinates this mission.

Retired Newtown Police Chief Martin Duffy has been our contact for these families since we first started collecting the food, and he continues to do this.

We have had donations from the United Methodist Men and the United Methodist Women organizations to buy Giant gift cards for these families. Chief Duffy will make sure the families receive the gift cards.

If anyone else in the congregation would like to help these families in need, please either buy a Giant food gift card or write a check to Newtown United Methodist Church with "Thanksgiving Meals" written on the check. You can mail the check to Newtown United Methodist Church, 35 Liberty Street, Newtown, PA 18940, ATTN: Treasurer, or you can drop off a check in the church office. Please make sure all donations are in no later than Sunday, November 16.



November Mission of the Month



Mission of the Month

The Mission of the Month (Advance) for November is the Penns Park United Methodist Church. Penns Park UMC, our sister mission link church, has been home to the Wrightstown Food Cupboard for almost 30 years. People in need can go to the food cupboard throughout the year at any time for food, personal toiletries, and cleaning supplies. This year, with the current government shut down, the need is urgent. Our Advance offerings will support this needed mission.

If you would like to help with this important ministry, 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 November."

Nov 6 Holiday Bazaar & Lunch

Santa Room, Craft Area, Bake Table & Homemade Soup

10am-3pm

Lunch 11am-2pm

UMW Luncheon ... Calling All Servers

Thursday, November 6th

Lunch is served from 11 A.M. to 2 P.M.

We need 12 to 14 volunteers

If you have any questions, you can call

Helene Mershon @ 267-491-5226



or call the church office @ 215-968-2662

UMW Reminder: The bake table is a great success every year! Please consider making your favorite baked item and dropping it off Wednesday, November 5th or early Thursday morning, November 6th.

Caring for Friends

We will meet on Wednesday, November 19th at 9:00 a.m. Caring for Friends makes meals to be delivered in and around the Philadelphia area.



November Schedule



Ushers and Greeters

Ushers for November:

November 2- Randy & Nora Schenk

November 9-Dave & Kathy Mershon

November 16- Cheryl & Kevin Burd

November 23-Chery & Kevin Burd

November 30-Cheryl Burd

Greeters:

November 2-Jim & Helene Mershon

November 9-Nora & Randy Schenk

November 16-Pam Rook & Kay Lawrence

November 23-Dan & Debbie Boltner

November 30-Donald & Susan Smith

Finance Stewards & Communion Stewards

Finance Stewards: Barbara Selah & Tom He

Communion Steward: Barbara Rabberman & Barbara Burger

Lay Readers:

November 2- Denise Dugan

November 9- Gerry Hixson

November 16- Nancy McCarthy

November 23- Donna Wengiel



Fellowship Time

Fellowship Hour!

November 2-Susan Smith

November 9-Kathy Mershon

November 16-

November 23- Lucie Lyman

Angel Tree

This year, continuing our church's tradition to support the holiday toy drive program at Philadelphia Methodist Home for Children, our Angel Tree will be on display in the church gallery from November 9th to December 10th. We ask each family to be an angel to the children in need, bring one or two new and unwrapped toys, books, games and gift cards from Target or Walmart and place under the Angel Tree. The toys will be picked up by Philadelphia Methodist Home for Children on December 9th for its Christmas party of about 100 families with children. Our generosity will bring smiles to the children faces and provide a uplifting to their holiday spirit. Thank you for being an angel.



World Thank Offering

Pastor Rodney will bless the World Thank Offering at the Sunday service on Nov. 16. Please join us for this special service. We will bring in the large World Thank Offering jar each Sunday in November. Please add your contribution to the jar each Sunday. One can provide their donations that they have been collecting in the small jars. Also, checks are also greatly appreciated. The goal would be to complete the drive on Sunday, Nov 23, just prior to Thanksgiving holidays.

Please give generously
to support women,
children and youth through
the World Thank Offering!

thank you!



The NUMW Thank Offering is given to the general Conference. In 2024, the conference provided support to make the following successes possible: Moore Community House, Biloxi, Mississippi Financial gifts from United Women in Faith's members supported 12 groups of low-income women to obtain national credentials in the skilled craft trades and participate in advanced leadership courses through Moore Community House's Women in Construction program. Scott's Run Settlement House, Pursglove, West Virginia, Scott's Run Settlement House's food pantry provided food for more than 10,478 individuals in rural West Virginia. Gum Moon Residence Hall, San Francisco, California was able to upgrade its website and digital presence, which resulted in securing funding from two new private foundations, for approximately \$50,000, for its family support programs.

Rummage Sale Thank You

We would like to say thank you to all who helped make the fall rummage sale a success. We make small changes to our process and appreciate the congregation working to with us to make things alittle new each time. The sale starts with the treasures that come from all of you. We also appreciate the effort that is made by all the volunteers who prepare for the sale, work on the actual sale days, and help with the packing of the boxes for Good Stuff Thrift Store. We couldn't do this without the support of the congregation. It is such a pleasure to work with an excellent group of people who understand the purpose of the rummage sale is to support our mission work for women and children. Start organizing your treasures for the Spring Rummage sale, May 1 and 2, 2026. We look forward to working with all of you again.

Sincerely,

Nora and Judi



Circle of Concern

Fall is here and it's time to gather! The Circle of Concern will hold its first gathering of the season on Monday, November 17th, at 9:30 a.m., in the library. We are a circle of women of all ages who gather for prayer, refreshment and fellowship, and time to learn about United Methodist women around our country and around our world. If you would like to find out how you can make a difference in your life and in the lives of others, come join us! We usually meet on the third Monday of the month. For more information please call the church office.

This Month's Birthdays!

November

11/1-Holly Hixson

11/10-Richard Tomlinson Sr.
11/12-Cliff Hixson
11/18-Barbara Terrell
11/24-Bill Sandy
11/26-Jane Bowman
11/28-Dorry Newcomer
11/30-Don Lugg



Newtown United Methodist Church



35 Liberty Street
Newtown, PA 18940

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

Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Email: numc1@verizon.net

Visit us on the web at www.newtownumc.com