

2026 Newtown Women's Retreat: True Blue

Ladies, how would you like to get away for a weekend and relax in your blue jeans, bask under the blue sky, and walk along the blue ocean? We will be using the Ocean Grove seaside as a backdrop to this year's retreat theme, "True Blue." The phrase true blue comes from the middle ages, when artisans in Coventry, England dyed material blue in such a way that its color remained steadfast and true, despite washing. Through Bible study, fellowship, and prayer, we will reconnect to the steadfast love of God, and strengthen our faith so we can remain true to who we want to be, come washing, wearing, or whatever!

On hand to lead the Friday night and Saturday portions of the retreat is Rev. Dorry Newcomer, now pastor at Jarretstown UMC in Dresher, PA. Dorry was pastor of Newtown UMC from 2014 to 2018. She hopes the retreat will help foster faith in God that never fades!

A weekend of sharing and fellowship! Get Ready for Our Annual Women's Retreat! Join us for a peaceful weekend by the sea. Through self reflection, small group activities, and fellowship we will WHAT TO EXPECT: A great weekend and a lot of fun! The retreat will begin on Friday evening with check-in between 6:30 and 7:30. Saturday morning there will be a program. After lunch, you'll have the afternoon free to do crafts, walk the beach, explore the quaint village of Ocean Grove, or just take a nap! We will have dinner as a group, then enjoy an evening of interactive programming. On Sunday morning, we have worship together with communion before heading home. WHO'S INVITED: This retreat is being planned for adult women of all ages from our church and their friends. Any woman who would like to some spiritual refreshment is welcome! ABOUT OCEAN GROVE: Known as "God's Square Mile at the Jersey Shore", Ocean Grove is just south of Asbury Park, roughly one hour from Newtown. It is a Methodist vacation and retreat community whose mission is to "provide opportunities for spiritual growth, birth, and renewal in a Christian seaside setting." Lodging: There are three first floor, handicapped accessible rooms. Most rooms are on the second and third floors. A limited number of 2nd and 3rd floor rooms have their own bath only 5. All rooms are double occupancy. Cost: Per person, \$200 for shared bath; \$250 for private bath. This covers two nights lodging, continental breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, dinner Saturday, and all retreat materials. The registration deadline is February 22nd, 2026, **Registration forms are available on the table in the gallery.**



Looking Ahead: Interfaith Study Series

Later in January, we will be offering a short interfaith study exploring Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Christianity.

This study invites us to deepen our Christian faith by learning how people of different traditions seek meaning, devotion, and truth, and by reflecting on how Christianity speaks clearly and faithfully into those shared human longings. As part of the study, we hope to include guided site visits to places of worship, such as the BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardham in New Jersey, as schedules and opportunities allow.

The study will be held at 10:00 AM, starting **Tuesday, January 27 at 10:00 a.m.**

Urgent Need for New Coats for Children and Teens

Methodist Services in Philadelphia has reached out with an urgent need for new coats for children and teens, especially as we experience the current extreme cold. Methodist Services began as the Methodist Home for Children in 1879, serving children orphaned by the Civil War. Over its 144-year history, the organization has evolved, but its primary goal remains true to its founding commitment to children and their families.

Our church has a long-standing relationship with Methodist Services, and they have asked Newtown United Methodist Women (NUMC) for support during this critical time.

Please place your contribution in the bin labeled "Coats" in the gallery. UMW will make arrangements to deliver them to the Methodist Services campus in Philadelphia. Please contact Nora Schenk if you have any questions. Your support is greatly appreciated by NUMC and Methodist Services.

The new envelopes for 2026 are available for pick up in the gallery. Please pick yours up and maybe pick up your friends or families also.