



Newtown United Methodist Church

February 2025 Newsletter



Note from the Pastor's Desk

Pastor's Page

Love in Action

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres." – 1 Corinthians 13:4-7



Dear NUMC Family,

February is often thought of as the month of love. The world tells us that love is a feeling, an emotion that comes and goes like the seasons. But Scripture paints a very different picture. In 1 Corinthians 13, Paul describes love not as something we simply feel but as something we do. Love is an intentional choice, one that requires patience, humility, and sacrifice.

True love is seen in the way we serve one another. It is in the patience we extend when challenges arise, the kindness we offer in difficult conversations, and the willingness to work together for something greater than ourselves. Love is not about personal gain or recognition; it is about serving, giving, and laying down our own desires for the good of another.

Jesus modeled this perfectly. His love was not just spoken, it was lived out in every action, from healing the sick to washing the feet of His disciples, all the way to the cross. He calls us to follow His example, to love not just when it is easy but when it requires sacrifice, when it demands unity, and when it goes unnoticed.

This season, our church is stepping into a new structure through the One Board Model and Team Ministries, not just as a leadership change but as a way to embody this kind of love in action. Working together in ministry is an opportunity to practice patience, kindness, and trust, as we align our hearts and efforts for God's work. Love means stepping forward, serving with humility, and remembering that everything we do is for the sake of Christ and His mission.

As we move forward, let us commit to practicing love in action. Who in your life needs to experience patience, kindness, or encouragement? How can you reflect Christ's love in your home, workplace, or within the ministries of our church?

Love is more than a word, it is a way of life. May we strive to live it daily.

**Grace and peace,
Pastor Rodney**

Bible Study

Please join us as we resume our Bible study, *Genesis: Exploring the Foundations of Faith*, on Tuesday, February 11, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. This journey will bring the ancient stories of Genesis to life as we explore creation, the impact of sin and redemption, and the significance of God's promises. We'll also discuss the faith journeys of key figures like Abraham, Isaac, and Joseph and how their experiences continue to speak to us today. I look forward to seeing you there!



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Souperbowl of Caring

Since 1990, young people have been leading the charge and inspiring others to collect dollars and food weeks leading up to the

Big Game. Teaming up with local partners, these groups give 100% of donations to local charities, changing the nation's largest weekend of football into the largest weekend of caring. On February 9th you can donate canned goods or money to the Penns Park UMC Food Pantry.



February Mission of the Month (Advance)



Mission of the Month

The Mission of the Month (Advance) for February is UMCOR DISASTER RESPONSE for Wildfires in California

On January 7, strong Santa Ana winds in Los Angeles caused wildfires to spread rapidly in multiple communities. Thousands of

homes and businesses have been destroyed, as well as multiple local United Methodist Churches. Preliminary assessments of the damage is underway. UMCOR has awarded two solidarity grants to the California-Pacific Annual Conference to help them with their immediate relief efforts. This includes evacuee support like food and essential supplies, as well as support for volunteer efforts and other relief activities. If you would like to donate to UMCOR, please make out your checks to NUMC and put Wild Fires on the memo line.

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 February."

Caring for Friends

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



Women's Retreat

Newtown UMC Women's Retreat

Friday, April 4 – Sunday, April 6, 2025

Grove Hall Retreat Center

"A Wave of Gratitude".

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, \$175 for shared bath; \$225 for private bath and \$200 for a room to yourself. This covers two nights lodging, continental breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, dinner Saturday, and all retreat materials.

The registration deadline is February 23rd 2025 Registration forms are available on the table in the gallery.

Circle of Concern

"Faith and Fellowship during the day! The Circle of Concern will hold our next meeting on Monday, February 17th , at 9:30 a.m., in the library. We are a circle of women of all ages who gather for prayer, 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.

February Schedule



Ushers and Greeters

Ushers:

Cliff Hixson & Paul Mathias

Greeters:

February 2-Kathy & Dave Mershon

February 9- Joe & Judi Swerk

February 16-Dan & Debbie Boltner

February 23- Jim & Helene Mershon

Finance Stewards & Communion Stewards



Finance Stewards: Erinn Demskis

Communion Steward: Pat Kling

Lay Readers:

- February 2- Pastor Rodney
- February 9- Gerry Hixson
- February 16-Cami Haneman
- February 23-Helene Mershon



Fellowship Time

Please sign up to bring donuts, muffins, cookies, or whatever you would like to be enjoyed during our fellowship time. We begin at approximately 9:30 A.M., so please have your goodies here by then. Coffee and hot water will be started and everything you need

to “set” the table will be on the cart with the coffee. The sign-up sheet is located in the gallery. Thank you!!

- February 2- Susan Smith
- February 9-Karen Schoener
- February 16- Tom & Sandy He
- February 23-

Communion Class

Gather at the Table
Communion Class

Gather at the Table

Communion Class
March 6th—April 10th
 Every Thursday, 7- 7:45 pm

For children to learn why we receive communion.
 Student may receive communion if ready on April 17, 2025

Meet in the youth room at Newtown United Methodist Church

Light refreshments served

For information contact
 Kathy 215-968-2662



January Birthdays!

February's Birthday's

2/3- Dottie Detwiler

2/6-David Sottile

2/7-Bob Dilks

2/12-Barb Selah

2/18-Sammy Vile

2/18-Jim Mershon Jr.

2/18-Carolyn Parry

2/21-Lorelei Demskis

2/22-Dan Boltner



"OPEN MINDS, OPEN HEARTS AND OPEN DOORS"



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