

**Church Family Prayer Concerns:** Elizabeth Sullivan (friend of Pam Rook), The Daney Family, Brendan (friend of Pam Rook), Pat Reilly (Friend of Pam Rook), Cathy Dennison (friend of Chris Bethman and Pam Rook), Valerie, Rosie (Friend of Jim & Helene Mershon), Mary Beth (Friend of Bill & Karen D'Anjolell), Rev. Debbie Rakos and her husband Rod, Charlie (son in-law of Carol Smith), Buschner Family (Friends of Joe & Judi Swerk), Devon Mattox (nephew of Carolyn Brown), Rich Selah, Daniel Wright (friend of Pat King).

*Names added to the prayer list will remain for 3 weeks unless an extension is requested.*

**The Mission of the Month (Advance) for February** will help local families in need pay for heating and food. We have worked with now-retired Newtown police chief Martin Duffy for over 20 years. He is aware of local families who are struggling right now, and our Advance offering can make a big difference in the lives of these families during one of the coldest times of the year. Please consider giving whatever you can so we, as a congregation, can help these families by sharing God's love. You can use the blue envelopes located in the pews in the Sanctuary and put them in the offering plate, or you can send a check to Newtown United Methodist Church, 35 Liberty Street, Newtown, PA 18940. Please mark your check or envelope "Advance for February."



If you would like to make your church donation online, you just have to scan this code with your phone camera to be connected directly to the church's PayPal account.

## THIS WEEK AT NEWTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

35 Liberty Street, Newtown, PA 18940  
215-968-2662

### Sunday, February 8

10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Childcare available

### Tuesday, February 10

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

### Thursday, February 12

4:00 p.m. Choir Practice

### Sunday, February 15

10:00 a.m. UMW Installation of Officers Worship Service, Childcare available

### Sunday Servants

**February 8, 2026**

ALTAR FLOWERS: Given by Joe Tam in loving memory of Sabrina Tam

USHERS: Cliff Hixson, Paul Mathias

LAY READER: Denise Dugan

GREETERS: Pat King & Joanne Tomlinson

FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Barbara Burger

FINANCE STEWARD: Erinn Demskis & Judi Swerk

### February 15<sup>th</sup> - Sunday Servants

USHERS: Cliff Hixson, Paul Mathias

LAY READER: Susan Smith

GREETERS: Joe & Judi Swerk

FELLOWSHIP HOUR: Chris Bethman

FINANCE STEWARD: Erinn Demskis & Judi Swerk

## 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 Jarrettown 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 refection, 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.