

# Newtown United Methodist Church

## May 2026 Newsletter



### Note from the Pastor's Desk

Dear NUMC Family,  
Easter reminds us that God brings life out of places that once seemed closed, dark, and final. That is the heart of our faith. But the message of Easter is not meant to stay in one Sunday morning. It is meant to move into everyday life.

Now that we are in the month of May, the signs of new life are all around us. The days are brighter, the trees are fuller, and the earth itself seems to preach a quiet sermon about renewal. In the same way, the risen Christ continues to bring renewal to us and to the life of the church.

This season reminds us that God is not finished with us. God is still shaping our faith, strengthening our congregation, and calling us deeper into lives of love, worship, prayer, and service in Christ's name. In the words of Scripture, God "has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1 Peter 1:3). That living hope is not just for Easter Sunday. It is for the days that follow. It is for the life we are living right now.



At Newtown United Methodist Church, we are not simply looking back with gratitude. We are also looking ahead with faith. We honor all that God has done, but we also believe God is still doing a new thing among us. Each act of kindness, each prayer lifted, each hymn sung, each person welcomed, each hand extended in service matters more than we know. The risen Christ is still at work through ordinary people who are willing to say yes.

May is a good month to ask a simple question: Where is God calling me to new life? For some, that may mean returning to worship with greater intention. For others, it may mean joining in service, deepening prayer, or taking a step into community in a new way. Resurrection is not only something we celebrate. It is something we are invited to live.

As we move through this beautiful season, let us do so with open hearts. Let us be people of hope. Let us be people who believe that grace still grows, that love still reaches, and that God still has more in store. For the God who raised Christ from the dead still brings life out of places that seem closed, dark, and final. It is a truth captured well in the words of T. S. Eliot: "And to make an end is to make a beginning."

May the peace of the risen Christ be with you and your loved ones this month.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Rodney

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### A Gift Toward Wesley Hall



The Trustees are grateful to share that Wesley Hall now has a beautiful new floor. Many of you have already seen the difference.

What had once been marked by a long crack down the center was later further damaged when extensive water from upstairs affected both Wesley Hall and the Opportunity Room. Over time, it became clear that this was not simply a cosmetic matter, but something that needed to be addressed for the life and care of our church.

Wesley Hall is more than just a room. It is a place where our church family gathers, shares meals, hosts events, welcomes guests, and builds community. It is one of the spaces that helps make our shared life together possible.

Now that this work has been completed, the Trustees are inviting those who feel led to make a special gift toward the cost of the new floor. This is one way we can finish what we have started and invest together in the life of our church home.

If you would like to contribute, you may use your giving envelope and write "**Wesley Hall Floor**" under Special Projects, note "**Wesley Hall Floor**" in the memo line of your check, or scan the QR code to give online.

#### Give Online

*Scan to give and designate your gift "Wesley Hall Floor."*

Thank you for every way you help care for and strengthen Newtown United Methodist Church.

— **The Board of Trustees**

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Tuesdays , from now until May 26th, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, join us for a new study based on *Jesus Today: A Spirituality of Radical Freedom* by Albert Nolan.

This study will explore the life and teaching of Jesus in a way that speaks to our lives today, focusing on healing, inner transformation, and how the way of Jesus takes shape in our everyday lives. Together, we will reflect on Scripture, engage meaningful questions, and consider how Jesus continues to shape us from the inside out.

Whether you are looking to deepen your faith, see Jesus with fresh clarity, or take a meaningful step forward, this study offers a welcoming space to grow.

All are welcome.

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## JAZZ ON LIBERTY

Jazz on Liberty!

SUNDAY, MAY 3 AT 3:00 PM

Live Outdoor Free Concert

Donations Appreciated!

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## Mission of the Month

The Mission of the Month (Advance) for May is the Newtown United Methodist Church Mission Team.

After many years of not being able to go help in other areas of the country, our team is excited and ready to go! They will be able to

fix homes so residents can live in them again, give hope, and make a difference in many lives. They will be going with the Appalachian Service Project group in July to Shady Valley, Tennessee, an area that has been impacted by storms and flooding.

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 May."

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## Caring for Friends

Caring for Friends will not meet again until May 20th @ 9:00 a.m. Caring for Friends makes meals for homebound families in and around the Philadelphia area.

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# May Schedule

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## Ushers and Greeters

**Ushers for May:** Pat King, Jim & Helene Mershon

### Greeters:

May 3- Dave & Kathy Mershon

May 10- Nora & Randy Schenk

May 17- Pam Rook & Kay Lawrence

May 24-Dan & Debbie Boltner

May 31- Donald & Susan Smith

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## Finance Stewards & Communion Stewards

**Finance Stewards:** Barb Selah & Tom He

**Communion Steward:** Pat King

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## Lay Readers

May 3-Eric Johnson

May 10-Cami Haneman

May 17-Denise Dugan

May 24-Nora Schenk

May 31- **Pancakes!**



## Fellowship Time

May 3-Kathy & Dave Mershon

May 10-

May 17-Barb Selah

May 24-Karen Schoener

May 31-Pancakes

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## Circle of Concern

Faith and fellowship during the day! The Circle of Concern will hold its next meeting, Monday May 18th, 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.

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## Game Night

Please join us for Family Game Night on Thursday, May 7, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM in Wesley Hall.

Bring a favorite game or learn a new one. We will have fresh buttered popcorn to enjoy while we spend the evening laughing and strategizing with church friends, family, and neighbors.

All are welcome, so please feel free to invite a friend. We look forward to seeing you there!



Questions? Ask Rich or Barb Selah.

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## United Methodist Women Mother's Day Geraniums

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

IN HONOR OF:

\_\_\_\_\_

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IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

GIVEN BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Plants can be taken after the worship service.

Please return this form by May 3rd with your payment made out to the NUMC women to the church office or mail to:

Kathy Mershon  
35 Liberty Street  
Newtown, PA 18940

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## Spring Rummage Sale

THE UMW SPRING RUMMAGE SALE

Our spring rummage sale will be held on May 1st from 9 am – 3 pm and May 2nd from 9 am – 12 pm.

We are once again accepting your **gently used** items in our rummage room in the basement from now until April 26th. Beginning April 27th through April 29th, you may put your items in the kitchen or the opportunity room.

If you are able, please join us on Monday morning (April 27th) at 11 am to help bring the items in the basement upstairs. Once the items are all upstairs, we will begin the task of sorting, arranging, and pricing. We will be working all week long from 10 am until 4 pm. Please use the sign-up sheet in the gallery to sign up to help. ALL are welcome. We need many hands to make light of this work. As is our custom, lunch will be provided for workers on afternoon. And, of course, we will need people to help on the days of our sale to serve as cashiers and to monitor and assist buyers.

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## This Month's Birthdays!

### May Birthday's

5/3-Cheryl Burd  
5/6-Bill D'Anjolell  
5/8-Jim MacMain  
5/15-Colleen Gutekunst  
5/17-Jean Sosna  
5/18-Dixie Scurlock  
5/19- Helene Mershon



**Newtown United Methodist Church**



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