

## Advent 2016 The Madison Methodist

December 2016

Volume XIV Issue 12

The United Methodist Church  
in Madison  
24 Madison Avenue  
Madison, NJ 07940  
“at the corner of Drew University”

## God Bless Us Every One: The Redemption of Scrooge

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### A Message from the Pastor

#### Where it Fits and if it Fits Wear It

This is a busy season and if I were smart I should keep this short. Hopefully I will. We are running around this season at a quicker pace than previous years, or so it seems. Part of the reason may be the exhausting election season which we must now put aside in order to prepare for the rest of the holiday season. That's right, we are already here! We rush with our families, at work and in the church as well.

Where and how will we fit everything in? That is the big question that haunts us all. It seems appropriate that our theme for The Advent Season comes from Dicken's *Christmas Carol*. That is the story of Ebenezer Scrooge and his horrible, sleepless, night facing the ghosts of Christmas past, present and future. And while there are many ways we may relate to the story we would all nod our heads in recognizing we, like Scrooge, find the busyness and “work” of our lives takes over and leave little time for anything else.

The staff and leaders in the church have planned for a wonderful Advent Season. It has been work as well I confess! Our theme *God Bless Us Everyone- The Redemption of Scrooge* will be the focus of our worship services. We are joined by bells and instrumentalists on Sunday mornings as well. And of course we will come together at both our 5 pm Christmas Eve Pageant and our 11 pm Christmas Communion Service. Also, each Wednesday morning we have a study using Matt Rawle's book [The Redemption of Scrooge](#).

I would end with one small note that has come from our Wednesday morning study using Philip Yancey's book [Prayer](#). There Yancey quotes the great scholar and Rabbi Abraham Heschel. When Heschel was told the liturgy for worship did not express what people felt his response was the point of the liturgy was not as much for the liturgy to express what they felt as for people to feel what the liturgy expressed! Perhaps both are true.

We need to be open to the influence of God's Spirit as we gather together and celebrate this great gift, this great mystery, known as Emmanuel- God with us.

Grace and Peace,



#### Christmas Eve Services:

5 p.m. Family Worship & Children's Pageant  
11 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service

*“In worship, fellowship and service we seek God's peace  
as revealed in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.”*



### Staff & Elected Officers

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## For your calendars....

Movie Night—December 9  
6:30-8:30pm

Guest Speaker—December 11  
Dr. Heather Elkins

Decorating the Sanctuary—Dec 17

Open House—December 18th  
After service in Fellowship Hall

Live Nativity—December 18  
10:30—12:00pm

### Heart and Hand

**J**oin us on Wednesday, December 14 (6:00PM) for a holiday dinner at Grain House, Basking Ridge. Please bring cans for the food pantry

Bring a friend!!  
God Bless and much Peace this Holiday season,  
**Kirsten and Kathy**

### Pledge cards

**A** reminder, if you haven't already done so, to please return your giving cards to the Church office as soon as possible.  
Thank you!





## Other News ... Bits and briefs

### Christmas Flower Orders

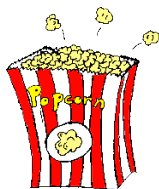


Please note: ORDER FORMS are now available and can be found on the pew seats for your convenience. Once filled out please leave in the office or place in the offering plates. If you are sending a check please write "Christmas flowers" in the memo line



### Movie Night Dec 9

Come on out at Friday Dec 9 at 6:30—8:30 PM for a fun family night!. We will be showing the Jim Carrey 2009 version of "The Christmas Carol". Popcorn will be provided.



### Coffee Hour Hosts Needed



The coffee hour and fellowship time after our Family Worship service is a vital element of our ministry. It's not only enjoyable, but an important part of building community. Volunteers are needed to host coffee hour on the following Sundays: January 1, 8, 15, 22. Please consider if you can help on one of these dates and contact the coordinator, Natalie Dines or, for your convenience you can go directly to this to sign up <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4fafab2ba2fb6-2016>

### COOKIES PLEASE!

A reminder that the cookie walk will take place at this years Advent Festival (Dec.3rd). The youth will be using some of the proceeds for outreach and the rest for mission of the church. Please sign up by emailing Kathy Shoaf [nursekbs93@gmail.com](mailto:nursekbs93@gmail.com) or calling @ 973 975 5755. Thank you!

### Market Street Mission Coat Drive



On Saturday, Nov. 5 volunteers helped out at this years Annual Market Street Mission Coat Drive in Morristown. (From left to right) Jaelyn Atterbury, Kathy Shoaf, Leah Atterbury, Kira Atterbury, Felix Tshibang and group organizer, Jeanne Eisele.

## 2016 Advent Festival

*Looking for Something Special for the Holidays?*

Shine a Light on Giving this Christmas Season  
at the United Methodist Church in Madison

**Sat. Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> 9:00am - 2:00pm**

We welcome you all to our warm and cozy church community to come sip coffee and spend some time with us shopping for creative homemade treasures — we hope you'll come! Local vendors will be selling candy, jewelry, clothes, origami, coffee, used books and other handmade items. There will also be homemade cookies and other goodies, you don't want to miss this!

Join us for a cup of warm soup and fellowship at our Annual Soup Lunch directly afterwards!

If you'd like to share soup with us for our Soup lunch please click on this Sign-up Genius link:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4fafab2ba2fb6-soup>



The people of The United Methodist Church in Madison  
24 Madison Ave.  
Madison, NJ 07940  
973-377-1231





# December 2016



Guest Speaker

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1  6-7 pm Pageant/Choir Practice	2  8 pm AA	3   9:30 am Advent Festival
4 8:30 am Early Service 10 am Family Worship 11:15 am Coffee Hour 5 pm Worship	5  8 pm AA	6  8 pm AA	7 6:45 am Men's Breakfast  7:30pm Book Study	8  6-7 pm Pageant/Choir Practice 8 pm Chancel Choir	9  6:30 pm MOVIE NIGHT	10
11 8:30 am Early Service 10 am Family Worship 11:15 am Coffee Hour 5 pm Worship	12  8 pm AA	13  7:30 pm Church Council 8 pm AA	14 6:45 am Men's Breakfast 6:00PM Ladies dinner 7:30pm Book Study	15  6-7 pm Pageant/Choir Practice 8 pm Chancel Choir	16  8 pm AA	17  Decorating the Sanctuary
18  LIVE NATIVITY  OPEN HOUSE LUNCH	19  8 pm AA	20  Newsletter Deadline	21 6:45 am Men's Breakfast	22  6-7 pm Pageant/Choir Practice 8 pm Chancel Choir	23  8 pm AA	24  Christmas Eve Services 5 pm Pageant 11 pm Candle light/ communion service
25  MERRY CHRISTMAS 10 am Family Worship  ONE SERVICE	26  Church Office Closed through Jan. 1 8 pm AA	27  8 pm AA	28 7:00 am Men's Breakfast	29	30  8 pm AA	31

**January Newsletter Deadline: Dec. 20**

## From the Student Assistant Pastor

### Happy Advent Everyone!

As we enter this time of waiting and preparation, it is my hope we each take time to reflect on the work we've done and the relationships we've invested this year. Where have we found success and meaning? Where have we faced shortfalls and struggle? Where do we go from here?

Looking to the season of Advent, I want to remind everyone of the Advent Festival and the youth's Cookie Walk. We are currently taking cookie donations for this Cookie Walk fundraiser, and be sure to stop by our table during the festival to grab some cookies and support our youth programming!

As many of you know, our theme this Advent season is "God Bless Us Every One: The Redemption of Scrooge." To engage this theme and the story of *A Christmas Carol* UMC Madison is hosting a movie night showing of *A Christmas Carol* on December 9th at 6:30pm. This family friendly movie night is open to congregants and community members alike, so be sure to invite your friends and spread the word!

This year our church is also participating in its annual Angel Tree Project to support individuals and families at both Family Promise and Roots and Wings. Thank you to all who took angels, and are providing gifts. Please be sure to return both the angel and gift by December 11th. On that day our youth will wrap the gifts during the 10am service, and prepare them for delivery!

Lastly, I want to thank everyone who came to the Avalon Village Informational Meeting. So far we have about 11 people interested in traveling to Avalon Village, an Eco-Village in Detroit Michigan. This Summer 2017 trip is intergenerational, and is both educational and missional in scope. If you are interested in the Avalon Village Trip please let me know as soon as possible!

I hope you all enjoy this holiday season, and find it a meaningful time to be with friends and family. May we travel through Advent as individuals and as a community, mindful in our preparation, as we await the arrival of the one who is love.

*In Peace,  
Chelsea*

## From our Music Director

**A** New Year Begins...

We have ended our church year on a high note with a wonderful rendition of Vivaldi's Gloria. We've been very fortunate to have members from the Rutgers University Newark chorus join our Adult Chancel choir for Christ the King Sunday. We hope to have them again soon!

As we begin a new church year, we reflect on the many blessings we receive daily, and plan for the coming of our Lord. Although a time of reflection seems unlikely around this time of the year, I think it is worth looking at traditions that remind us of the true meaning of the Advent season. Whether it is church bells, the lighting of candles, a carol, or the Redemption of Scrooge reading, we will find a reason to be ready to celebrate Jesus' birth. May peace, hope, love, and joy be with you and your loved ones throughout this holiday season and all year long.

May God bless us every one!

*Daniel Leguizamon*

## United Methodist Women

**P**lease make your calendars to join the ladies of the Naomi Circle of United Methodist Women on **Thursday, December 15**, when we will visit the Morristown UMC for a joyful concert by the Christmas Singers with Patricia Ruggles, followed by a delicious soup and salad lunch. We will meet in our Church Library at 11:30 am to carpool to Morristown.

The Naomi Circle will be assembling cookie plates for housebound members of our congregation and would welcome donations of 2 or 3 dozen home baked cookies on or before December 17. The plates will be assembled on the morning of December 17 for distribution after Church on December 18. We will also continue to collect for The Neighborhood Center of Camden, New Jersey, which is sponsored by the Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church. If there are any questions, please contact Laurie Hagerich at 973-377-9407 or by email at [hagerl@optonline.net](mailto:hagerl@optonline.net).

*Laurie Hagerich*



# OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM

*Honoring God's gift of Jesus by sharing with others*



Christmas decorations are going up and celebrations with family and friends are in the planning. As we plan gift giving and receiving, our hearts turn to others less fortunate or who are struggling just to fulfill the basic needs of life. By joining in the variety of **Outreach** choices this season, you can share that deep satisfaction and well-being with those who will benefit from our projects.

Share in the **Baby Shower for Jesus with Church School** which will collect donations of baby supplies for clients of **Interfaith Food Pantry**. Or pick an Angel from the **Angel Tree sponsored by our Youth** which will provide holiday gifts for the guests sheltered with **Family Promise**. Or the **Advent/Christmas Offering** which will focus on local and global service projects. Donations can be made to **UMC in Madison, Advent/Christmas Offering** in your check memo.



## LOCAL: **Zufall Highlands Medical Van** -Zufall Health

was founded 25 years ago by Dr. Robert Zufall and his wife, Kathryn when they opened a small community health clinic in Dover. This mission has expanded to multiple sights and services across northern New Jersey. Zufall provides affordable and competent healthcare to members of the communities who would otherwise be underserved. The **Zufall Highlands Medical Van** travels to those who cannot reach one of their clinics. In an expanded program, the van offers medical services to migrants workers in the agricultural areas of New Jersey. The van is a fully equipped mini-clinic with two private exam rooms that address both medical and dental appointments. Learn more : <http://www.zufallhealth.org/about-us/our-mission/>

INTERNATIONAL: **Heifer International** - Empowers families to turn hunger and poverty into hope and prosperity by bringing sustainable agriculture and commerce to communities with a long history of poverty. The gifts of animals provide partners with both food and reliable income, as agricultural products such as milk, eggs and honey can be traded or sold at market. The program also includes a Passing On of Skills and Animals where the first recipient gives the first born female to a neighbor and also trains that neighbor to care and raise the animals and use their products.



Cont.....The "teach a man to fish" philosophy drove Dan West to found Heifer International before World War II And now, nearly 70 years later, that philosophy still inspires their work to end world hunger and poverty throughout the world once and for all. Learn more: <https://www.heifer.org/about-heifer/index.html>

*Look for special note cards of chosen animals that are designed by Church School students. Packages will be on sale at the Advent Bazaar and throughout the holidays.*

## Other Outreach news

### **UNITED METHODISTS join GIVING TUESDAY on November 29**

*When Methodists are united, the possibilities of supporting missionaries, projects and communities in need are endless. Extend the spirit of giving thanks into the Advent season by participating in **UMC #GivingTuesday, November 29**, offers an opportunity to start off the holiday season by giving instead of getting through supporting organizations and missionaries that have been researched and approved by Global Ministries. And 100 percent of all gifts made through **The Advance** are given directly to the designated project. To make a contribution, donors will go to [www.umcmmission.org/](http://www.umcmmission.org/).*

**UMCOR** - Is addressing health and life savings issues for children in **Liberia** through the Advance Special **Abundant Health: Our Promise to Children Initiative**, with goals to reach 1 million children with lifesaving interventions by 2020. Fourteen years of civil war, followed by the devastating Ebola epidemic, have left Liberia's physical infrastructure, including roads, in a disastrous state making access to the limited health care facilities evenmore difficult. With donations motorbikes and medical transport vehicles enable rural community members to reach health care.

**Thank you** for your support of the **Market Street Mission Annual Coat Drive** . We delivered about 55 coats plus hats, gloves and scarves, which joined thousands of others donated for the distribution on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> on the Green in Morristown. Leah, Jaelyn & Kira Atterbury, Felix Tshinbang, Kathy SHoaf and Jeanne Eisele had a great experience joining other volunteers assisting individuals to find coats for all members of their families.

### **AFWH- A Future with Hope Update**

To date the results include completion of restoration of 247 homes, 18 homes under construction, 10 homes in queue. Hosted 11,540 volunteers at 10 host sites with a 300 person hosting capacity.



*Jeanne Eisele*



## News from Family Promise



**H**oliday House Pins, which support the Family Promise programs, will be sold at our Advent Festival on Saturday, December 3, and again after Church on Sunday, December 4. There will be a good assortment of pins, so take this chance to buy an inexpensive Christmas or Hanukah gift for a friend or family member and benefit Family Promise at the same time. The pins are priced at \$15 each.

The Family Promise clients will have a special Holiday Season in 2016 thanks to the Angel Tree project sponsored by UMC Madison's Youth and Outreach Ministries. Our congregation is asked to choose an Angel from the tree in the library with a specific gift request and purchase that gift for the clients. The gifts will be delivered in time for distribution at the Family Promise Holiday Party on Tuesday, December 20. If anyone is interested in attending the Holiday Party, let me know and I will give further information on time and location.

I'm pleased to report that Family Promise was awarded a grant of \$5000 from the Jones Fund, which will be used for the Keys to Housing/Landlord Tenant program, recently established by Family Promise to locate and secure permanent housing for clients and to provide support, education and training to insure that the clients will be able to become self-sufficient and remain in their new homes permanently. The program strives to make affordable housing a win-win situation for the renters and the landlords.

Our next time to help St. Vincent's Church in hosting the families will be in February 2017. Specific information will be in the next edition of the Message.

Please call me at 973-377-9407 to let me know if you would like more information on the Holiday Party or have any questions about the Family Promise program.



### Fair Trade Coffee Sale — Dec. 4

*During coffee hour in the church library*

## Known Birthdays in December



*Suji Balfe  
Abigail Mikaela Bull  
Brendan Cobb  
Tyler Cobb  
Curren De Vico  
Cindy Kroeger  
Kelly McCarter  
Cillian McIsaac  
Katie Pivarnik-Tamaki  
Lydia Sung  
Sawyer Tadano  
Grace Voorhees  
William Church Wagstaff*

## Our Church Family

### *People we remembered in prayer*

Hans Morsink	Cindy Manz
Steve Faig	Forbes Family
John Duetsch	Paul Milas
Moro/Voorhees Family	Ted Griffith
Helen Dawson	The Pizzi Family

## Thank you

**T**hank you to everyone for your support of the Interfaith Food Pantry Thanksgiving Basket program. The Pantry gave out over 1500 turkeys and accompanying bags of Thanksgiving food to those with need in Morris County. A special thank you to the youth of our church who helped transport 250 bags of groceries from the Food Pantry Warehouse to St. Margaret's Church in Morristown for Thanksgiving distribution. They did a phenomenal job and exemplify what the food pantry represents - "neighbors helping neighbors".

*Katy Galton*

# Worship Schedule



**Early Morning Worship** 8:30 a.m.

**Family Worship & Sunday School** 10:00 a.m.

*Childcare is available for infants and toddlers.*

**Coffee and Fellowship** 11:15 a.m.

**The Gathering Service** 5:00 p.m.

## *Coming up:*

**Dec. 3** Advent Festival 9AM—2PM

**Dec 11** Guest Speaker—Dr. Heather Elkins

**Dec 18** Live Nativity 10am —12:20pm

**Dec 18** Open House Lunch after 10am service

**Dec. 24** Christmas Eve Services

5 p.m. *Family Worship and Children's Pageant*

11 p.m. *Candlelight Communion & Worship Service*

**Dec. 25** Combined Worship - 10:00am only

## *November was a busy month....*



(top left) Nancy Synder picking out her Angel Tree, her gift will make someone feel very special over the Christmas Season.



(center) Church school kids showing off their creative card making talents, the cards will be sold off at our 2016 Advent Festival (Dec 3) in support of Heifer International.

(bottom right) On November 20th our church school kids did an amazing job hosting coffee. Thank you!

