

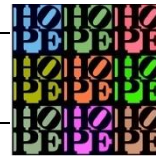
**HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**1108 STEELROAD**  
**HAVERTOWN, PA 19083**

“The Messenger” is published eleven times a year by Hope United Methodist Church which is located at 1108 Steel Road, Havertown, PA 19083. Worship each Sunday, begins at 9:30 a.m. and includes Childcare and Children’s Sunday School. Our Pastor Mary Jane Kirby can be reached by calling the church office, 610-446-3351 or Hopeumchavertown@verizon.net.

The church office hours Tuesday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Church Office hours during summer 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. All are welcome to join us at any service or special event. Learn more about us at our website: [www.HavHopeUMC.org](http://www.HavHopeUMC.org)



MARCH, 2019



## THE MESSENGER

Dear Friends,

To use a phrase I heard just recently which I resonated with...it has been an unsettling season. Our United Methodist Church has just come through a Special General Conference to receive a report from The Way Forward Commission and to make decisions about our churches’ relationship with our sisters and brothers in the LGBTQ Community. As a Reconciling United Methodist Church, I am saddened to say that this Conference did not bring about an inclusive and affirming welcome for all. I would like to include here the message which Bishop Peggy Johnson has sent to us:

### **Reflections on General Conference 2019:**

**I bid you grace and peace from the Lord Jesus Christ.**

**During the Monday night worship service at General Conference this week we read the following version of the Wesley Covenant Prayer:**

**The church is not ours but Yours, O God.**

**Use it however You desire, rank it however You inspire.**

**Activate it, allow it to struggle.**

**Use it to demonstrate Your glory,**

**or let it be diminished so that You alone are praised,**

**Lift it up or bring it low,**

**whatever is more useful to Your mission of salvation.**

**Let the church be full, let it be empty.**

**Let it have it all, let it have nothing.**

**We freely and heartily yield the church to You**

**To enjoy what is Yours or to change what is Yours.**

**Open Your church to the fresh breezes of Your Spirit**

**Baptize Your church afresh with the rushing waters of Your Spirit**

**Renew, Revive, Renovate, Revitalize Your church,**

**Blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

I lead with this as I write to you now that the 2019 Special Session of General Conference has ended. We voted to keep the traditional tenants of our current Book of Discipline that prohibit LGBTQIA+ ordination and church marriage ceremonies. The "Traditional Plan" in its entirety did not pass because it has a number of unconstitutional petitions. The Judicial Council at their April meeting will further refine this. The "One Church Plan" (the more progressive option) did not pass and the margin of the vote was close.

I am deeply aware of the hurt and pain that this has brought upon the LGBTQAI+ community, their families and friends. I regret this pain and suffering and call us to minister grace and

healing to this part of our church family. Everyone is of sacred worth and all are indispensable for the up-building of the church.

The mission and ministry of Jesus Christ is still our mission and vision. Nothing can separate us from that love of God. Let us continue this work in the strength of the Spirit.

Church Family at Hope: We are a people of prayer and we continue in prayer as our UMC continues to seek its Way Forward in living the love that Jesus so clearly evidenced for us in His life. May we remain faithful and grow in strength as we witness to the inclusive love of our God who knows us, each one of us, as individuals of sacred worth. May we be united as we actively find ways to let our community know that ALL are welcome here.

Pastor Mary Jane

## **MESSENGER FOR MARCH**

### **MARCH SCHEDULE**

#### **MARCH**

- 3 Communion Sunday
- 6 Ash Wednesday Service at Union UMC 7:00 p.m.
- 10 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS--SET TIME AHEAD 1 HOUR  
Grace Cafe hosting meals at Arch Street UMC for 6:00 p.m.
- 12 Casseroles for St. John Hospice 7:30 p.m.
- 14 Girl Scouts 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- 16 Food Bank 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Preparation of casseroles for St. John Hospice is March 12<sup>th</sup>. Casseroles are prepared every second Tuesday of the month in the Thomas Hall Kitchen at 7:30 p.m. by Kathy Reisch and her helpers. Volunteers are always welcome!

Girl Scouts, second and fourth Thursday of every month, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. - Sunday School Room

### **SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Sunday Worship is held in Jones Chapel at 9:30 a.m.

### **BIBLE STUDY**

The Friday Adult Study/Prayer Group 1:15 p.m. All are welcome to attend!

### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

Arrangements have been made with Kenny's Flowers in Media to provide a fresh altar arrangement for \$25.00. There is a sign up sheet on the table outside the chapel for anyone who would like to dedicate an arrangement in honor of or memorialize a loved one.

### **SUNDAY BULLETINS**

Anyone interested in sponsoring the Sunday Bulletins the cost per month is \$30.00. Please indicate all information on the sign up sheet in on the table outside Jones Chapel. Thank you.

### **LAY READERS NEEDED**

We are thankful for those who read scripture each Sunday in worship. We would love to have some others to take part in this ministry as well. Please speak to Pastor Mary Jane if you would like to become a Lay Reader or if you would just like to know more!

### **GRACE CAFE HOSTING -March 10, 2019, at Arch Street UMC, Philadelphia.**

Our Eastern Mainline Mission Connection will be serving 200 plus folks who are food insecure in Philadelphia at Grace Cafe on Sunday, March 10. Volunteers are asked to let Pastor Mary Jane know if you are interested in helping to serve. We should leave by 4 p.m. to arrive by 4:45 p.m. for orientation and preparations for the 6 p.m. meal. Union folks are asked to prepare desserts for the meal. We need a lot! Hope folks are asked to donate to help in covering the cost of the meatloaf, which will be prepared at Union on Friday, March 8, 1:00 p.m. Thank you everyone!

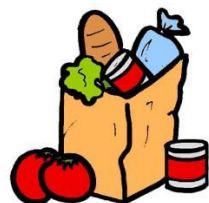
### **GRETNA GLEN FREE YOUTH GROUP NIGHT**

All youth, Grades 6-12 are welcome to travel with Pastor Mary Jane and a couple of youth from Union to a fun Youth Group at Gretna Glen Camp near Lebanon, PA **Sunday March 17<sup>th</sup>**. We will leave from Union Church's driveway at 2:30 p.m. and return about 8:30 p.m. There are some outdoor camp activities (weather permitting), some games, snacks, music, and a speaker. It is a fun and inspiring time. Please let Pastor MJ know if you are interested. The only cost is if you would like to get something at the rest area on the way home.

Thank you!  
Mary Jane

### SAVE THE DATE!

You probably have sung her hymns in Church. Using familiar tunes, Carolyn Winfrey Gillett writes words that reflect the issues of our time. Union UMC has the privilege of hosting Carolyn on **Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, for a Potluck Supper and Program.** She will share how she generates her ideas and what her process is for writing her hymns. And, of course, we will sing! This evening of music and merriment is sponsored by Union's Justice & Advocacy Team. Come be their guest for a dinner at 6:00p.m. and the program begins in the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.



### HOPE UMC FOOD BANK

#### UPDATE

#### ITEMS OF GREATEST NEED

Pasta Sauce  
Mustard  
Ketchup  
Oatmeal  
Canned Fruit

Coffee  
Dish Soap  
Laundry Detergent  
Shampoo  
Deodorant

#### CONTINUED NEEDS

Beans  
Canned Vegetable  
Canned Potatoes  
Canned Chicken  
Canned Tomatoes

Cold Cereals  
Rice/ Pasta  
Tooth Brushes  
Paper Towels  
Toilet Paper

Tooth Paste  
Bath Soap

**Please leave the items by the food closet door or in the card outside the church office.**

*Thank you for sharing your blessings with the food bank!*

Sally Kiner  
Food Bank Coordinator

### SERVING IN MARCH

#### LAY READER

3 P. Cutillo  
10 A. Merrell  
17 K. Friedenberg  
24 P. Cutillo  
31 A. Merrell

#### USHERS

3 WE NEED YOUR HELP TO USHER ON 1ST SUNDAYS. THANK YOU!  
10 J. Engler, R. Brunner  
17 B. AmEisen, K. Friedenberg  
24 W. Hoyle, J. Hoyle  
31 J Engler, D. Molnar, J. Hoyle, P. Cutillo

#### OFFERING COUNTERS

3 J. Engler, C. Hoffmann  
10 P. Jacobs, R. Brunner  
17 M. Black, M. Kelleher  
24 L. Medica  
31 P. Jacobs, R. Brunner

#### ACOLYTES FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

B. Popky, M. G. Popky, T.J. Osborne

**CHILD CARE: Miriam Gallagher**

**COMMUNION STEWARD FOR Linda Gonzales: Jackie Engler**

**Thank you one and all for volunteering.**



### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- Mar. 2 Grayce Rinehimer  
Kim Federowicz  
8 Emma Wojnovich  
10 Alexander (Alex) Merrell  
Cynthia Popow  
11 Jackie Martin  
Lisa Osborne  
Amelia Wojnovich  
Don Roush  
Erica Oslak  
14 John Emmett  
16 Jodi Deegan  
17 Michael O'Donnell  
20 Leah Mariani  
26 Dorothy Wolfe  
27 Tom Reisch, Jr.  
29 John Schott, Jr.  
30 Daniel Mariani

### COMMUNITY DINE-AROUND

Haverford Township Community Dine-Around is an event with fellowship and friendship, good food and meaningful programs that bring people of the community together. They meet the second Monday of selected months at noon. The next luncheon a St. Patrick's Celebration will take place on March 11, 2019 at Annunciation BVM Church. The cost is \$7.00 per meal. Please make reservations ahead with Helen Connell of Annunciation BVM, 610-449-7385.

### CONGRATULATIONS

Blessings and Congratulations to the McKelvey Family on the birth of Karalyn Elizabeth daughter of Dale and Sara McKelvey and the proud grandmother, Elizabeth McKelvey. All are doing fine.



### LENTEN SERIES

This Lent we will begin a Worship Series entitled “**Roll Down, Justice!**” beginning Ash Wednesday and continuing through Easter Day. May we, as a family of faith, grow in love and faithfulness together. Lent is a time to remind ourselves who we are called to be in this world. This Lenten series is inspired by Amos, a prophet whose message is that God calls us to let “justice roll down like waters.” Worship without justice is not acceptable, for worship must move us to action on behalf of the oppressed. We will find inspiration this Lent as we sing and pray and live tuned in to the heart of the Gospel – proclaiming God’s love for all people.

LENTEN WORSHIP SERIES:



**SMALL GROUP STUDIES:** Dear Church Family, the study of God's Word and the discussion and insight that follows which creates, as Wesley would say, "Holy Conversation" is so vital to our strength and growth as a Family of Faith.

I am so thankful for the Friday afternoon Study which is led by Ann Eves. Thank you, Ann! Please join them when you can.

I would also be so glad to hold seasonal Bible Studies here at Hope on an agreed upon day and time. Please let me know of your interest! Union has a Lenten Study coming up starting next week, a study just right for Lent. I am including the invitation here in case any of our Hope family would like to attend. (If we have several interested here, I would be glad to offer this on Thursday evening. Please let me know if you would like to attend.)

**LENTEN STUDY: Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at Union, starting March 13 and continuing through April 17. Seven-Mile Miracle: Journey into the Presence of God through the Last Words of Jesus.** It will be a meaningful journey.

Wednesday, March 6: ASH WEDNESDAY: "Make Me an Instrument of Peace"

Amos 5:21-24

(AT UNION UMC: 7:00 P.M.)

Sunday, March 10: LENT 1 – "Child of God, Naming Each One"  
Romans 8:31-39

Sunday, March 17: LENT 2 – "How Long: Renouncing Evil"  
Psalm 13

Sunday, March 24: LENT 3 – "Christ's Representatives"  
Matthew 25:31-40

Sunday, March 31: LENT 4 – "I Choose Love: Communities of Forgiveness"  
Luke 23:32-43

**SEVEN-MILE  
MIRACLE**

It's Good Friday. The Son of God is giving up his life. What does he want to say to us in His final hours? What does He tell the people standing at the foot of the cross, to pass down to the ages? He speaks only seven short statements. Words of forgiveness, salvation, relationship, abandonment, distress, triumph, and reunion. Seven statements that mean everything. This study will help us to consider how Jesus's last words offer mile markers for our journey in relationship with God.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL IS COMING BACK TO HOPE!** Thanks to the planning and commitment of a committee of Elizabeth McKelvey, Andy Merrill, and Brittany Welding, and the prayers of you all, we are pleased to announce that Sunday School for Children ages 3-12 will begin on March 31 during the worship hour at 9:30 a.m. The children will stay through the Children's Time and then begin Sunday School.

*Please spread the word! All welcome!*



**DEEP BLUE:**

Be with God

Love God and Neighbor

Understand themselves as Children of God

Explore Faith and the Bible

**TEACHERS AND SUPPORT TEACHERS NEEDED!**

Please see Pastor Mary Jane if you would be willing to help with Sunday School as a teacher or a support person to help at times.



**APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup> FLEA MARKET**

We will have our flea market on Saturday April, 27<sup>th</sup>. Advertised 8-1, set up starting at 6:45 thru 7:45 a.m. We will then close the lot for all vehicles until 1:00 p.m.

The price will be \$15.00 per parking spot. When you respond please make sure I have your first and last name, a good contact # and how many spots you would like reserved. You may mail checks or drop off cash to the church, the number to the church is 610-446-3351 for hours to drop off Money.

**IMPORTANT:**

Checks should be made out to Cassie Popky with "Flea Market" in the memo. We will not be able to do a "pay at door" this time. There were too many people that were no shows at the last few. We will not hold spots that are not paid for upfront.

As in the past, if it is a rainout I will either choose a rain date (TBD) or meet you in front of the church the day of to return your money.

Please remember this is church grounds, so no alcohol, guns or illegal items may be sold. We ask everyone to stay on the lot until 1:00 p.m., we can not have cars driving in and out when there are people walking around.

Thank you,  
Cassie