

Grace-Filled **Community** | Inspired **Worship** | Transformational **Mission**

CONNECT



A CHURCH IS BORN

This sermon series invites us to contemplate our identity as Christians and as a church in this hurting world, as we learn from the early community of faith. What happened to Jesus' followers after his resurrection? A church was born. Join us as we rediscover the nature of a church to grow deeper in love and grace on our discipleship journey.

PREACHING SCHEDULE:

MAY 5

Matthew 16:13-20
Rev. JiSun Yang

MAY 12

Acts 1:1-14
Rev. Chris Heckert

MAY 19

Acts 2:1-21
Rev. JiSun Yang

MAY 26

Acts 2:37-42
Rev. Chris Heckert

SPOTLIGHT: Vital Connection in Small Groups



by: *Jaff Hasan*

Connections are vital. The neural network in our body drives our physical movements, how we process stimuli, and our emotions. A personal network is another form of connection. It can help make a large and thriving community like HUMC feel smaller for those of us who want to bridge personal connections with others in the church.

Last fall HUMC started small Grace Groups, a gathering of five to seven individuals who meet regularly to discuss life since

their last get together; how their faith journey has been; what God sightings they experienced; what challenges they would like to offer to God.

The conversations have evolved into deeper discussions. Participants share their joys and struggles in their work and personal lives. They have developed bonds with each other. The small church group has become an embedded part of their routines to help them get through the week.

There is also a light component to these groups, too. Participants have recommended to each other books, BritBox and Netflix series, and songs to help distract them from the daily grind.

Find vital connection in a small group! Visit <https://bit.ly/3NxGrh6> to fill out our interest form!



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INTERESTED? FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Pastor Chris | checkert@haddonfieldumc.org or
Pastor Cricket | cdenton@haddonfieldumc.org

IN-PERSON WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

SATURDAYS

@ 5pm | Brown Chapel with
Communion

SUNDAYS

@ 8am | Brown Chapel
@ 9am | Fellowship Hall
@ 10:30am | The Sanctuary

ONLINE WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

LIVE-STREAM WORSHIP

@ 9am & 10:30am | Every
Sunday

Facebook Live

facebook.com/HaddonfieldUMC

Worship by Phone

Call 856-213-2015 for audio-only

WEEKLY SERMON PODCAST:

SATURDAYS

@ 6pm | Every week

YouTube

youtube.com/HaddonfieldUMC

Apple, Spotify, & More

Search for Haddonfield UMC
Weekly Sermon Podcast on
your favorite podcasting plat-
form!

CONNECT WITH US:

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or iTunes Stores

Bi-Monthly Newsletter
(USPS 070-960)
29 Warwick Road
Haddonfield, NJ 08033-3727
HaddonfieldUMC.org
Published Every Other Month
Periodical postage paid at
CHERRY HILL, NJ 08033-9998
And additional entry office
Vol. 16 No. 3

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HUMC

National Day of Prayer Breakfast

The Haddonfield Council of Churches National Day of Prayer Breakfast is **Thursday, May 2** at 8:30am in Propert Café, with guest speaker Pilar Hogan Closkey, PE, PP, AICP, who is the Executive Director of the Saint Joseph's Carpenter Society. Tickets are \$15 and will be available at the door or by visiting haddonfieldumc.org/now.

United Women in Faith May Luncheon

The United Women in Faith's May Luncheon is **Thursday, May 2** at 11:45am, and the cost is \$11. We are looking forward to our program, "Fit and Full Wellness through Faith, Food and Fitness" with our guest speaker Emily Heckman from Bridgeton, NJ. RSVP to Ginny Dengler by Monday, April 29, at 856-904-5563.

Your Saving Grace Child Care Nights

Our last Your Saving Grace Child Care Nights of the school year are on **Fridays, May 3 and June 7**, from 6 to 9pm. The cost for the evening starts at \$20 for the first child. For detailed pricing and reservations, contact Julie Robertson at jrobertson@haddonfieldumc.org.

Floral Arts Guild Mother's Day Flower Sale

The Floral Arts Guild will offer small flower arrangements as gifts for mothers, grandmothers, or anyone significant in your life on Mother's Day, **Sunday, May 12**. Floral gifts will be available in the Welcome Center and Sayre Pavilion after worship services. Proceeds help us to continue our ministry of decorating the church in appropriate ways year-round.

Steeple Club Luncheon

The May Steeple Club luncheon is **Monday, May 13** at noon. The New Horizons Glee Club, under the direction of Emmy Award winning playwright, composer, singer, and pianist Andrea Green, will delight attendees with their music. Lunch is \$5, and reservations can be made by contacting Leslie Robinson at ljinobinson527@gmail.com by Friday, May 10. Steeple Club will take a summer hiatus and resume in September.

Hospitality Team Needs Volunteers

Entering a new place can be nerve-racking, but a warm smile and a simple greeting can change everything. Our Hospitality Team at the Check-In Station ensures everyone feels welcomed as they enter our worship space on Sundays, reflecting God's love. If you have the gift of kindness and a love for welcoming others as God welcomes us, join us by contacting Pastor JiSun Yang at jyang@haddonfieldumc.org.

Chancel Choir Summer Schedule

The Chancel Choir's last rehearsal of the program year is **Thursday, May 23**. On Sundays in June and July, they will sing after a brief rehearsal at 10am, featuring simpler anthems in Traditional Worship. Want to try singing with us? Contact Matt Smith at msmith@haddonfieldumc.org. New singers are not just encouraged to try us out, but also expected!

HUMC Kids Summer Sunday Programming

HUMC Kids Summer Sunday Programming begins on **Sunday, May 26**. A hybrid, one-room Summer Sunday School is offered at 9am for children age 3 through 5th Grade. Summer Children's Worship is hosted at 10:30am and continues its usual schedule. Visit our check-in kiosk in the HUMECC entrance (across from the Welcome Center) to check-in and receive room assignments or email Julie Robertson at jrobertson@haddonfieldumc.org to receive Zoom information.

COMING SOON



BELONG: GREATER NEW JERSEY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Annual Conference is a yearly gathering for clergy and lay members of Greater New Jersey to worship, celebrate ministry and mission, and handle Conference affairs. This year's conference is May 19-21 in Wildwood, NJ. Keep our HUMC clergy and lay members in your prayers as they participate. Visit gnjumc.org/ac2024/ for details.

PREACHING SCHEDULE:

JUNE 2

Rev. Chris Heckert

JUNE 9

Rev. Chris Heckert

JUNE 16

Rev. JiSun Yang

JUNE 23

Rev. JiSun Yang

JUNE 30

Guest Preacher

Welcome

NEW MEMBERS!

Aaron Atkinson
Megan Atkinson
Kathy Clawges
John Clawges
Pat Cornell
Angela Davis
Mary Davis
Elaine DelRossi
Allie DeMumbrum
Max DeMumbrum
Erin Feeney
Susan Gibbins
Ingrid Lopez Martinez
Mary F. Martz
Lucas Masin-Moyer
Sue Ottignon
Jose Solis
Jeffrey Taylor
Sarah Sperling-Taylor
Stephanie Wade
Gwen Widell
Kathleen Widell
Nelson Widell
Reinhard Zapfe
Susan Zapfe

New members were welcomed during worship on Palm Sunday, March 24, and April 28. We warmly welcome them and offer support as they continue on their Christian journey.

FAITH FORMATION

HUMC KIDS BIBLE PRESENTATION

Children in Grades 3-5 attended special classes about the Bible and were presented with their own personal Bibles during worship on Sunday, March 10. Fourteen children completed two one-hour classes with Pastor JiSun and Julie Robertson, Director of HUMC Kids, learning the features of and how to use the Bible on their individual faith journeys, in February and March. Please pray for them as they continue to form their faith.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMANDS!

We would like to celebrate our confirmands, Sean O'Neil and Graham Rusc, on completing the requirements for Confirmation. Sean and Graham have completed 15 weeks of faith formation classes with Pastor Cricket, Sophia Vicari, and Chuck Del Camp; participated in worship with our Tech and Child Care Teams; and completed various service projects. Please pray for Sean and Graham as they take the next step on their faith journey and are celebrated in worship during the Confirmation service!



Sean O'Neil

Graham Rusc

RECOGNITION SUNDAY – JUNE 9



We will celebrate our 50 year members and graduates from 8th grade, high school, and college during worship on Sunday, June 9.

If you are a 50 year member this year, or if you missed a celebration of your 50 year membership a

previous year, please contact the church office with your name and the starting year of your membership.

If you are or have a student graduating from 8th grade, high school, or college, please send the student's name, the name of the school from which they are graduating, the name of the school they are attending next year (if applicable), and a photograph.

Send information to office@haddonfieldumc.org by June 3, or call 856-429-0403 with questions.





1st Row L to R: David Worthington; Easter Egg Hunt; Youth Group at Easter Worship; 2nd Row L to R: Easter Egg Hunt; Easter Sunday Modern Worship; Stephen Minister Commissioning; 3rd Row L to R: Palm Sunday Parade; Easter Sunday Traditional Worship; Palm Sunday Parade; Bottom Row: Easter Sunday Flowers

SPRING HIGHLIGHTS

SPRING EVENTS EMPHASIZE THE HOPE OF THE SEASON

David Worthington Presentation

On March 13, David Worthington, Director of Global Relations at John Wesley’s New Room in Bristol, England, [delivered an in-depth presentation](#) on the history of the Methodist Movement. This event, held in Fellowship Hall, was attended by about 100 people in-person and over 150 online.

Easter Egg Hunt & Spring Fair

The Easter Egg Hunt & Spring Fair, held on March 30, brought the HUMC parking lot to life, with about 400 children enjoying springtime festivities. The event not only offered fun activities like egg hunts but also supported mission partners like the Cherry Hill Food Pantry and the Neighborhood Center.

Easter Celebrations

We celebrated Easter, on March 31, with over 900 attendees across five services and 435 online participants, celebrating Jesus’ resurrection and the hopeful spirit of the season.

Stephen Minister Commissioning

On April 14, three new Stephen Ministers—Elaine Del Rossi, Richard Edwards, and Jeanne Page-Soncrant—were commissioned during the 10:30am Traditional Worship service. In addition, all of our Stephen Ministers were recognized, celebrating the vital role they have in supporting individuals navigating challenging life seasons.

NJ MASTERCHORALE: RECONCILIATION

On **Sunday, May 5** at 7pm, the New Jersey MasterChorale presents “Reconciliation,” a concert featuring works that resonate with the pursuit of peace amidst contemporary challenges. The program includes Ralph Vaughn Williams’ “Dona Nobis Pacem” and “Cry of Jeremiah” by Rosephanye Powell.

Vaughn Williams’ piece, born from his World War I experiences, draws from Walt Whitman’s poetry and Old Testament prophets’ words, urging for peace. Powell’s composition intertwines Jeremiah’s plea for deliverance with African American musical traditions, symbolizing shared experiences of suffering and hope. “Reconciliation” signifies not only unity among diverse peoples but also the eternal quest for peace.

The NJ MasterChorale will be joined by members of the Philadelphia Orchestra and friends and soloists Cherisse Bonefont, Jason Buckwalter, and Kimberly Christie. Tickets are free at haddonfieldumc.org/nj-masterchorale.

YOUTH & FAMILY HAPPENINGS

5th Grade Game Night

5th graders, join us on **Sunday, May 5**, 5-7pm, in the Youth Room for Game Night and meet Pastor Cricket and our Student Ministry Leaders. Our youth group will join for the last 30 minutes to share their favorite experiences. Challenge the Youth Leaders in Mario Kart or Smash Brothers - may the best person win!

Six Flags Youth Trip

Celebrate the end of the school year with a trip to Six Flags Great Adventure with us on **Saturday, May 18!** We'll meet at the church at 10am and return around 8pm. Cost is \$50/per student+extra for food/souvenirs. Register by May 6 here: <https://bit.ly/3OgQOIL>.



HUMC Kids Family Taco Night

Families with young children are invited to our HUMC Kids Family Taco Night, **Tuesday, May 14**, from 5:30-7pm in Propert Café. Enjoy a kid-friendly dinner, fun activities, and fellowship. Children of all ages are welcome! To RSVP, contact Julie Robertson at jrobertson@haddonfieldumc.org.

IMPORTANT DATES

May 2 | National Day of Prayer Breakfast & United Women in Faith Luncheon

May 3 | Your Saving Grace

May 5 | New Jersey MasterChorale Concert

May 12 | Coffee with the Pastors

May 13 | Steeple Club Luncheon & Symphony in C Youth Orchestra Concert

May 14 | HUMC Kids Family Taco Night

May 19-21 | Annual Conference

May 19 | Tri-State Jazz Concert

May 27 | Memorial Day (office and building closed)

June 3 | Church Council

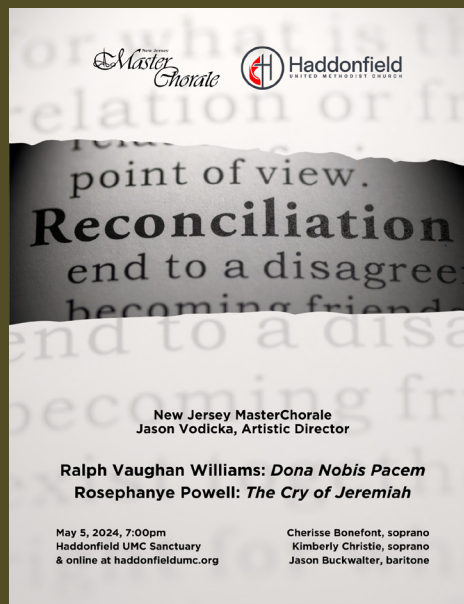
June 6 | United Women in Faith Luncheon

June 7 | Your Saving Grace

June 9 | Recognition Sunday & Coffee with the Pastors

June 19 | Juneteenth (office and building closed)

June 24-28 | Student Ministries Mission Blitz



Above: NJ MasterChorale "Reconciliation" cover. Below: Vacation Bible School volunteers needed.



VOLUNTEER AT CAMP FIRELIGHT

Volunteers are needed for our Vacation Bible School, Camp Firelight, this August 12-16 from 9am to 12pm each day. Help us reach out to our community and put on a meaningful event for our children!

Find out ways to get involved at one of our VBS Volunteer Information Meetings. These meetings are:

- **Sunday, June 2** at 12:30pm in Propert Café
- **Tuesday, June 4** at 6pm in Propert Café
- **Wednesday, June 5** at 6pm on Zoom
- **Thursday, June 6** at 6pm in Propert Café

For more information or to receive Zoom information, email Julie Robertson at jrobertson@haddonfieldumc.org.

If you would like to add your child to the wait list for this year's program, or if you are interested in our Diversity Friendly Class, email office@haddonfieldumc.org!



MINISTRY & MISSION



General Commission on
Archives & History



METHODIST HISTORY VIDEO SERIES

The General Commission on Archives and History's (GCAH) General Secretary, Dr. Ashley Boggan, teamed up with Pastor Chris and Haddonfield UMC staff in October to record a new, four part online course "Radicale Methodism: Back to Our Roots." The course, which may be familiar to those who took Pastor Chris' spring class, provides an in-depth look at the history of The United Methodist Church. All modules are now available through the GCAH's Teachable.com website and also through Amplify Media. Haddonfield UMC provides free access to Amplify Media. If you do not have an account, sign up for one by using our church code STKRZF and following the instructions at haddonfieldumc.org/classes.

MISSION MAKES A DIFFERENCE



STUDENT MINISTRY MISSION

Each year, our students participate in a mission journey, serving others and growing in their faith. This year, our students will serve at Give Kids the World Village from July 10-14.

The Village is an 89-acre, nonprofit "storybook" resort in Central Florida that partners with the Make a Wish Foundation. Our youth will contribute their time and talent to help create priceless memories for the critically ill children who are staying at the Village with their families.

Support this mission journey by donating online at haddonfieldumc.org and selecting the fund "Student Ministry Mission Trip."



Cherry Hill
Food Pantry

THE CHERRY HILL FOOD PANTRY

Thank you for your efforts to curb food insecurity in our community. Items continue to be collected in the bin located in the breezeway of the church, next to the parking lot. Needed items include: **nonperishable food items, cake mix, canned fruit cocktail, ground coffee, laundry detergent, napkins, and toothpaste.**

You may also support the Cherry Hill Food Pantry through monetary donations made on our [website](#), on our church app, or by mailing a check to the church office with "Cherry Hill Food Pantry" on the memo line.

DIGITAL MINISTRY INTERNSHIP UPDATES

We wish congratulations to our Digital Ministry Intern, Aidan Murray (pictured above), who will be wrapping up his year-long internship in May and will be beginning a new season of training with Good News TV, a digital ministry/video ministry company that services and supports The United Methodist Church across the United States.

As their new summer intern, Aidan will gain experience in producing live events and broadcasting for the UMC Annual Conferences, concerts, and other events.

We are grateful for all Aidan has done at HUMC and proud of all of his accomplishments. Please take time to wish him well if you see Aidan.

In June, we will welcome Joel Szychoski as the summer Digital Ministry Intern. Joel will be providing support to the digital ministries of Haddonfield UMC, including live-streaming, social media content, and worship and event support.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

"...give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18



They say that you should always count your blessings, but have you ever done it literally? I find that it is easy to go from busy season to busy season without celebrating the good things or processing the transitions. Too often we go from one set of activities to the next, one season of change to the next, often focusing on what we want to happen or want to get but not enough taking stock of what God has done or is doing in the present.

So, I would like you to grab a pen and take a minute, either in the margin of this newsletter, on a separate piece of paper, or maybe in your phone, and count your blessings: list the highlights of this past year in which you have experienced goodness, have enjoyed success, have experienced connection with friends or family, or even list the simple blessings of nature, health,

or life itself.

In our worst seasons, we can be convinced that our blessings are few, but if we take the time, our perspective can open up to find blessing in each breath, each moment, and, as Scripture says, each morning.

In this spirit I want to count some of the blessings at HUMC over this past year: we returned to a full and flourishing program life after several years of limited participation or offerings. We planted five new small groups, welcomed 49 new members, and saw exponential growth in our Sunday School classes. We saw significant growth to our support of mission, mission projects, and mission partnerships, and set new records for our community attendance at our Trunk or Treat and Easter Egg Hunt events. We welcomed Rev. Rachel Billups to preach an incredible revival in January and hosted David Worthington, from the New Room in Bristol in March, both with amazing support from our

community. At the same time, we experienced growth with our Steeple Club, Wednesday Night Dinners, Floral Arts Guild, and New Jersey MasterChorale. Including both virtual and in-person numbers, our weekly worship attendance is over 200 more people a week than it was in 2019. How's that for counting your blessings?

Beyond mere numeric growth, I have heard awesome first person stories from members, both new and old, of how their participation in our ministries has impacted their lives and deepened their relationships with God and others. Thank you for being a part of the blessings! I am grateful for this congregation, for renewed spirit, and for what God is doing, even in difficult seasons, to offer hope in a hurting world. I pray your own list can give you a sense of gratitude and joy this day.

Your turn,

Rev. Chris Heckert, Sr. Pastor

GIFTS IN MEMORY AND IN HONOR

Haddonfield UMC gratefully acknowledges donations.

In memory of: Nancy Banks from Ginny Dengler

In memory of: Bill Harper from Heather Graham, Elizabeth & Yugo Suzuki

In memory of: Ruby B. Clement from her Eddie, who knew her well, and Jeanne, who did not have the privilege.

In memory of: Veronica Nobel from Missy Reinholt

Gifts may be made in memory or honor of loved ones and friends on the Haddonfield UMC mobile app, online at haddonfieldumc.org/give, or by mailing a check to 29 Warwick Rd., Haddonfield, NJ 08033.

For the Los Cocos Mission Initiative:

In honor of: Ed Carll's birthday from Sharon & Thomas Andes, Bayshore Building Co., Frank Beykirch, Scott Corey, Thomas Dean, Diane & Harry Disbrow, Lois & David Dutcher, Kirk Huber, Loretta Lawlor, Laura & Dean Livingston, Kathy & George Morris, Susan Polk, Linda & Robert Scott, Linda Williams

For the Floral Arts Guild:

In memory of: Dolores-Rea Aspell from Ronald Mills, Nancy Saunders

JUNE 24 - 28

SUMMER

STUDENT

MINISTRY

MISSION

BLITZ

The youth will be participating in a local mission project each day from June 24-28, meeting at the church at 8:30am. All times are tentative.

JUNE 24

Department of Environmental Protection - Petty Island Education and Cleanup

JUNE 25

Camden Neighborhood Center - Community Garden Education and Care

JUNE 26

Neighborhood Collaborative Community Gardens - Byron Garden Maintenance

JUNE 27

UrbanPromise, Urban Trekkers - Delaware River Clean-up and Paddle

JUNE 28

Tree 2 Tree, Cape May

CONTACT: PASTOR CRICKET
cdenton@haddonfieldumc.org





29 Warwick Rd, Haddonfield, NJ | 856-429-0403 | office@haddonfieldumc.org
www.haddonfieldumc.org



New Jersey MasterChorale
Jason Vodicka, Artistic Director

Ralph Vaughan Williams: *Dona Nobis Pacem*
Rosephanye Powell: *The Cry of Jeremiah*

Cherisse Bonfont, soprano
Kimberly Christie, soprano
Jason Buckwalter, baritone



Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 7pm

Haddonfield UMC Sanctuary & online at haddonfieldumc.org
Free tickets at haddonfieldumc.org/nj-masterchorale

