



CONNECT

GRACE-FILLED **COMMUNITY** | INSPIRED **WORSHIP** | TRANSFORMATIONAL **MISSION**



THE HOPE OF SPRING

"...just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in the newness of life." — Romans 6:4

If you would have told me two years ago that I would spend 12 months building out a video ministry within the church, creating a video studio, organizing an active digital ministries team, building a new backdrop to our stage, and garnering 400 online views to worship each week, I would have been thrilled. However, if you would have added that we wouldn't be meeting in-person, I would be home-schooling my kids, and I wouldn't see any friends, family, or most church members within that same year, I would have been kicking and screaming.

Even when some things go our way, when we are not in control of our lives, it can feel like death and plunge us into despair. The lack of control and compounded grief of this past year from fear, death of many people around us, and the loss of normal rhythms of life as well as face-to-face gatherings has felt like death to so many of us. And yet, as Christians, we use as our primary symbol a wooden structure that represents death. The cross was a weapon of death used by the Roman Empire against dissidents and criminals. As believers in the risen Christ, we know that God overturns death and makes something beautiful out of the ashes. The rhythm of our Christian year is birth in the cold and darkness of winter, and we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus in the spring to remind us of God's natural rhythm.

As spring bursts forth, we are beginning to see new signs of hope and resurrection around us. As vaccination numbers are on the rise and COVID cases and related deaths are falling, we are beginning to resume some of the rhythms of our life. In our church we are cautiously and carefully resuming in-person worship, small groups, and other ministries, knowing that it will take some time until things are back to "normal." However, the

real point of Easter is that beyond the death of something is not the return to what it used to be. Resurrection is always the birth of something new. The resurrected Christ was different from Jesus the teacher. The resurrected Christ put the onus of living out and sharing the good news onto the disciples, giving birth to the church.

As we slowly emerge from this pandemic, I know that what we want the most is to go back to normal, but we will quickly find that life is different. Work will be different, and church will be different. In this season of resurrection, God calls us more than ever to come together and offer of ourselves to strengthen and share our love for God and to join together with the whole congregation so that we can truly be the church of Jesus Christ in the midst of a hurting world. Join with me in prayer for revival for our congregation and for an emboldened witness to the world of the resurrection power of God's Spirit working in our lives. He is risen, he is risen indeed!

Rev. Chris Heckert, Sr. Pastor

MUSIC MONDAYS ON YOUTUBE



Over the past few weeks, favorite New Jersey MasterChorale concerts have been released on our YouTube channel. Verdi's *Requiem* from 2009 and *An Evening with Gioacchino Rossini* from 2014 are among the concerts that have been released. While Music Mondays is a limited series, the concerts will be available to watch any time. Visit youtube.com/HaddonfieldUMC to find these and other inspirational selections today!



WORSHIP

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

**IN-PERSON SUNDAY WORSHIP
@ 10:30AM IN THE SANCTUARY**

**VIRTUAL SUNDAY WORSHIP
CONTEMPORARY SERVICE
@ 9AM**

**TRADITIONAL SERVICE
@ 10:30AM**

WORSHIP ONLINE!

- [Haddonfield UMC App](#)
- haddonfieldumc.org
- [Facebook Live](#)

WORSHIP BY PHONE!

- Call 856-213-2015 for audio-only services

WORSHIP SERVICES ARCHIVED:

- [youtube.com/HaddonfieldUMC](https://www.youtube.com/HaddonfieldUMC)
- 856-213-2015 (audio only)

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

(USPS 070-960)
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AND ADDITIONAL ENTRY OFFICE

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HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Please note: all in-person activities require masks and social distancing.

PALM SUNDAY - MARCH 28, 2021

- [9am Virtual Contemporary Worship](#)
- [10:30am Virtual Traditional Worship](#)
- 10:30am In-person Worship Sanctuary
- [11:30am Family Parade with Donkey](#) (see page 3)

MAUNDY THURSDAY - APRIL 1, 2021

- 7pm Service of the Upper Room including music and virtual Communion via [Zoom](#). Pastors Chris and JiSun, along with Jessica Thomas, will lead a worship service on Zoom during which Communion will be consecrated and shared virtually.
- Use your own bread and juice, but if you would like to pick up pre-packaged communion elements from the church, contact Jaime Charlton at jcharlton@haddonfieldumc.org for pick up in the Welcome Center.

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 2, 2021

- We will post videos of Seven Last Word services from past years on [YouTube](#) during the day.
- [1pm Good Friday Children's Class](#) (see page 3)
- 7pm Tenebrae Service (Service of the Shadows) will be held online as a [live-stream](#) in real time with readings and music as we remember the crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

HOLY SATURDAY - APRIL 3, 2021

- [10am Easter Egg Hunt](#) (see page 3)

EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 4, 2021

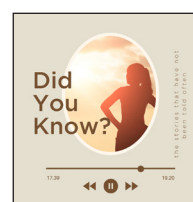
- 6am Sunrise Service in Buff Garden/Cloisters
- 9am Outdoor In-Person Service on the North Lawn. Weather permitting - will be canceled in case of significant rain.
- [9am Virtual Contemporary Service](#) - pre-recorded
- 10:30am Indoor In-Person Service in the Sanctuary - Limited to 200 people. Visit haddonfieldumc.org/easter to pre-register.
- [10:30am Virtual Traditional Service](#) - pre-recorded

HOLY WEEK CHILDREN AND FAMILY EVENTS

- **Palm Sunday Parade** - Join us on Sunday, March 28 at 11:30am on the North Lawn next to the church building for a parade, fun activities, and to meet and take pictures with a donkey. Masks and social distancing required.
- **Good Friday Children's Class** - Explore the story of Holy Week in a new way! On Friday, April 2, join us from 1 to 1:30pm for a special virtual class where we will dye Easter Eggs and learn about both the Biblical meaning and science behind a cherished tradition. This class is open to children of all ages and parents are welcome to attend. Take-home kits will be made available March 26 at 8am with everything your child needs to participate in this fun class! For more information, including Zoom link, email Julie Robertson at jrobertson@haddonfieldumc.org.
- **Easter Egg Hunt** - Join us for a morning of Easter fun! On Saturday, April 3, we will be hosting our Easter Egg Hunt from 10 to 11:30am. Meet us in the church parking lot for egg hunts, games, and crafts. Masks and social distancing required. Open to all ages and every child receives a seasonal goodie bag!

WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

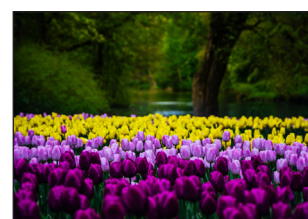
DID YOU KNOW: THE STORIES THAT HAVE NOT BEEN TOLD OFTEN



Beginning April 25, we will take a four week journey through the stories of Biblical women in the new sermon series "Did You Know: The Stories That Have Not Been Told Often." Get to know Biblical women, like Esther, Ruth, Miriam, and Deborah, whose stories have been less told in churches a little better and see the plan God had for these faithful women come to life in this new series!

RESOURCES TO FEED YOUR FAITH

HOPE OF SPRING CONCERT



Tune in on May 2, 2021, to see and hear the "Hope of Spring," an exciting virtual concert being produced by NJ MasterChorale. The choral repertoire, directed by Harriet and Wayne Richmond and Matt Smith, and sung by the Combined Adult Choirs, includes "All Things Bright and Beautiful" (John Rutter), "The Heavens Are Telling" (Haydn's *Creation*), "Thanks Be To God" (Mendelssohn's *Elijah*) and the "Third Movement" (Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*). Several solo selections by some of our favorite artists will round out this delightful musical evening. You can watch and listen to this joyous choral presentation on May 2, 2021, at 7pm through the [Haddonfield UMC app](#), haddonfieldumc.org, [Facebook Live](#), [YouTube](#), or by calling 856-213-2015 (audio only).

SERMON SCHEDULE:



APRIL 4/EASTER SUNDAY

Rev. Chris Heckert
Luke 24:1-12, 52-53
Soul Fitness: Gratitude

APRIL 11

Rev. JiSun Yang
1 John 1:1-2:2

APRIL 18

Rev. Chris Heckert
Luke 24:36b-48

APRIL 25

Rev. JiSun Yang
Did You Know: Esther

MAY 2

Sophia Vicari, Lay Servant
Esther 4:9-17
Did You Know: Ruth

MAY 9

Rev. JiSun Yang
Did You Know: Miriam

MAY 16

Rev. Chris Heckert
Did You Know: Deborah

MAY 23/PENTECOST

View our sermons online anytime at haddonfieldumc.org/sermons or on our free app, available at get.theapp.co/014a.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

"The [Youth] Group constantly adapted to different changes, and we are so proud of all of our youth!"

-- Kristi Edmonds, Director of Youth and Mission Ministries



"I am astounded by the contributions of our United Methodist Women to the greater community."

-- Barbara Smyth, president of the Haddonfield UMC United Methodist Women



DAILY REFLECTIONS - A GROWING MINISTRY TO START YOUR DAY

In late 2019 we expanded our Daily Reflections to include contributions from laity and clergy connected to our church. In this time, this team effort has developed into a meaningful ministry for both contributors and readers in and beyond our community. It is a great blessing to open each day with diverse voices from our church family and see growth in the number of contributors and readers. We extend many thanks to all those who have chosen to share their faith stories:

- Rev. Chris Heckert
- Rev. JiSun Yang
- Rev. George Morris
- Rev. Bill McElwee
- Rev. Tom Lank
- Rev. Ed Carll
- Rev. Jack Johnson
- Rev. Yugo Suzuki
- Rev. Charles Sayre
- Jean Jules
- David Jost
- Curtis Bagby
- Ed Martin
- Heather Fizur
- Jackie Vicari
- Jackie Williams
- Jaff Hasan
- Julie Dengler
- Kate MacLennan
- Kathleen Bandaruk
- Kathy Miller
- Mary Louise Lavery
- Melissa Wojtylak
- Phil Fizur
- Scott Vicari
- Shelly Williams
- Sophia Vicari
- Susan Boyd
- Terry Schwartz
- Ruth London
- Ron Sandmeyer
- Lois Donaway
- John Martin

Start your day with new inspiration! Visit haddonfieldumcblog.wordpress.com and sign up for email delivery of our Daily Reflections.

MUSICAL YOUTH ENSEMBLE DRAWS FROM NEW INSPIRATION



This past winter, the Haddonfield UMC Youth Ensemble began rehearsing on Zoom under the direction of Stephen Dagrosa, Jr. They debuted their first offering for worship in November 2020. Since then, they have produced three pieces for worship under the name M 6/8 #inspringinclusion, drawing inspiration from Micah 6:8. Their worship offerings, along with those of our virtual choirs and children's choirs, can be found on our [YouTube channel](#).

YOUTH GROUP MOVES INDOORS FOR MEETINGS

This past fall and winter, the Youth Group fought the cold in order to gather



outside safely while meeting COVID-19 safety protocols. Highlights of the outdoor meetings include a movie night, a guest speaker, an Enneagram series led by Pastor Chris, pumpkin painting, a service project in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Ignite Communities programs, and a Christmas party. The youth recently celebrated the one year anniversary of our shelter in place order with a special time of sharing and remembrance. Currently, Youth Group is meeting in Property Café as a combined group from 7-8:30pm, sharing in worship, fun, and fellowship together. Masks, social distancing, and other safety protocols are still in place. All youth are welcome!

MISSION PARTNER UPDATE: CHERRY HILL FOOD PANTRY



We continue to collect food for the Cherry Hill Food Pantry in the bin in the church breezeway. So far this year, we have collected over 1,660 items, adding to the 2020 total of over 10,000 collected items, to help fight food insecurity in our community. **The Food Pantry's current needs include: non-perishable food items, laundry and dish detergent, shampoo, toothpaste, feminine products, and bar soap.** Volunteers are making weekly deliveries to the Cherry Hill Food Pantry. Contact Kristi Edmonds at kedmonds@haddonfieldumc.org if you would like to help deliver food.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN LIVE OUT THEIR MISSION DESPITE PANDEMIC



The United Methodist Women of Haddonfield UMC are alive and well and miss being in community in-person! Members are meeting on the first Thursday of every month by Zoom or by phone, sharing prayer needs, and discussing how to serve others in need. Individual circles are discussing issues of race, are beginning a new study called *Finding Peace in an Anxious World*, and are finding ways to help others in our community, donating financial help and supplies to the Food Bank of South Jersey, Cherry Hill Food Pantry, UrbanPromise, Henderson Settlement, and United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). They have also made sandwiches for a Camden mission, made prayer shawls and lap robes for Methodist Hospital, and volunteered at Little Hands, Little Feet, among others. There is a place for any woman interested in being a part of this very active group. For the Zoom link to the monthly meetings, call Kathy Miller at 856-261-1552, and for more information about United Methodist Women, call Barbara Smyth at 856-983-5029.

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
SMALL GROUP MEETINGS*	9am Koinonia Class	7pm Connect Group	8am Lectio Divina with Pastor JiSun	1pm Mary Circle (United Methodist Women) - every third Wednesday	8am Centering Prayer with Pastor Chris	10am Connect Group	10am Floral Arts Guild - every fourth Saturday
	10am Children's Sunday School		10am Tuesday Bible Study	4pm Joyful Hearts Children's Choir and Cherub Choir	9am Men's Bible Study		*Many groups are still meeting on Zoom. As we move further into Phase II of our Building Reopening Plan, some groups may opt to meet in-person in the church building. Please check with your group's leader or the church office for the location of your meeting and for any Zoom links. When meeting in-person, masks and social distancing are required. **Time subject to change
	10am Connect Group		11am Connect Group	6pm Connect Group	9am Ladies' Bible Study (on break until April 8)		
	11:25am Christian Round Table Class		7pm Helen Kim Circle (United Methodist Women) - every third Tuesday	6:30pm Confirmation Class	10am Susanna Wesley Circle (United Methodist Women) - every third Thursday		
	10:30am Mom's Group		7pm Sylvia Smyth Circle (United Methodist Women) - every third Tuesday	7pm Connect Group	10am Stephen Ministers - every first Thursday		
	7pm Connect Group				7pm Combined Adult Choirs	If your group would like to meet in the church building, please contact office@haddonfieldumc.org to make arrangements.	
	7pm Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group - in-person**				7pm Disabilities Task Force - every first Thursday		
					7pm Faithful Family Group		

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPOTLIGHTS

COMMUNION OFFERINGS

The April Communion Offering is for Henderson Settlement. Henderson Settlement, a mission of the Red Bird Missionary Conference, helps alleviate issues related to poverty and lack of opportunity, including education, community development, and health, through Christ-centered services for people in the Kentucky and Tennessee areas of Appalachia.

The May Communion Offering is for UrbanPromise. Since 1988, the mission at UrbanPromise has been to equip Camden's children and young adults with the skills necessary for academic achievement, life management, spiritual growth, and Christian leadership.

The Easter Communion Offering is for Future with Hope/Miracles Everywhere.

You are able to give throughout April and May by either writing the mission name on your check or envelope or by selecting it in our [online giving options](#).

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Let's all come together for another brand new virtual experience for Feed My Starving Children! Hear stories from children, learn about MannaPack, and bid on auction packages. This event is being held virtually on Thursday, May 6, 2021 from 7-8pm Central Time. More information can be found at fmsc.org/get-involved/fmsc-virtual-experiences.

REV. JISUN YANG TO BECOME A FULL ELDER



Congratulations to Rev. JiSun Yang who will be ordained at the upcoming Greater New Jersey Annual Conference on May 24-25, 2021! Pastor JiSun was approved by the Board of Ordained Ministry to be ordained as a full elder in The United Methodist Church in March. We are grateful for your leadership among us and proud to be part of your spiritual journey!

MATT SMITH EXPANDS ROLE



We are excited to welcome Matt Smith to a full time position in our church as our new Organist/Choirmaster! Matt will continue his role as the organist and pianist for our church but will also serve as the director and leader of our Chancel Choir. Matt will work with other accompanists, ensembles, and musicians within our community to enrich our worship service to the glory of God and to share the good news of Jesus Christ through the gift of music. Matt holds a Master of Music degree from Westminster Choir College and served as the Organist and Choirmaster at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Medford prior to joining our staff in January 2017. Matt will begin working in a full-time capacity the week of April 5.

THANK YOU TO VIRTUAL WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS



Many hands make light work, and for months many hands have assisted in the weekly production of virtual worship. From the Floral Arts Guild making sure the Sanctuary is decorated, to the worship participants, both clergy and laity, bringing us the word of God, to the musicians and singers making a joyful noise, to the technology teams recording video and audio and editing everything together - thank you! [See page 8 for more behind-the-scenes photos!](#)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - SAVE THE DATE



Join us for Vacation Bible School (VBS) this summer from August 9-13! Our theme is Knights of North Castle, where children will begin their quest and accept the challenge to "armor up" and be strong in the Lord. Children age 3 through 5th grade are invited to learn about the strength of God's power through exciting stories from the Old and New Testaments and fun activities! HUMC is developing safety protocols and plans to ensure we can have a safe, fun, and meaningful week of fellowship and worship. There are also plenty of opportunities for youth and adults to volunteer. Look for registration to open in the near future!

SHARE YOUR STORY

CONNECTION DURING A PANDEMIC by Karen Becker



I remember driving to church in late February last year after hearing that a new virus in Wuhan, China, was threatening to spread. I stopped at CVS on the way to buy hand sanitizer, just in case. It seemed odd that they were out, so I proceeded to Rite Aid. When they were also out of stock, I called my husband and asked him to check another CVS and Walgreens that I hadn't gone to. He came to church with one sticky, mangled, travel-sized bottle that he'd pulled from the very back of a shelf. It's so strange to think that was our first inkling something big might be headed our way.

As it turns out, HUMC was the last public place I set foot in before the world went on lockdown. At first, attending worship with so many people chatting on the Facebook live-stream was a novelty. As the weeks wore on, it became both the norm and the highlight of otherwise monotonous weeks of isolation. Because of a chronic illness, I have remained mostly at home since March of last year. It

is a cherished part of my week to sit in our living room with my husband, enjoying our coffee during worship while our boys are still asleep. I have not missed the chaos of getting a family of four out the door by 8:30am every Sunday! And while I have always enjoyed our Mom's Group meetings, I cannot imagine the last year without that time each week with these fiercely faithful women who have weathered the worry and fear and struggle of the last year together. Our group is probably stronger now than ever. While we wait to gather again in-person, I give daily thanks that HUMC wasted no time in creating meaningful ways to stay connected during the pandemic.

KIMBERLY HECKERT WINS LAY MINISTRY RECOGNITION AWARD by Heather Fizur



Kimberly Heckert has received a Lay Ministry Recognition Award from the Greater New Jersey Conference for her leadership in HUMC's Mom's Small Group. Laity provides vital ministry in our midst, flowing from a commitment of Christ's outreaching love. Shortly after Pastor Chris and Kimberly came to begin their ministry at HUMC, an opening to be a leader of the Mom's Group, a group that had been meeting for many years prior, became available. Without hesitation Kimberly stepped into that role and has played a vital part in the continued development of this ministry along with coordinating the group with our other ministries for families with young children in our congregation.

Under Kimberly's leadership, the Mom's Group has become a vital source of hope and strength during the uncertainty of the past year, as many of our small groups have for various members. Dr. Heckert has continued to lead our group while also serving as a physician at Jefferson Hospital, many times working in

all-COVID units. She has demonstrated perseverance in the face of such challenging times and has served as a model for all of our group members of unconditional love, hard work, and determination in the face of such uncertainty. Kimberly has demonstrated God's love both in her vocation as a doctor and to the church community. Whether our members are exhausted with remote schooling our children, feeling isolated with working from home, facing our own health issues, or dealing with economic problems, Kimberly has always lent a sympathetic ear and space to process all that has been happening for us as individuals and as a society. The Mom's Group has also provided space for its members to recognize the many blessings that we have especially in our church community. We as a congregation are appreciative for the ministry of Kimberly and the entire Heckert family.



29 Warwick Road
Haddonfield, NJ 08033

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

Haddonfield United Methodist Church gratefully acknowledges donations:

In memory of Irene Gendron from Merrie & Phil Bender, Eloise Douglas, Amy & Bill McElwee, Janet & Robert Tag, Norie & Frank Wisniewski, Connie & Bob Dilks, Men's Thursday Morning Bible Class, Judy & Shelly Williams.

In memory of Carol Cahill from Roxie J. & John T. Ash, III, Charlotte D. & William J. Devereaux (for the United Methodist Women), Sally & David Grayson, Thama R. Unger.

In memory of Jean Reich from Judy Buecker.

In memory of Jean Nuneville from Margie & George Leone.

For the Floral Arts Guild:

From Lois & Ned Donaway.

In memory of Maryann Parr on her February 13 birthday from Larry Parr.



Behind-the-scenes recording virtual worship services and live-streams. Thank you to all involved in making virtual worship possible!