

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

# CONNECT



## SPOTLIGHT: RENEWAL OF SPIRIT AT HUMC



*by Amy Boyd, HUMC Kids parent and member of Chancel Choir*

Two aspects of HUMC our family have always loved are its wonderful community of people and its marvelous music ministry. Not surprisingly, these were also what we missed the most when the pandemic impacted our ability to gather for worship, fellowship, and music.

So it was with joy and gratitude that we attended the NJ

MasterChorale's Interactive Family Christmas Concert and the Advent Workshop on December 4, 2022. Seeing the kids' excitement at hanging out with their friends, hearing the beautiful Christmas choral program, and watching the children get to try out musical instruments and create fun Christmas crafts under the guidance of the church's caring youth and adults was such a meaningful sign of the renewal of HUMC's community and ministries.

We reflected on fond memories of Advent Workshops from years past and marveled at the MasterChorale's new outreach endeavor for families. In Isaiah 43, God declares, "See, I am doing a new thing!" We eagerly anticipate the new things God has in store for HUMC in 2023.

## PREACHING SCHEDULE:

**JAN. 1-Epiphany**  
Renew Our Covenant  
Rev. Chris Heckert  
2 Kings 23: 1-3 & Matt. 2:1-12

**JAN. 8-Baptism of Our Lord**  
Watermark  
Rev. JiSun Yang  
Matthew 3:13-17

**JAN. 15**  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday  
Rev. Lan Wilson

**JAN. 22**  
Disabilities Awareness Sunday

**JAN. 29**  
Happy  
Matthew 5:1-12

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### INTERESTED? FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

HUMC KIDS | Julie Robertson at [jrobertson@haddonfieldumc.org](mailto:jrobertson@haddonfieldumc.org)  
CHOIRS | Matt Smith at [msmith@haddonfieldumc.org](mailto:msmith@haddonfieldumc.org)



### IN-PERSON WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

#### SATURDAYS

@ 5pm | Brown Chapel

#### SUNDAYS

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

### ONLINE WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

#### VIRTUAL MODERN SERVICE - ON DEMAND

@ 6pm | Every Saturday

#### YouTube

[youtube.com/HaddonfieldUMC](https://youtube.com/HaddonfieldUMC)

#### LIVE-STREAM WORSHIP

@ 9am & 10:30am | Every Sunday

#### Facebook Live

[facebook.com/HaddonfieldUMC](https://facebook.com/HaddonfieldUMC)

#### Worship by Phone

Call 856-213-2015 for audio-only

### CONNECT WITH US:

[www.haddonfieldumc.org](http://www.haddonfieldumc.org)

#### Haddonfield UMC App

Download at Google Play or iTunes Stores

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HUMC

### United Women in Faith Luncheons

The United Women in Faith will hold their annual covered dish luncheon on **Thursday, January 5 at 11:45am**. Bring your favorite non-dessert dish to share. This lunch costs \$3. RSVP to Ginny Dengler by Monday, January 2 at 856-904-5563. The guest speaker is Chuck Swanson from Options for Women in Cherry Hill. Please bring new baby items to help meet their needs as a love gift. Needed items include: boys clothing size 0-3 months, clothing boys size 3 months, hooded towels, receiving blankets, any size diapers, and bibs or wipes (any brand). The program on **February 2** will include a catered lunch for \$10 with guest speaker Jocelyn Tyree, Chaplain at Collingswood UMC, sharing her vision about the program there. We will also have a Pledge to Missions led by Barbara Talton.

### Steeple Club Luncheons

On **Monday, Jan. 9 at 12pm**, the Steeple Club will welcome Kathleen Van Stine, Senior Director for Community Relations at SPECTRACARE FOUNDATION, a non-medical in-home care program, and on **Monday, Feb. 13 at 12pm**, Kathleen Long from Samaritan Life Enhancing Care will stop by. Breakfast will be served for lunch in February. RSVP to Leslie Robinson at [lrobinson527@gmail.com](mailto:lrobinson527@gmail.com) by Jan. 6 and February 10 respectively. The cost of each luncheon is \$10.

### Your Saving Grace Child Care Nights

Children of all ages are invited to Your Saving Grace Child Care Night programming on **Fridays, January 6 and February 3 from 6-9pm**. Under the supervision of our experienced child care team, children enjoy a kid-friendly dinner and fun with friends. The cost for the evening starts at \$20 for the first child. For detailed pricing and reservations, contact Julie Robertson at [jrobertson@haddonfieldumc.org](mailto:jrobertson@haddonfieldumc.org).

### Moses Trip to Sight and Sound

Experience one of the Bible's most epic stories as Moses comes to life with massive sets, special effects, and live animals in this original stage production at Sight and Sound. Lunch at Miller's Smorgasbord is included on this bus trip to Lancaster, PA. Contact Shirley Landgraf at 856-397-8912 to join this trip on **Wednesday, May 24, 2023, at 3pm**—space is limited!

### Building Up—Dominican Republic Mission Trip

Thank you for your continued support of the Building Up—Los Cocos, Dominican Republic, Mission Team. Your generosity during the October 2022 fundraiser has provided sufficient funds to build homes for two families, with St. Andrew's UMC sponsoring a third. The team will continue working on the Community Center. Join us on **Sunday, February 5 at 9am** for the team's commissioning during the Modern worship service, and pray for safe travels during their trip **February 7-13!**

### New Jersey MasterChorale Auditions

The New Jersey MasterChorale is looking forward to their next concert on Sunday, April 23. The choir will present Igor Stravinsky's *Symphony in Psalms*, as well as John Rutter's *Mass of the Children* in collaboration with ChildrenSong of New Jersey. Dr. Jason Vodicka, the Artistic Director, is holding auditions to join the choir during the **week of January 2**. If you are interested in joining the MasterChorale for this concert opportunity, please email [njmc@haddonfieldumc.org](mailto:njmc@haddonfieldumc.org).

### Confirmation Class

It isn't too late for 7-12th graders to join Confirmation Class! This year's class has a hybrid structure, featuring service projects, curriculum videos, and in-person class discussions. Email Kristi Edmonds at [kedmonds@haddonfieldumc.org](mailto:kedmonds@haddonfieldumc.org) to learn more or register your student.

### Early Response Team Training

United Methodists of Greater New Jersey is hosting an Early Response Team Training on **Saturday, January 14 from 9am to 4pm** at the Mission Resource Center (Conference Office). The ERT Training covers basics of early disaster response including: cleaning out damaged homes, team protocols, spiritual and emotional care, roof tarping, and more. The training costs \$15 and is open to anyone 18 years old or older. Contact Kristi Edmonds by Jan. 9 at [kedmonds@haddonfieldumc.org](mailto:kedmonds@haddonfieldumc.org) for more information or the registration link.

## COMING SOON



### FEBRUARY 2023 – FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

Are you waiting for something? Waiting for your big break, for the right moment, right person, or next big thing to come along? The problem with waiting for things to happen is that in the meantime we may struggle to feel a sense of purpose, direction, or even identity. Don't wait any longer. Your moment is now to take action and make a difference. The book of Esther tells the story of a woman who was thrust from tragedy into opportunity.

### PREACHING SCHEDULE:

#### FEB. 5

##### Chosen

Esther 2-3, Rev. JiSun Yang

#### FEB. 12

##### Choices

Esther 4:1, 10-17, Rev. Chris Heckert

#### FEB. 19

##### Consequences

Esther 7:1-10, Rev. Chris Heckert

*\*February 26 is the First Sunday of Lent and will be part of the Lenten sermon series Making Spaces (To Experience God).*

## SERVE IN MINISTRY!



### We are currently looking for people to serve as:

Worship Team  
*(acoustic and bass guitarists)*  
Small Group Leaders  
Worship Participants  
*(scripture readers)*  
Communion Stewards  
Confirmation Mentors  
Tech Team  
*(camera operators, sound, lights, live-stream)*  
Funeral Coordinators  
*(stipend position)*  
Handbell Ringers  
Youth Leaders  
Hospitality Team  
Sunday School Teachers/  
Substitutes  
Chancel Choir Singers  
*(tenors and basses)*  
Daily Reflection Contributors



Willing to serve?  
Find out more! Email:  
[office@haddonfieldumc.org](mailto:office@haddonfieldumc.org)



Visit [haddonfieldumc.org/serve-at-humc](http://haddonfieldumc.org/serve-at-humc) for ways to serve at HUMC!



### ANNOUNCEMENT:

#### PASTOR'S COMPASSIONATE CARE FUND

The good news during 2022 is that we were able to continue to support our Haddonfield Council of Churches caseworker and our mission partners in multiple ways but especially through the Pastor's Compassionate Care Fund.

The Pastor's Compassionate Care Fund is a ministry that allows the church to care for those in need on a case-by-case basis. Now funds are critically low.

Please support the Pastor's Compassionate Care Fund by donating throughout the month of January.

**To pay by check:** write "Pastor's Compassionate Care Fund" on the memo line

**Mail to:** 29 Warwick Rd, Haddonfield, NJ, 08033

**You are able to give online:** [haddonfieldumc.org/give](http://haddonfieldumc.org/give) Selecting "Pastor's Compassionate Care Fund" as your fund.

## WITNESS OF MARTIN LUTHER KING



by Monica Grady,  
Ministry Intern

Dr. Martin Luther King was a man of Rebellion, Fight, and Passion for the disenfranchised

and people on the margins. Because of him the world is much better today.

For me Martin Luther King Day isn't just a day or a holiday. It's a day of remembrance of someone who cared about all people. When I was younger, I didn't understand the significance of

MLK day. As I get older, I am able to see how the world was then versus how it is now.

If it wasn't for the "Civil Rights Movement," I would not have ever been afforded the opportunity to intern here at Haddonfield United Methodist Church. It was not that long ago that our denomination was segregated.

The more we acknowledge Martin Luther King, Jr., the more it gives us hope that nothing is impossible. We are tasked with leaving this world better than we found it.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT Dinner

RETURNS  
JANUARY 18,  
2023

Email [dinner@haddonfieldumc.org](mailto:dinner@haddonfieldumc.org) to RSVP or for more information



# ADVENT HIGHLIGHTS

## ADVENT WORKSHOP AND NJ MASTERCHORALE CONCERTS

During Advent, the New Jersey MasterChorale hosted two concerts in the Sanctuary. The first concert on Sunday, Dec. 4, was an Interactive Family Christmas Concert hosted by Dr. Jason Vodicka and Matt Smith.

Geared toward families with young children, the program showcased selections from their Christmas concert along with an introduction to choral singing, and the flute played by Rachel Martin, the cello played by Rev. JiSun Yang, and handbells (members of the Holtz Handbell Choir). Children were invited to interact with the instruments at the concert's conclusion.

Around 200 people were in attendance and were invited to

the annual Advent Workshop in Fellowship Hall immediately after. Over 220 attendees and volunteers enjoyed Advent themed crafts, dinner, and hot chocolate.

On Sunday, Dec. 11, the NJ MasterChorale hosted their concert, *Love Came Down at Christmas*, to a packed house and online audience of over 600.



## MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY OF SERVICE

Celebrate with us the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, **January 16, 2023**. Our program will begin in Fellowship Hall/Proper Café with a light breakfast and coffee at 8am.

At 8:30am we will watch a video and hear Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s, "I Have a Dream" speech along with other speeches.

At 9am we will break into groups for hands-on mission opportunities. This family friendly program will end at 12pm.

To register for this free event, please scan the QR code or fill out the form <https://forms.gle/KvjCe9wv9XStazLk6>. Multiple family members can be on the same form.



Contact Kristi Edmonds at [kedmonds@haddonfieldumc.org](mailto:kedmonds@haddonfieldumc.org) for any questions.

## STUDENT & FAMILY HAPPENINGS

### MidWinter Advance

Students in grades 6-12 are invited to MidWinter Advance, a high-impact weekend at Refreshing Mountain in Stevens, PA, **Friday, January 27-Sunday, January 29**. The theme, "Come As You Are," focuses on the "The Parables of the Lost" from Luke 15. The total cost is \$215 per person and includes: lodging, registration, and food. Contact Kristi Edmonds at [kedmonds@haddonfieldumc.org](mailto:kedmonds@haddonfieldumc.org) to join.

### Third Grade Bibles

Pastor JiSun Yang and Julie Robertson will host two hybrid classes for this school year's Third Graders on **Sundays, February 12 and 26 from 1-2pm**. In these classes, children will explore the features of and learn how to use the Bible as they grow in their faith. Our Third Graders will be presented with their own Bibles on Sunday, March 5 during the worship service of their choice. For more information or to register your child, please email Julie Robertson at [jrobertson@haddonfieldumc.org](mailto:jrobertson@haddonfieldumc.org).



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

On November 20 and December 11, 2022, we welcomed 21 new members during our worship services. We warmly welcome the following new members and offer support as they continue on their Christian journey:

- Henry "Hank" Adams
- Hannah Adams
- Christa Chando
- Bradford Hathaway
- Joel Hargrove
- Pamela Holmdal
- Faith Hughes
- Mary Kemery
- Jonathan Kolbe
- Stacie Kolbe
- Emma Lane
- Karen Lloyd
- Jeremy Martinsen
- Meghan Martinsen
- Megan McNeely
- Michael McNeely
- Robert Nettleton
- Glenn Opanel
- Barbara Potts
- Lindsay Burrill-VanDellen
- Chelsea VanDellen



### IMPORTANT DATES:

Jan. 2 | Office & Building Closed

Jan. 5 | United Women in Faith Luncheon

Jan. 6 | Your Saving Grace

Jan. 9 | Steeple Club Luncheon

Jan. 16 | Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service (office closed)

Jan. 23 | Church Council Meeting

Feb. 2 | United Women in Faith Luncheon

Feb. 3 | Your Saving Grace

Feb. 5 | Tri-State Jazz Concert

Feb. 12 | Symphony in C Concert & Student Ministries Chili Cook Off Party

Feb. 13 | Steeple Club Luncheon

Feb. 21 | HUMC Kids Pancake Supper

Feb. 22 | Ash Wednesday



Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday

Community Worship Service  
Sunday, January 15, 2023 at 4pm  
Mount Olivet Baptist Church

# SMALL GROUPS & MISSION

## OPERATION BEAR HUG

by Walter Baker

It was a Wednesday morning, December 24, 2014. The weather outside was rainy and the temperature was in the low 40s. I was in a bed at the hospital after having a procedure done eight days ago. I was waiting for the doctor to make his rounds and release me so I could go home. Disappointment. The doc said they wanted to keep me a couple of days more. The only thing I could think of was that I wouldn't be home for Christmas or my daughter's birthday (also on Christmas Day). What a bummer.

That evening after dinner, as I lay there watching TV and feeling down in the dumps, a knock came on my door. I said, "Come in." A girl about 16 entered my room and said she was from the Haddonfield United Methodist Church. I knew right away what she had for me. When my children were in the youth group at church (HUMC), my wife and I would take them to hospitals on Christmas Eve to deliver "BEARS." And we kept doing that for a couple of more years even after they were out of the group.

I did not recognize her but told her I was a member of the church. That changed my whole attitude and brought me out of my depression. I was like a kid again receiving my favorite toy. Just a little bear can make your day a wonderful day. If you come to visit me, and as you go from the dining area into the kitchen, my bear (now 8 years old) will be looking at you.

Thank you to all who participated in Operation Bear Hug 2022! Over 490 bears were collected and delivered to local hospitals for delivery to those staying in the hospital on Christmas Eve.

## MISSION MAKES A DIFFERENCE



### BUILDING UP COLLECTION

The Dominican Republic Mission Team is preparing to build houses in Los Cocos, Dominican Republic in February. Help us make 150 school supplies/health bags for the children of the community!

We are collecting: pencil sharpeners, antibiotic bandages, individual bags of fruit snacks, and gently used baseballs and baseball helmets. These items will be mixed with crayons, erasers, #2 yellow pencils, toothbrushes, and toothpaste tubes (up to 3oz). Place the items in the marked collection box in the Welcome Center from **January 8-22**.



Cherry Hill Food Pantry

### THE CHERRY HILL FOOD PANTRY

As of December 20, our year to date total is 5,909, or 118% over our goal of 5,000 items for 2022! Thank you for all of your ongoing efforts as we continue efforts to curb food insecurity in our community.

We will continue to collect items in the breezeway of the church, located next to the parking lot in 2023 with a goal of collecting 6,500 items.

Most needed donations include nonperishable food items, pancake mix, pancake syrup, laundry detergent, deodorant, bar soap, shampoo, and napkins.



Bears delivered to Jefferson Hospital in 2021.



## THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE RECAP

During November 2022, our congregation collected items making up a Thanksgiving dinner for our friends at the Neighborhood Center, including monetary donations for fresh produce and frozen turkeys. We then delivered the items and helped shoppers at the Neighborhood Center's pop-up market.

A special thank you to those who participated! Whether you helped with the sorting, assisted the shoppers, made monetary donations for fresh produce, needed items, or donated food, your contributions and service helped make this another successful year!

We collected 1,139 items, including turkeys, stuffing, and mac'n'cheese and raised \$1,602 for fresh produce and needed food items!

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

*"God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them." - 1 John 4:16*



It is hard to believe that we are entering into the year 2023, but I have to say, I do so with a grateful

heart. Of course, I am grateful for the blessings in my life: for my family and for this church family. I am especially grateful to have survived the most acute phase of the pandemic, which lasted two years. In that time we lost many loved ones, and in many ways our lives and world were reshaped. What better time to think about a brand new year ahead and to renew our relationship with God.

The early Methodists of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century celebrated New Year's Day by renewing their covenant to serve God and neighbor. New Year's Day would be a time of covenant renewal, with prayers and the preaching of the word that would help people recommit their lives to

God, without condition, finding all they need in God's perfect love.

From this tradition, the following prayer emerged over the years called the Wesley Covenant Prayer. Although it is attributed to John Wesley, it is likely not written by him, but captures the spirit of the Wesleyan tradition of recommitment and to covenanting with God as a way to begin the new year:

*I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious*

*and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.*

I invite you to pray this prayer in 2023. Consider what it means, the love and absolute trust in God that it invokes. And consider entrusting the coming year to God in the same spirit. No matter what is to come: success, happy moments, trials, challenges, gains, and losses, as long as we are serving God and held by God's grace, we know that we will have what we need, and we will be perfected in love.

Walking with you in love,

Rev. Chris Heckert, Sr. Pastor

## GIFTS IN MEMORY AND IN HONOR

**Haddonfield UMC gratefully acknowledges donations.**

**In memory of:** Barbara McMaster from The Women's Board of the Cooper Foundation Board, Linda & Thomas Harr, Charlotte Hartman, Janice A. & Anthony J. Logandro, Nancy Saunders

**In memory of:** Peggy Lee from Audrey Frank, Sandi Sank

**In memory of:** Margaret Wilson from Eloise Douglas, Carol & John Scarborough, Janet Neiswender

**In memory of:** Frank Bunker from Lora & Wes Carr

**In memory of:** Jere Estes from the HUMC Connect Group

**In memory of:** Cheryl Weiler from Joanne Faust

**In memory of:** Craig McElwee from Joanne Faust

**In memory of:** Pastor Grace T.

Benson from William Hunter

**In memory of:** Eileen Ostrove from Nona Ostrove

**For the Holtz Handbell Choir:**  
**In memory of:** Dick Oliver, our friend, from Lora & Wes Carr

**For the Ronald P. & Elaine H. Sandmeyer Building Preservation Fund:**  
**In honor of:** Liz & Paul Sandmeyer from Alice and Ronald Sandmeyer

**Gifts may be made in memory or honor of loved ones and friends:**

- On the Haddonfield UMC mobile app
- Online at [haddonfieldumc.org/give](https://haddonfieldumc.org/give)
- By mailing a check to 29 Warwick Rd., Haddonfield, NJ 08033.

**Please include the person's name with your gift.**

## STUDENT MINISTRIES

### Chili Cook Off

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Fun before the Big Game!

1-3PM

Fellowship Hall and Propert Café

### ACTIVITIES

Chili cook off contest, trivia, and games

### CONTACT

KRISTI EDMONDS  
[kedmonds@haddonfieldumc.org](mailto:kedmonds@haddonfieldumc.org)



29 Warwick Rd, Haddonfield, NJ | 856-429-0403 | [office@haddonfieldumc.org](mailto:office@haddonfieldumc.org)  
[www.haddonfieldumc.org](http://www.haddonfieldumc.org)



HUMC Kids

**Pancake Supper**  
**February 21, 2023**  
**at 5:30pm**

Propert Café