

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

# CONNECT

## Reset



Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead – Philippians 3:13

### SPOTLIGHT: Remember Your Baptism



Image Credit: Rev. Chris Heckert

By Matt Smith

When it comes to the sacrament of baptism, many traditions in Christianity typically take an “either/or” approach, with some congregations only baptizing babies, while others will only perform the sacrament for adults. With the church that I grew up in, I was baptized at around 8 or 9 years of age, which was pretty much the youngest they would allow.

I remember wading into waist-deep water in an oblong-shaped hot tub, with water that was

anything but hot. I remember standing there for a few minutes while a testimony that I had pre-recorded was played back over the speakers. I can’t recall exactly what I said, but I think it was very saccharine, innocent, and (if I’m honest) cringey.

But I’m also grateful for the fact that I can remember my baptism. Every baptism that we observe here at HUMC reminds me of the earnest, childlike faith that was a feature of my baptism. Whether one gets baptized as an infant, child, or adult, the occasion is an opportunity for us to remember our declaration of faith and being welcomed into a community of believers.

***Remember your Baptism with us on January 14 as we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord and Martin Luther King, Jr., Sunday.***

### RESET

Join us in January, as we let go of the clutter, stress, and anxiety of the past and allow God to reset our priorities, our rhythms, and our hearts, together, to give 2024 a fresh start.

#### JAN. 7

Epiphany | Rev. JiSun Yang

#### JAN. 14

Baptism of Our Lord/Martin Luther King, Jr., Sunday  
Rev. Chris Heckert

#### JAN. 21

Diversabilities Weekend  
Rev. Cricket Denton

#### JAN. 28

Revival in the Methodist Tradition | Rev. Rachel Billups

### IN THIS EDITION:

Worship Schedule	p.2
What’s Happening	p.2
Special Worship	p.3
Highlights	p.4
Special Events	p.5
Staff Transitions	p.6
Mission	p.6
Pastor’s Message	p.7
In Memory & In Honor	p.7

**LISTEN TO OUR “WEEKLY SERMON PODCAST” ANYTIME!**

Find ways to subscribe | [haddonfieldumc.org/sermon-podcast](https://haddonfieldumc.org/sermon-podcast) or  
Search your favorite podcasting platform | Haddonfield UMC

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

### Worship by Phone

Call 856-213-2015 for audio-only

## WEEKLY SERMON PODCAST:

### SATURDAYS

@ 6pm | Every week

### YouTube

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

### Apple, Spotify, & More

Search for Haddonfield UMC Weekly Sermon Podcast on your favorite podcasting platform!

## CONNECT WITH US:

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

### Haddonfield UMC App

Download at Google Play 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. 1

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HUMC

## United Women in Faith Luncheon

The next United Women of Faith luncheon will be catered on **Thursday, February 1**, and the cost is \$11. Our program includes Pledge Service led by Barbara Talton and a special presentation by the Floral Arts Guild. Make reservations with Ginny Dengler at 856-904-5563 by Monday, January 29. Please note: the January luncheon has been canceled due to renovations in Propert Café, but the executive board meeting will still be held on **Thursday, January 4** at 10am.

## Your Saving Grace Child Care Nights

Our next Your Saving Grace Child Care Night offerings are on **Fridays, January 5 and February 2 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).

## Stephen Ministry Training Begins January 10

Do you have passion to care for others, but don't know where to start? Stephen Ministers are trained laity, providing one-on-one Christian care to those facing life crises. The next Stephen Ministry Training course will begin on **January 10, 2024**. If you are interested in the training or have any questions, please contact HUMC Stephen Ministry leaders, Janice McNally ([jmcnally12@yahoo.com](mailto:jmcnally12@yahoo.com)) or Lou Schopfer ([schopferl@aol.com](mailto:schopferl@aol.com)). The \$45 registration fee covers training books. Register today: <https://subspla.sh/ghzkffw/>

## Floral Arts Guild Fundraiser

The Floral Arts Guild will offer fine floral gifts to the congregation for our spring fundraiser on **Sunday, February 11**, for Valentine's Day. Floral gifts will be available in the Welcome Center after worship services. Your generosity helps support the Floral Arts Guild's work in the church throughout the year.

## Steeple Club Luncheon

The first Steeple Club luncheon of 2024 is **Monday, February 12**, in Propert Café. Spend time getting to know each other better while sharing a meal together. The cost of lunch is \$5. To make reservations, contact Leslie Robinson at [lrobinson527@gmail.com](mailto:lrobinson527@gmail.com) by Friday, February 9.

## Give Up Plastic For Lent with the Green Team

Are you looking for something other than chocolate or ice cream to give up for Lent? Keep all of your junk food and give up plastic instead! The Green Team will provide Lenten calendars to help reduce your plastic use through Lent. We know it's impossible to give up plastic altogether, but TOGETHER let's intentionally reduce our plastic use. Calendars can be found in the Welcome Center starting Ash Wednesday, February 14.

## Save the Planet in Style – HUMC Water Bottle Sale

Help our church "give up plastic for Lent" by purchasing one of our YETI water bottles! Not only are they reusable, they're also stylish! Each 18oz water bottle is \$40 and can be pre-ordered online **through March 4**: <https://subspla.sh/2jtcmdy/>

# COMING SOON



## ASH WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 14

We will join with St. Andrews UMC of Cherry Hill for a Service of Ashes on Wednesday, February 14 at 7pm in the Haddonfield UMC Sanctuary. Help us reflect on the upcoming Lenten journey as a combined community in-person or online at [haddonfieldumc.org](https://haddonfieldumc.org).

## PREACHING SCHEDULE:

### FEB. 4\*

Rev. Chris Heckert

### FEB. 11\*

Rev. JiSun Yang

### PRAY WITHOUT CEASING SERMON SERIES

### FEB. 18

Mark 1:9-15 & 1 Thes. 5:16-17  
Rev. Chris Heckert

### FEB. 25

2 Chronicles 6:12-17  
Rev. Chris Heckert

*\*February 4 and February 11 are not part of the Lenten sermon series and will be standalone sermons.*

# REVIVAL IN THE METHODIST TRADITION

During the weekend of **January 27-28**, we will celebrate a "Revival in the Methodist Tradition," featuring special guest Rev. Rachel Billups, special music, and more!

On Saturday, January 27 – Join us for a service of "Revival in the Methodist Tradition" at 7pm (also available via live-stream at [haddonfieldumc.org](https://haddonfieldumc.org)).

Rev. Billups will join us at all worship services as our special guest preacher on Sunday, January 28. An ordained elder in The United

# MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

## Worship Service

The Haddonfield Council of Churches is hosting a community worship service in celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Sunday, January 14. Join this community celebration at Mount Olivet Baptist Church at 4pm.

## Day of Service

Join us for a day of service in North Camden on Monday, January 15. We'll be partnering with the Neighborhood Collaborative Community Gardens (NCCG) to clean up leaves and add them to their compost pile. NCCG makes high quality compost and sells it to the local community in order to fund their projects.

We will meet at the church at 8:30am and carpool to North Camden. We'll return for lunch at the church around 12:30pm and be treated to a presentation by Craig Hutchings, who works with a group called "Preserving Black History of Haddonfield." All are welcome to join in both activities or just attend one.



**RSVP for the Day of Service:** Scan the QR code or visit – <https://bit.ly/3TfvowU>

# SPECIAL WORSHIP

## WESLEYAN COVENANT RENEWAL SERVICE

On Sunday, January 7, we will observe the traditions of Epiphany and a Wesleyan Covenant Renewal service, recommitting to a life of Christian discipleship and seeking to let go of the past in order to be open to serve God and neighbor for the new year.

## DIVERSABILITIES WEEKEND

Our church understands and appreciates that everyone is a unique child of God, made perfectly in the divine image. This is why we're celebrating Diversabilities Weekend during worship on January 20 & 21. We invite you to come and honor those who learn differently, those who are differently abled, and those who are neurodivergent.

## MUSIC AND ARTS SUNDAY

Sunday, February 11 will feature HUMC's first Music and Arts Sunday! A celebration of the many ways we worship God will permeate the 10:30am Traditional Service with all the music ensembles of HUMC participating. Make sure to come out for this festival of choral music, handbell ringing, hymnody, and more!



# Revival in the Methodist Spirit

Save the Date

Guest Preacher:  
**Rev. Rachel Billups**

Saturday, January 27, 2024  
Revival Service at 7pm

Sunday, January 28, 2024  
Guest worship leader  
Rev. Rachel Billups

All are welcome!

[haddonfieldumc.org](https://haddonfieldumc.org)





Clockwise L to R: Trunk or Treat, Student Ministry Volunteers at Advent Workshop, with Pastor Cricket, NJ MasterChorale Concert, Nathan Laube at the Mi Wha Lee Memorial Organ Recital, NJ MasterChorale Concert, Advent Workshop, Matt Smith with Nathan Laube, Trunk or Treat

# END OF YEAR HIGHLIGHTS

## EVENTS CONNECTING US TO OUR COMMUNITY, THE ARTS, AND OUR FAITH

Thank you to everyone who participated in our successful events in October, November, and December!

On a beautiful fall Saturday, October 28, we welcomed 680 children to the church parking lot to trick-or-treat, paint pumpkins, and enjoy fellowship. We had 50 decorated trunks this year to support our event, featuring everything from Jurassic Park to Hogwarts to Barbie!

The next day, we welcomed Nathan Laube to our Sanctuary organ for the Mi Wha Lee Memorial Organ Recital. Held on Sunday evening, October 29, Mr. Laube delighted the in-person and online audience with classic

pieces from Widor, Liszt, and Bach.

The annual HUMC Kids Advent Workshop brought families together on the evening of Sunday, December 3. Over 80 children enjoyed Christmas crafts, a light dinner, and a hot chocolate bar in the spirit of the season.

*Joyful and Triumphant*, the New Jersey MasterChorale December concert, deepened the Christmas spirit with a celebration of percussion and brass on the evening of Sunday, December 10. Selections included traditional Christmas favorites and selections from Vivaldi's *Gloria*. The concert can be viewed any time at [youtube.com/HaddonfieldUMC](https://youtube.com/HaddonfieldUMC).

### HE SAID, SHE SAID VALENTINE'S DAY DESSERT CABARET

You'll love this hilarious show, delighting audiences in and around Philadelphia! You've heard "Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus?" Well, Sarah and Carl (pictured right) are a real-life married couple and parents who will take you through relationships from beginning to end and sing some favorite songs along the way!

Sarah and Carl perform songs from *My Fair Lady*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Footloose*, and more as they shed light on some common "language barriers" between men and women throughout their relationships and all of those milestones we reach along the way.

This event is for everyone and is **Saturday, February 10** at 3pm in Fellowship Hall. Buy your ticket as a single or with someone else for a couple's price. A dessert comes with your afternoon of entertainment and tickets can be purchased online at <https://subspla.sh/4xq283j/> or scan the QR code. All proceeds benefit the youth mission journey.



## YOUTH & FAMILY HAPPENINGS

### HUMC Kids Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Families are invited to Propert Café **Tuesday, February 13** from 5:30-7:30pm for our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper! Let's spend time together as a community to enjoy a delicious dinner and fun activities as we get ready for the Lenten Season. Children of all ages are welcome. To RSVP, contact Julie Robertson at [jrobertson@haddonfieldumc.org](mailto:jrobertson@haddonfieldumc.org).

### HUMC Kids Bible Class and Presentation

Rev. JiSun Yang and Julie Robertson will host two hybrid classes for children in third grade, and those in fourth and fifth grade who have not yet had the opportunity to participate, on **Sundays, February 25 and March 3** 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. Children will then be presented with their own Bibles to help guide them on their spiritual journeys on Sunday, March 10, 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).



Learn more about the He Said, She Said Valentine's Day Dessert Cabaret to the left on p. 4.

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: CAMP FIRELIGHT

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is **August 12-16, 2024**, from 9am to 12pm each day! Children age 3 through those entering 5th grade are invited to Cokesbury's *Camp Firelight* where we will learn ways we can connect with and put our trust in God whenever we are afraid, challenged, or called to do God's work.

Join us for a fun-filled week of songs, games, crafts, science experiments, and more centered around the Scripture verse: "Whenever I'm afraid, I put my trust in You" (Psalm 56:3)! Please note that children attending our program must be potty-trained.

Registration for VBS opens Thursday, February 1 at 6pm. Space is limited. Visit [haddonfieldumc.org/vbs2024](https://haddonfieldumc.org/vbs2024) to register. For more information or to volunteer, contact Julie Robertson, Director of HUMC Kids, at [jrobertson@haddonfieldumc.org](mailto:jrobertson@haddonfieldumc.org).



## IMPORTANT DATES

**Jan. 1 | New Year's Day** (office and building closed)

**Jan. 5 | Your Saving Grace**

**Jan. 15 | Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service** (office and building closed)

**Jan. 17 | Wednesday Night Dinners Resume**

**Jan. 22 | Church Council Meeting**

**Jan. 26-28 | MidWinter Advance**

**Jan. 27-28 | Revival in the Methodist Spirit**

**Jan. 29 | Symphony in C Youth Concert**

**Feb. 2 | Your Saving Grace**

**Feb. 4 | Symphony in C Virtuosi Series Concert**

**Feb. 10 | He Said, She Said Valentine's Day Dessert Cabaret**

**Feb. 11 | Coffee with the Pastors**

**Feb. 12 | Steeple Club Luncheon**

**Feb. 13 | HUMC Kids Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

**Feb. 14 | Ash Wednesday**

**Feb. 18 | Tri-State Jazz Concert**

**Feb. 20-26 | Dominican Republic Mission Trip**

## Small Groups SIGN UP



Explore offerings and sign up today  
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/3NXGRH6](https://bit.ly/3NXGRH6)

# MINISTRY & MISSION

## STAFF TRANSITIONS



HUMC welcomed Jim Boyce as our Building Manager on November 1. Jim previously worked as a facilities manager at Temple University for eleven years. As a seasoned Facilities Management professional, Jim has a passion for optimizing operational efficiency and creating top-notch workplace environments, and he brings a wealth of experience to the table. With a keen eye for detail and a commitment to excellence, he seamlessly integrates people, spaces, and processes to ensure a harmonious and productive work environment. Jim is also a Temple graduate.



Celebrate Walter Douglas! Walter, Custodian at HUMC for 11½ years, retired Sunday, December 31, 2023. He has been devoted to the care and upkeep of our church, of which he is also a member, and we look forward to continuing to have Walter participating in the activities of church life into the New Year.

Please celebrate Walter by going to [haddonfieldumc.org/give](https://haddonfieldumc.org/give) to make a "love gift" contribution

## MISSION MAKES A DIFFERENCE



### DOMINICAN REPUBLIC WISH LIST

Want to contribute to the Dominican Republic mission without traveling anywhere? Simply donate to our wish list by bringing in some of these items or ordering from our Amazon Wishlist through January 28. Items will be delivered during the mission trip February 20-26.

We need: **small toothpastes (3-4 ozs. or less), toothbrushes individually wrapped, #2 pencils, cap erasers, pencil sharpeners, ballpoint pens, 24 packs of Crayola crayons, antibiotic bandages.**

You can find our Amazon Wishlist here: <https://a.co/3RIjUDK>



Cherry Hill Food Pantry

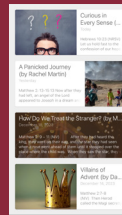
### THE CHERRY HILL FOOD PANTRY

Thank you for all of your ongoing efforts to curb food insecurity in our community.

Items will continue to be collected in the bin located in the breezeway of the church, next to the parking lot. **Most needed donations include: nonperishable food items, jelly, pasta sauce, pancake syrup, ground coffee, detergent, canned corn, and empty egg cartons.**

If you would like to help deliver items to the Cherry Hill Food Pantry, contact Rev. Cricket Denton at [cdenton@haddonfieldumc.org](mailto:cdenton@haddonfieldumc.org) to get involved!

## MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: DAILY REFLECTIONS



HUMC has been publishing Daily Reflections, devotionals posted Monday through Friday to feed your faith written by members of our church family, since September 2019. We thank 41 contributors who have faithfully shared their reflections in 978 posts.

We're grateful for over 20,000 visitors, over 100,000 views, and over 3,200 comments throughout the years, as we recognize these are not just numbers but people who have been connected and nurtured through this ministry.

You can read our Daily Reflections on our website at [haddonfieldumc.org/daily-reflections](https://haddonfieldumc.org/daily-reflections) or follow the blog via email to receive new posts in your mailbox.

Thank you to our contributors: Curtis Bagby, Kathleen Bandaruk, Susan Boyd, Rev. Ed Carll, Dan Cummings, Julie Dengler, Lois Donaway, Heather Fizur, Phillip Fizur, Monica Grady, Jaff Hasan, Rev. Chris Heckert, Kimberly Heckert, Rev. Jack Johnson, Dr. David Jost, Rev. Jean Jules, Rev. Tom Lank, Mary Louise Lavery, Ruth London, Kate MacLennan, Rev. Dr. Bill McElwee, Janice McNally, Ed Martin, John Martin, Rachel Martin, Kathy Miller, Rev. George Morris, Natalie Procacci-Miller, Ron Sandmeyer, Rev. Charles Sayre, Terry Schwartz, Rev. Yugo Suzuki, Stacey Thompson, Jackie Vicari, Scott Vicari, Sophia Vicari, Laelia Watt, Jackie Williams, Shelly Williams, Melissa Wojtylak, Rev. JiSun Yang

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

*"...but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. Let those of us then who are mature be of the same mind; and if you think differently about anything, this too God will reveal to you." - Philippians 3:13-1*



A new year, a new start. Of course there is the well-worn tradition of New Year's resolutions, but more than any resolution, or promise to ourselves, I think we need a reset this year.

Think about it. When our electronic devices malfunction, or misbehave, the most effective solution is to reset them. Sometimes after I get through a busy or challenging time, I find that I need a reset, too.

A reset of the heart and mind can help us let go of regrets, stress, and bad habits from the previous season to make way for what lies ahead.

As the Apostle Paul reminded the church in Philippi in Philippians 3:13-15, pressing forward, being present to new opportunities, and allowing God to use us for God's purposes requires a letting go of the past.

But how do we do it – how can we find a reset?

In 1755 the first Methodist societies began a new tradition of meeting at a French Church in Spitalfields,

London, to recommit themselves to God and reset their priorities for the new year. With 1,800 people at the first observance, this annual tradition would come to be observed on the first Sunday of the new year as a way to recommit to a life of Christian discipleship, seeking to let go of the past and to be open to serve God and neighbor for the year to come.

The Wesleyan Covenant Prayer is a prayer that is the best-known component of the Covenant Renewal services (see box, right):

This year we will observe our own Covenant Renewal Service on January 7 and begin a sermon series, "Reset." I invite you not only to take part in this service, but to pray this prayer on your own. Start your day with it, and see how over time it can help reset your priorities and open up within you a space to let go of what lies behind to embrace what God has in store for us in a new year.

As we begin 2024 together, remember: God is present. God is good. God loves us. God is doing a new thing. God can work through us. We are called to love God and to love our neighbor above all.

Trusting that love is the more excellent way will carry us through any difficulty we may face and provide us the grace and blessings we need.

I'm ready for a "Reset." Join me as we walk boldly and lovingly into this new season together.



Rev. Chris Heckert, Sr. Pastor

### John Wesley's Covenant Prayer (A Modern Adaptation)

*I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you, praised for you or criticized for you. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and fully surrender all things To your glory and service. And now, O wonderful and holy God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, you are mine, and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it also be made in heaven. Amen.*

## GIFTS IN MEMORY AND IN HONOR

**Haddonfield UMC gratefully acknowledges donations.**

**In memory of:** Nancy Banks from Frank Cahill, Joanne Faust, Charlotte Hartman, Frieda Hopkins, Shirley & John Landgraf and former Helen Kim Circle Ladies, Amy & Bill McElwee, Stanley Menking, Janet Neiswender, George Reid, Elaine & Ron Sandmeyer, Carol & John Scarborough, Peggy & Dennis Van Name

**In memory of:** Lynn Banker Hanon from Charlotte Hartman

**In memory of:** Harry & Susan Felker from John & Carol Felker Scarborough

**In memory of:** Norman Longfellow from Karen Grosnick

**For the Ronald P. and Elaine H. Sandmeyer Building Preservation Fund:**

**In honor of:** Ronald & Elaine Sandmeyer from Cheri Rider, Tracey & Rodney Sandmeyer

**In honor of:** Liz & Paul Sandmeyer from Alice & Ronald Sandmeyer

**For the Floral Arts Guild:**

**In honor of:** Ruth Dickey's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday from Sally & David Grayson, David VanSciver

**For Missions:**

**In honor of:** Joan & John McCann from Carol McCann Childs

Welcome  
NEW MEMBERS!

- Heather Cathrall
- Veronica Charles
- Bernard "Ben" Cote
- Janet Cote
- Etheljean "Ef" Deal
- John "Jack" Deal
- Rachael Fordham
- Ryan Kemble
- Jacob Miller
- Lisa Muller
- Adriana Pillot
- Milagros Soto Pillot
- Rachel Reiter
- Laelia Watt



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



# Reset

New Sermon Series Beginning  
Sunday, January 7



Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to  
what lies ahead - Philippians 3:13