



The United Methodist Church of Port Washington

November 2017 – Newsletter

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*O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever. - Psalm 107:1*

Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

Grace and peace to all of you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The scriptures say that our Lord is good: The Lord embraces us with love and provides us with every blessing, and God does so abundantly. But oftentimes we think in terms of scarcity rather than abundance; just turn on your TV and you'll see a whole bunch of commercials trying to get you buy things that you don't own just yet but would certainly "need," at least they claim so. And when you check your mail, don't you find a whole bunch of coupons that may tempt you to spend those hundred bucks in order to get 20 off? Or make it \$200 – you get \$50 off then, and you'll end up with stuff that's better and more in line with what your friends have; I'm sure you know what I'm talking about. And no, I'm not trying to tell you that shopping is a vice and neither does the psalmist.

But the month of November reminds us to change our focus from scarcity to blessings, and learn how to truly recognize and appreciate all that God has done for us in our lives. God blessing us, it doesn't mean that life is always easy – there are and will continue to be rough patches, but even through these rough patches we have one another, friends, and God continues to generously give whatever it is that we need to make it through all the bumps, either as a church or in our personal lives.

And I may not have told you this yet, but I grew up in a family for which the word "thank you" is one of the most crucial words. You don't say "thank you," you're considered rude – and ungrateful, for that fact. But of course, we all know that it's not just about saying "thank you" – it's about a grateful heart. The kind of heart when you praise God and honor God and trust God because of everything that God has so lovingly done in your life.

So whether you're in church on a Sunday morning or a Saturday evening, or when you're at work, or driving to a grocery store, or at home gathered around the table with your family, don't forget that your God provides you with every blessing and that God does so abundantly. And always remember that this same God whose daughter and son you are – that this same God is there for you through Jesus Christ – that same Jesus who had given thanks to God even that night when he was betrayed and died on the cross; that same Jesus who is your Lord and Savior: he is in our lives, in our church, in our families: present and helping and blessing and turning our lives on their head, in a good way – the life giving kind of way, and the life changing kind of way.

With thanks for all that God is doing for us here in UMCPW and with thanks for each one of you,

Pastor Romi

Christmas Event!

Christmas Wreath, white pine roping, and bake sale, Saturday December 9th, 10am to 3 pm.

Visit Santa with the kids, feel free to photo that special moment of your family. Stop in for cocoa and hot coffee. Hope to see you there. – Susan Oliva

Pumpkin Fest Update

What a day we had on October 14! Not only did we raise some funds, but we also raised some spirit! Thank you to all who baked, delivered, set up, cleaned up, made music, made change, sold pumpkins, sold tickets, organized games, drove hay wagons, manned the grill, managed the money, evangelized, planned and prayed. Funds raised are around \$4400. Many thanks again! – Lee Fertitta



Bible Study on the Gospel According to Mark is taking place on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am in the Parlor. Pastor Romi is leading this Bible Study.

Sands Point Center for Health and Rehabilitation: Pastors David and Romi are leading worship services at Sands Point Center for Health and Rehabilitation and thus represent The United Methodist Church of Port Washington among our sisters and brothers in the community. All are welcome to attend. A special thanks to all those who accompanied us as we worshipped God together.

<p>Upcoming dates: Nov - 14 & 21 Dec - 12</p>
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<p>Holy Communion takes place once a month, 1st Sunday of the Month, all are welcome at the Lord's Table</p>

Laundry Love

UMCPW is participating in the PW Clergy's Association ministry called Laundry Love. Laundry Love is a program that works in partnership with individuals, groups and local

laundromats throughout the United States to help wash the clothing and bedding of individuals and families who are living in poverty. It began when a homeless man in Ventura, CA was asked, "How can we come alongside your life in a way that would matter?" and he answered, "If I had clean clothes, I think people would treat me like a human being."

While we have a small homeless population in Port, our target population are those in our community who struggle financially. By providing funds for laundry, we allow low-income families to save their money for basic needs such as food and rent.

As of now, we are working with a laundromat in Manorhaven on the third Thursday of each month, beginning November 16th. Teams of six will be on hand from 5:30-8:30 pm at the laundromat to distribute coins and detergent.

The clergy association received a \$1500 grant to serve as "seed money," but additional funds are needed. If you would like to donate your time and/or money to this new ministry, see Pastor David, Pastor Romi, or Maureen Peraza.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship Service - 11/19/17 @ 4:30 pm

Reconstructionist Synagogue of the North Shore - Pastor David will be preaching.

1001 Plandome Rd, Plandome, NY 11030

The October report from Sunday school.

Our Sunday school staff continues to include Anya, Diane, Stephen and Nancy. We meet periodically with pastors as well. Our focus in class continues to be on the Old Testament. We have enjoyed a nursery and two levels of Sunday school classes this October. Sunday school children participated in the pumpkin Festival and worked the games while providing a welcoming spirit.

Emma and Grace have been working as acolytes and Charlotte is also taking on this commitment. Charlotte has done the call to worship along with Grace and Emma. We have had wonderful and supportive congregants in class this month. We will continue to reach out to all our congregation so that they can enjoy and inspire and get inspired by Sunday school. We are posting a Thanksgiving tree in one of the Sunday school classes promoting the attitude of gratitude, so fundamental to our faith.

Queens County Farm Museum: We took time this Sunday, October 22 to have a pizza lunch together and to visit the Queens County Farm Museum. The weather was wonderful and our goal was to simply find some relax time together, the deep in our connection. Many thanks to all who were able to join us.



Look What's Happening!

Sunday, November 5 @ 10:00 am: All Saints' Sunday worship service as we remember our loved ones.

Saturday, November 11 @ 5 pm: Contemporary Worship Service.

Sunday, November 12 after worship service: Charge Conference with District Superintendent Julia Yim.

Wednesday, November 15 @ 4:30 pm: Holiday bow making meeting led by Susan Oliva.

Thursday, November 16 @ 5:30-8:30 pm: Laundry Love mission outreach at Manorhaven laundromat. See Maureen Peraza for details.

Sunday, November 19 @ 10:00 am: Thanksgiving Sunday with a stewardship moment by Lee.

Sunday, November 19 @ 4:30 pm at Reconstructionist Synagogue: Annual Thanksgiving Interfaith Service. **Pastor David is preaching.**

Saturday, November 26 @ 5 pm: Contemporary Worship Service. Pat Rush is preaching. Pastors David and Romi are on vacation.

Sunday, November 26 @ 10:00 am: Nancy Sutherland is leading the worship service and preaching. Pastors David and Romi are on vacation. United Methodist Student Day.

November Birthdays

2-Barbara Romano
6-Jonathan Weber
8-Terry Mady-Grove
10-Hella Harkness
13-Allison Lucky Weber
16-Augusta Allen
18-Annette Weber
21-Dottie Bheddah
21-Charlotte Grove
23-Rita Aronsohn
27-Arlene Harris

Saturday, December 2 @ 9:00 am: Child's World Nursery School Annual Breakfast with Santa and Wreath Sale.

Sunday, December 3 @ 10:00 am: 1st Sunday of Advent and Commitment/Pledge Sunday.

Sunday, December 3 @ 4:30 pm: 20th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting in Blumenfeld Park; **Pastor David is doing the closing benediction.**

Saturday, December 9: UMCPW Christmas Wreath Fundraiser.

Saturday, December 9 @ 5 pm: Contemporary Worship Service.

Sunday, December 10 around 3:00 pm: Caroling to our Friends at Home and Sands Point Rehab.

Saturday, December 16 @ 9:00 am: UMCPW Hanging of the Greens with Music and Breakfast.

Sunday, December 17 @ 10:00 am: UMCPW Christmas Pageant during worship service and White Gifts.

Sunday, December 17 in pm: First Annual Community Christmas Event. Tractor Rides on the front lawn with Santa, plus tree lighting, hot cocoa, hot cider, sweet treats and Christmas music in the Sanctuary. Free!

Wednesday, December 20 in pm: Choir sings at the train station. All are welcome to greet commuters and give out candy canes and our Christmas worship schedule.

Saturday, December 23: No Contemporary Worship.

Christmas Eve services @ 5:00 pm and 11:00 pm: Pastor David preaching.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, hospitality hour volunteers are needed.

It does not have to be difficult or expensive.

Keurigs are in place and members are encouraged to bring pods. A coffee cake, cookies and grapes are the simple route and very manageable for most.

Please see Diane Burton or Susan Oliva for help or questions, or sign up with a friend!

Thank you!



FALL FAIR

LUTHERAN CHURCH

12 FRANKLIN AVENUE PW

Saturday November 4th

9am to 3pm

ATTIC TREASURES

NEW & GENTLY USED CLOTHING

CHRISTMAS CORNER

BREAKFAST & LUNCH CAFÉ

BAKERY & HOMEMADE SOUPS

VENDORS

FREE ADMISSION & FREE PARKING AT THE PW LIRR STATION
516-767-0603 www.lutheranchurchportwashington.com

Check out our new website!

www.umcpw.org

Podcasts of Sermon, blogs, and
upcoming events.



www.facebook.com/groups/umcpw/

SUMBISSIONS FOR THE
DECEMBER NEWSLETTER
NEED TO BE TO PASTOR
DAVID BY NOVEMBER 27TH!

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF PORT WASHINGTON**

2018 PROPOSED BUDGET

INCOME/REVENUE

Pledge	70,000	
Non-Pledge	30,000	
Loose Plate	5,000	
Holy Days	3,000	
Extraordinary Income		
TOTAL PLEDGE/OFFERING	108,000	108,000
FACILITIES USE		
Single Use	30,000	
Multiple Use	30,000	
Child's World	56,000	
Faith Korean Church	52,000	
TOTAL FACILITIES	168,000	168,000
Special Events 1	4,000	
Special Events 2	3,000	
Trustees Interest	50,000	
Trustee Capital Improvement		
Music Fund Interest	21,000	
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	78,000	78,000
<u>TOTAL INCOME/REVENUE</u>		354,000

EXPENSES

CHURCH BUILDING EXPENSES		
Maintenance	95,000	
Utilities	44,000	
Capital Improvements		
TOTAL CHURCH	139,000	139,000
PARSONAGE EXPENSES		
Maintenance	7,000	
Utilities	7,000	
Capital Improvements		
TOTAL PARSONAGE	14,000	14,000
CHURCH OPERATIONS		
Pastoral Support	106,000	
Church Staff	72,500	
Office/Finance Administration	8,300	
TOTAL OPERATIONS	186,800	186,800
MINISTRIES		
Nurture/Outreach/Mission	3,000	
Music	12,000	
Education	5,000	
Contemp. Worship	10,000	
TOTAL OPERATIONS	30,000	30,000
APPORTIONMENTS	37,754	37,754
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>		407,554
Deficit		53,554

From Pastor David

Beloveds,

First off, I want to thank everyone that contributes through financial gifts. Without these resources there is no doubt that we would not be able to function as we are right now. However, as our congregation ages upwards, the financial strain becomes greater. In the past there has always been a full “next generation” to step forward. At this point, our next generation is much less than in previous years, but the good news in this is that there indeed is a healthy mix when it comes to the age of worshippers in this Body of Christ.

Just under a month ago we had 23 children for a Sunday morning worship, and the beautiful thing about this statistic is that we had the nursery and Sunday school staff/volunteers to handle this number of kids praise be to God, and to continue the good news, on a regular basis we have at least a dozen kids. Pastor Romi and I love to incorporate the older children into leadership spots in worship and have revived, with the help of Nancy Sutherland, the acolyte and a youth to read the call to worship. We firmly believe when our children are committed to worshipping God and leading us, our dedication speaks leaps and bounds about who we are and who we want to be – a place of vibrancy and excellence serving Christ Jesus. We are excited about the possibilities of mission and of ministry, and most exciting of all, growing God’s church together!

But I must make a plea and a challenge that will continue to come up during our stewardship season to show our commitment to this house of worship and to God, because next year I want to ask people who accepted this challenge to speak one Sunday next fall about how God made you a more complete person in faith through giving. So here goes the pastors’ challenge: (1) *if you didn’t pledge last year, pledge this year.* (2) *If you pledged last year and it wasn’t a tithe, make an increase no matter how small or large.* I can promise that when we are aware of our giving, we open ourselves up more to see the possibilities that exist in our lives. And finally, (3) *if you pledged last year and it wasn’t a tithe, make it one.* This is by far the hardest challenge and took several years before my household could even make this step, but it can be done through discipline and the “first fruits” mindset of offering to God from what we are given, not what is left over.

On the left is our proposed budget for 2018, and a deficit in the budget is not abnormal for The UMC PW, yet it is something I would like to whittle away at in the coming year.

On a positive note, there has always been some circumstance each year, or someone who has remembered this faith community in their will and bequeathed part of their estate to us, and we have made ends meet. But I want us to move forward out of a scarcity mindset and into one of abundance and of blessing. I want us to be a faith community not constrained by a budget, but one looking for ways to give back to our community because we have been given so much and are such a blessed people. For this is what Christ has called us to do.

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ, may we rise to the challenge. Over the next few weeks pledge cards will begin to be dispense in the congregation, and we ask that you offer this commitment to God in worship on December 3 for Pledge Sunday.

In Christ’s peace, Pastor David

The UMC of Port Washington
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Port Washington, NY 11050