



Havertown United Methodist Church
200 Brookline Blvd.
Havertown, Pa 19083

October Messenger



LEADERSHIP AND STAFF OF HAVERTOWN UMC.

Pastor: Rev. Jacqueline Tilford cell 410-963-1721 parsonage 610-789-2328

Director of Music: Yukiko (Yuki) Ishida, DMA

2nd & 4th Sunday Organist/Pianist: Lilah Knox

Sunday School Director: Brenda Del Rosario ED.D.

Treasurer: James McDonough

Parish Nurse: Deaconess Barbara Drake

Administrative Assistant: Donna Flanagan office 610-789-1700

Custodian: Miriam Gallagher

Hope Food Bank: Sally Kiner



*Excerpt gleaned from the UMC South-East Region Newsletter September 2026
FALLING IN LOVE AGAIN: Rediscovering Our Calling as United Methodists*

“I remember the devotion of your youth, how as a bride you loved me and followed me through the wilderness...” Jeremiah 2:2 (NIV)

There is something profoundly moving about the moment when someone falls in love again.

Perhaps you know the feeling. It happened in your own marriage — after years of routine, disappointment, or simply the weight of ordinary life, something shifted. A glance across a crowded room. A remembered kindness. A quiet evening that felt, suddenly, like the beginning of something rather than the continuation of something tired. And without fully understanding how it happened, you found yourself falling — again — for the person you had promised your life to.

Our beloved United Methodist Church is in that moment right now.

We have walked through wilderness seasons. We have faced disagreement, departure, and deep grief. Many of us have sat in our sanctuaries wondering what comes next. Some of you have confided in me that you feel spiritually dry, institutionally weary, and uncertain about whether the church you gave your life to still has a future worth believing in.

I want to answer that question with a resounding, Spirit-filled, Scripture-grounded YES!

It is time to fall in love with the United Methodist Church again.

The United Methodist Church has embraced a renewed guiding vision statement that calls us forward with clarity and conviction:

The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ, who empowered by the Holy Spirit, Love Boldly, Serve Joyfully, Lead Courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.

These are not merely institutional words printed in a handbook. They are a love letter written to every congregation, every pastor, every layperson who has ever wondered if what we do on Sunday morning matters on Monday afternoon.

There is a story of a woman named Clara who joined a United Methodist congregation in a small Midwestern town fifteen years ago. She came initially because her neighbor invited her and because the church had a good children's program. She was, by her own admission, a consumer. She sat in the third pew, sang the hymns, and went home.

Then her small group leader asked her a question that changed everything: Clara, who is God calling you to love this week that you've been avoiding?"

The question unsettled her. She thought of her estranged sister. She thought of the homeless man she walked past every Tuesday on her way to work. She thought of her colleague whose marriage was falling apart.

Clara stopped being a church member that week. She became a disciple. And fifteen years later, she leads a prison ministry that has touched hundreds of lives — all because someone in a United Methodist congregation cared enough to ask the right question.

This is what we are called to produce. Not pew-sitters. Disciples.

We are not making disciples of a philosophy.

We are not making disciples of a political ideology.

We are not even making disciples of the United Methodist Church.

We are making disciples of Jesus Christ— the Son of God, the risen Lord, the one in whom, as Paul declares:

This matters desperately *today*. We live in a world drowning in competing voices, alternative gospels, and spiritual confusion. People are hungry — genuinely, achingly hungry — for something real. And the United Methodist tradition, drawing deeply from Scripture, shaped by the theology of grace, and expressed through a commitment to both personal holiness and social holiness, has something real to offer.

*Excerpt gleaned from the UMC South-East Region Newsletter September 2026

Blessings Always,

Pastor Jacqueline





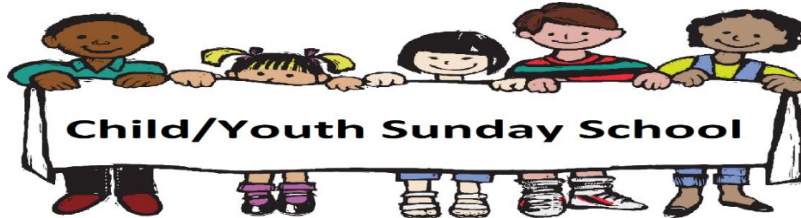
Those Assisting in Worship

October Liturgists

4- Sally Kiner
11- Barbara Drake
18- Edith McDonough
25- Bev Schmitt

Communion Stewards

Oct. 4 Donna Shenkman
Nov.1 Bob & Donna Flanagan
Dec.6 (Cantata) Cathy Cherwinski



SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE:

The Camels, Sunday School students, and teachers were delighted to reunite as we journeyed through the Book of Ruth—a beautiful love story about moving from sorrow to joy and from emptiness to fullness. We then detoured through 1 & 2 Samuel and 1 & 2 Chronicles, which trace Israel's history through the reign of King Saul. The central theme of 2 Samuel, of course, is the reign of the great King David. In October, we will continue traveling through the Books of History, so we will bring extra gear, food, and well-rested camels!

FUN FACT: Despite Ruth starting out as an outsider from Moab, Ruth became the great-grandmother of King David, placing her directly in the genealogy of Jesus!!

Reminder Trunk or Treat is Sat. Oct. 24 3-5 pm in the Hope Campus Parking Lot.

Your Sunday School teachers are Brenda Del Rosario, Donna Flanagan, Joyce Kowaski, Lynne Rudisill, and Bev Schmitt.

Adult Sunday School

All are invited to a fascinating study of the book *Jesus is Lord: Living in the Lordship of Christ* by United Methodist Bishop Tom Berlin. We meet in the church lounge from 9:45 to 10:30 each Sunday morning. What does it mean to say "Jesus is my Lord"? Each chapter of the book can help us become more mature Christians as we discuss it together.



Oct.4 – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost/ Holy Communion

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Acts 16.6-15 "Sweet Hour of Prayer – Fellowship"

Oct.11 – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am I Samuel 1 "The Posture of Prayer – Standing"

Oct.18 – Twenty first Sunday after Pentecost/Laity Sunday/After Church Fellowship

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Barbara Drake preaching

Oct. 25 – Twenty second Sunday after Pentecost/Baptism and New Members

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am James 5.7-18 "Prayers of the People – Perseverance"

WELCOME!!!

To newlyweds Ashley and Mark Anthony Cimabue and their newborn Rocklyn joining Havertown United Methodist Church on Sunday October 25th.

We Love Our Online Worshipers

We are so blessed to have worshipers join in on zoom. Some of the service music will be sent via email for your convenience. If you would like to receive a copy of the United Methodist hymnal as well as the Faith We Sing hymnal, let us know. We will deliver or mail hymnals upon request.

Havertown United Methodist Church

Vision – To be a vital, inclusive, growing church making a difference in the community by sharing God's love in words and actions.

Mission – Being the hands of Christ by sharing God's love in our teaching, feeding, sheltering, and healing ministries.





PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

Robin Abate	Sara Abate	Amanda Abate
Beth Cavna	Brenda Del Rosario	Jackie Engler
Pat Evans	Paul Eves	Bob Flanagan
Michael Flanagan	Carol Grafton	Winton Hewitt
Stacy Kusko	Tanya Long	Stephen Pols
John Makara	Sue Makara	Linda McAlpin
Barbara Murphy	Geraldine Oakes	Ernie Quatrani
Judy Rejent	Sarah Springfield	

Sandy Loflin and Cindy DiLullo and the Loflin family.

Brittney Conley ,Skylar, Ryleigh and Ryan and family with the unexpected loss of Patty their mom/mom-mom at the age of 62.

Pray for those who serve in distant lands -

Praise the Lord!! Kristine Gurcan served on the USS Lincoln Aircraft Carrier in the Mediterranean (granddaughter of Mary Anne Geer) is home!

John O'Brien serving for the State Department in Moldova, Ukraine (son of Bonnie and Bill O'Brien)

Youth Updates!

Ethan Wojnovich- first year at Penn State University at State College!

Amelia Wojnovich- Haverford HS senior, NTL Honor Society, NTL Science Honor Society, aspiring Nurse and Physician Assistant!

Emma Wojnovich - Supervisor for a Home Health Care agency!

David Flanagan- first year at Widner University studying Mechanical Engineering

Julia Flanagan- first year at Elizabethtown University studying Bio/Pre- Med

Update Your Contact Info, Please!

Please update your preferred phone, email, and address for the church office. In emergencies and urgencies we want to make sure we can pass on important info to everyone.



Happy Birthday to those with a Birthday in October!

Andrew Merrell	10/01
Ginny Brunner	10/06
TJ Osborne	10/09
Charlotte Pizio	10/10
Linsay Carlin	10/14
Linda McAlpin	10/14
Bunnie Bryant	10/15
Russell Danley	10/15
Tim Didlake	10/15
Greg Downs	10/15
Elizabeth Didlake	10/16
Mark Kelleher	10/17
Matthew Flanagan	10/19
Olivia Gegan	10/26
Sandra Loflin	10/26
Danny DiLullo	10/29

Birthday Blessings to you all. If we've missed your birthday or it is not the correct date,
Please call or email the church office.





HOPE FOOD BANK, from Coordinator Sally Kiner:

We are entering our busiest months of the year and can use your help. We accept any in-date items, but perhaps you will consider donating items from our WISH LIST.

*Beginning October 3rd, we will be at the food bank every Saturday (barring bad weather or illness) to accept donations.

*We now have an outdoor donation box for 24/7 donating. It's located right by the white door with many windows in the center courtyard.

*Cash/Check donations work well for us. Let us do the shopping for you. Make checks payable to Hope Food Bank.

WISH LIST

hearty soup (such as Campbell Chunky, Progresso, or beef stew)
pasta sauce (NO GLASS JARS)
canned chicken
cereal (hot and cold)
peanut butter
pancake mix (complete) and syrup
rice sides (such as Knorr and Rice-a-roni)
mac and cheese
canned fruit
cooking oil
shelf-stable milk

Thank you for your continued support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, as I will gladly assist you.

Sally Kiner, Director of Hope Food Bank

The Friday Study Group on zoom with Ann Eves at 2 pm

All are welcome!

New Video Study to be announced.

[Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](#) at 2 pm

Meeting ID: 773 445 3422

One tap mobile +16465588656,
7734453422# US (New York)



Flea Markets

Oct. 3 at Hope Parking Lot from 8-1. Helpers needed for the food table.

Oct. 9 - Set up Friday evening and make vegetable soup starting at 4 pm & 6 pm for the Union flea market on Saturday.

Oct. 10 - Flea Market at Union, indoors & outdoors, with vendors from 8-2. Lunch will be served starting at 10:30 with vegetable soup, hot dogs, meat ball sandwiches, sides, desserts, and beverages. The bake table needs your help providing individually-wrapped baked goods, and the dessert table needs donations. Helpers needed to serve lunch and clean-up.

Oct. 24 - Help with the Trunk or Treat from 3-5 pm in the Hope Parking Lot.

Oct. 24 - Conference Annual Celebration from 9-2 at Scottsville UMC. Program on Gun Sense in Our Community. Let Barb Drake know if you would like to attend.

Oct. 26 - 7:30 pm zoom meeting. All women are invited for devotions, fellowship, planning, and information on the national Unstoppable Campaign.



Listening for Wellness

Promoting wellbeing for ourselves and others often depends on good listening skills. We need to listen to God's guidance and the advice of medical professionals as we decide how we will take care of our own physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health. We can often help others who are facing challenges to their wellness that come in the form of anxiety, depression, and grief by offering a listening ear as they express their concerns. People often feel better after expressing what is causing them pain to someone who cares enough to listen.





Haverford Township Day - Oct. 3

Helpers are needed to set up our church table and tent around 8 am and to staff the table between 10 and 2 to distribute information about our church events and chat with folks.

Congo Partnership

Thanks to all who participated in the "Envelope Challenge" we were able to send \$1500 to support the medical, feeding, farming, and well-digging programs in the DR Congo. This will be an ongoing mission for our church without the special envelopes, so you can make a donation at any time by listing the amount of your gift on your church envelope.

St. Joseph's Family Hope Center

From the time we began helping homeless families with children in 2007 when the program was called IHN until June of 2025, when the shelter's lease was cancelled, we were able to help 249 families, consisting of 335 adults and 514 children.

In the 3 months since we changed our mission to preventing homelessness through rental and utility assistance, \$6050 was provided to 6 families with 16 children to keep them in their homes.

Fundraising is the big need now. Letters have gone out to churches in Delaware County who helped in the past to request donations and board members with fund-raising skills. The official address for the Family Hope Center is now 200 Brookline Blvd, so checks can be made out directly to St. Joseph's Family Hope Center or given through your Sunday envelope giving. Thanks for your help. Doris Butsch is now the bookkeeper for the group, and Barbara Drake and Pastor Jacqueline are on the Board of Directors.

Congregational lunch after worship on Sunday October 25 with Deaconess Darlene DiDomineck sharing about Bread for the World.





Things Happening at Havertown UMC

Fall Sunday School and Worship Services- beginning on Sunday September 13th. Sunday School at 9:30 am and Worship at 11:00 am at our Union Campus 200 Brookline Blvd.

Flea Market at Hope Campus Oct . 3 8am - 1pm Hope Campus Parking Lot

Blessing of the Animals Oct.4 1 pm Union Campus 2 pm Hope Campus

Flea Market at Union Campus Oct. 10 8am - 2 pm - indoor/outdoor - Soup Luncheon

Trunk or Treat Oct 24 3-5 pm Hope Campus Parking Lot

Congregational lunch after worship on Sunday October 25 with Deaconess Darlene DiDomineck sharing about Bread for the World



George Warner will be preaching at Havertown UMC on Nov. 29th

Christmas Cantata Sun. Dec. 6 11 am "A Celebration of Christmas"

Julie Henning Sun. Dec. 6, 12:30 pm Dinner and hear from Julie author of "A Rose in a Ditch"



Save the Date for 2027 Confirmation Retreats! April 9-11, 2027 @ Gretna Glen

October

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6pm Creative Women	2 2pm Bible Study Zoom with Ann Eves	3 Haverford Township Day 8am-1pm Flea Market at Hope Campus 9:30 am Overeaters Anonymous 10-11:30 am Food collection at Hope Food Bank
4 9:45 am Sunday school for all ages 11 am Worship at Union Campus Blessing of the Animals 1pm Union Campus 2 pm Hope Campus	5	6	7	8 6pm Creative Women	9 2pm Bible Study Zoom with Ann Eves	10 8am-2 pm Flea Market Union Campus 9am Yoga @ Hope 9:30 am Overeaters Anonymous 10-11:30 am Food collection at Hope Food Bank 5-10 pm St. Paul's Using Thomas Hall
11 9:45 am Sunday school for all ages 11 am Worship at Union Campus	12	13 7 pm Trustee Meeting MYF room	14	15 6pm Creative Women	16 2pm Bible Study Zoom with Ann Eves 7pm Candy Bar Bingo/Fami	17 9:30 am Overeaters Anonymous 10-11:30 am Food collection 12-1:30 pm Food Distribution at Hope Food Bank
18 9:45 am Sunday school for all ages 11 am Worship at Union Campus/After Church Fellowship	19 7:30 pm Leadership Team Zoom	20	21	22 6pm Creative Women	23 2pm Bible Study Zoom with Ann Eves	24 9:30 am Overeaters Anonymous 10-11:30 am Food collection at Hope Food Bank
25 9:45 am Sunday school for all ages 11 am Worship at Union Campus 12pm Darlene DiDomineck Bread for the world Lunch	26 7:30 pm United Women in Faith zoom meeting	27	28	29 6pm Creative Women	30 2pm Bible Study Zoom with Ann Eves	31 9:30 am Overeaters Anonymous 10-11:30 am Food collection at Hope Food Bank GPCC 5-10 pm

BOLD= Church events/ not bold= Community events