



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

## March 2026



### 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

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

Sunday School Director: Brenda Del Rosario ED.D. cell 215-688-8778

Treasurer: James McDonough

Parish Nurse: Deaconess Barbara Drake

Administrative Assistant: Donna Flanagan office 610-789-1700

Custodian: Miriam Gallagher

Hope Food Bank: Sally Kiner



## Praying "YOUR Will be Done"

Our Lenten season began with the traditional Ash Wednesday service February 18<sup>th</sup> when we acknowledged that we have come from dust and to dust we shall return. We took that hour to reflect on ways we need to return to God with humble hearts knowing that we may not have tomorrow.

Our neighbor, Pastor Audie Monday of GPCC - Greater Philadelphia Church of Christ, that worships at our Steel Road campus, brought the message. He reminded us that Acts 3.19 says -

"Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,..."

This season of repenting every day and praising God every hour - as I have come to know it, is to be a time of **REFRESHING**, not of self-condemnation. Our God purges us and blesses us with breakthroughs, leading us to the next level of emotional, mental, physical, relational and spiritual health and strength!

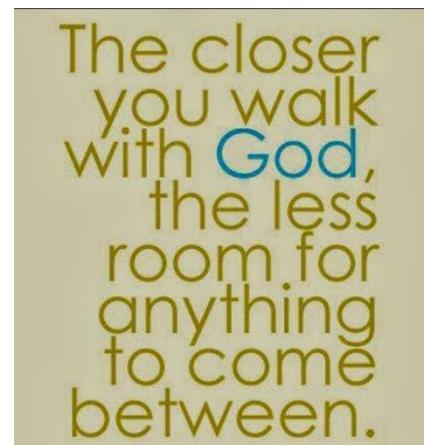
The Lenten season is also a time of dreaming with God, dreaming of peace that begins with us, peace that heals, and peace that enables us to surrender to the goodness and mercy of God, that gives birth to our doing justice and loving mercy. Dreams stir up our gifts and talents so that we can minister with excellence in alignment with God's purpose and plan.

As a united congregation, join me in 28 days of prayer from Saturday March 21-Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup>. Collectively praying "Your will be done, God" will open our hearts to listen carefully to God's voice and hear what God's will is for our home, our church, and our community.

We pray faithfully for the needs of ourselves and others. The daily news tells us what is needed. Our corporate prayer for God's will to be done will help us know more of what God needs. We complete our prayer time by gathering for a retreat at St. Raphaela's Retreat Center Saturday April 18 from 2-7 p.m.

Blessings!

Pastor Jacqueline





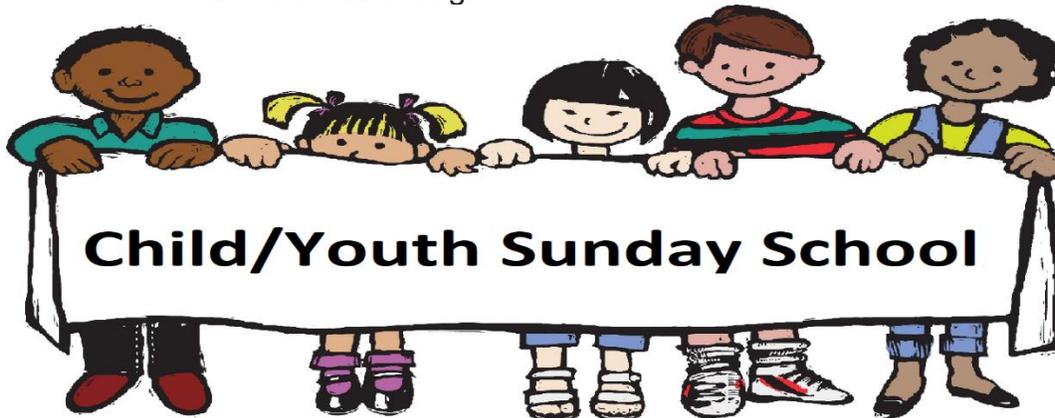
Those Assisting in Worship

**March Liturgists**

1 Bunnie Bryant  
8 Tony Tilford  
15 Donna Flanagan  
22 Mary Hankins  
29 Jim McDonough

**Communion Stewards**

Mar.1 Carolyn Wiker  
Apr.5 Donna Shenkman  
May 3 Donna & Bob Flanagan



**SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE:**

During Sunday School sessions with our children and youth, we take the opportunity to pause and reflect as we read scriptures together, engage in thoughtful discussions, and participate in creative craft activities for the Lent Season. The students have created banners featuring messages such as "Hallelujah" or "He Has Risen" designed with artistic lettering. These banners are placed in a box and remain sealed until Easter morning, when they are revealed and celebrate with the excitement, "Hallelujah, He has Risen—He has Risen, indeed!" Throughout Lent, various narratives from the life of Jesus will be shared.

Please note that our Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 4th from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. On Easter Sunday, April 5th , 11:00, all children are invited to participate in the Children's Moment, during which we will participate in a fun activity.

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



**March 1 – Second Sunday in Lent / Holy Communion**

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Worship Genesis 12:1-4a "Celebrate Greatness" Pastor Jacqueline

**March 8 – Third Sunday in Lent**

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Worship Romans 5:1-11 "Celebrate Goodness!" Pastor Jacqueline

**March 15 – Fourth Sunday in Lent/After Church Fellowship**

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Worship Galatians 5:22-25 "Celebrate Growth! Four Metaphors"

Tony Tilford preaching, God Moment with artist/poet Curtis Spence

**March 22 – Fifth Sunday in Lent**

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Worship Samuel 16:1-13 "Celebrate Gifts!"

**March 29 – Passion/Palm Sunday**

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Worship Matthew 21:1-11 "Celebrate Generosity!"

**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.

**Lenten Lunches and Study -**

Join us Thursdays at noon for five Lenten Lunches - 2/19, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19.

Lessons will be taken from *Spiritual F.i.t.ness* a scriptural study of what God does For us, In us, and Through us.

The focus will be on the role of morning prayer in developing a deeper spiritual life. The study was designed by Tony Tilford who will lead the sessions with Pastor Jacqueline.

Sign up in the sanctuary or by calling the office.

# *In Our Thoughts & Prayers*



## PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN PRAYER

Beth Cavanaugh	Brenda Del Rosario	Laura Dietrich
Jackie Engler	Pat Evans	Paul Eves
Bob Flanagan	Michael Flanagan	Carol Grafton
Stacy Kusko	Keith Loflin	Tanya Long
Stephen Pols	Sue Makara	Linda McAlpin
Barbara Murphy	Geraldine Oakes	Judy Rejent
	Richard Miller (Donna's Uncle)	
	Mike Downes (Donna's brother-in-law)	
	Winton Hewitt and family	
	Prayers for the Family of Dorothy Bonghi	

**Dorothy Bonghi** - May 10, 1935 - December 13, 2025, was memorialized in a private service on February 19<sup>th</sup> at Danjolell Memorial Home of Broomall. Please pray for her sons Francis (Chip) and Leonard.

## *The Friday Study Group on zoom with Ann Eves*

*All are welcome!*

Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting

Meeting ID: 773 445 3422

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

**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 March!

MARCH

Bev Schmitt	03/03
Sue Copple	03/07
Alex Merrell	03/10
Harriet Zeigler	03/10
Lisa Osborne	03/11
Erica Oslak	03/11
Michael O'Donnell	03/17
Dorothy Wolfe	03/26
Tom Reisch, Jr.	03/27
Daniel Mariani	03/30
Stacy Martin	03/31

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:

Hi friends!

The food bank is pushing the PAUSE button on donations for a few weeks.

Right now, we are overwhelmed with food from all our generous donors. We need some time to sort and organize all the items we have on hand. Plus, we are almost out of room to store the food we have. Our pantry shelves are filled to the rafters and all the pews in our little chapel are overflowing.

We are still doing distribution each month on the third Saturday from 12:00 noon-1:30 pm.

I'll let you know when we have space for more donations. Until then, please consider donating to any of the other local food banks, or \$\$\$\$ is always a good donation for our food bank to prep for the future.

Thank you for your continued support of our mission to help those in need.

Sally Kiner, Director

Hope Food Bank





### **Jumble**

We hope to have our jumble (English word for rummage sale) on Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup> if enough donations are received. So look around your storage spaces for things you are no longer using and bring them to the stage in Union's fellowship hall. Set up will be on Friday April 10<sup>th</sup> after 4 pm. The money raised at this event supports the church.

### **Zoom Gathering on Monday March 23**

All women are invited to join United Women in Faith. You can join through your presence at our in-person or zoom events, or by providing financial support for our mission work, or by keeping our members and missions in your prayers. At our March 23 zoom gathering at 7:30 pm we will share in the Call to Prayer service and hear about events attended by our members, including the Bishop's welcome on the district, the District Social Action program on human trafficking, and the Tools for Ministry.

### **Ingathering**

Our South District Ingathering of new clothing for agencies serving folks in need of help will be held in the morning on Saturday April 25 at Christ, Middletown UMC. When the selected agencies let us know what kind of clothing is needed, we'll let you know. But mark your calendar for the event, which will include an interesting program

### **Thanks**

Thanks to all who helped with the set-up and clean-up for our Feb. 15 Valentine's lunch after worship. Please add your love stories to our church notebook of stories. One story has been added so far.



### **Peter D. Weaver Congo Partnership**

The Leadership Team decided on February 16 to adopt the Congo Partnership as a new mission project for our church. It's a partnership between Eastern PA, Peninsula-Delaware, and Western North Carolina Conferences, and the Central Congo Episcopal Area. It's named for our former Bishop, Peter Weaver, who helped get it started at the time he was serving as bishop for EPA and Peninsula-Delaware. The partnership supports mission work in poor areas near cities and in rural areas of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Those missions include medical care, digging wells to provide clean water to people depending on polluted river water, growing food, teaching work skills, and providing meals for hungry children and elderly people. You may recall that our district raised money some years ago to build an ophthalmology clinic. One of the programs feeding children is Miriam's Table, which received half of our Ash Wednesday offering this year. Displays about the ministries of the Congo Partnership are being prepared and will be in the sanctuary soon, so you can learn more about this important work.

## UMCOR Sunday

On the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent every year, we receive a special offering for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). This year the date is March 15. This special offering is what keeps UMCOR operating year-round, so that help can be given promptly after natural disasters. UMCOR has been helping people for 80 years. Every donation given for disaster relief goes 100% to help people in need. This offering covers the administrative costs that enable UMCOR to be known as one of the first groups to provide help at the time of a disaster and one of the last groups to leave the disaster area.



## Healing Circle

Healing worship services have played an important role in our church's ministry in Havertown for at least 40 years. Blue Christmas services have focused on healing for those who are grieving. For many years there were monthly healing services before Sunday School, and at least one of them brought a woman back to regular church attendance when her husband was diagnosed with cancer. Our healing circles began as a simple circle in the church lounge with a sharing of the way in which healing has played a role in the church from the earliest of times, and shared prayers for those needing healing. Our recent format is shared with Ardmore UMC and St. Luke's UMC and include a supper meal and a worship service focused on healing, the most recent being on February 26.

## Abundant Health

Jesus said he came that we might have abundant life, and that includes abundant health. As we seek abundant health for ourselves and others, we know that healthy eating and exercise are vital but putting that in practice is not always easy. The emphasis on discipline that is part of Lent can help us. The goal of walking 10,000 steps a day seems impossible for many. The new research shows that simply walking up and down steps every day may give us the exercise that we need to enjoy being well.



**Sea Scout Ship 178 is hosting an Open House on March 17 from 7 – 9 PM** in Fellowship Hall. Have an interest in all things nautical? Enjoy water activities? Sea Scouts are open to all youth ages 14 – 21. For more information contact our Skipper, Ann Newman at [newskipper@aol.com](mailto:newskipper@aol.com). Parents are welcome.



## Mark your calendars

### Jumble Sale - Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup>

Starting your spring cleaning? Have things you would like to get rid of? Downsizing or clearing out the clutter? The Women of Havertown UMC are planning a Jumble Sale on 4/11, please speak to Bev Schmitt or Barb Drake about donating to the Jumble Sale.

### March 15 - Artist Curis Spence- coming to Havertown UMC

Artist and poet Curtis Spence will share a God Moment at Havertown UMC on March 15<sup>th</sup> during 11 a.m. service. Curtis began painting as a way to heal during cancer treatments.

### Retreat at St. Raphaela's April 18, 2026

Mark your calendars for an all-church retreat on Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup>. The theme is "Possibility." Necia Evonda Bailey-Tyree will assist in leading the retreat.

Sunday May 3 at 3 pm in the Union campus sanctuary, Our Town in Story and Song, a concert with narration about the history of Havertown. Music will be provided by the Havertown Choristers, a combined choir, Molly Hicks, and other musicians as we celebrate our country's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Annual Conference in Wildwood New Jersey May 19, 20, 21, Welcome to Donna Flanagan and Sandy Young joining Bunnie Bryant, Mary Hankins, and Barbara Drake representing Havertown UMC.



## Lenten Services

**Lenten Lunches-** 12 pm Lounge 2/19, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19 . (5 weeks)

**Maundy Thursday** April 2, Ardmore UMC 7 pm

**Good Friday** April 3, St. Luke UMC Bryn Mawr 12:00 pm

April 4 1-3 pm Easter Egg Hunt in Fellowship Hall

# March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <b>Holy Communion "Celebrate Greatness" Pastor Jacqueline</b>	2	3 6pm Sea Scouts	4	5 12 pm Lenten Lunch & Study  6pm Creative Women	6 2pm Bible Study Zoom with Ann Eves	7 9:30-10:45 am Overeaters Anonymous Lounge
8 <b>"Celebrate Goodness" Pastor Jacqueline</b>  4:30 - 7:30 pm GPCC Youth @ Hope	9 6:45 pm Girl Scout Service Unit Meeting - fellowship Hall	10 7pm Trustee Meeting in MYF room	11	12 12 pm Lenten Lunch & Study  6pm Creative Women	13 2pm Bible Study Zoom with Ann Eves  6-10pm Funeral at Hope	14 9am Yoga -Hope 9:30-10:45 am Overeaters Anonymous Lounge 10-11:30 Food Collection - Hope Food Bank 9am-6pm Funeral at Hope
15 <b>"Celebrate Growth! Four Metaphors" Tony Tilford Preaching Curtis Spence - God Moment</b>  4:30-7:30 pm GPCC Youth @ Hope	16 7:30 pm Leadership team Zoom Meeting  Havertown Choristers 6:30- 9:30 pm	17   Sea Scouts Open House 7-9 pm	18	19 12pm Lenten Lunch  6pm Creative Women	20 2pm Bible Study Zoom with Ann Eves  7pm Family Game Night	21 9:30-10:45 am Overeaters Anonymous Lounge  10-11:30 Food Collection - Hope Food Bank 12-1:30 pm Food Distribution - Hope Food Bank
22 <b>"Celebrate Gifts!" Pastor Jacqueline</b>	23 7:30 pm United Women in Faith Zoom Meeting	24	25	26 12pm Lenten Lunch  6pm Creative Women	27 2pm Bible Study Zoom with Ann Eves	28 9:30-10:45 am Overeaters Anonymous Lounge GPCC wedding at Hope GPCC- 5-10 pm- Hope
29 <b>Passion/Palm Sunday "Celebrate Generosity Pastor Jacqueline</b>	30 Havertown Choristers 6:30-9:30 pm	31				

**BOLD= Church events/ not bold= Community events**