



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

## APRIL 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



Beloved,

As you know, our Eastern Pennsylvania Conference has offered congregations program opportunities with coaches that support us as we grow and reach out to our neighborhood. One major focus has been to connect with stories and hospitality. We have been involved for over a year with various workshops. Several on the Leadership Team participated in a very productive time of conversation and learning after worship last year. On April 25th we will be represented in Allentown for another time of training and reflection. If you would like to attend, let me know as soon as possible.

**As your pastor, I have been charged by PATHWAYS to write a letter to the Leadership Team with my dreams for the future of the church.** Here it is:

Dear Havertown UMC Leadership Team and Members:

You have certainly been a church with many dreams. Dreams really stir up our spiritual gifts! I have four dreams for our church as pastor. First, I dream of our reaching out and inviting friends, family, and members of the community to attend worship and activities so that we have visitors of family and friends and neighbors every month. Second, I dream of the headlines and "talk" about our congregation to include stories of our care and hospitality that we can recall and record often, especially at every Leadership Team meeting. Thirdly, I dream of our witnessing and expressing our understanding of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives and community, particularly by those experiencing joys and concerns. Such stories encourage us in our faith and can also be retold in the Messenger, during worship, in gatherings or at Leadership Team meetings. Fourthly, I dream of one or two regular monthly outreach opportunities to gather during worship, bible study, zoom chats, after service, or during the week with visitors and others who can share God Moments, teachings, and experiences that resonate, encourage, enlighten and edify.

Certainly, these dreams have been fulfilled in many ways and continue to unfold. Thank you for being a dreamer and all you do to keep the dreams alive.

And, thank you for joining the 28 day prayer team to pray daily "**YOUR** will be done, God" from March 21-April 18th. We are assured that God listens to the desires of our hearts. This time of prayer will be our opportunity to listen to God's heart. I look forward to continuing to partner with you and with God as we dream together! When we join in the church-wide retreat at St. Raphaela's center on Saturday April 18th, the harvest of our prayers will be clearer!

In God's Love,  
Pastor Jacqueline



Those Assisting in Worship

**April Liturgists**

5 Sally Kiner  
12 Barbara Drake  
19 Edith McDonough  
26 Bev Schmitt

**Communion Stewards**

Apr. 5 Donna Shenkman  
May 3 Bob & Donna Flanagan  
June 7 Kathy Cherwinski  
July 5 Linda Gonzales



**SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE:**

This Lent Season, our children and youth participated in various activities, including making Hallelujah banners, creating praying hands crafts, and building models of Jesus' tomb. They learned about the crown of thorns and its significance and explored repentance and resurrection through sensory experiences with rocks, which they painted for Easter. With Easter celebrated, our camels and students are now preparing to begin our journey into Leviticus.

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 Schmitt, Lynne Rudisill, and Brenda Del Rosario.

Skylar LaDue was in the production of Alladin Jr. with the Interboro Youth Theater.

Eva Kowalski was in the production of Willy Wanka Kids with the Plymouth Performing Arts Center.

Julia Flanagan was inducted into the DCTS National Honor Society, plus she just finished being part of the school play, *Legally Blonde*.

**College Scholarship Applications are being accepted April 1<sup>st</sup> thru June 1<sup>st</sup>**

The Education Society of EPA invites college-age youth to apply for our annual scholarship. This scholarship is open to those who will be undergraduate students in 2026-2027.

Applications will be accepted via email between April 1 and June 1, 2026.

[EPA-Scholarship-Application.pdf](#)

Questions? Contact **Jen Hopple** at [jen.hopple@cumclansdale.org](mailto:jen.hopple@cumclansdale.org) or

**Frances Whittington** at [envirogirl75@gmail.com](mailto:envirogirl75@gmail.com) .



**April 5 – Easter Sunday He Is Risen / Holy Communion**

7:00 am Easter Sunrise service- light breakfast following in

Thomas Hall at Hope Campus

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Worship Matthew 28:1-10, Acts 10:34-43 “Surrender to Love – The Resurrection!”

**April 12 – Second Sunday after Easter**

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Worship I Peter 1.3-9 “Finding Joy” Mary Jane Kirby preaching

**April 19 – Third Sunday after Easter/After Church Fellowship**

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Worship John 20:19-31 “Surrender to Love – Receive the Holy Spirit”

**April 26 – Fourth Sunday after Easter**

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Worship Psalm 42.1-5 “The Benefits of Talking to Yourself

(How Prayer Journaling Can Help)” Tony Tilford preaching

**Journaling Workshop and Luncheon in Lounge Sunday April 26.**

Following April 26<sup>th</sup>'s worship service, come to the lounge for a tasty lunch and a nurturing talk on prayer journaling. Tony Tilford will lead the discussion.

Many people throughout centuries have found that keeping a prayer journal has greatly added to their emotional, mental, and spiritual health. Pastor Tony has been journaling since 1983 and will share some insights he has gained along the way; practical steps for starting and maintaining a journal.

Sign up in the sanctuary or let him know you plan to participate.

**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.

# *In Our Thoughts & Prayers*

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN PRAYER

Beth Cavna	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

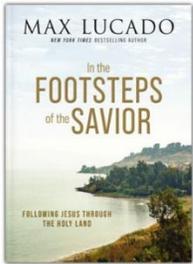
Debbie Downes and family with the loss of her husband Mike Downes  
Sue Keehn and Family loss of Gordon Keehn

*The Friday Study Group on zoom with Ann Eves*

*All are welcome!*

*“In The Footsteps of the Savior” by Max Lucado*

Wish you could take a guided tour of the Holy Land this year? Here's the next best thing! Join beloved pastor Lucado on a lavishly illustrated expedition through Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jerusalem, and the rolling hills of Galilee as you reflect on Jesus' ministry on Earth---and his sacrificial love for you.



[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 April!

APRIL

Lou Kusko	04/10
Rick Ameisen	04/12
Campbell Lyn Carlin	04/15
Barbara Drake	04/17
Jen Wetherbee	04/18
Sharon Munoz	04/22
Tom Reisch, Sr.	04/23
Matt LaDue	04/25
Rob Flanagan	04/27

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!

Hope Food Bank still has on the PAUSE button on donations for a few more weeks. We continue to work to clear stockpiled food out of the chapel.

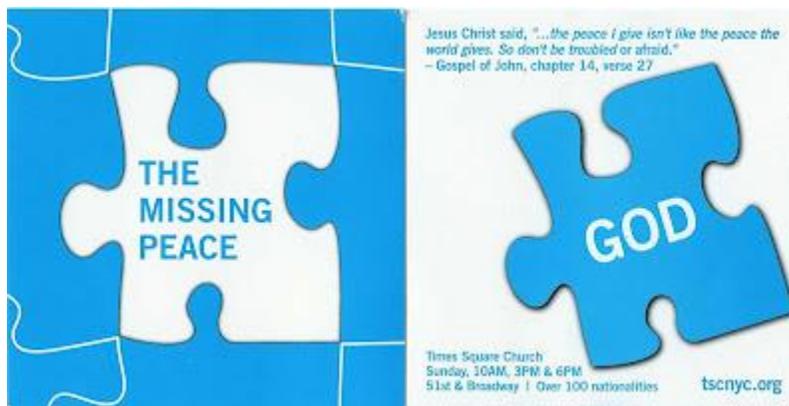
For the time being, \$\$\$ is always an appreciated donation to our food bank.

Additionally, if you are considering going shopping, here are a few specific items we need to fill in the gaps.

peanut butter (15/16 oz. size)  
pasta sauce (NO GLASS JARS)  
canned chicken  
liquid laundry detergent  
adult pull-ups (L/XL/XXL)  
feminine hygiene pads  
tooth paste

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

Sally Kiner, Director  
Hope Food Bank



Feeling puzzled? God is your missing peace.” – Dale Schoening Ames, IA



### **Call to Prayer and Self Denial**

Our Call to Prayer program encourages us to pray and provide an offering for the many children served by the nearly 90 National Mission Institutions supported by United Women in Faith. The ones nearest to us are Neighborhood Center in Camden and Wilmington's Neighborhood House. Neighborhood Services in Philadelphia was a National Mission Institution in the past, but now it is supported by the Eastern PA United Women in Faith's Permanent Trust Fund.

### **April 18 Church Wide Retreat**

You are invited to the St. Raphaela Center, 616 Coopertown Road, Haverford, from 2:00 - 7:00 pm for our church retreat and dinner. All are encouraged to pray for God's Will to be done through our church.

### **April 25 Ingathering**

Our South District Ingathering will be at Christ, Middletown UMC, 600 E. Dutton Mill Road, Brookhaven (just off Rt. 352). New clothing is being collected for several agencies, with specific requests to be listed in our church bulletin. We will also donate money to provide grants to agencies in our area helping people in need. Lynne Rudisill is our Ingathering Coordinator, so let her know if you have new clothing to share.

### **April 27 Zoom Meeting**

All women are invited to our 7:30 pm zoom gathering for a program on Building Bridges with our community. We'll also hear a report from the Ingathering and finalize plans for the May Flea markets on 5/2 at Hope and 5/9 at Union.



### **Missionary Support**

We are supporting our missionary in Tanzania, Kabaka Alphonsine, with \$500 toward her salary, and \$500 for the Women's Development and Pre-School for Orphans.

### **UMCOR Sunday**

Thanks to all who have contributed to support UMCOR. In 2025 our United Methodist Committee on Relief was able to help the victims of 30 floods, 11 tropical storms, 5 fires, 6 tornadoes, 3 landslides, 5 earthquakes, 3 public health emergencies, 29 migration events, 7 episodes of civil unrest, and 16 other kinds of disasters. Our UMCOR Sunday offering provided the administrative support that made it possible for UMCOR to be ready to help, so that money designed for disaster assistance went 100% for that purpose.

### **Congo Partnership**

Our new mission project is to support the Peter D. Weaver Congo Partnership, named for our bishop at the time of the start of the partnership between Eastern PA, Peninsula-Delaware and Western North Carolina Conferences. Many mission projects in the Central

area of the D.R. Congo are supported that provide medical care, meals for children and the elderly, wells for fresh water, and education for children and adults. On April 12, we will begin an envelope challenge fundraiser. Each person will select an envelope with a number from 1-100 and will give that amount of money. Only 1 person needs to give \$100, and if all the envelopes are filled, we will have raised over \$5000 for the Congo mission projects.

### **Our Town in Story and Song – May 3 at 3 pm**

A musical concert with narration will celebrate the history of Havertown and the rich heritage of people from many cultures, nationalities, and religions who settled here. The Havertown Choristers and a combined choir from the faith communities will sing patriotic and religious music, the Armenian Martyrs Church choir will sing “The Lord’s Prayer” in Armenian, the Temple Lutheran Church handbell choir will ring “Ode to Joy”, and there will be several soloists with guitar and harpsichord music. The program booklet will share the history of Haverford Township and information about all the faith communities. A reception will follow the concert for a time of fellowship in the sanctuary at 200 Brookline Blvd.

### **Blanket Sunday**

Pat Cutillo is ordering information from Church World Service to be shared at our Blanket Sunday observance on Mother’s Day, May 10. Our donations will purchase blankets for people in need in all kinds of situations. Mother’s always want to have warm blankets for their babies, so this is a day you can donate a blanket in memory or honor of your mother.

### **Ingathering will be held on April 25**

at Christ, Middletown UMC, 600 E. Dutton Mill Rd., Brookhaven, beginning with continental breakfast at 9 am and program at 10 am. Speakers will share about the work of Hannah's House in Philadelphia, which provides help for women who are victims of domestic violence, sexual abuse, and human trafficking, and Care Center in West Chester which provides day care.

New clothing is being collected for 4 agencies and will be displayed in the sanctuary on April 19. The requested items are: summer pajamas for boys and girls in foster care (T2 to teens); men's boxers and short-sleeved T-shirts; women's sports bras, panties, and summer pajamas (all sizes).



### **Methodist Hospital Women’s Association Lunch Meeting**

On Thursday April 23 at 10:30 am, Barbara Drake will be speaking on Abundant Health for the spring gathering in the Methodist Hospital Chapel. Luncheon prepared by the hospital chef will follow at a cost of \$10. If you would like to go and get a ride, let Barb know.

### **Abundant Health**

Handouts about abundant health will be on the table in the sanctuary.



## Mark your calendars

**Easter Egg Filling-** Wednesday April 1<sup>st</sup> in the MYF room

**Easter Egg Hunt** - Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup> 1-3 pm

**Jumble Sale** - Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup> 9 am - 1 pm Fellowship Hall Union Campus

**Twenty - eight days of prayer** before the retreat on March 21<sup>st</sup> to April 18<sup>th</sup> -Pray: "Your will be done..." as we prepare to hear from God.

**Retreat at St. Raphaela's April 18,2026 2-7 pm**

All-Church Retreat on Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup> More details to follow.

**Our Town in Story and Song**, Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3 pm in the Union campus sanctuary, 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.

**Flea Market @ Hope** May 2<sup>nd</sup> 8am-1pm contact Cassie Popky

**Flea Market @ Union** May 9<sup>th</sup> 8am -2 pm contact Bev Schmitt

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

**Vacation Bible School- Snowball Mountain Challenge-** featuring Ollie the Seal

Aug. 10<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> 9am - 12pm.



### Lenten Services

**Palm Sunday** March 29 11 am Worship

**Maundy Thursday** April 2<sup>nd</sup> , Ardmore UMC 7 pm

**Good Friday** April 3<sup>rd</sup> , St. Luke UMC Bryn Mawr 12:00 pm

**Easter Egg Hunt** Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup> 1-3 pm

**Easter Sunrise Service** Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup> 7am at Hope Campus Courtyard followed by a light breakfast in Thomas Hall

**Easter Worship Service** Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup> 11 am at Union Campus trumpet, Marcell Bellinger



## Announcements from our South District Superintendent

South District Conference will be held on May 2nd at 10:00 AM

Host Church:

Cedarville UMC

1092 Laurelwood Rd

Pottstown, PA 19465-7420



### Dismantling Racism I - Spring 2026

This interactive workshop offers a pathway to understanding current concepts and language about diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) values and practices. Participants will explore the history of race and racism and learn how to apply transformative tools within their church and communities in order to dismantle systems of racism.

The workshop will take place via Zoom on:

Friday May 8: 1 PM to 6 PM

Saturday, May 9: 9 AM to 4 PM

<https://member.gnjumc.org/default.aspx?page=3356&rgtn=a37780c1-0681-4036-b740-4f3a913e997c>

But what we can do, as  
flawed as we are, is still  
see God in other  
people, and do our best  
to help them find their  
own grace. That's what  
I strive to do, that's  
what I pray to do every  
day.

~Barack Obama

The PONTIUS PILATE Recall  
Late of Jerusalem,  
Arbiter for Rome,  
Prefect, not Perfect, of Judea—

Reluctant executioner,  
Married to a Dreamer,  
Bated and bullied by Mob Rule  
To choose the Other Jesus—

The Anointed Jesus  
Crowned with thorns—  
Speaking silently,  
Voicing integrity,  
Shunning blasphemy,  
Bearing witness to Truth—

A Herod reject—  
Pilate declares him innocent  
A second time.

This King of the Jews,  
With bloody face,  
Crippled legs,  
And head bowed low—

Becomes one more crux  
Planted along roadsides—  
See the bodies squirm,  
Cry out,  
And die!

The Marionette of Murderers  
Has washed his hands,  
But stains remain intact—

Suicide in Gaul,  
Resentful waters spit forth the corpse  
And mark it:

“Return to Sender.”  
--Bunnie Bryant

# April

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes esday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 <b>7pm Maundy Thursday service at Ardmore UMC</b>	3 <b>12 pm Good Friday Service at St. Luke's UMC</b>	4 9:30-10:45 am Overeaters Anonymous Lounge <b>1-3 pm Easter Egg Hunt at Union</b>
5  <b>7am Easter Sunrise service/breakfast at Hope</b> <b>11am Worship at Union</b>	6	7 6pm Sea Scouts	8	9 <b>6pm Creative Women</b>	10 <b>2pm Bible Study Zoom with Ann Eves</b> <b>4 pm set up for Jumble</b>	11 9am Yoga -Hope 9:30-10:45 am Overeaters Anonymous Lounge <b>10-11:30 Food Collection - Hope Food Bank</b> <b>9am-1pm Jumble Sale at Union</b>
12 <b>"Finding Hope" Mary Jane Kerby preaching 11 am worship</b>  4:30-7:30 pm GPCC Youth @ Hope	13 6:45 pm Girl Scout Service Unit Meeting - fellowship Hall	14 <b>7pm Trustee Meeting in MYF room</b>	15	16 <b>6pm Creative Women</b>	17 <b>2pm Bible Study Zoom with Ann Eves</b>  <b>7pm Family Game Night</b>	18 9:30-10:45 am Overeaters Anonymous Lounge <b>2-7 pm All Church Retreat at St. Raphaela's</b> <b>10-11:30 Food Collection - Hope Food Bank</b> <b>12-1:30 pm Food Distribution - Hope Food Bank</b> GPCC- 5-10 pm- Hope
19	20 <b>7:30 pm Leadership team Zoom Meeting</b>	21	22	23 <b>6pm Creative Women</b>	24 <b>2pm Bible Study Zoom with Ann Eves</b>	25 9:30-10:45 am Overeaters Anonymous Lounge
26 <b>Tony Tilford preaching, journaling workshop with lunch following 11 am service</b>	27 <b>7:30 pm United Women in Faith zoom</b>	28	29	30 <b>6pm Creative Women</b>		

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