



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

May 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. 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



After praying "YOUR will be done, God" for 28 days we gathered for a retreat on Saturday April 18th. As always, those who gather in Jesus' name are blessed. God showed up. The message was loud and clear that our work at Havertown UMC is a blessing to many even though it is not the hundreds we used to have in worship or Sunday School. We want to be grateful for every opportunity that God has given us. When we look at other ministries, we know that the grass is absolutely not greener on the other side. We know that God is not calling us to keep up with the Joel Osteens and the Robert Schullers of the world.

We give thanks for the awesome ministry God has given us! Every individual and family matters to God and matters to us. There is no need to complain and worry about not having more. When we give thanks for what we have, we celebrate and pray for everyone who shows up in the pews or in our areas of outreach! Gratitude changes how we listen and how we hear God.

During the retreat, Necia Tyree (pronounced Nisha rhyming with Trisha) told us the story of scientist George Washington Carver's conversation with God. When he asked God why the universe was made, God said that information was too much for his little mind. "Ask something more your size." So, he asked, "Tell me what a man was made for." God answered, "Little man, you still ask for too much. Cut down the extent of your request and improve your intent." Being a lover of nature and science Carver then asked "Please, Mr. Creator, will you tell me why the peanut was made." "That's better" answered the Lord."

Carver said, "Then the creator taught me how to take the peanut apart and put it back together again." Carver went on to develop hundreds of food and industrial products that radically transformed the agricultural industry, bringing a measure of prosperity to the nation's economy.

We clearly understood that dreaming BIG with God can mean cherishing peanut-sized opportunities. Necia gave us all a bag of peanuts to help us remember Carver's story.

Tony Tilford gave us a fresh perspective on Ephesians 3.20 -

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than **we** ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within **us**,...

We were reminded that God's power works in us to fulfil dreams that are sure to bring life and love.

We read the verse together from a personal perspective:

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than **I** ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within **me**,...

Our retreat time was not only delightfully refreshing and relaxing, God spoke to our hearts and we have grown in our trust that God is faithful!

In God's Love,
Pastor Jacqueline



Those Assisting in Worship

May Liturgists

3 Jim McDonough
10 Tony Tilford
17 Donna Flanagan
24 Bunnie Bryant
31 Sally Kiner

Communion Stewards

May 3 Bob & Donna Flanagan
June 7 Kathy Cherwinski
July 5 Linda Gonzales
August 2 Barbara Ameisen



SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE:

We are all back on the camels again, traveling through the next three or four more books of the Bible. The students were very excited in the lesson of Leviticus, not to mention, quick learners in retaining the information!! On **Mother's Day**, May 10th, all the Sunday School students will be singing the song of The Books of the Bible during the Children's Message. Sunday School teachers are: Bev Schmitt, Donna Flanagan, Joyce Kowalski, Lynne Rudisill, and Brenda Del Rosario.

VBS SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE - Aug 10th - 14th

This summer at the Union Campus, kids are invited (ages 4-12) to join a high-energy winter adventure as "Challengers," along with Ollie the Arctic seal. They'll enjoy games outdoors, craft activities, singing/dancing, and the daily bible stories. VBS is designed to build confidence and strength with God. Theme scripture Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." With God, we are strong!

Molly Fleming was in the Catholic Community Choir's production of Shreck Jr.

David Flanagan and the Robotics team at Haverford High School are heading to the World's Competitions in Houston Texas.

College Scholarship Applications are being accepted April 1st thru June 1st

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 or

Frances Whittington at envirogirl75@gmail.com .



May 3 – Fifth Sunday of Easter/ Holy Communion

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Worship John 14.1-14 “Ask **ANYTHING** In His Name?”

3:00 pm Our Town in Story and Song

May 10 – Sixth Sunday of Easter/Mother’s Day

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Worship Acts 17:22-31 “We Are God's Offspring”

May 17 –Seventh Sunday of Easter/After Church Fellowship

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Worship Matthew 9:18-26 “The Healing Power of Touch”

Richard Miller, preaching

May 24 – Pentecost Sunday (wear red)

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Worship John 17:1-11 “Mine, All Mine”

May 31- Trinity Sunday/Youth Sunday/Peace with Justice Sunday

9:45 am Sunday School for all ages

11:00 am Worship Genesis 1.1-18 “Let There Be Light!”

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 THIS WEEK

Beth Cavna	Brenda Del Rosario	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 with the loss of her husband Gordon Keehn

Pray for those who serve in distant lands -

Kristine Gurcan USS Lincoln Aircraft Carrier in the Mediterranean (granddaughter of Mary Anne Geer)

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

The Friday Study Group on zoom with Ann Eves

All are welcome!

New Study to be announced

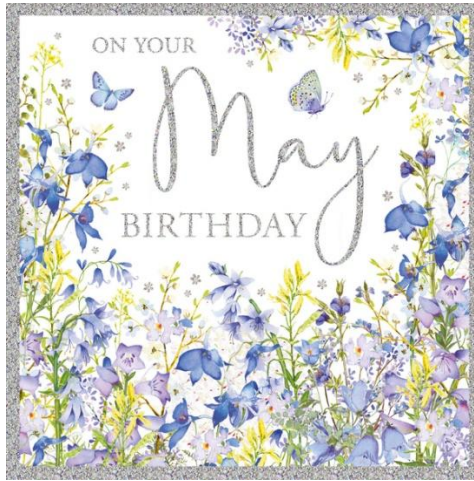
[Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](#)

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 May!

Tony Kowalski	05/03
Cassie Flanagan	05/05
Brian Cherwinski	05/10
Scott Wampler	05/12
Peter Jacobs	05/14
Cassie Popky	05/14
Michael Kowalski	05/16
Eileen Nangle	05/16
Laura Radke	05/18
Ann Eves	05/25
Wyatt Martin	05/27

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.

April 18 Retreat!!!

After spending the day immersed in scripture and reflection, we were reminded that all can receive the *dunamis* power of God to fulfil dreams. We all gathered at St. Raphaela's Retreat Center's life-sized portrayal of the Lord's Supper.

Included in the group are - Barb Drake, Donna Flanagan, Bob Flanagan, Amber Laventura, Jim McDonough, Laura Radke, Jacqueline Tilford, Tony Tilford, Joanne Trout, Necia Tyree, Scott Wampler, and Sandy Young.





Bunnie Bryant reads her poem entitled Spirit which she was inspired to write during the Havertown UMC retreat on April 18th.

Spirit (4/18/2026)

She is here, then there and also who knows where,
Lingering, yet not hidden in any corner,
Available upon request,
Laughing, especially at her handiwork
That she stitched or molded or painted
Each one - unique and untethered.
She is surrounding me.

Though I cannot see,
I sense someone embraceable,
And am shocked to know she chooses me!
I am never without presence,
Though I am gasping for air
While grasping for connectedness
With my eagerly outstretched heart.

I wish to never miss a Word-
How else would I dare to approach her voice-
Spirit is the first breath of Creation,
She reaches out for me again,
Giving form and function
To the Everlasting God.

--Bunnie Bryant



HOPE FOOD BANK, from Coordinator Sally Kiner:

We have returned to accepting donations at the food bank, and will be open the 2nd and 3rd Saturday of each month 10:00-11:30 am to accept donations at the Hope Campus.

There are still some items that we have in surplus that we DO NOT have space for; canned beans, soup, canned vegetables, and cereal. Please avoid donating these items for now.

If you are going to shop, please consider donating any of the following WISH LIST items that we can use immediately.

WISH LIST

pasta sauce (NO GLASS JARS)

peanut butter (15/16 oz. jars)

canned fruit

canned chicken

jelly (NO GLASS JARS)

cooking oil

feminine hygiene pads

adult pull ups (L/XL/XXL)

*For your convenience, on Sundays, you may leave small, light weight packed bags of donations by the door to the ramp in Fellowship Hall.

We are unable to transport large, heavy donations and cases of food. YOU must bring these items directly to the food bank on specified donation days.

Thank you for supporting this mission.

Sally Kiner



Ingathering

Thanks to those who contributed clothing and diapers for April 25's Ingathering, where speakers are sharing about the work of two of the four agencies receiving the items. All are invited to attend from 9-12 on 4/25 at Christ UMC, on Dutton Mill Road in Brookhaven.

April 27 Meeting

Instead of a zoom meeting, we are attending the Spring Concert of the Havertown Choristers at 8 pm at Haverford High School auditorium. The Choristers include Jim McDonough, and they are sponsored by the Adult School, led by the Board whose VP is Marcia Wiker.

May 2 Flea Market at Hope Campus

Thanks to Cassie Popky who has organized this event and to those who will be helping and attending. Money raised is used for nurturing children.

May 9 Flea Market at Union Campus

Thanks to Bev Schmitt who has organized this event and to those who will be helping to set up on Friday afternoon and evening 5/8. We'll start making vegetable soup at 4 pm and set up the lunchroom at 6 pm. Donations of vegetable soup and ingredients for making soup as well as desserts and individually wrapped baked goods are needed. Servers for lunch, workers at the bake table, and folks to clean up are needed. A sign-up sheet is in the back of the sanctuary.

No Program Meeting in May

Due to the Memorial Holiday on the 4th Monday, we will not meet that evening.



Abundant Health

When Jesus said he came that we might have life and have it abundantly, his message included abundant health and healing. When we think of abundant health, we might be thinking about our desire for perfect health, but abundant health refers to wellness of body, mind, and spirit, in spite of acute or chronic medical problems that can't be prevented. When we promote abundant health, we are encouraging efforts to prevent health problems that can be prevented and learning to cope with issues that can't be prevented. We need an attitude of abundance rather than scarcity as we identify our personal goals for promoting abundant health.

Healthy Eating Hints

Aim for 5 servings of vegetables and fruits every day, including all the colors of the rainbow, which are found in the outer ring of the grocery store. Limit processed foods which are mostly found in the inner aisles. Read labels so you know what you are getting, especially how much sugar (words ending in "ose" are forms of sugar), and how much saturated fat and sodium (salt). Your goal for salt is less than 2500 mg. per day and some frozen meals contain the whole day's salt in one serving. Every step you take to improve your eating habits will help you move in the direction of abundant health.



Congo Partnership

Thanks to all who are participating in the envelope challenge to raise awareness and \$5050 to support the many ministries in the DR Congo. The display board in the sanctuary shows some of the mission work feeding children, providing medical care, and digging wells. The number on the envelope that you select is the amount of money you have decided to give. Checks are to be made out to the church. When all the money has been collected, one check will be sent by the church to the Congo Partnership.

May 3 Concert - Our Town in Story and Song

This community outreach project that includes storytelling about Haverford Township's history, faith communities, and service organizations will be held in the Union sanctuary on Sunday May 3 at 3 pm, followed by a reception in the back of the church to greet the many singers, musicians, and storytellers participating in the event. The Havertown Choristers, the handbell choir from Temple Lutheran, the Armenian Martyrs Choir, and a combined choir from various congregations, along with harpsichord, and soloists will provide an enjoyable hour of music which will be interspersed with stories of our history.

Blanket Sunday

On Mother's Day, May 10, we will be observing Blanket Sunday. The special offering will go to Church World Service to purchase blankets (\$10 each) for people in need of a warm blanket due to fires, floods, and wars, which have destroyed their homes, or temporarily displaced them. We can honor our mothers by helping someone else's mother and her children.

Peace with Justice Sunday

On Sunday May 31, we will observe Peace with Justice Sunday with a special offering that will provide Peace with Justice grants to churches, groups, and individuals working to promote justice and peace in our area and around the world. Half the money goes to the General Board of Church and Society (GBCS) for national and international grants, and half the money stays in Eastern PA. Local grants may enable some young adults to attend a conference sponsored by GBCS on July 20-22 to train folks how to advocate for voting rights and other issues of concern.



Things Happening at Havertown UMC

Flea Market @ Hope May 2nd 8am-1pm contact Cassie Popky

Flea Market @ Union May 9th 8am -2 pm contact Bev Schmitt



Visiting preacher Richard Miller Sunday May 17th :

I was ordained on February 27 at the Jenner Ville Church of the Brethren where I served as pastor for one year. I was next called to the Church of the Brethren in Waterford California where I served two years , after some health problems I decided to return home. I ended up at Ardmore United Methodist Church where I was warmly welcomed and became a ingrained member of the church. I was given the opportunity to exercise ministerial duties. I can not speak any higher of the opportunity that was presented to me to practice my faith.



Annual Conference in Wildwood New Jersey May 19th , 20th , 21st , 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. 10th -14th 9am - 12pm.



May

2026

					1 2pm Bible study zoom with Ann	2 8am-1pm Flea Market at Hope 9:30am Overeaters Anonymous-Lounge
3 11 am Worship/ Communion 3pm Our Town in Story and Song	4	5 6pm Sea Scouts	6	7 6pm Creative Women	8 2pm Bible study zoom with Ann	9 8am-2pm Flea Market at Union 9 am Yoga at Hope 9:30am Overeaters Anonymous-Lounge 10-11:30 am food collection at Hope Food Bank
10 <i>Happy Mother's Day</i>  11 am Worship	11 6:45 pm Girl Scout Service Unit Meeting	12 7pm Trustee Meeting	13	14 6pm Creative Women	15 2pm Bible study zoom with Ann 7pm Game Night	16 9:30am Overeaters Anonymous-Lounge 10-11:30 am food collection 12-1:30pm Food Distribution at Hope Food Bank
17 11 am worship Richard Miller preaching	18 7:30 pm Leadership Team meeting zoom	19 6pm Sea Scouts	20 5pm Delco Fireman's assoc. Memorial service at Hope	21 6pm Creative Women	22 2pm Bible study zoom with Ann	24 9:30am Overeaters Anonymous-Lounge
24 Pentecost Sunday (wear red)	25 	26	27	28 6pm Creative Women	29 2pm Bible study zoom with Ann	30 9:30am Overeaters Anonymous-Lounge
31 Youth Sunday / Peace with Justice Sunday						

BOLD= Church events/ not bold= Community events