



The Messenger



Chalfont United Methodist Church * 11 Meadowbrook Lane, Chalfont, PA 18914-2810
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February 2017

“TIME-OUT TUESDAYS”

“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.” (Matthew 11: 28-30 - The Message)

For some of us daily life can seem out of control — it is too busy, noisy, and overflowing with demands. We find our lives filled with constant activities and distractions. For others, we have the opposite problem. We are lonely and we don’t know how to fill the emptiness. Some of us are drifting along aimlessly without purpose or passion. As a result our relationship with God suffers and we definitely aren’t living freely and lightly. Chalfont UMC wants to help. During Lent this year, we want to help you find space and time for God in the midst of the ordinary and every day.

Lent is the season in the Christian year that takes place the forty days before Easter. (*Lent does not include Sundays since Sunday is like a little Easter.*) This year it is from March 1 (*Ash Wednesday*) to April 16 (*Easter*). Lent reminds us of the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness praying and fasting after his baptism. As Jesus spent time in prayer and fasting he overcame the temptations presented to him by Satan. He seemed to find clarity and strength to begin his public ministry. Lent is a good time for us to slow down and find ways to make what we do more God-focused. It is a good time for us to do a spiritual inventory and remove those things that are hindering our relationship with God. It is a good time to connect with God on a deeper level.

During Lent we are inviting you to take some “timeout” on Tuesday evenings (*March 7 - April 4*). Stop by the church between the hours of 5-8 pm. Take a self-guided prayer journey by visiting the various prayer stations we will have set up in the Family Life Center (*and outside as the weather permits*). Prayer journeys are an ancient Christian practice used to draw people closer to Christ. It is done by moving through different “stations” and concentrating on the meditations provided at each station.

When we break from our routines and move from work, school or home to a place that allows us to breathe we can get a whole new outlook on life. Our goal is to provide you with that sacred space that will allow you to relax and breathe. We hope that you will connect with God in a new and different way and in the process find rest for your soul.

Stop by on your way home from work or come after dinner, stay for 10 minutes, 20 minutes, as long as it takes! Come and let God nourish your soul. We will also have people available if you would like someone to pray for you or with you.

Pastor Barb

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

In Memory: Rosalie Gold, a member of CUMC for over 35 years, passed away January 23, 2017. She was the wife of **Robert Gold** and the mother of **Robert, Scott, Jeffrey and Jamie Gold**, who grew up in our church. Over the years the Gold family contributed much to the development of this church before their retirement to the Lutheran Community in Telford, PA.

THANK YOU

Thank you from New Britain Food Larder for our generous donation of \$120.00.

Thank you from the staff to everyone who contributed to their generous gifts presented to them during the Christmas Eve services..

Thank you from Rev. Green for the \$120.00 donation for the Lord's mission work with children in the Republic of Moldova.

THANK YOU to "The Way" for purchasing cushions for the Sanctuary. We request that the cushions be returned to the back of the church after each service, so that others will not be inconvenienced by their presence at another service.

LENTEN EVENTS

Wednesday March 1st - Ash Wednesday service in the sanctuary at 7:30 pm. We will have the imposition of ashes and communion at this service.

Thursday April 13th - Holy Thursday service in the Family Life Center at 7:30 pm.

Friday April 14th - Community Good Friday service will be held at Montgomery Square UMC, 1900 County Line Rd, North Wales, PA 19454, at 7:30 pm. There will be a combined community choir.

Tuesdays, March 7th, 14, 21, and 28; April 4, 11 - Time-out Tuesdays.

Sunday April 9th- Palm Sunday services

Sunday April 16th - Easter Sunday services.

BOY SCOUTS

Annual Spaghetti Supper

Saturday, March 11

4:00 to 7:00 pm

THREE WAYS TO HELP CUMC

Here are 3 easy ways you can add a few dollars to Chalfont's bank account while doing your daily shopping, without spending any extra money.

1) *Use AmazonSmile when purchasing from Amazon.* Eligible purchases at AmazonSmile Foundation will donate .5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization. Our direct link is <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-1939629>

2) *Purchase Giant Grocery Cards on Sunday* – 5% of your purchase stays with the church. Gift cards are available in \$50.00 and \$100.00 denominations.

3) *When e-shopping, use UMCMarket.org to order* from Macy's, Lowe's, Overstock.com, Sephora, Old Navy, Staples, Target, Barnes & Noble, Groupon, Expedia, Fandango, Marriot, Walgreens, Bass Pro Shops, L.L. Bean, Eddie Bauer, Pier1Imports... to name just a few and the church of your choice will receive a donation automatically with each purchase. Check <https://UMC.Market.org/> to sign-up & see the donation % per company.

UNITED METHODIST MEN

Flapjack Fundraiser Breakfast

Saturday, March 4

8:00 to 10:00 am

\$7.00 per person

(kids 5-9 - \$5.00)

Applebee's, North Wales

Mark your calendar for Saturday, March 4th – Applebee's Flapjack Fundraiser Breakfast 8:00-10:00 am at the North Wales location, 1281 Knapp Road. *(tickets available now)* – All you can eat *(Flapjacks, sausage, juice, coffee & tea)*.

(Men are looking for volunteers to serve, greet, clean-up, - Sign-up sheet in the FLC or see Ed Schnell/Bill Vandegrift.)

BUILDING MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Have you noticed that the Family Life Center (FLC) has become brighter or that the lights turn on immediately when the switch(s) is turned on? *Jim Reece, John Paynter & Jeff Warren have been busy installing new LED bulbs to our ceiling.* Jim researched LED replacements for our older bulbs that have been dimming with age, in an effort to continue our objective of being better stewards of our property. It took us a while to find the right combination of brightness for the different areas of the room, but we believe we have achieved the needed light. These new replacements do not require ballasts, which were also in need of being replaced along with the bulbs. The lights did not come cheaply (*approx. \$900*) and we want to thank the UMM for picking up the tab for this expense. We still need to have an electrician come and disconnect the ballasts, but the lights are working despite this.

The LED sign is up and running. *THANK YOU to Henkels & McCoy for installing a new electric line to the sign and also installing a new LED spotlight to the cross, pro-bono.* We are still tweaking the number of lines that can be read from the car when passing and how long a message should be programmed to stay on (borough requirement is no less than 1 minute). The old signage on the brick wall still needs to be dismantled.

Have you noticed the ditch digging by the dumpster? *We need to give a big THANK YOU to Jerry Lomas and Boy Scout leadership for trenching a new electric line to the pavilion.* The scout leadership took on the job of getting electricity back to the pavilion. The underground line, which had been installed years ago from the parsonage, stopped working and it was near impossible to find out where the break occurred. The new line is now coming from the scout shed and a new breaker box will be installed at the pavilion this year.

OUTDOOR - LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

Take a book - Return a book

Thank you to Courtney Horn for the addition of the colorful “Little Library” and bench to our outdoor space. Courtney built this project for her Silver Award for the Girl Scouts. Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization that supports the worldwide movement to offer free books housed in small containers to members of the local community. Ours is located next to the children’s play area. It is filled with children’s books. (Adult books will eventually be added.). The idea is simple: Book lovers, come browse, read a book while relaxing on the bench or take it home and return it later or bring a replacement.

ADD YOUR PRAYERS TO THE PRAYER NET

LORD my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me. (Psalm 30: 2 NIV)

If you have walked by the alcove recently (*next to the sanctuary*) you might be wondering about the net that is hanging on the wall. It is a prayer net. It is a reminder of Jesus’ invitation to follow him and be fishers of people. The prayer net provides a public forum for us to share our private prayers. It serves as a visible reminder that our prayers are joined with others. It provides a tactile way to pray. No words are required.

Simply tie a piece of the solid-colored cord to the net as you silently offer a prayer. Perhaps you’ve been praying for a specific person to come to know the love of Christ. Simply tie a piece of solid-colored cord to the net while silently saying their name. Don’t worry if you don’t know how to pray or what to say. The scriptures tell us that *“the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don’t know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words” (Romans 8:26 NLT).* When you have received an

answer to prayer come back and tie a multi-colored cord to the net as a thank you to God. This will also be an encouragement to others as they begin to see all the multi-colored cords on the net! Return as often as you like. This spring look for an additional prayer net to be hung outside.



The Messenger

CHALFONT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
11 Meadowbrook Lane
Chalfont, Pennsylvania 18914-2810
(215) 822-2807
Web Page: www.chalfontumc.org

STAFF DIRECTORY

REV. BARBARA SEEKFORD	Pastor
REV. ERIN MAURER	Deacon, Worship Leader
CRIS FRISCO	Director of Music
PATRICIA L. KERR	Church Administrator

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IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday, February 12

(Morning worship at 9:30 and 11:00)

Sunday, February 19

(Morning worship at 9:30 and 11:00)

Sunday, February 26

(Morning worship at 9:30 and 11:00)

Wednesday, March 1

(Ash Wednesday Service - Sanctuary - 7:30 pm)

Saturday, March 4

*(UMM's Flapjack Fundraiser Breakfast -
8:00 to 10:00 am)*

Sunday, March 5

(1st Sunday in Lent)

Tuesday, March 7

(Time-out Tuesday - 5:00 to 8:00 pm)



The New "Digital Sign" at CUMC

(see Page 3 for the details)