



# The Messenger



Chalfont United Methodist Church \* 11 Meadowbrook Lane, Chalfont, PA 18914-2810  
Phone: (215) 822-2807 \* e mail: [office@chalfontumc.org](mailto:office@chalfontumc.org)

Spring 2018

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS and JOIN US** **MARCH 27 for the "24"**

**Many of you are familiar with the hit TV series "24"** Each season would take you through a 24 hour time period. Each week of the show was one hour of that 24 hour period.

**Twenty-four hours, 1440 minutes, one day, might not seem like much but so much can happen.** Join us on Tuesday, March 27th as we follow the last 24 hours of Jesus' life on this earth.

**We will gather in the Upper Room (*Family Life Center*) at 6:00 o'clock to share a meal together as we remember Jesus at the "Last Supper."** We will then travel throughout the building and follow the story as it is written in the Gospel of Luke. For example we'll congregate at the Mount of Olives as we hear Jesus' prayers for strength and deliverance from the terrible fate that he knows awaits him. We'll be there as we learn of Jesus being betrayed by Judas and arrested. We'll hear the cock crow and be reminded of Peter's denial of even knowing Jesus. Have you wondered what it must have been like for Jesus to carry his cross, or wear a crown of thorns? You'll be able to experience that here.

**Mark your calendars and plan to join us.** There is a sign-up sheet in the Family Life Center or give us a call (215.822.2807) or email the church office ([office@chalfontumc.org](mailto:office@chalfontumc.org)) if you plan to attend. There is also a sign-up sheet if you are able to bring soup, salad, dessert. If you have any allergies please let us know and we'll try to accommodate and make sure there is something here for you to eat!

**This might seem like a rather depressing way to spend an evening.** The way to the cross is never an easy journey. But there is good news all along the way. That is what the Gospel is all about. Jesus never said life would be easy. He did say that he would be with us on the journey. It is our hope in experiencing Jesus' last twenty-four hours that we will find strength and encouragement as we continue on our own life's journey.

*If you have any questions or would like more information please contact Pastor Barb 610.310.8349 or [bjseekford@gmail.com](mailto:bjseekford@gmail.com)*

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

**IN MEMORY:** Since our last newsletter, former member **Janet Gagnon** passed away in December. We send our condolences to **Fred Gagnon** and his family.

**NEW ADDRESS:** *(In Florida)* **Don and Eileen Reese** are now living at 10441 Circle Pine Road, N. Fort Myers, FL 33903.

**Esther Lerch's** new address is 2425 Lower State Road, Room 247, Doylestown, PA 18901.

**Betty and Cassel Williams'** new address is 2425, Lower State Road, Room 225 *(Betty)* & Room 204 *(Cassel)*, Doylestown, PA 18901

**CONGRATULATIONS:** **John and Emily Paynter** celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary in January.

## THANK YOU

**The Staff of Chalfont United Methodist Church would like to thank the congregation** for their generous gifts. *(They were given during the Christmas Eve Service).* "We look forward to a successful year.

**Thank you from Heifer International** for the donation of \$565.00. (It was collected as Christmas Alternative Giving.)

**Thank you from Rev. Green for the \$330.00** which he received for mission work helping the needy in Moldova.

**Thank you from Habitat for Humanity** for our donation of \$395.00.

**Thank you from One House at a Time** for the donation of \$240.00. -

**Thank you from the New Britain Food Larder** for donations of \$50.00 and \$60.00.

**Thank you from the Red Bird Mission** for our donation of \$170.00.

**Thank you from UMCOR** for our donation of \$100.00.

**Throughout the year** CUMC members support numerous opportunities to give to charitable organizations. You may give only a small amount each time, but you give. And it adds up. The above list of giving for just the past few months *(minus staff gifts)* added up to \$1870.00. So....

**Thank you all for giving from your hearts.**

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

**Hold on to your hats, Ladies!**  
*Chalfont UMW will be hosting  
their annual Community Tea  
Saturday, May 5... Derby Day!*

**Invite** your mother, your sister, your daughter, your best friends to join you in an elegant tea with lots of tasty sandwiches and desserts.

*Tickets go on sale in April*

*(Keep your eyes peeled for that announcement.)*

## FOOD LARDER

**Even though we have donated cash to the Food Larder** in the New Britain Baptist Church, it seems that groceries to stock their shelves are dwindling. It is not just us that are letting down on our giving; it seems that this time of year is always a problem for the Larder.

**During the summer and early fall months our "gardeners"** have been supplying the Larder with plenty of fresh food from the garden. That's impossible at this time of the year.

**On the front porch there is always a box available** for you to place a few cans, etc. when you are at the church. Try to remember to pick up a couple of items for the box when you are shopping at the grocery store. *(Remember they cannot accept perishable items.)*

## EASTER FLOWERS

**Easter Flowers will be displayed for the Easter Services on Sunday, April 1.** You may purchase flowers and give them in memory of or in honor of loved ones.

**This year you have a choice** of Pansies in 5.5" pots or mini tete-a-tetes in 4.5" pots. The cost for each is \$4.00 a pot. Checks are to be made payable to Chalfont United Methodist church. The last date to order is Sunday, March 25th. *(Order forms are available at the church.)*

*If you have questions contact Dawn Morris at (215) 822-0622.*

## **CONFIRMATION CLASSES BEGINNING THURSDAY, MARCH 15**

Confirmation classes will be starting soon for all students in grades 7 -12. We will meet on Thursday evenings beginning March 15 from 5:00 - 6:15 pm.

**Although confirmation is not a sacrament in The United Methodist Church, it is an important marker in our spiritual journeys.** At baptism, we are initiated into the new covenant in Jesus Christ and into membership in the Church, Christ's body in the world. For many, this happens when they are very young. Baptized infants are members of the Church—the family of faith—but are not yet capable of sharing everything involved in membership.

**When persons who were baptized as infants are ready to profess their Christian faith, they participate in the service, which United Methodism now calls Confirmation.** Confirmation is a person's first public affirmation of the faith of the church as being his or her own faith. In other words, the confirmand is taking responsibility for living as a member of the body of Christ and for fulfilling God's purposes. ...Confirmation preparation aims at leading youth and others to embrace their vocation—the calling of God to live and witness to the reign of God announced in Jesus Christ.

**Parents, please encourage your teen to attend.** Attending class does not mean they need to say “yes” and be confirmed at the end of the classes. However, this time together will give them a place to come and be with kids their own age who are probably asking many of the same questions and struggling with the same issues as your teen.

### **Tentative Schedule (5:00- 6:15 PM)**

March 15 - March 22,

March 27 - Attendance at “Experiencing Jesus’ Last 24 Hours” (6:00 - 7:30 pm)

April 19, April 26, May 3, May 10

May 20 - Confirmation will take place during our worship services.

Please contact Pastor Barb ([bjseekford@gmail.com](mailto:bjseekford@gmail.com), 610.310.8349) to register (or if you have any questions!).

## **FACILITY UPDATE**

*Some things have changed since our last newsletter and I was wondering if you have noticed any of the changes?*

**A programmable thermostat** was installed in the FLC. Thank you to Jim Weikert who donated it.

**A large clock** was installed in the FLC. Thank you to Pat & Alan Kerr who donated it.

**A large screen TV** was installed in the Library. Thank you to Andy & Barb who donated it.

**Boy Scout Troop 133** installed an exterior outlet to help with the lighting for their Christmas Tree Sale.

**“The Way” Korean Congregation** mounted a projection screen in the sanctuary for their overhead presentations during their worship service.

**Our old brick signage** was finally taken down from the front lawn. (Thanks Jeff, Ed, Jim, Zach, John, Alan, & Greg)

**Thank you to Greg Ehrenzeller** who has been busy clearing the grounds of dying/falling trees and making a clearer view for the parsonage to see the facility. We are currently awaiting the ground to dry out enough for 2 very large trees around the parsonage to be worked on by Landis Tree. (One to be taken down in the back yard and one to be trimmed from hanging over the front of the house.)

**Chalfont Borough** had their road improvement project which resulted in new curbing/driveway depressions resulting in an *additional monthly bill of \$393.00 for the next 12 months.*

**Thank you to “The Way” Korean Congregation.** In November they donated \$1,370.00 towards the repair bills we incurred due to the broken water lines in the ladies room.

**Our caterer** decided that her business was not producing enough money to pay a monthly rental fee so she ended her contract effective September. In January Chalfont Professional Complex on the corner, started renting 15 parking spaces from us Tues-Thursday 8:30-6:00 pm.

*The Messenger*

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Web Page: [www.chalfontumc.org](http://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

IMPORTANT DATES

**Sunday, March 18**

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

**Sunday, March 25**

*(Palm Sunday)*

**Tuesday, March 27**

*(Remember Jesus at the "24")*

**Sunday, April 1**

*(Easter Sunday)*

**Saturday, May 5**

*(United Methodist Women's annual Community Tea)*

Join us for...  
a special worship  
**Tuesday, March 27**  
**6:00 pm**  
**the "24"**

*(Begin the evening by sharing a meal.  
Then travel with us through Holy Week  
as written in the Gospel of Luke. And let  
us know if you are planning to attend)*