



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

## April Messenger 2025



### LEADERSHIP AND STAFF OF HAVERTOWN UMC.

Pastor: Rev. Jacqueline Tilford cell 410-963-1721 parsonage 610-789-2328  
Pastor of Family/Outreach Ministries: Brenda Del Rosario cell 215-688-8778  
Director of Music: Yukiko (Yuki) Ishida, DMA  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Organist/Pianist: Lilah Knox  
Treasurer: James McDonough  
Parish Nurse: Deaconess Barbara Drake  
Administrative Assistant: Donna Flanagan office 610-789-1700  
Custodian: Miriam Gallagher  
Hope Food Bank: Sally Kiner  
Trustees: [HavertownUMCTrustees@gmail.com](mailto:HavertownUMCTrustees@gmail.com)



## Pastor's message

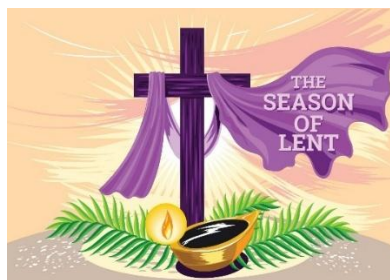
### PREPARING MY HEART FOR FORGIVENESS

Decades ago, the rejection of a family member shook me to my core. It was deeply disappointing and hurtful. The fallout was humiliating, requiring a long drive home alone through several states. I desperately needed God's love to wash over me and cleanse me of the pain and hurt. Instead of words to pray, a profound image came to mind. Jesus' arms were lovingly wrapped around both of us; our heads were bowed as we humbly encircled one another, soaking in the love that flowed and never ended. "Praying" the image daily prepared me for the moment I finally realized, the hurt was healed; no pain or ill will was felt. It was an incredibly joyous moment! Forgiveness was cause for celebration in a second instance.

When two women spent energy searching for me from state to state, they urgently wanted to apologize for their involvement in a racist event that occurred fifteen years earlier. Prayerfully, living in multi-cultural contexts and anti-racism training gave me insights for coping and maneuvering. I felt no malice in my mind; though it is likely that my body was "keeping the score." Their humble apology was a delightful surprise for which I continue to be grateful, for their sake as well as mine.

I have also needed to repent and seek forgiveness. I need forgiveness from inaction when offended or witnessing an offense rather than choose to fight with the weapons God provides. When I sincerely asked forgiveness from friends for arrogantly and belligerently exuding an attitude of "calling offenders out" to be rebuked and shamed, rather than "calling them in" to God's circle of love and healing, reconciliation happened and hearts healed, leading to a place where "All is known. All is forgiven."

*In God's Love,  
Pastor Jacqueline*



### **Lent and the Arts** - Share your Cherished Inspiration

Lent is a season to be still and know that God is God and we are not. We are inspired through many mediums. Some persons are inspired by music, art, poetry, crafts, dance or even walks in the park. If you have a particular poem, artwork, craft, song or symbol that stirs up your sense of God's presence, please add it to the display table to inspire others during Lent. You can leave your items for display on the table with a brief note of explanation, in the church office or you can call the church office if you have questions.



## **SPIRITUAL YOGA**

begins weekly Tuesday, April 1st at 6:15 pm in "The Barn" at St. James Church,  
135 Myrtle Avenue in Havertown.

Yoga instructor Jessica Stringer will lead the class in a holistic experience that can reduce stress, release areas of tension and trauma, build strength, and deepen a sense of faith and wellness. No need to sign up. Just show up! Classes are donation-based.



### **The Good, the Sad, and the Only**

**Heritage Sunday is May 18<sup>th</sup>.** At 11 a.m. service we will share a booklet of stories, perhaps a God Moment, and whatever reflects your heritage. Feel free to submit two or three paragraphs of your family roots, share a God Moment, bring a cultural treat for the refreshment table, or make a fashion statement by wearing an outfit, tie, brooch, etc. that speaks to your roots.

We look forward to hearing of anything that you want to share of your heritage story that is Good, Sad, or Only - that is the elements of your history that you hold as particularly, precious, special and dear.

The deadline for submissions to the booklet is Sunday May 11<sup>th</sup> which is Mother's Day.

### **Our Legacy**

Everyone can contribute to the legacy of our church. Your gifts of time, talents, and treasure today help build a vital church that carries out our mission. The church of the future can grow with the children and adults you invite to church events today. The church can be blessed to be the partial beneficiary of IRAs, life insurance policies, wills, and charitable gift annuities. Even a tiny fraction of your estate can bless the mission of our church.

*From Pastor Brenda...*

# YOUTH NEWS



**Silly Rabbit, Easter is for Jesus!** Easter Sunday is when the world is busy talking about the Easter Bunny, dyeing eggs, hiding them, and sending children in search of the colorful treasures. It's a time of eating candy and Peeps and gathering for a meal around the family table. It's a celebration of spring and the greening of the grass.

On April 19<sup>th</sup> from 1-3PM, we will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt in the Fellowship Hall (Union Campus). Fun crafts, snacks and a visit from the Easter Bunny are planned, but Jesus is still the center of the celebration. An Easter story will be read titled, "T'was the Morning of Easter," highlighting our Savior and praising his name.

We are encouraging our youth to hop on-by- and help our little ones with the crafts and possibly take on the task of hiding hundreds of plastic eggs filled with sweet surprises around the front lawn of the church.

Just remember, it's OK to be excited about what the Easter Bunny will bring, but let's remember it is all about Jesus Christ! **HAPPY EASTER!**

~PB~



## "Did You Find Jesus, yet?"



**Bev Schmitt-**  
"Jesus is my guide."



**Lilah Knox-**  
"Jesus is my Lord and Savior.  
My reason for hope!"



**Jeff Didlake**  
"Jesus saved my life."



**Cindy DiLullo**  
"He is always with me through everything. "



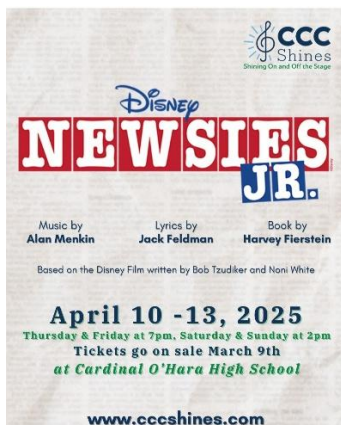
# SPOTLIGHT on YOUTH



Skylar LaDue – in Little Mermaid Jr. with Interboro Youth Drama Club



Eva Kowalski- in Seussical Kids Plymouth Performing Arts Center



Molly Fleming – will be in Newsies Jr. at Cardinal O'Hara  
tickets at [www.cccshines .com](http://www.cccshines.com)



## Worship Services

### **April 6- Fifth Sunday in Lent**

9:30 am Adult Sunday School

9:45 am Children and Youth Sunday School

11:00 am Worship - Isaiah 43:16-21 "If God is Doing a New Thing, What Is It?"

### **April 13 – Palm Sunday**

9:30 am Adult Sunday School

9:45 am Children and Youth Sunday School

11:00 am Worship – Mark 11.1-10 "Hope in the **Messiah**"

Rev. Tony Tilford Preaching

### **April 20 – Easter Sunday**

7:30 am Sunrise Service

at the Hope Campus Courtyard with a light breakfast afterwards

9:30 am Adult Sunday School

9:45 am Children and Youth Sunday School

11:00 am Worship – Luke 24.1-12 "An Out of Body Experience"

### **April 27 – Second Sunday of Easter**

9:30 am Adult Sunday School

9:45 am Children and Youth Sunday School

11:00 am Worship - Psalm 118:14-24 "Don't Miss It"

Rev. Mary Jane Kirby, preaching

After Church fellowship

### **All Online Worshipers**

We are so blessed to have worshipers joining on zoom. Some 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 and Prayers*

Beth Cavanaugh  
 Bob Flanagan  
 Keith Loflin  
 Linda McAlpin  
 Fred Shappell

Don Consul  
 Carol Grafton  
 Tanya Long  
 Geraldine Oake

Brenda Del Rosario  
 Audry Hewitt  
 Sue Makara  
 Judy Rejent

Pat Evans  
 Stacy Kusko  
 Barbara Murphy  
 Dianne Schoenauer



Happy Birthday to those with a Birthday in March!

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.

*The Friday Study Group on zoom with Ann Eves*

*All are welcome!*

**"The Third Day" with Tom Berlin**

Tom Berlin uses his gifts of storytelling and understanding of Scriptures to consider the experiences of several individuals close to Jesus in his final days. The study traces events around the characters Peter, Mary Magdalene and Thomas, along with Paul and the disciples at Emmaus, and how their lives are transformed from the despair of losing Jesus to the surprise and joy of the resurrection. The author, Tom Berlin serves as a Bishop in the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church.

[Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 773 445 3422

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



## HOPE FOOD BANK, from Coordinator Sally Kiner:

Hi friends!

On Sundays, congregation members may leave donations by the door in Fellowship Hall that goes to the side ramp. These donations must be small, easily manageable, and packed in sturdy bags to be transported to Hope. **PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE LARGE BOXES, CASES, OR OVERFLOWING TORN BAGS OF FOOD BY THE DOOR.** You must deliver items such as these directly to the food bank at Hope at the designated times. While we are thankful to receive these needed items, the reality is that our volunteer team is not able to transport these large, heavy, awkward donations for you. Please consider this request when packing items to donate to the food bank.

Our WISH LIST continues to target these items:

canned fruit  
peanut butter  
jelly (no glass jars)  
mac and cheese  
canned meat (chicken preferred, but tuna is okay)  
hearty soup (such as Progresso or Chunky)  
beef stew  
hygiene items (toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, etc.)  
feminine pads and tampons  
adult pull-ups (L, XL, and XXL)

\*Generic brands are A-OK with us.

\*Please donate regular sized items. Try to avoid extra-large or family sized items.

\*We are well stocked with diapers right now.

\*As always, we will accept any in-date food and hygiene items you wish to donate.

\*Monetary donations are always appreciated.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, as I will gladly assist you.

Thank you for helping us support folks in food-compromised situations. YOU are the blessing that enables us to provide our clients with the help they need.

Sally Kiner, Director  
Hope Food Bank





**Wed. 4/16 Fill Easter Eggs**

We will gather at 2 pm in the MYF Room to fill plastic eggs with candy. Donations of individually wrapped candy are needed.

**Sat. 4/19 Easter Egg Hunt**

We will gather at 11:30 to set up for the Easter Egg Hunt and then help out from 1-3 pm as the children do crafts, hear an Easter story, visit with the Easter bunny, hunt for eggs, and enjoy a snack.

**Sat. 4/26 Spiritual Growth event**

We will take our lunch and drive to MidTown Parish UMC, at 7 th and Norris St. in Philadelphia and meet with other UWFaith members from EPA as we share in a meaningful program for spiritual growth. RSVP is needed, so let Barb Drake know if you want a ride.

**Thanks:** A big thank you to all who helped with the Jumble which raised \$1239 for the church and \$320 from the bake table for St. Joseph's Family Hope Center. We were also able to deliver 10 bags of winter clothing to United Methodist Neighborhood Services after the Creative Women cleaned out the closets and gathered items donated over the past year.



**Spring Forward to a HEALTHIER YOU!**

Main Line Health is offering a FREE 6 session program on-line to help tobacco users and nicotine vapers to quit.

Several time options are available: Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30 pm for 6 weeks starting 4/22; Wednesdays from 12:30-1:30 pm for 6 weeks starting 4/30;

Tuesdays from 10:00 to 11:00 am starting 5/20; Tuesdays from 6:30 - 7:30 pm starting 6/3. To register and get zoom link call 484-227-3733.

**Abundant Health**

Abundant health is health of body, mind, and spirit. Our health is helped by many kinds of daily exercise. Walking, reading, and praying, when done regularly, have inter-related benefits for our bodies, minds, and spirits.



**Vision and Mission:** On March 17, the Leadership Team approved updating of our statements to make it clearer how our vision and mission will be accomplished.

**Our Vision:** To be a vital, inclusive, growing church making a difference in the community by sharing God's love in words and actions.

**Our Mission:** Being the hands of Christ by sharing God's love in our teaching, feeding, sheltering, and healing ministries.

**Blanket Sunday:** Our donations in the amount of \$815 will enable Church World Service to provide 80 warm blankets to people in need.

**The Jumble:** We connected with the community who helped us raise \$1239 for our church ministries. Left-over items will help Good Will and St. Joseph's Family Hope Center.

**Easter Egg Hunt:** You can help by donating individually wrapped candy or cookies and juice for the snack. You can bring them on Palm Sunday or Wed. 4/16. You can also help during the Egg Hunt on Sat. 4/19 from 1-3 pm.

**Updated Brochures** with upcoming events at Havertown UMC are available in the back of the sanctuary for you to share with your friends and family.

**Vacation Bible School** - Road Trip - On the Go with God, August 11 - 15 9am-12pm.

**Bottle caps collection:** bottle caps are no longer be needed. The last pick up will be April 27, 2025.



**A New Church Directory will be published for Easter!**

We will publish a new directory for Easter. If your phone number, email, or mailing address has changed or needs to be corrected, please send information to the church by Sunday March 16<sup>th</sup>.



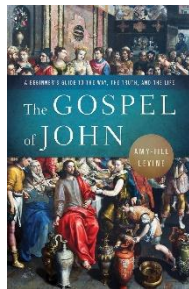
### *Lenten Services with Our Neighbors*

Once again we plan to unite with our Mission Links - Ardmore UMC and St. Luke's UMC for Lenten services.

**Maundy Thursday** - Havertown UMC - 7pm April 17, 2025  
200 Brookline Blvd, Havertown 19083

**Good Friday** - St. Luke UMC 12-1pm April 18, 2025  
568 Montgomery Ave. Bryn Mawr Pa 19010

### *Lenten Luncheons – Time for Study*



Our topic this year is the Gospel of John led by internationally renowned scholar Amy-Jill Levine. She describes herself as an unorthodox member of an Orthodox synagogue.

Sessions will be held in the Havertown Campus Lounge beginning at noon with lunch. The dates are Thursdays

**April 3, April 10.**

Sign up in the sanctuary and pick up a book.

### **EASTER SERVICES:**

**7:00 am Sunrise Service** at Hope Campus courtyard with light breakfast to follow.  
**11:00 am Easter Worship Service** at Union Campus.

### *Guest Preacher Sunday April 27<sup>th</sup>*

Rev. Mary Jane Kirby will be with us bringing the message at our 11 am worship service. Join us for lunch in Fellowship Hall after Worship to greet Mary Jane and Matt.



Gloria Downs Birthday Celebration,  
Celebrating her 90<sup>th</sup>,  
Gloria was surrounded by her loving family.  
From left to right son-in- law Tom 60, granddaughter Amanda 30, daughter Lisa 60,  
me 90, Tom's mom Marion 86.

### **CHOICES (3/16/25) –Bunnie Bryant**

If given time  
And if taking hold of time, as gift:  
Choose to cultivate  
Rather than excavate.  
If given time  
And if taking time, as gift:  
Choose to arbitrate  
Rather than escalate.  
If given time  
And taking time, as gift:  
Choose to elevate  
Rather than denigrate.  
Choice gives power to all options.  
So when in doubt,  
Or doubled over with fear or confusion,  
Let your latest offer of love  
Consecrate your journey.





On Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> District Superintendent Evelyn Kent Clark shared “Ministers of the New Covenant.”



Our Jumble sale on March 8<sup>th</sup>. For many years, this community market has drawn friends far and wide for fellowship, bake table treats, and unbelievable bargains!

# April

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7pm Sea Scouts FH	2 7pm Girl Scouts FH	3 12pm Lenten Lunch & Study in the Lounge at the Union Campus 6pm Creative Women	4 2pm Bible Study Zoom with Ann Eves 5-10 pm GPCC event	5 9:30-10:45am Overeaters Anonymous - Lounge
6 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent	7	8 7 pm Trustee Meeting MYF room	9	10 12pm Lenten Lunch & Study in the Lounge at the Union Campus 6pm Creative Women	11 2pm Bible Study Zoom with Ann Eves	12 9am Yoga @ Hope 9:30-10:45am Overeaters Anonymous – Lounge 10-11:30am Food collection At Hope Food Bank
<b>Holy Week</b> 13 <b>Palm Sunday</b> 11:00 am Rev. Tony Tilford Preaching	14 7-9 pm Girl Scout Service Unit meeting FH  6:30pm Havertown Choristers sanctuary	15 7pm Sea Scouts FH	16	<b>Maundy</b> <b>Thursday 17</b> 7pm Maundy Thursday Service at Union Campus	<b>Good</b> <b>Friday 18</b> 12pm Good Friday Service at St. Luke's UMC	19 9:30-10:45am Overeaters Anonymous – Lounge 10-11:30am Food collection 12-1:30pm Food distribution At Hope Food Bank
20 <b>Easter Sunday</b> 7:00 am Sun rise Service @ Hope Campus 11:00 am Worship @ Union Campus	21 7:30pm Leadership Team Meeting ZOOM	22 Earth Day	23	24 6pm Creative Women	25 2pm Bible Study Zoom with Ann Eves	26 9:30-10:45am Overeaters Anonymous – Lounge 6pm- GPCC Hope Campus Singles Ministry
27 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter 11 am Rev. Mary Jane Kirby Preaching	28 7:30pm Women in Faith Zoom	29	30			