

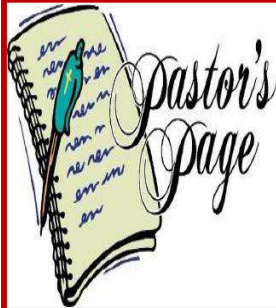


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Special Points of Interest:

- Children's Chat Volunteers
- Food Pantry Needs
- Acolytes
- Nursery Volunteers
- Online Church Directory
- Union Apparel
- Online Giving
- Ministry Opportunities
- Railroad Open House
- Christian Education
- Small Group Study
- Bridgeville Library Events



"Broken Beyond Repair?"

The Apostle Paul would start his letters with something like this: "Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father, the Holy Spirit, and Christ Jesus our Lord."

I find that comforting. He acknowledges that grace, mercy, and peace come only from God the Father and Jesus Christ the Son and Paul teaches we interact with God through the Spirit in our lives.

We have just come through the Advent season. Life goes by so fast, but Advent slows us down and it reminded us that we feel a longing in our hearts for Jesus, the Christ child.

We long for Him because we realize that something is wrong and He came to fix it! As we consider the human condition, our own hearts, and the deep injustices in our world, of course we know something is wrong.

But maybe it is not enough to describe it that way because it leaves us short of the true state of all of us in the world! In a recent article I read it was described like this: If a glass is shattered into thousands of pieces, you wouldn't say something is wrong with the glass. **You'd say it's broken beyond repair.** And that's what it's really like for us, isn't it?

Maybe we are drawn to the longing of Advent, the Magi who sought Jesus, because it gives us the courage to be honest that the glass isn't whole. It gives us the courage to say that we are shattered people.

All of us are shattered people in need of something we cannot do within ourselves. We can't put the glass back together again for ourselves much less anyone else.

This kind of honesty hurts, yet it's deeply good. It's good because we become open to seeking help outside of ourselves. We know we can't help ourselves and we start to look elsewhere.

(continued on page 2)

(Pastor's Page "Broken Beyond Repair?" cont'd.)

The birth of Christ, God with us, helps us to not attempt to look any further. In the middle of our pain, shattered lives, and sinfulness, **Christ has come.** This is a breakthrough. **Heaven came to earth.**

So, in this season after the monumental realization of "why Christ had to come" how do we proceed? It's January, Christmas is over and we are back to school, work, and our live-a-day world.

It is in the "knowing" that he loves us that is the breakthrough that starts to repair us all. God so loved us that he sent his Son to us.

"For God so loved the world He sent His one and only Son." (John 3:16)

As the church calendar cycles onward, (Easter is coming!) we will get to ponder other parts of Christ's story. To learn that God truly has something better ahead—(Revelation 21) beyond what we could have even hoped.

This revelation is our new reality. This earth with all its threats and dangers? Christ did not despise it but entered into it. The people all around you with all their faults and failings? God loves them. And you—with all your offenses and wrongdoings? He loves you. Knowing that he loves us is the breakthrough that starts to repair us all.

God broke through. He does not forget us. He will not forsake us. In our helpless estate, he will not turn away from us. Instead, he comes to us, He forgives us, He heals us!

This New Year is a new opportunity for you to remember these wonders. To value them in your heart. To claim the utter personal-ness of Christ coming for you —God broke through for you. **Because he loves you.**

I find that comforting too. **We can acknowledge His grace, mercy, and peace that come only from God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit of God who we are sealed by until the day of redemption.** (Ephesians 1:13; 4:30)

Union Methodist is a growing community of faith. I am honored to be a partner in ministry with the people of this congregation.



God is up to great things through this community of faith and I invite you to become involved in and experience God's presence moving in and through Union this year. See you church, in church, and in the community!

Broken in a thousand pieces but made new by Jesus!

Pastor Mark

(Psalm 34:3)



Sunday School & Christian Education—9am
 Sunday Worship & Praise—10am
 Sunday Son-Seekers Adult Class—11am
 Food Pantry—10am to 1pm (Wed. & Fri.)
 Praise Team—Varies
 God's Fire Youth—6:15pm (Wednesdays)

Monday, Dec. 30th—"Noon-Year's Eve" Winter Day Camp
 Tuesday, Dec. 31st—"Noon-Year's Eve" Winter Day Camp
 Wednesday, Jan. 1st—NEW YEARS DAY

(Church Office is Closed)

Sunday, Jan. 5th—Worship & Holy Communion Service

Monday, Jan. 6th—Summer Day Camp Staff Applications Available

Methodist Women Serving the Kiwanis Dinner—6pm



Tuesday, Jan. 7th—SPRC Meeting—7pm

Friday, Jan. 10th—WHS Football Banquet

Sunday, Jan. 12th—Recognition of Church Leadership & Committees

Tuesday, Jan. 14th—Worship Committee Meeting—7pm

Thursday, Jan. 16th—UMW Meeting—1pm

Monday, Jan. 20th—Methodist Women Serving the Kiwanis Dinner—6pm

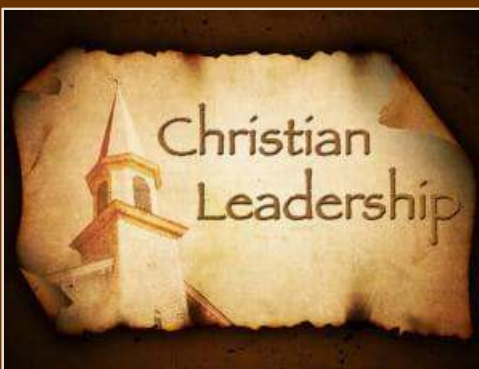
Sunday, Jan. 26th—Recognition of Our Newest Members

Tuesday, Jan. 28th—Church Council Meeting—7pm



SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025

10:00 AM



Join us that morning as we give thanks and recognition to the many in our church family serving in leadership positions and on various committees in the coming year (2025).

We are blessed to have so many willing to actively serve the Lord here at Union Church in a variety of ministries, committees and outreach endeavors to our community.

Pray for our leadership as they serve in ministry at Union for wisdom, guidance, protection, and blessing. To God be the glory!

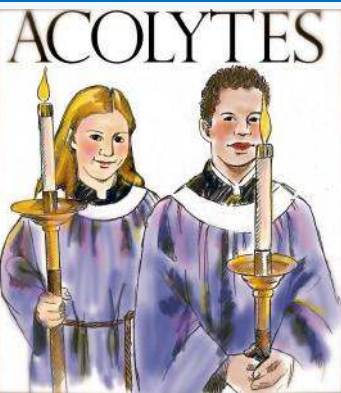


- 5—Jane Clifton**
Logan Jackson
- 8—David Mitchell**
- 10—Shirley Ray**
- 14—Linda Robertson**
- 16—Susan Callaway**
- 19—Blake Allen**

- 21—Joshua Dittman**
Marty Holmes
- 22—Donna Shindle**
Tiffany Schutt
- 27—Tyler Brock**
- 31—Kathy Carlisle**



If you have a birthday this month and have not been listed, please contact Debbie in the Church Office so you can be included in our birthday listing. Thank You.



ACOLYTE MINISTRY

We are seeking children and youth (2nd Grade or higher) to light and extinguish the altar candles during a worship service.

A new schedule has been posted in the hallway by Pastor Mark's office for available Sunday dates for our Acolytes to sign up for.

If you are currently not an acolyte, but are interested in being involved in this ministry, please contact Joan Hastings, Pastor Mark, or call the church office.

METHODIST MEN

Saturday, January 11th

8:00 AM

The men's monthly breakfast fellowship will take place at the Golden Eagle Diner in Seaford. See you there!



Special Thanks to our Methodist Men for their financial support of the following ministries and needs in 2024:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Woodbridge School Athletics - \$600 | Home of Hope - \$250 |
| Hurricane Disaster Relief - \$1,000 | Wreaths Across America - \$250 |
| Union Church Electronic Sign - \$1,000 | LOVE, INC. - \$500 |
| Delmarva Adult & Teen Challenge - \$250 | FCA Breakfast - \$55 |

Both of the Methodist Women and Methodist Men groups are open to everyone. The women typically meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 1pm in the Fellowship Hall (*Sept.—May*). The men meet on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 8am for a breakfast fellowship in Seaford (*Sept.—May*).

We invite everyone to be a part of these two important groups of Union Church that support and strengthen our church ministries as well as many other community projects and causes. Come see what we're all about!



Thursday, January 16, 2025

1:00 PM

We give thanks for the sacrifices of time and talent shown by our Methodist Women during this past year. Because of their labors, financial support was able to be given to the following projects, non-profit organizations, and local outreach ministries. We look forward to another year of service to our community and world. The Methodist Women's fellowships are open to everyone.

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box (*postage*)—\$440

Dublin Hill 4-H Club (*Wreaths Across America*)—\$250

Bibles for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (*FCA*)—\$250

Hurricane Disaster Relief—\$2,000

Heifer International (*Water for Life*)—\$750

WECEC Pre-K Christmas Gifts—\$200

Mitten Tree Christmas Ministry—\$600

Delaware Special Olympics—\$100

Meals for Christian Athletes—\$218

Union Project—Electronic Sign—\$807





CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Class	Time	Teachers	Classroom
Pre-K – 1 st Grade	9 AM	Joan Hastings	Room #201
2 nd – 5 th Grades	9 AM	Joanne Jones	Room #205
Jr. & Sr. High School	9 AM	Pastor Mark & MaryAnn Bell	Room #205
Parenting	9 AM	Rita Hovermale	Room #202
Ladies	9 AM	Pam Tull / Polly Mervine	Conference Room
Discovery [Adults]	9 AM	Roger Hovermale	Room #206
“Son-Seekers” [Adults]	11 AM	John Clawson	Conference Room

Joan Hastings
Sunday School/Christian Education



The Month of JANUARY—Community Food Pantry



“DRY CEREAL” Month!



Donations of any type of boxed breakfast cereals are needed to help keep our Pantry stocked. Donations may be dropped off directly to the Food Pantry when they are open (Wednesdays & Fridays from 10am to 1pm). **THANK YOU!**



Update your contact info!

We need your help to maintain an accurate directory for our church family. If you have had any changes to your contact information (*address, phone, e-mail, etc.*), please notify Debbie in the church office so the directory can be updated.

Thank You.

We are in need of nursery volunteers for the winter months. If you are available to help occasionally, please contact Tiffany Schutt at: tiff.snyder89@gmail.com.



January Meeting Calendar



Tuesday, Jan. 7th—SPRC Meeting—7pm

Thursday, Jan. 9th—Revelation Small Group Study—7pm

Saturday, Jan. 11th—Methodist Men’s Fellowship at the Golden Eagle Diner in Seaford—8am

Sunday, Jan. 12th—Recognition of Church Leadership—10am

Tuesday, Jan. 14th—Worship Committee Meeting—7pm

Thursday, Jan. 16th—Methodist Women’s Fellowship—1pm

Sunday, Jan. 26th—Recognition of our Newest Members—10am

Tuesday, Jan. 28th—Church Council Meeting—7pm

CHILDREN'S



Volunteers are needed for the winter quarter to give a brief 5 minute message or challenge to the children during the Sunday morning message.

Please contact Jenny Keim at jennk@inusa.org or call the church office to find out what dates remain available.

Consider being a part of this important ministry to the children.

Bible studies & small groups

Small group studies are important to the spiritual health of a church. They help to increase our awareness of God's Word, create a "team" atmosphere, develops self-motivation, helps us to investigate issues, listen to view-points other than our own, and get to know others in our church family even better.

It is our goal to have several small group studies in 2025. If you are interested in leading a small group study (*approximately 6-8 weeks*), or have a particular subject you would be interested in being part of a small group study on, please contact Pastor Mark.



We give special thanks and appreciation for the many that have volunteered their time and helped in so many ways with the following ministries of Union Church taking place in December:

Blue Holiday Service; Christmas Food Boxes; Mitten Tree Ministry (*Shoppers, Gift Wrapping, Donors, Deliveries & more*); “Feed Our Troops” Desserts; Caroling-in-the-Courtyard; Decorating the Sanctuary & Chrismon Trees; Poinsettias; Christmas Parades & Float; Special Music; Advent Readers and Candle Lighters; Christmas Shoeboxes; Music Ministries; Children’s Christmas Program; Love Gifts and Donations; Assistance from the Methodist Men and Methodist Women; Woodbridge School Food Drive; Community Food Pantry; Mountaire Chicken Boxes; Snack bags for Seniors & Shut-Ins; and so much more.

ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE

Delmarva Model Railroad Club

www.delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org

Proudly Promoting Model Railroading Since 1964

103 East State St • Delmar, Delaware 19940
Camelet Hall • 2nd Floor (stairs only)

Free Admission & Parking Behind St. Stephens Church

TrainsTrainsTrainsTrainsTrainsTrainsTrainsTrainsTrainsTrainsTrainsTrainsTrainsTrainsTrainsTrains

Nov 30 - Dec 1, 2024

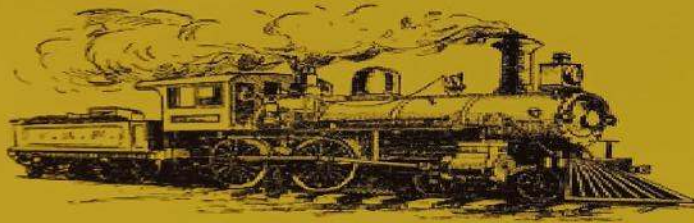
Dec 7 - 8, 2024

Jan 4 - 5, 2025

Jan 11 - 12, 2025

Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. • Sunday 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

**Over 8,000 Sq. Ft. of
Operating Train Layouts**

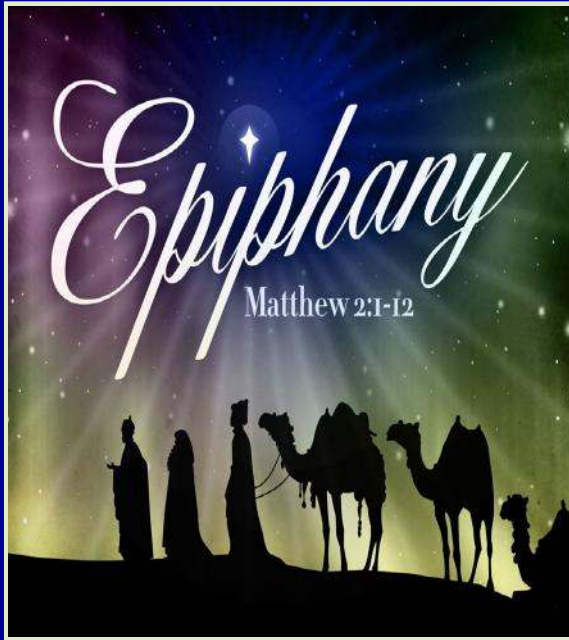


- Z Scale
- N Scale
- N Trak Modules
- HO Layout
- S Gauge
- O Gauge Tinplate
- O Scale Lionel
- LGB (G Gauge)

Railroad Café - Food & Beverage available for purchase benefitting Christ Connections Youth Group of St. Stephens Church

Check our website for next seasons Holiday Open House.

Typically held the weekend after Thanksgiving and the 1st weekend in December, the weekend after New Year's and the following weekend. For exact dates and more info Follow us on FB/DMRRC or <https://www.delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org> or call 302-548-4586



January 6, 2025

What Is the Meaning of Epiphany?

Epiphany is a celebration of God manifesting as the baby Jesus and revealing Himself to the world.

The holiday also marks the day the Magi, or the three kings, visited the baby Jesus in Bethlehem. Jesus' baptism is also celebrated during Epiphany. It also gives Christians a chance to reflect on the nature of God's physical manifestation on Earth — the baby Jesus.

UNION APPAREL



STOP BY THE VESTIBULE AND SEE THE DISPLAY OF HIGH QUALITY POLO SHIRTS AND T-SHIRTS CUSTOMIZED WITH OUR UNIQUE UNION METHODIST CHURCH LOGO.



POLO SHIRTS (\$25) ARE AVAILABLE IN A RAINBOW OF COLORS AND SIZES. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PURCHASE, COMPLETE AN ORDER FORM, ATTACH YOUR PAYMENT, AND PLACE IN THE OFFERING PLATE OR DROP OFF TO THE CHURCH OFFICE.



www.unioninbridgeville.com

ONLINE GIVING THROUGH APPLE PAY; GOOGLE PAY; PAYPAL; OR CREDIT CARD (a 2.5% SERVICE CHARGE WILL APPLY.)

ONLINE GIVING is available through the Union Church website for the following:

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Tithes & Offerings | Local Missions |
| Memorial Gifts | Foreign Missions |
| Renovation Projects | Love Gifts |
| Building Fund | Disaster Relief |
| Designated Giving | Special Needs |
| Other . . . | Winter Mini-Day Camp |

A UNION DECEMBER



GRIEFSHARE SUPPORT GROUP

HOPE AND HEALING AFTER THE DEATH OF A LOVED ONE.

GriefShare is a biblically-based bereavement support group for anyone suffering the loss of a loved one. Few people understand how painful and isolating grief can be. At GriefShare you'll find a comforting place among others who have also experienced a loss.

The program provides a weekly video, support sessions and workbook activities. Topics covered in meetings range from: Your Grief Journey, Sadness, Loneliness, Fear and Anxiety, Anger, Regrets, Grief, Relationships, Questions for God, Hope, Resilience, and many more . . .

Meetings are held at St. John's UMC (300 N. Pine St., Seaford) - park in the Conwell Street parking lot using the "West Entrance". Meetings are held in the Wesley Lounge on Sundays from 3pm to 4:30pm.

2025 Meeting Schedule:

- March 2nd—Loss of Spouse Session
- March 9th—Start of Griefshare
- March 16th, 23rd, and 30th—Meetings
- April 6th, 13th, 27th—Meetings
- May 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th—Meetings
- June 1st, 8th—Meetings



For more information about GriefShare visit: griefshare.org, or contact Linda Robertson or Tammy Williamson. A GriefShare brochure with additional information about the program is posted in the hallway near the Church Office.

We need YOUR help to make our online church directory as accurate and updated as possible.

If you are currently not in the church directory, please contact the church office. We would love to have all of our Union church family included. If you are listed in the directory, but have not submitted a photo. Contact the Church Office or Pam Tull and we'll be happy to take your photo or you may choose to select a favorite photo you already have (*your photo will be returned to you*). Having a complete pictorial directory is helpful to us all to learn names and recognize others within our church family.

Do you have the **CHURCH DIRECTORY** on your phone? It's easy to do. Go to the App Store or Google play and search Instant Church Directory. From there select Union UMC. You will need to enter your email — it must match the one on file with the church. Follow the instructions. You will receive a confirmation email for security purposes. If you have any problems, please contact the church office for assistance. **If you have had any changes to your contact information, keep us informed so the directory can be kept up-to-date. You do not need to be a Union church member to be included in the online directory. Contact Debbie in the church office at 302-337-7409 if you have any questions.**



Online Church
DIRECTORY

1. **Various countries: Eating lucky foods**

Throughout the world, New Year's Eve is celebrated with a meal in the company of friends and family. In some places, this means eating specific "lucky" foods. In Spain, Portugal, and much of Latin America, it's 12 grapes or raisins, and in Italy, 12 spoonfuls of lentils—one with each of the 12 chimes of the clock at midnight. The French usher in the best New Year with a stack of pancakes. Germans prefer marzipan shaped into a pig for luck, whereas in the Netherlands, people eat doughnuts and ring-shaped foods. Estonians feast as many as 7, 9, or even 12 times on New Year's Eve. Across the U.S. South, communities dig into collard greens and black-eyed peas for luck and prosperity on New Year's Day. Fun fact: Collard greens are chosen for their color—the green symbolizes money.

2. **Scotland: Redding of the house and "Auld Lang Syne"**

People gather to sing "Auld Lang Syne", and perform the redding of the house. This is essentially a deep clean around your home, from the cabinets to the front door. One spot that's focused on is the fireplace—all old ashes are cleaned out so everyone in the house can start the year off fresh. On New Year's Day, the party ends with a bracing swim in the chilly waters of the Firth of Forth.

3. **Philippines: Wearing polka dots and eating round fruits**

The Filipino community believes that wearing round shapes (such as polka dots!) promotes prosperity and good luck. Additionally, eating round fruits—like oranges, watermelon, grapes, and pomelos—is considered fortuitous as well. Many Filipinos gather 12 or 13 round fruits and display them as the centerpiece of their dinner table.

4. **Brazil: Wearing white while jumping into the ocean**

Wearing white has long been a tradition with roots in Africa, and symbolizes peace and spiritual cleansing. All those dressed in white, run into the water right at midnight to jump over seven waves. Each wave and jump signifies a different request the swimmer is making. Consider them New Year's resolutions or hopes, of sorts.

5. **Mexico: Walking around with an empty suitcase**

In Mexico, there's one tradition people participate in on New Year's Eve to help ring in a year filled with travel and new experiences. People will walk around with an empty suitcase or set it in the middle of a room and stroll around it. Others go further and take a full lap around the block with their empty luggage.

6. **Cuba: Throwing a bucket of water out the front door**

In Cuba, people symbolically gather all of the bad spirits and negative energy from the past 365 days and toss them right out the front door. It's not uncommon to see buckets full of dirty water flying out of homes during the countdown to midnight. Watch out if you find yourself strolling through a Cuban neighborhood on New Year's Eve.

7. **Germany: Melting lead to divine the future**

In much of German-speaking Europe, as well as Finland, Bulgaria, Czechia, and Türkiye, it's customary to heat small pieces of lead, then cast them in cold water and make a prediction for the new year based on the shapes that form. For example, if a ball forms, luck will roll your way.

8. **Russia: 12 seconds of silence before midnight**

Russians say thank you to the past year by remembering its most important events during the hours leading up to midnight, and they use 12 seconds of silence before the stroke of midnight to make wishes.

9. **Spain: Searching for the man with many noses**

In northern Spain, a special character appears on the last day of the year. *L'home dels nassos*, or the man with many noses, has as many noses as there are days left in the year—and he grants wishes, if you can find him. According to this Spanish tradition, children are encouraged to look for him, rarely realizing that on the last day of the year, he only has one nose left and is, therefore, hard to spot.

10. **Denmark: Jumping into the new year—literally**

At midnight, Danes will jump off a chair or sofa—literally jumping into the new year. It's seen as good luck if you do and bad luck if you don't, so be sure to take a leap if you ever ring in New Year's in Denmark. They also have a tradition of breaking plates, which represents the act of removing negative energy and ill will.

11. **Italy and Spain: Wearing red underwear**

Italians and Spaniards both wear red underwear for luck. However, Spaniards insist the underwear must also be new to be lucky. Italians, however, take things a step farther: They often throw old items out the window to symbolize the coming of new things with the New Year.

12. **Ireland: Setting an extra place at the table**

The Irish have several New Year's traditions, such as banging the outside walls of their houses with bread to keep away bad luck and evil spirits and starting the year with a spotless, freshly cleaned home. One of the most well-known is setting an extra plate at the dinner table for any loved ones lost in the prior year.





UNION METHODIST CHURCH

2025 Leadership & Committee Listing



CHURCH COUNCIL:

Church Council Chairperson.....Rita Hovermale [1st term -2yr.]
 Church Council Vice Chairperson....Robin Daugherty [1st term-1yr.]
 Church Council Secretary.....Margaret Workman [1st term -2yr.]
 Church Treasurer.....Pete Stephens [1st term -2yr.]
 FinanceJim Adelsperger [1st term -2yr.]
 Hands Ministries.....Kathy Carlisle [1st term -2yr.] & Vacant
 Head Ministries.....Jenny Keim [1st term -2yr.] & Dionne Keeler [1st term -2yr.]
 Heart Ministries.....Jean Wilson [1st term -2yr.] & Joanne Jones [1st term -2yr.]
 Lay LeaderJohn Clawson [1st term -2yr.]
 Methodist Men.....Vacant
 Methodist Women.....Debbie Vogelsang [1st term -1yr.]
 SPRCJeff Allen [1st term -2yr.]
 Sunday SchoolJoan Hastings [1st term -2yr.]
 TrusteesJerry Jones [1st term -2yr.]
 Youth Representative.....Logan Jackson [1st term -2yr.]
 Worship Committee.....Debi Adams [1st term -1yr.]
 Activities & Community EventsJoan Hastings [1st term -2yr.]

ACTIVITIES & COMMUNITY EVENTS: Chair – Joan Hastings

thru 2025 Aaron Jackson, Jill Jackson, Hunter Murray

thru 2026 Martha Callaway

thru 2027 Chris & Stephani Adams, Jeff Allen, Bob & Linda Burket, Marianne Chituck, Janet Snyder

FINANCE: Jim Adelsperger – Chair (*Ex Officio: John Clawson-Lay Leader; Jerry Jones - Trustee Chair; Pete Stephens-Treasurer; Sherry Holmes-Finance Secretary; Jeff Allen-SPRC Chair*)

thru 2025 Richard Carlisle, Garry Killmon, Melissa Mitchell

thru 2026 Jim Adelsperger, Roger Hovermale

thru 2027 Mike Breeding, Linda Pluznick, Debbie Vogelsang

HANDS MINISTRIES: Chair - Kathy Carlisle

Hands Ministries has oversight of: Military Support, College Students, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Community Food Pantry, Teen Challenge, Home of Hope

HEAD MINISTRIES: Co-chairs - Jenny Keim and Dionne Keeler

Head Ministries has oversight of: Easter Egg Hunt, God's Fire, Nursery, Church Library

HEART MINISTRIES: Co-chairs - Jean Wilson and Joanne Jones

Heart Ministries has oversight of: Card Ministry, Casserole Committee, Christmas Food Baskets and Mitten Tree, Hospitality Cart, Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry, Music Ministries, and Sports Teams.

LAY LEADER: John Clawson

NOMINATIONS & LEADERSHIP: Chair: Rev. Mark Bell (Ex Officio: Lay Leader - John Clawson)

- thru 2025 Joan Hastings
- thru 2026 Roger Hovermale, Jay Repa, Cameron Satchell
- thru 2027 John Clawson, Grant Parker, Renee Parker

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (SPRC): Jeff Allen - Chair (Ex Officio: John Clawson-Lay Leader)

- thru 2025 Joan Hastings, Thane Keim, Debbie Short
- thru 2026 Jeff Allen, Tammy Williamson, Vacant
- thru 2027 Linda Burket, Larry Grantham, Roger Hovermale

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Coordinator: Joan Hastings

TRUSTEES: Jerry Jones – Chair [Trustee Oversight: Security & Endowment]

- thru 2025 Chris Keeler, Dave Mitchell, Hunter Murray
- thru 2026 Aaron Jackson, Renee Parker, Larry Snyder
- thru 2027 Bob Burket, Marty Holmes, Walt Pluznick

WORSHIP: Debi Adams – Coordinator

Debi Adams, Stephani Adams, Bev Breeding, John Clawson, Sherry Holmes, Joanne Jones, Mary Noel, Marie Robinson, Robbin Twilley, Pam Tull, Tammy Williamson, Jean Wilson
 [Communion Stewards: Chris & Stephani Adams, Jane Clifton, Joan Hastings, Marty & Sherry Holmes]
 [Greeter/Usher Coordinators: Jane Clifton and Sherry Holmes]

YOUTH COUNCIL: Logan Jackson, Jordyn Matos, Melissa Mitchell, Tiffany Short, Pam Tull

Sub-Committees/Ministries:

- Audio/Video:** Roger Hovermale, Aaron Jackson, Grant Parker, Karl Reighard
- Bylaws:** John Clawson, Roger Hovermale, Aaron Jackson, Debbie Vogelsang
- Church History:** Joan Hastings, Jerry & Joanne Jones, Debbie Vogelsang
- College Outreach:** Debi Adams and Crystal Brock
- Endowment [Trustee Oversight]:** Jerry Jones (Trustee Chair); Pete Stephens (Treasurer); Jim Adelsperger (Finance Chair); Jim Johnson (Member-at-large)
- Facebook Page:** Brad Schutt
- Food Pantry Oversight:** Pastor Mark Bell, Rita Hovermale, Debbie Vogelsang
- Kitchen:** Jane Clifton, Joan Hastings, Rita Hovermale, Jerry Jones, Mary Noel, Jean Wilson, Margaret Workman
- Lay Shepherds:** Leaders: Martha Callaway & Marie Robinson; Shepherds: Chris & Stephani Adams, John Clawson, Joan Hastings, Garry Killmon, Pam Tull, Debbie Vogelsang
- Librarian:** Paula Kowalski
- Marketing/Advertising:** Jeff Allen, Joan Hastings, Rita Hovermale, Debbie Vogelsang
- Military & Veterans:** Roger Hovermale; Marty Holmes, and Jerry Parker
- Missions:** Pastor Mark Bell, MaryAnn Bell, Linda Robertson, Joan Hastings, Debbie Vogelsang
- Prayer Team:** Rev. Martha Callaway [Coordinator], Rev. Marie Robinson, John Clawson, Walt & Linda Pluznick, Pam Tull
- Projection Team:** Aaron Jackson, Logan Jackson, Hunter Murray, Grant Parker, Trever Schrock
- Security Team [Trustee Oversight]:** Keith Brock, Tyler Brock, Bob Burket, John Clawson, Dennis Egner, Walt Pluznick, Larry Snyder
- Theology:** Pastor Mark Bell, John Clawson, Marie Robinson, Martha Callaway
- Visitors/New Members:** Rita Hovermale, Robbin Twilley, Debbie Vogelsang

What's Happening



January

- 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY (*Church Office is Closed*)
- 7 SPRC Meeting, 7pm
- 11 Methodist Men's Breakfast Meeting, 8am
- 12 Recognition of Church Leadership & Committees
- 14 Worship Committee Meeting, 7pm
- 16 Methodist Women's Meeting, 1pm
- 26 Recognition of New Members, 10am
- 28 Church Council Meeting, 7pm

February

- 8 Methodist Men's Breakfast Meeting, 8am
- 11 SPRC Meeting, 7pm
- 17 PRESIDENTS DAY (*Church Office is Closed*)
- 19 Soup & Sandwich Boxed Lunch Sale
- 20 Methodist Women's Meeting, 1pm
- 28 Easter Egg Sales Begin

March

- 5 Ash Wednesday Service, 7pm
- 8 Methodist Men's Breakfast Meeting, 8am
- 11 SPRC Meeting, 7pm
- 20 Methodist Women's Meeting, 1pm
- 25 Church Council Meeting, 7pm

April

- 3 - 6 Egg Making
- 7 - 11 Egg Pick-Up
- 8 SPRC Meeting, 6pm
- 8 Worship Committee Meeting, 7pm
- 12 Methodist Men's Breakfast Meeting, 8am
- 13 Palm Sunday
- 17 Methodist Women's Meeting, 1pm
- 17 Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service, 7pm
- 19 Community Easter Egg Hunt, 10am
- 20 Easter Worship, Sunrise 6:30am, 10am
- 21 Easter Monday (*Church Office is Closed*)
- 27 Recognition of New Members, 10am

May

- 10 Methodist Men's Breakfast Meeting, 8am
- 11 Mother's Day Celebration
- 13 SPRC Meeting, 7pm
- 15 Methodist Women's Meeting, 1pm
- 18 Baccalaureate Service, 10am
- 25 Sunday School Ends
- 25 Recognition of Graduates & Children/Youth Sunday
- 26 MEMORIAL DAY (*Church Office is Closed*)
- 27 Church Council Meeting, 7pm

June

- 1 Summer Worship Service hours at 9am begin
- 9-13 Summer Camp Staff Training
- 10 SPRC Meeting, 7pm
- 15 Father's Day Celebration
- 16-20 Summer Camp Week #1
- 23-27 Summer Camp Week #2

Communion Service - First Sunday of each Month

Sunday School - 9am (*Sept. - May*)

Sunday Worship Service - 9am (*June - August*)
10am (*Sept. - May*)

God's Fire Youth Group - Wednesdays 6:30pm

Food Pantry - Wednesdays & Fridays 10am-1pm

What's Happening



July

- 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY (*Church Office is Closed*)
- 7-11 Summer Camp Week #3
- 8 SPRC Meeting, 7pm
- 14-18 Summer Camp Week #4
- 22 Church Council Meeting, 7pm
- 27 Recognition of New Members, 10am
- 28 – 8/1 Summer Camp Week #5
- 28 – 8/1 FCA Day Camp

August

- 4-8 Summer Camp Week #6
- 11-15 Summer Camp Week #7
- 12 SPRC Meeting, 7pm
- 18-22 Summer Camp Week #8
- 24 All-Church Breakfast, 8am
- 24 Summer Camp Sunday

September

- Month of September – Camp Scholarships Coin Drive*
- 1 LABOR DAY (*Church Office is Closed*)
- 7 Sunday School resumes at 9am
- 7 Fall Worship hours resume at 10am
- 9 SPRC Meeting, 7pm 1
- 13 Methodist Men’s Breakfast Meeting, 8am
- 18 Methodist Women’s Meeting, 1pm
- 23 Church Council Meeting, 7pm

October

- Month of October – Camp Scholarships Coin Drive*
- 5 World Communion Sunday
- 10 – 11 Apple Scrapple Festival
- 11 Methodist Men’s Breakfast Meeting, 8am
- 13 COLUMBUS DAY (*Church Office is Closed*)
- 14 SPRC Meeting, 7pm
- 16 Methodist Women’s Meeting, 1pm
- 26 Recognition of New Members, 10am

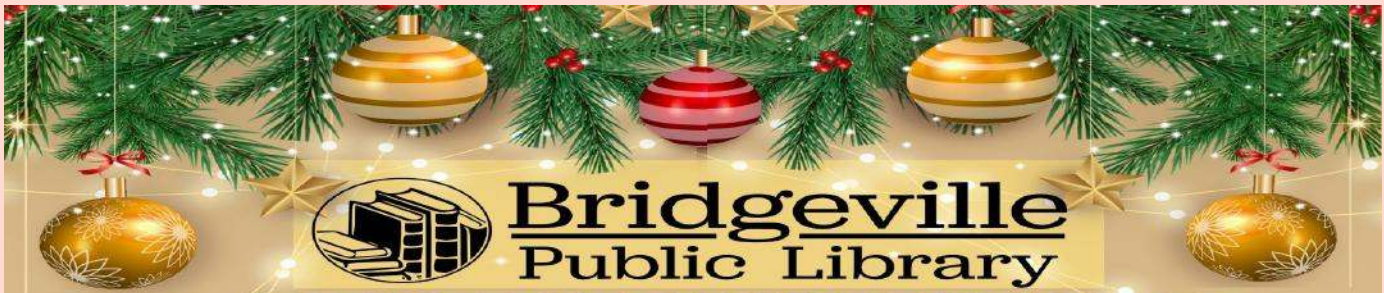
November

- 1 Mitten Tree Collection Begins
- 2 All Saints Day Service
- 8 Methodist Men’s Breakfast Meeting, 8am
- 11 VETERANS DAY (*Church Office is Closed*)
- 11 SPRC Meeting, 7pm
- 20 Methodist Women’s Meeting, 1pm
- 20 Finance Committee Meeting, 6pm
- 25 Church Council Meeting, 7pm
- 27 THANKSGIVING DAY (*Church Office is Closed*)
- 28 (*Church Office is Closed*)
- 30 Hanging of the Greens Service (*1st Sunday of Advent*)

December

- 5 Blue Christmas Holiday Service, 7pm
- 9 SPRC Meeting, 7pm
- 9 – 20 Fellowship Hall Reserved for Mitten Tree
- 13 Methodist Men’s Breakfast Meeting, 8am
- 13 Bridgeville Christmas Parade
- 18 Methodist Women’s Christmas Lunch, 11:30am
- 20 Mitten Tree Delivery Day, 8:30am
- 20 Wreaths Across America, Noon
- 20 Caroling-in-the-Courtyard/Live Nativity, 6pm
- 21 Christmas Program, 6pm
- 24 Christmas Eve Silent Communion, 6pm
- 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship, 7pm
- 25 CHRISTMAS DAY (*Church Office is Closed*)

- Communion Service - First Sunday of each Month
- Sunday School – 9am (*Sept. – May*)
- Sunday Worship Service – 9am (*June - August*)
10am (*Sept. – May*)
- God’s Fire Youth Group – Wednesdays 6:30pm
- Food Pantry – Wednesdays & Fridays 10am–1pm



Bridgeville Public Library

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Bridgeville Library's last official day open to the public in 2024 is Saturday, December 14th. We are closing for the installation of new flooring and shelving.

- THE BOOK DROP WILL BE CLOSED AND NO BRIDGEVILLE ITEMS WILL BE DUE DURING THIS TIME.
- ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH, ALL HOLDS ARE BEING DIRECTED TO THE GREENWOOD LIBRARY.
- PLEASE VISIT OUR LIBRARY TO CHECK OUT ALL YOUR HOLIDAY READING, MEDIA ITEMS & PICK UP YOUR READING ADVENTURE BINGO CARDS BY SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH.
- WE WILL RE-OPEN ON MONDAY, JANUARY 13TH @ 10AM.
- JOIN US FOR A GRAND RE-OPENING CELEBRATION ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 16TH @ 11 AM WITH A SPECIAL PRESENTATION @ NOON.
- ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 16TH @ 6PM JOIN US TO CELEBRATE THE END OF OUR READING ADVENTURE PROGRAM. WE WILL CELEBRATE OUR READING PARTICIPANTS ALONG WITH OTHER FUN ACTIVITIES.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS
MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR**



Bridgeville Public Library

READ TO THE L.E.A.P. DOGS



Oliver

Tuesday, January 14th and Tuesday, January 28th

A NEW dog, Lady, will be joining us in January!

Bring your child to the library on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month @11am to read to one of the sweet dogs. The goal of the Literacy Education Assistance Pups is to improve the literacy skills of children and grow their enthusiasm for reading.

600 S. Cannon St. Bridgeville, DE

The FRIENDS of the BRIDGEVILLE LIBRARY

If you haven't joined or wish to renew your membership with the Friends, visit the library or go to the Friends section on our website for the membership form. Consider attending our monthly meeting on **Monday, January 20th @ 10:30am** (Library closed-meeting held in the Friends Office)

Our Friends group helps with programming, fundraising, volunteering, and more. We would love your support!

Bridgeville Public Library
600 S. Cannon St. Bridgeville, DE

Bridgeville Library

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Thursday, January 16th @6pm

Join us to celebrate the re-opening of our renovated library. We will also celebrate the participants of our Reading Adventure! Registration is preferred, but this event is open to the public.


600 S. Cannon St. Bridgeville, DE

302-337-7401 Ext. 101 delawarelibraries/libcal.com

National Hot Chocolate Day

Friday, January 31st, 2025

Stop in to enjoy a free cup on us!





Bridgeville Public Library
600 S. Cannon Street
Bridgeville DE, 19933

LIBRARY "SHELFIE" DAY

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22nd

TAKE A SELFIE TO SHARE WITH YOUR FRIENDS!





"SHELFIE DAY" A DAY FOR BOOK LOVERS TO SHARE THEIR FAVORITE BOOKS & LIBRARY SHELVES WITH THE WORLD

BRIDGEVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
Bridgeville Public Library

Book Club

Ages 8-14

THIS MONTH'S BOOK:
"A WOLF CALLED WANDER" BY ROSANNE PARRY

Thursday, January 30th at 3:30pm

REGISTRATION REQUESTED.
CALL TO SIGN UP OR GO ONLINE:
DELAWARELIBRARIES.LIBCAL.COM/CALENDAR/BRIDGEVILLE

Bridgeville Library, DE 302-337-7401 ext.101 600 S. Cannon St.

Story Book Corner

with Ms. Hilary

Tuesdays at 10am ages 3-5
First Tuesday of the month will be held at Seaford Chick-Fil-A

Wednesdays at 9am ages 0-2

Join us for stories, songs and rhymes in January about WINTER

Tuesday, Jan. 7th at Seaford Chick-Fil-A @ 10am
Tuesday, Jan. 21st @ 10am
Wednesday, Jan. 22nd @ 9am
Tuesday, Jan. 28th @ 10am
Wednesday, Jan. 29th @ 9am
600 South Cannon St. Bridgeville, DE

"Library Learners League" Homeschool Group

Join Ms. Hilary for an educational experience to be held on the 2nd Thursday of every month from 11am-12pm. Each month will have different topic geared for school-aged children.

Thursday, January 9th

DASEF Presents...

What is Inertia?

The Delaware AeroSpace Education Foundation will have an exciting program with fun demonstrations to help you understand Newton's Law.

Registration is required. Parents-Please sign up your child/children online: delawarelibraries.libcal.com/calendar/bridgeville or call 302-337-7401 ext. 101. We will have a dedicated area tailored for the younger learners (ages 6 & under), if you would find it more beneficial.

Bridgeville Public Library
600 S. Cannon St. Bridgeville, DE

Union Methodist Church

2 N. Lows St.
Bridgeville, DE 19933
302-337-7409

“Building Bridges Together”
Using Our Head, Hands & Heart for Jesus

Email: uumchurch@comcast.net

Website: www.Unioninbridgeville.com



Items for the monthly newsletter must be submitted to the church office no later than the 25th of the month to ensure they will be included.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT UNION CHURCH

Help is needed in the following areas—contact the church office for additional information.

Event/Activity Planning

Methodist Men & Women

Nursery Volunteers

Sunday School Helpers

Communion Helpers

Greeters and Ushers

Special Music/Instrumentals

Acolytes

Children’s Chat Volunteers

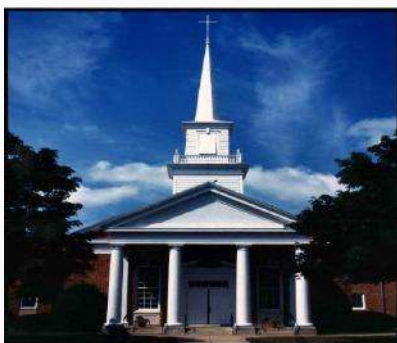


SUNDAY

Christian Education Classes for ALL Ages-9am

Morning Worship & Praise—10am

Son-Seekers Adult Class—11am



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**God’s Fire Youth Group**

**Wednesdays at 6pm**

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Rev. Mark Bell



Monday—Friday

9:00am to 3:00pm

Debbie Vogelsang
Office Administrator

E-Mail:

uumchurch@comcast.net

Office: (302) 337-7409