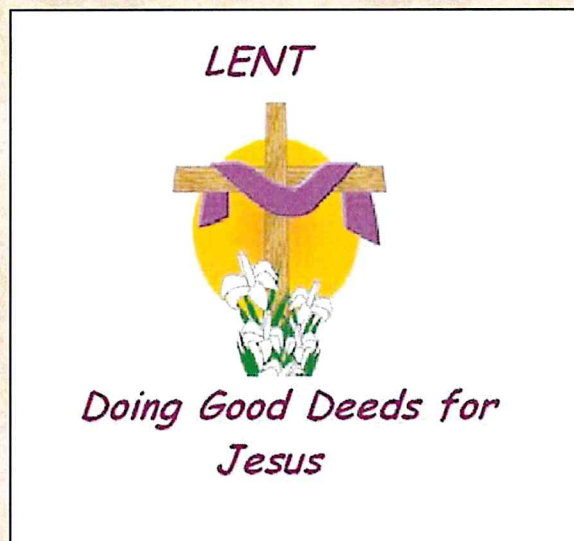


VINCENTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

LAMPLIGHTER

LENT 2020



Please Join Us in Our Observances of Lent:

Community Services: Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

March 18 Tabernacle United Methodist Church, 166 Carranza Road, Tabernacle

March 25 Trinity Episcopal Church, 18 Mill Street, Vincentown

April 1 Oak Grove Presbyterian Church, Philos Bridge Road, Southampton

Holy Week Observances:

April 5 **Palm Sunday, Vincentown UMC, 11:00 a.m.**

April 9 **Holy Thursday Communion Service, 7:30,** VUMC Choir Room

April 10 **Good Friday Service,** First Baptist Church, Main Street, Vincentown

April 1 **Easter Sunday**

Community Easter SonRise Service, 6:30 a.m., beside the lake on Race Street, Vincentown. Bring a lawn chair. In case of inclement weather, we will gather in our sanctuary.

Easter Service, Vincentown UMC, 11:00 a.m.



VINCENTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



97 Main St. Vincentown, NJ 08088
609-859-2161

Rev. David L. Ledford, III - Pastor
pastorvumc97@gmail.com

10:00 Children's Worship and Sunday School, 11:00 Worship Service.

All are Welcome!

Grace and peace to you, sisters and brothers in Christ!

Lent 2020

As we journey through our 4th Lent together, I give thanks for all the new lessons we have learned together. Soon it will be Holy Week. That last week of Jesus' life was filled with basically every emotion known to humankind. Jesus, God in the flesh, came as a human person to live a human life. In just that one week alone, Jesus felt joy and sadness. Jesus felt calm and frustration. Jesus felt friendship and betrayal. Jesus saw peace and fear. Jesus saw hope and despair. By becoming human and witnessing all of these, and even feeling some of them himself, God in the flesh knew exactly what He was saving us from.

Joy and sadness. Surely as he rode into Jerusalem on that donkey on Palm Sunday, Jesus saw joy on many people's faces. With no real indication in scripture of what Jesus did on Wednesday of Holy Week, we can imagine Jesus enjoyed the joy of rest. It was also during Holy Week when Jesus brought joy to the women in Simon's house as he defended Mary of Bethany use expensive oil to anoint him. But he also knew all of this joy wouldn't last. Those same people joyfully calling him their king on Sunday would yell "crucify him" on Friday. Sadly, what Mary was really doing was preparing his body for a burial that was just a few days away.

Calm and frustration. Jesus prayed. Even in that last week of his life, even as things got hectic, Jesus took time to calm his spirit. It was his favorite way of calming himself. Often when crowds got too large or things go too crazy, Jesus would go off by himself to pray. This week was no different. But frustration also crept in during Holy Week. On Tuesday, Jesus became frustrated, and perhaps even angry, at what we saw going on in the temple. It had turned from a house of prayer into a house of crooks, money and deal making. Jesus turned over those money tables to clearly show his frustration with what had been done to God's house.

Friendship and betrayal. It seemed like everyone was his friend on Sunday. But were they true friends? The disciples were. The women were. But most of them turned their backs on him. During Holy Week, Jesus would find out who his real friends are. Those who stayed by his side no matter what, those who continued to follow him and those who continued to believe in him even after the events that Good Friday would bring.

Peace and fear. Fear of the Roman empire was valid. It was known for its brutality. And there was valid reason to fear the religious leaders as well. Fear was a powerful tool used to control the people. During Holy Week, coming upon Passover, this fear would have been dialed up to the highest level possible. They didn't want any disturbances. And yet, out of that very same environment came a peace. We can imagine Jesus peacefully sitting there as he was anointed and the setting for the Lord's Supper seem extremely peaceful.

Hope and despair. The disciples would have felt plenty of despair as the Messiah died. What do they do now? They had gotten quite used to God walking among them. Now, it could appear to less faithful eyes, that they had been defeated. But as bad as Friday was, Sunday was coming. Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday the world was given hope; hope that good has triumphed over evil, hope that the Kingdom of God was real and we could get there, hope that some day there would be no more despair.

Life is hard. Emotions can go up and down more than a roller coaster. All of the emotions we feel in our lifetime, Jesus saw in just one week. Jesus knows your pain, and suffers with you. Jesus knows your joy and rejoices with you. Although it is a message more commonly heard at Christmas time, we can't ever forget that Jesus is Immanuel, God With Us, today, right here, right now, always and everywhere. Amen!

Blessings,
Reverend Dave

FOOD PANTRY

During the months of Lent, we are asking for Paper Products:

Paper Towels,
Facial Tissues,
Bathroom Tissue

Monetary donations are always welcome for the purchase of needed items.

Monetary donations can be put in the offering plate in the envelopes that are in the pews.

If you have any question's please contact Rev. Dave, Missy Scott, Carole Simon, or Deb Barton.

LENTEN BREAD BAG OFFERING

We will be participating in our traditional "Bread Bag" offering during Lent. Each week we encourage you to have one sacrificial meal and then place the money saved in a "Bread Bag" for others.

On Palm Sunday, April 5, our "Bread Bags" will be brought to worship and placed on the altar. The gifts will then be passed on to UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) to assist in feeding the many hungry in our country and beyond.

CHRISTIAN CARING CENTER

We are collecting items for the ham dinner Easter baskets. Please remember breakfast foods for the children home from school on Easter break.

We are collecting hams, sweet potatoes, canned vegetables, apple sauce, peanut butter and jelly, mac and cheese, pineapple slices, marshmellow fluff, etc.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mary Sue Woodbury

COVERED DISH DINNER

There will be no covered dish dinner in April due to Good Friday. Join us on May 8 at 6:30 p.m. for the covered dish dinner at Vincentown UMC.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

4 Jim Chappine, Hunter Kirkbride
11 Robert St. John
13 Bob Bruno
16 Carolyn Budd
19 Emma Hill
24 Beth McMaster, Caroline Jones
25 Christine St. John
26 Adam Fachinger, 229 Gaunt Drive,
Mickleton, NJ 08056

26 Richard Jones, Paul Riker III

28 Lara Sweet
29 Tom Sweet
30 Nikki Hunt
31 Rev. David L. Ledford III

ANNIVERSARIES

6 Dave & Mary Gibson

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4 Joan Powell,
5 April Bridges
8 Beth Morrison, Michael Rudderow, Emily Sweet
10 Heather Johnson, Piper Worrell
14 Susan Olson, Serena Mansfield

15 Mallory Leonard
18 Samantha Sweet
20 Michele Rowson
24 Dave Gibson
25 Johnelle Bogert
26 Taylor Adams
27 Jared Powell

ANNIVERSARIES

4 Harry & Carole Simon
18 Russell and Peggy Thomas
19 Jim & Bev Barthmaier

To receive your newsletter online, email the church administrative assistant at vumcsec@gmail.com

Pastor's email: vumc97@gmail.com Website: vincentownumc.org

On Facebook search "Vincentown United Methodist Church"

CALENDAR INFORMATION FOR MARCH AND APRIL

SUNDAYS

Palm Sunday, April 5, 11:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday, April 12

SonRise Service by the lake 6:30 a.m.

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Worship 11:00 a.m.

MONDAYS

Southampton Recycling Day

March 23, April 6, April 20, May 4

Naomi Circle, 7:00 p.m.

March 16, April 20

TUESDAYS

Lenten Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.

March 17, March 24, March 31, April 7

Jr. Youth Group, 7:30 p.m.

March 17, March 24, March 31, April 7, April 14, April 21, April 28

Sarah Circle, 10:30 a.m.

March 24, April 28

Church Council, 7:00 p.m.

April 7

WEDNESDAYS

LeisureTowne Bible Study, 15 Pulham Lane, 2:00 p.m.

March 18, March 25, April 1, April 8, April 15, April 22, April 29

Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. (After Easter)

April 22, April 29

Community Lenten Services, 7:30 p.m.

March 18, March 25, April 1 (See Cover Page for locations)

THURSDAYS

Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m. (Before Easter)

March 19, March 26, April 2

Holy Thursday Service, April 9, 7:30 p.m.

VBS meeting, April 16

1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

FRIDAYS

April 10, Community Good Friday Service, First Baptist Church Vincentown, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAYS

Food Pantry, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon

April 4, May 2

Year to date (January & February, 2020) Finance Report

Total operating Income: \$22,584.09

Total Expenses: \$32,606.84

Overall Total: -\$10,022.75

We have been drawing from our savings to cover our operating expenses for the past few years. Our Church budget for 2020 is \$195,559. To meet our budget, we need to receive \$16,296.60 per month. Thus far this year, we have been averaging \$11,292.00 per month.

Offering Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

We thank You for being our strength and our song. You fill our hearts with great joy. May we give our offerings to You with gladness and joy. Everything we have belongs to You. We rejoice to give some of Your abundant gifts back to You. Majesty, You are the light that guides us. May the compassion of the Son be the love that inspires us. May the presence of the Spirit be the power that empowers us.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior,
Amen.

Finance Chairman
Frank Hicks

VINCENTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Easter Lily Order Form – 2020

Please order _____ Easter lilies at \$9.00 each.

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Given by _____

Orders may be placed in the offering plates on Sundays or mailed to the church at 97 Main Street, Vincentown, NJ 08088. Please make checks payable to Vincentown UMC. **Deadline for all orders is Sunday, March 29.**

Following the Easter Sunday service, we encourage you to take your lily with you and enjoy its beauty at home or share it with a friend, relative or shut-in.

Vincentown United Methodist Church

97 Main Street, Vincentown NJ 08088 (609) 859-2161

E-mail: pastorvumc97@gmail.com

Rev. David L. Ledford III, Pastor

(732) 632-7613

Adult Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Upper Room Prayer 9:45 a.m.

Sunday School for children 10:00 a.m.

Worship 11:00 a.m.

Food Pantry, 1st Saturday Holy Communion, 1st Sunday

Handicap Accessible, Large-print Hymnals & Bibles

Lay Leader—Beverlee Adams

Church Council Chairperson—Frank Hicks

Organist—Susan Mansfield

Administrative Assistant—Peggy Thomas vumcsec@gmail.com

Sexton—Raymond McGill

***OFFICE HOURS: TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY 10-12:30, 1:30-3
MONDAY & FRIDAY CLOSED***

DEADLINE FOR MAY NEWSLETTER—APRIL 15

Vincentown United Methodist Church

97 Main Street

Vincentown, New jersey 08088

Prepared especially for:

***A Spirit-directed Christian community of faith, based on scripture and prayer, where God
invites all to be filled with the Holy Spirit, to serve, care and love, in the name of Jesus Christ.***