

VINCENTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# LAMPLIGHTER

September, 2019



## CHURCH PICNIC

Saturday, September 21, 2019

1-4 p.m.

Home of Brian & April Richardson  
590 Smithville Road, Southampton

Bring your favorite picnic food and a lawn chair

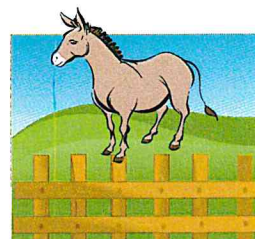


Hamburgers

Hot Dogs

Pulled Pork

provided



Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

## United Methodist Women

Faith—Hope—Love in action

Circle Meetings:

Naomi, Monday, September 16, 7:00 p.m.

Sarah, Tuesday, September 24, 10:30 a.m.

## CELEBRATE

## 150 YEARS OF UMW

Save the date!! We invite you and ALL Methodists to come celebrate 150 years of the UMW! **Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**, Sue Duffield is coming to lead a special celebration! More details to follow. Invite Methodist friends you know from other churches!

## ADULT METHODISM CLASS

Are you interested in a Methodism class for adults? Reverend Dave will be holding one in the Fall! Membership is not a requirement for this class, anyone can come.

## Covered Dish Dinner

Friday, September 13 6:30 p.m. at Buddtown UMC! Bring a dish to share and join us for food and fellowship!

## JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

We have started a youth group for younger disciples, ages 7-13. We would like this to be a lot like VBS: lots of fun and educational! A relationship with this church is not required and neither is any religious experience at all. We want this to be a time and place for young disciples of all abilities to increase their faith in a safe, supportive and loving environment. Bring friends!

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

It is that time of the year where we begin to think about returning to Sunday School. This year we will begin on September 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 to 10:45. We meet in the Githen's Room. I pray that all former class members will return and also pray that other adults will think about joining the group. This fall we will begin with a book by Adam Hamilton, "Half Truths".

The five statements that will be explored have almost become Christian clichés.

"Everything happens for a reason."

"God helps those who help themselves."

"God won't give you more than you can handle."

"God said it, I believe it, that settles it."

"Love the sinner, hate the sin."

These statements are not found in the Bible, so where did they come from? As the class leader I am looking forward to a lively and interesting discussions as we study this book.

Bev Adams



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GROSS FAMILY ON THE BIRTH OF PAISLEY MAE GROSS, BORN JULY 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2019!

ERIC AND JODIE ARE EXCITED TO HAVE THEIR FIRST DAUGHTER, AND BRODY IS LOVING HAVING A SISTER!

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Mary Sue Woodbury
- 3 Devin Lynch
- 6 Virginia Bowker
- 10 Kristina Gadjerowicz, Todd Traino
- 11 Ted Dengler
- 17 Vincent Bowker
- 18 Penny Haines, Harry Simon
- 20 Daniel Bogert
- 23 Hilda Green
- 24 Marcy Bonstead
- 28 Sandi Hill



## Food Pantry

During the month of September we are asking for:  
Any brand Instant Mashed Potatoes. Approximate  
Net Wt. 13.75 oz.

- 12.5 oz. size of canned White Chuck Chicken or 12  
oz. size can of Tuna

(Please make sure that the date of purchase is within  
(6) months of the date of expiration.)

*Our Food Pantry is growing and monetary  
donations are always welcome and will go towards  
the purchase of Food Pantry items.*

If you have any question's please contact Rev.  
Dave or Missy Scott.

To receive your newsletter online, email the church administrative assistant at [vumcsec@gmail.com](mailto:vumcsec@gmail.com)

Pastor's email: [vumc97@gmail.com](mailto:vumc97@gmail.com) Website: [vincentownumc.org](http://vincentownumc.org)

On Facebook search "Vincetown United Methodist Church"





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

Rev. David L. Ledford, III - Pastor  
[pastorvumc97@gmail.com](mailto:pastorvumc97@gmail.com)

10:00 Sunday School, 10:15 Prayer and Praise Time, 11:00 Worship Service.  
All are Welcome!

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ

September 2019

A busy church is a growing church! I know I have said that very often, but this time of year it becomes apparent just how true it is! The busiest part of the church year is here. When you drive by a church or come see their Facebook or website, how do you know if that church is a growing church? There are many indicators, but the most obvious and observable is how active they are. When I say "growing" I'm not only referring to increasing worship attendance. A busy church often does grow in worship attendance. But a lack of increase in worship attendance does not mean the church isn't growing. A busy church grows also in faithfulness, in discipleship, in mission, in love and in relationship with the world, with each other and with God. I am asking all of you reading this to help this church get busy!

The Vincentown United Methodist Church is about to get very busy, and I am excited to tell you about all of the great ministry, mission and worship opportunities that you can get involved with this Fall. On Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> our normal Sunday morning schedule will resume. This includes Sunday School for all ages starting at 10:00. Every Sunday morning offers several different opportunities for prayer and study. Bev Adams will be leading her usual adult Sunday School class through powerful discussions, and Sue Mansfield and Peggy Thomas welcome you to come and pray with them before things begin. We also invite you to our 10:15 Prayer and Praise Time. This is an opportunity to get some more of the praise songs that you might like, you get a teaser from me about the week's sermon topic and you will get unique and transformative opportunities to pray in the pews or at the kneeling rail. Then we all gather in one place at one time for an 11:00 worship service with both traditional and contemporary elements of worship.

In addition to our returning Sunday morning schedule, many other things resume in September as well. The choir will be back and is ready to aid our worship with heavenly singing. Rehearsals are Wednesday nights at 7 and Peg Ryan is always happy to have more singers join the choir! Margo's Wednesday afternoon Leisuretowne Bible Study resumes on September 11<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see new faces and hear new voices for Bible study this year! Sue Olson and the Youth Group for ages 12+ are continuing to meet on Wednesday nights at 7pm and are excited about going to Ignite. And our Food Pantry is thriving with help from your very generous donations. We now expect to host over 30 families each month. Our Food Pantry is officially open the first Saturday of every month, but walk-ins are always accepted!

As you see, we are continuing all of the ministries that we had before. But I am extremely excited to announce a couple new offerings for you this Fall! First, we are starting a Methodism class for adults. Were you inspired by all of the things that our Confirmation Class learned and did? You're not alone! Several people from our congregation expressed an interest in learning about those same things. So, we are starting an adult Methodism class this Fall. Please let me know if you are interested. Once we know who wants to come, we will make a meeting schedule. Second, also as a result of the Confirmation Class, we have started a new Junior Youth Group for ages 7-13. They call themselves the Vincentown God Squad! After only one month of meetings, we have already had 11 different kids attend our Junior Youth Group. And we are always ready for more. Like a year-round VBS, this Junior Youth Group learns about the Bible, learns new songs and dances and then goes to an activity like science experiments, games, crafts and missions.

I want to officially invite you to join us and get involved in our church in any way this Fall. You can worship with us, join the choir, attend Bible Study, expand your Sunday morning prayer at Prayer and Praise Time, join Youth Group or Junior Youth Group or get involved in the Food Pantry. These are only a few of the many ways to get involved in the church's growth this Fall. We need you to help us keep growing. I pray that God's call in your life will become very clear.

Friends, won't you join me in prayer? I ask that you pray for the Vincentown United Methodist Church. I ask that you pray for the Church all over the world. I ask that you pray for our country. And this September I especially ask that you pray for our young disciples of Christ going back to school having to worry about things that we never had to worry about. Lord, pour out your Holy Spirit on the person reading these words. They are loved here. Amen!

Grace and Peace,  
Reverend Dave



# Vincetown Inspires Children to Grow in Faith One Project at a Time

By Heather Mistretta  
hmistretta@gnjunc.org

VINCETOWN, N.J.

**R**everend David Ledford, III, pastor at Vincetown United Methodist Church, invites free expression in everything he does. "Christian learning that's fun equals a life transforming," he said in a recent interview.

Ledford and his church tucked in an historic, agrarian village within the Burlington County township of Southampton is committed to fostering a Christian education that is inclusive and makes learning both challenging and fun. Their original sanctuary built in 1853 still stands as does their strong sense of community and investment in learning.

Born out of a confirmation class started in December 2018, a new junior youth group for ages seven through 13 began in July 2019.

"Our students didn't want to lose the connection they built. We like to think of it as a VBS [Vacation Bible School] that never ends," said Ledford who has been the church's pastor for four years.

The New Jersey native originally from Bound Brook likes to instill connection. When the confirmation classes began last December, one of the first things the group did was build a covenant where no one was judged and where everyone felt comfortable expressing themselves.

From December 27 until June 9 the confirmation class met every Thursday night. Each class began with 30 minutes of worship in which the eight confirmation students (and many of their parents



Pastor Dave blesses the students in his confirmation class. Photo Courtesy: David Ledford, III

who wanted to stay and learn as well) were taught about what each ingredient of a worship service is all about.

"We discussed many worship topics; traditional worship, contemporary worship, special worship services for holidays and UMC Special Sundays and the Sacraments," said Ledford.

After each lesson the children had the opportunity to act it out themselves. The worship was followed by 30-minute lesson topics ranging from the Old and New Testaments to the church history, United Methodist history, United Methodist doctrine and polity and United Methodist theology and beliefs.

By the end of the confirmation class, the students were required to complete a ministry project that reflected their own talents as well as the needs of the church, the community and the world around them.

One student who was clearly paying attention was 11-year-old Kathrine, who has recently expressed an interest in becoming a pastor. Following the classes, Kathrine preached the Pentecost sermon on Confirmation Sunday.

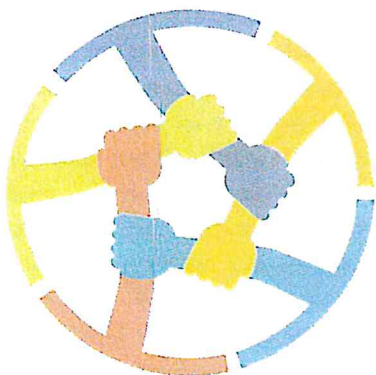
church's social media presence by creating and maintaining a new Instagram page; and Lawrence has created a new mailbox and is contributing to the new Junior Youth Group.

"I am so proud of these eight students who have found how God made them unique and special and then used those things to improve the ministries of this church."

"I am extremely proud of how diverse these projects are: missional, reaching out to the world while also caring for those who come here, connectational, artistic, compassionate, hopeful and bold. All of this when put together taught our young disciples of Christ that church membership is more than church attendance. It requires action, it is social jus-

**"I AM SO PROUD OF THESE EIGHT STUDENTS WHO HAVE FOUND HOW GOD MADE THEM UNIQUE AND SPECIAL AND THEN USED THOSE THINGS TO IMPROVE THE MINISTRIES OF THIS CHURCH."**

— Rev. David Ledford, III, pastor at Vincetown United Methodist Church



## 2019 PaCE GROUPS BY REGION INCLUDE:

### NORTHERN REGION

Dinner Church and 21st Century Leadership

### CENTRAL REGION

Women in Ministry, Black Church Leadership and Anatomy of Peace

### SOUTHERN REGION

See all the People, Inspired and Sermon Series Content Creation

Organize a group or sign up for an open one at [www.gnjunc.org/pace](http://www.gnjunc.org/pace)

**REGISTRATION IS OPEN AUG. 1- SEP. 15**



FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT:  
Gina Yenka, Director of Small Groups  
[gyenka@gnjunc.org](mailto:gyenka@gnjunc.org) | 732.359.1042



PURSUE CLERGY EXCELLENCE  
UNITED METHODISTS  
OF GREATER NEW JERSEY

"She did an awesome job. Her bedroom is now her church office," said Ledford, who encourages flexibility and autonomy with the hopes of instilling confidence, courage and authority.

The other students also latched onto his passion to be good disciples as well. Jenny helps him lead sessions in Vacation Bible School; Hunter has used her artistic skills to create bookmarks for the pew Bibles; Ava is channeling her love of animals to start a food pantry for pets; Mark is collecting necessary personal items for the homeless; Emma is embracing the church's rich history by creating a "Pastor Wall" that will display the pictures of all of the pastors who have served this church; Angelica is helping to bolster the

tice, and it is a commitment that should not be taken lightly."

Vincetown UMC also offers several bible studies programs, women's circles, a choir, men's group and a food pantry on the first Saturday of every month.

Ledford's passion for teaching inspired him to pursue and earn an associate degree in Teaching (Raritan Valley Community College, 2008), a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education (Kean University, 2010) and a Master of Divinity from Drew Theological School (2014). Prior to coming to Vincetown, he served churches in Berkeley Heights, Warren and Phillipsburg.

For more information, please visit [www.vincetownumc.org](http://www.vincetownumc.org). #



# SEPTEMBER 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> <i>Holy Communion</i>  <i>Secretary's vacation</i> ____	<b>2</b> <i>Labor Day</i>  <i>Secretary's vacation</i> ____	<b>3</b> 7:00 Nominations Committee meeting  <i>Secretary's vacation</i> ____	<b>4</b> 7:00 Youth Group 7:00 Choir practice  <i>Secretary's vacation</i> ____	<b>5</b> 7:30 Jr. Youth Group  <i>Secretary's vacation</i> ____	<b>6</b>  <i>Secretary's vacation</i> ____	<b>7</b> 10 – 12 Food Pantry  <i>Secretary's vacation</i> ____
<b>8</b> <i>Regular Sunday            Schedule (below)</i>	<b>9</b> <i>Recycling Day</i>	<b>10</b> 7:00 Church Council	<b>11</b> 2:00 Bible Study at 15 Pulham Lane, Leisuretowne 7:00 Youth Group 7:00 Choir practice	<b>12</b> 7:30 Jr. Youth Group	<b>13</b> 6:30 Covered Dish Dinner at Buddtown	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> <i>Regular Sunday            Schedule (below)            Charge Conference            Reports Due</i>	<b>16</b> 7:00 Naomi Circle	<b>17</b> Newsletter Articles Due 7:00 SPRC	<b>18</b> 2:00 Bible Study at 15 Pulham Lane, Leisuretowne 7:00 Youth Group 7:00 Choir practice	<b>19</b> 7:30 Jr. Youth Group	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 2-5 Church Picnic
<b>22</b> <i>Regular Sunday            Schedule (below)</i>	<b>23</b> <i>Recycling Day</i>	<b>24</b> 10:30 Sarah Circle	<b>25</b> 2:00 Bible Study at 15 Pulham Lane, Leisuretowne 7:00 Youth Group 7:00 Choir practice	<b>26</b> 7:30 Jr. Youth Group	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <i>Regular Sunday            Schedule (right)</i>	<b>30</b>					<b>Regular Sunday            Schedule</b> 9:45 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Children's Sunday School 10:15 Prayer & Praise 11:00 Worship

# **Vincentown United Methodist Church**

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

E-mail: [pastorvumc97@gmail.com](mailto:pastorvumc97@gmail.com)

Rev. David L. Ledford III, Pastor

(732) 632-7613

Adult Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Sunday School for children 10:00 a.m.

Prayer and Praise Time 10:15 a.m.

Worship 11:00 a.m.

Food Pantry, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Holy Communion, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday

Handicap Accessible, Large-print Hymnals & Bibles

Lay Leader—Beverlee Adams

Church Council Chairperson—Susan Mansfield

Organist—Susan Mansfield

Administrative Assistant—Peggy Thomas [vumcsec@gmail.com](mailto:vumcsec@gmail.com)

Sexton—Raymond McGill

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

**DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER NEWSLETTER—SEPTEMBER 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.*