



# VINCENTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



“Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World By:

Honoring our Past,  
Preparing for the Future,  
Serving in the Present”

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

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

11:00 Worship Service in-person and on Facebook Live. All are always welcome!

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

April 2021

You may have heard quite a bit about ordination recently as I have now been approved for ordination as an Elder in the United Methodist Church. But how much do we know about ordination?

In our denomination, ordained deacons are ordained to a lifetime ministry of word, service, compassion and justice. They are the church’s connection to the world. The 2016 General Conference gave deacons the ability to officiate the sacraments if their bishop chooses to allow it. Ordained deacons are appointed by the bishop, just like an elder, but their appointment is typically beyond the walls of the church building. They can, however, be appointed as the pastor in charge of a congregation. Elders are ordained to a lifetime ministry of Word, service, sacrament and order. Elders are typically the pastor of the church, given authority to oversee the preaching, teaching and missions of the church. They also are given authority to administer the sacraments of Holy Communion and Baptism. As a Provisional Elder, I’ve been able to do that here in my setting, but only here. Once ordained, an Elder can officiate the sacraments anywhere. Elders are also given authority to ensure that everything in the church is being done according to the Book of Discipline.

For me, it took ten years from answering God’s call to being approved for ordination. Of course, the process has to start with the person acknowledging and answering God’s call to ministry. Then, the local church Charge Conference is asked to affirm that call. Once they do, they become a candidate and work with the District Committee on Ordained Ministry until that committee feels they are ready to move on to the conference level. At that point, the candidate goes before the Board of Ordained Ministry for commissioning as a Provisional Elder or Deacon. If approved, the candidate begins a probationary period of growth, learning and experience building. Once they feel ready, the candidate goes back to the Board of Ordained Ministry seeking full ordination. If approved, the bishop will ordain them at Annual Conference. To get approved, the candidate has about 60 pages of writing to do, they have to submit a video of a sermon they preached, they have to get a background and credit check, a full physical, a psychological assessment, and then are evaluated in four different interviews by the Board of Ordained Ministry; preaching and worship, theology, polity and practice of ministry. Now that I am approved, that will happen for me at annual conference this year May 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> on YouTube. Anyone can watch at [www.youtube.com/GNJUMC](http://www.youtube.com/GNJUMC).

You don’t have to be clergy to be ordained though. A Biblical understanding of ordination teaches us that all baptized Christians are ordained. Ordination in the Bible is not just about clergy people leading the church. Ordination in the Bible is also something that each of us is given. In the Bible, ordination means “appointed to a particular time and place” to do the work God is calling them to do. All of that work isn’t pastoral ministry. What has God ordained you to do? For the next several weeks in worship, we will be taking a look at the early church and how they used the unique ways God was calling them to spread the good news of Jesus Christ, to bring others into a life of faith and to spread love. That’s something we are all ordained to.

Grace and Peace, Reverend Dave

### Upcoming Scriptures

April 11<sup>th</sup> –Acts 4: 32-35

May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Acts 8: 26-40

April 18<sup>th</sup> – Acts 3: 12-19

May 9<sup>th</sup> – Acts 10: 44-48

April 25<sup>th</sup> – Acts 4: 5-12

May 16<sup>th</sup> – Acts 1: 1-11

May 23<sup>rd</sup> (Pentecost)– Acts 2: 1-21

May 30<sup>th</sup> – Proverbs 3: 1-8

### WE'RE STILL OPEN!

On Sunday, OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup>, we returned to the sanctuary as approved by the Reopening Team and the Church Council! For those who worship with us in-person, masks and social distancing are required. Hand sanitizing stations have been installed throughout the church. Many of our friends have made their way back to in-person worship. We believe that we have a safe and comfortable space to worship where our safety measures do not distract from our primary objective to worship God. Thank you to all who have been worshipping in-person for your flexibility and for keeping our worship services safe for everyone.

For those worshipping with us online, we thank you for your dedication to the church and our worship services. We are continuing to work on our new technologies to make sure that your experience of God is as flawless as humanly possible. Thank you for your patience and understanding!

### VINCENTOWN UMC WORSHIP, MISSIONS & SMALL GROUPS

**SUNDAY:** 11am Worship (in person and Facebook Live)

**THURSDAY:** 11am & 7 pm Bible Study on Zoom

**FRIDAY:** 7:30 pm Youth Group

**SATURDAY:** 1<sup>ST</sup> Saturday of the Month: Food Pantry

**EVERY DAY:** We worship, serve God and pray with you!

You may find our live worship services by going to our Facebook page ([facebook.com/vumcnj](https://facebook.com/vumcnj)) at 11am on Sunday morning. To find any previous services, you may go to our Facebook page and click on "videos", or go to our website, [vincentownumc.org](https://vincentownumc.org).

Have a ministry idea? We would love to hear it!

### **APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Poppy McCollister
- 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

### **APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

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

### **MAY BIRTHDAYS**

- 5 Jelane Blazewick
- 6 Dana Mansfield
- 7 Betty Stover, Carrie Wach
- 8 Doris Hemminger
- 10 Bodie Worrell
- 14 Judy Bray, Pat King, Kristie Worrell
- 15 Jeff Hicks
- 18 Camryn Bogert
- 20 Audrey Cannon
- 25 Richard Bamford
- 26 Kim Mauroff
- 27 Beverly Barthmaier
- 29 Janet Monastero
- 31 Jack Traino, Brody Gross

### **MAY ANNIVERSARIES**

- 7 Tim & Kristie Worrell
  - 16 Ted & Claudia Dengler
  - 31 George & Missy Scott
- If you would like an address for anyone on this list, or wish to add to it, please reach out to the pastor at [pastorvumc97@gmail.com](mailto:pastorvumc97@gmail.com).

### Food Pantry

Thank you for your generous donations to the Food Pantry! The next Food Pantry Date is: Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup> from 10 am-12 pm.

If you have donations, we will arrange a time to safely meet and receive them so that we all stay safe and healthy!

If you have any questions or donations, please reach out to Deb Barton, Carole Simon or Reverend Dave.

## March Finance Report

Bastedo Estate: \$110,427  
Cemetery: \$20,337  
Capital Improvement: \$36,971 (up \$1,005)  
Stocks: \$27,502 (Up \$1,843)  
Operating Funds: \$30,379

March Operating Funds:  
Total Income: \$13,708  
Total Expenses: \$13,457  
Overall Total: + \$252

Year to date (1/1/2021 - 3/31/21)  
Total Income: \$37,566  
Total Expenses: \$40,477  
Overall Total: -\$2,910

~ The Church Misses Seeing each of You.

### Offertory Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You that You can satisfy our every desire and need. Your word says that we should give honor to You with the first fruits of our wealth. Accept our tithes and offerings as a gift of worship to You. Multiply what we give for the effective growth of Your kingdom. May Christ dwell in our hearts through faith so that we, being rooted and grounded in love, may have the strength to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge. May we be filled with all the fullness of God. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

Frank Hicks, Finance Chair

### Online Giving is Here!

#### What are the benefits of online giving?

- Recurring payments can be set up one time, and then they happen automatically from that moment on.
- No more worrying! Some of you might grow concerned throughout the year that you have fallen behind. But with online giving, you will always know that you are right on track!

Online giving will never be the only way to give, it is just an easier way to give for some. If cash and check work best for you, stick with that! You can sign up any time! See Rev. Dave for more info!

## United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women wishes to say a huge THANK YOU to all of our sisters who contributed to this year's Day of Prayer and Self Denial offering for 4 very worthy missions that were in dire need because of the Covid 19 pandemic. Because of the generosity of so many, we were able to send \$1,705.00 to help global missions with a SOAP MAKING PROJECT in the Republic of Congo and a GIRLS WITHOUT FUTURE SEWING PROGRAM in Mozambique. Closer to home we were helping the San Francisco Bay area in California with their GUNMOON RESIDENCE & ASIAN WOMEN'S RESIDENCE CENTER, and to support RED BIRD MISSION in southeast Kentucky. This is the largest amount that we have ever been able to send from our Vincentown UMW. So thank you again for your generosity and please consider joining our UMW in person when we are at last able to meet live again. Or if you care to join us at our Zoom meetings now, just send your email to Claudia Gifford at [claudiagifford@gmail.com](mailto:claudiagifford@gmail.com) and she will send you the zoom link. Our next meeting is April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. We would LOVE to have you with us.

### CONGRATULATIONS on BAPTISM!

Austin Jeffrey Worrell

Son of Rebecca and Randy Worrell II

Julian Petrowski

### Congratulations, Olivia and Tiffany!

The American Legion awarded Livy and Tiffany with Good Deed Awards for the community service that they have done with our food pantry. The work they have done and the love they have shared have been noticed beyond our local church. Great job, Livy and Tiffy, and thank you for being a special part of our ministries!"

### 2021 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Greater New Jersey's Annual Conference for 2021 will be held on Monday, May 24<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the conference will be completely virtual. Anyone can view it on the conference's YouTube page, [www.youtube.com/GNJUMC](http://www.youtube.com/GNJUMC). This year, during annual conference we will be able to watch Reverend Dave get ordained!

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

Pastor's email: [pastorvumc97@gmail.com](mailto:pastorvumc97@gmail.com) Website: [vincentownumc.org](http://vincentownumc.org)

On Facebook and Instagram, search "Vincentown United Methodist Church"

# Vincentown United Methodist Church

## LAMPLIGHTER, APRIL, 2021

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

VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR SERVICES

OR

VISIT IN PERSON SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 11:00 A.M.

(MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIRED)

Food Pantry, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday

Lay Leader—Beverlee Adams

Church Council Chairperson—Frank Hicks

Organist—Susan Mansfield

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

*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.*