

VINCENTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

LAMPLIGHTER

SPRING, 2020



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Spring 2020

Thank you for supporting the church during the COVID-19 pandemic. These are difficult days, but it is in difficult days that the world is reminded of why the Church exists, and perhaps the Church is reminded of that too. This letter is for members of the church and non-members too! I want to take a look at the United Methodist Church membership vows, the promises we make to each other, to God and to the world when we join the church. I want to brainstorm how members can uphold those vows during quarantine. I also want to let the whole world know what we, the members of the United Methodist Church here in Vincentown, promise to you. I invite all of you, member or not, to hold us to this vow: to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness.

Our prayers. Every meeting and every service begins and ends with prayer. We pray for the world, we pray for the sick and the hungry, we pray for the oppressed, we pray for those in financial hardship, and we pray for the Church. We pray for you. We don't need to be in the sanctuary to do that. We are praying for you from our homes.

Our presence. God is starting new things in this scary time. We can't worship in person, but for the first time ever, we have broadcasted worship services online every Sunday morning. Each video since we started has gotten over 250 views. Your presence there, member or not, counts. We know you are there, and we thank you for being present with us online. Youth Group continues on through Zoom, where we are present every Tuesday at 7:30. And a brand-new Bible study focusing on diseases and quarantines in the Bible is now being held at 10am and again at 7pm on Thursdays. We don't need to be in the sanctuary to have Bible study. We are being present in Bible study from our homes.

Our gifts. The world and the church need you. The work of the church must go on and for that, we need your gifts; financial gifts and the gifts of your time and talents. We still have property to maintain, and still have future and current ministries to plan. Those things require time and talents. They also require financial support. Thank you for the gifts you have given to our church during this pandemic. Please consider how you may continue to do so. We do not need to be in the sanctuary to offer our gifts. We can offer our gifts from home through online video meetings and Bible studies, and by sending in donations through the mail or by going to gnjumc.org/onlinegiving.

Our service. The food pantry has continued on! More people are coming now than ever before. So many of you, both members and non-members, have been helping our food pantry. Your incredible generosity has humbled me and has often left me speechless. It seems like every day I am hearing about more bags of food being dropped off at the church. Thank you to Deb, Nancy and Carole who do our stocking and organizing. Thank you to George and Missy who have helped with food pantry finances, and a special thank you to Livy, Tiffy and Lisa who, through the girl scouts and several community members, have donated hundreds of food items to the food pantry, and they are still coming! Because of you, people who once had no hope, now have food on their shelves and love in their hearts. We all haven't had to spend hours at the church, although I know many of you have. Others have made a huge difference from home.

Our witness. Christian witness is telling the world about the good news of Jesus Christ, about the great things God is doing through your church and showing enthusiasm and excitement for the church. We have an amazing God! And we have to let the world know that. Christian witness is about good news, forgiveness and love. Some are only used to bad news, judgment and hate. We don't have to be in the sanctuary to do that. We can do it right inside our homes.

None of these things require us to be in the sanctuary. Each one of us can uphold all of these vows even when we can't go to the sanctuary. With your help, the church will survive this pandemic, and with your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service and your witness, the world will be reminded of what the Church is all about. Amen!

Peace and Blessings, Reverend Dave

COVID- 19 UPDATE

ALL IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES AND EVENTS OF THE VINCENTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HAVE BEEN CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. MANY OF THEM, AND NEW ONES, ARE NOW ONLINE, AS SEEN IN THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE BELOW. NO END DATE IS DETERMINED YET.

WORSHIP, MISSIONS & SMALL GROUPS DURING COVID-19

SUNDAY: 11am Facebook Live Online Worship

MONDAY: 7pm 3rd Monday; Naomi Circle on Zoom.

TUESDAY: 10am 4th Tuesday; Sarah Circle on Zoom.
7:30pm Youth Group on Zoom.

WEDNESDAY: 7pm Midweek Prayer Service Facebook.

THURSDAY: 10am & 7pm Bible Study on Zoom.
"Diseases & Quarantines in the Bible"

SATURDAY: 1ST Saturday of the Month: Food Pantry

For our videos, go to our Facebook page. Live and recent videos should be the first post. If it has already ended, go to our Facebook page and click on "videos". You may also go to vumc.org and click the link at the top of the page.

Food Pantry

Thank you for your generous donations to the Food Pantry. The next Food Pantry Date is: Saturday, June 6th.

We are following proper social distancing procedures to ensure the complete safety of our team and our guests. The best practices for dropping off donations include arranging a drop off time, and then once the donations are there and the donors have left, church representatives will bring the donations inside. Stay safe and healthy!

A special thank you to Livy, Tiffy and Lisa for organizing donations through the community. Please see the flyer on page 5 for more information on what they are doing!

With questions or donations, please contact Rev. Dave or Missy Scott or Carole Simon or Deb Barton.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Jelane Blazewick
- 6 Dana Mansfield
- 7 Betty Stover
(3408 Benedix Way, Elk Grove, CA. 95758)
- 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

ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 Tim & Kristie Worrell
- 16 Ted & Claudia Dengler
- 31 George & Missy Scott

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Bryce McMaster
- 3 Clay Bridges, Gail Hall
- 5 Carlo Monastero
- 6 Margo Griner
- 8 Johanna Mansfield
- 10 Braylyn Bruno
- 12 Jodie Gross, Xander Emmert
- 13 Chase Startare
- 15 Frank Hicks, Mike Rudderow
- 16 Dan Everett
- 17 Claudia Dengler, Mary Gibson
- 18 Grace Hicks, Susan Mansfield, Arron Morrison, Cailey Talbot
- 19 Nick Dengler, Ella Worrell
- 22 Lisa Bogert, Matthew Hunt
- 28 Gary Rosmando
- 30 Carrienne Grundner, Jeanne Miller

ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Gary & Kathy Rosmando
- 16 Richard & Joyce Jones, Clay & April Bridges
- 17 Jim & Donna Chappine

Christian Caring Center

May you all be staying well. Thank you for your past support with food for the holidays and school donations. We will be back up and running as soon as we can go to church again. Mary Sue Woodbury



Introducing VUMC'S FREE 2020 VBS: KNIGHTS OF NORTH CASTLE

August 24th–28th 6pm-8:30pm & August 30th 11am Closing Worship

This is only a hopeful schedule. If Covid-19 restrictions are still in place, we will plan accordingly. Registration for August 24th-28th will be available at vincentownumc.org soon.

Address Correction, 2019 Photo Directory

Bev Adams' correct address is:
827 Powell Rd. Tabernacle, NJ 08088

Year to date (April 5, 2020) Finance Report

Total operating Income: \$58,171.23

Total Expenses: \$55,703.18

Overall Total: +\$2,468.05

Pledges Received to date: \$45,952.09 due to a gift of \$10,000

We have a surplus due to the fact that we didn't have to pay apportionments or fuel oil bills for March and April.

Other church accounts:

Bastedo Estate: \$148,760.00

Cemetery Fund: \$20,187.00

Capital Improvement: \$33,086.00 (up \$1,055.00)

Stocks: \$22,803.00 (down \$8,732.00 ytd)

Offering Prayer

Almighty God and everlasting Father, we thank You that You are our bountiful Provider and for the many gifts that we enjoy so freely from the fruit of the earth. May we be wise servants and faithful stewards with the many blessings that we have received at Your hand – and may we take of what You have given to us with a grateful heart – and cheerfully give back to You a small portion of the abundance of Your grace, that we have received at Your hand. Amen!

Finance Chairman

Frank Hicks

Online Giving is on the Way!

As approved by the May Church Council, soon, you will be able to submit your gifts, tithes and offerings to the church through online giving! Putting donations in the offering plate will always be accepted, but if that is not the easiest way for you to give, we will soon offer you this new opportunity! Here are some of the benefits to online giving:

- No more carrying cash or checks to church!
- No more remembering! 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! For those who choose online giving, there will be envelopes in the pews that say "I give online" so you have something to physically put in the plate as you wish to remind you of the spiritual discipline that your giving is. More information will be coming soon!

Online Worship in the Sanctuary is on the Way!

As approved by the May Church Council, we are currently installing cameras in the sanctuary that will allow us to continue going live every Sunday morning even after returning to the sanctuary! With this decision, VUMC has promised our new worshipers that we will still be here for them once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. AMEN!

THANK YOU, ESSENTIAL WORKERS!

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

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

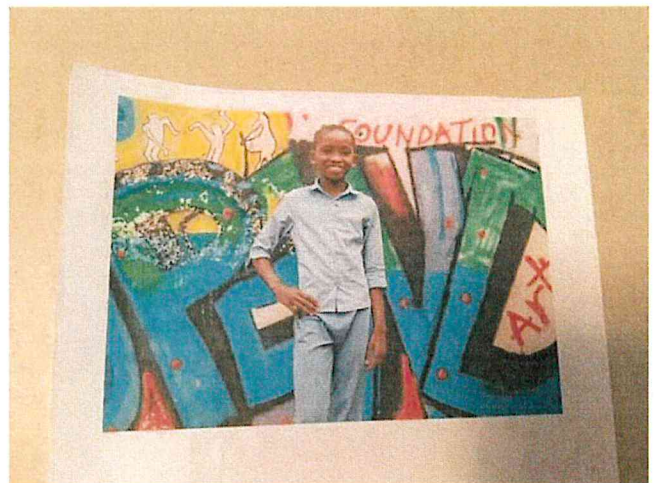
On Facebook search "Vincentown United Methodist Church"

United Methodist Women

Meet Winnie Teresa! She lives in the Kibera Slum of Kenya. She is 11 years old and a very bright 5th grader and talented young artist who attends Olympic Primary School. It has become the privilege of our UMW to sponsor Winnie's education through the UWEZA Aid Foundation. Winnie lives with her family of 5 in a 1 room house which costs \$30.00 per month. Both of her parents work, her father as a security guard, and her mother as a cleaner. This is one of our mission projects that is near and dear to our hearts. Winnie would not be going to school without our sponsorship. We know how hard she works as we receive her report cards, and a letter from her, and pictures of her each semester.

This colorful landscape was painted by Winnie and purchased from the UWEZA Art Gallery. When we can get back together again, it will be on display in the Social Room along with 2 other paintings by other art students in Kibera. UWEZA also has a wonderful art program which helps foster support for the artist (60% of the price) and the program itself (40% of the price). You can find them on FB @ UWEZA ART GALLERY. Take a peek and see the talent for yourself. UMW is now meeting on line through ZOOM and we are anxious to get back to seeing our current members (and hopefully many new members) in real time. We pray that our other mission projects, some of which have been put on hold because of the current situation, will be starting up again as soon as we get back. Some we are still trying to maintain. Our Treasurer is reporting a balance of \$992.65 all of which is already designated for mission projects for this year. We need the funding that would have been collected if we were meeting together; so if, as members we are caring to, please send any donations that you have allotted for UMW, please mail those donations to Joan Powell at 503 Meadowyck Lane, Southampton. If you want to designate your donation to a specific mission, please stipulate that on your check. We have received word that the Christian Caring Center is in need of extra help during this difficult time as they are serving more people that are in need. Also please feel free to submit any fund raising ideas you may have for us as our treasury will be empty by the end of the year.

ALL women of the church are cordially invited to join a UMW Circle. Naomi Circle meets the 3rd Monday @ 7:00 P.M. and Sarah Circle meets the 4th Tuesday at 10:00 A.M.



Janet's Readers Update

To all of our book club participants. Janet's Readers is alive and well and reading A LOT these days. Our next book will be Eleanor Oliphant is completely fine. We will be ZOOM meeting again for discussion of this unique first novel by Gail Honeyman. Anyone who wishes to join us is welcome to do so, just email Claudia Gifford (Claudia gifford1122@gmail.com) and she will gladly add you to her list of readers. Our next discussion will be on June 1, 2020

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!!!

- Your education was interrupted suddenly and without much warning. But your persistence and your ability to complete your classes and assignments is inspiring!
- Please send us the names of any graduates you know so that we can celebrate with you in next month's newsletter!



Olivia and Tiffany's Food Drive

Vincentown United Methodist Church

Families may collect donations
First Saturday of the Month

Donate from near or far!

Social distance pick up/drop off.

**Contribute through food, gift
cards or cash/check (Venmo,
paypal, accepted)**

You can text Lisa at
609-694-3600 or email
6hawk24@gmail.com



**Feeding the
Community
with One Donation
at a Time**



OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.
"Worship with us on Facebook Live every Sunday at 11am"

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 SUMMER NEWSLETTER—MAY 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.