



We are God's Community

*Growing Love . . .
Serving Others*

THE CHIMES

November 2025

Thoughts for the Journey:

S'mores! I love s'mores. No matter the time of year, I believe toasting a marshmallow, wedging it between chocolate and graham crackers is a little slice of heaven. Aside from the first bite where the marshmallow and chocolate mix into a stretchy gooey mess combined with the crunch of graham flavor, I think the most fun is toasting the marshmallow. On a stick, over a fire or hot grill, that is the place I love to be. I will roast you as many as you would like for I enjoy the process of taking that spongy light deliciousness and watching how the fire transforms it into something even more delicious - a completely new creation. I know, they can be done in the microwave or fashioned in/ on the stove. That way pales in comparison because the marshmallow may change consistency but not taste. The taste of toasting changes the taste and feel in your mouth. It is a beautiful and yummy transformation.

Thinking about the components of s'mores, the shift from regular to enhanced taste, I began to think about what we want to talk about in November as we look to planning our time together as a faith community, and church family. We are going to share each week, what it means to be a good steward of the earth, the money that is generously donated, the gifts and graces of individuals, and the prayers that are lifted up. So why not think in terms of "s'mores"?



S'more prayer.
S'more presence.
S'more gifts.
S'more service.



A bit silly maybe, but I think this might have some merit for our spiritual lives and living out that spirituality. Through the ingredients and process of creating edible s'mores, we might have an opportunity to see our spiritual life in the same way. Each week we will have a few moments dedicated to the ingredients of faithful participation in God's Kin-dom. On Thanksgiving Sunday, November 23rd, we will celebrate offerings of food, faith, and family culminating in a Potluck Thanksgiving Dinner together. And...we will have the makings along with our new grill blazing to make...that's right, s'mores! In the simple act of transformation we may all transform just a little.

I realize that it may sound childish to find joy in the simplest pleasures. Jesus found joy and hope in the little ones that crowded around him for hugs, smiles, and a chance to sit on his lap. He also reminds us through the sacred texts about him that we must *all* come to the presence in the Kin-dom of God as little children.

Off to find a fire with my stick and 'mallow! See you at the grill.

Pastor Laurie



**Calvary United
Methodist
Church**

**200 Turner Road
Middletown, RI 02842
Office Phone (401) 847-6181**

Web page:
www.middletownmethodist.com
Facebook: Calvary UMC

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 1:30 noon

Staff

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Worship Schedule

Sanctuary Worship
10:30 a.m.

Children's Church for
children 3 years - 3rd grade
following Children's Time
in Worship.

Children in grades 4th-6th
2nd and 4th Sundays

Our Mission:

We are called to
Produce disciples of Jesus Christ
for God's transformation
of the world;
Praise God through worship,
Provide for one another in
God's name,
Proclaim God's Good News,
and
Promote growth in the Spirit.



November Birthday

Wishes go to ...

5. Bailey Boergesson
12. Meg Barrett
13. Marion Pierce
17. Joshua Smith
19. Nicole Russell
20. Laura Murray
29. Chelsea Boergesson

If you would like to add your name or a family member's name to our Birthday List, please contact the office at calvarylife@necoxmail.com.



November Altar Flowers

November 2
Available

November 9
Available

November 16
Available

November 23
Kyle & Meg Barrett

November 30
Nickie Russell

2025 Altar Flowers

If you would like to sign up for altar flowers, the Flower Sign Up Sheets are located on the bulletin board outside of Crocker Hall. The cost is \$45.00. If you have ??, contact Betty.



WORSHIP
WITH US

SUNDAY MORNING Wor ship

We invite you to join us for **Worship on Sunday Mornings** in the Sanctuary beginning at **10:30 a.m.** If you are unable to attend in person, please join us on Zoom. The link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2821697807?pwd=aldEN09mTFZ4VIN5Q3lWQI90cmRGOT09>

Candy Cane Bazaar

Saturday, November 8th
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

It's not too late to be a part of the
Candy Cane Bazaar Team!

There are lots of **volunteer opportunities!**

Silent Auction Gift Basket Donations/\$

Bake Table Crafts **Re-Gifting**

Monetary Donations for the Cafe

Set-Up Clean Up

Work at the Bazaar

How Can You Help!!!

For more info, contact the Office at
calvaryadmin@necoxmail.com



Immediate Openings for Liturgists, Greeters & Coffee Hour Hosts

A sign up sheet is located on the table outside of Crocker Hall. Please feel free to speak to Pastor Laurie or Betty if you have any questions regarding these "job openings".



We Need Your Empty Ink Cartridges!!

We turn your empty ink cartridges in to Staples for savings on office supplies! There is an orange Collection bin outside the office. Thank you for helping us save!



Mission News



Community Meal Update

Calvary hosted the Community Meal on Thursday, October 16th. We served 67 meals of beef stew, rolls, salad, fruit, applesauce, pudding, water and cookies to our guests. Along with their meal, they were also offered a variety of toiletries. Thank you to everyone who helped with last month's meal. We will serve the Community Meal again on Thursday, November 20th. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Chuck Beltz, Mission Chair.



With the arrival of cold weather, many of our Community Meal guests are in need of some winter attire. Throughout the winter months, we will be collecting **New Hats & Gloves** to be distributed at the Community Meal. The biggest need is always for **men's hats & gloves** but all donations are appreciated.

Donations may be left in the container outside of Crocker Hall. Thank you!



Everyone is invited to a
Thanksgiving
Potluck Lunch

Sunday, November 23rd

12 noon in Dunfey Hall

Paper Goods & Drinks will be provided.

*A sign-up sheet is available if you would like to bring your favorite/traditional dish to share! Don't forget dessert!!

Be sure to let us know how many guests!



PUMC Community Thanksgiving Dinner 2025

As the holiday season approaches, we take a moment to reflect on our blessings and the spirit of togetherness that enriches our community. With immense joy and gratitude, we invite you to join us for the **Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner** at Portsmouth UMC, 2732 East Main Rd, Portsmouth, RI from **1pm-3pm** on **Thursday, November 27, 2025**.

For more information on how you can help, see the back of the Calendar or page 6 of the online version.



Thanksgiving Food Collection

Thanksgiving is a time for us to stop and give thanks for all that God has given us. It is also a time to help those who are less fortunate.

This year, we will once again hold our **Thanksgiving Food Collection**.

We will be collecting bags of non-perishable foods and canned goods. Donations should be brought to Calvary by **Thanksgiving Sunday, November 23rd**. They may be dropped off during the week or on Sunday morning.

Grocery bags are available in the back of the sanctuary for you to take and fill with your donations. For your convenience, there is a list of some needed foods attached to the bags.

For those of you who are unable to shop or to join us for worship, we encourage you, if you are able, to make a **monetary gift**. You can do this by mailing in a check or giving online at www.middlestownmethodist.com.

Please designate this gift as "Thanksgiving Food". All donations of food and money will be delivered to the Salvation Army & the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center Food Pantries.

Jesus said, You will always have the poor among you, . . . " John 12:8



Children's Church

All **children ages 3 years through 3rd grade** are invited to join us for Children's Church in Dunfey Hall following the Children's Time in Worship.

The children will enjoy a small snack *(usually cookies & water), hear a Bible story (or other Christian value story), maybe play a game or do an activity page. Children should be picked up immediately following the end of the Worship Service.

*Please indicate on the Sign In sheet if your child has any allergies.

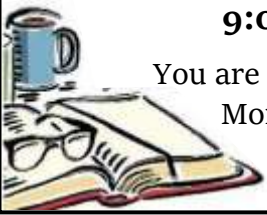
The Sign In sheet is located on the table at the back of the Sanctuary. Please sign your child(ren) in as you enter for worship. You will be asked to sign them out when you pick them up. Any ??? Talk to Betty or Ashley!



"Bible 101" for 4th-6th graders meets on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. Our older Elementary/young Middle School students are

welcome to join us following the Children's Time in Worship. On these weeks, we offer our tweens an opportunity to learn and discover "What's in the Bible?" Please encourage your child to bring their own Bible with them each week to church, to use it on the weeks they stay in church and to use it for our lessons and activities in class as well.

Adult Spiritual Conversation Sunday Mornings starting at 9:00 a.m. "ish"



You are invited to join us Sunday Mornings in Crocker Hall for "Adult Sunday School".

Looking Ahead . . .

"Come to the Stable" An Outdoor Nativity Event for the children, big & small!



Come hear the Christmas Story,
sing some favorite Carols,
enjoy Hot Cocoa & Cookies

Sunday, December 21, 2025
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.



Children's Christmas Pageant



Our children and youth will once again share with you the "good news of Jesus' birth" with **"A Traditional Christmas Pageant"** during worship on **Sunday, December 21st**.

ALL children and youth are invited to participate. There are plenty of parts for **EVERYONE**. Rehearsals will take place during Children's Church beginning on Sunday, **November 16th**. All children and youth who would like to participate are welcome to come to Children's Church beginning on the 16th.

We will have extra rehearsals in the Sanctuary prior to the 21st. Please see Betty Serls or Ashley Duval if your children would like to participate.



Prayers in Pajamas . . . or Dressed for the Day



I would like to invite you, and anyone you care to invite, to join me either Mondays or Thursdays at either 6:45 or 7:00 a.m. on Zoom for 15 minutes of *Thoughts for the Day* and a prayer to energize our lives and weave hope into the fabric of the world.

Every Monday and Thursday, wherever you might be - rising from bed, preparing for the day, eating breakfast, driving to work - let us come together for various thoughts, scripture and prayer to begin the day. My prayer is that out of this time together, we might be inspired in new and creative ways to meet the challenges of daily life and live into our faith more genuinely.

As we initiate this experience, the *Thoughts and Prayers* offered will be the same both days.

Rise Up & Pray

Our schedule is:

6:45 or 7:00	Greeting
6:47 or 7:02	Prayer Concerns
6:52 or 7:07	Thought for the Day
6:57 or 7:12	Prayer
7:00 or 7:15	Blessing & Goodbye

Any questions, contact me at
315.269.3724.



Praying we make a difference for each other,
Pastor Laurie



November 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sunday Morning Worship

Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.

Children's Church for children 3 - 3rd grade
every Sunday following Children's Message
4th - 6th graders—2nd & 4th Sundays

Office Hours Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

31

Happy Halloween



1

Set your clock
back before
you go
to
bed!



2

All Saints
Sunday

3

4

5

6

7

8

Candy Cane
Bazaar
9:00 a.m. -
2:00 p.m.



9

Annual Church
Conference
2:00 p.m.
Portsmouth
UMC

10

11

Veteran's Day
Office Closed

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

Trustees/
Finance
6:00 p.m.
Church Council
6:15 p.m.

20

Community
Meal 5 p.m.



21

Chimes
Deadline



22

23

Thanksgiving
Pot Luck
Lunch
12 noon

24

25

26

27

Office Closed



28

Office Closed

29

30



Dec. 1

2

3

4

5

6

PUMC Community Thanksgiving Dinner 2025

As the holiday season approaches, we take a moment to reflect on our blessings and the spirit of togetherness that enriches our community. With immense joy and gratitude, we invite you to join us for the Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner at Portsmouth UMC, 2732 East Main Rd, Portsmouth, RI from 1pm-3pm on Thursday, November 27, 2025.

This event is more than just a meal; it's a chance to gather as neighbors, friends, and families, celebrating the unity and gratitude that define Thanksgiving. At Portsmouth UMC, we believe in the power of community, and this dinner embodies our commitment to fostering connections and spreading love.

What to Expect:

Delicious Feast: Savor a delightful Thanksgiving meal lovingly prepared by our dedicated volunteers. Enjoy everything from succulent roasted turkey to delicious sides and tempting desserts—**there's something for everyone!**

Warm Atmosphere: Our church hall will be filled with the comforting aromas of freshly cooked food, laughter, and joy. Come ready to experience the warmth of fellowship and the true essence of Thanksgiving.

Community Bonding: Whether you're a longtime member or new to our community, this gathering offers a fantastic opportunity to meet new friends and strengthen the connections that make Portsmouth UMC so special.

Giving Back: While the dinner is free for all, we encourage those who can make a donation. All proceeds will support local charitable initiatives, ensuring the spirit of giving continues long after the event.

How You Can Contribute:

Volunteer: We welcome volunteers to help with various tasks, from food preparation to serving and cleanup. Your support is vital to making this event a success! Volunteers are needed on Tuesday, November 25th, for food prep and setup, and on Thanksgiving Day, starting at 9 AM until cleanup is complete.

Spread the Word: Please share this invitation with friends, family, and neighbors. Let's ensure everyone knows they are welcome to join us for this special occasion!

Donations: If you'd like to contribute financially, please contact Christine Farley at 401-465-4456 or donate through the PUMC website by selecting "Thanksgiving Dinner" from the dropdown menu:
<https://giving.myamplify.io/app/giving/pumcgive>

As we gather to celebrate Thanksgiving, let's cherish the importance of gratitude, compassion, and community. We look forward to sharing this meaningful day with you and creating lasting memories together!

