

# VINCENTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH LAMPLIGHTER

November, 2019



November 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

November offers us many opportunities to give thanks to God. Some of these opportunities are personal, and some are communal. John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, preached that the means by which we receive God's grace are both personal and communal. On a personal level, we receive the means of God's grace through meditating, doing good works, studying scripture, fasting, worship, healthy living, feeding the hungry, tending to the sick and visiting prisoners. On a communal level, we receive the means of God's grace through the sacraments, Bible study, addressing the needs of the poor and seeking justice for the oppressed. So, naturally, the ways we give thanks to God must also be both personal and communal.

For example, I am especially thankful that Sherrie is now 30 weeks pregnant with our baby boy, George David Ledford, who is due on January 10<sup>th</sup> and I can't wait! I am thankful for my wife, Sherrie. On November 10<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate being together for 13 years, and 2 days later on November 12<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate being married for 3 years. We've been through high school, college, part-time jobs, 2 or 3 jobs at once, seminary and ministry together. Very soon we will go through parenting together, and I am incredibly thankful for that! I am thankful for good health, for the food I eat and the water I drink, for the gifts that Jesus bought for me on the cross and for my call to ministry which introduced me to all you great saints of VUMC! I give thanks to God for our new members, and for those who have been here many years, some even 50 years or more!

Those are just some of the ways in which I give thanks to God on a personal level. On a communal level, I give thanks to God for all of the saints of the church's past, for the veterans who sacrificed more than I could ever imagine so that I could enjoy liberty and freedom, for the children of our church who passionately seek more ways to get involved in the church, for all of the great ministries and missions that all of you do to make this a vital congregation and for first responders who sacrifice their time and their safety. I pray that you will also take a few minutes to give thanks to God for both on a personal level and on a communal level. November is a great time to do this, not just because Thanksgiving is in November, but also because every November we as a community are intentional about thanking very important people. On the first Sunday of November we celebrate All Saints Day, remembering the saints of the past who made us who and what we are. On the second Sunday of November, we honor our military veterans who humbly defended our rights. In addition to these communities, who are you giving thanks to God for?

I invite you to come and worship with us on Sunday mornings. That would be something to thank God for! You are welcome here just the way you are, because that's how God made you! Thanks be to God!

Blessings,

Reverend Dave



## 2019 Finance Report to date (1/1/2018 through 10/31/2019)

Total Operating Income: \$124,730.91

Total Expenses: \$157,687.81

Deficit to Date: -\$32,956.90

Finance Budget for 2020: \$195,559.00

Facts of the matter: We have not reached our budget for the past three years due primarily to graceful givers passing or relocating. We have been drawing from our savings to meet our expenses. Our savings are set aside for unforeseen expenses and we can't continue using them for operating expenses.

We give to our church each week because of our love for God and for the blessings He has bestowed upon each and every one of us. We are giving back to Him a portion of the abundance He has blessed us with.

**With that said, as the Finance Chairman of the Vincentown United Methodist Church I'm asking will you consider adding to your envelope whatever God places upon your heart to give in hopes of lowering our deficit. With God all things are possible.**

**Bottom Line: If we are going to meet our 2020 budget, income needs to increase.**

Your's in faith

Frank Hicks

Finance Chairman

## Advent Bible Study

### **Adam Hamilton's "Not a Silent Night: Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem"**

Adam Hamilton imagines the story of Jesus from Mary's point of view. Beginning with Mary's witnessing of the crucifixion, we then travel back through time as Mary remembers all of Jesus' life and ministry.

This year, we have 4 different opportunities for you to get involved in discussions and lessons!

- Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Githens Room
- Wednesdays at 2 p.m. in LeisureTowne
- Every Sunday at the 10:15 a.m. Prayer and Praise Time and 11 a.m. Worship Service, Rev. Dave will be discussing these topics and lessons.

For a copy of the book, or to attend one of these opportunities, please contact Rev. Dave.

## **CHRISTIAN CARING CENTER**

Thanksgiving food baskets will be made and distributed November 25, 26 and 27. We will be collecting turkeys and gift certificates for turkeys, sweet potatoes, canned vegetables, stuffing mixes, boxes of instant mashed potatoes, pumpkin and evaporated milk for pies, cereals for children on holiday, peanut butter and jelly or marshmallow fluff, snacks, etc.

If you wish to make a monetary contribution, please make a check to "The Christian Caring Center" and mark it for Thanksgiving baskets. Any amount will be appreciated, but a total basket will cost \$35.00.

Location and times will be in the Sunday bulletins as they become available.

Thank you for sharing with our fellow Christians in need.

Please call me at 609-859-0174 if you have any questions or need a pick-up of turkeys.

Mary Sue Woodbury

## **DINNER AT SIX**

Last spring, the Christian Caring Center made available to our congregation 25 copies of Helen Hudson's Dinner at Six: voices from the soup kitchen for a donation to their program. We asked people to read the book over the summer with the idea that we would meet in the fall to discuss it.

Our date is Sunday, November 17th, right after church at 12:30 in the social hall. In keeping with the soup kitchen theme, we will offer a soup lunch and ask individuals to bring a sandwich if they wish.

If you would like to join us, there is still time to borrow a copy of the book. Contact Claudia Gifford or Lindy Thomas for more information.



## United Methodist Women

Faith—Hope—Love in action

Circle Meetings:

Naomi, Monday, November 18, 7:00 p.m.

Sarah, Tuesday, November 26, 10:30 a.m.

### THANKSGIVING BREAKFAST CANCELCATION

The Board of Trustees have decided to cancel the Thanksgiving Breakfast for this year. During the State Fire Marshal's visit, some concerns regarding the historic building were brought up. There are several concerns, but some of them directly impacted the Thanksgiving Breakfast. Until the appeals are heard and decided on, and until needed improvements are made, it is not advised that we cook large meals inside the historic building. We intend to do what must be done and we do plan to continue the Thanksgiving Breakfast in the future. You may see Trustees President Russell Thomas with any questions.

#### WINTER WEATHER CLOSINGS

In the event of severe winter weather, you will be able to find out if church events are cancelled or altered by checking any of these three options:

- [www.vincentownumc.org](http://www.vincentownumc.org)
- Facebook – church page or Rev. Dave's page
- Call 609-801-2643, let it finish ringing and listen to the message.

**SUNDAYS – FINAL DECISIONS MADE BY 9AM.**

### Covered Dish Dinner

Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m. here at Vincentown UMC! Bring a dish to share and join us for food and fellowship!

## Food Pantry

During the month of November we are asking for:  
12.5 oz. size of canned White Chuck Chicken  
5 oz. size cans of Tuna  
Any brand Instant Mashed Potatoes.  
Approximate Net Wt. 13.75 oz.  
(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 or Carole Simon or Deb Barton.

We thank the following establishments who allow us to have our Food Pantry Donation Can at their register: Evergreen Dairy Bar, Gallo's Hair Salon, La Campagnola, Massimo's Pizza, Medford Car Wash, Red Lion Diner, Rustic Grill, Shamong Diner, Spotts Garden Center, Spotts Hardware. Also supporting us with monetary donations in the month of October were Mr. China, New Concept Sports Cards and Hobby, P. J. Whelihan's, Pinelands Auto.

### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Andrew McMaster
- 5 Helen Rice
- 6 Brandon Morrison
- 7 Michael Bogert, Ronald Gerber
- 8 Lee Valocik
- 9 Claudia Gifford, Peggy Thomas
- 12 George Scott
- 15 Michael Sweet
- 19 Raymond Gifford
- 20 Dorothy Hall, Wendy Talbot, Tyler Bogert
- 21 Connor Adams, Matthew Monastero, Kathrine Hunt
- 22 Russell Thomas
- 29 Raymond McGill



### ANNIVERSARIES

- 12 Rev. Dave & Sherrie Ledford

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 "Vincentown United Methodist Church"





# DECEMBER EVENTS

- Diaper Drive - Every Sunday in Advent.
  - The Maker's Place is a United Methodist mission in Trenton, NJ that collects diapers for children in need. Vincentown UMC and Buddtown UMC are teaming up to collect hundreds of diapers and wipes for The Maker's Place. Any size diapers are welcome. Your donations may be dropped off here at the church on Sundays or during the week by appointment.
- Poinsettia Order Forms - will be available in weekly bulletins and the church office.
- Women's Advent Party - December 10<sup>th</sup> (date still being confirmed).
- Christmas Eve Worship Services:
  - 7pm & 11pm Candlelight Services

# NOVEMBER 2019

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY                                       | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY                                      | SATURDAY         |
|--|--|---|--|---|---|------------------|
| <b>Regular Sunday Schedule</b><br>9:45 Adult Sunday School<br>10:00 Children's Sunday School<br>10:15 Prayer & Praise<br>11:00 Worship |  |   | <b>Regular Wednesday Schedule</b><br>2:00 Bible Study at 15 Pulham Lane, Leisuretowne<br>7:00 Choir practice<br>7:30 Jr. Youth Group |   | 1   | 2<br>Food Pantry |
| <b>3 All Saints Sunday</b><br>Daylight Savings Time Ends<br>Holy Communion<br>Regular Sunday Schedule (above)                          | <b>4 Recycling Day</b>                       | <b>5 Election Day Luncheon</b><br>7:00 Church Council | <b>6 Regular Wednesday Schedule (above)</b>  | <b>7 7:00 Adult Methodism Class</b>   | <b>8 6:30 Covered Dish Dinner, Buddtown</b> | <b>9</b>         |
| <b>10 Regular Sunday Schedule (above)</b>  | <b>11</b>                                    | <b>12</b>   | <b>13 Regular Wednesday Schedule (above)</b>   | <b>14 Newsletter Articles Due</b><br>7:00 Adult Methodism Class   | <b>15</b>                                   | <b>16</b>        |
| <b>17 Regular Sunday Schedule (above)</b><br>12:30 "Dinner at Six" lunch and book discussion   | <b>18 Recycling Day</b><br>7:00 Naomi Circle | <b>19</b>   | <b>20 Regular Wednesday Schedule (above)</b>   | <b>21 7:00 Trustees Meeting</b><br>7:00 Adult Methodism Class   | <b>22</b>                                   | <b>23</b>        |
| <b>24 Regular Sunday Schedule (above)</b>  | <b>25</b>                                    | <b>26 10:30 Sarah Circle</b>                          | <b>27 Thanksgiving Eve Service, Vincentown UMC</b>   | <b>28 Thanksgiving</b><br><b>NO</b><br>THANKSGIVING BREAKFAST AT THE CHURCH (see article in newsletter) | <b>29</b>                                   | <b>30</b>        |

# **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.; Upper Room Prayer 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 DECEMBER NEWSLETTER—NOVEMBER 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.*