



Little Falls United Methodist Church

A Welcoming Community of Faith, Hope, & Outreach

Sharing Christ's Love Since 1825

Little Falls United Methodist Church | 139 Main Street | Little Falls, NJ | 07424 | 973.256.0993 | info@littlefallsumc.org | www.littlefallsumc.org

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THE PASTOR'S PEN

Advent, Christmas, and New Year

She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. (Matthew 1:21)

Dear Church Family,

Advent began last Sunday, and Christmas day is coming. Advent is the time for waiting for Christmas. We are waiting for Christmas, Jesus' birthday, as the Israelites had waited for the birth of Jesus, the Savior. I hope we are excited for Christmas during this season, and I hope we enjoy this time of waiting for Christmas not only because of family and/or friends' gatherings, gifts, and holidays but also because of Jesus Christ and his birth.

Advent is not a mere waiting time. It is the time for us to think about the meaning of Jesus' birth and how Jesus has affected our lives as Christians, children of God, and the followers of Jesus Christ. Do you know that we have already started a new year in accordance with Christian Calendar? The first Sunday of Advent is the first day of a new year in the Christian Calendar. We already began our new year with Advent, the time to think about the meaning of Jesus' birth in our lives and the waiting time for Christmas with our joyful hearts.

I hope we remind ourselves of the meaning of Christmas with fresh eyes, although we have Advent, Christmas, and New Year every year. As I said last Sunday, I will preach the sermon series, *The Wonder of Christmas*, based on the book, *The Wonder of Christmas*. I hope we see the Christmas stories with fresh eyes and find or remind us of the meaning of Christmas through the messages. We already considered the wonder of a star last Sunday, and we will consider the wonder of a name, a manger, and a promise next three Sundays.

Church Family, Let us walk this Advent journey together, finding God's signs to Christmas. Let us have joy, peace, love, and hope because God is with us and because we are together as a Church Family. We will get there soon, and our hearts and lives will be full of joy in God.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

In Christ,
Pastor Jin



MEMBER UPDATE

CONDOLENCES

Remember our friends in prayer, by cards, calling, and visiting the sick." (Matt 25:39).

ALTAR OF PRAYER

Our Bishop, Rev. Dr. John Schol and his family; Our Superintendent, Rev. William Williams III; Pastor Jin Kook Kim; Urban Promise in Camden & Malawi; CUMAC.

For local police & fire companies; Enterprise #2, Great Notch, & Singac; Eagle Rescue Squad.

HOSPITAL/ RECENT TREATMENT CONTINUING HOME RECOVERY

Melissa Downing; Rose Ziskin; Al and Norma Taylor; Ted Fischer; Gary Ziskin; Geraldine Carstens; Emily Van Biert; Ruth Petro

NURSING HOME/REHAB

Janis Meder (Alaris)

Prayers for all our senior citizens who are dealing with the challenges of aging.

MILITARY PERSONNEL

CJ and Terri Carrera (Marines); TJ Corchado (US Army); Shirley Juhlin's Nephews: Drew Caputo Master at Arms (Navy); We thank and remember all our veterans and their many sacrifices for us.

THANK YOU!

To the congregation for your continued support and donations of non-perishable food for our LFUMC Food Pantry Families. Your generosity is a blessing to many families every day!



DECEMBER

- 3-Shirley Juhlin
- 7-Angelina Perez
- 8-Pam Weeks
- 14-Carol Mecca
- 16-Ella Strippoli
- 16-Merla Corpuz
- 20-Marilyn Meder
- 20-Laura Sansom
- 21-Michael J. Tullo
- 22-Andrew Miller



December: Holly

Said to represent domestic happiness, holly also represents defense and protection (its poisonous berries protect the rest of the plant). Along this vein, legend says that holly protects from thunder, lightning, witchcraft.

Your personality: You're someone who practices hygge, and can often be found rearranging things in your friend's house to make it more cozy. You can also become a bit defensive when someone critiques the way you do something.



January: Carnation

Carnations symbolize love, fascination and distinction (which explains why they're commonly worn or gifted on Mother's Day!). A colorful standout during the cold month of January, carnations can express different things depending on their shade.

Your personality: You're genuine and down-to-earth. You're loyal and have a love for your friends and family that just cannot be matched.



JANUARY

- 2-Kacie Broadfield
- 2-Karen Wilson
- 2-Stephanie Pruestel
- 8-Jennifer Shields-Rotonda
- 16-Dale Marsh
- 22-Loreen Tullo
- 26-Kelsey Coull
- 26-Lexi & Joey Rotonda
- 30-Bridget Ziskin
- 30-Marilyn Moore

BUY SCRIP GIFT CARDS

November Actual – \$7,555
 November Profit – \$377.75
 2021 Total – \$69,710
 2021 Total Profit – \$3,485.50
 Projection - \$76,700
 Projection Profit - \$3,835



Thank you for supporting the church Scrip fund raiser during the pandemic. Many of you have called asking for Shoprite gift cards and we have delivered them to you, or you have picked them up at our house. Since in-person worship has been occurring, you can purchase scrip on Sunday mornings. If you would like Scrip, please call Janet or Pete W at 973-595-5765. If you order your groceries on-line the gift cards are an easy way to pay for your groceries. Our Scrip sales year to date are about the same as last year.

Ways & Means Update

Hello friends,

Kohl's gift cards are available for sale. Gift cards can be used for purchases and paying your Kohl's charge. Cards are available in \$25, \$50, and \$100. The church receives 5% for every gift card sold.

UPCOMING!

**Edie's Homemade Soup Coming Soon!
 Annual Baked Potato Dinner, February 2022**

Stay safe and hope to see you all soon!

Allison

The next Ruth Lee meeting will be on Wednesday, February 23 at 4 pm.

We had a Wonderful Fair!

A great big **THANK YOU** to all! Our annual Holiday Fair was a big success! We were blessed with beautiful weather which meant that we had many shoppers who came to see our wares and to enjoy lunch with friends. Our tables were loaded with items for sale and our vendors were happily displaying and selling their array of items. The lunch crew was busy all day as they served hungry folks. We even had a table devoted to children's items, something new this year. The nicest part of the day was when we counted our receipts. We are happy to report that we raised more than \$2500, and additional money is still coming in.

It took a lot of work on the part of everyone. Just think of the people who advertised the event through displaying our Fair signs on their lawn or around town, on Face Book and email blasts, who decorated Fellowship Hall beforehand, who donated items to sell or baked items for the bake table, who set up and arranged tables on Thursday afternoon, of those who arranged and worked at the tables, and finally those strong folks who came at 3 p.m. to take the tables down and put everything away... and, of course, those who came to shop.

THANK YOU, ONE AND ALL!

SOCKS FOR SOULS



Do your feet get cold? Imagine in this heat walking on the streets of New York City barefoot. Lori continues to distribute socks every week. She tried to distribute shoes, but it did not work out so she stopped. She also picks up leftover baked goods from Panera's and distributes them with the socks. My niece and the homeless are grateful for your contributions to Socks For Soles. Please help the Unity Circle to provide new or gently used socks to the homeless. There is a constant need. Please drop off your socks in the large white sock in the Narthex.

Thank you, Shirley

Ongoing Collection—UMW also collects postmarked stamps, can pull tabs, Box Tops for Education and the front of greeting cards. Items are donated to different charities and organizations.

View the Belfry online: <https://www.littlefallsumc.org/bi-monthly-belfry-newsletter>

CHURCH FORUM UPDATE

Let's Work Together! Let's Make a Team!

“Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.” (1 Corinthians 15:58 NIV)

December 3, 2021

Dear Church Family,

We are a welcoming community of faith, hope, mission, and outreach, by Christ's love, and we are here to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. As Christians and a church family, we are called to serve people to change their lives in Christ and God's love and grace. To make our mission and vision, we have held church forum meetings many times. Through the church forum, we gathered ideas and made plans for each and carried out many of them. We are reaching out to the homebound and people we miss by sending a card or a note. We completed A Hope of Journey: an antiracism study. We started a new small group, Treasured Memories, for those who lost their loved ones. We are working on a video promotion for the church and set up an online donation. And we have many ideas that we can try. Everything was possible by God's grace and your supportive and devotional service on each idea. We will keep thinking about the church ministry, gathering ideas, making plans, and carrying out each ministry through the church forum.

Let us work together! We need your help! Would you lead or help any ministry? We need your help to carry out the ministry. Would you please let me know if you want to lead or help any ministry?

Also, if you have any ministry ideas to make contact points, please share them with us. These two questions would help us think about the new ministry: What community needs do you see? And what can we do to help the people in the community?

The next Forum will be held at 10:30 am on **Saturday, January 29.** Please join us and share your wisdom with us!

Church Family, let us work together for God's ministry. May God's grace and love be with you!

Peace,

Pastor Jin



The Christmas season is officially here! It has been a busy couple of months for the members of the UMW!

In November we held our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive, which supports our church's food pantry clients. **THANK YOU** to everyone who participated in this year's Thanksgiving food drive! We had an extremely successful collection. This year, we filled bags of Thanksgiving staples for 12 families. Our donors were so generous, we had funds leftover. In addition to the food for the twelve families, we donated close to \$170 to the LFUMC Food Pantry- which will be used to continue to fund the food pantry. Thank you, Linda Timms, for all your hard work organizing the collection, shopping, overseeing the packing of the bags and ensuring that every family received what was needed.

Members of the UMW once again participated in Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child in November. This year, participants sent a total of fifteen shoeboxes to children throughout the world to help spread the Word of God. Thank you to those who participated.

On Going: Bethany Hope is currently hosting a Pajama and Book Drive with all donations going to **Oasis** for Christmas. All are welcome to participate, however, as with all our mission projects, donating is completely optional. We are collecting new, unwrapped children's pajamas and storybooks to donate towards Oasis's holiday gift drive. **The deadline** for the pajamas and books is **Sunday, December 12th** and can be placed on the marked table in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Melissa: (201) 452-7759 or MelissaDowning82@gmail.com.

Unity Circle is collecting gloves, hats, scarves, and mittens in children and adult sizes to be donated to CUMAC now through February. Unity continues to collect new or gently used socks for **Socks for Soles**. Socks that are collected are distributed to the homeless. As the temperature continues to drop, and winter is now upon us, we are helping people who need it the most through our collections and ministries. For more information on donating winter wear to CUMAC, please contact Betty Caceres. For more information on donating socks to Socks for Homeless Soles, please contact Shirley Juhlin. We are also collecting postmarked stamps, the fronts of greeting cards (no Hallmark), soda can pop tops, and Labels for Education.

From the UMW Treasurer: Carol Miller, UMW Treasurer, has asked that UMW members remember to pay their 2021 dues. If you would like to make a general donation to the UMW, any contributions would be appreciated. Dues and/or donations can be mailed to her home address: 105 Houston Road, Little Falls, NJ 07424.

Upcoming: On December 12th, we will be collecting and packaging **Cookies for Shut-ins**. Please bring 1-2 dozen of your favorite cookies to the Fellowship Hall kitchen on the 12th. Due to COVID, we will only be asking a few women to help package the cookies after the service. The cookies will then be delivered to shut-in members of our church. We would also like to deliver cookies to the local volunteer fire and rescue squads. The more cookies we receive, the more Christmas cheer and love we can spread! For more information, see Marilyn Downing.

Circle Christmas Parties/Circle Meetings: Bethany Hope Christmas Party: Sunday, December 12th, at 12:00pm in Fellowship Hall (additional information will be sent to Circle members). January 2022 meeting will be Saturday, January 15th, 10:00am, Lee Lounge

Unity Christmas Party: Wednesday, December 1st, 1:00pm at Amore Ristorante in Woodland Park, followed by desserts and fellowship at the home of Cathy Gritman. January 2022 meeting will be Monday, January 10th, 1:15pm, Lee Lounge

Wishing everyone a Christmas season filled with peace, comfort and joy and a Happy New Year!

Thank you one and all for helping the UMW to strive to do its very best! God Bless!

OUTREACH - ANNOUNCEMENTS

AmazonSmile Program

Are you shopping at Amazon.com? You can support the church choosing Little Falls UMC as your charity organization! All service of Amazon including prices will be the same and Amazon will donate us 0.5% of your purchase. Please choose Little Falls UMC to support the church ministry! Would you encourage others to support LFUMC, sharing this message with them?

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com (smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. You can choose from over one million organizations to support.

Please choose Little Falls UMC as your charity organization at [Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com). All services of Amazon including prices will be the same and Amazon will donate us 0.5% of your purchase.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-1568146>

**Thanks for supporting the church
and to God's ministry!**

**Please email Pastor Jin
(jkim@littlefallsumc.org)
or 973-256-0993, if you would like to
share your concerns and joys
with the congregation.
I will lift up the names in the order
of prayer in our worship.**

**Please contact Pastor Jin or the church
office if you need any help from
Pastor Jin or church members!
We are here to help you!**

Little Falls UMC Supports Local Food Pantry and CUMAC

The Little Falls UMC maintains a food pantry to serve the local community in conjunction with the food pantries at other churches in Little Falls. The Little Falls UMC pantry distributes food for approximately 750 meals to families in the local community. In addition, members of the Little Falls Church continue to donate food to CUMAC along with items for their Thrift Shop. Through LFUMC food donations, more than 1,400 pounds of food is delivered to CUMAC, to help every year, in feeding the larger community.

Suggested Food Donations:

**All Non-Perishable Items, but especially
canned vegetables, peanut butter, jelly, adult/
children's cereal, pasta & sauce, instant
potatoes / rice, tuna, chicken, fruit, apple sauce,
juice and granola bars.**

*Thank you for your ongoing participation
in this local outreach ministry!*

CHURCH LEADERS

- ◆ Board of Trustees, President - **Shirley Juhlin**
- ◆ Church Council Chair - **Cheryle Mitchell**
- ◆ Church Council Secretary - **Beth Billig**
- ◆ Co-Sunday School Superintendent - **Bethanne Strippoli**
- ◆ Co-Sunday School Superintendent - **Kathy Flannagan**
- ◆ Finance Chair - **Marilyn Downing**
- ◆ Financial Secretary - **Carol Miller**
- ◆ Information Technology Committee - **Peter B. Dewes**
- ◆ Lay Leader - **Lynn Wielinga**
- ◆ Outreach Chair - **Lynn Wielinga**
- ◆ PPRC, Chairperson - **Peter W. Dewes**
- ◆ Treasurer - **Marilyn Meder**
- ◆ UMW, Co-President - **Lorraine DeCaprio**
- ◆ UMW, Co-President - **Melissa Downing**
- ◆ Ways & Means Committee - **Allison Smith**
- ◆ Worship Committee Chair - **Janet Dewes**

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**Special thanks to Cedar Grove Elks #2237 for
their continued donations to our Food Pantry.**

Please support them whenever possible!



**LITTLE FALLS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
139 Main Street, Little Falls, NJ 07424

Join us! WE HOPE TO SEE YOU!

**SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 10 AM
IN-PERSON AND ONLINE (YOUTUBE)**

Advent

Peace, Hope, Joy, & Love

www.LittleFallsUMC.org/OnlineWorship

LITTLE FALLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
139 Main ST Little Falls NJ 973-256-0993 info@littlefallsumc.org



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TREASURED MEMORIES

a place to share our grief

Grief comes in and out of our lives. It is hard to know how to handle our feelings and many times it can feel like you are the only one experiencing what you are feeling. Maybe you lost someone close to you by death or divorce or maybe a loved one received a tough diagnosis and is uncertain how to handle it. There are all stages of grief and it is important to know that you are not alone. There are people all around you that are experiencing the grief process. By sharing how we get through these tough times, we hope we can feel less alone.

**7pm, Every Second
Wednesday of
the month.**

Little Falls United Methodist Church
(139 Main street, Little Falls, NJ 07424)

**For more information, please contact
Allison Smith
973-800-4152**



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TREASURED MEMORIES, a place to share our grief is a small group. We have gathered and shared stories about our loved ones. We have laughed and shed some tears and have shown support and love for each other. We hope by sharing how we have dealt with a loss, whether it is a death or a divorce, we can help each other. By coming together, we can comfort and support each other and know we are not alone. We are not counselors. We are providing a space to have a conversation and be there for others. We welcome all and hope that by sharing these memories we can feel less alone about our grief.

We meet monthly at the United Methodist Church (139 Main street, Little Falls, NJ 07424) on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 in Lee Lounge.

Any questions, please call Allison 973-800-4152 (leave message)



Join us! Let's have fun together!
It's a Free Program!

"KIDS FOR CHRIST"

A Fun Friday Night for Children
(Kindergarten to 5th Grade)

Every 1st and 3rd Friday of the Month

6:30 - 8:00 PM

Sept. 17, 2021 - June 3, 2022

Register on LittleFallsUMC.org

Little Falls United Methodist Church
139 Main St. Little Falls NJ 07424
info@littlefallsumc.org 973-256-0993

**CALLING ALL KIDS!
COME JOIN US FOR OUR UPCOMING
YOUTH EVENTS & ACTIVITIES!
WE PROMISE YOU'LL HAVE A FUN TIME!
HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON!**

**THE EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL
WHO WANT TO HAVE FUN, FOOD, AND ACTIVITY!**

YOUTHS, LET'S HAVE FUN TOGETHER!! ALL ARE WELCOME!

YOUTH GROUP

FOR 6TH- 12TH GRADERS

FOR DETAILS, CONTACT DEE DEE (973-768-8577)

LITTLE FALLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

139 MAIN ST. LITTLE FALLS, NJ 07424
973-256-0993, INFO@LITTLEFALLSUMC.ORG

WAYS AND MEANS UPDATE

Chicken and Ribs Take Out Dinner
Successful and Great Fun!
Thank you for your support!



Edie's Homemade Soup
Coming Soon!

Annual Baked Potato Dinner
Eat in and take out available
February 2022





- 3—SOCKS FOR SOULS, 6:00pm
- 3—KIDS FOR CHRIST, 6:30pm
- 5—SUNDAY WORSHIP, 10am
- 7—FINANCE COMMITTEE, 7pm
- 7—CHURCH COUNCIL, 7:30pm
- 8—TREASURED MEMORIES, 7pm
- 11—FAMILY MOVIE DAY, 2pm
- 12—SUNDAY WORSHIP, 10am
- 12—PAJAMAS & BOOK DRIVE ENDS
- 12—COOKIES FOR SHUT-INS
- 14—TRUSTEES COMMITTEE, 7pm
- 13— KIDS FOR CHRIST, 6:30pm
- 19—SUNDAY WORSHIP, 10am
- 19—A CHRISTMAS PLAY
- 24—CHRISTMAS EVE CANDELIGHT SERVICE, 7pm
- 26—SUNDAY WORSHIP, 10am

- 2—SUNDAY WORSHIP, 10am
- 7—KIDS FOR CHRIST, 6:30pm
- 9—SUNDAY WORSHIP, 10am
- 10—UNITY CIRCLE MEETING, 1:15pm
- 11—TRUSTEES MEETING, 7pm
- 12—TREASURED MEMORIES, 7pm
- 15—BETHANY HOPE MEETING, 10am
- 16—SUNDAY WORSHIP, 10am
- 18—FINANCE COMMITTEE, 7pm
- 21—KIDS FOR CHRIST, 6:30pm
- 23—SUNDAY WORSHIP, 10am
- 29—CHURCH FORUM, 10:30am
- 30—SUNDAY WORSHIP, 10am