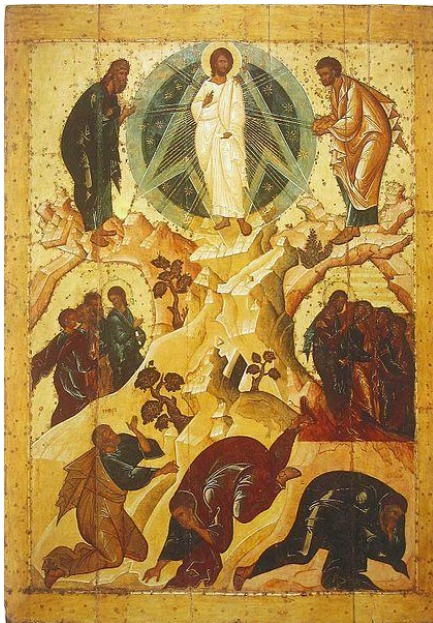


The United Methodist Church in
Wayne



*For it is the God who said,
"Let light shine out of darkness,"
who has shone in our hearts to give the light
of the knowledge of the glory of God
in the face of Christ.
-2 Corinthians 4:6*

Sunday March 2, 2025

UMC in Wayne

99 Parish Drive Wayne, New Jersey 07470

Email: Office@umcwayne.org Phone: (973) 694-3260

Website: www.umcwayne.org Watch on Facebook: UMC.Wayne

Join us on Zoom: [Meeting ID: 823 9591 4126 Passcode: 092827](https://umcwayne.org/join)

**PRELUDE
WELCOME**

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: We gather as the faithful of God, we come to listen to what God has to say to us.

ALL: God has invited us to this place: may our faces reflect our hopes and our hearts.

ONE: We gather as the faithful of God, people of the new covenant of grace and of promise.

ALL: We boldly enter into the presence of God, hoping to be transformed into new people.

ONE: We gather as the faithful of God, our fears melting away in the heart of God.

ALL: We come to share in the freedom of the Spirit, we come to praise God's holy name

HYMN

When Morning Gilds the Skies

UMH #185

OPENING PRAYER

Come down, Answerer of our questions, so we might have the faith to bring healing to the broken, to share our abundance with the needy, to brighten the faces of those in the shadows.

Come down, Lover of justice, removing our blinders of prejudice, to see others as our sisters and brothers, to lift the burdens that weigh down so many.

Come down, spirit of freedom, and clothe us in your dazzling hope, so we may act boldly for justice, deal honestly with all, build fairness in our communities.

Come down, God in Community, Holy in one, as we seek to set aside our fears to draw ever closer to you.

THE BASKET

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God, the more we know you, the more it is that joy dances in our souls. So, as we open the pages of our family's history, show yourself in its words. Whisper your love in our ears. Draw us into the embrace of your arms. Let our hearts beat a little faster, as we hear the sound of your voice so near. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Luke 9:28-36

About eight days after Jesus said these things, he took Peter, John, and James, and went up on a mountain to pray. As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed and his clothes flashed white like lightning. Two men, Moses and Elijah, were talking with him. They were clothed with heavenly splendor and spoke about Jesus' departure, which he would achieve in Jerusalem. Peter and those with him were almost overcome by sleep, but they managed to stay awake and saw his glory as well as the two men with him.

As the two men were about to leave Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, it's good that we're here. We should construct three shrines: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—but he didn't know what he was saying. Peter was still speaking when a cloud overshadowed them. As they entered the cloud, they were overcome with awe.

Then a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, my chosen one. Listen to him!" Even as the voice spoke, Jesus was found alone. They were speechless and at the time told no one what they had seen.

MESSAGE

Stay Awake With Me

Today at the top of the mountain is the turning point;
enshrouded in Light Jesus begins His Exodus towards Jerusalem
towards suffering and the darkness of the human heart...
and we – sleepy as we are
follow with hope and trust that we will be
transformed, freed, made whole in the heart of God....

PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Spirit of the Living God

UMH #393

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Before the light of Epiphany fades, before we don the ashes of Lent,
O Jesus we pray: light a light for us.**

**Light a light for us that is brighter than our vanities and fabricated
pleasures.**

Light a light that is stronger than our fears and our faith.

**Light a light for us, O Jesus, for we are flailing in the dark, injuring one
another as we grope for some certainty and assurance along our way.**

**Light a light that blazes in brilliance and proves the shadows in our lives to
be fleeting and insidious.**

Light such a light, we pray with longing.

Light a light for us that leads us to peace.

Silent reflection...

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Christ sees you as one of his own. You are God's beloved. You are forgiven and loved, and given the strength and courage to love and forgive others. Let your love shine, as God's love shines in you. Amen.

WORSHIPING GOD THROUGH OUR GIVING

OFFERTORY

Give Thanks

***Give Thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son. X2***

***And now let the weak say "I am strong;" let the poor say, "I am rich"
Because of what the Lord has done for us. X2***

Doxology

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.***

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

O God, we pray you would use these gifts we offer as opportunities for healing and hope, not only here in the places where we live, but throughout your whole world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

We are here because Jesus has called us – strangers and friends, locals and visitors, believers and doubters, the certain and the curious. It is always a mixed company that Jesus gathers and invites to his table where, in bread and wine, he meets us and through him we, who are different, are joined to each other.

So come, not because you understand, but because you are understood.
Come, not because of how you feel, but because God has food for you.
Come, not because you deserve a place,
but because Jesus invites you, just as you are.

COMMUNION SETTING *please see Communion Setting in Pews*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor Ninabeth: The Lord be with you

All: And also, with you

Pastor Ninabeth: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor Ninabeth: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**RECEIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

* CLOSING HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

UMH #451

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

***Thank you for financially supporting our ministry.
We offer many ways to give:***

In the sanctuary or by mail.

Online at www.umcwayne.org

<https://giving.ncsservices.org/app/giving/umcwgiving>

Text "GIVING" to 973-447-3223

QR Code:



The words and music in our liturgy, hymns, and songs are by:

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Lenten Soup Sale

Our annual soup sale during Lent begins on **Sunday, March 9 and will continue until **April 13**. **Sign-up sheets for soup makers are on the bulletin board in the narthex. Containers are provided.****

As in the past, there will be delicious varieties of soups to purchase each week at a bargain price of \$5 per pint. All are welcome to support the sale by preparing or purchasing these savory soups! Questions? See Anita Dispenziere or Lyn Sentkowski

ANNOUNCEMENTS March 2025

CALENDAR OF EVENTS March 3rd – 9th

Monday March 3rd

AA mtg @ 7:30pm in Fellowship Hall (Room 8)

Tuesday March 4th

Karate @ 5pm in the underground

Wednesday March 5th

Bible Study @ 12pm in the pastor's office BYO Lunch

Karate @ 5pm in the underground

Thursday March 6th

Karate @ 5pm in the underground

Christian Meditation in the French Chapel

Lenten Study "Draw Near to God" on Zoom – contact the office for the Link

Friday March 7th

Friday Morning Prayer @ 7pm on Facebook

First Friday @12pm in Fellowship Hall BYO Lunch

Sunday March 9th

Worship @ 10am

Administrative Council after Worship

Jubilation Ringers Rehearsal @ 11:15am

OPORTUNITIES TO DEEPEN OUR FAITH DURING LENT

Draw Close – Thursday Evenings 7:15pm – 8:30pm on Zoom

The Scriptures of Lent are full of anticipation and curiosity. They invite us to open our hearts and pay attention to God's work in the beauty and brokenness of the world around us.

Each week we will approach a biblical text with

Playful creativity!

Grab your pencils, paint, fabric, musical instruments and let's draw close and see what God is up to!

Please contact the office or Pastor Ninabeth with any questions you may have and to receive the ZOOM link





During the 45 days of Lent which starts March 5th, UMC in Wayne will be collecting food for WIN. We did this several years ago and we delivered about 150 bags of food to WIN.

The challenge is to beat our old record!

Get your friends and family involved to help our friends in Wayne.

We will have a list of acceptable food items.

Hate to shop? All monetary donations are accepted!

See Anita or Liz if you have any questions!



Save the Date! New Jersey Choral Society Presents...

Sun, Moon & Stars

A collection of hits from the 60s and 70s

Performances are at St Joseph's
Regional High School
Montvale, NJ

-Saturday, March 15th 2025 7:30pm

-Sunday March 16th 2025 3:00pm

Tickets available at www.njcs.org
or contact Lyn Sentkowski



New Community Garden

Spring is on the way!!!

We would like to start a **community garden** on our church property! We are looking for folks interested in planning, building, planting and any other ideas you have to offer. We would like to call it

"The Garden of Eatin' "

If you are ready, willing and able to help, please email Pastor Ninabeth at pastorninabeth@gmail.com.

UMC Wayne Ministers

All the members of UMC in Wayne
Pastor Ninabeth Metcalf

Email: PastorNinabeth@umcwayne.org

Cell: 908-391-2561

Don Matthews – Lay Leader

Marilyn Creamer – Handbell Director

Peter Candela – Music Director

Email: peter@umcwayne.org

Nicole Force – Admin. Assistant

Email : office@umcwayne.org