



# The MESSENGER

## Epiphany 2024

Worship Service Sundays  
at 10 AM  
on [Zoom](#) and [Facebook](#)

**Bible Study**  
Tuesdays at 7PM  
& Wednesdays at 12PM

**Friday Morning Prayer**  
7am on [Facebook](#)

**Book Study**  
Third Sunday after Worship

**First Friday Fellowship**  
Meets at 12pm on the first friday  
of each month

**UMC Wayne Ministers**  
*All the members of UMC in Wayne*

**Pastor**  
Ninabeth Metcalf

**Lay Leader**  
Don Matthews

**Music Director**  
Peter Candela

**Jubilation Ringers Director**  
Marilyn Creamer

**Parish Drive Director**  
David Philp

**Admin. Assistant**  
Nicole Force

# The United Methodist Church in Wayne

## Advent & Christmas Eve



*Christmas Cookie  
&  
Pasta Sauce Sale*

*Lessons  
&  
Carols*



*Christmas Eve*



## Fellowship



### First Friday Fellowship Fostering Friendships and Fun!

Our group met on the First Friday of January and had a grand time with Debbie Foray's Christmas song guessing game. We also enjoyed Peter Candela's piano music of all our favorite Christmas songs. Extra special was the singing of "The 12 Days of Christmas", complete with gestures and dancing. The next gathering will be on Friday, February 2, at noon, when we will have a Valentine theme- crafts, games, and sharing our love for one another. All are welcome to join for lunch (BYO) and a special dessert, provided by Barbara Lehner.

## Church Happenings.....

### Farewell for Ryan



## Choral News

Info is being gathered on upcoming local choral spring concerts. Follow up in the next messenger, STAY TUNED! 🎵





Pastoral Ponderings.....

*The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood.  
We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like  
Father, like Son, Generous inside and out, true from start to finish.*

*John 1:14*



Sometimes we are like the fish in the Red Sea, in such a hurry to get to our destination that we miss the God moments – the miracles that happen all around us. Those two fish could be eyewitnesses to God’s saving grace, if only.....

What if interruptions were the way the Holy Spirit draws our attention to the new things God is doing?

Our scripture readings during Epiphany are all about interruptions.

The Star interrupted the Magi’s lives leading them on a pilgrimage to find the Christ child. John the Baptizer interrupted people’s lives so that they could turn back to God. Jesus interrupts Andrew, Phillip, Nathan, Simon, James, and John’s lives so that they would see the world as God does and do as Jesus does. The demons are interrupted and sent away so that people can be alive again.

The season of Epiphany invites us to pay attention to the big and little interruptions that happen in our lives. Interruptions come in a variety of forms. They may be a phone call, text, email, or a closed road. It might be an illness or the urge to call someone. It might be a beautiful sunrise or the way the light is shining through the window. Maybe even one of the witty road signs. These interruptions in our day offer us an opportunity to pause and see how God has moved into the neighborhood and is doing something new!

*O God, may we be open to Your Holy interruptions in our lives.*

*The perfect word spoken at just the right moment, a simple smile or a gentle touch, a thoughtful gift, an offered hand, these ordinary things in which you reveal yourself to us. And so we praise you, God, for the ways that you are present and working in our world and for the transformation that it brings. In Jesus’s name, Amen.*



## JOY & CONCERN PRAYER LIST

***If you would like to join our  
e-mail prayer chain  
please call or e-mail  
the church office!  
(973) 694-3260  
office@umcwayne.org***



Lois Mougalian	Emma
Gail	Heather
Marc	Steve
Don	Judy
Ben	Kathy
Linda	Alex
Judy	Steve
Heather	Peter
Luke	Bob
Eric	Chris
Joann & Don Miller	Dale
Brendan	Yukon
Kedem	Mental health issues
Kaylee	Addiction
Gia	Loss
Steven	Grief
Carol	Loneliness
Ryan	Peace
Carly	That wars may cease
Leonard	Our students

*God, You are a God of compassion and love.  
Time after time we have experienced your care and  
provision. Time after time You've answered our  
prayers and met our needs— often in ways we could  
never have dreamed possible.  
We praise You for Your faithful love toward us.  
Because we have known Your love, we come to You  
with confidence, offering our prayers for the people,  
creatures, and world that You love.*

## A Note from Former Pastor and Wife:

Dave and Phyllis Wiley....

Advent 2023

Dear Members of the United Methodist Church in Wayne

We enjoyed many wonderful years calling the  
parsonage at 25 LeGrande Terrace our home, and many  
improvements were done while we were there - including  
new kitchen, siding, finishing the basement (much used  
and appreciated by our kids!), and adding a deck, among  
other things. Here is a small donation in hopes that  
future pastoral families will enjoy it as their home!

Dave & Phyllis Wiley

P.S. Here is the list of pastors who have used the parsonage as  
we remember them: 1. Dean Lanning 2. Clark Callender 3. George Fisher  
4. Dave Wiley 5. Dave Harwood 6. Jeff Campbell 7. Mary Willis 8. Ninabeth  
Metcalf

## A note from our Finance Committee....

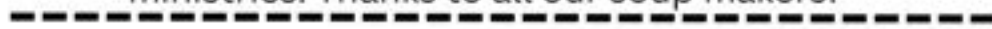
We continue to be blessed at UMC in Wayne while we work hard to meet our financial obligations. With your generous giving, we were able to pay all of our normal expenses like salaries, utilities, repairs, etc. Additionally we paid 100% of our billables to the conference and 66% of our shared ministries.

While we didn't reach our total obligations it was better than our latest estimates. We raised \$10,000 in our capital appeal toward the much needed repairs of the parsonage and church. We still have additional funds to raise but are off to a good start. We are very grateful for all who give in support of the ministries at our church. We will provide full details of the year end numbers and our 2024 budget in the next Messenger after we review the details with the council in early February.

Yours in Christ - The Finance Committee, Kim Grebel, Chair Anita Dispenziere,  
Dawn Gaines, Patty Hassler, Mike Lakner, Don Matthews,  
Pastor Ninabeth Metcalf, Christine Mercado



The cookie sale made \$680.00 for the UMW Scholarship Fund. We would like to thank all who donated cookies, helped wrap them, sell them and purchase them. The Soup sale raised \$637 for mission and ministries. Thanks to all our soup makers!



### **Recommended Suggestions for Hosting Coffee Hour**



Please consider this information as suggested guidelines and you are welcome to bring food/goodies you/your family enjoys. If there is an item with nuts, please label it due to allergies. Also, please consider some items that are gluten free (such as crackers, fruit, tortilla chips, etc.) If there are any questions, please feel free to contact Liz Tible (ertibs@optonline.net, cell phone: 973-444-5804).

The sign up sheet in the narthex has three spaces for each Sunday. You do not have to do coffee hour alone. Bring one item and two other people can bring something. I will help with set up.

The church provides coffee/tea, milk, sugar and all paper products. We have a large inventory of plates, platters, napkins, serving utensils, spoons, forks, and knives. The church will also provide water and juice. If you bring any containers/dishes from home, please be sure to label them with your name and take them home after coffee hour!!! Please come early, before the service to set up. You can leave the food in the frig or in the kitchen or cover and leave on the table set out for coffee hour. Do not worry about making coffee, which will be made by other volunteers. Clean up duties after coffee hour include: removing any leftover food, paper products, and service ware; washing any bowls, plates, utensils in the sink. Wash off table cloth and store in closet.

After 10:00 am service:

-assume we will need food for 20-30 people.

Here are some ideas:

- fruit(cut up bananas, grapes, clementines) or cut up fruit salad
- breakfast pastries, bagels, muffins, croissants, donuts, coffee cake, etc. (cut up into smaller bite size pieces).
- something sweet such as cookies and brownies
- cheese and crackers, salami, pepperoni, veggie platters

Note: There is another way to help out with coffee hour. We are in need of packages of cookies, and single wrapped goodies to store in the closet for those weeks that no one has signed up to host coffee hour. We have plenty of coffee. Please consider donating items to our closet.

## Social Media News!

**We have a new presence on Facebook, Instagram and Threads!**

**We invite you to like and follow us!**

**Our New Facebook page** is linked to our other page. We created this new page in order to take advantage of easier posting, sharing, and crossposting to other platforms. The link is: [@UMCWayneNJ](https://www.facebook.com/UMCWayneNJ)

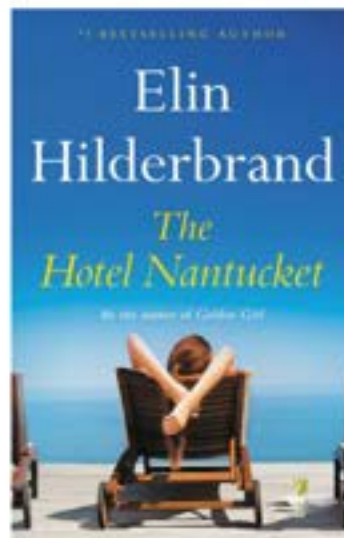
**Our New Instagram Page** is: [@umcwaynenj99](https://www.instagram.com/umcwaynenj99)

**Our New Threads page is:** [@umcwaynenj99](https://www.threads.net/@umcwaynenj99)

## BOOK CLUB

Our book club meets after worship on the third Sunday of each month. If you love to read this gathering is for you! We read one book a month.

### February 18



The Hotel Nantucket: fresh off a breakup Lizbeth is named the new general manager of the abandoned Hotel Nantucket and works to bring it back to life.  
by Elin Hilderbrand

### March 17

After Anne: a portrait of the creator of one of literature's most prized heroines (Anne of Green Gables) Lucy Maud Montgomery, by Logan Steiner



## On Sunday December 10th

our Confirmation class and members of our Tuesday Evening Bible Study attended the Wayne Clergy Interfaith's "Shine a Light on .... Hope!" gathering at Temple Beth Tikvah. Beth Tikvah means House of Hope.

It was an amazing afternoon meeting new friends, learning about the Jewish Faith and Hanukkah, and eating delicious food!





# Valentine's

# Babysitting

Enjoy your Valentine's Day date night!

- ☐ Movie + activities
- ☐ Food + drinks will be provided
- ☐ Donations accepted at the door

Ages 5-12

**When:** 2/14/24  
5:30P.M.-9:00P.M.

**Where:**  
UMC Wayne, Room 8  
99 Parish Dr. Wayne, NJ

## Our Staff:

Olivia Mercado- Daycare Assistant Teacher,  
CPR/AED/First Aid Certified

Christine Mercado- Sunday School Director

Dawn Moore- Daycare Teacher, CPR/AED/First Aid Certified

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Sign-up link: <https://forms.gle/h5dKe5XETDKtUxe28>

For more info, please contact Olivia Mercado  
(omercado2019@gmail.com)

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# Lent begins

## Wednesday February 14th

LET'S BE UP TO SOMETHING GOOD

AT THE  
UMC IN WAYNE  
FOR  
LENT 2024



This Lent we will celebrate the small things  
that we can do right now to respond to  
God's call in our place, for our time

UMC Wayne Census  
99 Parish Drive  
Wayne, NJ 07470  
(973) 694-3260  
Email: office@umcwayne.org  
www.umcwayne.org

Dear Members and Friends of UMC Wayne,

January 23, 2024

We wish you a Happy New Year, and may this new year bring Love, Hope, Joy and Happiness to you and your family.

We are updating our church records, and appreciate your assistance by completing the information below and returning it to us at the address above or by email, Attention: Census. Please reach out to us if you have any questions. If you choose not to respond, that will indicate to us that you are no longer interested in receiving our mailings and emails.

Your name \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ preferred  
Mobile \_\_\_\_\_ preferred  
Texts ok no thank you  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Your Spouse \_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile \_\_\_\_\_  
Texts ok no thank you  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Children's names \_\_\_\_\_

Are your children of Sunday School age? Ages 4 through Middle School. Yes No

Are you a member of UMC Wayne? Yes No  
Would you like to become a member? Yes No  
Do you attend services?  
Yes: In person Zoom Facebook  
Sometimes: In person Zoom Facebook  
No but I would like to return  
No I do not attend

Do you want to receive our mailings? Yes No

Please respond by Wednesday February 14th

Yours in Christ,

The UMC Wayne Census Team