



The MESSENGER

The United Methodist Church in Wayne

Winter 2024-25
Worship Service Sundays
at 10 AM
on Zoom and Facebook

Bible Study
Tuesdays at 7PM
Wednesdays at 12PM
Thursdays at 7pm

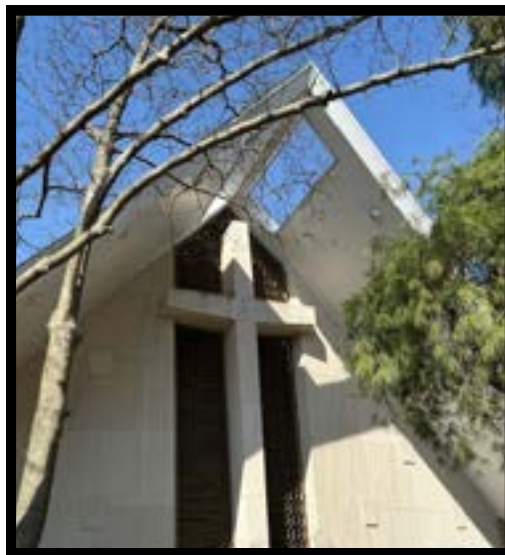
Friday Morning Prayer
7am on Facebook

Book Study
3rd Sunday after worship

First Friday Fellowship
Friday February 7th at 11am

Christian Meditation
Thursdays at 6:30pm

Winter at UMC Wayne



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

Administrative Assistant
Nicole Force

Winter and the Christmas Season brought joy and wonder to our church community!

UMC in Wayne Worship

Ongoing Thursday
Evenings

Christian Meditation @
6:30pm
in the Sanctuary

**New Series Beginning on
Sundays**

*Six Stone Jars
The Economy of Jesus
Beginning January 19th!*

**Friday morning Prayer
and Devotion**

*on Facebook streams live
at 7am available anytime.*

The United Methodist Church in Wayne

CHRISTIAN

Meditation

Join us on Thursday evenings @ 6:30pm for 20 minutes,
in our Sanctuary, as we study and practice different
forms of Christian meditation.

Meditation also known as contemplation is the practice
of deepening our relationship with God.

10minutes of meditation increases our ability to focus,
reduces stress and anxiety, helps us to control our
emotions, and inspires creativity.

SIX STONE JARS

The Economy of Jesus

A six-week worship series

Beginning Sunday January 19, 2025

United Methodist Church in Wayne

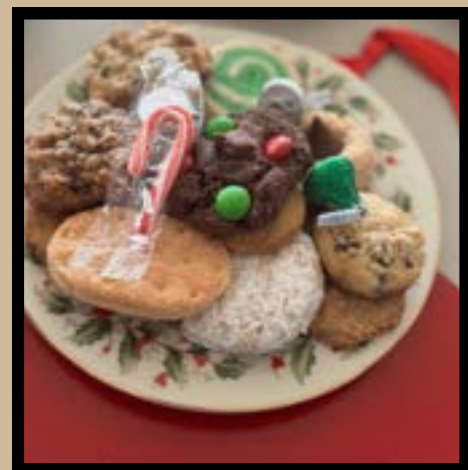
Christmas Cookie Sale



Our Annual Cookie Sale was a great success!! So many beautiful and delicious treats!

Thank you to all those who donated cookies, helped to wrap them up and bought cookies.

We made \$836.00, and turned it into the church, to help with expenses.



Christmas Eve and Epiphany Services



Sunday School Fun



Our Sunday School kids have lots of fun while learning about God. We are also excited about our new program for babies and toddlers led by Miss Olivia! We are grateful for all who serve in some capacity for our Sunday School program!

First Friday Fellowship Fostering Friendships and Fun!



Let's Go Paint! 🎨

The First Friday group held our December meeting at Painting With A Twist In Montville.

First, we had a lovely time of fellowship with yummy appetizers and sweet treats. Then we created beautiful masterpieces to enhance our winter decor this season! Special thanks to all who organized, set up, and cleaned up.



Our next meeting will be at noon on February 7th. Please BYO lunch and beverage. Dessert will be provided by Susan Whitty. We will be writing valentines and playing some February- themed games. All are welcome to join this friendly group, where we grow in love with one another through shared stories, projects, and experiences.





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***



Peggy and Erin
Don
Lois M
Marc
Robert
Roy
Judy
Heather
Aunt Jeanne
Eric
Faith
Maureen
Kedem
Gia
Steven
Carol
Richard
Carly

Emma
Steve
Kathy
Austin
Steve
Peter
Bob
Chris
Mike
Rick
Lori
Aunt Elaine
Don
Mental health issues
Addiction
Peace
That wars may cease
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.*



Get to know your 2025 church leadership!

Church Council Chair – Janine Batta

Finance Committee Chair – Kim Grebel

Lay Member to Annual Conference – Pat Moore

Lay Leader – Don Matthews

SPRC Chair – Tim Cooper

Sunday School Chair – Dawn Castro

Trustee Chair – Mike Lakner

Treasurer – Christine Mercado

SPRC Members – Tim Cooper, Dianne DeVos, Anita Dispenziere,
Larry Gaines, Cathy Nalesnik, Liz Tible, Gail Papadopoulos,

Trustee Members – Mike Lakner, John DeVos, Chuck Kloof,
Christine Mercado, Jason Snyder, Don Stone

Finance Committee – Kim Grebel, Christine Mercado,
Patty Hassler, Dawn Gaines

Spiritual Development Committee – Deb Foray, Beth Foster, Dawn Monroe,
Lynn O'Brien, Pastor Ninabeth Metcalf

Worship Chair – Nancy Kinch

Scouting Coordinator – Brian Creamer

Outreach Chair – Anita Dispenziere

Nurture Chair – Liz Tible

Music Director – Peter Candela

Staff/Pastor - Parish Relations Committee 2025

The SPPRC (S/PPRC) focuses on building strong relationships between the staff and congregation, and between the congregation and the District Superintendent (DS). At the UMC of Wayne, we manage three staff: Pastor Ninabeth, Nicole Force (Administrator), and Peter Candela (Music Director). The Committee keeps its eyes on the big picture of the Church and its daily functions. They listen to the Congregation and the District Superintendent and are the liaisons to both areas to keep the Church moving closer to God's vision.

The management role of the Committee is tending to the daily activities so that details are taken care of, and strategies are implemented. Management includes holding both staff and congregation accountable for carrying through with plans and promises and dealing with both celebrations and disappointments in the life of the Church.

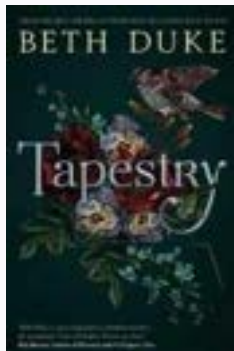
Your current 2025 members of the SPPRC are: Tim Cooper and Anita Dispenziere, Co-Chairpersons, Dianne DeVos, Larry Gaines, Cathy Nalesnik, Gail Papadopoulos, and Elizabeth Tible.

The Olive Branch Book Club

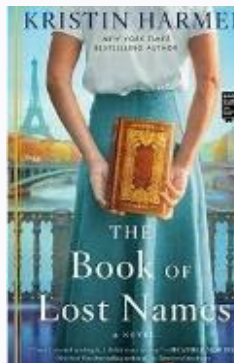
All are welcome to join us for a meaningful discussion and fellowship. The Olive Branch Book club meets on the 3rd Sunday of each month (subject to change, please see weekly church email). All are welcome to join us. We provide the refreshments for coffee hour in room 8.

Hebrews 10:24-25

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another and all the more as you see the day approaching.



January
Tapestry
by Beth Duke



February
The Lost Book of Names
by Kristin Harmel



March
Great Circle
by Maggie Shipstead

Book Club Continues...



April
The Prayer Box
By Lisa Wingate



May
The Bucket List
by Rachel Hanna



June
Missing White
Woman
by Kellye Garrett

**Please find descriptions of each
book on the table in the back of the
sanctuary.**

Silent Auction

The 1st UMC in Wayne Silent Auction was a great success!! Thank you to all who donated items or whole baskets, helped with wrapping and bows and our lucky winners! Even if you didn't win we thank you for your participation!

We raised \$3880.00.



New Community Garden coming to UMC Wayne!

As the temperatures are in the single digits, we start to hope for warmer weather. Spring will be here before we know it! A season of growth and new beginnings, and..... a new garden! 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’ ”.

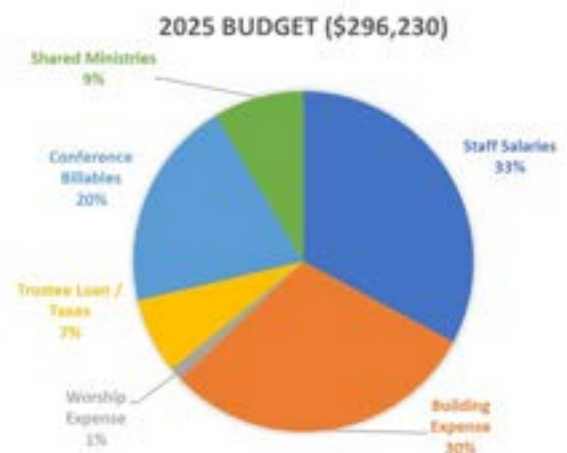
If you are ready, willing and able to help, please email Pastor Ninabeth at pastorninabeth@gmail.com.



Message from the Finance Committee

We are blessed here at UMC in Wayne as we continue to work hard toward financial stability. In 2024, we met all of our salaries and operating expenses and were able to meet 100% of our conference obligations (both billables & shared ministries). It has been 3 years since we met 100% of our conference obligations so Praise God. We have found this season of ministry fiscally challenging. Our giving continues to be lower than expected and our Christmas offering was down significantly from giving in 2022 & 2023. Our average weekly giving of \$2,389 is lower than our need of \$3,008. We have raised \$12,752 from fundraisers including the rummage sale, silent auction, grocery cards, soup, sauce & cookie sales to support our ministries; however, we continue to be dependent on our tenants, Giggle & Grow, Koie-Kan Karate, AA, Quality Landscaping, and the rental of the house. The rental incomes of \$127,287 provide 39% of our overall receipts. To meet the needs for repairs to our church building, the rental house and parsonage totaling \$43,000 we drew \$32,500 from our Janus fund investments and \$3,500 from our Columbia Bank LOC. We received some difficult news from Columbia Bank at year end when they would not renew our Letter of Credit and forced us to convert our outstanding balance of \$59,057 into a 7-year term loan. This reduces our LOC which was our safety net and increases our monthly loan payments to \$890 approximately \$500 more than our current monthly payment increasing our 2025 budget gap.

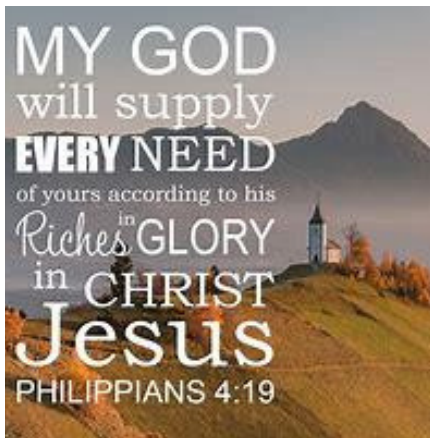
Our approved 2025 budget anticipates expenses of \$296,230 to support the life and mission of our church. Our anticipated income is envelope and plate giving of \$125,300, rental income of \$134,688, and \$10,000 fund raisers. We had 21 pledges totaling \$61,000 to support our ministries which is consistent with prior year but overall giving per pledge is slightly higher. Based on the information that we have received, the budget for 2025 also currently includes a \$26,000 “congregational challenge” item. This is the additional amount that must be raised if no additional giving is received and we continue to support all desired programs. Our challenge is higher than prior years due to lower trends in giving.



Message from Finance Committee (continued)

The great challenge that we have in managing the finances of our church day to day is that we do not have an endowment fund to serve as a buffer between when expense payments

are demanded and when income is received. It is called a cash flow problem. I'm sure many of you can relate. Winter is a time when we are faced with high fuel costs, snow removal, payment of taxes, etc. while at the same time giving tends to be lower. If you can accelerate your giving during the winter it will help out.



On a final note, we'd like to thank Christine Mercado for her tireless efforts managing the day to day as our treasurer. We are thankful for the continued dedication of Dawn and Patty. We are very lucky to have dedicated servants on our Finance team; however, our team is small so if you are interested in joining us please contact Pastor Ninabeth or any of the finance team members. Please send an e-mail to our finance team mailbox (treas_umcw@yahoo.com) if you'd like to get a copy of the year- end 2024 financial reports and 2025 budget.

~The Finance Committee
Kim Grebel (chair), Dawn Gaines, Patty Hassler,
Christine Mercado and Pastor Ninabeth Metcalf

New e-Giving platform - Vanco



<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZP6G>

We are so excited to announce that we will be transitioning our online giving to a new and easy way to give! You can now simply give using Vanco Online for your tithes, offerings, and more. This new platform has reduced cost for the church and allows you to give to the various ministries of our church either using a website or the QR code above from your computer, phone or tablet. It accepts Visa, Mastercard, Discover or bank account debits and allows you to set-up recurring donations on a periodic basis if you desire (weekly, monthly, quarterly, etc.). We hope you will consider using this new approach to giving.

We will provide further instruction and details to help those already using our online e-giving transition from our current platform to Vanco.

To start, click the link to access our new online giving page where you will see all the different ways you can give to UMC in Wayne.

If you have any questions around this new platform, please contact Kim at treas_umcw@yahoo.com or 908-672-1473. Because of your generosity we have been able to see countless lives transformed by the gospel each week.

Get to know UMC Groups

The Role of Layreaders

Layreaders are participants in our worship services who assist Pastor Ninabeth by leading prayers, prompting hymns, and reading scripture. The layreaders get the best view in the sanctuary, as they can gaze at the beautiful stained glass window in the rear, view the kids up close, and see all the musicians play their best. It is an honor and a joy to serve in this role.

All who attend our worship services are welcome to volunteer for a turn as a layreader. If interested, you may email Nicole (office@umcwayne.org) to give her dates you are available.

Missions at the Wayne UMC

The current co- chairs of the Mission team are Liz Tible and Anita Dispenziere. An ongoing mission that many support is food donation for the Wayne Interfaith Network (WIN) food pantry, which is housed at the Wayne Community Center. Non- perishable food donations can be brought to the table in the narthex anytime. Food store gift cards are also accepted.

Ideas for local and global missions are welcome, as well as anyone who would like to be part of the team. Please see Liz or Anita if you feel called to participate in mission work.

Get to know UMC Groups

First Friday Fellowship Group

On the first Friday of each month, all are welcome to gather at noon in Room 8 for lunch (BYO) and dessert. We have had a lot of fun getting to know one another better, through games, discussion topics, singing, painting, and learning. The group is open to anyone who is available during the noon time. Suggestions for future meeting activities are welcome. Please see Anita Dispenziere with any questions or ideas.

Offering Counters

Each week, 2 rotating members count and account for the offerings and other income (rents, grocery cards, and gifts). This is an important confidential task that takes about 20 minutes each week. The commitment is 1-2 Sundays each month, with flexible assignments to fit individual schedules. If you are interested in joining the team, contact Patty Hassler.



Wayne Koei-Kan Karate

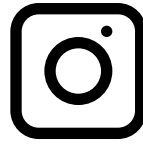


99 Parish Drive, Wayne, NJ
Wayne communities longest running
karate club, since 1970, and still the best
prices in town.

Our classes are on Tuesday & Thursday
Age 9 to 12 @ 5:30pm to 7pm and
Teen/Adults from 7pm to 8:30pm

On Wednesday is our little group from age
5 to 8 @ 5:30 to 6:30

Call (973) 202-6190



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 cross-posting to other platforms. The link is:

[umcwaynenj](#)

Our New Instagram Page:

[@umcwaynenj99](#)

Our New Threads page:

[@umcwaynenj99](#)

