

## **COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS ON HUMAN SEXUALITY WITHIN THE**

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** We will focus on scripture that the church has traditionally used to make decisions about human sexuality. Pastors Joe and Kathleen encourage all members and friends of Medford UMC to join one of these conversations. Upcoming opportunities for this conversation are: Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:15 pm; Thursday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm; Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Bishop John Schol will be with us on Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm to offer his perspective on the decisions to be made by the UMC concerning human sexuality.

## **GNJ DELEGATES TO THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL**

**CONFERENCE** are hosting a meeting on Wednesday, January 30 at 7:00 pm at the conference office (205 Jumping Brook Rd., Neptune, NJ 07753) discuss, listen and learn about legislation and process at the Special Session. Delegates will provide background on the structure of the General Conference, the history of the denomination's discussion on human sexuality, the work of the Commission on a Way Forward, and the substance of the plans that will be considered at the Special Session. Time will be allotted for questions and open, respectful conversation about the future of the UMC. The delegates truly value your participation in the process and wish to hear from you

## **YOUTH, MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THIS SPECIAL EVENT: FRIDAY &**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 18<sup>TH</sup> – 19<sup>TH</sup>:** 3<sup>rd</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Lock – In . . . Youth are invited to this event from 6:00 pm Friday night to 9:00 am Saturday morning to "Share the Love with One Love." We will be working together to help make pet toys and create other necessary items for the dogs and cats of the One Love Animal Rescue. More details and a registration link have been sent by email blast. REGISTER NOW! Contact Bethany Carl at [bethany@medfordumc.org](mailto:bethany@medfordumc.org) if you need to be added to the email distribution list.

## **THE DANIEL PLAN IS STARTING AGAIN ON MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 2019**

**AT 7:00 PM:** Do you want to become a healthier, more connected version of yourself? Why not try the Daniel Plan? This is a weight-loss and life-management group, in which we focus on: food, faith, fitness, and friends for a healthier life. We are starting a new group on Monday nights at 7:00 pm for six weeks. Learn about real weight loss supported by our Christian community. Call Barbara Carlson 609/605-6362 or email Jeff Higgins at [jeffhigginsretired@gmail.com](mailto:jeffhigginsretired@gmail.com).

## **OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE & GIVE**

**CALLING ALL 8<sup>TH</sup> – 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS!** It's time to start thinking about our **Summer Youth Mission Trip** to Roanoke, VA to work with REACH. For more information about the REACH program visit [reachinroanoke.org](http://reachinroanoke.org). We will take our trip on June 29<sup>th</sup> - July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 this summer. Are you interested in joining us or hearing more details? Registration begins today. Email Bethany Carl at [bethany@medfordumc.org](mailto:bethany@medfordumc.org).

**GOT CABIN FEVER?** Join us at the cabin at PJ Whelihan's, 61 Stokes Road, Medford Lakes for the Busy Bee FUN Raiser on Wednesday, January 16 from 4:00 – 8:00 pm. Help us raise money by eating a meal . . . how easy is that?! Fifteen percent of the check goes to the Busy Bees' treasury to help fund church ministries. You must present a voucher (copies will be available outside the sanctuary and at the FLC welcome center) when dining to receive the credit.

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CELEBRATION:** On Sunday, February 3 at 10:00 am, we will have a celebration! While we HOPE that celebration includes a return trip to the Super Bowl for the Eagles, we KNOW that it will be a celebration of God's faithfulness during our "Growing Together in Faith" Capital Campaign. Come and give thanks at a special combined service in our new space. At that time, we will also announce the grand total received - so over the next couple of weeks, you won't see reports in the bulletin. But if you haven't already completed your commitment, we hope you will, so your gifts can be reflected in our totals on February 3! Go MUMC, Go EAGLES!

**"BACK TO BASICS" LEADERSHIP TRAINING:** On Saturday, January 26 at 10:00 am, Medford UMC will host a training for local church leaders in the areas of Finance, Trustees, Staff-Parish, Church Council, and Lay Leader/Lay Member of Annual Conference. The training lasts 90 minutes. If you are new on one of these teams, or even not so new, you are invited! Registration is required - please visit [gnjumc.org](http://gnjumc.org) and search "Central Region Back to Basics." VOLUNTEERS also needed that day to help with hospitality - please contact the office if you can help.

### **GET CONNECTED!**

**WiFi:** MUMC Guest; password = godsgrace

**Sermon Podcast:** [medfordumc.buzzsprout.com](http://medfordumc.buzzsprout.com)

**YouTube Video Archive:** Medford UMC Messages

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/medfordumc](https://facebook.com/medfordumc)

Our 9:30 service is streamed on Facebook Live each week. When you're in the building, check in so people will know that MUMC is your church home.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 13

also available on the church website, [medfordumc.org](http://medfordumc.org)

### SUMMARY OF ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

**Worship:** 8:15 = 40; 9:30 = 198; 11:00 am = 85; Total = 323

### THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

<b>Sun. 13<sup>th</sup></b>	8:15 am	Communion Service – Sanctuary
	9:30 am	Contemporary Worship – Family Life Ctr.
	9:30 am	Sunday School for all ages
	11:00 am	Traditional Worship – Sanctuary
	5:00 pm	Chime Choir – Sanctuary
	5:00 pm	Confirmation – Room B4/5
	6:00 pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> grade Youth Group - FLC
<b>Mon. 14<sup>th</sup></b>	7:30 pm	9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> grade Youth Group –FLC/Annex
	2:00 pm	Caring Team #1 – Room 104
	7:00 pm	Children & Youth Ministry – Room 104
	7:00 pm	Cub Scouts – FLC
<b>Tues. 15<sup>th</sup></b>	7:00 pm	Busy Bees – Bowker Hall
	7:30 pm	N.A. – FLC Meeting Room
	2:00 pm	Girl Scouts - FLC
	6:00 pm	Yoga - Bowker Hall
	6:30 pm	Celebration Ringers – Sanctuary
<b>Wed. 16<sup>th</sup></b>	7:00 pm	SPRC – Room 104
	7:00 pm	Mary/Martha Circle
	7:30 pm	Jubilation Ringers – Sanctuary
	8:30 pm	Wesley Choir – Choir Room
	9:00 am	Toddler/Parent Class – Room 105/6
	12:30 pm	H.O.P.E. – Room 105/6
	4:00 pm	Fun Raiser at PJ Whelien's until 8 pm
<b>Thurs. 17<sup>th</sup></b>	7:00 pm	Disciples Path – Room 105/6
	7:00 pm	Nurture – Room 104
	7:00 pm	Cub Scouts – Room B2
	9:00 am	Music Together – Room 105
	10:00 am	Women's Bible Study – Room 104
	4:15 pm	Jr. Choir – Choir Room
	4:15 pm	Courageous Conversations – Bowker Hall
<b>Fri. 18<sup>th</sup></b>	6:30 pm	Youth Bell Choir – Sanctuary
	7:00 pm	Stewardship & Finance – Room 104
	7:15 pm	Youth Choir – Choir Room
	7:30 pm	Band rehearsal – FLC
	8:30 om	Garwood Choir – Choir Room
	9:00 am	Music Together – Room 105
	6:00 pm	Youth Lock-In – FLC/Bowker Hall
<b>Sat. 19<sup>th</sup></b>	8:00 am	United Methodist Men Study – Bowker Hall

<b>Sun. 20<sup>th</sup></b>	8:15 am	Communion Service – Sanctuary
	9:30 am	Contemporary Worship – Family Life Ctr.
	9:30 am	Sunday School for all ages
	11:00 am	Traditional Worship – Sanctuary
	3:00 pm	Girl Scouts – Room 105/6
	5:00 pm	Chime Choir – Sanctuary
	6:00 pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> grade Youth Group
	7:30 pm	9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> grade Youth Group

### WORSHIP AND SMALL GROUPS

**THURSDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** All women of the church, and their friends, are invited to come together on Thursday mornings, 10:00-11:30 am, for a Bible Study facilitated by Pastor Kathleen. Readings for Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>: Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 36:5-10; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11. Questions? Contact Pastor Kathleen.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE BUSY BEES!** We're starting the New Year with a program we hope will help to shake off the winter blues. Every person should bring an item to give away (\$5 or less) that is something they have and just can't live without. We'll trade them and learn about things we never thought of before. We have more changes and new ideas for our future programs. Come and start the new year off with friends. Questions? Call Donna Crosier at 609/744-6417.

**YOUTH FELLOWSHIP TONIGHT:** 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>\* graders are welcome from 6:00 - 7:30 pm in the FLC followed by High School from 7:30 - 9:00 pm meeting in the FLC first followed by time in the Annex. Come for games, fun activities (including a visit from some puppies) and a "Snack Attack" at the end with music too! **All youth will hear about our "One Love" service project coming up next week!** More details have been sent by email blast. Not getting the Youth Email Blasts? *Email Bethany Carl at [bethany@medfordumc.org](mailto:bethany@medfordumc.org) to ask to be added.* \* Note: 8<sup>th</sup> graders will meet for Confirmation with the Pastors from 5:00 - 7:30 pm in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade classroom and are invited for an end of the evening treat in the FLC at 7:30.

**DISCIPLE'S PATH SMALL GROUP CONTINUES:** We have revamped our new member process to provide a fuller small-group experience, training in the basics of discipleship, and a clear path for spiritual growth and involvement in the church. We are excited to test drive this six-week program with our new members and those who want to rekindle their spiritual fire in 2019. Sessions will be on Wednesdays from 7:00-8:15 pm and childcare will be available. Please RSVP to Lisa at [lisa@medfordumc.org](mailto:lisa@medfordumc.org) and don't forget to tell her if you need childcare.