



Chatham United Methodist Church

CIRCUIT RIDER

www.chathamumc.com

JANUARY 2015

973-635-7740 ~ chatumc@optonline.net

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Thanks to a fabulous AV crew, all of our Sunday services are recorded and posted on our website and Facebook page.

Please visit www.ChathamUMC.com to view or listen to any of CUMC's Sunday services.



WHITE GIFTS

Epiphany Sunday, January 4, 2015
at both the 9:00 and 11:00 services

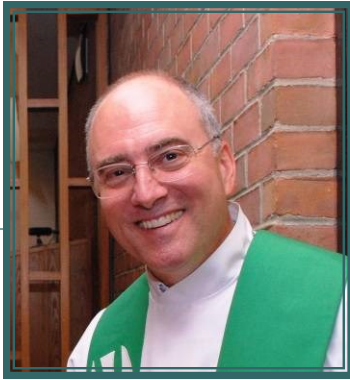
Sunday January 4, 2015 is the Epiphany of the Lord. This year we will continue a long tradition here at CUMC by celebrating Epiphany with the Three Kings as they bring their gifts to Baby Jesus. And as a symbolic gesture, we invite you to bring **gifts wrapped in white paper** to be laid at the altar and donated to the least, the lost, and the last among us.

This year CUMC has named Morristown-base Homeless Solutions as the recipient of our Epiphany White Gifts Giving. In addition to monetary donations, Homeless Solutions has a wish list of the following items which may be donated at the White Gifts Epiphany Service:

- ✦ cold breakfast cereal
- ✦ antibacterial soap
- ✦ toilet paper
- ✦ face tissues
- ✦ paper towels
- ✦ twin sheets and blankets

Please bring the items above wrapped in white, or your monetary donations in a white envelope to CUMC or the White Gifts Service. All contributions will be safely and lovingly delivered.





The Pastor's Pen

Rev. Jeff Markay

revjmarkay@earthlink.net

Dear Friends,

Jesus is always challenging the people of his time, and each of us, to grow deeper in our relationships with God, and one another. Leaders and think tanks that study churches know that congregations that can easily talk about faith, grow and flourish. Congregations that are in touch with their desire to grow deeper with God and one another, can't help but expand their ability to grow and deepen their faith. Congregations that encourage inner transformation in the spiritual life, can be better utilized by God to transform the world.

With this in mind, and through various conversations I have had with people in our congregation, we have discerned a need to provide a regular time and space to offer **Conversations in the Spiritual Life**. This gathering which we will call, **Conversations in the Spiritual Life** will happen between worship services on the third Sunday of every month from 10:15-10:45am in the Asbury Room. I will facilitate some conversations about dimensions of spiritual life, that will help us deepen our Christian discipleship and explore new and ancient practices that can nourish our spiritual life.

I look forward to the ongoing deepening of our relationships with God and one another, at the **Conversations in the Spiritual Life**, which will begin on Sunday, January 18, 2015 at 10:15am. Feel free to pick up some brunch and or coffee in Rodda Hall and then join the conversation in the Asbury Room.

Looking forward to deepening my own spiritual life with you,

Jeff Markay



Lectionary for January

January 1: New Year's Day

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13; Psalm 8 (*UMH 743*); Revelation 21:1-6a; Matthew 25:31-46

January 4: Epiphany

Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 (*UMH 795*); Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

January 11: First Sunday after the Epiphany, Baptism of the Lord

Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29 (*UMH 761*); Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

January 18: Second Sunday after the Epiphany

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20); Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (*UMH 854*); 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

January 25: Third Sunday after the Epiphany, Ecumenical Sunday

Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12 (*UMH 787*); 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

TRUSTEES UPDATE

The Committee on Christian Education and Spiritual Formation and parents of young families originally discerned a need for our church to provide a safe and nearby space for parents to care for toddling kids, change diapers, nurse babies and still be a part of the worship life of our congregation. Through conversations with the Trustees and Church Council,



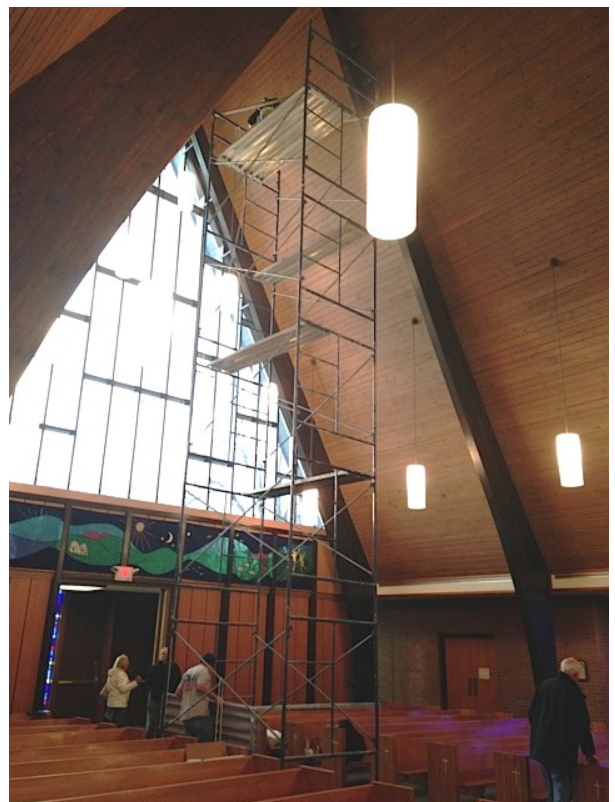
it was discerned that the Bridal Room (which has not been used for years) could be such a space. Thanks to the Trustees, money has been allocated and contractors have begun reconstruction of this space by taking out the side dividing walls, coat racks and old carpeting, and adding new lighting, fixing the heating system, adding a TV with closed circuit broadcast of our worship service, windows in each of the 4 doors that lead to the Family Room, a new diaper changing table, new electrical service and new carpeting. These renovations have been made to Safe Sanctuary and child safe compliance, so that our church can meet some of the needs of young families. Our hope is that this will be a nursery with adult supervision and nurture so that young parents can easily check on their kids if the parents wish to stay in worship, or spend time with their little or toddling ones and still be a part of the worship. We hope to have this new Family Room ready to be used in the near future.

(Recently, while the room, was under construction, we discovered a leak from the roof. We have patched the roof over the sanctuary for years and it is now time to completely resurface the flat roof that surrounds the sanctuary and Christian Education building.)

**And God said, "Let there be light,"
and there was light. (Genesis 1:3)**

Thanks to the Trustees, light bulbs that have been out for over 15 years have been replaced. Some of the fixtures themselves no longer work, but those that do, now shine more light on the cross, the chancel and the pews in the sanctuary.

(See picture at right of the scaffolding and recent work being done in the sanctuary.)





Faith Community Health Partnerships

Health is a good that we wish for ourselves, our families, and our communities. We are aware that achieving and maintaining health requires that we pay attention to our nutrition, exercise, and a host of other things. But what may come as a surprise to many is that the services of healthcare providers contribute only about 10% of the factors that support our health. The remaining 90% of health factors originate in our community including participation in a religious community.

Atlantic Health understands that faith communities, together with the religious beliefs and spiritual practices that inspire and direct their energies, are a powerful force for health and healing both inside and outside of our hospitals. For this reason Atlantic Health seeks to join with faith communities in partnerships that will unite and enhance the healing powers of faith and medical science.

From ancient times until the present, people from all walks of life have believed that there are important connections between faith, spirituality, and health. This connection is expressed not only in the stories of healing found in scriptures, but also modern research studies that associate health outcomes such as longevity, lower stress levels, improved blood pressure control, and improved mental health with participation in religious communities and engaging in a variety of spiritual practices.

Partnership Benefits

Faith Community Health Partnerships (FCHP) joins with faith communities to both continue and enhance the historic faith-health connection so that our communities may live healthier and more fulfilled lives. If your faith community becomes a partner, Atlantic Health will work with your community to provide the following:

- ◆ Hospital visitation assistance
- ◆ A hospital chaplain/navigator that will provide spiritual care in collaboration with your faith leader and help you and your family to navigate through the complexities of healthcare while in the hospital and develop an aftercare plan that keeps you connected to spiritual and community resources that will support your recovery.
- ◆ Joint partnership with Atlantic Health System's Community Health Initiatives that will assist your faith community with developing health inspiring programs tailored to address your community's most pressing health concerns. Because we recognize faith as a significant factor in health and healing, we will work with your community to integrate your spiritual values into the programs designed for your community.

The Rev. Gary Myers, United Methodist Clergy, Therapist, Professor, and Staff at Morristown Hospital, will be our guest preacher on Sunday, January 25 at the 9am and 11am worship services. He will speak in the Asbury Room between services about ways that the Chatham UMC can partner with the Morristown Hospital as we care for the spiritual, physical and relational healing and well being of our Chatham UMC members before, during and after time spent in the hospital.

- ◆ **New Vitality** develops programs to support health living for seniors
- ◆ **Healthy Communities** develops programs to overcome health disparities in communities
- ◆ **Atlantic Healthy Schools** develop brings community resources together to develop programs to help our schools improve the health of our children
- ◆ **Healing Arts Program** employs the arts, such as painting, music, dance, drama to bring healing to the whole person.

News for Youth & Kids

youthchatumc@optonline.net * 973.908.4474

All Sunday Activities Resume January 4

Thanks to all who made the Advent and Christmas season so joyous and meaningful to all the children and youth (and me!) this year: Sunday School Teachers, Children's Church leaders, Pastor Jeff, Peter, Craig, Micah. I hope you enjoyed the special activities in December and relaxed with family and friends between Christmas and New Year's. On January 4 we'll return to our Sunday School classes and the regular routine of our Sunday Night music and fellowship activities. Looking forward to seeing lots of you there!

Karen



Chatham's Youth Interfaith Council (YIC) is working on some service opportunities for youth in honor of the challenge to **make Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday a "day on" instead of a day off**. Plans are still taking shape as this edition of the Circuit Rider goes to press but we hope to include work with Habitat for Humanity. Mark your calendars now for Monday, **January 19** and stay tuned for more info

**What can I do to share
God's love with others
this year?**



"Kids Can" Change the World!

Hey Sunday School Kids—We can change the world by bringing in all the coins we can find and collecting it in our "Kids Can". The change will help our friend Benjamin in Rwanda, Africa go to school so he can change his life. Exciting stuff! Our goal is to raise enough to cover one term (\$860) so start digging in the couch cushions or asking neighbors and relatives for some loose change!



Youth Opportunities

- Jan. 4 - Youth Usher Sunday
- Jan. 4 - Taizé Pilgrimage Group meeting and lunch
- Jan. 4 - Sunday Night Lineup resumes
- Jan. 19 - MLK "Day-On" Service Projects



Looking ahead:

- Feb. 1 - Youth Usher Sunday
- Feb. 17 - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

taizé



Sunday, Jan. 4
12:30-2:00
Taizé pilgrims meeting with KB and Pastor Jeff to begin our spiritual preparation summer 2015.

Church & Society

Alternative Gifts Fair: Thank You!



Children of HOCW: Hope of Children and Women express the sentiments of all organizations supported by the fair.

December's Alternative Gifts Fair was once again both well supported and well received! Sincere thanks must go to the many volunteers who transformed Rodda Hall, organized sales, and worked tables throughout the event. And a special thanks also goes to everyone who supported our organizations financially. We raised approximately \$6000 for Heifer International, Hope of Children and Women (HOCW), the American Diabetes Association, Family Promise, UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief), CUMC's youth RISE team and the Taizé pilgrimage fund!

image fund!

The CUMC community and friends have chosen beautiful and unique gifts that bless the giver, the recipient, and those here and around the world who are nurtured and sustained by the work of these organizations. Your generosity helps spread healing, happiness, and God's love. Thank you for supporting this life-sustaining ministry!

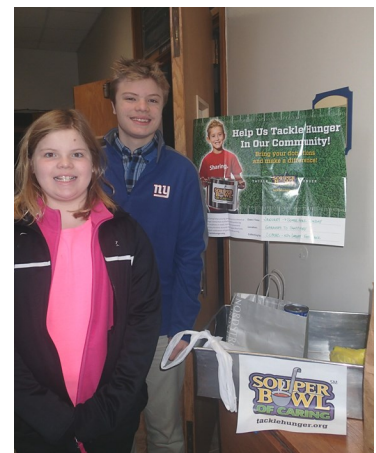


Dear CUMC Friends,

My name is Andrew Ziegler and my sister, Kate, and I would like to bring your attention the **SOUPER BOWL OF CARING** - a nation-wide movement to encourage

young people to develop a stronger connection to their communities by caring for their neighbors in need.

During one of the nation's biggest celebrations in sports, (and the second biggest day for food consumption in the US!), we can't help but think of those in need. We will collect canned goods and monetary gifts for CUMAC as part of the Souper Bowl of Caring. As many of you know, CUMAC is still in desperate need of food for the less fortunate. So please help us help them by donating food or a monetary gift (checks made payable to CUMC with Souper Bowl in the memo line) and placing them in the soup pots located at the entrances to the Sanctuary starting January 11 and continuing through the month of January until the day of the Super Bowl on February 1, 2015. We would like to challenge the congregation of the Chatham United Methodist Church to donate 100 bags of food to this worthy cause between now and Super Bowl Sunday.



Music Notes

It has been wonderful being here at Chatham UMC for the fall program season! I see things growing and changing and I feel like this church is my musical home more and more. I am looking forward to the winter and spring and seeing even more musical ideas come to fruition.

Church music programs are special institutions because the practices of music education and performance, and the ministering to our family, friends, and members are actively united. Church musicians sing, ring, and play as music ministers for those in worship services. Singers, ringers, and players are also ministered to through the music that they rehearse and perform, the love and friendship in which they participate, and the work to accomplish together what alone they cannot. I, and in my experience, all of us at Chatham UMC, welcome children singing no matter their experience and adult participation from completely new to professional. I invite you to engage in making music at Chatham UMC:

sing with a choir, play with the bell choirs, play with our praise band, and let me find a musical project for your interest.

I hope that in every worship service you find a piece of music you enjoy and that connects with you in substance and spirit: congregational hymns and songs, choral anthems, and instrumental music. It is my aim to make the church a place where music is made at all times: on Sundays and throughout the week. For children and youth, our church family affirms and nurtures new musicians through learning; for adults, the church provides a space to engage with spiritual music of all kinds in community with others.

Everyone is welcome.

Peter

Peter Hill: petepiano@mac.com, 530-574-7539



*For your information!
Our Steinway piano in the sanctuary recently had some substantial maintenance done. It was regulated, re-voiced, and tuned. Our sanctuary organ has also been tuned recently and some pipes are now being repaired. These processes are like getting periodic, major work on your car done. They are necessary repairs that keep our sanctuary keyboards in good working order. Funds for these repairs have been taken from a designated fund that may also need some work. If you feel called to donate to our church's organ and piano fund you are invited to write a check in any amount payable to Chatham UMC and write in the comments section, "Organ/Piano Fund". Our music program and everyone in our worship services will benefit from your generosity.*

Shopping Still Supports Chatham UMC in 2015

If you haven't tried it yet, AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Chatham UMC every time you shop, **all year long**, at no cost to you. To shop at AmazonSmile, simply go to smile.amazon.com on your computer or mobile device, search for "Chatham United Methodist Church," and select it as your charitable organization. Then,



every time you shop at Amazon, start at smile.amazon.com (you can add a bookmark to make it even easier). You'll find the same prices, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price of eligible products to Chatham UMC. It can really add up and that can make us all smile!

Church Council Begins New Year

The Church Council is made up of people representing different ministry areas and committees that focus on nurture, outreach, witness, and the administration of the Chatham United Methodist Church.

The Chatham UMC Church Council meets once a month, generally on the second Monday, to bring together the leaders of our church's ministry areas. At the Church Conference each fall, the Nominating committee presents a new slate of members and chairpersons for the coming calendar year, which is voted on for approval.

As a new year begins, many committee chairs will remain the same, but we also welcome some new faces. Our first meeting in 2015 will be on Monday, Jan. 12; please pray for wisdom and discernment, that our decisions and work might be fruitful.

MEMBERS OF CHURCH COUNCIL

Chair: Barbara Babbitt
 Vice Chair: Kate Davis
 Secretary: Alison Albert
 Lay Leader: Peggy Melvin
 Vice Lay Leader: Loren Taylor
 Lay Members to Annual Conference: Tom Kitson; Eleanor Hartley (alternate and member-at-large)
 Pastor: Rev. Jeff Markay
 Music Director: Peter Hill
 Children & Youth Coordinator: Karen Berry

Committee on Finance, chair: Kevin Walker
 Church Treasurer: Linda Young
 Finance Secretary: Jerry Shaw
 Committee on Staff Parish Relations, chair: Shawn Tomasello; vice chair: Mark Srygley

Treasurer of Trustees: Anita Hoffman
(The Board of Trustees will elect their president at their January meeting.)

Church Investment Committee: Sally Strunc

Stephen Ministry: Chris Fillimon
 Members-at-large: Meg Belding, John Hadamuscin, and Marion Williams

Nurture

Christian Education & Spiritual Formation: Susan Maher and Shelley Rack
 Worship: Amy Ball
 Stewardship: Hal Burlingame and Susan Fountain

Outreach

Library: Betty Ann Keat
 Church and Society: Hilary Stannard
 Missions Coordinator: Becky Gibby

Witness

Membership Cultivation: Steve Davis

Don't know what a particular position, committee, or ministry area is? Have an idea you'd like to pursue for the church, or wondering where you might be called to serve? Use this list to find out more and explore what's happening at Chatham UMC.



News from around the CUMC Circles

Abigail Circle

Meets at 7:30pm the 2nd Tuesday of every month at church.

Contact: Helen Bryant, 973-377-4586 or email bryantpine@aol.com

Next Mtg: Tuesday, Jan. 13 at Claudia's. Roots & Wings Bingo. Bring wrapped white elephant.

Elizabeth Circle

Meets irregularly/ occasionally, usually at night (*most of the group works during the day*) and often with spouses.

Contact: Corkie Ziegler, 973-635-9667 or email corkiez@yahoo.com

Rebecca Circle

Meets the 1st Tuesday evening of every month in member homes.

Contact: Dot Dunn, 973-635-7599 or email dbdunn45@gmail.com

Next Mtg:

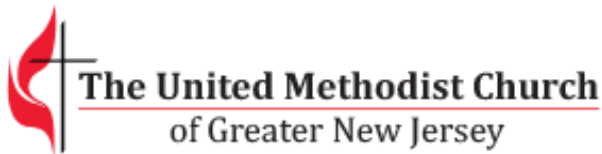
- TBD

Sarah Circle

Meets at 9:30am on the 1st Tuesday of every month at church.

Contact: Bert Whalin, 973-635-4810, email 2whalins@gmail.com, or Nan Canfield, shipyard@verizon.net

Next Mtg: Tuesday, **January 6, at 9:30am** in the Asbury Room.



The United Methodist Church of Greater New Jersey focuses to identify, support, train and nurture effective lay and clergy leaders to strengthen local congregations for ministry in the world.

POSTPONED Save the Date: **January 17** **District Day of Learning**

The Gateway North District is organizing a District Day of Learning on Saturday, January 17 from 8:30am-12:30pm at Morrow Memorial UMC in Maplewood. The event which is open to everyone, is one of the many ways the district/conference supports the local churches. There will be opportunities to share ideas with Methodists from churches around NJ, to

worship, and to attend workshops in a variety of areas including:

- ◆ Church Taxes, *led by Danielle Andrews*
- ◆ UMW, *led by Esther Canty Barnes*
- ◆ Steps to Becoming a Pastor, *led by Gary Frieze*
- ◆ Worship, *led by Hector Burgos*
- ◆ Trustees
- ◆ SPRC
- ◆ Youth and young adults
- ◆ Role of laity
- ◆ Children's ministry
- ◆ Stewardship

To learn more about what the church is doing beyond Chatham and take advantage of the learning opportunities provided by the district and conference, join us on Saturday, Jan. 17!

How Can We Have Congregational Conversations?

As we glimpsed at the Church Conference, there are conversations that we want to have as a church community. But the fact is, we don't always have time among the "business" of regular committee meetings to do so.



Common Meeting Night

This fall, the CUMC Church Council implemented a new format for our committee meetings called the "Common Meeting Night." On the first Monday of each month (*with occasional exceptions*), most of the church's committees gather to meet simultaneously throughout the church, starting with a time of community in the sanctuary. Our hope is that this gathering time could become the forum where we begin engaging the more abstract matters of our faith and denomination that form the foundation for all the tangible work we do.

In the spirit of creative visioning and collective brainstorming, *everyone* is encouraged to attend this gathering time each month. You needn't be on a committee and you don't even need to be an actual "member" of the Chatham United Methodist Church; all you need to be is interested in the life of this church. Your voice will deepen the conversation, so we can grow in faith and imagine together how to carry the light of Christ into the world as a congregation.

The next Common Meeting Night will be held on **Monday, January 5**, starting with the gathering time from 7:00pm to approximately 7:30pm in the sanctuary. Other Common Meeting Nights in 2015 are scheduled for February 2, March 2, April 13, May 4, and June 1—all are Mondays. Please come whenever you can and encourage others to do the same. With your participation, this can become an ever more fruitful opportunity for conversation.

Mother's Morning Out

Happy 2015 from Mother's Morning Out! Snowflakes and snowmen are filling up our craft table this month. We will spend time on our playground if the weather holds allows. We love to get some fresh air but, if we can't be on our playground we will be upstairs running around in Rodda Hall. Thanks to Donald for always making sure the walkways are clear and the Hall is ready for playtime too!



We began registration for the 2015-2016 school year on January 1. If you know anyone interested in a preschool environment that is loving and caring for toddlers 18 months to 3 years, we would love to have them. I am more than happy to answer any questions about our program or give a tour. Just send me an email! Also, you can find quite a bit of information on the CUMC website including registration materials.



Amy Crandall
Director, MMO
anbc@optonline.net

Nursery School

We wish everyone a very Happy New Year. We are happy to be back in school and the children are excited to be back with their friends. We look forward to some snow so we can build snowmen, snow angels, and just have fun digging in the snow on our playground. We always see so much growth in so many ways as the new year starts.



Registration has begun for the 2015-16 school year. If you are interested in a personal or group tour please call 973-635-5261 and ask for Director, Carol Bardon. If you would like more information and an application, please call the registrar, Christine Fagan at 973-507-9703.

Registration for the Kinder-

garten Enrichment for the 2015-2016 school years will begin this month to coincide with kindergarten registration. The program is designed to complement your Kindergartener's school day. The program provides opportunities to develop skills essential for lifetime learning. If you are interested in learning more about this program or if you would like a personal tour please call Director, Carol Bardon at 973-635-5261. If you would like an application please call Katie Bealer at 973-635-6538.

In January the classrooms are transformed into a winter wonderland with lots of fun art experiences. The rooms are filled with snowmen, snowflakes, hat and mittens.



The Fours look forward to

inviting their Dads for the annual Fathers' Breakfast which takes place on Saturday, January 23 and 30. It is so much fun for the children to bring their Dad to school and play and work on a special project together.

The Kindergarten Enrichment program has been a huge success. The program reinforces the kindergarten curriculum by working on upper/lower case letter and number recognition, rhyming words, patterns, art activities, class book pages and high frequency words. We look forward to additional growth in the new year and it is so nice to see some of our alumni children return for this class.

Enjoy the beauty
of the season!

Carol Bardon,

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING FROM GOD

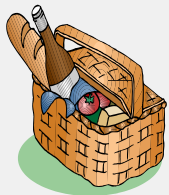
Mason Thomas Feher

August 6, 2014

Parents - Robert and Jill Feher

Big brother - Garrett

Grandparents - Scott and Janice Estes



CARE CORPS VOLUNTEERS

To share God's love with all our church family, volunteers are needed to prepare meals, deliver meals, and provide rides to doctor's appointments. Please call Marie Watt at (973) 635-7326 if you can help.

If you need a ride or meals, please call the church office at (973) 635-7740 or Marie.

An Evening in Paris

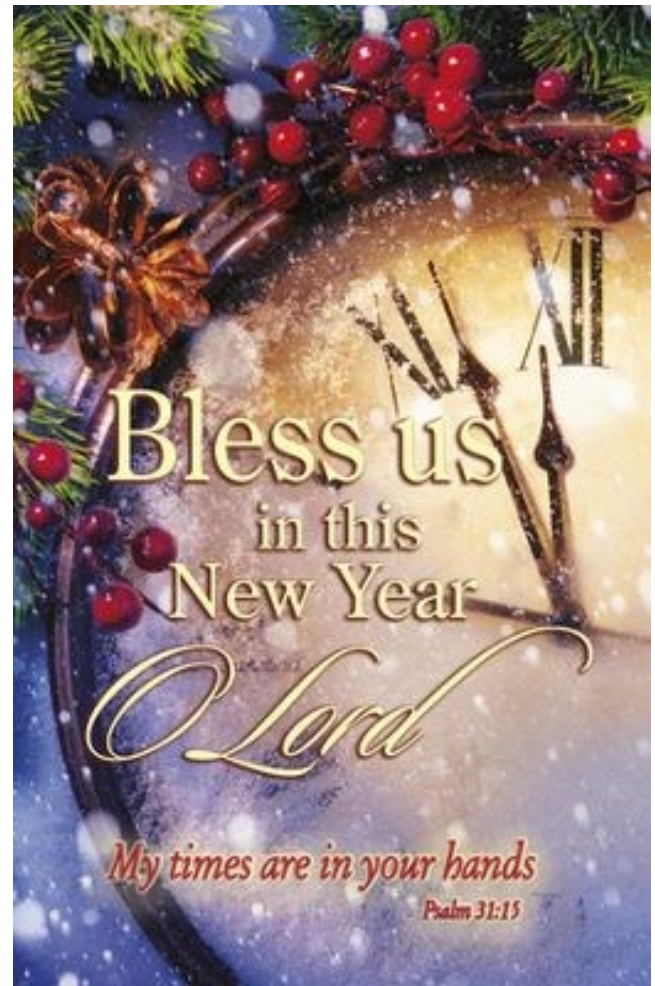
Rodda Hall

Passports not required!

If you have never been to Paris, this could be as close it gets! (And if you have, let's reminisce!)

The setting will be a Paris Night Club circa 1959. Big Band Music is in the air and couples are dancing across the floor. Enjoy Parisian patés, brie cheese, croissants, crepes, mock cocktails, and French-inspired food such chicken française prepared by John Hadamuscin and his staff.

Rome wasn't built in a day and this Night in Paris will take some time too. Date: TBD. If you thoughts on dates, or can help with food or decor, call John Hadamuscin or Sue



Christmas, 2014

Dear Friends in the Chatham United Methodist Church,

Thank you for your generous Christmas gifts to the staff. We appreciate your kindness, your generosity, and are glad to be serving God with you.

With thanks,

*Members of the Staff at the
Chatham United Methodist
Church*

The Circuit Rider

Chatham United Methodist Church

460 Main Street

Chatham, NJ 07928

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The CUMC Ministry Team

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Pastor: Rev. Jeff Markay

Youth & Children's Ministry: Karen Berry

Seminary Intern: Micah Coleman Campbell

Music Ministry: Peter Hill

Organist: Yang-Hee Song

Secretary: Heather Stober

Interim Communications Admin.: Sue Palatini

Sexton: Donald Underhill

Finance & Office Manager: JoAnn Graziano

Lay Leaders: Loren Taylor & Peggy Melvin

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Robert D. Simpson

Mark Your Calendars

January 1: New Year's Day (*office closed*)

January 2: *Office closed*

January 4: White Gifts Sunday

January 5: Common Meeting Night

January 11: Soup-er Bowl Collection begins

January 12: Church Council

January 17: District Day of Learning

January 19: Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

January 25: Rev. Gary Myers to preach

February 17: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

~ OUR MISSION ~

To Celebrate the Good News by

Empowering all to follow Christ,

Equipping all to do what is just,

Encouraging all to show loving kindness,

Energizing all to walk humbly with God.

The **February Circuit Rider** deadline for submissions is **Monday, January 12**. Please send all articles and announcements to the church office: chatumc@optonline.net.