

This Sunday, December 3rd is the first Sunday of Advent.



## Announcements

### A Special Word of Thanks



Dear Church Family,

Thank you for being part of the meaningful celebration of Dale's life with your presence, words of remembrance, cards, calls, e-mails and donations in his memory to the "Organ Re-leathering Fund." We are grateful to have such a caring and supportive church family.

God Bless You All,  
*The Canfield Family*

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### A MESSAGE FROM OUR STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE:

Thank you to all who submitted their 2018 pledge card. If you did not receive the letter and pledge card, you may [click here](#) to be redirected to the Stewardship page on our website. All information is available there for you to review and print.

#### An Update on 2017 Pledges and Giving:

As we close out 2017, our pledges and giving are significantly under budget, by at least \$37,000, and there is an urgent need for you to bring your gifts and offerings up to date so that we can cover current expenses.

Yours in Christ,

Hal Burlingame - Chair of Stewardship; Anne Fullarton, Ron Yarger, Doug

## Bags to Benches

### What is "Bags to Benches?"

In response to the growing concerns on the impact of plastic waste, Chatham UMC, and other communities of faith in the Chatham area, are partnering with Acme in New Providence and Trex to collect and remove 500 lbs. of plastic film from our environment. Once our goal is achieved, Trex will gift the Chatham community with a bench made from recycled plastic.

### How To Participate:

Chatham UMC is the designated collection site for our area. Simply collect and bring your plastic bags/film to CUMC (460 Main Street). Blue Receptacles have been labeled for plastic bag recycling. Receptacle will be located at the rear entrance to the building.

### What to Recycle:

grocery bags	cereal bags	newspaper sleeves	bread bags
produce bags	food storage bags (zip tops)	ice bags	product wrap
dry cleaning bags	bottled drink case over wrap	packaging air pillows	pellet bags and salt bags

### All bags/film must be "clean":

-No residue, trash, or waste inside/on the plastic.

Click Here for a printable flier to hand out to your friends and family.

**Spread the word and help us meet our goal!**

We will keep you updated with our progress as we aim to collect over 500 pounds of plastic bags and plastic film.

**UPDATE: We have collected over 40 pounds to date!**

Thank you for helping us care for the Creation!

### Turn Your Meal into Meals: Help feed Hungry People!



Beginning Thursday, November 30th and continuing through December, Begum Palace will donate 20% of your dine-in or carry-out purchase to fund a Rise Against Hunger meal packaging event at CUMC on **February 11, 2018**. Just one meal at Begum Palace at the Staples Plaza in Madison could feed as many as 11 people in a food insecure nation. The more you eat, the more people we feed. Look for the gold flier on the information ledge at CUMC. Please present the flier with your order or simply say

"Turn My Meal into Meals!" [To print out a flier now, click here.](#)

To learn more about Rise Against Hunger please go to their website at

[www.riseagainsthunger.org](http://www.riseagainsthunger.org)

## Altar Flowers

Our 2018 Calendar is now available! Please sign up on the calendar outside Jeff's office. Did you know that the donated Sunday altar flowers are brought to our church members at home or in care facilities? The colorful bouquets not only brightens their day, they offer spiritual support and reminds recipients that they are so very important to our church community. If you are interested in being a part of this uplifting ministry, contact Dona Franklin for more details.



## This Weeks at CUMC

### Inter-generational FOOD WITH FRIENDS Potluck Supper and COOKIES4LIFE!

**Saturday, December 2nd, 6:00 PM**

Our next monthly fellowship/covered dish evening - "Food with Friends" - on **Saturday, December 2nd**, will feature Cookies!



CUMC has been asked by the Chaplaincy Program of the Morris County Correctional Facility to provide 500 cookies for the inmates and staff. That evening after eating we will bake cookies, decorate pre-baked, homemade cookies (no frosting this year per request of the correctional facility), and package cookies in Ziploc bags. It will be a wonderful festive time for all ages, and a great opportunity to bring a friend!

**You can make a difference in the lives of incarcerated persons by:**

- Bringing pre-baked homemade Christmas cookies (any kind, but no frosting)
- Bringing pre-baked homemade plain cookies for decorating
- Bringing ingredients for baking cookies - flour, sugar, butter, sprinkles, etc.

Covered dish supper starts at 6:00 PM; stay as long as you like to work on the cookies.

(If you can bring cookie baking ingredients, cookie cutters, or pre-baked cookies contact Pastor Sharon at [scyarger@optonline.net](mailto:scyarger@optonline.net).)

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## Alternative Gift Fair 2017

**Sunday, December 3**

**10:00 AM - 12 Noon Rodda Hall**

Chatham United Methodist Church hosts the annual gift fair in Rodda Hall. Come learn about organizations doing charitable work here and abroad while choosing gifts that offer greater meaning to the giver and the recipient and supporting organizations with much needed exposure and funding.



Organizations represented include Heifer International, our Family Promise Ministry, and more. Come do some Christmas shopping, visit our famous bake sale and have a cup of coffee while sharing the spirit of the season. *We also welcome bakers for the bake sale and volunteers - just an hour of your time makes a huge difference and allows us to keep the event going!*

### **Bakers:**

Please bring what you have baked to the kitchen on Saturday, December 2nd or on Sunday morning before the 9:00 AM Service. *Please indicate whether or not your item has nuts.* Thank You!

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## **Advent Small Groups Begin this Sunday, December 3rd**

We're excited to offer a seasonal opportunity to grow in faith - deepening our relationships with God and one another by being part of a small group. We'll be using the DVD-based study "Way of Life", based on Brian McLaren's book *The Great Spiritual Migration*. Participants will learn how shifting away from a system of beliefs to a new way of life based on love can lead to new, more redemptive communities and practices. Guaranteed to be a thought-provoking and engaging experience with fellow pilgrims on the journey of faith! Dates are listed below.



**Sundays**, 10:15-11:00 AM - Room 6  
co-facilitated by Janice Szarko and  
Ron Yarger (Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24)

**Mondays**, 7:30 - 8:30 PM - Wesley Room  
facilitated by Tom Kitson  
(Dec. 4, 11, 18)

**Mondays** noon - 1:00 PM - Wesley Room  
co-facilitated by Sue Maher and Melda  
Pike (Dec. 4, 11, 18)

**Wednesdays** 7:30 - 8:30  
PM- Wesley Room  
facilitated by Dr. SuJung Shin  
(Dec. 6, 13, 20)

Signup sheets will be available outside Pastor Jeff's office, and books will be available for purchase. For further information contact Associate Pastor Sharon Yarger at the church office or at [scyarger@optonline.net](mailto:scyarger@optonline.net).

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## **UMW Circles Meeting this Week:**



**Sarah Circle** will be meeting on **Tuesday, December 5th**  
at 9:30 AM in the Asbury Room.

**Rebecca Circle** will be meeting on **Tuesday, December 5th** at 1:30 PM at Marge's House.

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## **Staff Holiday Appreciation**

Thank you to those you have participated thus far in our traditional Staff Christmas giving. If you haven't yet, and wish to contribute, please mail your check, made out to CUMC, with the memo line indicating Staff Christmas Gift, to the church, attention **Chris Fillimon**, Lay Leader, no later than **Friday, December 15th**, or look for me on Sunday.



## Music News



The Praise Band will lead music for the 9:00 AM service this **Sunday, December 3rd**. The band will sing Special Music and play for our Youth Singer, Hanna Giedraitis, singing Lauren Daigle's *Light of the World*.

The Masterwork Camerata will perform a concert of holiday music this Sunday evening at 5:30 PM in our sanctuary. Join the Camerata for works by Alice Parker, Robert Shaw, P.D.Q. Bach., and featuring a new work by Camerata director, Martin Sedek: *Gifts of the Season*.

Our Youth Singers and Ringers will lead music for the 9:00 AM service on **Sunday, December 10th**. The Youth Singers will perform Mack Wilberg's arrangement of *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*. Youth Musician, Adam Rack, will conduct the Ringers for *Sing We Now of Christmas* arranged by Kevin McChesney. The Chatham UMC Wind Ensemble will also perform Michele Colombier's *Emmanuel*. Join us!

The CUMC Ukulele Orchestra will next meet at 10:30 AM on Saturdays of **December 9th** and **December 16th** in the Music Room. All ukulele players are welcome!

If you would like to know more about music@CUMC see our page at [www.chathamumc.com/music](http://www.chathamumc.com/music) or contact Peter Hill at [petepiano@mac.com](mailto:petepiano@mac.com).

## Youth News



### Christmas Giving Tree Deadline is Sunday!

The CUMC Youth Fellowship group is helping children by coordinating our annual Christmas Giving Tree again this year under the guidance of Dave and Becky Meyer. The tree is up already so that we can meet our deadline of This Sunday for gift delivery to CUMAC. The tree, which you'll find near the top of the stairs by the elevator, is decorated with gift tags containing info about the new gifts requested by families in need. This year we are sponsoring 25 children ages 6 months to 16 years old.

Here's what you do:

- Take a gift tag (or two!) from the tree
- Check off on the clipboard the gift you are buying
- Return the appropriate unwrapped gift to the gift box by the tree by Sunday, December 3rd.

**Take-home directions are available at the tree.**

Please remember, that while these children have little, their wishes are similar



to those of any other child. A donation box will be available in the office for monetary donations which will be used to shop for additional items for children and families. *Checks can be made out to CUMC noting Giving Tree in the memo.* If you have further questions please contact David or Becky Meyer at 973.701.6965 *Thank you and Bless You*

## Looking Ahead

### Blue Christmas ~ A Worship Service of Comfort and Hope

Saturday, December 9th, at 4:00 PM

A Blue Christmas service is a time to acknowledge the feelings that surrounds Christmas for some of us, a time to remember the reason for those feelings, and a time to offer those feelings to God. This service offers a haven for people who desire a special touch from God during the holidays, and promises to be a time of quiet reflection, candle

lighting, readings, singing, and prayer. We invite you to join us this Christmas season for a time of comfort and rest. Our Blue Christmas Service will be followed by light refreshments and shared fellowship. Our prayer is that you will find peace and comfort in knowing that you are not alone. Please join us, bring a friend.

**Stephen Ministers Care**



### Advent Gathering at the Parsonage

Sunday, December 10th, 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

48 Elmwood Ave.

Chatham NJ.

This has become a great opportunity for our congregation to enjoy good food, fellowship, and signing favorite Christmas carols together. All are invited to bring hors d'oeuvres to share, a good appetite, and your signing voice!



### At A Glance...

Sunday, December 3rd *1st Sunday of Advent*  
Advent Small Groups Begin

Sunday, December 3rd *Christmas Giving Tree Deadline*

Sunday, December 3rd *Alternative Gift Fair* (see below for more details)

Tuesday, December 5th *Sarah Circle*, 9:30 AM Asbury Room.

Tuesday, December 5th *Rebecca Circle*, 1:30 PM at Marge's

Saturday, December 9th *Blue Christmas Worship Service* 4:00 PM  
(details above)

Sunday, December 10th *Advent Gathering at the*

*Parsonage* (details above)

Monday, December 11th (tentative) *Abigail Circle Christmas Dinner*, 7:30 PM at Claudia Couch's

Wednesday, December 13th, *UMW Luncheon*, 11:00 AM- 2:00 PM, Rodda Hall

Wednesday, December 13th *Taize Prayer Service*, 7:30 PM Asbury Room.

Saturday, December 16th, *Men's Group*, 9:00 AM Steve and Kate Davis' home, 43 Red Road, Chatham

Please note that Enquirers Group and Monday Noontime Bible Study will not be meeting until after the New Year.

## Ministry Spotlight

### Bread Ministry

Please consider giving your gift of time this weekend or future weekends. Volunteers are needed in brief shifts to help Saturday nights and Sundays to ensure that this ministry continues to be successful.

[Sign Up for a shift by clicking here](#). Even if you are not available this weekend, please consider signing up for a future weekend. Thank you!



### Service Spotlight

CUMC needs more voices bringing the Word of God in worship! Disciples are needed to raise their voices at both the 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM services; there are open time slots through February 2018. [Please click here to sign up and to secure your slot](#). If you have any difficulty with the sign up and need assistance, or if you have any questions about this ministry, please feel free to contact Barbara Babbitt at [babbitt@optimum.net](mailto:babbitt@optimum.net).



### Care Corps

CUMC remains committed to our neighbors in need throughout the year with our Care Corps Ministry. If you or someone you know needs meals or transportation, please call the CUMC office at (973) 635-7740 or Marie Watt at (973) 635-7326.



## Happenings in Our Chatham Community

### Blood Drive

Saturday, December 2nd

8:30 AM - 2:30 PM



## Chatham Emergency Squad,

### 31 N. Passaic Ave.

The Chatham Emergency Squad (CES) will again host a blood drive on Saturday, December 2 at the Chatham Emergency Squad. We invite the community to stop by and support the blood drive with a donation. There is a constant scarcity of blood. Less than 5% of the population donates. Please try to donate on December 2nd. Donors, ages 17-76, should be in good health and have some form of identification with them. Teenagers, age 16 can also donate with parental permission; forms for this will be available at the site. Anyone with questions about donating can call the blood center at 800-688-0900.

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Did you miss something? To revisit previous E-news letters, please visit our website by clicking below for our archived news.

[News](#)

Chatham United Methodist Church | 973.635.7740  
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[www.ChathamUMC.com](http://www.ChathamUMC.com)

STAY CONNECTED:

