

# HILLTOPPER

United Methodist Church of Parsippany

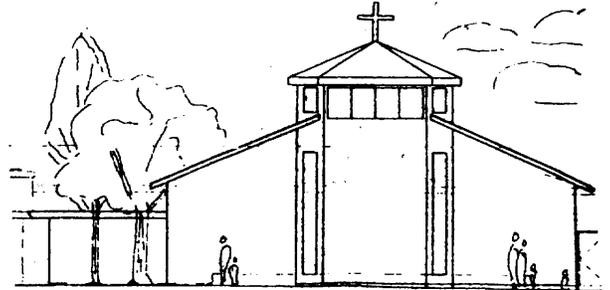
903 So. Beverwyck Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054 (973) 887-4657

<http://www.parsippanyumc.org> E-Mail: [pastormarissavdv@gmail.com](mailto:pastormarissavdv@gmail.com)

*Sunday Worship Celebration: 10:00 a.m.*

*In a hostile, hurting world we reach out to share kindness and laughter. Our spirituality is based on Jesus and his love and compassion. We provide a community of support and healing where all are welcomed and valued regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, disability, gender, or economic status. In a world where people feel they can love only those who are like themselves, we seek to celebrate the uniqueness of every human being.*

*"Making Room in the Circle"*



**NOVEMBER, 2022**



Greetings!

There is a hymn that we sing in the United Methodist Church that is in our The Faith We Sing Hymnal. The title of the hymn is "Give Thanks". Here are the words:

Give thanks with a grateful heart  
Give thanks to the Holy One  
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"  
Let the poor say, "I am rich"  
Because of what the Lord has done for us"

Give thanks with a grateful heart  
Give thanks to the Holy One  
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son

We give thanks to You oh Lord  
We give thanks

This is a hymn that I have always loved to sing especially around Thanksgiving, a divinely inspired reminder of our connection with God. Maybe this year when we think about this hymn we can be reminded about the action in the words. The action of living into becoming instigators of change, living into believing that gratitude is not a commandment, but an invitation to wholeness.

I hope you will hear this prayer using the words from Give Thanks with some new words.

Awesome God,

We give thanks with a grateful heart  
Even when the rhythm is painful, you are here  
We give thanks to the Holy One

Open our eyes to the image of God that exists in all of humanity  
We give thanks because God's given Jesus Christ  
Holding onto the resurrection hope within new life

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"  
Open our ears to the ways in which individuals and communities are suffering  
Let the poor say, "I am rich"

Help us to share our resources with the least, the lonely, and the lost  
Because of what the Lord has done for us  
Remove the shadow from our eyes, in the midst of the chaos

Give thanks with a grateful heart  
Leaning into what it means to be a community of faith  
Give thanks to the Holy One

Grasping the love of the divinity and spreading the seeds of hope  
Give thanks because God's given Jesus Christ  
Lead us Prince of Peace, Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor

We give thanks to You oh Lord  
Through tears, through joy, through laughter, through pain, through love, through all the  
movements within creation

We give thanks  
We give thanks

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Marissa  
[pastormarissavdv@gmail.com](mailto:pastormarissavdv@gmail.com)

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### All Saints Sunday

All Saints Sunday is **Sunday Nov. 6th**. This is a day to celebrate and remember the people who have died and made an impact on our lives. If you want to have one or many of your saints' names read during the service, please contact [Pastor Marissa](#) a picture is also welcome.

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### Charge Conference

Our charge conference is on **Saturday Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> at 9am on Zoom**. The Zoom link will be sent out two days before the conference. If you have any questions about the charge conference, please contact Pastor Marissa.



### Stewardship Sunday is Coming!!!

We have officially kicked off our Stewardship Campaign. We handed out (and mailed) stewardship letters and pledge cards. In the letter we issued a challenge, that if you are able, you give an extra month of your tithes or time. If you give a monetary donation of \$200 each month, consider choosing one month this year to give \$400. If you volunteer 4 hours a month for a ministry of the church, consider choosing a month to volunteer 8 hours. During this Stewardship Season, we will hear stories from our friends who attend this church and how the Spirit has moved in their lives, we will also have a special fellowship hour on **Stewardship Sunday Nov. 13th**. If you have any questions about the Stewardship Campaign, please contact [Connie](#), [Betsy](#), or [Pastor Marissa](#)

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### Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

The Parsippany Interfaith Council will be having an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service in our sanctuary on **Tuesday Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 pm**. Please join us as we celebrate neighbors standing together in gratitude. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Marissa.

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Please check our weekly email blast for the November youth group dates. We meet twice a month on Sundays from 6-8pm. We share in a meal, play games, and have a discussion about some of the theological themes in the TV show Stranger Things (forgiveness, redemption, community). We hope you will join us! All youth 8th-12th grade are invited to attend. Have questions? Please contact [Aimee Letsch](#) or [Pastor Marissa](#)

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This year we will be decorating the church for the Advent and Christmas season on **Saturday, November 26 at 10 am**. We will be decorating the sanctuary, fellowship hall and the outside of the church. Lots of hands make the job easier. Coffee, donuts and muffins will be available for our volunteers. This is always a fun event and a great way to start the Christmas season, come and join us. If you have any question, please reach out to Darryl, Barb or Connie.



**Sign Committee**

The Trustees are looking to put together a church sign committee to revisit the project that was put on hold due to the pandemic and bring it to fruition. If you would like to be part of the church sign committee, please contact Steve Blake ([blakeblakesr@aol.com](mailto:blakeblakesr@aol.com))

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Looking back... Last month we had own Connie Keller helping us with our questions and frustrations that come with our computers and the various programs. Thank you!

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 7:00 P.M.**

Our program will be **Budget/Pledge/ Program Planning/Nominations**  
 This month planning meeting will be different from all the rest we have done this year. We will be working on programs that we will have **next** year. **PLEASE** think about people or programs you would like. We can have as many programs using our hybrid model as a format. Please come prepared with thoughts on programs

Reminder, if you are not a member of UMW, please email me at [betsyadams@live.com](mailto:betsyadams@live.com) if you are interested in participating in this month's hybrid of in person and zoom program.

Nov. 1 – All Saints Day	Nov. 12 – Church Charge Conference
Nov. 6 – Daylight Savings Time Ends	Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Day
Nov. 8 – Election Day	Nov. 26 – Hanging of the Greens
Nov. 11 – Veteran’s Day	Nov. 27 – 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

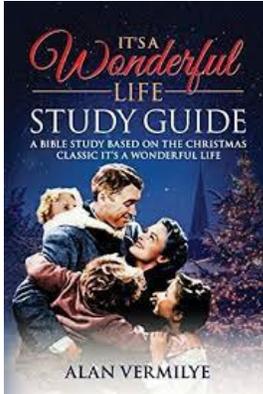
GET WELL wishes to those of you who are ill, and  
 HAPPY BIRTHDAY to those of you celebrating in November with Pauline Vande Vrede and Joanne Rich.

God Bless,  
 Betsy Adams  
[betsyadams@live.com](mailto:betsyadams@live.com)

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Anyone aware of a **Prayer Concern** is invited to contact Doris Bradley at 973-887-3219 who will put the **Prayer Chain** into action. If Doris cannot be reached, please contact Pastor Marissa. If you would like to add your name to the people who receive the prayer chain, please speak to Betty Polen



**Advent Bible Study**

It's a Wonderful Life is a popular and heart-warming film. It's near universal appeal and association with Christmas has provided a rich story of redemption that has inspired generations for decades. Please join us for a five week Advent study based on the movie. There will be two class options: one will be in person on **Monday nights in the sanctuary at 7pm** and the second will be online (Zoom) **Tuesday mornings at 10am**. The study starts on **Monday Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>**. Please contact [Pastor Marissa](#) if you have questions.

To order the **It's a Wonderful Life Study Guide: A Bible Study Based on the Christmas Classic It's a Wonderful Life by Alan**

**Vermilye** please click on this link:  
<https://rb.gy/1doyah>

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**Church Offerings:**

If you are more comfortable attending worship online, or live at a distance, please try to keep your pledge up to date. You can send your pledge to the church. The address is:  
Parsippany United Methodist Church  
903 So. Beverwyck Rd.  
Parsippany, NJ 07054  
You can also use our PayPal link ---



To make it easier for the Congregation to keep up with their financial pledges to the Church, a **PayPal link has been added to the PUMC Homepage**. If you've never used PayPal before, it's an easy and secure way to send a payment over the Internet. You can use your bank account or a credit card to make your payment, and PayPal takes a small transaction fee. For more information or a quick demonstration on how to use this new tool, please speak with Justin Cogan. You can use this link: <https://www.paypal.me/parsippanyumc>

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**FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR ON SPECIAL OCCASIONS** – If you want to remember or honor a special occasion in your life by putting flowers on the altar, please get in touch with Connie Keller. You are certainly welcome at any time to place flowers on the altar. Contact information: Connie's cell: 973-568-5404; email: [connie@mhmlender.com](mailto:connie@mhmlender.com)

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**CHURCH CALENDAR and SCHEDULING EVENTS**

The church calendar on our website [www.parsippanyumc.org](http://www.parsippanyumc.org) has been updated. If you want to schedule an event, you need to look at the website calendar to see if the date is available. All requests for use of the church facilities need to be approved by the trustees. Please contact Pastor Marissa for more information



**Zoom Wednesdays at 1:00 pm and Fridays at 12:00 pm**

Many people may still feel wary about the risks of visiting shops, church or even leaving our homes. This is especially true if you have a disability or long-term health condition that makes you more vulnerable to the effects of coronavirus. Losing face to face contact with people can feel stressful and worrying. That's why on Wednesdays and Fridays we join on Zoom in the hopes that seeing a friendly face can help us feel more connected. On Wednesday, Joanne Rich checks in with those online seeing how people are doing. On Friday, Betsy Adams leads the group with a question of the week to open discussions and maybe find out something new about your church family. We end asking if there are any prayer requests you have. If you are looking to make connection with people, our Wednesday and Friday groups may be ideal for you. **Emails are sent out the day before meetings for you to follow the link.** If you have any questions, please reach out to either Joanne or Betsy.

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**Anyone interested in becoming a member** of the Parsippany United Methodist Church, where there's always room in the circle, is invited to speak to Pastor Marissa.

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**Our church website** is at ParsippanyUMC.org. You can find all the newsletters, as well as a calendar that gives the times of events held at the church. You can also find a little church history, a listing of all the plays we've produced at the church, and a summary of the various church fellowship and mission groups.

If you aren't presently on **Facebook**, consider joining with a secret identity so you can be a member of the Parsippany United Methodist Church Congregation Group and received day by day prayer concerns and announcements and other postings regarding the life of our church.

**FACEBOOK LIVE** – Our services are on Facebook Live every week. If you are interested in furthering the ministries of our church by helping out with our Live broadcasts, please reach out to Connie Keller or Darryl Sokolowski.



Parsippany United Methodist Church is now on Instagram. To find us, search - Parsippany\_umc

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**Consider becoming a part of one or more of our Musical Groups here at church:**

**Bell Choir** – rehearses Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in joining us, please speak to Barb Bradley or Aimee Letsch - or just show up on Thursday and see what happens!

**Choir** – rehearses Thursdays at 7:45 p.m. We always have an "open robe" for anyone who loves to sing. We sing in 4-part harmony, so if you've sung in your high school chorus or any other equivalent, you have a great start! Speak to any choir member or Barb Bradley if you're interested.

## Our Outreach to Those in Need



On the second Thursday of every other month our church provides a meal for the people living temporarily at **Homeless Solutions**. If you would like to volunteer as a server, please speak to Laurie Wilken or Connie Wallace. If you would like to help cook speak Tom Albert or Justin Cogan. Our next opportunity to serve is **December 8th**.



**Parsippany Emergency Food Pantry** – Denise White is now delivering our donations to the Emergency Food Pantry in Parsippany. You can bring your donations of non-perishable food items to the church any Sunday. Denise takes the food over as the bin gets filled up. Supermarket gift cards are also welcome. This is a very easy way to give back to the less-fortunate in our own township.

On **Saturday, TBD** our church once more takes its turn volunteering at **Interfaith Furnishings**. Please let Garrett Belanus or Pastor Marissa know if you can volunteer your time to help move donated furniture to the homes of people who could not otherwise afford it in Morris County.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS			
1 <sup>st</sup>	Andrew Letsch	19 <sup>th</sup>	Dawn Kiemel
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Richard Dierbach	20 <sup>th</sup>	Rachel Elbin
6 <sup>th</sup>	Michelle Chaffee	20 <sup>th</sup>	Bob Laux
7 <sup>th</sup>	Tom Smith	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Janet Chauhan
7 <sup>th</sup>	Maya Baretto	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Pauline Vande Vrede
9 <sup>th</sup>	George Hawkins, Jr.	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Shawn Beckler
10 <sup>th</sup>	Shane Petzinger	24 <sup>th</sup>	Dan Kinsley
12 <sup>th</sup>	Sandra Bothe	24 <sup>th</sup>	David Kinsley
13 <sup>th</sup>	Carolyn Pasqua	25 <sup>th</sup>	Navnit Patelia
14 <sup>th</sup>	Bart Routhier	26 <sup>th</sup>	Anita Baldwin
16 <sup>th</sup>	Pastor Jeff Edwards	29 <sup>th</sup>	Garret Belanus
17 <sup>th</sup>	Joanne Rich	30 <sup>th</sup>	Russ Schnetzer
18 <sup>th</sup>	Joshua Gropper	30 <sup>th</sup>	Marissa Cogan
19 <sup>th</sup>	Ann Nye		



# Thanksgiving

## WORD SEARCH

R U G Z L L G N I F F U T S F  
 S U N P W U F R T G Q D E A S  
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FALL	THANKFUL	NOVEMBER
GATHER	TURKEY	PLYMOUTH
HOLIDAY	CORNUCOPIA	STUFFING
PILGRIMS	FAMILY	THANKSGIVING
PUMPKIN	GOBBLE	CRANBERRIES
CORN	GRATITUDE	POTATOES
FEAST	PIE	TRADITION



November 2022

United Methodist Church of Parsippany

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																								
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