

**JANUARY - FEBRUARY
NEWSLETTER
2022**

**Allentown United Methodist Church
23 Church Street
Allentown, NJ 08501**

PASTOR'S CORNER MEDITATION

A Time for Everything

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:

a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Time is something highly treasured in our world today. We have so many “time saving” appliances to give us more time for other activities. We monitor our days with judgements of being on time-or late. We also have things that are “timeless” and activities and events that are in perfect timing. We live in time, but God is outside of time. God chooses to reach into our lives in time. Time is always God’s time.

There is so much instant timing on things in life. We want faster and faster internet, and we order products on the online and want them delivered almost instantly. It is interesting that we expect instant timing from God. “God, I want this problem fixed now.” When things don’t happen instantly as we want—many in this modern world feel there is not God or God doesn’t hear them. The thing we don’t realize is that God is outside of time but walking with us through our time. God knows exactly what we need, and it will happen when it is the best time.

What we find most difficult in our world is taking time for God. I am not just talking about worship or church activities, but actually taking time for a relationship with God.

Do we take time to invite God into our day or do we jump out of bed and start the day; never stopping until we drop over at night. Do we consider that doing things we enjoy, such as cooking, gardening, walking, reading are all opportunities to invite God into that time?

All time can be God's time if we invite God in. If we take the time to invite God into our time then all time becomes holy time. Whether we are struggling in our time or enjoying our time, God is there in holy time and therefore perfect time.

How are you giving God your time this week?

–Rev. Lynn Mears, Pastor of Cokesbury and Fairmont UMCs

Holy God, we invite you into our day. We thank you for this time and space to be with you today. We give you all our minutes, the good and the bad. Instead of rushing and fretting we will spend this time to give you praise. Amen.

Source: GNJ Storytellers

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

PRAYER LIST: Joyce Benson, Linda & Judy Carben, Tom Carr, Marlene Clay, Michelle Ferner, Ron Gafgen, Bruce Gollnick, Judy Gollnick, Dorothy Hess, Betty Lanzillo, Donna Levitson, Shari Litwin, Mari Loeffler, Jill & Jack & Meredith Malloy, Linda Marsh, Elizabeth McCullough, Judy Mock & family, Anela Myhal, John Orsag, Lee Paige, Paul Peifer, Bud Podlesney, Mary Pullen, Barbara Reed, Rita Romeo, Liz Roof, Deb Smetanka, Rick Smetanka, Yana Tarjay, Fred Taylor, Teresa & Frances, Marvin Thayer, Dorothy Tramontana, Helen Underwood, Joel Underwood, Cindy Von Rhine, Debbie Weaver, Art West, Henry Wikoff, Glenda Zimmerman, Caregivers, Our Church, Healthcare Professionals, Our Country, Our Community, renewal.

PRAY for those serving in our Armed Forces: Philip Barnes, Ben Haigh Bavona, Brian Carpe, Justin Carpe, Abigail Chek, Joseph Chicoski, Jonathan Crawford, Nate Donney, Jeffrey Emanmi, Jonathan Mele, Tim Sorensen, Stan Wisniewski III.

MOVIE NIGHT

Join us on Saturday, January 8th at 7:00 p.m. to see the movie "Time Changer". Bring two canned goods for the food pantry.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

January 2 - Epiphany Sunday

Psalm 71:1-7, 10-14
Isaiah 60:1-6

Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

January 9

Psalm 29
Isaiah 43:1-7

Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 16

Psalm 36:5-10
Isaiah 62:1-5

1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

January 23

Psalm 19
Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10, 30

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Luke 4:14-21

January 30

Psalm 71:1-6
Jeremiah 1:4-10

1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Luke 4:21-30

February 6

Psalm 138
Isaiah 6:1-8

1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

February 13

Psalm 1
Jeremiah 17:5-10

1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Luke 6:17-26

February 20

Psalm 37:1-11
Genesis 45:3-11, 15

1 Corinthians 15:35-38
Luke 6:27-38

February 27

Psalm 99
Exodus 34:29-35

2 Corinthians 3:12 - 4:2
Luke 9:28-36

WORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday School class is available at 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. At 10:30 a.m. enjoy Worship in the sanctuary. We would love to see you in person. **The service is also available by Zoom.** Follow the Zoom instructions below.

BIBLE STUDY BY ZOOM

Our Bible Study will meet at 7:30 p.m. each Wednesday. Follow the Zoom instructions.

ZOOM INFORMATION

To join by Computer: <https://zoom.us/j/369017132>
Meeting ID: 369 017 132

To join by Telephone: (pick a number to call)
1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
1 253 215 8782 US
1 301 715 8592 US
1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 369 017 132

CORPORATE MORNING PRAYER TIME

Every Tuesday
at 9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

BROWN BAG LUNCH WITH THE PASTOR

Join us for a time of meditation and fellowship
every Tuesday
from 12:00 to 1:00 in Fellowship Hall.

NEW CHURCH APP

Download the new Allentown UMC app at
allentownumc.org.

Remember to approve church notification
so we can communicate with you.

OUTSIDE FLAGS

The flags are given in memory of those affected by
COVID 19 and those still affected, and in honor of our
Health Care Workers.

CHURCH ACITIVITIES FOR JANUARY

Sunday, January 2 - **Sunday School** 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, January 4th - **Prayer Time** 9:00 a.m.
Brown Bag Lunch - 12:00 noon

Friday, January 7th - **Movie Night** 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, January 9th - **Sunday School** 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, January 11th - **Prayer Time** 9:00 a.m.
Brown Bag Lunch - 12:00 noon

Wednesday, January 12th - **Bible Study** 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 16th - **Sunday School** 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, January 18th - **Prayer Time** 9:00 a.m.
Brown Bag Lunch - 12:00 noon

Tuesday, January 18th - **Administrative Council**
Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 19th - **Bible Study** 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 23rd - **Sunday School** 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday, January 25th - **Prayer Time** 9:00 a.m.

Brown Bag Lunch - 12:00 noon
Wednesday, January 26th - **Bible Study** 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 30th - **Sunday School** 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES FOR FEBRUARY

Tuesday, February 1st - **Prayer Time** 9:00 a.m.
Brown Bag Lunch - 12:00 noon
Tuesday, February 1st - **Trustees Meeting** 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, February 2nd - **Bible Study** 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, February 6th - **Sunday School** 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday, February 8th - **Prayer Time** 9:00 a.m.
Brown Bag Lunch - 12:00 noon
Wednesday, February 9th - **Bible Study** 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, February 13th - **Sunday School** 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday, February 15th - **Prayer Time** 9:00 a.m.
Brown Bag Lunch - 12:00 noon
Wednesday, February 16th - **Bible Study** 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, February 20th - **Sunday School** 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday, February 22nd - **Prayer Time** 9:00 a.m.
Brown Bag Lunch - 12:00 noon
Wednesday, February 23rd - **Bible Study** 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, February 27th - **Sunday School** 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

CHURCH MOUSE BOUTIQUE

The Church Mouse Boutique is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Let your friends know about the many interesting and lovely items available in the shop.

THANK YOU

To our Church Family,

We want to thank everyone who donated items for the Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Baskets, the diaper drive for Maker's Place and the donations of socks, gloves, hats, and scarves for our guests at Loaves and Fishes on Christmas Day. Also, for helping prepare items for the bag lunches prior to packing the lunches and those who were able to help pack the 405 lunches. All items donated were distributed and the Loaves and Fishes representatives were very appreciative and overwhelmed with the amount of items donated. They couldn't have thanked us enough. Guests were able to have as many meal seconds requested and took home a large bag with extra meals and extra lunches. Any extra food went to the Senior Center, Meals on Wheels, and a group that was meeting on Sunday. We thank God for leading us and we continue to be the only Ecumenical Group that serve those in need.

Matthew 25:40 - *"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."* NIV

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your donation to our ministry. Your gift enables Ranch Hope to continue to provide essential, meaningful services to youth and families in our community. As we continue through winter, we covet your continued prayers. We are so appreciative of your giving and your continued support of the Ranch. Please know that your donation is changing lives!

David L. Bailey, Jr., Chief Executive Officer

Hello there Allentown UMC!

On behalf of The Maker's Place, I would like to personally thank you for your generosity and for participating in our annual December Diaper Drive.

While 1 in 3 families throughout the United States struggles to provide enough clean diapers for their little ones each month, together, we can make a change for families and their little ones throughout the city of Trenton. We can end the negative consequences of diaper need by making every diaper count.

Your donation of 1474 diapers, \$50, and 41 packs of wipes will go a long way in covering the basic necessities for little ones. Every little one deserves to be healthy, safe, and dry! You are making a difference for so many! Thank you so much!

Alyssa Ruch, Co-Director
The Maker's Place

To the Allentown United Methodist Church,

The Allentown Public Library Association works to maintain the historic library building. The donations of you and your neighbors has allowed the maintenance to continue including fixing a leaky roof, replacing damaged ceiling tiles, and upgrading to LED lights.

Thank you for your donation of \$100.00. Your support is greatly appreciated and allows this beautiful historic building to continue to be a focal point of Main Street in Allentown.

Sincerely,
Molly Tew and the APCA Board

BIRTHDAYS

January 3 - Betty Lanzillo
January 5 - Ronald Cadorette
January 25 - Joyce Pierre
January 31- Brian Erb Sr.

February 5 - Dale Watson
February 9 - Shirley Mayer
February 12 - Richard Ruthven
February 20 - Zachary Leifer
February 27 - Nancy Wikoff

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Free Dinner

Every Tuesday, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
at Holy Apostles' Episcopal Church
Every Tuesday you are invited to come to the church
for a free dinner to take home.
No questions asked. All are welcome

Allentown Food Pantry

Hours: Monday and Wednesday
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Location: Allentown Presbyterian Church
The Food Pantry relies on donations of food
and cash to purchase food.