



Pinelands United Methodist Church

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

Church office: 5213 Pleasant Mills Road, Sweetwater, NJ 08037

Rev. Danny Clark, Pastor

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Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany

January 28, 2024

Theme: Tell Your Story

www.PinelandsUMC.org

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

❖ Call to Worship

Leader: Why are you here? Maybe you are here because you recognize in your own story a greater story,

People: One spoken since the beginning of time by prophets, preachers and peacemakers, a story where God calls the world into liberation and wholeness.

Leader: Maybe you are here because you have glimpsed a moment of love that is beyond human reach,

People: All the grace that lies just beyond our fingertips, that transforms the ugly into the breathtaking, the impossible into the real.

Leader: Maybe you are here, not defined by faith but with a deep conviction

People: That the ending to everyone's story is yet to be written and can be shaped into life by justice and compassion.

Leader: Maybe you are here because there is someone who needs to hear your story and feel welcome into the story of God

People: Let us join together in listening and sharing in the greatest story, the story of God's grace.

❖ Gathering Hymn #92 "For the Beauty of the Earth"

Opening Prayer

God, we bring our stories to this place, and we wait to be held by yours. We bring our faithfulness: shape it with grace. We bring our success: shape it with generosity. We bring our weaknesses: shape them with compassion. We bring our possibilities: shape them with hope. We confess, God, that the way is hard, and we are tired. Speak into our tiredness with your story of grace. We confess that the way is unclear, and we do not know the path. Speak into our wandering with your story of vision. We confess that we are tired of waiting and we just want to make it happen. Speak into our impatience with your story of wisdom. Let your story be our story and we pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

1st Scripture Reading

Psalm 71:1-9

❖ Hymn of Preparation #174 "His Name is Wonderful"
(Sing Twice)

2nd Scripture Reading

John 9:1-12

Sermon

News Worth Sharing: A Life Worth Living

Joys and Concerns

The Lord's Prayer

Offering God's Tithes and Our Gifts

❖ Doxology #95

❖ Closing Hymn #364 "Because He Lives"

❖ Benediction

God bless you and not let you out of his sight.
God keep and protect you by day and by night.
Let love, understanding be yours evermore.
God's grace be with you forever more.



KEEP THEM IN PRAYER

Kathy Simpkins
 Barbara Kurowski
 Linda Hirst
 Linda Green
 Dave Dixon
 Marge Clifton
 Tom Rheault
 Anna Walker
 Denny & Joy O'Shaughnessy
 Jerry
 Sandra Allebach
 Brian Plasket
 Robin Green
 Paul Cowan
 Stephen Lister
 Ciara McCarthy Burke
 Kaitlin DeLucca (US Air Force)
 Tiernan James (US Coast Guard)
 Max Lister (US Army)

Frances Ernwood
 Wilma Brown
 Mary Jo Sheridan
 Sean Plasket
 McCartney Family
 Barbara Ford
 Margie Cochran
 David & Emily Elkin
 Denise
 Larry Acker
 Evelyn Roland
 John Allebach Sr
 Nicholas Cellini
 Deneen Wyld
 Melodee Ashby
 Courtney Warner
 Billy Cheatham (US Marines)
 Riley James (US Marines)
 Robert S.
 Little Jack



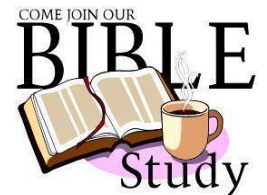
CHURCH NEWS



JANUARY 28, 2024

BIBLE STUDY TODAY

We will gather for Bible Study with Pastor Danny today in our Batsto Church Building at 12:30 pm. All are welcome to attend. Bible study meets each Sunday unless otherwise announced.



UWF "SOUPER" BOWL SUNDAY SOUP SALE



The United Women in Faith will be holding a SOUP SALE on **February 11th**; "SOUPER" BOWL SUNDAY! Many varieties to choose from. Sale will begin in Batsto Church at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. \$10.00 per large container of soup. There will be bread and cornbread to purchase as well. Please help support our women's group by buying some pre-game snacks!





FISHING CLUB MEETS



The next meeting of the Pinelands Fishing Club will be on **Wednesday, February 7, 2024**. All are welcome to attend. Please speak to Bryan or Jeanne Bridel for more information and if you are interested in joining this fun ministry.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH MEETING

The United Women in Faith have a meeting planned in our Nesco Church Building on **Monday, February 12th** in the Carolyn Stewart Fellowship Hall at 10:00 am. Everyone is welcome to join in. Bring a friend with you!



UWF PANCAKE BREAKFAST



On **Saturday, March 2nd** join the United Women in Faith as they host and prepare the first pancake breakfast of the NEW year in our Nesco Church Building. Adults \$10 / Children \$5 from 8:00 am - 11:00 am come enjoy pancakes, bacon, sausage, biscuits w/ gravy, orange juice, coffee and meet some neighbors too!

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

The food pantry is actively receiving donations of food to be distributed to families throughout the community. If you wish to make a donation of food please speak with Kathy Wooton or Gayle Brill for specific needs. Thank you for supporting such an important ministry as inflation continues to rise.



Join us on **FEBRUARY 14, 2024, VALENTINE'S DAY** for two special **ASH WEDNESDAY** Experiences.

STOP BY BATSTO on WEDNESDAY MORNING

to receive **ASHES** in the

BATSTO CHURCH SANCTUARY

between the hours of **9:00 am - 10:00 am**.

There will be **NO WORSHIP SERVICE** during this **TIME**.

All are **WELCOME** to **COME** to receive **ASHES**.

At **7:00 pm** join us in our **GREEN BANK CHURCH** for a traditional **ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE**.

You will **RECEIVE ASHES**. Everyone is **WELCOME!**



Practicing The Practices

Lenten, Soup, Salad and Study

Every Wednesday night during lent.

A light dinner of soup salad and bread followed by a time of Worship and Bible Study with

Pastor Danny Clark

6:30pm-8:30pm

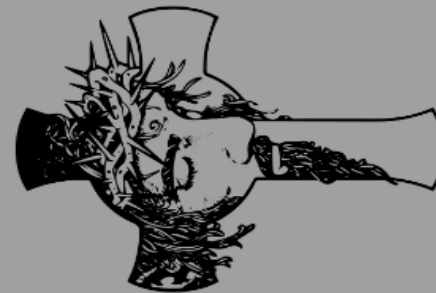
Bring a Soup or Salad to share.

Bread and Drinks will be provided.

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|---------------------------|-------------|
| February 21 st | Prayer |
| February 28 th | Fasting |
| March 6 th | Service |
| March 13 th | Study |
| March 20 th | Worship |
| March 27 th | Celebration |

Practicing the Practices

Prayer-Fasting-Service-Study-Worship-Celebration



Lenten Dinner and Study
Wednesdays in Lent

Atco UMC

6:30-8:30pm

