

# Ministry @ DHUMC

Drexel Hill United Methodist Church

March, 2026

www.dhum.org

## Food for Thought

### *Pastor's Message*

*Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never again eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.*  
1 Corinthians 8:13 New Revised Standard Version

I'm loving our **TuesdaysTOGETHER @dhumc** meals and study. There is a nice meal at 6pm followed by a book study, sharing, or scripture conversation from 6:45-7:30 pm. But I take a special joy in seeing 5 pm roll around on Tuesdays - there is a gathering in the Church Kitchen, where someone brings a menu and ingredients and those gathered set about mixing and chopping to prepare the meal. We learn recipes, use different kitchen gadgets, and share tips and techniques. Everyone who comes gets to participate – and it is fun in bunches!

There is an idea abroad that planning a menu can be a daunting task. Those cook books spread out on the worktop encourage us to be aware of taste, color and texture. What ingredients complement one another in taste, mouth feel, and

nutrition? We need to know what people like and don't like, their allergies, whether they are vegan or vegetarian, and to try and remember what we cooked for them last time.

A meal in a diner is easier. Then everyone – as befits this post-modern era - can more or less choose what they like. Sometimes, though, it's the simple things that leave a greater impression and that last in the memory. For the past three decades, I have lived with my favorite vegetarian. We keep a vegetarian kitchen. But on occasions where I have cooked in another kitchen, I've made the mistake of thinking that, having enjoyed cooking meat "in a previous life," my muscle-memory would adapt without any difficulty to taking top round and making London broil, or popping a chunk of rump cut into a slow cooker to make pot roast. Suffice it to say, I've made my mistakes, but fortunately none of them have been inedible . . . so far.

Sometimes preparing meals is complicated and at other times it is simple –smoked salmon from the store, with cream cheese on a bagel remains a lovely treat.

Difficult or simple, you'll always be welcome to lend a hand, and thereby, rehearse in the kitchen a little of what we might hope to share in heaven!

A prayer for your digestion:

*Lord, give us a ready appreciation of the simple things of life and the opportunity to share them with others, and to feast with them upon the blessings you have given us. Amen.*

Russell J. Atkinson



## Coffee and Conversation

Please stop by for our coffee, tea and conversation time after church service on Sundays. This is not only an opportunity for refreshment- it is a good time to say hello to visitors and find out a little about them, as well as greeting people you



know. Feel free to take your cup outside as well. This all happens at the back of our Sanctuary, where there is ample room to sit or stand and talk. Please do stop by and say hello to someone you would like to get to know better, even if you don't like coffee!

## Heavy Psalm/Light Exercise and Fellowship Hour



Join us every **Tuesday** at 11 am to 11:50 am where we will gather in the parking lot to hear a psalm and reflect on it briefly, and then engage in light exercise – walking the neighborhood. Please come and join us.

## Upper Darby Food Bank



March gives us a full month, no holidays. We're well stocked and hope to get some of our former clients back. Many are afraid because of the Ice Agents. We are serving inside and ask people to wear masks. Many thanks for the wonderful Souper Bowl food collection. The condiments and personal items were much needed. For a small community, we are very giving. Special thanks to Helen and John for bringing the donation to us. The hours are M, T, TH & F, 10 am-12 noon. We are located at: 7766 Wayne Avenue in Upper Darby.



## Bacon, Toast, and the Heavenly Host

If you've got an appetite for the Word of God and a good breakfast, come on out to the Perkins Restaurant, 706 N. Lansdowne Avenue in Drexel Hill (just a short hop from the high school) the first Thursday of each month. Our next meeting is **March 5, 2026** at 9 am. Hope to see you there!

## Ministry@DHUMC

A monthly newsletter for the membership of DHUMC.

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## Tuesday Morning Bible Study Class

Why don't you join us every Tuesday Morning for Bible Class? We are a group who gather to read and talk about Bible themes. We meet in person in the Church Office as well as online via ZOOM. You are very welcome to give it a try and, if you like what you see, please attend. **Important:** you'll need a Bible. We'll begin at 9:30 am and finish a little before 11am. The Zoom link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81458981321?pwd=SmFRQOpLS21kUmdhZHNRnJmbnFyUT09>





Russell Atkinson, Pastor

## March Worship Services

### Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026  
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17  
John 3:1-17  
“Ambiguity”

### Third Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2026  
Romans 5:1-11  
John 4:5-42  
“Calculated Risk: Love”

### Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026  
Ephesians 5:8-14  
John 4:5-42  
“Sleep on the Run”

### Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2026  
Romans 8:6-11  
John 11:1-45  
“Reconsidering Being Alive”



### Palm Sunday

March 29, 2026  
Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Luke 19:41-44  
“Coosing Liberation”

## Lay Reader & Greeter Schedule for March

### Lay Readers

- 1 Cindy Carper
- 8 David O’Connell
- 15 Carol Martsolf
- 22 Keith Chase
- 29 Marion Mendimasa

### Greeters

- 1 Carol Martsolf
- 8 Becky Harbison
- 15 Helen Cambell
- 22 Keith Chase
- 29 Yvette Benson



SPRING FORWARD

Daylight Savings Time

March 8th



# Souper Bowl Sunday Touchdown!

Photos and story by Helen Campbell, Jane Todd & Keith Chase



**Pastor Atkinson blesses the donation before being taken to the Food Bank.**

Thank you to everyone who brought soup, sandwiches, desserts and snacks to our Souper Bowl luncheon. Thank you to everyone who came, who helped set up and clean up. Also, to those who brought items and donated money to the Upper Darby Food Bank it was very much appreciated. Your participation brought sunshine and warmth to a bitter cold February day!





**Mandy Mullin dishing out the delicious soup.**



**DHUMC members enjoying their time spent at the event.**

# As you sing Psalms and Hymns

... and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts ... Ephesians 5:19



Our congregation was blessed to receive six new members during the worship service on February 22nd. Jane Todd, our Lay Leader, introduced the group to the congregation and Pastor Atkinson lead the congregation in receiving them into membership. (see below)

**Carol Thompson** became a member through profession of faith – as for everyone in a United Methodist congregation, Carol, along with the rest of the congregation professed our faith in God, our desire to live as disciples of Jesus Christ, and our commitment to join with our Drexel Hill UM

Church community to keep the vows of our Baptismal Covenant. Historically, United Methodist congregations expect from new members, and renew for themselves a promise to faithfully participate in the life and ministries of our local congregation through our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. **Carline and Antoine Janvier, Stephen Dyke, Millie Mintzer, and Malcolm Scott** joined making this promise.



The congregation welcomed them with the familiar promise:

*We give thanks for all that God has already given you  
and we welcome you in Christian love.*

*As members together with you  
in the body of Christ  
and in this congregation  
of The United Methodist Church,  
we renew our covenant  
faithfully to participate  
in the ministries of the Church  
by our prayers, our presence,  
our gifts, our service and our witness,  
that in everything God may be glorified  
through Jesus Christ.*

Following the service, everyone was invited to stay a while and greet the new members. Much warm conversation took place over coffee and a welcoming cake. We were able to get photos of the new members and look forward to posting them in the Narthex along with some helpful introductions. Photos by David Bjorkgren, Jane Todd, and Russell Atkinson

## **Welcome to Our New Members!**



**Malcolm Scott**



**Antoine and Carline Janvier**



**Millie Mintzer**



**Stephen Dyke, and Carol Thompson**



**Pastor Atkinson blesses the collected items.**

## **Undies for Epiphany**

Story and picture by Jane Todd

During the weeks of Epiphany, our congregation collected underwear for adults and children who are living in homeless shelters across the city of Philadelphia, where there is a real need for these items. The collection was blessed by Pastor Atkinson on the day of Transfiguration, February 15th. The donations will be delivered to Arch Street United Methodist Church's clothing bank, where we hope to also spend a bit of time helping to sort and fold clothes. Please let the Pastor know if you would like to help deliver the items.

# Events Around Our Community

## Administrative Council Meeting



The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Drexel Hill UMC Administrative Council will be on Monday, March 9, 2026. This meeting, which begins at 7:00 p.m., will be conducted on Zoom. Please be sure to check your email shortly before 7:00 for Pastor Atkinson's invitation to log

in to the meeting. If you aren't a member of the Administrative Council but would like to sit in on this meeting, please contact the church office either by email at [office@dhum.org](mailto:office@dhum.org) or by phone at [610-259-2104](tel:610-259-2104) and ask for your name to be added to the Zoom log-in list.

## Crafters & Fellowship Meetup

The Crafters gather in the Bohn Parlor on the third Wednesday of the month. Even if you do not have a craft or hobby project, you are welcome to come be with friends. If you would like to learn how to knit or crochet, we can get you started. If you have a skill you would like to share with us, please do so. We come in the side door on School Lane at 1:00 pm. If you arrive after 1:10 pm, please ring the doorbell and wait a minute or two until we come down the stairs.

Come join us on **March 18th!**





## Easter Plants Available

Easter Plants will be available again this year to help decorate the altar on Easter Sunday. Plants will cost \$10 each. Orders will be taken on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Please fill out the attached form in your Sunday bulletin on those dates and return it to the Church office or call the office for a form. The last day to purchase flowers will be **March 29<sup>th</sup>**.

## TuesdaysTOGETHER@dhumc

Our Tuesday night gatherings began in February and have been, in a word...excellent. Food, fellowship, and a discussion around the table. The extremely interesting book is *Your God is Too Small*, written by J. B. Phillips in the early 1950s, but no less relevant today. Maybe more. Come at 6:45 pm discussion; 6:00 pm for the meal, or all three if you can help, beginning at 5:00 pm, to help prepare the meal. We share cooking tips, simple techniques, and recipes!



# Nursery School News

Photos and News by Denise McCarthy & Jennifer Ryan

In March we will have fun with Dr. Seuss, learning about baby animals, and looking for signs of Spring. On St. Patrick's Day we will follow the leprechaun's footprints in hunt for a pot of gold. We will track the days of the month to see if they are a lion or a lamb day. The children are looking forward to coloring eggs and our classroom Easter Egg Hunt.

Registration is ongoing for the 2026-2027 school year. Please share with friends and family. We have availability in our three day, 3-year-olds class and in our four day, 4-year-olds class.

Nursery School will be closed **March 31 – April 6** for Spring Break.



**We're celebrating the Olympics!**



President's Day Fun!

## DHUMC Together In The Word

March into Spring with a visit to Together in the Word, Sunday mornings at 9:15 am in the prayer chapel.

The results of the Together in the Word Survey showed some preference/interest for meeting in a larger room. We may try meeting once or twice in the Bohn Parlor to see if that is

preferable. Plenty of advance notice would be given before doing so. Likewise, as warmer weather arrives there may even be opportunity to meet outside on extra nice days.

Happy St. Patrick's Day - March 17





## Happy Birthdays in March!

Here are a few birthdays to celebrate in the month of March! Please consider getting in touch with the following church members by regular mail or email to help them celebrate their special days. Let us know if your birthday is missing from our list by calling the church office or emailing Jane Todd at [janedt@verizon.net](mailto:janedt@verizon.net).

3/6 - Dan Matarazzo  
615 Rively Ave.  
Glenolden, PA 19036  
[dmatarazzo90@gmail.com](mailto:dmatarazzo90@gmail.com)

3/20 – Jane Todd  
174 Hoover Ave.  
Norristown, PA 19403  
[Janedt@verizon.net](mailto:Janedt@verizon.net)



**Carol Martsof using American Sign Language to sign the Doxology.**