

## More Than Survivors: What It Takes To Thrive Spiritually

During this series leading up to Easter we have looked at the lives of five special men and women of God who were more than Survivors. **These heroes of the faith teach us how to live if we want to spiritually thrive as people of God –as followers of Jesus Christ.**

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday our theme will be **fixing our eyes on Jesus and eternity with him.**

Come and celebrate the Good News 10:00AM Easter Worship Celebration and our 6:45AM Sunrise Service.

**Palm Sunday Worship** ~ MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup> -10:00AM



**PASSION Play According to the Gospel of Luke**  
*Choir Anthems and Hymns of Holy Week*  
*With Sunday School Children and Youth*



**Holy Thursday ~ Lord's Supper Celebrated**  
MARCH 24<sup>TH</sup> - 7:30PM

*We will host the Holy Thursday Worship Service.*  
*The Lord's Supper Celebration will be joined by the United Methodist Churches of Howell Township.*

**Good Friday Worship Service –**  
March 25<sup>th</sup> – 7:30 PM



*Service to be hosted by Church of the Master*  
*Joining with the UMC's of Howell and Farmingdale*



Sunday-MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup>

**Sunrise Service**

6:45AM - 1<sup>st</sup> UMC Meditation Garden

**Full Breakfast**

Following Sunrise Service (Free!) 7:15–9:30AM

**Easter Worship**  
**Celebration ~ 10am**

**EASTER EGG HUNT** AFTER WORSHIP





## Boy Scouts of America Troop #13

**January 8 – 10, 2016** -Troop 13 went to “Winterburg 2016” located at the Boy Scout Reservation in Forestburg, NY. This was an incredible weekend

**Klondike Derby / February 6, 2016** -Troop 13 participated in the annual Klondike Derby at Quail Hill Boy Scout Camp. Ten Scouts pulled a sled to 6 different skill testing areas. (*Camping, cooking, 1st aid, orienteering, knots / lashing, and team build*).

**Scout Sunday / February 7, 2016** -Troop 13 celebrated Scout Sunday here at the First United Methodist Church. A large number of Cub Scouts & Boy Scouts took part in Sunday Church Services in celebrating Scouting in America.

**Superbowl Sub Fundraiser / February 7, 2016** -The Scouts that are planning to go to Florida Sea Base in the Florida Keys had a terrific sub fundraiser. Sea Base is one of the 4 High Adventure Boy Scout Camps in the nation were the older Scouts plan to go by the end of this year. Scouts made over 120 subs.

**Philadelphia Day Trip / February 20, 2016** -Troop 13 visited the City of Philly Cheese stakes. We visited Independence Hall, Reading Terminal Market, Liberty Bell, and Mutter Museum.

**Blue & Gold Dinner / February 27, 2016** -The Cub Scouts – Pack 13 had their Annual Blue & Gold Dinner Awards Ceremony where the Scouts receive patches earned these past few months, a few skits from the Cub Scouts, and plenty of good food.

**Washington DC / March 4-6, 2016** -This will be Troop 13's 5<sup>th</sup> year in a row going to our nation's capital. We plan to visit of the monuments Friday Night (*Lincoln, Korean, Vietnam, WWII & FDR memorials*) On Saturday will be visiting the Capitol and then the Smithsonian Museums. Sunday, Troop 13 will have the honor of laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.

**Eagle Court of Honors** -Troop 13 will be hosting a Court of Honor for 5 Eagle Scouts this year: Ryan Cotta / Nick DeFranco / Kyle Etzel / Hunter Smith and Tommy Clayton. We are very proud of each of these Scouts on their achievement to the Rank of Eagle Scout.

Respectfully Submitted, Kevin Cotta, Scoutmaster, Troop 13

## SUNDAY MORNING ADULT SEMINAR 8:45AM IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

Our study on:

“FAITH LESSONS ON THE DEATH & RESURRECTION OF THE MESSIAH”  
continues through Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>

**We will begin a new 5-week series –  
“In the Dust of the Rabbi on Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>.”**

Faith From A Distance.



Do you ever feel like you are a follower of Jesus, but from a distance? **“Follow a Rabbi, drink in his words, and be covered with the dust of his feet,” says the ancient Jewish proverb.** In Jesus' day, disciples followed their Rabbi so closely that they would be covered with the dust kicked up by the Rabbi's feet. Come, discover how you can get dusty and be closer to your Rabbi, Jesus, by doing what he does.

Why Not Experience the Bible For Yourself?

Join renowned teacher and historian Ray Vander Laan as he guides you through the land of the Bible. In each lesson, Vander Lann illuminates the historical, geographical, and cultural context of the sacred Scriptures. Filmed on location in the Middle East, the Faith Lessons DVD series will transform your understanding of God and challenge you to be a true follower of Jesus.

Filmed on location at these biblically significant sites:

1. When the *Rabbi Says*, “Come” – Galilee
2. When the *Rabbi Says*, “Go” – Galilee
3. The Presence of God:  
( A Countercultural Community) – Priene
4. *Living Stones* – Priene
5. *The Very Words of God* - Didyma

Please note that special **Easter offering envelopes** have been included in this newsletter. This special offering will go towards our current expenses in order to support the life and ministry of congregation.

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>-10:00am

Program . . .

*“Master Gardners”*

*20 tips for a vegetable garden*

*All Women of the Church are Welcome*



## April Birthdays

5 <sup>th</sup>	Donna Thorn	16 <sup>th</sup>	Emily O’Neill
6 <sup>th</sup>	Danielle DeFranco	16 <sup>th</sup>	Molly Kirman
7 <sup>th</sup>	Norm Revere	17 <sup>th</sup>	Cheryl Matthes
7 <sup>th</sup>	Edward Smith	21 <sup>st</sup>	Scott Farry
7 <sup>th</sup>	Alaina Zigich	21 <sup>st</sup>	Verna Revere
9 <sup>th</sup>	Christian Zita	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Douglas Farry
9 <sup>th</sup>	Evan Zita	26 <sup>th</sup>	Daniel Cartagena
10 <sup>th</sup>	Melissa Hoff	26 <sup>th</sup>	Eric Tsakiris
13 <sup>th</sup>	Judy Schmidt	29 <sup>th</sup>	Jamie Warwick
13 <sup>th</sup>	Stephen Klein Jr.	30 <sup>th</sup>	Courtney Leno
13 <sup>th</sup>	David Vine		

## April Anniversaries

24<sup>th</sup> Andy and Kathy O’Neill

God gave us the gift of life;  
it is up to us to give ourselves the gift of living well.

## May Birthdays

1 <sup>st</sup>	Kimberly Nelson	16 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret Trupio
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Linda Dugan	17 <sup>th</sup>	Joe Zita
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Charles Tsakiris Jr.	19 <sup>th</sup>	Antonia Trupio
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Anthony Garcia	20 <sup>th</sup>	Cindy Smith
4 <sup>th</sup>	Luciano Catuogno	21 <sup>st</sup>	C. J. Cummings
4 <sup>th</sup>	Charles Kirman	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sarah Pearson
5 <sup>th</sup>	Ralph Andreen	24 <sup>th</sup>	Vivian Farry
6 <sup>th</sup>	Steven Reid	24 <sup>th</sup>	Shayne Zigich
7 <sup>th</sup>	Augusta Lewis	25 <sup>th</sup>	Katie Barnes
9 <sup>th</sup>	Judy Matthews	26 <sup>th</sup>	Patty DeFranco
12 <sup>th</sup>	Karen Lewis	26 <sup>th</sup>	Terry Van Benthuyzen
15 <sup>th</sup>	Brandon Pilecki	29 <sup>th</sup>	Nicholas DeFranco
16 <sup>th</sup>	Helen Megill		

## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

17 <sup>th</sup>	Mike & Colleen Foran
18 <sup>th</sup>	Bobbie & Danielle Riccardi
21 <sup>st</sup>	Glenn & Linda Dugan
25 <sup>th</sup>	Jack & Jody Branin
31 <sup>st</sup>	Tom & Jen Hoff



Sympathies go out to Terry Van Benthuyzen and family on the recent loss of Terry’s mom, Anne Van Benthuyzen-Layton.

Anne was a long time member and friend of 1<sup>st</sup> UMC. She will be greatly missed.

CHECK THE YOUTH BULLETIN BOARD  
FOR CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP  
OPPORTUNITIES



## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Tuesday May 17<sup>th</sup> -6:30pm

Program . . . *Your Memory*

Guest Speakers . . . *Rose Berger & Diana Rios from Meridian Health System*



*All Women of the Church  
are Welcome*

### CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Applications are available for the First United Methodist Church of Farmingdale's Scholarship program.

To be eligible for the program, a candidate must meet the following criteria:

- Be an **active** member of the Farmingdale First United Methodist Church.
- Be entering a **post-high school** educational program in the fall of 2016.
- Has **not** been a previous recipient of 1<sup>st</sup> UMC Scholarship.

If you meet the criteria above, please see Anne Willuweit to pick up your CD!

The deadline for submission is **May 8<sup>th</sup>**

JOIN US FOR OUR **FESTIVAL OF PRAISE**  
ON MOTHER'S DAY  
SUNDAY, MAY 8<sup>TH</sup> AT 10AM

---

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME IS SUNDAY MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup>  
REMEMBER TO CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD.

---



### LOOKING FOR ALL GRADUATES

If you are graduating from school — 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, High School, or College please call Anne Willuweit to let her know at 732-938-5585.

Anne is collecting information for the "Miracle Messenger"

Don't forget to pick up your Shop-Rite, or Shop 'N' Bag gift cards from Mike Kaufman on Sunday.

And at the same time you will be supporting the church.



## You're Invited!

Fellowship Luncheons

April 10<sup>th</sup>, May 8<sup>th</sup>

Immediately following morning worship

*All are Welcome*

If you would like to bring a dish to share please see Vivian Farry, Mike Kaufman or Dave Bahney

---

MARK YOUR CALENDAR TUESDAY, MAY 3<sup>RD</sup>  
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

A Letter of gratitude from Rev. Dr. Gina Hendrickson  
District Superintendent, at the Northern Shore  
The UMC of Greater NJ



Dear Pastor,

It is with deep gratitude that I write this letter to your congregation. I celebrate your faithfulness in paying your Shared Ministries at 100% in 2015. As United Methodists we are connectional and believe that together we can do more and better ministry. Your consistency in fulfilling 100% of your Shared Ministries means that we can continue to move forward with what God is calling us to do locally, nationally and globally!

Thank you for interpreting to your congregation the importance of this work. Please also share these words of gratitude as appropriate with your leadership and congregation. I echo Paul's words to the church of Thessalonica, "I always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in my prayers, constantly remembering before God your work of faith and labor of love and steadfast hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Thess.1:2-3)

Serving together with you,

*Gina*

**ANTHONY AND ANDREA JEAN MITCHELLI  
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**



The Anthony and Andrea Jean Mitchell Memorial Scholarship will be granted to at least one person each year who is a member of Farmingdale 1<sup>st</sup> UMC that is pursuing a life dream requiring advanced education. Persons at various stages of their education may apply.

Anthony and Andrea Mitchell were constituents of Farmingdale 1<sup>st</sup> UMC and were married in its sanctuary by Rev. Fowler. Their strong faith in God and appreciation for all his creation were evident in their lives & in their battles with cancer. Andrea earned her undergraduate degree from Rutgers University & she was greatly enhanced by learning the purpose of sisterhood as a member of Tau Alpha Phi Sorority. She learned leadership, understanding of others and compatibility and cooperation with others through her sorority and university experience. This experience served as solid ground work for achieving both a Masters in Computer Science and a Masters in Mathematics from the NJ Institute of Technology.

The A&AJM Memorial Scholarship wishes to encourage persons who are seeking to reach their dreams through advanced education to apply. To become a candidate for this scholarship, please submit a 250-500 word essay describing your dreams, goals and passion for life. Transcripts, letters of recommendations, letters of acceptance and other evidences of your commitments will also be valuable and helpful.

Please send all materials to: *Douglas Mitchell*  
*56 Maxim Drive*  
*Forked River, NJ 08731*

The deadline for submissions is June 30, 2016  
The scholarship(s) will be awarded in August 2016  
The decision of the committee will be final.