



Little Falls United Methodist Church

A Welcoming Community of Faith, Hope, & Outreach

Sharing Christ's Love Since 1825

Little Falls United Methodist Church | 139 Main Street | Little Falls, NJ | 07424 | 973.256.0993 | info@littlefallsumc.org | www.littlefallsumc.org

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THE PASTOR'S PEN

Belfry – August & September 2021

“²¹In him [Jesus Christ] the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²²And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.” (Ephesians 2:21-22)

Dear Church Family,

I hope you are doing well and safe in Jesus Christ all the time. Please keep taking precautions of Covid-19 because the pandemic hasn't ended yet, and recently, the number of new cases of covid is higher a little bit. You are in my prayers.

We are in the summer season, and it is a good time to relax. I hope you are having a good summer to relax and be refreshed. However, let us keep the faith in Christ and not lose our passion and commitments to God and the church by our presence, prayer, witness, service, and giving. As God is faithful to us all the time, let us be faithful to God all the time.

Also, the summer season is a good time to prepare ourselves for the fall season. We, as a church and individuals, are getting through the pandemic, and our ministry was limited. We are not sure about the situation in the fall, but the nation and society are trying to get back to normal, although it would be the new normal, as people said. As a church family, we also prepare ourselves for the fall season. We had a time to think about the post-quarantine church at the church forum in July. We shared our thoughts and wisdom and gathered ideas that we can try. Our

conversation will continue, and our effort to make the church more vital will continue.

I encourage you and ask you to work with us together because we can develop and improve ourselves for God's will and ministry when we work together. We are a church whose cornerstone is Jesus Christ. On the faith in Jesus Christ, we formed a church community, and on the cornerstone of Jesus Christ, we are being built together as a church community. God gives each of us our spiritual talents and gifts to use for God's will. God binds us together for God's purpose. Each one's power and strength would be weak, but God will make good and wonderful things through us when we work together with the same heart, God's heart. We can work together by our presence, prayer, witness, service, and giving. Let us worship God with grateful hearts. Let us study the bible through Bible study to see God's will and desire in our lives. Let us have conversations, share our ideas and thoughts about the church ministry, and make plans for the church ministry through the church forum. Let us participate in a ministry led by the church, UMW, each committee, and team. We need your help for God's ministry. Let's work together.

May God's peace and grace be with you!

Peace,

Pastor Jin



TREASURED MEMORIES

a place to share our grief

Grief comes in and out of our lives. It is hard to know how to handle our feelings and many times it can feel like you are the only one experiencing what you are feeling. Maybe you lost someone close to you by death or divorce or maybe a loved one received a tough diagnosis and is uncertain how to handle it. There are all stages of grief and it is important to know that you are not alone. There are people all around you that are experiencing the grief process. By sharing how we get through these tough times, we hope we can feel less alone.

When: Thursday, September 23

Time: 7:00 P.M

Where: Little Falls United Methodist Church (139 Main street, Little Falls)

**For more information or to register,
please contact**

Allison Smith

973-800-4152

IN OUR ST

MEMBER UPDATE

CONDOLENCES

Remember our friends in prayer, by cards, calling, and visiting the sick." (Matt 25:39).

ALTAR OF PRAYER

Our Bishop, Rev. Dr. John Schol and his family; Our Superintendent, Rev. William Willams III; Pastor Jin Kook Kim; Urban Promise in Camden & Malawi; CUMAC. For local police & fire companies; Enterprise #2, Great Notch, & Singac; Eagle Rescue Squad.

Prayers for all our senior citizens who are dealing with the challenges of aging.

HOSPITAL/ RECENT TREATMENT CONTINUING HOME RECOVERY

Melissa Downing; Rose Ziskin; Al and Norma Taylor; Ted Fischer; Gary Ziskin; Geraldine Carstens; Emily Van Biert; Dale Marsh; Debbie Krattiger; Ruth Petro

NURSING HOME/REHAB

Janis Meder (Alaris)

HOSPICE CARE

Jean Ketterer (North Bergen)
Carolyn Breecher (Cathy Gritmans sister)

REST IN PEACE

John Downing

MILITARY PERSONNEL

CJ and Terri Carrera (Marines); TJ Corchado (US Army); Shirley Juhlin's Nephews: Drew Caputo Master at Arms (Navy); Kevin Caputo Seaman Apprentice (Navy). We thank and remember all our veterans and their many sacrifices for us.

THANK YOU!

To the congregation for your continued support and donations of non-perishable food for our LFUMC Food Pantry Families. Your generosity is a blessing to many families every day!



AUGUST



August: Gladiolus

Named after the Latin word that means sword (the same root gives us gladiator!), gladiolus were worn by Greek warriors in battle to protect them from harm and death

— hence their symbolic association with strength and integrity.

Your personality: You're an intellectual who does whatever he/she can to succeed. You tend to find yourself in leadership roles at work, since like your flower, your strength and integrity are unmatched.



September: Aster

Greek lore says that asters, also a word for stars, were created by the goddess, Astraea, who wept when seeing too few stars in the sky — her tears then became the star-shaped flowers, asters. While Victorians associated the flowers with daintiness and patience, purple varieties are most commonly associated with wisdom and royalty.

Your personality: You're a bit of a perfectionist, but this shouldn't come as a surprise. Perhaps your need to have everything perfect is what makes you also a bit emotional. But hey, that's not a negative. In fact, that trait makes you a great communicator.



SEPTEMBER

- 8-Scott Fitzgerald
- 9-Alberta Landspurg
- 9-Alice Riggs
- 9-Kelly Ann Bruce
- 10-Leonard Romaine, Jr.
- 12-Christopher Miller
- 12-Margie Smarsh
- 13-Anthony Carpinelli
- 20-Michael J. Timms
- 25-Rachel Lewis
- 26-Valentina Carpinelli

- 4-Betty Caceres
- 5-Gert Miller
- 6-Emmalyn Tullo
- 7-Lynn Wielinga
- 9-Jeff Lewis
- 10-Ian Kim
- 15-Lillian Mae Lazarski
- 22-Rose Ziskin
- 22-Meredith Gleason
- 23-Sara Ketterer
- 23-Danielle Pruestel
- 25-Marilyn Downing
- 26-Madisyn Gonzales
- 28-Karen Broadfield
- 30-Matthew Ryan Mitchell

BUY SCRIP GIFT CARDS

July Actual – \$6,100
 July Profit – \$305
 2021 Total – \$44,955
 2021 Total Profit – \$2,197.75
 Projection - \$76,200
 Projection Profit - \$3,810



Thank you for supporting the church Scrip fund raiser during the pandemic. Many of you have called asking for Shoprite gift cards and we have delivered them to you, or you have picked them up at our house. Since in-person worship has been occurring, you can purchase scrip on Sunday mornings. If you would like Scrip, please call Janet or Pete W at 973-595-5765. If you order your groceries on-line the gift cards are an easy way to pay for your groceries. Our Scrip sales year to date are about the same as last year.

Ways & Means Update

Hello friends,

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, we were limited to our fundraising events. The health and safety of our congregation is most important. We look forward to hosting our indoor events in the future. Kohl's gift cards are available for sale. Gift cards can be used for purchases and paying your Kohl's charge. Cards are available in \$25, \$50, and \$100. The church receives 5% for every gift card sold.

Stay safe and hope to see you all soon!
 Allison

The next Ruth Lee meeting will be on Wednesday, September 22 at 4 pm.

SOCKS FOR SOULS



Do your feet get cold? Imagine in this heat walking on the streets of New York City barefoot. Lori continues to distribute socks every week. She tried to distribute shoes, but it did not work out so she stopped. She also picks up leftover baked goods from Panera's and distributes them with the socks. My niece and the homeless are grateful for your contributions to Socks For Soles. Please help the Unity Circle to provide new or gently used socks to the homeless. There is a constant need. Please drop off your socks in the large white sock in the Narthex.
 Thank you, Shirley

Ongoing Collection—UMW also collects postmarked stamps, can pull tabs, Box Tops for Education and the front of greeting cards. Items are donated to different charities and organizations.

Dear Friends,

The Finance Committee wanted to thank you for your incredible generosity over the past year. Over the next few months, we will find ourselves in a tough financial situation. Last year, we were able to get a stimulus check from the government which carried us through the end of the year. This year, the government is not issuing any stimulus checks for churches. The lack of this stimulus check will result in a shortfall in funds. We would greatly appreciate any additional funding you could provide. May God bless all of you during this difficult time. Sincerely, The Finance Committee

ANNUAL CHURCH FAIR DATE IS SET!

Our yearly Church Fair is set for Saturday, November 20 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Turn over a few pages on your calendar and mark it down. Plan to help and to tell your friends and neighbors all about coming for some wonderful shopping opportunities and staying for lunch. Our showcase tables will include Jewelry, Christmas decorations, Plants, Baked Goods, Christmas Ornaments, Gifts (new and almost new). We plan to serve our usual delicious lunch. If you have any ideas for a new table, etc., please contact Cathy Gritman 973-650-5608 or gritmanch@gmail.com.

More details will follow as the date approaches, but mark that date!

The image contains three promotional posters for church events. The left poster is for a Confirmation Class, featuring a person hiking in a field. The middle poster is for a Youth Group, featuring silhouettes of people with their arms raised. The right poster is for 'Kids for Christ', featuring a playground structure.

2021-2022 CONFIRMATION CLASS
 # Date: TBA
 # Confirmation Sunday: 10am, June 5th, 2022
 LITTLE FALLS UMC
 139 Main St. Little Falls NJ 07424
 info@littlefallsumc.org
 973-256-0993

THE EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL WHO WANT TO HAVE FUN, FOOD, AND ACTIVITY!
 YOUTHS, LET'S HAVE FUN TOGETHER!! ALL ARE WELCOME!
YOUTH GROUP FOR 5TH-12TH GRADERS
 LITTLE FALLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 139 MAIN ST. LITTLE FALLS, NJ 07424
 973-256-0993, INFO@LITTLEFALLSUMC.ORG

Join us! Let's have fun together!
"KIDS FOR CHRIST"
 A Friday Night Program for Children (K-5)
 Register on LittleFallsUMC.org
 Little Falls United Methodist Church
 139 Main St. Little Falls NJ 07424
 info@littlefallsumc.org 973-256-0993

Dear Church Family,

I hope you are doing well and safe in Christ all the time.

I would like to open a Confirmation Class in 2021-2022 for 7th or 8th Graders in the 2021-2022 School Year. Confirmation Class will help youths confirm their faith in God and begin their faith journey with the Holy Spirit's guidance. Youths will learn about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, Worship, Sacraments, Following Christ, and etc. Confirmation Class will begin in September 2021 and end on Pentecost Sunday, June 5. The exact time and dates for the class will be set after we discuss it together. The Confirmation Class is open to all 7th and 8th graders. Youths don't have to be church members. If your kid(s) want to join the Confirmation Class, please submit your contact information as soon as possible using the link: <https://forms.gle/e484ysdNvJh1Vdyy9> Also, please encourage your family, friends, and neighbors to join the Confirmation Class. If you have any questions, please email Pastor Jin, jkim@littlefallsumc.org

Also, I hope we restart the youth group in the fall. The youth group is for all youth (5th – 12th graders). The youth group will help youths to make a peer group and walk on a faith journey together. The exact time and dates for the youth group will be announced. If your kid(s) want to join Youth Group, please submit your contact information as soon as possible using the link: <https://forms.gle/2MbnSpgdu1EXEiuo9> Also, please encourage your family, friends, and neighbors to join Youth Group. If you have any questions, please email Pastor Jin, jkim@littlefallsumc.org

We will start 2021-2022 Kids for Christ activities in September 2021. The dates and time will be announced when they are set. In the meantime, please save 2 Fridays nights a month for Kids for Christ activities!

I am looking forward to seeing youths at Confirmation Class, Youth Group and Kids for Christ events!

God bless you!

Peace,

Pastor Jin

CHURCH FORUM UPDATE

Let's Work Together! Let's Make a Team!

“Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.” (1 Corinthians 15:58 NIV)

Dear Church Family,

We had another church forum on July 17. At the meeting, first, we reviewed the previous ministry ideas and saw the progress. Second, we talked about “The Post Quarantine Church.” based on the book. I want to share my reflections on the book. The keyword that I think is 'Direction,' the Direction of the church. What are we seeking, and what do we want to do? The author said that many churches try to serve only the church members much more than people in the community. He urged the church to serve the community and people in it to share God’s love with them and to make contact points with them. Jesus wants us to make disciples, and it is our goal and mission. We have to reach out to the people in the community, as Jesus’ first disciples reached out to the people to share Good News with them, and the apostle Paul went to the foreign countries to let them know God’s love towards others. Third, we talked about the possible ministries that can reach out to the community or make the connection point to the community. The list is here:

- A Welcome package for new residents – Giving out a welcome package to the new residents. The package includes the church information and local community information such as township, shops, restaurants, etc.
- Prayer ministry for the people in the community – Collecting prayer concerns and pray for them encouraging the church to pray together for them
- Parents’ night – Providing free childcare for 2 hours once or twice a month to make parents have their own time.
- A program for Mother and Baby (or Toddler) – “Mom & Me” programs such as yoga, Zumba, or other activities.
- Open the church building to the community – Providing a space to the community for a party or a meeting.

Would you lead or help any ministry on the list? We need your help to carry out the ministry. Would you please let me know if you want to lead or help any ministry on the list?

Also, if you have any ideas of ministry to make contact points, please share them with us. These two questions would help us think about the new ministry: What do you see the community needs? And what can we do to help the people in the community? You can email (jkim@littlefallsumc.org) or the church office (info@littlefallsumc.org) 973-256-0993.

Next Forum will be held at 10:30am on Saturday, September 18. Please join us and share your wisdom with us!

Church Family, let us work together for God’s ministry. May God’s grace and love be with you!

Peace,
Pastor Jin



United
Methodist
Women



Members of the UMW have enjoyed the summer with the monthly "Parking Lot Picnics & Socials". Our next "Picnic" is scheduled for Sunday, August 8th, 11:20am. Join us for lunch, devotion, and fellowship- all women of the church are invited to attend. We are asking attendees to bring a donation for the school supplies collection. We hope you will join us!

The UMW is currently collecting school supplies, which will be donated to both Oasis and CASA. The deadline for donations is Sunday, August 22nd. Donations can be dropped off on Sundays during Worship Service or during church office hours- Tuesday thru Friday, 10:00am-1:00pm. For more information, please contact Janet Dewes: (973) 896-8936 or ladyteddy@aol.com. Thank you in advance for your donations and for participating in the annual collection.

Save the Date: Saturday, September 18th

The UMW is looking into participating in the Little Falls Town Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, September 18th as a way to raise funds to further support the UMW's mission work. Due to COVID, we were unable to hold any fundraisers in 2020 and most of 2021. The yard sale will hopefully help us as a fundraiser that doesn't rely on donations solely from UMW or church members. We will be collecting items for the sale during August and September. More information will follow.

Also coming up in September: Circle meetings should resume! Stay tuned for more information!

**Enjoy the rest of the summer- stay cool, stay well, stay safe,
and don't forget to take care of yourself and each other. God Bless!**

UMW

Parking Lot Picnic & Social

Join us on **Sunday, August 8th**, following Worship, approximately 11:30

Bring a lawn chair, your own lunch, and a donation for the school supplies collection for OASIS/CASA.

♦All women of the church are invited♦

We'll gather on the church's side lawn, weather permitting. If it is too hot or raining, we'll meet in Fellowship Hall.

Enjoy a **self-provided lunch**, a short devotion, fellowship and the opportunity to reconnect & share with one another!

We hope you will join us!!

Oasis & CASA

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

This year, we will be dividing the school supplies between two non-profit organizations:

Oasis- a Haven for Women and Children

+

Passaic County CASA
(supports children in the foster care system)

By purchasing school supplies, we can send children back to school ready to learn and grow in September!

Donations must be made by Sunday, August 22nd!

If you'd like to make a monetary donation, please see Janet D.

OUTREACH - ANNOUNCEMENTS

AmazonSmile Program

Are you shopping at Amazon.com? You can support the church choosing Little Falls UMC as your charity organization! All service of Amazon including prices will be the same and Amazon will donate us 0.5% of your purchase. Please choose Little Falls UMC to support the church ministry! Would you encourage others to support LFUMC, sharing this message with them?

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com (smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. You can choose from over one million organizations to support.

Please choose Little Falls UMC as your charity organization at [Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com). All services of Amazon including prices will be the same and Amazon will donate us 0.5% of your purchase.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-1568146>

**Thanks for supporting the church
and to God's ministry!**

CHURCH WIDE YARD SALE

I would like to thank everyone for making the Spring Yard Sale a success. We could not have been successful without the help of everyone. Donations were great. We had enough volunteers setting up and helping to sell the items and we had plenty of help cleaning up. We also enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared by Pastor Jin. Our profit was \$680. It was a great event. It was great being able to see each other and work together again. Our 1st fundraiser after a crazy year was great because we love and support our church and each other. Thank you. Allison

Little Falls UMC Supports Local Food Pantry and CUMAC

The Little Falls UMC maintains a food pantry to serve the local community in conjunction with the food pantries at other churches in Little Falls. The Little Falls UMC pantry distributes food for approximately 750 meals to families in the local community. In addition, members of the Little Falls Church continue to donate food to CUMAC along with items for their Thrift Shop. Through LFUMC food donations, more than 1,400 pounds of food is delivered to CUMAC, to help every year, in feeding the larger community.

Suggested Food Donations:

All Non-Perishable Items, but especially canned vegetables, peanut butter, jelly, adult/children's cereal, pasta & sauce, instant potatoes / rice, tuna, chicken, fruit, apple sauce, juice and granola bars.

*Thank you for your ongoing participation
in this local outreach ministry!*

CHURCH LEADERS

- ◆ Board of Trustees, President - **Shirley Juhlin**
- ◆ Church Council Chair - **Cheryle Mitchell**
- ◆ Church Council Secretary - **Beth Billig**
- ◆ Co-Sunday School Superintendent - **Bethanne Strippoli**
- ◆ Co-Sunday School Superintendent - **Kathy Flannagan**
- ◆ Finance Chair - **Marilyn Downing**
- ◆ Financial Secretary - **Carol Miller**
- ◆ Information Technology Committee - **Peter B. Dewes**
- ◆ Lay Leader - **Lynn Wielinga**
- ◆ Outreach Chair - **Lynn Wielinga**
- ◆ PPRC, Chairperson - **Peter W. Dewes**
- ◆ Treasurer - **Marilyn Meder**
- ◆ UMW, Co-President - **Lorraine DeCaprio**
- ◆ UMW, Co-President - **Melissa Downing**
- ◆ Ways & Means Committee - **Allison Smith**
- ◆ Worship Committee Chair - **Janet Dewes**

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to Cedar Grove Elks #2237 for their continued donations to our Food Pantry.

Please support them whenever possible!



**LITTLE FALLS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
139 Main Street, Little Falls, NJ 07424