



The Steeple

February 2025



ASH WEDNESDAY

Again this year, we will be joining Faith UMC on Ash Wednesday March 5. As always, the two choirs will join together to make beautiful music. This is always a treat for both groups, as we appreciate singing with our friends.

PRE-LENT CHALLENGE

Would you like to do something to help your church? Bring a ream of white paper for the office. Let's see if we can make a tower of paper by Ash Wednesday. If you would like to send a check, we will purchase the paper and add it to the tower.

FROM OUR LAY LEADER

Here we are, hanging between Christmas and Easter. It's cold, the world is bare, and even though the days are getting longer, it's still a dark time of year. It's about this time I start longing for spring, with its renewed life, longer and warmer days, and the reminder that life and death are intertwined.

The world has seen some tragic events that feel apocalyptic to me. Floods in places expected and unexpected, fires burning to the ground places that never expected such a crisis, volcanoes erupting for the first time in centuries, tornadoes tearing troughs of devastation, plane crashes that seem impossible, and wars that seem to grow like the California wildfires. I don't know if this is a prelude to the return of Jesus, but anything is possible. Be ready. Always be ready.

What's my point? There are things we can control, but most things we cannot control. What we can do is be kind to all things living. We can provide food, clothing, shelter to man and beast. We are all in this together and we can choose to help or hinder. Our attitude is one thing we totally control, and it is the basis for our outlook on life. Blaming a bad attitude on outside people or circumstances merely says we are allowing ourselves to be controlled.

Let's move toward Lent, which begins with Ash Wednesday on March 5, working to make our corner of the world a better place. Small things come together to make a change. Pick up a piece of trash that isn't yours. Check on your neighbor. Let somebody go ahead of you in line. Give a compliment. Give another compliment. When you have a nice thought about someone, let them know. Little things mean a lot. See how many little things you can do and watch the results.

Stay warm, watch for spring, do good things. I'll join you.

Mary Lou

Pastor Hwang Heo
Email: pastor@UMCSouthHadley.org
Office hours by appointment.

Ann Felsentreger, Secretary
Church office: 413-532-0500

Worship Sunday 10:00 a.m.
e-mail: office@UMCSouthHadley.org
Web site: UMCSouthHadley.org



Shepherd's Pie & Brownie Trifle

Grab & Go

February 21 5:00 to 5:30 p.m.
\$12.00

Menu: **Shepherd's Pie Bun**
Brownie trifle Beverage



To order: call: 413 532-000
text 413 695-1212

email: office@umcsouthhadley.org

Include your name, phone & number of meals

Notify us if anyone in your party has a food allergy.



THANK YOU

“Secret Santa”

There are not enough Thank You's to give you for helping some of our families.

One family I delivered to, the mom started crying just knowing she had something to give her two children. When I went to her door all they had was a felt tree on the wall. We sometimes don't know how blessed we are to have a Secret Santa. Thank you.

From Judy DeLong, Granby to Go

MARK YOUR CALENDAR ALL WELCOME

Join us after worship join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee and...

February 11: 6:00 p.m. Council & Trustee meeting in Pastor's office & on Zoom

February 12: 9:00 a.m. UWF in Fellowship Hall

February 21: 5-5:30 p.m. Grab & Go meals

February 23: Casseroles for Kate's Kitchen are due.

February 28: 5:30-8 p.m. Free! Movie night, hot dogs & popcorn.

March 5: AshWednesday

Sundays: 11:00 a.m. Choir rehearsal

11:30 a.m. Bell choir rehearsal



CELEBRATION, CONCERNS & MORE



PRAY FOR:

Carol Brunelle, Beth Dietz, Tim O'Donnell, Kathy Washburn, Lily Marion, Darlene Dout, Heidi Barta, Renata Cournoyer, Kevin McLaughlin, Jerry Rubackin, Jim Anspach's Family - parents, Gene & Rene and Uncles Earl & Tom Anspach, Mark Felsentreger, Anna Dunlap, Scott Shippey, Barbara Granger, Billy Clark, Robert Dout, Family of Tim O'Donnell, Family of Bill Beyer, Pastor Hwang & Family, Sage Marion-Patrano, Edgar & Maria, Lisa Barnes, Our Church.

THE CASSEROLES FOR KATE'S KITCHEN ARE DUE FEBRUARY 23



Thanks to all who helped 8 casseroles were delivered in January to Kate's Kitchen. Thank you to Carol & Tom Deren for delivering the casseroles.

Everyone is invited to help.

All are invited to **join the United Women of Faith** on February 12 at 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Kathy will lead us in devotion and Lois will be hostess.



WILD FIRE RELIEF At this point, people are encouraged to pray and give money to what will be a very long recovery process. You can donate money through our church to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to support the church's response to the fires and other U.S. disasters.

The Altadena United Methodist Church in Altadena, CA district superintendent Gilliam surveyed the damage in hard-hit Altadena and said the pastor, Rev. J. Andre Wilson, and his wife, Heather reminded him that while the building is gone, the true church lives on. Gilliam has heard much the same sentiment from the church's members.

"They still have this incredible spirit of faith and trust in God, even through this devastation," Gilliam said. "They still believe God can take something tragic and bring something good out of it."





On Friday, February 28 at 5:30 p.m. relax with us in Fellowship Hall with hot dogs, pop corn and a movie.

Bring the family.

Bring friends.

It's all free.

Is there a movie you would like to see? Let the office know.



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Return address service requested.

