



The United Methodist Church of Port Washington

February 2018 – Newsletter

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Dear Friends, Sisters and Brothers in Jesus Christ,

One very interesting thing about the church is that we have this season when we contemplate death, the “not to be” part of the famous Shakespearean question. We begin this season with smearing ashes mixed in with olive oil on our foreheads and remember that we are dust and to dust we will eventually return. This season is in a striking contrast with what our culture strives to promote. Most of what we see in ads and hear in commercials these days is about how *this* very diet or *this* very set of exercises or *this* very combination of vitamins or *this* very medical procedure or *this* very career or educational route will help us avoid insignificance or unimportance, or that we can age more gracefully and remain youthful, healthy, and attractive as long as we “consume” the advertised product or at least, for as long as “humanly” possible. But then on the other hand, we have God, God who willingly becomes human, “Emmanuel” – God with us and one of us; God who lives a short and at times even inglorious life; God who goes through a great deal of human suffering; God who dies an extremely painful and disgraceful death on a cross, a Roman instrument of torture and humiliation. – We aspire to that what is lasting, beautiful or comfortable, all the while God’s Son Jesus makes his home in that what is broken and incomplete.

Lent is a time for us to give some thought to this striking contrast. It is also a time for us to think about the questions of identity, the questions of who we are and of what it is that we need to do. The season of Lent challenges us with the most difficult matters out there. Will this church be faithful and follow in the footsteps of Jesus, whom it professes as its Savior? Will these pastors be faithful and follow in the footsteps of Jesus, whom they profess as their Savior? Will you be faithful and follow in the footsteps of Jesus, whom you profess as your Savior? It is as simple as that: We all are Christians, we all believe in God, we all profess Jesus as our Savior – but what kind of a Christian will you and I choose to be?

We will soon enter the season of Lent, again. Let this be a new beginning for each one of us. Jesus has done the hard part for us. We have been empowered and gifted by his Spirit. We have the ability, the responsibility, and the duty to take this privilege to live a disciplined Christian life, a life that speaks of God’s kindness and of God’s all-encompassing love. May ours be not just the words, but the holy commitment honoring the promises that we have made in God’s presence.

In Christ’s love,

Pastor Romi

Brothers and sisters in Christ, hospitality hour volunteers are needed. It does not have to be difficult or expensive. Keurigs are in place and members are encouraged to bring pods. A coffee cake, cookies and grapes are the simple route and very manageable for most.

Please see Diane Burton or Susan Oliva for help or questions, or sign up with a friend!
Thank you!

Check out our new website!

www.umcpw.org

Podcasts of Sermon, blogs, and upcoming events.



www.facebook.com/groups/umcpw/

A note from our Children's Ministry:

We begin a new year setting high hopes and expectations for ourselves and each other. Much discussion has ensued about our pageant and its positive impact at Church. We are now working on another Sunday school event for Easter Sunday during the 10 AM service.

Our children's choir is beginning to resume the Sunday morning 9 AM children's choir practice. The children's choir will be sharing their gifts on Palm Sunday, as well as Easter Sunday. You can anticipate the children's choir doing something special on both Mother's and Father's day as well.

With confirmation classes beginning with Pastor David in March, we have already begun to talk with our confirmands about the learning process and our commitment to service.

Our acolytes and call to worship readers have been present and reliable, and working well at supporting each other's work.

Despite some spotty attendance during the cold month of January, classes have continued, as well as the nursery school. Much of the month has been devoted to listening to God and trying to discern God's will in each of our lives. To contribute to Black History Month, some Sunday school students will be reading prayers inspired by and written by African American Christians.

We are hoping that all Sunday school families will plan on being at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner on February 13 and receiving ashes on Wednesday, February 14.

As some of you may already know, we have our new website up and running at our original web address, <https://UMCPW.org>. When you have some time, please take a look. We have already added some new features:

- [Sermon Podcasts](#), where you can listen to a sermon you may have missed on your Computer, phone or tablet.
- ["From our Pastors - Blog"](#) An opportunity to share insights with our new pastors.
- Join our Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1408259235935038/>
- Leave us your review on Yelp: <https://www.yelp.com/biz/united-methodist-church-of-port-washington-port-washington>

We sincerely hope you will like what you see, and, if you do, please share this with a friend. Please let me know if there is something you would like us to add or change. *Regards, Doug Weston*

Holy Communion takes place once a month on the 1st Sunday of the Month. All are welcome at the Lord's Table.	Bible Study on the Gospel According to Mark is taking place on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am in the Parlor. Pastor Romi is leading this Bible Study.	February Birthdays 1-Claire Blumberg 8- Dick Tomppert 10-Peter Harkness 13-Michael Marmor 15-Alison Peraza 19-Wesley Brower 27-Charlie Bernroth
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Contemporary Worship update – The offering in the month of January went to the Sandy Hook Promise, a group advocating for gun violence education. \$10 was also given to every person present to go and “do something good” and be the presence of God in someone’s life.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Boy Scout Sunday:** February 11 at 10:00 am
- **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper:** February 13 in Fellowship Hall. Everybody loves pancakes so start your Lent with sharing a meal with your church family.
- **Ash Wednesday:** February 14. A worship service with imposition of ashes will be offered in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm. Ashes will be also available in the Sanctuary all day -- Pastor David or Pastor Romi will be in the office between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm, as well as between 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm if anyone would like to pray.
- **Laundry Love:** February 15, between 5:30 pm and 9:00 pm. If you have any questions or would like to participate, please, talk to Maureen Peraza.
- **Lenten Soup, Bread & Book Study:** On Wednesdays February 21, February 28, March 7, March 14 and March 21 from 6-7:15pm we will share a simple meal in the Parlor while participating in a Lenten book study. Come nourish your body and soul.
- **Theology on Tap:** Join us on Thursday February 22, March 22, April 26 and May 24 at 7:00 pm, Finn MacCool's, for conversations about faith and life. All are welcome. If you have any questions please talk to Pastor David.
- **Church Council Meeting:** February 27 at 7:30 pm
- **Confirmation Classes** will be offered on a weekly basis starting on Sunday, March 4 after worship. If you are interested or have any questions please talk to Pastor David.

Disciple to Disciple Training

- Long Island East District of the NYAC -

Saturday February 10th @

Westbury UMC

Please RSVP to Nancy Fogg at (631) 366-2396

Or liedistrict@nyac-umc.com

There is no cost to this event!

8:30 – Gather & Refreshments

9:00 – Opening Worship – DS Julia

10-11:45 – AM Sessions

Finance – Conference Staff

Trustees – Rev Carole Paynter

SPR – DS Julia

Mission/Disaster Resp. – Rev Tom Vencuss

11:45-12:15 – Break

12:15-2:00 – PM Sessions

Lay Leadership – Rev Constance Pak

[Leadership Ministry Manual in the Local Church]

Prayer – Rev Marjorie Nunes

Pastoral Care by Laity – Rev Penny Gadnizi & Rev.

Bob Leibold

Family Ministry – Rev David Collins

SUMBISSIONS FOR THE MARCH NEWSLETTER

NEED TO BE TO PASTOR DAVID BY FEBRUARY 26!

The UMC of Port Washington
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