The High Spire

Newsletter for Members and Friends of Towson United Methodist Church

November 2026

The Youth Group has been busy recently! They had fun at the Beachmont Corn Maze; they served at the Ronald McDonald House, and they painted the porch of a neighbor in need!

Towson United Methodist Church : towsonchurch.org : 501 Hampton Lane, Towson, MD 21286 : 410-823-6511

Pastor: Rev. Stephanie Roberts White Director of Music Ministries: Christopher Kiser Business Manager: Kim Ayres

Director of Audio Visual Ministries: Malachi White Family Ministries Coordinator: Lissa O'Donnell

CDC Director: Lisa Roberts Facilities Attendant: Bob Ashby Business Assistant: Debra Beck

Sermon Series

November 8 - 22

“It Will Be Like This”

We’ll take a deep dive into Matthew 25 where Jesus tells us “the Kingdom of Heaven will be like this.” What does Jesus mean by that? What is God telling us today? What does the Kingdom of Heaven look like now? And in the future? These challenging stories will call us to think about what is important to and for God’s kingdom.

November 8: Matthew 25:1-13
“Keep Awake”

November 15: Matthew 25:14-30
“Enter the Joy”

November 22: Matthew 25:31-46
“You Who Are Blessed”

manna House

Mission of the Month

For 50 years, Manna House has been serving the poor, down-on-their-luck, and homeless nutritious breakfasts. Since 2012, that service has been continuous seven days a week, 365 days per year. During this time and after breakfast, they try to connect clients to services they need (such as case management, toiletries, clothing, healthcare, etc.), all with the goal of improving circumstances in a significant way.

If you would like to financially support this organization, you can give by clicking here. Click "give securely here" and open the "Fund" drop-down menu, then select "mission of the month."

Youth Group Schedule

Sunday school at 9 AM in the youth room!

Sunday November 1: 11:30-12:30
Join the church for a Friendsgiving Feast!

Sunday November 8: 11:30-12:30
Rescheduled lunch and discussion on Spiritual Gifts.
Young Adults are invited to join us as well

Sunday November 15: 11:30-2:00
Lunch and Submarine Survival Escape Room!

Sunday November 22: 11:30-1:00
Volunteer for either Hanging of the Greens or the Children's Advent Workshop

Sunday November 29
Happy Thanksgiving! No Youth Group

Advent Workshop
Sunday, November 22 immediately after worship

Children and their families are invited to celebrate Advent with activities including cookie decorating, games, arts and crafts! Lunch will be provided. ***Please consider dropping off any of the following items so our Towson UMC kids can make nativity scenes! Items can be dropped off in the Youth Room by November 22, 2026:***

- Graham Crackers
- White Icing (spreadable or squeeze bottles)
- Red and Green icing
- Coconut Flakes
- Mini Pretzel sticks
- Gumdrops M & M's
- Sprinkles
- Mini marshmallows
- Chocolate chips
- Red and white peppermints
- Teddy grahams

Hanging of the Greens
November 22, after worship

While the kids are busy, teens and adults are invited to help with Hanging of the Greens! We would appreciate all the help we can get to get the church ready for the Advent and Christmas seasons! Just show up -- no need to register. Lunch will be provided!

Step Away Crafting Day
November 14; 9 AM - 4 PM

Join us in God's Crafting Studio (room 310) to enjoy free time crafting! Pick up that project you put aside "for another day." The Sew Blessed team will provide a tasty treat. All are welcome! Stay all day or drop in for part of the day!

Would you like to share pictures from church events? Please send them to Pastor Stephanie! We would love to share the fun!

Brown Bag Book Club
November 8, after worship

Bring your own book and lunch for a thought-provoking discussion of the best-selling book *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson.

To deepen your study, click here to pick up tickets for Goucher College's annual Robert & Jane Meyerhoff Visiting Professorship Series featuring a lecture by Bryan Stevenson on November 19 at 7:30 PM.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make Trunk-or-Treat a success!

We gave candy to over 130 children!

Towson UMC Food Pantry

November 14, 9 - 10:30 AM

If you are in need, please come! You'll receive perishable and non-perishable groceries. Plus, there will be coffee and fellowship!

If you are able to help, please consider placing the following donations in the sharing bins in the lobby of the church: cereal, Chunky Soups, soups 10 oz., ground coffee, tea bags, canned chicken, beef stew, chili, canned ravioli, granola bars, oatmeal packets, and toilet paper.

Music Ministry Opportunities

Handbell Choir rehearses
Wednesdays from 6:15 - 7:15 PM.

Chancel choir rehearses
Wednesdays from 7:30 - 9:00 PM.

Genesis Ringers (beginning handbells) rehearse Sundays from 3 - 4 PM.

Children's Choir rehearses
Sundays from 4:15 - 5 PM.

For information about all of our musical opportunities, contact our Director of Music Ministries, Christopher Kiser, or visit the music page of our website.

The Holiday Brass Concert at Cathedral of Mary Our Queen

December 1, 2026; 7:30pm

The 23rd annual Holiday Brass Concert, will feature music of the season for brass and organ, familiar carols, and the "Highland Cathedral for bag pipes, organ and brass". Brass players from the National Capitol Region's orchestras and Military Bands will be joined by Saint Paul's Concert Chorale and soprano, soloist Ms. Kelli Young. special guest SFC Katie Thigpen, Trombone U.S. Army Band Pershing's Own.
Tickets are just $27 per ticket. If interested, contact Ginny Foster for these discounted tickets.

Annual Church Charge Conference

November 7; 9AM
at Hiss United Methodist Church
If interested in attending, please email **Pastor Stephanie**.
The agenda and all paperwork will be emailed to all interested.

Operation Christmas Child

This year, we are getting geared up for Operation Christmas Child early. We hope to hit a goal of 150 shoeboxes! You can find the accepted list of items and pick up a box from the foyer of the church. We will collect boxes beginning Sunday, November 15. You can bring boxes on Sunday before or after worship, or you can drop them off during the week during normal business hours. Our final collection day will be Sunday, November 22. During worship, we will pray a prayer of blessing and thanksgiving over the boxes. After worship, they will be taken to the OCC distribution site, so it is important that all boxes are turned in by the end of worship on November 22!

House of Ruth Blanket Making Party

November 15 following worship

The Hospitality Committee and church volunteers will put the finishing touches on dozens of fleece blankets (which will be precut) for the House of Ruth. Hope you can come down to the Fellowship Hall to lend a hand. No previous experience or sign up needed! This is an easy and meaningful craft and mission. *The more, the merrier!*

Check out their website to learn about the great work they do in supporting victims of domestic violence.

Cards for Caring

Pick up good quality greeting cards for all occasions in the lobby every first Sunday of the month before and after worship for only fifty cents each!

Thursday Bible Study -- 11 AM -- room 216

A discussion of the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church

November 5 - read pages 33 - 58

Books are available in the church office.

Advent Study begins November 12!

God's Surprises for the Christmas Season by Susan Robb

November 12 - read the intro and chapter 1

November 19 and 26 - no class

December 3 - read chapter 2 December 10 - read chapter 3

December 17 - read chapter 4

Books are available in the church office for $12.

No class December 24 or 31.

Our Hampton Lane Child Development Center has been having a great time this fall! They got to ride a school bus to the Firehouse Museum on October 9 and had a great time trick-or-treating on October 30!

On October 25, Christopher O'Donnell blessed the congregation with his beautiful testimony of perseverance and survival. Christopher shared how his experience with Young Life helped his relationship with Jesus to grow, which, in turn, helped him to overcome some of his anxiety and fear. We are so proud of Christopher's willingness to share such a personal story with others! If you missed his testimony, you can find it here.

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www.towsonchurch.org : 410.823.6511

Happy Thanksgiving!

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in faith so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Romans 15:13

Hampton Lane Child Development Center
410.825.0009 hamptonlanecdc.com