



OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.

# The Methodist Chimes

February 2018

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

*“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.” - Luke 6:27-28 (NRSV)*

Last month, I began writing about the three General Rules for righteous Christian living which Methodism’s founder, John Wesley, put into place to guide the small groups of Christians he was shepherding in the Methodist movement in 1700s. January’s focus was on the first Rule: “Do no harm.” This month, we turn our gaze to the second Rule: “Do good.”

“By doing good; by being in every kind merciful after their power; as they have opportunity, doing good of every possible sort, and, as far as possible, to all.” – John Wesley, as quoted in 2016 Book of Discipline, ¶104.

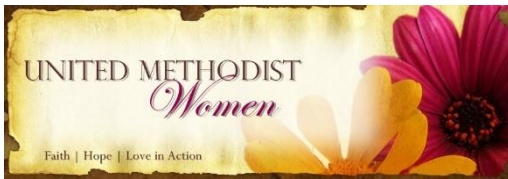
“Do good.” This Rule is fairly simple to understand. We should endeavor to always act in ways showing love and respect for the other, just as we would have the other treat us. In every circumstance, I attempt to choose the path of doing good. Note that this is a more proactive stance than that required for the first Rule, “do no harm.” For in order to “do good,” I must boldly commit to seeking good in every situation, and take action on that do-gooder impulse.

The tricky part is that both our biblical text and John Wesley are clear that doing good extends to everyone, no exceptions. This means that I am commanded to “do good” even to those who I would rather avoid, those who mean to do me harm, those who reject my good intentions and actions, and those who are my enemies. Here is where John Wesley himself acknowledged struggle to conform. He reflected in his Journal that doing good to an enemy required having “the image of God fresh stamped on the heart; an entire renewal of the mind in temper and thought, after the likeness of [God]....” In order to achieve this oneness with God, we especially need to practice the third General Rule, which we will learn more about next month.

We live in a culture that directly contradicts the command to “do good” to anyone other than ourselves. Living a “do good” way means putting oneself in opposition to the ways of the world; this is our Christian challenge. Swinging to an extreme, there is danger in taking the injunction to “do good” too far. There is a difference between healthy sacrifice for others and unhealthy self-denial. What are the boundaries of “doing good?” This is why being part of a group that holds one another accountable is so important. Remembering that we are each created as God’s beloved is important. We can only truly follow these General Rules when starting from deep knowledge of our belovedness in the eyes of God.

As I write this, we are but a few days away from the beginning of Lent on February 14th, which traditionally is a time of repentant introspection and a renewed focus on righteous living in the life of Jesus followers. Perhaps reflecting and practicing Wesley’s General Rules can be a part of your spiritual practice during the upcoming season of Lent. I pray that each of us, with the support of the congregation, can strive to “do good!”

Peace,  
Pastor Nikki



## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Our Days 4 Girls project is continuing on Wednesday nights at the church at 6 PM. Please join us in making personal kits for the girls in countries that do not have the conveniences that we do. The redemption of cans and bottles is providing funds for the Days 4 Girls project. So far, we have raised over \$90 and it is much appreciated that the donations have been empty and clean! Donations may be left in the bench at the door to the Educational Wing.

Our next United Methodist Women's meeting is scheduled for February 26 at 6:30 in the church lounge. Plan to join us. All women are welcome. Please call Joan Murray if you would like a ride, 845-758-5189. Monthly meetings are educational and fun. We experience a lot of fellowship. In addition, we always have delicious refreshments.

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## FOOD PANTRY AND WEAVERS

All are Welcome Here. The Pantry provides food to residents of the Red Hook School District regardless of citizenship or immigration status. We are not a government agency. We do not collect nor share information about immigration status. We protect your personal information and do not share.

The Food Pantry is having a meeting on Thursday, February 1st, 6 pm at the church. This is an open meeting, anyone is welcome. The Food Pantry is looking for a name! As we grow out into the community, we would also like to evolve a name to reflect that. We will still have the same goals of feeding the Red Hook Community, but we would like to grow more community involvement. How about "Feed the Need Food Pantry", or "Hand to Mouth Food Pantry" or "Community Cares Food Pantry"? Have an idea? Let us know!

I am happy to report that in 2017 our Food Pantry served 4,619 individuals. This breaks down to; 1,058 children, 651 seniors, and 2,924 adults that make up 1,581 families in our community. The totals for December 2017 alone were 455 individuals, comprised of 104 children, 55 seniors, and 296 adults or 148 families in our community.

The next Food Bank delivery is on Tuesday, February 20th.

**Visit us on Face Book at <http://www.facebook.com/h2mweavers>**

### Help Wanted

**\*\*Food Pantry Assistant- Must enjoy helping our community\*\***

- Ability to work one Sunday a month from 11:30 thru 2:00pm
- Set up food for distribution
- Occasional bending / lifting

**All applicants contact, Janice Williams (845) 750-3057**

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*Food Donations* are always welcome. To set up a drop off time; call the office (845) 758-6283 or Janice Williams (845) 750-3057



## CHURCH STREET NURSERY SCHOOL

There are several openings in our Pre-K program  
Contact Ashley Boulde for information at

845-

758-6282

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### Mid-Week Lenten Schedule for the Red Hook Area Council of Churches; All services at 7pm



February 14 - Ash Wednesday

St. John's Reformed Church; Pastor Nikki Edleman

February 21

St. Christopher's & St. Sylvia's Parish; Rev. James Miller

February 28

St. Paul's Episcopal & Trinity Parish; Rev. Dr. Eric Titus

March 7

St. John's Reformed Church; Pastor Nikki Edleman

March 14

St. Paul's Lutheran Church; Fr. Patrick Buckley

March 21

The United Methodist Church; Rev. Masud Syedullah

# February Calendar

RED HOOK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WENESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Lent Begins with Ash Wednesday, 2/14</b>				1	2	3
4 Choir 10am Worship 10:30am Food Pantry 12:30-2p	5	6	7 Trustees 7p  Weavers 7-9p  Days 4 Girls 6p	8 Council Meeting 6p Bible Study 3- 5p Woman's AA 6p Choir 7p	9	10
11 Choir 10am Worship 10:30am Food Pantry 12:30-2p	12	13	14 <b>Lent Begins Ash Wednesday</b>  Membership Committee 2p Weavers 7-9p Days for Girls 6p	15 Bible Study 3- 5p Woman's AA 6p Choir 7p	16	17 <b>Holy Cow Spaghetti &amp; Meatball Dinner 4:30-7:00 \$9 per person 5 and under Eat Free</b>
18 Choir 10am Worship 10:30am Food Pantry 12:30-2p	19	20 Food Bank Delivery	21 Weavers 7-9p Days for Girls 6p	22 Bible Study 3- 5p Woman's AA 6p Choir 7p	23	24
25 Choir 10am Worship 10:30am Food Pantry 12:30-2p	26 UMW 6:30	27	28  Weavers 7-9 Days for Girls 6p	<b>2/17 Holy Cow Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner, 4:30-7:00 \$9 per person, 5 &amp; under eat free. Proceeds go to Church Missions.</b>		

"I call on you, O God,  
for you will answer me;  
give ear to me and hear my prayer."  
(Psalm 17:6)



## **PRAY FOR**

Our Pastor and Our Entire Congregation.  
All of the NYAC Staff Cabinet.

Our Ministry and Churches around the World, the Sick and those who continue to care for them, those who give their lives for our Country and who protect us every day.  
All people, animals and communities of the world as God created them.

## **THOSE OF SPECIAL NEED OF OUR PRAYERS**

District Superintendent Betsy Ott and Family, The Family of Ruby Allen, Bobby Armstrong, John Bamford, Jane Bier, Donna Marie Blanche, Jean Bleibtrey, Carol Boeck, Ken Bonal, Pat Brammer, Kathy Browne, Pete Buhler, Linda Cebrian, Christine Chadwick, Mark Chenkus, Roger Clark & Family, Debbie Corston, Family of Chad Currier, James Cushman, Sebastian Garber (Melissa's son), Kay George, Pastor Paul & Gloria Gingrich, Cindy Herman & Family, Haley Hines, Georgia Johnson, Ron Jones, Peter Kane, Sandy Kane & Family, The Family of Ralph Keeler, Susan King, Suzanne & Caroline Kraczor, Paul Lacey, Kathy Lunger, Regina Lunger, Dorothy Marion, Lis McCaffrey, Rick McGhee, Patrick McLaughlin, Barbara Melzer, Ed Meyer, Melissa Moore & Family, Jane Morgan, David Muller, The Family of Beth Lou Muth, Caleb & Grady Nelson, Helen Newkirk, Keith Niver, Lois Niver, Zoe Niver, Donna Orlando, Carl Pack, Mike Pardoe, Ron Parker, Joyce Riffenburg, Jack "Jay" Sundheimer, Nancy Titus, Skip Tremper, Ruth Van Vliet, Bev VanVoorhis, Taylor Van Voorhis, The Van Voorhis Family, Anna Weih, Mary Lou Williams,  
Rev. Bill & Marianne Wolf

## **IN JESUS' NAME WE PRAY**

To add or remove anyone from our Church Prayer List, contact the Office at  
845-758-6283, [redhookumc@umcchurches.org](mailto:redhookumc@umcchurches.org)



## **THE POWER OF PRAYER**

To use our Prayer Chain call Joan Murray 758-5189, Joan Morrison 758-5375 or Betty Tabor 758-9011 with your prayer request. Our prayer chain is always completely confidential and separate from the Church Prayer List, unless you would like to be on both.

## **PASTORAL CARE VISITS ARE AVAILABLE ROUND THE CLOCK**

Contact Pastor Nikki Edelman directly at 845-546-3260  
or by email: [nedleman@hotmail.com](mailto:nedleman@hotmail.com)

# Holy Cow Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner

Saturday Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>

4:30-7:00



\$9.00

3 and Under  
Free

All You Can Eat  
Holy Cow  
Desserts!!

Take Out  
Available

4 Church Street

Red Hook United Methodist Church

Money to go towards Church Missions

# Red Hook United Methodist Church

## Monthly Chimes February Edition



Pastor Nikki Edleman  
Secretary Melissa Moore

Monday 9-11:30am and Saturday 3:30-6pm  
(845) 758-6283, [redhookumc@umcchurches.org](mailto:redhookumc@umcchurches.org)

[www.redhook.umcchurches.org](http://www.redhook.umcchurches.org)

[www.facebook.com/RedHookUnitedMethodistChurch](https://www.facebook.com/RedHookUnitedMethodistChurch)