



Dear Friends in Christ,

It was a privilege to attend the 2026 Greater New Jersey Annual Conference as the lay member representing Morristown United Methodist Church. Alongside Rev. Luana Cook Scott and hundreds of United Methodists from across our conference, I participated in several days of worship, prayer, legislation, conversation, and discernment centered around the words of Isaiah 55:6: “Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near.”

One of the things I appreciated most this year was the hopeful and forward-looking spirit throughout the conference. Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi spoke passionately about the church’s call to discipleship and challenged every local church to intentionally form disciples of Jesus Christ in the coming year. She also emphasized that the conference would not simply issue that challenge, but would help resource congregations in that important work.

I took special note of the report of the committee on episcopacy (like PPR for the bishop). It was upbeat, thorough and almost joyful. The first time I attended Annual Conference I went as a monitor for the Committee on Status and Role of Women and we were making a record of how many times women spoke (from the floor or from the podium) and whether they were treated with respect. The number of women leaders and speakers was small and vestiges of the “old boys’ network” were visible for all to see. Compare that to today, two years into the term of our first female bishop and a much more even division of women and men speaking and participating. We have plenty of work still to do with respect to people across the whole gender spectrum, and across race, first language and ability, but I was reminded that God (and the Conference) have been at work over these years and am encouraged to expect God’s continuing work to bear fruit as well.

The conference also passed several pieces of legislation addressing both practical and justice-centered concerns, including:

- A new parental leave policy for clergy families
- A domestic violence response policy
- Amendments to the Journey of Hope process
- Updates to Safe Sanctuary and Sexual Ethics policies
- The formation of a Commission on the Status and Role of Queer People
- Ongoing work related to closed church properties and faithful relationships with Indigenous communities and descendants of the first peoples whose land the church now occupies

Although much of Annual Conference focuses on reports, legislation, and organizational work, I continue to value the opportunity to gather with Christians committed to prayerfully discerning how the church can better reflect God’s love and justice in the world.

Grace and peace,

Harriett Olson



ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2026



FOUNDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE: SPRING & SUMMER PROJECTS AT MUMC

Beginning in June, there will be two major facility improvement projects designed to fortify our existing infrastructure and support a key partner in serving the Morristown community.

Organ & Chamber Wall Repairs

As part of the Rooted & Reaching Initiative, masonry repairs will address long-standing water leaks behind the organ that have damaged both the wall and the instrument. To complete the work, the organ pipes will be temporarily removed, and the organ will also receive needed maintenance and restoration.

Project Timeline: June 15 – End of August (Note: Dates subject to change.)

- Organ pipe removal: Week of June 15
- Masonry work begins: Week of June 22
- Pipe reinstallation: July 27 – August 6

Sanctuary painting: Week of August 17

During construction, expect scaffolding in the choir loft and chapel, along with possible temporary worship format adjustments.

Children on the Green Upgrades

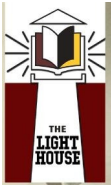
Summer renovations at Children on the Green daycare will include classroom and kitchenette improvements, water cooler upgrades, and updates to four bathrooms on the first and second floors.

Project Timeline: June 8 – July 24 (Note: Dates subject to change.)

Dumpster and storage pod arrival: June 8

Construction period: June 22 – July 24

Please note that six parking spaces will be reserved for construction equipment, and weekday construction noise and occasional planned water shutoffs are expected.



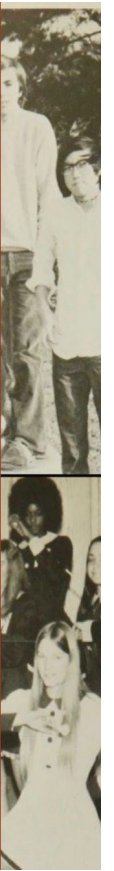
THE MORRIS MERGER LIGHTHOUSE EXHIBIT

SCHOOL INTEGRATION &
NJ'S HISTORIC
SUPREME COURT DECISION

MORRISTOWN UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
50 PARK PLACE
MORRISTOWN, NJ
MAY 29, 30, 31

MAY 29, 2026@7PM:
PANEL DISCUSSION
RISE UP: WHEN
COMMUNITIES FIGHT BACK

FREE EVENT



school supply drive

This summer we are again supplying school supplies for nourish.NJ families.

We have committed to supplying

10 BACKPACKS

filled with specific items for nourish.NJ clients.

We will be bulk purchasing items, so we are asking for monetary donations. Each backpack costs \$85 to purchase and fill with supplies.



Place your donation in the offering plate (indicating School Supply Drive) or donate online by **JULY 12.**



PRAISE AND WORSHIP NIGHTS

PRAISE GOD WITH SINGING!

Sing a variety of contemporary and classic praise and worship songs.
Sing. Praise. Listen.
All are welcome!

FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2026

7:00 PM



UPCOMING DATES
FRIDAYS AT 7PM

JULY 10
AUGUST 7
SEPTEMBER 18

MORRISTOWN
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
50 SOUTH PARK PLACE
MORRISTOWN, NJ



Spring into Giving Results

324 lbs. donated !!

We have collected 1,689 lbs. toward our goal of 3,000 lbs. donated to Interfaith Food Pantry by Thanksgiving.



Summer Pop-Up Choir

Beginning May 31st, and on most summer Sundays, we'll gather in the Sanctuary at 10:00am for an informal warmup/rehearsal (come as you are – no robes!) to prepare a simple Musical Offering for the 10:30am service.

This “Pop-Up Choir” is a great way to test the waters without an ongoing commitment. If you sing in the shower or in your car, we invite you to give it a try.

Please email John Liepold (jliepold@morristownumc.org) for more information.

Summer Musical Offering



Try it, You'll Like It!



United Women in Faith

faith

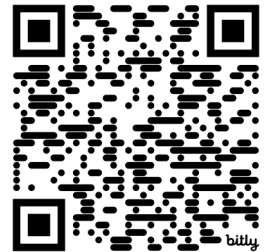
action

sisterhood

Call for Scholarship Application - Deadline June 1

Attention: Senior high students, graduate students, technical school students. The MUMC United Women in Faith group would like to recognize your service as a MUMC member with an academic award (scholarship) to help with expenses for the upcoming academic year. A brief application is available in which you can introduce yourself, with your interests, activities and thoughts for the future. Applications need be submitted by June 1, and an announcement of awardees will be done in June. For more information, please contact Leslie Raff, UWF co-president, laraff3@aol.com.

Access a PDF of the scholarship application at: <https://bit.ly/uwfscholarship> or scan the QR code.



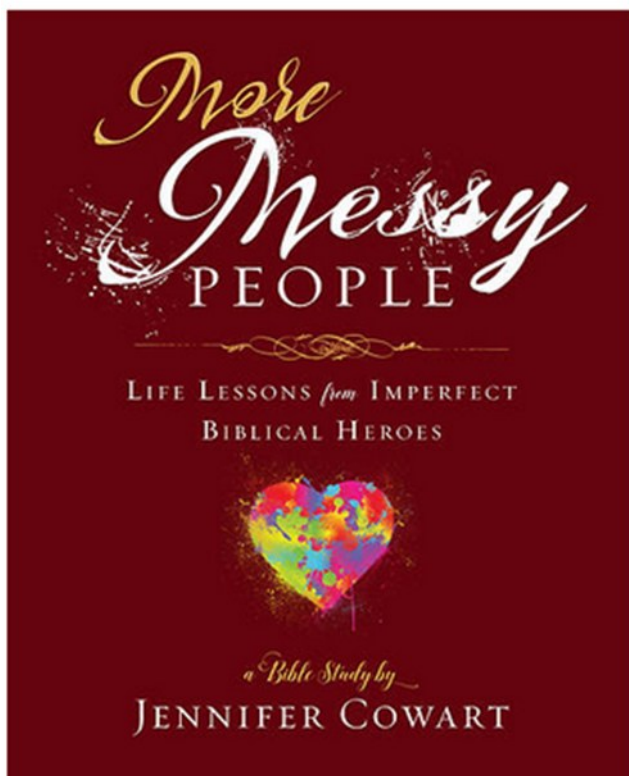
*Micah 6:8 .." And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."*

Adult Sunday School

led by Sue Puma Vance, May 31, June 7, June 14

God can use imperfect people to do incredible things. Jen Cowart continues her study of the very messy lives of biblical heroes—people who, like us, made mistakes but found God was able to use them in powerful ways. They all play a significant role in the biblical narrative, but their stories are far from perfect. Through the lives of rival sisters like Leah and Rachel, or sisters with very different personalities like Martha and Mary, we see God chooses to use people who don't have it all together. Through the lives of great, but imperfect, biblical heroes like Moses, Elijah, Peter, and Paul, we see God meets us in our troubles and chooses us even if we seem unqualified.

You are invited to join us. Each Sunday at 9:15 in the Wesley room. No advanced prep is necessary. Each presentation is designed to be stand-alone, so if you have to miss a class, you will still get a lot out of each session.





**DIVERSITY COALITION
OF MORRIS COUNTY**
Connecting People to Celebrate Diversity

DIVERSITY DAY CELEBRATION
Sunday, June 7, 2026 from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM

BUILDING COMMUNITY. BRIDGING DIVIDES.

ON THE MORRISTOWN GREEN

Thank you to our sponsors



Hosted by the Diversity Coalition of Morris County
LEARN MORE AT WWW.DIVERSITYMC.ORG

ABOUT THE EVENT

Visit with various religious, ethnic, and cultural groups that make up our community!

The day consists of an Interfaith worship Service at 1:00pm, which is open to the public.

The **FREE festival** begins at 12:00pm, with **display tables** to visit with local organizations, **free food, prizes** and **multicultural talent** throughout the day, ending at at 5:00pm.

FESTIVAL: 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. | INTERFAITH SERVICE: 1:00 p.m.

WHAT IS THE DIVERSITY COALITION OF MORRIS COUNTY?

We are a non-political coalition of faith-based community organizations and individuals who live, work, and serve in the greater Morris County area. We share the common belief that all people should be treated with dignity, respect, and understanding.

PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY PARTNERS INCLUDE

Atlantic Health, Bethel AME Church, Autism NJ, Boy Scouts of America (Patriot's Path Council of Scouts), Calvary Baptist Church, CASA of Morris & Sussex Counties, Centrobiblico of Ne Jersey, Church of God in Christ for All Saints, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Church of the Redeemer, Commission on Voluntary Service and Action, Cohome, Congregation Adath Shalom, Congregation B'Nai Israel, Cornerstone Family Programs & Neighborhood House, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Dover-Randolph Quaker Meeting, Empower the Village, Empty Bowl Zendo, Islamic Society of Basking Ridge, MAKOMNJ, MAYO Performing Arts Center, MLK Observance Committee, Morris County Human Relations Commission, Morris County Prosecutor's Office, Mt Freedom Jewish Center, Morris School District, The Morris County Sheriff's Office, Morristown & Morris Township Library, Morristown United Methodist Church, Morristown Jewish Center, Nourish New Jersey, Presbyterian Church in Morristown, Randolph Peace, NAACP Morris County Branch #2902, National Council of Jewish Women-West Morris Section, New Jersey Division of Civil Rights & Division of Criminal Justice, Seton Hall University, NJ Association of Black Educators, Sound of Success, Table of Hope, Temple B'Nai Or, Unitarian Fellowship, RAMP (Refugee Assistance Morris Partners), Wind of the Spirit, Women in Unity

PO Box 387, Mendham, NJ 07945

Dawn
into
Darkness

by Rupert Holmes
New York, NY



PIONEER PRODUCTIONS

MUSICAL HUSBANDS

Music by FRANK
Lyrics by CHARLEY K

MERRILY

• WE ROLL •

Along

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY STEPHEN SONDHEIM
BOOK BY GEORGE FURTH
BASED ON THE PLAY BY GEORGE S. KAUFMAN
AND MOSS HART
DIRECTED BY DOUG MCLAUGHLIN

MUSICAL DIRECTOR — HANNAH COMIA
CHOREOGRAPHER — ERICA STUPLER
STAGE MANAGER — JENNIFER ELIZABETH COOPER

JUNE 19 – 21
JUNE 26 – 28
2026

FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS AT 8 PM
SUNDAYS AT 3 PM

Morristown Methodist Church
50 South Park Place Morristown NJ

TICKETS AT PIONEERPRODUCTIONSCOMPANY.ORG



June 27th
Sunday Young
People's

During this worship service, planned by the young people of MUMC, we will be:

**Awarding UWF 2026 Scholarships,
Celebrating 2026 Graduates,
and Blessing the 2026 ASP Mission Trip**