

AUGUST 2019

# B.J.U.M.C. TOWER BELL

Believers Joyously Unified in Mission with Christ



A monthly publication of:  
BISHOP JANES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
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Basking Ridge, NJ, 07920  
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## **FOREWARD:**

Our Communications team met earlier this month to discuss how we can continue to provide meaningful communications to the church, without a communications director. For immediate news, we have committed to doing weekly updates of our webpage, and to maintain an active presence on social media. We will continue to do weekly mid-week minute emails, which will be predominately a reminder of upcoming events. Once monthly, we will publish the Tower Bell, which will serve as a full newsletter to the congregation. We hope this meets the communication needs of the church, as we see this plan as sustainable. If you would like to volunteer to be part of the communications team, please see Pastor Matt.

## A WORD FROM PASTOR MATT:

Peace and Grace to you!

I have now been the pastor here at BJUMC for about a month, and as I reflect upon the last month of ministry I am in awe at how the Spirit is working in this church. Everywhere I look I see so many gifts, and people eager to use them to serve God and their community. I am reminded, everywhere I look at the diversity of gifts our community is blessed with. This also brings to mind the diversity of needs both within our church, as well as our community at large. 1 Corinthians 12, reads:

<sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup> Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup> If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup> But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup> If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many members, yet one body. <sup>21</sup> The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” <sup>22</sup> **On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect;** <sup>24</sup> whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup> that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup> If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

I give thanks for the many blessings in our church, the people who do the little things that go on without notice, the people who prepare the fellowship hall for events, who put on family nights, who volunteer to assist in the service by running the A/V equipment, be ushers, or liturgists, those who do home visitation to the homebound members of our community, those who drop off cookies anonymously with no name, those who send cards to each other to uplift and support, those who do service projects like weeding the gardens around the church, fix our air conditioning, or clean up after events, those who run our webpage or social media, those who lead small groups, and many many more. Our church is blessed with many people each bearing their own spiritual gifts. Let us rejoice with the fullness of the body of Christ within our church, as we continue to strive to live as the body of Christ here on earth. It is a joy to be in ministry at this church, and I am grateful for the opportunity to continue to get to know this community and worship together!

As we move into this fall, let us consider which gifts we have which are not being used. What are the needs of this community? How can we best use our gifts to meet the spiritual, emotional, social, and physical needs of Basking Ridge?



# ALL CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, September 8 at Pleasant Valley Park

Plan on joining the fun at our church picnic September 8 at Pleasant Valley Park's picnic pavilion area (3405 Valley Rd., Basking Ridge), immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service - approximately at 11 a.m. Come to church in your picnic attire!

This is a wonderful time of fun and fellowship for all, and a great way to welcome Pastor Matt, to reconnect with friends after the summer, and to celebrate the start of the new school year!

Hamburgers/hotdogs/condiments and drinks will be provided. Please bring your favorite appetizer/or side dish, salad, or dessert to share. If your last name begins with A-I, please bring an appetizer/ or side dish, J-Q a salad, and R-Z a dessert (all to serve 8). Remember- No Nuts Please!

RSVP chosen food items to Sonja Ryan ([sonjaryan@hotmail.com](mailto:sonjaryan@hotmail.com) ) or 908-421-7974. Questions- email or call Sonja or Janet Kaefer ([jbkaefer@optonline.net](mailto:jbkaefer@optonline.net)) or call 908-221-0556. Bring lawn chairs if desired!

Hope to see you there!





## Spiritual Development Small Group Schedule

Fall 2019

The Small Group ministry at Bishop Janes offers a wide variety of activities in three broad areas; Mission, Fellowship; and Spiritual Development. At our Fall Kickoff on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> we'll provide a complete listing of all of the available activities spanning our areas of ministry. Everyone is encouraged to join one or more of these groups. As part of our Knowing God ministry area we are offering a number of programs this fall in the area of Spiritual Development:

- **September 15th – October 6<sup>th</sup>** - Adult bible study on Forgiveness. This DVD based program was developed by Adam Hamilton and will be offered on four Sundays after worship.
- **October 13<sup>th</sup> – November 10<sup>th</sup>** - Adult program on Evangelism which is a core component of Stewardship. This program will be held on Sundays after worship.
- **November 17<sup>th</sup> and November 24<sup>th</sup>** you are invited to explore a variety of Spiritual Disciplines. These practices help us grow in our faith in God and open us up to the blessing that God provides. Some examples include; walking a Labyrinth, practicing forms of meditation, and reading Scripture in a structured and contemplative way.
- **December 1<sup>st</sup> – December 22<sup>nd</sup>** will be a Church-wide Advent Bible Study. This program will be offered at several times during the week and all are encourage to join a group as we prepare for the joy of the Christs birth.

We are always in need of teachers so if you are willing to share your gift of teaching with the church, please contact Kevin Dresely as [ddresely@comcast.net](mailto:ddresely@comcast.net).



## **Small Group Gatherings with Pastor Matt:**

Have you had a chance yet to meet with Pastor Matt in a small group gathering in the home of one of our congregants? These meetings are intended to provide an opportunity for Pastor Matt to meet with members of BJUMC in an informal, small group setting so that he can get to know us, our hopes and our concerns. This information is valuable for Pastor Matt and will help him formulate his ministerial goals and objectives. If you haven't attended one of these sessions yet, sign up on the poster in the Narthex, or contact Paul Cargo ([cargoph@aol.com](mailto:cargoph@aol.com)) for more information.



# Book Group

If you like to read and discuss books, join the BJUMC Book Group. It meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month, September-November and January-May, at 7:00 p.m. in classroom 3/4. Members suggest which books are discussed- all types and genres are considered. New members are welcome! Contact Janet Kaefer at [jbkaefer@optonline.net](mailto:jbkaefer@optonline.net) for additional information. Some members meet at The Ridge restaurant at 5:30 p.m. prior to the meeting. If you want to join this dinner on September 11, please RSVP to Janet (via e-mail above) by September 11 at noon. The books for the fall are listed below (with review of the September book.)

**September 11, 2019:** Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens (led by Barbara Kleinert)

#1 New York Times Bestseller

A Reese Witherspoon x Hello Sunshine Book Club Pick

"I can't even express how much I love this book! I didn't want this story to end!"--Reese Witherspoon

"Painfully beautiful."--The New York Times Book Review

"Perfect for fans of Barbara Kingsolver."--Bustle

For years, rumors of the "Marsh Girl" have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. Sensitive and intelligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home, finding friends in the gulls and lessons in the sand. Then the time comes when she yearns to be touched and loved. When two young men from town become intrigued by her wild beauty, Kya opens herself to a new life--until the unthinkable happens.

Perfect for fans of Barbara Kingsolver and Karen Russell, Where the Crawdads Sing is at once an exquisite ode to the natural world, a heartbreakingly moving coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder. Owens reminds us that we are forever shaped by the children we once were, and that we are all subject to the beautiful and violent secrets that nature keeps.

**October 9, 2019:** Clementine: The Life of Mrs. Winston Churchill (led by Liz Elliott)

**November 13, 2019:** A Piece of the World by Christina Baker Kline (led by Barbara Conca)

# FALL GOLF OUTING NEWS:

It's 10 weeks until our big golf outing on October 14!! We have had many verbal commitments as well as monetary payments already, thank you all for that, but there is still plenty of work to do to ensure our fund raiser is successful. The attached flyer has much of the general information, but here are some more specifics:

**Golfers needed:** We are committed to the golf course to pay for 18 foursomes. To date, we have about half of that minimum verbally committed. Please ask your friends, family, neighbors, co-workers to join us for the day of golf. Groups of less than 4 are fine, we will combine people to make foursomes. All levels of golf are welcome, the format is a "scramble", which means the group plays the hole off the best shot of the 4 people. *This is our biggest need to ensure a successful fundraiser*

**Raffle Prizes/Goodie Bag items:** All golfers will receive a "goodie bag" on the day of the outing. What's in that goodie bag is up to us. Typically, they are company marketing items, ranging from hats, logo golf balls, tees, towels, and other golf items, pens, sample/trial size items, umbrellas , etc., you get the idea. Please check with your employers to see if they can donate any items that we can use as giveaways. We would need around 80 of the items to provide to the estimated amount of golfers.

Raffle prizes would generally be larger in nature than the goodie bag items. This would be things you would see at a tricky tray event, baskets with common items, store/internet gift cards, golf paraphernalia , trips, golf outings, technology items. Larger valued items, such as golf experiences , use of rental properties, etc, can be live or silent auctioned off to generate greater income from the event.

Please consider what you can donate to the goodie bags and raffle prizes

**Hole Sponsors :** This is our easiest fund raising aspect of the golf outing. Your name, family name, company, or whatever else you want to be displayed, will be made into a sign and planted at one of the holes on the golf course for everyone to see.

**Dinner:** For those who do not, or cannot golf on that day, feel free to join us just for the dinner portion of the event. This will also be when we will have the raffle/auction. For the golfers, the cost includes dinner already.

Again, please pass around the flyer to people you think will be interested in either golfing, donating, or both. There are flyers at the church on heavier stock paper that you can also display around town at various businesses that you may frequent. That will also get the word out to non-church members. We have set up a special email for the golf outing, [bjumcgolfouting@gmail.com](mailto:bjumcgolfouting@gmail.com), if you or anyone else has any questions about the outing. The email box is also the best way to submit your registration form.



youth programming coming this fall! We met with some of your parents earlier this summer and have a vision. Once we finalize some details we will be advertising some specifics, and schedules for events. Youth group will generally meet weekly, following the school calendar.

**YOUTH ACTIVITIES:** If you are a youth who is active in community or school events, and would like to let our church know, please contact the office or Pastor Matt. Our church would love to support you, so please let us know when these events are!

**IGNITE YOUTH CONFERENCE:** Registration for the Fall IGNITE Youth Conference is available now. You can check out information on this event at [www.ignitenj.org](http://www.ignitenj.org). We would love to coordinate a group of youth to go together, so please let Pastor Matt know you are interested, so we can make group arrangements. This is an amazing event full of wonderful speakers, music, and worship over three days in the fall. We hope you can come!

**Plays in the Park:** Friday, August 9th at the amphitheater in Pleasant Valley Park. Starts at 8:00 pm (however, we usually go earlier in the day to "reserve" a spot). Runs about 2 1/2 hours.

**Outdoor Games & Movie Night:** Monday, August 26th at the Johnsons, 133 Madisonville Road. Come at 7:30 pm to set up chairs and blankets. Don't forget your bug spray! We will provide water and popcorn, bring favorite movie candy to share.

**YOUTH GROUP** will begin the week after the fall kickoff picnic. Keep your eyes and ears peeled for information about the