

# New Covenant UMC Newsletter

January 2021

## Words from Pastor Althea V Jackson

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Dear friends and family of New Covenant United Methodist Church:

By now you've probably heard it said to you many times, Happy New Year! Certainly, after the year we've been through happy is not such a bad thing. The new year is a time for beginning again. It is a moment where we can, as the Apostle Paul said, "forgetting those things which were behind and moving ahead we press towards the mark of the high calling in Christ Jesus."

But I want you to hear from me on behalf of our church family: **Happy New Year!** It is a time to begin again. The new year is like a reset button. You press it and you get to begin again. There are some things we will never forget: the loss of loved ones; the loss of that

thing we called normal; the births; the weddings; the kindnesses we experienced. And we should never forget the bitter for the sweet, but let them be mingled together in this thing we called life in this season.

Since we are beginning again, I would like to invite you to some new ways to be in community together. The custom within the United Methodist Church has always been to have a moment to renew our covenant both with Christ and with each other. There is a service of covenant renewal that we follow as Methodists. In this time between the new year and lent I invite you to share a journey with me examining our covenant that we made when we became members of the United Methodist Church. It is a study called

one faithful promise. We will remember and honor those membership vows taken when we first began our journey. It is a five-week study that will culminate in the whole church celebrating the renewal of our covenants with Christ and one another.

The format for the Wednesday time together will be slightly changed. The focus will be more on study of scripture. We will still have an opportunity to pray for our community for our families and for our nation. I invite you to a time of study and growth in our relationship with Christ and each other.

I pray that God will bless you in this New Year more than you can think or imagine,

**Happy New Year!**

*Pastor Althea*

### "One Faithful Promise"

#### A 5 week study led by Pastor Althea

Wednesday Night Study and Prayer at 5pm via Zoom beginning January 6, 2021

##### Weekly Topic:

Week 1: Confide in God

Week 2: Compose Your Spirit

Week 3: Claim the Covenant

Week 4: Choose Faithfulness

Week 5: Connect to God in Prayer

"One Faithful Promise: The Wesleyan Covenant for Renewal" by Magrey R. deVega

- The book is available at the parsonage. Stop by to pick up a book or call the office to have a copy delivered to you.
- E-Book is available for Kindle and Nook
- Can be purchased from Cokesbury

The Wednesday night class will be recorded and uploaded to our website, Facebook, and WhatsApp.

## COVID-19 surge renews call for vigilance

**February  
Newsletter Deadline  
January 25, 2020**

**Send articles to Deb  
Glassey at  
glassey50@comcast.net**

**Excerpt from UMCatalyst Weekly Newsletter December 15, 2020**

A recent surge of COVID-19 in one of our churches in Penobscot County Maine (Katahdin District) is one example of the increase in positive cases we are seeing all over New England. It also highlights the need for even greater vigilance to halt the spread of the virus and continue to reduce everyone's risk.

During this spike in COVID-19 cases, the Conference Re-Entry Team reminds everyone across the Conference that it is best NOT to gather in person

If you are meeting for worship in a closed room (no open windows or doors), the virus can spread. At our church in Penobscot County, all the positive cases were people who were sitting 6 feet apart (in family groups) on the same side of the sanctuary.

### CALENDAR

Sunday Worship 10am  
on Zoom weekly

Wednesday Study 5pm  
on Zoom weekly

Every Tuesday 5-  
&Thursday 5:45  
To Go dinners pm

Thur Jan 14 7pm  
Finance Com. on  
Zoom

Sat Jan 16 Church 10am  
Council on Zoom

Monday Jan 18 8:30  
Food box delivery am

Thur Jan 21 snow 7pm  
date for Finance

### New Covenant United Methodist Church Web Page

<https://www.newcovenant-umc.org>

- Church calendar is up to date and available on the website.
- Sunday Services and Wednesday Studies are recorded and posted on the site.
- Conference Newsletter and other messages are available on the site

### Finance Corner

Luke 1:37 For nothing will be impossible with God (ESV)

The finance committee wants to thank all those who have sent in their pledge cards. If you have not sent yours in, please prayerfully consider what God is directing you to do pertaining to your giving to the church. God is asking you to trust Him when you make your commitment and will see you through.

We appreciate your continued faithfulness. Please remember to either drop off or mail your completed pledge card to the church.

Thank you,

The Finance Committee  
Diane Rousseau, Chair

### ZOOM LINKS

#### Sunday Worship

<https://zoom.us/j/94840127856>

For audio only, Dial

1 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 948 4012  
7856

#### Wednesday Study

<https://zoom.us/j/93281675267>

or Dial 1 929 205 6099  
Meeting ID: 932 8167  
5267

#### Committee Mtgs

Link will be sent by Chair  
or you can contact Chair



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