



Island Heights United Methodist Church

111 Ocean Avenue P.O. Box 146

Island Heights, N.J. 08732-0146

Church: 732-929-0444 Fax: 732-929-1271

Parsonage: 732-929-0445

The Reverend Blair Goold, Pastor

Pastor's Letter ~ September 2016



Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.

Proverbs 16:3

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, and all of God's blessings to our church family here at Island Heights UMC. What an amazing summer it has been for Joan, Rebecca and me as you have warmly welcomed us into the community. We delightfully come alongside you in your journey of faith, and look forward to the work God has laid out for all of us. The Holy Spirit is moving in Island Heights, and excitement is building as we move into the fall and begin to plan our mission work for 2017.

But first, we have reasons to celebrate. In July we collected and sent a special offering of \$1249 to help the flood relief in West Virginia. Greater New Jersey Bishop John Schol wrote to me, "This is a tremendous gift. Please thank your people on my behalf."

The Food Pantry is now serving twenty-five clients, which includes 33 adults and 35 children. As part of that mission we will assemble and distribute backpacks filled with supplies to any student who needs one at the beginning of the school year.

Our Scholarship committee stewarded effective fundraising this past year enabling us to award seven college students with \$700 each for their education.

We celebrated a baptism in August and have four more scheduled for September and October.

Plans are moving forward for the remodeling of our chancel area, which will make better use of sanctuary space.

This December we will host the 33rd annual Island Heights House Tour and Craft Show. This wonderful holiday tradition not only raises funds for ministry, but also keeps us closely connected to our community.

At the same time, we also face some opportunities for growth. We will continue to follow our 5 year plan to gradually achieve 100% participation in Shared Ministries commitments.

We will revive our Youth Group ministry and revitalize our Christian Education program.

We will attract young adults and young families to a new Saturday evening service called "SacredSpace."

We will engage more members in mission work.

We are exploring the formation of a "Team Vital" by December 1 for the work of discovering, strategizing, and executing our long-term vision for ministry.

Many good things are happening at IHUMC, and I am honored and excited to be appointed as your pastor. Also, I am grateful for your hospitality toward my family. Moving forward, I enthusiastically encourage you all to do everything with excellence, and continue to love one another with boundless generosity. We are well on our way to living out God-sized visions.

Blessings,

Blair

Coming Soon!

SacredSpace

a new Saturday evening service

at Island Heights UMC
beginning October 15, 2016 at 6:15pm

meditative Christian worship with music,
prayer and silence

enter the peace of God's sanctuary and
spend time with the Spirit



**Sunday Worship Service
and Sunday School
at 9:30am**

**Holy Communion first Sunday of
each month**

**Coffee Fellowship follows each
service, all are welcome!**

Church Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Ph: 732-929-0444 ~ email: ihumc@comcast.net

Fax: 732-929-1271

Arlene Gratzel, Secretary

After Hours Emergency Contact: 732-929-0445

Pastor's visits to shut-ins are on-going. If you would like a home or hospital visit with communion for yourself or a loved one, please contact Pastor Blair at 732-929- 0445 or the church office.

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## COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Returns on

Rally Sunday!

Sept 11, 2016

We all enjoy visiting after the 9:30 service but we need help hosting the gathering.

Coffee, tea, milk, juice and paper products are provided by the UMW.

We need a few friends or families to get together and sign up to provide a light snack. Bagels, donuts, coffee cakes, muffins or whatever else you would like to bring would be great.

Store bought or homemade ~ they both disappear and are enjoyed as much.

Just a light snack ~ no meal prep is required.

The HOSTS are also responsible for the clean-up. Clearing off the tables, putting away supplies, rinsing the coffee pots and taking out the garbage is all part of the clean-up.

PLEASE check the sign-up sheet in the foyer and pick a Sunday to serve. Any questions, please call:

Peggy Parry: 732-270-8061 or

Joyce Hoyer 732-270-6074

**THANK YOU!!**

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UMW Book Club

The Book Discussion Group will meet Thursday, Sept 15 in Fellowship Hall at noon. The book is "March" by Geraldine Brooks. She fleshes out Louisa May Alcott's absent father from the beloved "Little Women". "USA Today" calls the historical novel from the Civil War era "Pitch Perfect" writing. Sign out your copy from the Church secretary's office. Bring your own brown bag lunch. Dessert and beverage will be supplied by hostesses.

Call Joan Millard at 732-929-0015 with questions.

NEWCOMERS WELCOME!



RALLY

DAY!!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11th

9:30 am!

The new Sunday School Year is about to begin and the teachers are looking forward to seeing all smiling faces as we continue learning about God's love and how our lives are better for it!

WE WANT TO CHALLENGE YOU!

We have loads of fun lessons and activities planned and we know you'll enjoy sharing this special time with others, so **BRING A FRIEND** to class. (There might just be a Pizza Party for the class with the most new members!!)

**So, let's kick off the year on
September 11th at 9:30 am!**



**WELCOME BACK
POTLUCK DINNER!**
Tuesday, Sept 20 - 6 PM

Sponsored by the UMW in
Fellowship Hall

Bring a dish to share as the members of IHUMC get ready to restart all the groups and organizations after a brief summer break. We look forward to seeing everyone here and catching up with those we have not seen in awhile!



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**UNITED
METHODIST
WOMEN
FALL TEA**

Everyone looks forward to the Tea that we hold every Fall. Please join us for this annual event:

October 7 ~ Noon ~ FH

Tickets are \$17

Tickets may be purchased starting Sept 11 at
Coffee Fellowship

and also

in the Church Office.



**UNITED
METHODIST**

MEN

12 noon

September 13

The UMM are inviting everyone to join them with a bag lunch and brief meeting in the Fellowship Hall. At 1pm they are having an informal Meet and Greet Pastor Blair. Everyone is invited, even if you have already met Pastor Blair. This will be a nice opportunity for Blair to become more familiar with members of IHUMC.

If you cannot be with us for lunch at noon, please stop in for social hour anytime between 1pm and 2pm.

HOPE TO SEE YOU!!



The 33rd Annual
House Tour
December 3, 2016

We currently have 4 homes for this years tour and waiting on confirmation on 2 others. If you know of anyone who may be interested, please contact Helen Houston or call the Church of- fice.

We also have our 2 Tea Rooms confirmed.

Betty Brokaw is our Volunteer Coordinator and a sign-up form is attached to this newsletter to help her get started. You can contact Betty di- rectly or drop off your form to the Church Of- fice. Betty can be reached at:

Email: betty.brokaw.IHUMC@gmail.com

Home: 732-349-6434

Judy Slusman has contacted the florists and we are all set with commitments from them.

**Ads for the 2016
House Tour Book**

Ed Asay has been busy contacting people for ads for the ticket book and is well on his way to reaching his goal.

If you are interested in placing an ad or person- al dedication in the upcoming Book—a green form is attached to this newsletter. Please fill it out and return to Ed or drop it off at the Church Office or mail to:

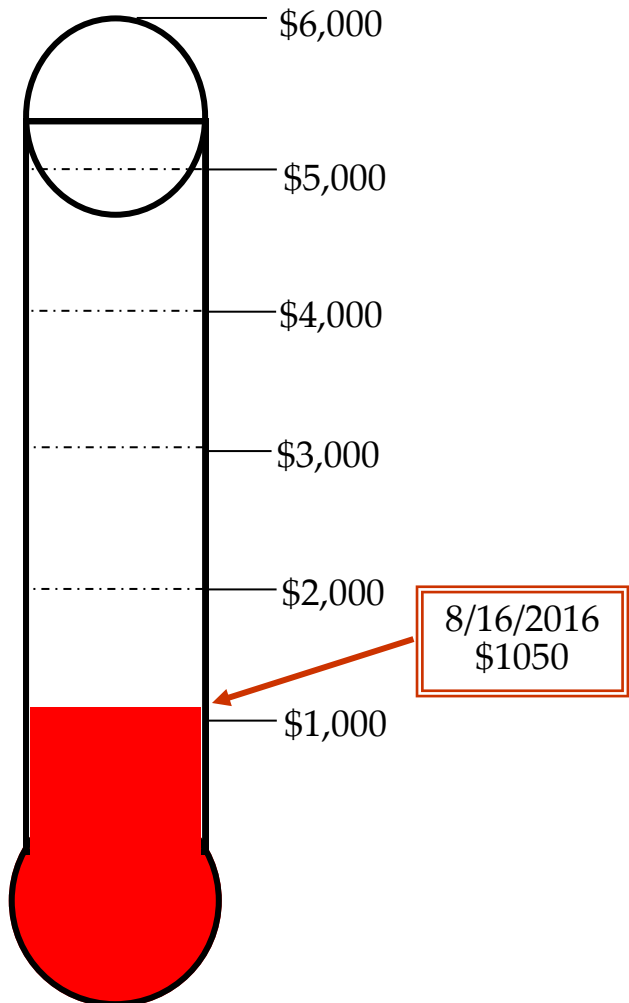
IHUMC, PO Box 146, Island Heights, NJ 08732

Christmas in Island Heights

House Tour & Craft Shows

AD INCOME FOR
TICKET/PROGRAM BOOK

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT



Ed Asay 8/16/2016

INFORMATION THAT IS GOOD TO KNOW

CAREGIVER VOLUNTEERS OF CENTRAL JERSEY

This volunteer group is active in our Church. If you have a bit of time to provide transportation for medical appointments for home-bound seniors, or even a friendly visit or phone call, perhaps you can be a Caregiver. Please call the Caregiver office for more information at 732-505-2273 or Joan Millard, the Caregiver Coordinator in our Church, at 732-929-0015.

NAOMI CIRCLE OF LIGHT

On the first Wednesday of the month, this group meets at 11:45 in Fellowship Hall. They bring a bag lunch and beverages and dessert will be provided. The next meeting is on September 7. Each month they like to ask people to bring something for the Food Pantry. For the September meeting they are asking each person who attends to bring a bag or box of cookies for the Pantry.

FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry continues to work closely with the Foodbank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties. We are serving 25 families and 35 children. Thanks to the generous donations of our Church members, we provide Summer Fun Bags when summer started and now have put together backpacks filled with school supplies for our Food Pantry families. Currently they could use juice and cookies.

NEW WEBSITE!

Check out our new and improved website at www.ihumc.org. We have a team to keep it updated and invite you to visit the site frequently for news and upcoming events. There are also photos of activities and copies of the sermons in case you miss a Sunday service. So, if you have any photos you want to share, or upcoming events you want to promote, send an email to Carollmtr@yahoo.com. And don't forget to visit our Facebook page as well!

SUNDAY SCHOOL START UP

Rally Sunday is September 11th! Please consider the importance of Christian education in the life of your family, and know that our dedicated teachers are ready to assist you as we all teach our children about God.

Also, we are in need of substitute teachers for the school year. Is God calling you to help with the spiritual growth of our children? Please contact the Church Office to volunteer—732-929-0444. *THANK YOU!!*

GIVING

The 2016 boxes of "tithing envelopes" are available in the Fellowship Hall for pick-up. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Judy Dolcy or leave a message at the church office.

September 2016

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1	2	3
4 Communion	5 Office Closed	6 Food Pantry Open 9 to 11	7 Naomi Circle of Light -12N	8	9	10 Sailfest
11 Rally Sunday	12	13 UMM 12 Noon	14	15 UMW Book Club 12—Noon	16	17 UMM Breakfast 8—10
18	19 IHC&H 7PM—FH	20 Food <u>Pantry 9-11</u> Pot Luck Dinner 6pm	21	21 Grieving w/ Friends 1pm cool beans	23	24
25	26	27 Trustees 7pm	28	29	30 IGNITE Youth Event in Wildwood	

October 2016

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1 IGNITE Youth Event in Wildwood
2 <u>Communion</u> IGNITE Youth Event in Wildwood	3	4 Food Pantry 9-11	5	6	7 UMW Tea	8
9	10	11 UMM—12 N	12	13	14	15 UMM Breakfast 8-10
16 Crop Walk	17 IHC&H— 7pm—FH	18 Food Pantry 9-11	19	20 UMW Book Club 12N	21	22
23	24	25 Trustees 7pm—FH	26	27 Grieving w/Friends 1pm CB	28	29 Super Saturday Conference
30	31					