



Dear Members and Friends of Bishop Janes UMC,

As the warmth of summer begins to wane and the days shorten, we find ourselves on the threshold of another beautiful autumn season. September arrives with the promise of vibrant foliage, cozy sweaters, pumpkin spice in everything, and the return of familiar routines.

September also marks the return of our regular church activities and programs. As you settle back into life after summer vacations, I encourage you to take advantage of the opportunities for fellowship, faith development, and service within our community. Whether it's participating in a Sunday School class, volunteering for a church event, joining a Bible study, connecting with a circle group, or simply sharing a warm greeting with a fellow member, these connections are a vital part of our spiritual journey.

In the coming weeks, I hope that you will join us for our special September events, including our blessing of the teachers on September 10, our Back-to-Church Sunday picnic on September 17, and the women's clothing sale on September 22 & 23. These gatherings are wonderful opportunities to reconnect with our church family and invite friends and neighbors to experience the warmth of our community.

Looking ahead to October, we will hold our annual fundraiser dinner and golf outing on October 9, and in November, we will look forward to counting our blessings and setting up for the Christmas season with oh, so many trees!

I am excited to be experiencing all of these wonderful traditions and gatherings with you for the first time, and hope that you will help me get to know you better along the way. If there's anything I can do to help you along your journey of faith, or if you like to know how you can get connected with our church, please do feel free to reach out to me at pastor.dave@bjumc.org.

Finally, as we step into this season of change, renewal, and gratitude, let us remember the words of Ecclesiastes 3:1: "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." May this season be a time of deepened faith, strengthened bonds, and abounding love in our church family.

In God's grace and love,

Rev. David Tillisch
Pastor, Bishop Janes United Methodist Church
Basking Ridge, NJ