

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

July 2022

***PASTOR MATT ENZLER***



**Believers Joyously Unified in Mission with Christ**

Published Monthly by:



22 South Finley Ave. Basking Ridge, NJ 07920  
[www.BJUMC.org](http://www.BJUMC.org)

# TOWER BELL TABLE OF CONTENTS

PASTOR TAYLAVOR'S DESK	3 - 5
TRUSTEES DECREASE UTILITY COSTS	6
TRUSTEES CHURCH JOBS NEED VOLUNTEERS	7
SERVE THE WORLD THROUGH MISSIONS	8
ALTAR FLOWERS	9
UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (formerly UMW) EVENTS	10 - 12
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY	13
BOOK GROUP	14 - 16
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	17
INVITE YOUR FRIENDS	18



## **Looking Back, Looking Forward, Being Present**

***From Pastor TayLavor's Desk***

Happy Summer, Beloveds!

Let us take time to pause and breathe in fresh air and sunlight together. We are halfway through the year already ... (I know, crazy!) and I want to offer us some space to pause and reflect. I invite you to take a moment to think of those in our community and where we all are. Some of us are down the shore, some of us home in Basking Ridge, some of us in other parts of the country, and even all over the world. But in this moment of pausing and reflection, we are connected.

This past year we have been able to have choir again... we've been able to sing together again. We have celebrated a risen Christ and watched beautiful spring flowers bloom. We have celebrated Little Lambs and high school graduates, confirmands, and baptisms... and so much more! This has already been a year of tremendous growth for us in so many ways. We have celebrated the lives and legacies of members who have

passed away, and we have celebrated new beginnings with Pastor Matt, Diana, and their family.

As we experience these events and milestones together, what are other successes and joyful moments that have taken place in each of your lives?

Let us pray together over the months behind us so far:

*Gracious and Heavenly God,*

*You have given us so many opportunities. Opportunities to commune, to be sad, to be happy and joyful, to celebrate one another... God, we pray that your spirit is in all of that time and energy... That you fill us with peace in knowing that our community is ordained and loved by you. Thank you God for the gift that it is to do life together as we are able to do. May we never forget what a blessing that is.*

We can also look forward from this point in the year! We can look forward to the rest of a peaceful and relaxing summer... a summer of planning and preparation as many of us are physically away and traveling. We can look forward to the fall, to see each others faces again as another season of programs begins.

What do you have to look forward to in your life? What are you exciting about sharing with your church family?

Let us prayerfully consider these questions together:

*Gracious and Heavenly God,*

*There is joy in the anticipation of you showing up in our midst. Let there be joy in the peace, the rest, the planning that this season brings to us. Help us be reminded of just how deeply connected we are through your love, through this church. Let that reminder move us to action in this time...*

And now... we've looked back, we've looked forward... So now, look around. As I look around, I hear people on the street talking and laughing outside my office window. I see the light from the sun shining through the currently quiet church office windows and doors. I am reminded in this present moment of how and when Jesus rested... He went to quiet places (Matthew 26:36-46) to do his praying and resting.

Our summers can get busy so quickly, even and especially in our pursuit of vacations, and time off.

Let us prayerfully breathe consider how we are truly resting this summer:

*Gracious and Heavenly God,*

*\*Inhale*

*Let me be truly present in this moment.*

*\*Exhale*

*I know that you do not expect me to earn your love and grace.*

*\*Inhale*

*I am loved by simply existing.*

*\*Exhale*

*Please let me find peace and rest in the present.*

*Amen.*

# PLEASE PARTNER WITH THE TRUSTEES TO DECREASE OUR UTILITY COSTS

Let's all join together to lower our utility costs which have dramatically increased.



Please do not turn up the heat or the air conditioning without consulting with a Trustee, Pastor Matt, or Doug Kreiss.



Also, please remember to turn off the lights when leaving a room.

Each one of us can make a difference!

THANK YOU!

Your Trustees

# **CHURCH JOBS SIGN UP SHEET ON NARTHEX BOARD!**



In the Narthex is a list of jobs that still need to be completed at the church. Add to the list if you find additional jobs. Please continue to share your talents and help if you can. Many hands always make lighter work. THANK YOU

Questions? Contact Rena 908 872-9443 [rena.thorsen@gmail.com](mailto:rena.thorsen@gmail.com) or any of the Trustees.

Serve The World Through Missions In

# JULY

During the summer months, the Food Bank Network of Somerset County experiences a decrease in donations. Please consider donating these specific items which are needed most during the summer:

Canned fruit

Canned Chicken

Rice (2 lb. bags)

Spaghetti

Cooking oil

Snacks (crackers, cookies, nuts, granola bars)



\*Please stop by our Missions page on our website to read about how you've helped with our previous missions in the Thank You Notes section.



## **ALTAR FLOWERS**

*Anniversary? Birthday? In memory of? Special thank you or occasion?*

Why not sign up to donate flowers? The 2022 Flower Chart is available on the Narthex Sign Up wall. Reserve your date as soon as possible for any week available during the year. Order forms are available on the wall. To reserve a date and complete an order call or email Nancy Sweazey at 908-766-6368 or [sweazeyn@gmail.com](mailto:sweazeyn@gmail.com).



United  
Women  
in Faith

## **United Women in Faith Concerned About Women’s and Girl’s Lives As Supreme Court Overturns Roe v Wade**

**NEW YORK, June 24, 2022** – As a leading Christian women’s organization committed to the needs of women, children, and youth, United Women in Faith is concerned about the impact of the Supreme Court’s decision to overturn Roe v Wade, a ruling that had protected women’s rights to legal and safe abortion since 1973. We know from women’s experiences in the United States that the banning of abortions will not end abortions. Rather, women of financial means will travel to areas where abortion remains safe and legal, while many poor and working-class women and girls will resort to unsafe procedures that could cost them their lives, which happened too often prior to the Roe decision.

Over the years, The United Methodist Church has adopted a position on abortion that calls us to respect both the sanctity of unborn human life and the well-being of the mother, while supporting the legal option of abortion by certified medical providers in cases of “tragic conflicts of life with life.” \*

As a matter of religious liberty in this country, women are entitled to seek guidance in the privacy of their families and faith traditions or ethical mores in these moments. Religious communities offer guidance on this issue expressly because there are so many differing opinions, questions, and circumstances. The United Methodist Church has provided such guidance for members (*The United Methodist Church Book of Discipline 2016*, ¶161 K). Other faith communities provide their own guidance. Women must be able to make decisions touching on the multiple lives involved in a pregnancy both because it is a fundamental right and because it is necessary to her free exercise of religious belief.

We call on federal and state legislators to act to protect the lives of women and girls by codifying their right to privacy, to legal and safe contraceptives, and, in tragic conflicts of life with life, to abortions. State-coerced motherhood — like state-coerced sterilization — undermines women’s ability to carefully discern and follow God’s calling in their lives.



Save the date for Summer Circle! Come join us at the home of Carol Lutes, 51 Summit Dr., on Wednesday, August 17th at 6:00pm for a summertime potluck supper. Please bring a dish to share. All are welcome to this time of fellowship and reconnection. RSVP to Carol Lutes at [carollutes@gmail.com](mailto:carollutes@gmail.com)

### School Supply Collection



The UMW is seeking donations of school supplies from August 1st through September 11th that will be assembled into kits for the children of the clients at God's Coop Pantry in Bernardsville. The following items will be collected: Crayons (24 pack), Colored Pencils (8 to 12 pack), #2 Pencils, Ink Pens (blue or black), Notebooks (70 page, perforated), and glue sticks

Our goal is to assemble 150 kits on Saturday, September 17th at 9:00am.

Watch for school supply sales at local stores! Donations may be shipped at any time during the summer to the home of Linda Cargo, 28 Oxbow Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920 and a collection box will be placed inside the church Narthex on August 1st for in-person donations. Cash donations will also be gratefully accepted and may be sent to the church office at 22 South Finley Avenue, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920, attention UMW. Contact person: Barbara Conca, [conca@optonline.net](mailto:conca@optonline.net)



### Annual UWF Clothing Sale



**SAVE THE DATE:** The UWF Clothing sale will be held on Friday, September 23th, 9am to 3pm and Saturday, September 24th, 9am to 2pm. Church and community donations of clean and gently used clothing for men, women and children including shoes, coats, and accessories such as pocketbooks, ties, gloves, hats, and belts will be accepted beginning Sunday, September 18th. Contact persons: Karen Hayworth, [karenhayworth@gmail.com](mailto:karenhayworth@gmail.com) and Linda Cargo, [cargoph@aol.com](mailto:cargoph@aol.com)

### Kathy's Bees are happily buzzing this year



amber

at [kliuridge@gmail.com](mailto:kliuridge@gmail.com).

Kathy Liu has honey from her bees for sale with proceeds going to support UWF mission giving. 12 oz. jars of honey are available for purchase and cost \$8.50. Harvested this spring, the honey has a light color and a delightful floral taste. If interested, contact Kathy by email

## United Women of Faith Calendar through September

All United Women in Faith events, circles and ministries are open to all women and youth of BJUMC, friends, and the community.

**Monday, August 1st** - School Supply Collection begins in the Narthex.

**Wednesday, August 17th, 6:00pm** - Summer Circle Potluck at the home of Carol Lutes, 51 Summit Drive, Basking Ridge

**Saturday, September 17th, 9:00am** - School Kit Assembly and fellowship in Melick Hall.

**Sunday, September 18th** - Clothing Sale collection begins in Melick Hall

**Friday, September 23, 9am to 3pm and Saturday, September 24, 9am to 2pm** - Annual UWF Clothing Sale. Clean-up from 2pm to 3pm.

Please note that the following groups will not meet during July and August: Walk & Talk, New Circle, Grace Circle, Piecemaker Quilters, and Hearts2Hands Prayer Shawl Ministry.



**Congratulations  
to  
our  
Confirmands  
from the  
Prayer Shawl Ministry!**

# WELCOME ALL Membership Directory Update



Have you ever tried to contact someone from Church and could not find their phone number? Good news, Cheryl Beyer, Welcome All Team Chair, is updating our Membership directory. and asking for your help in updating your contact information for our directory for the use of our church family

Please provide all of your current contact information, names, phone numbers, email addresses, address, cell phone numbers and names of family members in your household.

All of your information is needed for our church records but **we need your authorization for what contact information you would like put in the directory.** Please confirm that you want all, some or none of your contact information in the directory.

Please respond as soon as possible with your current information to help us to accomplish this task in a timely manner.

Thank you!

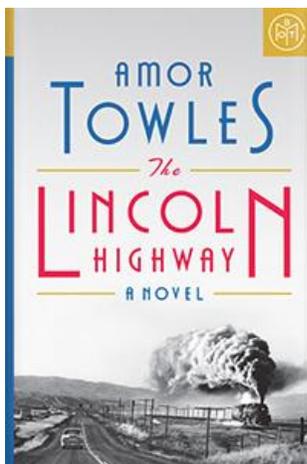
Cheryl Beyer contact information:

[Cheryl@uniquewire.com](mailto:Cheryl@uniquewire.com)

908 672-6220

## BOOK GROUP

If you like to read and discuss books, join the BJUMC Book Group. It meets monthly, usually on the 2nd Thursday of the month from 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! Below are our selections for the fall – plenty of reading for the summer days ahead! Please note that the September meeting will meet on the third Thursday! Please contact Janet Kaefer at [jbkaefer@optonline.net](mailto:jbkaefer@optonline.net) for additional information.



**September 15, 2022:** Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles (led by Barbara Conca)

“Wise and wildly entertaining . . . permeated with light, wit, youth.” —The New York Times Book Review

“A classic that we will read for years to come.” —Jenna Bush Hager, Read with Jenna book club

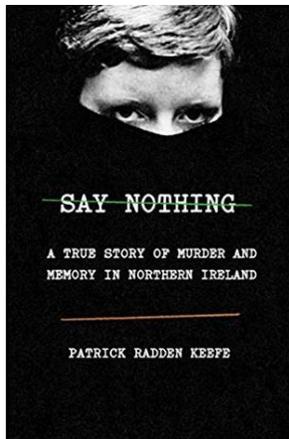
“A real joyride . . . elegantly constructed and compulsively readable.” – NPR

The bestselling author of *A Gentleman in Moscow* and *Rules of Civility* and master of absorbing, sophisticated fiction returns with a stylish and propulsive novel set in 1950s

America

In June, 1954, eighteen-year-old Emmett Watson is driven home to Nebraska by the warden of the juvenile work farm where he has just served fifteen months for involuntary manslaughter. His mother long gone, his father recently deceased, and the family farm foreclosed upon by the bank, Emmett's intention is to pick up his eight-year-old brother, Billy, and head to California where they can start their lives anew. But when the warden drives away, Emmett discovers that two friends from the work farm have hidden themselves in the trunk of the warden's car. Together, they have hatched an altogether different plan for Emmett's future, one that will take them all on a fateful journey in the opposite direction—to the City of New York.

Spanning just ten days and told from multiple points of view, Towles's third novel will satisfy fans of his multi-layered literary styling while providing them an array of new and richly imagined settings, characters, and themes.



**October 13, 2022:** Say Nothing: A True Story of Murder and Memory in Northern Ireland by Patrick Radden Keefe (led by Marybeth Gakos)

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

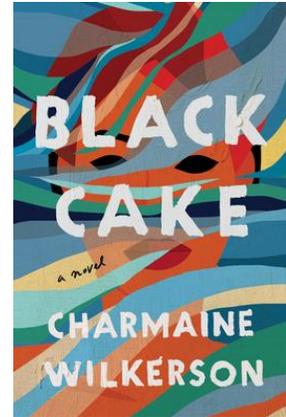
"A masterful history of the Troubles. . . Extraordinary. . .As in the most ingenious crime stories, Keefe unveils a revelation — lying, so to speak, in plain sight."—Maureen Corrigan, NPR

From award-winning New Yorker staff writer Patrick Radden

Keefe, a stunning, intricate narrative about a notorious killing in Northern Ireland and its devastating repercussions

In December 1972, Jean McConville, a thirty-eight-year-old mother of ten, was dragged from her Belfast home by masked intruders, her children clinging to her legs. They never saw her again. Her abduction was one of the most notorious episodes of the vicious conflict known as The Troubles. Everyone in the neighborhood knew the I.R.A. was responsible. But in a climate of fear and paranoia, no one would speak of it. In 2003, five years after an accord brought an uneasy peace to Northern Ireland, a set of human bones was discovered on a beach. McConville's children knew it was their mother when they were told a blue safety pin was attached to the dress—with so many kids, she had always kept it handy for diapers or ripped clothes.

Patrick Radden Keefe's mesmerizing book on the bitter conflict in Northern Ireland and its aftermath uses the McConville case as a starting point for the tale of a society wracked by a violent guerrilla war, a war whose consequences have never been reckoned with. The brutal violence seared not only people like the McConville children, but also I.R.A. members embittered by a peace that fell far short of the goal of a united Ireland, and left them wondering whether the killings they committed were not justified acts of war, but simple murders. From radical and impetuous I.R.A. terrorists such as Dolours Price, who, when she was barely out of her teens, was already planting bombs in London and targeting informers for execution, to the ferocious I.R.A. mastermind known as The Dark, to the spy games and dirty schemes of the British Army, to Gerry Adams, who negotiated the peace but betrayed his hardcore comrades by denying his I.R.A. past—Say Nothing conjures a world of passion, betrayal, vengeance, and anguish.



**November 7, 2022 (Monday):** Black Cake by Charmaine Wilkerson (led by Barbara Kleinert)

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • READ WITH JENNA BOOK

CLUB PICK AS FEATURED ON TODAY • Two estranged siblings

delve into their mother’s hidden past—and how it all connects to her traditional Caribbean black cake—in this immersive family saga, “a character-driven, multigenerational story that’s meant to be savored” (Time).

“Wilkerson transports you across the decades and around the globe accompanied by complex, wonderfully drawn characters.” —Taylor Jenkins Reid, New York Times bestselling author of *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo*, *Daisy Jones & The Six*, and *Malibu Rising*

In development as a Hulu original series produced by Marissa Jo Cerar, Oprah Winfrey (Harpo Films), and Kapital Entertainment

We can’t choose what we inherit. But can we choose who we become?

In present-day California, Eleanor Bennett’s death leaves behind a puzzling inheritance for her two children, Byron and Benny: a black cake, made from a family recipe with a long history, and a voice recording. In her message, Eleanor shares a tumultuous story about a headstrong young swimmer who escapes her island home under suspicion of murder. The heartbreaking tale Eleanor unfolds, the secrets she still holds back, and the mystery of a long-lost child challenge everything the siblings thought they knew about their lineage and themselves. Can Byron and Benny reclaim their once-close relationship, piece together Eleanor’s true history, and fulfill her final request to “share the black cake when the time is right”? Will their mother’s revelations bring them back together or leave them feeling more lost than ever?

Charmaine Wilkerson’s debut novel is a story of how the inheritance of betrayals, secrets, memories, and even names can shape relationships and history. Deeply evocative and beautifully written, *Black Cake* is an extraordinary journey through the life of a family changed forever by the choices of its matriarch.

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Over the last year or two, our church has switched from a staff led model to a volunteer led model. We still have a lot of things around the church which need volunteers, in order to maintain our ministries. Most Ministry teams have modified a lot of their programming to make them more volunteer friendly. As a church, we uplift and thank all of our volunteers for the work they do to make this a wonderful place to worship, fellowship, and be a part of the body of Christ in Mission!

## ***Just a few of the places we need more volunteers:***

- ***AN URGENT NEED FOR ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS TO RUN THE SOUND DESK AND HELP WITH OUR WORSHIP***
- **Counters**
- **Sunday School Volunteers for September**
- **Family Ministries Team (Event Planning and execution)**
- **Local Missions Teams: Foodbanks, Contact/Service Team, Evergreen Cemetery and more!**

## *Share with your Friends!*



Inviting your friends to church has never been easier. With so many options to choose from: daily devotions, worship services, small groups, all you have to do is share the link with a friend.

- “Liking” is different from sharing. We appreciate the likes, it makes us feel all warm and fuzzy inside, and lets us know people appreciate our work, but sharing is a way you can profess your faith, and invite others to join you. It’s really that simple!
- To share just click the **share** button on the Facebook post, and it will be on your page, so your friends know what your interests are. It’s a simple way of sharing your faith. No longer can you say, “I don’t have the words,” all you have to do is click the **share** button, and you’re done. It’s that simple