



# MOUNT KISCO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## THE NEXT CHAPTER

Parker H. Prout, Pastor

February 2018

### WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

- +Choir Rehearsal Sundays 9:15 am
- +Sunday Worship Service at 10:15am
- +Nursery Care, Sunday School and Youth Education available

**NEW OFFICE HOURS**  
**1:30-4:30PM**  
**MONDAY-FRIDAY**

### **SAVE THE DATES**

Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> Leader to Leader Training.

Ash Wednesday February 14<sup>th</sup>  
 12 - 2 pm

Lenten Bible Study Feb. 21 - Mar. 21 (5 sessions)  
 Held in Porter Library

Soup & Soul Wednesday Evenings, Feb. 21 - Mar. 21, 6:30 pm in Halstead Hall

Flea Market & Tag Sale May 5  
 Flower Patch May 10-12  
 150th Anniversary Festival June 2  
 (rain date June 3)



### Communion Sunday - First Sunday of Month

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| FEBRUARY 4 <sup>TH</sup>  | FIFTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY |
| FEBRUARY 11 <sup>TH</sup> | TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY   |
| FEBRUARY 14 <sup>TH</sup> | ASH WEDNESDAY            |
| FEBRUARY 18 <sup>TH</sup> | FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT     |
| FEBRUARY 25 <sup>TH</sup> | SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT    |
|                           | SCOUT SUNDAY             |

### Need to Contact Us?

United Methodist Church of Mount Kisco  
 300 East Main Street, Mount Kisco, NY 10549  
 Phone: 914-666-5014  
 Email: [office.umcmk@gmail.com](mailto:office.umcmk@gmail.com)  
 Website: <http://mountkiscochurch.org>  
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MtKiscoUMC>

If your contact information has changed, please contact us so we can stay in touch!

**ATTN:**  
**NEW OFFICE HOURS EFFECTIVE 2/1/18**  
**MONDAY-FRIDAY 1:30-4:30PM**

### IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| Page 2 | Pastors Letter  |
| Page 3 | 40 Days of Prayer and Fasting                         |
| Page 4 | Our Church Anniversary, Sunday Counters Needed        |
| Page 5 | Fellowship After Worship, Prayer Shawls               |
| Page 6 | Leader in Me  |
| Page 7 | Mark Your Calendars                                   |
| Page 8 | Interfaith Food Pantry, Volunteering, Birthdays, CODA |



***“We must do the work of him who sent me....While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”*** John 9:4-5.

Jesus’ ministry of healing included this famous passage during which he restored the sight to man born blind at the Pool of Siloam. The Pharisees spoke to this man and disbelieved his explanation of how he received his sight from Jesus. Jesus said to them all, *“I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.”* John 9:39

As we explore the gospel of John in our Narrative Lectionary study this month during Sunday worship, we hear John telling how Jesus drew sharp analogies between our everyday lives and our spiritual lives. He spoke at a water well in Samaria about “living water” (meaning he himself came to earth to be the “water” - a spiritual life in God to the people); and as we hear above, we also hear how he came to earth to give spiritual “sight” to those who didn’t have any, and to make “blind” those people who only saw worldly evil things, so that they could grow a faith in God.

Jesus’ teachings give us divine, consistent reminders of the supreme importance of accepting God’s love for us, and how we as disciples are called to both praise God for this gift and to share that love with others. We of course have everyday activities that aren’t “spiritual” by definition; life must be lived. We need to take care of our homes, our physical health, our family responsibilities, etc. But we can’t forget to take care of our spiritual selves as well; the great “manual” of how to keep our spiritual selves healthy and growing is the Holy Bible; God’s speaks to each of us through his Word in that amazing book. All we need to do is listen — reading, praying for insight and asking God to help us live better lives on our earthly journey. It does takes time, discipline and support to do this well — and that’s what we can expect from our church family here at UCM MK and from other Christian disciples we know.

As we approach and enter the season of Lent, there will be a real focus on some of the keys to hearing God’s Word: prayer, fasting and sharing the scripture. Bible Study, 40 Days of Prayer and Fasting are two extra program opportunities we will have together to stay in touch with God. Your participation is welcome and important.

Jesus said, ***“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.”*** John 10:14

Pastor Parker

## 40 Days of Prayer and Fasting

There is a great need for us to be in prayer for one another, our communities and the world at this time. The needs for healing, reconciliation and peace that Christ brings to all are greater than at any time in recent memory. Racism, genderism, polarization, violence, opioid and other addictions, wars and rumors of wars, ethnic and religious cleansing, the plight of refugees and immigrants fill our news reports. Add to this the environmental changes caused by abuse to mother earth and the resulting storms and destruction of habitat and it is clear that we must pray to ask God to guide us through these challenging times.

Even as we pray for these things, we also recognize that the church is struggling to survive. Membership is dwindling and those who remain loyal to the church find themselves overwhelmed with building structures that need fixing, financial challenges, "wearing too many hats", and spiritual depletion.

This is the time to ask for God's help! Our District Superintendent, Rev. Betsy Ott, is calling the district to prayer – intentional prayer and fasting – using the Wesleyan model found in the General Rules of John Wesley. The General Rules state that we should:

**-Do No Harm**

**-Do Good**

**-Obey the Ordinances of God:**

regularly attend church, receive Communion, pray with our families and alone, read the Bible, search and study the scriptures to seek guidance and direction, fast and abstain.

***We of UMC Mount Kisco are being urged to use these faith practices regularly a 40 day period of prayer and fasting beginning Feb. 14 which is Ash Wednesday.***

We will commit to fasting or abstinence (for example, fast one day a week, one meal a week, or abstain from a part of your regular diet by eating soup for lunch instead of your usual meal). Or give up a leisure, non-spiritual activity, like a TV show, a game, etc., that is something you always do. Then use the time to focus on prayer.

We will pray for the world, for the nation, for the communities we live in, for other churches/faith communities, for our church, for the people we know, for our families, for ourselves.....and ask God to speak to us and to reveal his plan for those we pray for. We should ask God to lead and guide us and direct us in every situation. Listening to God in prayer and being attentive to God speaking in our lives is the Living Water that Jesus taught all disciples about.

Our church is committed! To fulfill our commitment for 40 consecutive days, **we ask that all members of the congregation confirm which days they will be praying and fasting during the period February 14 - March 25.**

**A sign-up calendar will be placed in Halstead Hall each Sunday and in the office Mondays - Saturdays for this purpose. Please participate as often as you can.**

Thanks,

Parker



**There will be a Special Celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the 3rd building for Methodist in New Castle/Mt. Kisco. The celebration will be held June 2nd with a rain date of June 3rd.**

**Methodist Moments will continue following the ringing of the bell at Sunday Services.**



### **Sunday “Counting Partners” Needed**



**I am still looking for those who are willing to count offering with a partner and get the money to the overnight bank deposit drawer. If we have 4 teams then each of us only has 1 Sunday per month. Please talk to me.**

**Joanne Hall**



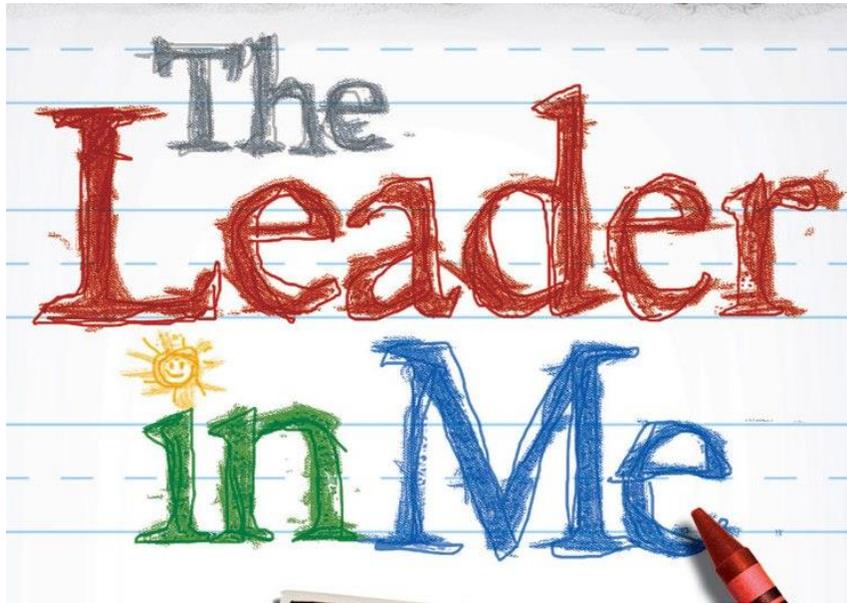
## Worship

Coffee hour is meant to be a time for \*fellowship and light refreshment after the church service. Anyone who would like to host the coffee hour should bring some type of “snack”, healthy/ unhealthy it’s their choice. You are not required to bring lots to eat/ or a meal!! You should also bring some type of juice and milk for coffee. You can set up right before the service. Art usually has the coffee pot going early. Pairing up with a partner is helpful as you are also responsible for cleaning up. Hoping this will be helpful so we can all participate.

*\*Fellowship has elements of worship, nurture, member care, church growth and mission all wrapped up in one.*



Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> we gave out Prayer Shawls with a notation on them that God loves you and is with you always. If you were not here and would like to receive one of these shawls, please call the church office.



**Are you serving a new committee at your church?  
You are experienced, but still have questions?  
Then try not to miss this opportunity!**

**On Saturday, Feb. 10 at Peekskill UMC, between 9 am - 1 pm.  
When you RSVP to Chan at the District Office ([nyctdistrict@nyac-umc.com](mailto:nyctdistrict@nyac-umc.com)/203-  
[348-9181](tel:348-9181)),  
please specify the small group you'd like to join, after the plenary.  
Coffee, snacks and light lunch will be served.**

**SPR 1 (Pastoral)  
SPR 2 (Church Employees)  
Finance  
Trustees  
Cooperative Parish/Visioning/Alternative Church Structure  
"Beyond Children's Sunday School"/Inter-Generational Ministry**

**Carpool leaves at 8:20 am**

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**Ash Wednesday February 14<sup>th</sup> 12 - 2 pm**  
The sanctuary will be open for prayer and meditation. Pastor Parker will be present for the imposition of ashes to all who desire them.

**Scout Sunday - February 25 during morning worship**

**Lenten Bible Study - Each Wednesday afternoon 2-3 pm**  
**Feb. 21 - Mar. 21 (5 sessions)**  
**Porter Library**  
Please inform the pastor or church  
If you plan to attend.

**Soup & Soul - Lenten suppers with devotions & fellowship**  
**Wednesdays Feb. 21 - Mar. 21**  
**6:30 pm, Halstead Hall**  
**Soup makers needed**

## SAVE THE DATE

<b>Flea Market &amp; Tag Sale</b>	<b>May 5</b>
<b>Flower Patch</b>	<b>May 10-12</b>
<b>150th Anniversary Festival</b>	<b>June 2 (rain date June 3)</b>

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

FEBRUARY

2<sup>nd</sup> **Scott Hall**  
15<sup>th</sup> **Heather Kent**  
18<sup>th</sup> **Sandra Gillotti,**  
20<sup>th</sup> **Marianne Baldwin**  
25<sup>th</sup> **Jill Manning**  
26<sup>th</sup> **Karen McKitrick**

Does the office know when your birthday is? Please let us know if you haven't done so already.

## Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry



You can also help regularly by donating breakfast cereal, pasta, rice, tinned food.

Please make sure tins are not dented and is not out of date.

If you would like more information, please contact or speak with Lisa Porter on Lisa's email is [wrporter@optonline.net](mailto:wrporter@optonline.net)

## WORKERS AVAILABLE AT NEIGHBORS LINK



Neighbors Link makes hiring workers simple, safe and efficient!

Skilled and general labor available including: House and Yard Clean-Up, Housekeeping, Home Companions, Painters, Carpenters, Masons, Catering Help and more

Neighbors Link Worker Center is open 365 days a year, 7am-7pm  
27 Columbus Avenue, Mount Kisco, NY  
10549 914-666-3410 •  
[www.neighborslink.org](http://www.neighborslink.org)

**Workers available throughout Northern Westchester!**

## CoDA



We welcome you to Co-Dependents Anonymous, a program of recovery from codependence. The only requirement for membership is a desire for healthy and loving relationships. We have all learned to survive life, but in CoDA we are learning to live life.  
<http://nyccoda.org/>

Held here Fridays at 1pm in our Education Room. For more information please contact [lddance@gmail.com](mailto:lddance@gmail.com).