



SAINT ANDREW
United Methodist Church
FEBRUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

- **Valentine Potluck.** Make plans to stay after worship on February 9! We will break bread together and play some fun Valentine games. Pure fellowship comes with togetherness, laughter, and food. Come on down, let's have a ball!
- **Library News.** *The Reason I Jump*, written by Naoki Higashida. A very smart, very self-aware, and very charming thirteen-year-old boy with autism, it is a one-of-a-kind memoir that demonstrates how an autistic mind thinks, feels, perceives, and responds in ways few of us can imagine. Using an alphabet grid to painstakingly construct words, sentences, and thoughts that he is unable to speak out loud, Naoki answers even the most delicate questions that people want to know. Questions such as: "Why do people with autism talk so loudly and weirdly?" "Why do you line up your toy cars and blocks?" "Why don't you make eye contact when you're talking?" and "What's the reason you jump?" (Naoki's answer: "When I'm jumping, it's as if my feelings are going upward to the sky.") With disarming honesty and a generous heart, Naoki shares his unique point of view on not only autism but life itself. This book will be located on the book rack outside of Fellowship Hall. Please sign the card with your name and phone number. Books can be returned to the book bag hanging on the library door. The library is always open, just turn on the light and see the books available. Any questions call Joan Sola 732-240-7516. Happy Reading!
- **Meals That Heal.** In spite of the cold weather our soup and sandwich meal was enjoyed by all. Please join us for our Chili, Soup and Macaroni/Cheese meal on February 19th. There is food for all and all are welcome. Join us from 5-6:00pm.
- **United Methodist Men (UMM).** The next UMM breakfast meeting will be held Saturday, **February 8** at 8:00am in rooms 4-6.
- **United Women of Faith (UWF/UMW).** Thank you everyone for participating in our White Elephant Sale and general meeting! Our next big events will be our women's retreat and our Olde Monmouth Easter candy sale. More information on the way!
- **Veterans Ministry.** The Veterans Ministry of SAUMC would like to create a current list of all veterans. There will be a sheet in the narthex to sign or you can text David Nordt at 732-703-0064 or email David, veteransatstandrewumc2019@gmail.com. Shortly thereafter, the veterans ministry will schedule their first meeting of 2025. Thank you all for your support in this important ministry. Please remember our **Freedom Isn't Free**. God Bless our Veterans and Troops around the world.
- **WOW! (Women's Book Club)** Calling all Women who love to read! On February 15th we will meet in the Shared Ministry Office as well as on ZOOM at 10. Please join us as we discuss *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon. Contact Pat Lewis for details at patricialewis722@aol.com. Happy Reading!