

IN THIS ISSUE:

Financial Peace Birthdays New Members	2
Car Show	3
Camp news "Thank You!" Photos Needed	4
Brighter Future Update	5
E-giving	
Golf Outing	6
Finance update	
Ingathering news	7
Ladies Retreat	
Photo page - MCREST	8
Calendar	9

Because Time, Treasure, and Talent are Needed!

On Sunday, I am bringing a message on Generosity. When considering which of the seven messages in our current series on the theme of "BECAUSE," it didn't take me long to come to the conclusion that Mother's Day was the perfect Sunday to preach on the theme of Generosity. Most of us, when thinking of our mom's don't have to struggle to realize the depth of generosity we've been shown.

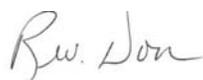
Can the church function without generosity? Can we be the body of Christ without being willing to freely give of our time, talents, and our treasures? I haven't been a part of a church yet where the furthering of the ministry wasn't built on people being generous. Generosity is integral to fulfilling our mission as a church!

As I write this letter to you, more people come to mind who are generous, right here at UUMC than I can possibly list. There are folks who freely give of their time to make sure the youth are fed each Sunday at Youth Group meetings. There are folks who are generous with their time to fertilize and mow the grass. There are people who generously volunteer their talents to make sleeping mats for homeless men and women, and create quilts to celebrate baptisms. There are folks who support the church financially, and go the extra mile to help further the ministry with special offerings.

The work we are doing to officially re-launch the second service (work that is having a blessing impact on our first service) can only be successful if the people of our church stretch themselves to be even more generous. Reaching new people with the message of God's love rises and falls on the ability of God's people to be generous.

I invite you to consider all of the people in your life, from your mother on down who have shown generosity toward you, and ask yourself if there example is calling you to give even more of your time, treasure, and talents?

Because of the Generosity of Jesus,

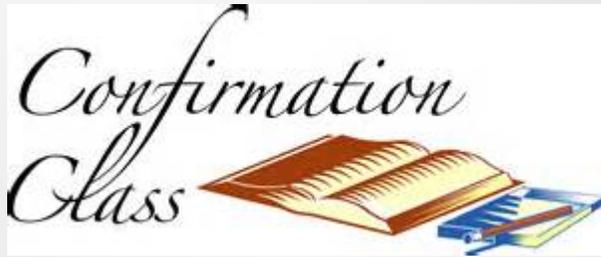


Rev. Don





Rachel Yung
Madison Tjapkes
Jailen Tjapkes



Abigail Kosuth
Michael Mattiello
Greg Palmer
Jailen Tjapkes
Madison Tjapkes
Rachel Yung

***These young people were confirmed on May 7th. We welcome them as members of the Utica UMC congregation.**

- 5/2: Richard Girdler
- 5/4: Delbert White
- 5/9: Emily Benoit
- 5/10: Ramona Van Tol
- 5/11: Sydne Hansman
- 5/11: Sophia Kerkmaz
- 5/12: Joyce Fox
- 5/13: Mary Lou Flowers
- 5/14: Janet Sturgeon
- 5/14: Chuck McDougall
- 5/14: Robert Taylor
- 5/16: Donna Nagy
- 5/17: James Miller
- 5/17: Catherine Parker
- 5/22: Paul Warnick
- 5/22: Juanita Miller
- 5/23: Marilene Miller
- 5/24: Rachel Barns
- 5/24: Mackenzie Ings
- 5/25: Joseph Smith
- 5/26: Jean Mueller
- 5/26: Sarah Olechowski
- 5/29: Elizabeth O'Connor
- 5/30: Dolores Hardoin



***If you have a birthday this month, and don't see your name, then we don't have it on file in the office. Please contact us and we will update our records to include your birthdate!*

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

The last program for Financial Peace University was so successful that another series of classes has been scheduled. Beginning Monday, June 5th at 7pm, the class will run for 9 weeks (except for Monday, July 3rd).

Pastor Don will be the class leader. If you are interested or have questions, please contact the church office.

Class materials are available for purchase in the office.

These are some results from those that attended the last class - Of the 9 individuals and families that took the class:

They retired \$24,775.78 in debt.

They saved an additional \$14,620.00.

They cut up and cancelled 26 credit cards.



**You are invited to be part of the 11th Annual High Beam
Utica United Methodist Car Show**

Obviously, if you have a car you can participate if it has an interesting history, is one of a kind, etc. you can enter it in the show and share that story with other participants and visitors. There are applications in the office, on our website, www.uticaumc.org, our facebook page, or from any of the car guys.

What if you don't have a car? Consider being there, all day or part of the day because you are the Utica United Methodist Church that is providing this opportunity to our neighbors so they can have an enjoyable day – cars, ice cream, live music, sloppy joes from “Jaloppy Joe’s Sloppy Joes & Dogs” – what could be better.

Your presence, getting to know our visitors, sharing with them about our love of Christ, and encouraging them to come join with us in our ministries, worship, and fellowship is what the Show is ultimately about.

We, the “Car Guys” enjoy car shows, and have enjoyed ‘making’ the High Beam Car Show ‘happen’ for 10 years – we’re starting on our second decade. But, the ‘Show’ is best if you are also present, helping with various functions during the show, and most importantly being present to be with our participants and visitors.

We pray you will come join with us as we reach out to our community in faith, fun, and good friendship.

The Car Guys

Mark Biernaczzonek, Jim Buckley, David Clark, Bob Clark, Gene Epperson,
John Herthel, Gary Penz, Gary Taylor, Charles white



Thank you to my church family for prayers, visits, and get well cards during my recent illness.

Blessings, Gail Blackman

A big MCREST "Thank You!"

The UUMC MCREST Leadership Team would like to thank all of the volunteers, everyone who made a donation, the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, UMW, and UMM.

In addition we would like to thank Chris Heldt and the Praise Band with Pastor Don for the special worship service.

Finally, a special thank you to Rachelle Heldt for all the extra help with cleaning the building during the week.

Thank you. ~MCREST Team

Remember to purchase food items for the shopping carts.

The month of May, the donations are for our own food pantry. Regular sized cans are good since most of our food pantry participants You may also donate paper products, cereals, canned meats such as tuna, chicken, etc. Thank you for your generosity to those in need.



United Methodist Summer Camps

Has your child, youth, or your whole family considered attending one of the United Methodist Summer Camps?

There are several to choose from and registration and getting information is so easy.

Just go to the camp website at:

<https://umcamping.org/>

You will find details for the all the UM camps in Michigan, details on registration, and contact information if you have questions.



Photos Wanted!

Our pictorial directory needs to be updated. This is a perpetual booklet that we print out of the church office.

We have several new folks attending and would like to include pictures in our directory. Also, if you have had a family change (marriage, new baby, etc), we would like to have new photos from those folks as well.

If we do not have your picture or a picture of your family, we are asking you to drop off or mail us a current photo of you or your family that we may scan for our directory. We will be happy to return the photo to you if asked.

Directories are available on the table in the Narthex.





Graduation Sunday WE WANT TO KNOW ABOUT YOU!

Graduation Sunday is
June 4, and we'd like
to honor you for this great achievement
during the worship services.

You must contact the church office to be included.

We are looking for **high school** graduates **as well as college** graduates.

For high school students, we'd like your name, photo, and school.

For college grads: name, school AND degree earned.

Contact the church office by
Phone at 586-731-7667 or via email to
charlotte@uticaumc.org

Brighter Future Progress

We are making progress toward our goal of raising \$50,000 by the end of September to update the parking lot lighting and purchase a digital sign for the Canal Road entrance. Thank you for your willingness to make a Brighter Future.



Garden Friends.....

If you enjoy gardening, or have a special calling to help those who are hungry in our community, then we have a great need for your talents.

This year, we would like others to become more involved in the planting, weeding, watering, and harvesting of food items in our Food Pantry Garden.

Many hands make light work. It would be especially helpful to have one or two people who could take charge of organizing helpers. Please contact the church office with how you would like to help.



E-GIVING

An easy way to give! Easy to Register!

1. Scan this QR code with your smart phone: **or**
2. On your computer, online type in:
<https://e-giving.org/uticaunitedmethodistchurch>



You will then be led through the registration process during which you will enter your payment information.

E-giving offers scheduling options for donations, online donation confirmations, and giving history reports.

Donations can be made through bank draft, credit card or debit card. You will still get a regular quarterly statement from the church as usual.

Attention golfers:

This year's golf outing will be held on Saturday, June 24th. The first tee time will be 1:00 and we will be playing at Plum Brook golf course. The cost to play is \$40, this includes 18 holes with cart, and prizes for the lucky ones. If you are interested in playing, contact Al Manning (586-463-0298) or Del White (586-739-0576). Both men and women are welcome and we will be playing a scramble format so even the less experienced golfers can look good. If you only want to play 9 holes that can be arranged. We are looking for donations to give out as prizes; please help.



FUNDRAISER for Good Shepherd Coalition

Shop for your Spring Flowers, Garden Vegetables and Benefit GSC!

It is simple and the best part is you get to benefit GSC and you will be surrounded by gorgeous flowers!

Our dates are **May 20th and 21st**. Shop on these 2 days, You will need to sign up for a Free Deneweth's customer card (this is how they keep track of the donations through the cards) and let the person at the register know that you are supporting Good Shepherd Coalition!

20% OF ALL YOUR PURCHASE WILL GO TO HELP US!!

**DENEWETH'S GARDEN CENTER
16125 22 MILE RD. MACOMB, MI 48044**

deneweths.com

Note that GSC is a coalition of churches and businesses that help those in need with rent, utilities, and other assistance. Utica UMC is a participant in GSC.

Operating Fund Status

Below is the YTD summary of our income and expenses. To date, we have received \$144,713 in income. We have disbursed 143,585. Thank you for your commitment to ensuring we are able to meet all our obligations in 2017.



Real Life....Real Faith
Ladies Day Retreat, Saturday, May 20th

Real Life, Real Faith will be an inspiring day of retreat for women and young ladies eighteen and older. Led by guest speaker Robyn Dykstra and worship leader Stacy Holmes in worship, music, Biblical encouragement, prayer and fellowship, you'll emerge with the Godly courage to face your life's toughest challenges and greatest opportunities.

The cost is \$25.00 per person and includes a light continental breakfast and a full lunch. Check in and breakfast begins at 8:00am.

Join us wherever you are in your walk with Christ. There will be teaching, worship, refreshments and times of personal and spiritual reflection with a nature walk around the peaceful and historic Simpson Park Camp Meeting Grounds.

This event is located at Simpson Park Camp. To register, go to the camp website at www.simpsonparkcamp.org or call the Camp office at 586-752-3202.

12th
National
Gathering of
United Methodist Men

DISCIPLESHIP CONTACT SPORT

Mission: Go, Do, Build
Renewal: Personal, Spiritual
Development: Leadership, Ministry

There is still time to Register
Contact John Herthel or Charles White
to Register, before April 30th

**NEEDS FOR RALLY DAY AND
IN-GATHERING PROJECT**

On June 14th at 10:00am, we will be cutting out items for the Personal Kits for Teens in Haiti. We continue to need dark flannel materials of 2 1/2 yards or more or flannel sheet sets and also snaps of 1/4 or 1/3 inch. Please place these items in the marked bin in the Narthex. We also need people who would be willing to sew simple circles. See Kathy Weaver on Sunday mornings or call her at 586-677-0572 if you are able to help or have questions. Thanks for your support!

One of our greatest helpers during MCREST was Bryan Croteau whose job was to wrap the silverware with the napkins for our guests to use during meals.

If he can help, what is stopping you?

See you next year for MCREST!





Some of our many leaders and helpers that took part in MCREST.



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR:**Sunday, May 14 - Mother's Day**

8:30 - Gosbells rehearsal	Sanctuary
9:30 - Worship	Sanctuary
9:45 - Children & Youth Sunday School	Rooms 304, 305, 103
11:00 - Adult Bible Study	Room 104
11:00 - Worship	Fellowship Hall
11:00 - Children's Worship	Room 302
12:30 - Youth Ministry	Room 101 & 103

Monday, May 15

10:00 - Commit to Be Fit	Fellowship Hall
1:00 - Prayer Quilting	Conference Room
6:30 - Pack 252	Room 301
7:00 - Scout Troop 80	Fellowship Hall
7:30 - Into the Word Study	Conference Room

Tuesday, May 16

1:00 - Harmony Circle Meeting	Library
7:00 - Disciple Fast Track	Room 107
7:00 - Tuesday Bible Study	Conference Room
7:00 - MS Support	Parlor
7:30 - ACOA	Room 104

Wednesday, May 17

10:00 - Faith Circle meeting	Room 104
1:00 - Dorcas Circle meeting	Parlor
6:30 - Men's Study	Room 104
7:00 - Trustees meeting	Conference Room
7:30 - Worship Band rehearsal	Fellowship Hall

Thursday, May 18

10:00 - Commit to Be Fit	Fellowship Hall
12:00 - "Food for Body & Soul"	Conference Room
6:00 - Prayer & Praise	Various
6:30 - Stephen Ministry	Board Room
6:30 - Scripture Investigators	Conference Room
6:30 - Scout 252 Bear Den	Room 301

Friday, May 19**Saturday, May 20**

8:30 - UM Men's Breakfast & Meeting	Fellowship Hall
9:00 - Ruth's Knit 'n' Stitch	Conference Room
12:00 - Private Party	Fellowship Hall/Kitchen

Sunday, May 21

8:15 - Chancel Choir rehearsal	Sanctuary
9:00 & 10:30 - Blood Pressure Screening	Library
9:30 - Worship	Sanctuary
9:45 - Children & Youth Sunday School	Rooms 304, 305, 103
11:00 - Adult Bible Study	Room 104
11:00 - Worship	Fellowship Hall



**Utica United Methodist
Church**
8650 Canal Road
Sterling Heights MI 48314

**You know summer is on the
way when the car show is
being advertised!**

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES:

9:30AM Traditional Service with Organ,
Choir and Handbells

11:00AM Contemporary Service with
PRAISE Band
(Join us in Fellowship Hall)

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Thursday – 8:00am-4:00pm

Friday 8:00am- 2:00pm



Ministry Team

Rev. Don Gotham
srpastor@uticaumc.org

Minister of Congregational Care

Norma Taylor
norma@uticaumc.org

Music Ministry

David Fox, Organist, Bell, & Chancel
Choirs Director

FoxDavidL@sbcglobal.net

Christopher Heldt, Contemporary
Worship Leader

cjhheldt2000@yahoo.com

Director of Christian Development

Peggy Miller
peggy@uticaumc.org

Youth Director

Jonah Ings
jonah.ings@uticaumc.org

Office Staff

Charlotte Ramsey - Secretary/Bookkeeper
charlotte@uticaumc.org

Tara Blandford—Office Assistant
tarab@uticaumc.org

Custodian
Rachelle Heldt

Child Care
Caitlyn Danforth



Visit our NEW Website!
www.uticaumc.org

Our Mission

To make disciples of
Jesus Christ
for the transformation
of the world.

Our Vision

To reach and nurture our
community with the love of Christ

Deadline Information

For the Weekly Messenger:

Items must be submitted to the office by
Wednesday to be included in that week's Messenger

Prayer Requests:

3:00 p.m. Thursday for Sunday's Prayer List