

THE  
MESSENGER IS  
ALWAYS ON  
OUR WEBSITE!

AUGUST 13, 2017

www.uticaumc.org – 586-731-7667

8650 Canal Road, Sterling Heights, Michigan 48314

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## IN THIS ISSUE:

**Birthdays** 2  
**T- Shirts**

**New member class** 3  
**Teachers needed**  
**Brighter Future**

**Habitat builds** 4

**Rally Day** 5  
**Patriot Ceremony**

**Shoe Drive** 6  
**“Welcome”**

**Vision Loss** 7

**Oil Change** 8  
**Habitat builds**

**Weekly Calendar** 9

## My Heart Is Full

On Monday night our grandson was born. He didn't arrive in the way we expected. In fact, he was born by an emergency C Section surgery. Laura and I were on the way to the hospital, and our son-in-law, who had been texting us with updates through the day of how things were progressing, sent a text that simply read, "Emergency C Section." My heart began to pound, and I pulled off to the side of the road so Laura and I could pray.

Quickly enough, we met our grandson, and discovered he was doing pretty well. Shortly after that, the surgeon assured us our daughter was doing well, and we would be able to see her in about an hour and a half. My heart and my mind continued to race until I saw our daughter, who was also doing pretty well, considering a full day of labor, and surgery.

I write this on Thursday night having just held our beautiful grandson (who has the same eyes I passed on to our daughter) for the last hour and a half, as he peacefully slept in my arms. It feels as if Monday night, and the emotions no parent wants to feel were a very long time ago.

I knew our daughter was going to be a wonderful mother, and it does my heart good to see her bond with her son, and care for him in such a loving way. For sure, this is part of my heart being full, but I need to tell you the rest of the story.

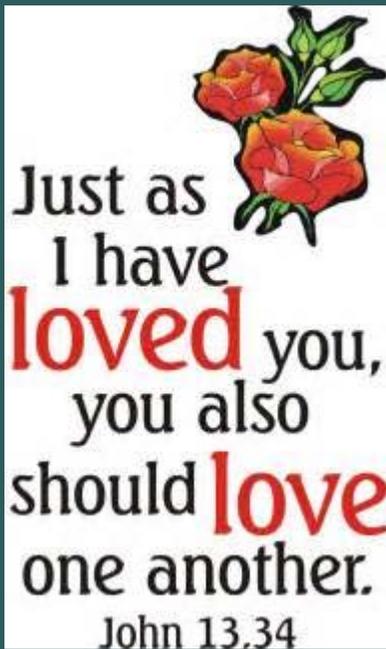
In what felt like helpless moments, on Monday night, I kept reminding myself that God loves and cares about our daughter, son-in-law, and grandson more than we are capable of ourselves, and that God wants the best for them even more than I ever could. I was in the place of laying them bare in God's hands, and trusting God would handle things.

I trust God. It will be hard to get in the car to drive home, knowing we won't hold Evan for longer than we want to, but I trust our daughter and son-in-law to take the best of care of Evan. I trust God to watch over them. My heart is full!

God Loves You, and There is Nothing You Can Do About It!



Rev. Don



## August Birthdays

8/2: Rachel Yung Noah Chisholm	8/11: Kathryn Tuttle Norma Taylor	8/21: Robert Gibson Claudia Bill
8/4: Bev Altovilla Barbara Buckley Christopher Burke	8/12: Dorothy Vikstrom 8/13: Doris Rhodes	Dale Taylor Ronanne McGill
8/5: Megan Darr	8/14: Sandy Deneweth	8/22: John Fox
8/6: Kenneth Kelley Jim Young	8/15: Audrey Leo	8/23: Adelyn Affonso
8/7: Mathews George Joyce Clark Steve Bruen	8/16: Marianne Harris	8/25: David Miller
8/8 Ted Robertson Bob Clark Gail Potter	8/17: Richard Tuttle Carl Ireland Caitlin Schneider	8/28: Joyceann Joyce John Sohlden Cookie Miller
	8/18: Beverly Dipman Mickie Gaffke	8/29: Cynthia Stahl-Yuhas

## Church T-Shirts

**SUNDAY THE 13TH IS THE LAST DAY TO ORDER YOUR UTICA UMC T-SHIRT!**

The cost of the t-shirt will be \$15 and come in men's sizes small through xxx-large. Please order yours by August 13<sup>th</sup> to receive them by Rally Day on September 10<sup>th</sup>. Sign ups are on a table in your worship area.

Serving the community  
for nearly  
200 Years



### Thank You!

To everyone who kept my son, Gordon Charlton in prayer, I am happy to announce that he has been told that he is cancer free! God is good! ~Ruth Charlton

### Birth Announcement

Evan Miller, son of Mark & Elise Miller, and grandson of Don & Laura Gotham on Monday, August 7th





## NEW MEMBER CLASS

Are you ready to become a member of Utica UMC?

If so, please let us know. A new member class will be

starting up soon and we would love to have you be a part of this class.

Call the church office (586-731-7667), speak with the Pastor or Norma Taylor, or email to: [charlotte@uticaumc.org](mailto:charlotte@uticaumc.org)

## Great Opportunity Available...

If you ever wondered what it would take to be a Sunday school teacher, now is a good time to find out! Teachers and substitute teachers are needed for both the 9:30 and 11:00 worship services.

Even if you missed the teacher's meeting, you can still find out details of being a teacher or helper, or to volunteer.

This is a rewarding opportunity and the children are eager to learn!

Please call the church office or email

Peggy Miller -

[peggy@uticaumc.org](mailto:peggy@uticaumc.org)

## “Brighter Future Program” A new opportunity for new donations!

Starting this Sunday, July 9 thru August 13 (6 weeks) a "limited time offer" - for new contributions received in that time period (not previous gifts).

**The following items will be on "sale":**

✦ **For \$300** - Purchase the opportunity to display a message on the sign for 1 week, with the following stipulations: 1) No business advertisements and 2) message must be appropriate and receive church approval. Examples: birthday, anniversary, graduation wish; ministry invitation, favorite saying, etc.

✦ **For \$200** - Purchase "pool of light" in the parking lot. This one is more conceptual than tangible, but it allows those interested in the lights to contribute in that manner.

✦ **For \$250** - Purchase the opportunity to select a scripture to be displayed on the sign for 1 week (people will sign up for a particular month/week, e.g., January - week 1; depending when the sign is installed we will start with the next month and go from there).

✦ Please note that regardless of purchase, any funds contributed will be utilized for both Brighter Future Projects.

Please do say a prayer of thanksgiving to God for the gifts we have received so far **(\$35,229)** and His continued blessing and inspiration on the remainder of the project. -

**We are almost there - Let's Finish Strong!**

### Sunday Service on August 13th

We will welcome our missionaries to Southeast Asia, Rev. Ut Van To and Rev. Karen Vo-To, who will be bringing us the message.

That day we will also be singing out favorite songs based on your votes!

It will be a special day. Be sure to join us!

## RALLY DAY IS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH

**One service at 10:00am in our Sanctuary**

A church picnic will follow around 11:30 in our side lawn  
(we could use help with set up of tables and chairs)

Please sign up to bring a dish to pass  
(sign up sheets are available for the next 4 weeks in the area  
where you worship)

Hamburgers and Hot Dogs & beverages will be provided.





Going to be away on vacation or other travel event? Why not sign up now for E-giving.

Your one time or recurring donation will happen even if you are traveling and are unable or forgot to mail in your offering.

Just go to our website, click on the E-Giving tab and register. It's that easy!

## SAVE THE DATE!

Nathaniel Squire - Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony  
with Full Military Honors  
Sunday, September 17th, 2017  
2:00pm - Utica Cemetery

Mr. Squire was the first settler of Utica, born 1752 in Connecticut, died February 1832 in Shelby Township, MI  
He served in the Revolutionary War from 1777 - 1779

Nathaniel and his wife were founders of what is now  
Utica United Methodist Church in 1823



### Commit to Be Fit

We are waiting for you to join us on

**Mondays and Thursdays**  
**from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.**  
in Fellowship Hall.

We do a variety of chair aerobics, strength training and stretching using videos.

Come and see how much fun we have and we're sure you will really enjoy the exercises - and the fellowship.

**\*All are welcome!**



The next blood drive at Utica UMC is scheduled for Thursday, September 21st from Noon—6:00pm (the last appointment will be scheduled for 5:45) and is located in Fellowship Hall.

Registration will be Sunday mornings beginning in September.

Contact **Al Manning** with questions or to volunteer as a helper for this event.

## SHOE DRIVE Fundraiser

Most of you know that I'm deeply involved in a ministry called Celebrate Recovery. This ministry helps people get through the hurts, habits, and hang-ups in their lives. The group I work with is holding a Shoe Drive. The shoes collected will be sent to developing nations, Haiti being one of them, and will allow local residents to set-up small businesses. Look for the box under the coatracks, and please donate. We are collecting new or "gently used" shoes, men's women's & children's.

The proceeds from this effort will help fund leadership training for this needed ministry. If you have any question regarding the Shoe Drive, or Celebrate Recovery, I would love to speak with you about it.

In HIS Service,  
Bob Clark



### How do you welcome guests into your home?

With a warm smile and a handshake?

What about in our Church home?

Are we just as welcoming?

Guests to our church, as well as current attendees, should receive the same welcome as in our own home.

If you enjoy welcoming people with a smile and a warm greeting, then please let us know.

We are in need of more people to be a part of our welcoming team for the 9:30 service.

If you are able to assist in this important ministry, please call the church office, or contact Tara at [tarab@uticaumc.org](mailto:tarab@uticaumc.org) or Charlotte at [charlotte@uticaumc.org](mailto:charlotte@uticaumc.org)

Thank you!

**SAVE THE DATE**

<http://michiganumc.info/Hands4Detroit/>  
 For more information contact Audrey Mangum at: drbjulcemission@gmail.com

**Pop Can Donations**

The Youth continue to accept donations of empty pop cans or bottles to support some of their programming.

Please bring your clean, empty containers and put in the can provided in Fellowship Hall.

Thank you for continuing to support our Youth Ministry.



**Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers  
 Community Enrichment Program**

**Tuesday, August 29, 2017  
 1:00 p.m.**

**St. Hubert Catholic Church**  
 38775 Prentiss, Harrison Township, MI 48045

**Helping Persons Who Have Vision Loss**

Speaker: Victor A. Arbulu, Managing Director  
 Greater Detroit Agency for the Blind and Visually Impaired

We know that loss of vision need not prevent people from leading productive, independent lives. However, it requires they learn different ways of doing things – and it requires different sensitivities from those who live, work, and socialize with them. This presentation will answer your questions about vision loss and blindness, and share ways for you to courteously and safely interact with people who are visually impaired.

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 Free of Charge - All are Welcome - RSVPs are requested to ensure seating: (586) 757-5551

This meeting is part of a series of community education programs offered by the Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers.

For more information on IVC visit [www.ivcinfo.org](http://www.ivcinfo.org).

## OIL CHANGE MINISTRY

We have a great time available for you on September 30th as we again will be hosting and working the Oil Change Ministry along with Trinity Lutheran Church.

This ministry is designed for **single mother's first and foremost**, but if there is room, for any **single parent** of young children.

Help will be needed in many areas for the oil change and for hospitality.

Sign ups will begin soon.

There is a ministry here for everyone; come and be a part of it as we continue to reach out to our community



### **Macomb Habitat for Humanity August 2017 Volunteer Opportunities – All levels of ability welcome**

#### **Mt. Clemens Builds**

Tuesday, August 22, 2017 – 2 slots -- Chippewa Valley/Dakota Schools Build at 42461 Orchard St. Mt Clemens -- this is a house built by students at the School and brought to the site to be completed

Both sites are at the end of Stepnitz, south of Joy Blvd., east of Gratiot

#### ***First Romeo Macomb Habitat for Humanity Build Site***

Wednesday, August 16, 2017 -- 17 slots -- Help build some interior walls and raise them

Thursday, August 17, 2017 – 12 slots -- Help finish the interior walls and raise some trusses for the roof

Saturday, August 19, 2017 – 12 slots -- Help raise some trusses for the roof and add roof sheeting plus other tasks

Tuesday, August 22, A landscaping day - grading and seeding the yard, put in garden spots

Wednesday, August 23, 2017 -- 18 slots -- Help finish the roof sheeting and start shingling plus other tasks 161 Dickenson, Romeo

Saturday, August 26, 2017 -- 20 slots -- Help finish the roof shingling plus install doors and windows, start the siding

Wednesday, August 30, 2017 – 18 slots -- Help install doors and windows, and continue the siding

If you are interested in volunteering on this build, email Dave Tirsell at

[dtirsell@macombhabitat.org](mailto:dtirsell@macombhabitat.org)

## **THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

### **Sunday, August 13th**

|                                         |                  |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------|
| 8:30 - Summer Handbell rehearsal        | Sanctuary        |
| 9:30 - Worship                          | Sanctuary        |
| 9:45 - Children and Youth Sunday School | Rooms 305, 103   |
| 10:30 - Fellowship & Snow Cones         | Parlor & Outside |
| 11:00 - Worship                         | Fellowship Hall  |
| 11:00 - Children's Worship              | Room 301         |
| 12:30 - Youth Group                     | Room 103         |

### **Monday, August 14th**

|                               |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 10:00 - Commit to Be Fit      | Fellowship Hall |
| 1:00 - Prayer Quilting        | Conference Room |
| 7:00 - Troop 80 Scout Meeting | Fellowship Hall |

### **Tuesday, August 15th**

|                    |            |
|--------------------|------------|
| 7:00 - MS Support  | Library    |
| 7:00 - PPRC        | Board Room |
| 7:00 - TIM meeting | Room 301   |
| 7:30 - ACOA        | Room 104   |

### **Wednesday, August 16th**

|                                |                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| 6:30 - Summer Devotional Study | Room 104        |
| 7:30 - Worship Band rehearsal  | Fellowship Hall |

### **Thursday, August 17th**

|                              |                 |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 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      |

### **Friday, August 18th**

### **Saturday, August 19th**

|                                         |                 |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 10:30 - Memorial Service - Dotty Bryson | Sanctuary       |
| 11:30 - Luncheon                        | Fellowship Hall |

### **Sunday, August 20th**

|                                         |                 |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 9:00 - Fellowship                       | Parlor          |
| 9:30 - Worship                          | Sanctuary       |
| 9:45 - Children and Youth Sunday School | Rooms 305, 103  |
| 10:30 - Fellowship                      | Parlor          |
| 11:00 - Worship                         | Fellowship Hall |
| 11:00 - Children's Worship              | Room 301        |



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

***SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES:***

9:30AM  
With Organ, Choir and Handbells  
in the Sanctuary

11:00AM  
with our Worship Band  
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**



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[www.uticaumc.org](http://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 the following Sunday