



Weekly Messenger

JUNE 14, 2019

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Utica United
Methodist Church
8650 Canal Road,
Sterling Heights, MI
(586) 731-7667
www.UticaUMC.org

"AN UNEXPECTED BLESSING" A LETTER FROM REV. DON

Last weekend I noticed the loss of what I thought was part of a filling. I had no pain, and chewing didn't seem to cause me any problems. I thought I would just deal with it, but my wife encouraged me to go and get it looked at before I headed to my first retreat. Wisely, she counseled me to consider the problem I would be in if the rest of the filling gave way while I was so far from our dentist.

I called the dentist's office, and they fit me in on what is supposed to be the lunch break for the dentist. While enjoying the usual small talk with our dentist, he asked me about my summer plans. This gave me a chance to tell him about the plans I have for renewal this summer. When I told him where my first retreat was going to take place, he shared with me about an impacting book he'd recently read. It was the story of a business leader who had taken a retreat at the same Augustine monastery I will be heading to on Sunday. Our dentist is a Christian and was very intrigued by my summer plans.

He took a look at the pictures the dental assistant had taken of my tooth and was able to see that I had not damaged the filling, but only a small portion of the tooth. The damage was so minor he only needed to take a burr and smooth out the rough part of my tooth. I was so pleased, for I had dreaded the process of having a shot to numb my tooth, the drilling out of the old filling, and the odd sensation when they pack the new filling into the void they create.

While I had dreaded the experience, it turned out to be the briefest dental procedure I can remember. No shot, no drilling, no new filling was needed. A quick procedure with the burr and I was on my way. Not only that, but the cashier waved me on, telling me my insurance would take care of the procedure.

I drove home, thanking God for the whole experience. What I had dreaded turned out to be an unexpected blessing. I pray you also experience unexpected blessings this summer, and that you find the benefit of realizing them and thanking God for them!

"And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." 2 Corinthians 9:8

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Don

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

S.T.A.R.S. and XCEL Are Back!

Students, **T**alents, **A**ctivities, **R**ecreation, **S**cripture

We are looking for kids within our church and the community to participate!



June 17th - July 25th
Monday through Thursday
9:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.
STARS: Children age 7-5th Grade
XCEL: Grades 6-8



The programs are **TOTALLY FREE** and includes breakfast, lunch, snacks, activities, materials, and teaching times. Every Thursday is a **FREE** outing day to places such as the Apple store, Butterfly House, Music store, painting, and more! (All of this is made possible thanks to the continued generosity of the people of Utica UMC. We also continue to be blessed to have mission interns from the Greater Detroit Conference who run the program.)

What a wonderful opportunity for your children to spend time in a safe, wholesome environment, having good Christian fun! **We encourage you to include S.T.A.R.S. and/or XCEL in your summer schedule for your children!**

Watch for registration forms in the sign up areas. **This is the last week to register!!**

*Contact the church office if you have any questions!

Sponsor A Child or Volunteer

The S.T.A.R.S. & XCEL programs are an outreach to our community. In order to make this program open to all, we do not charge families for the time their children attend our program. You can help off-set the cost by sponsoring a child.

The cost for one child is \$25 per week / \$150 for all 6 weeks. This includes meals, outings, supplies and other needs.

If you choose to donate, write "Sponsor A Child" on your donation envelope and the amount you are giving.

If you would like to volunteer, we are in need of drivers for outings and chaperones. Contact the church office or sign up on the sheets provided in the sign up areas.

Thank you for your continued support of the Summer Programs.

Summer Camps



Summer is coming!!! Consider sending your child(ren) to camp this summer for all kinds of fun!

Multiple groups are giving scholarships for campers this year: The Endowment

Committee is making summer grants available in the amount of \$100; Christian Education has \$100 each for up to 3 campers, and Utica United Methodist Women are offering \$50 each for up to 4 campers. Summer camps can range from a couple of days to a week and cover a range of topics. The church office has camp brochures that can provide you with all the information you need.

If you are interested in obtaining one of the grants, please notify the church office or email charlotte@uticaumc.org.

Utica United Methodist Women Collection for Turning Point

The Utica UMW Group will be gathering items for Turning Point Macomb from **June 16th - September 11th**. Turning Point provides service to end domestic and sexual violence. For more information about Turning Point, you can visit their website: www.turningpointmacomb.org

Items needed:

Paper Towels

Dish Soap

New Twin Sheets/Blankets

There is a bin located in the Narthex (outside of the sanctuary).

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER



Dr. Mike Houts

Dr. Houts will be speaking:

Saturday, June 22, 2019, 7:00 p.m.

METRO CHURCH OF CHRIST
40100 Dodge Park Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48310
For information call: 586-979-1771
E-mail: metrococ.office@gmail.com

Dr. Houts holds B.S. degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Nuclear Engineering from the University of Florida, as well as a Ph.D. in Nuclear Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He worked 11 years with Los Alamos National Laboratory serving in various positions including Team Leader for Criticality, Reactor, and Radiation Physics, Deputy Group Leader of the 70-person Nuclear Design and Risk Analysis Group, and also served as chairman of the 15th, 16th, 17th, and 25th Symposiums on Space Nuclear Power and Propulsion. He presently serves as Nuclear Research Manager at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center where he provides guidance and technical advice on research and development related to the design, development, and utilization of space nuclear power and propulsion systems. He has been the lead author on more than two dozen technical papers related to space nuclear power and propulsion, as well as additional papers related to Accelerator Transmutation of Waste, Plutonium Disposition, and other topics. He has co-authored over 100 technical papers and has received numerous distinguished performance awards, including a NASA Exceptional Service Medal, a NASA Exceptional Engineering Achievement Medal, and was selected as an Associate Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. Dr. Houts also serves as an auxiliary staff scientist for Apologetics Press, www.apologeticspress.org. He was recently appointed to the Herald of Truth/Hope for Life board of directors. A staunch evolutionist through his early twenties, Dr. Houts and his wife were baptized into Christ in 1999.

**IS
EVOLUTION
A
SCIENCE?**

*Other times to hear
Dr. Houts at Metro:*

Sunday, June 23
10:00 a.m. class
11:00 a.m. worship
7:00 p.m. adult class
during VBS

*All sessions held in the
church auditorium*

Patriotic Hymn Sing Sunday, June 30th at 9:15am

Don't miss this opportunity to raise your voice as together we celebrate this great nation of ours and begin the week when we celebrate our independence and freedom!

Utica UMW Group Harmony Circle

The Harmony Circle, a Utica UMW Group, is holding a meeting THIS WEEK:

Tuesday, June 18th

11:30am

**Nick's 22nd
Street Steakhouse**

All are welcome to join.



THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

★ THE UTICA UNITED METHODIST MEN ★ THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

All proceeds went to support Autism* and to the Society of St. Andrew to fight hunger. A generous donation was also made to the S.T.A.R.S. program by a participant!

THE 13TH ANNUAL HIGH BEAM CAR SHOW

70+
VEHICLES



THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

Weekly Devotional *"You Live In A Shack"*



When I was in elementary school a new girl, Corrine, came to our school. Corrine was very tall and towered over everyone and she decided that I was a good person to bully. She would walk behind me on the way home and sing song the phrase "you live in a shack". It was humiliating, but not overly harmful -except that, until that time, I did not really realize how poor we were. As luck would have it, when we were in 6th grade, Corrine was one of the students that I was given to help with reading; she could not read. During this time, my assigned place to

do reading with others was just outside the Principals office. Our Principal was a good man and had always been kind to me, but we knew about the paddle he kept in his office and he did not allow for nonsense. As we sat down to do our reading there were 4 of us, myself and 3 students from my grade. Corrine was there, a boy that I had known for years, and another girl. Corrine immediately began doing her singsong and telling the others about where I lived. Johnny knew since he lived down the street from me. He tried to defend me by saying the house was nice inside -which amazed me since he had never been inside my house! I decided that I had to rein this in and reminded them all that we were there to read and if we didn't do the reading our teacher would be upset. As I was saying this I looked up and the Principal was coming out of his office. He heard what I said and smiled at me and gave me a nod. I realized somewhere along the way that I did not have to let others define me. Corrine at 6' tall in 6th grade and unable to read also had problems, possibly bigger than mine. I would work my way out of poverty, but I would often wonder if Corrine would ever know the joy of reading. God entered my life and gave me purpose and strength; I hope that Corrine found that.

Psalms 105:1-4 Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.

Lord be with us this day. Give us the strength to trust you, to trust your plan. Help us Lord when we feel alone and forgotten to realize that we are not alone that you walk with us, that you will not desert us. That though we may be tested you are our strength and shield. Be with those who feel like outsiders, may they be comforted. Be especially with our youth who sometimes feel so alone. Be with those who grieve, those who are ill, and those who are alone and lonely. Be with our church that all who enter our doors feel welcomed and accepted. Bless our Pastor and our leaders. In Jesus name, Amen.

Grace Epperson

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

This Week's Calendar of Events

Sunday, June 16th

Father's Day

- 8:30am - Summer Choir Rehearsal
Sanctuary
- 9:00am & - Blood Pressure Screening**
- 10:30am Library**
- 9:30am - Traditional Worship Service
Sanctuary
- 9:30am - Adult Study: "Not A Fan"
Conference Room
- 9:45am - Children and Youth Sunday School
Rooms 304, 305, 106
- 10:30am - Fellowship & Coffee
Parlor
- 11:00am - Contemporary Worship Service
Fellowship Hall
- 12:00pm - Youth Group (UMYF) meeting
Room 101

Monday, June 17th

9:00am - S.T.A.R.S. / XCEL

Various Rooms

- 10:00am - Commit to Be Fit
Room 301
- 1:00pm - Prayer Quilting
Conference Room
- 6:00pm - Emmaus 4th Day
Library
- 6:30pm - Tiger & Wolf Dens
Room 301
- 7:00pm - Scout Troop 80
Room 104

Tuesday, June 18th

9:00am - S.T.A.R.S. / XCEL

Various Rooms

- 11:00am - Adult Study with Teresa Winkler
"Not A Fan"
Conference Room
- 11:30am - Harmony Circle UMW Meeting
Off-Site:
Nick's Steak House

Tuesday, June 18th Cont'd

- 7:00pm - MS Support
Parlor
- 7:00pm - Together In Mission (TIM)
Room 301
- 7:30pm - ACOA (Adult Children of Alcoholics)
Room 104

Wednesday, June 19th

9:00am - S.T.A.R.S. / XCEL

Various Rooms

- 10:00am - Faith Circle UMW Meeting
Parlor
- 1:00pm - Dorcas Circle UMW Meeting
Room 104
- 6:30pm - Adult Study with Cookie Miller
"The Life You Have Always Wanted"
Board Room
- 7:30pm - Worship Band Practice
Fellowship Hall

Thursday, June 20th

9:00am - S.T.A.R.S. / XCEL

Various Rooms

- 10:00am - Commit to Be Fit
Room 301
- 11:00am - Emmaus Group
Library
- 12:00pm - Food for Body & Soul
Conference Room
- 6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery Meeting**
Fellowship Hall

Friday, June 21st

- 1:00pm - Genealogy with R. Lake
Library

Saturday, June 22nd

- 9:00am - Ruth's Knit n Stitch
Conference Room

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

UTICA UMC'S ANNUAL

BASEBALL OUTING

Reserve Your Tickets Now!

AUGUST 2, 2019

Game Starts @ 7:05pm
AT JIMMY JOHN'S FIELD

7171 Auburn Road, Utica, MI 48317

50 Grandstand seats are reserved for \$25 per person.

Your ticket will include a hot dog, soft drink, and donation to charity*

A van shuttle will be available from church to the ballpark.



Advance purchase is required by June 30th. See Barry Croteau for tickets or ph. 586-254-3667. Please make checks out to "Utica United Methodist Men".

*Charity that receives donation TBD.

\$25.00
PER PERSON

Utica United Methodist Men's

ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

AUGUST 10TH, 2019

Sanctuary Lake Golf Course
1450 E South Lake Blvd, Troy, MI



\$40 PER PERSON

Join us for a fun afternoon of golf and fellowship. Your \$40 includes 18 holes and a golf cart at one of the area's elite golf courses. We will be playing a best ball format. Sponsor the outing with a donation of \$25 and have your name displayed at one of the holes. All other donations also welcomed. If you are interested in playing, contact Al Manning at 586-463-0298

**FREE BLOOD
PRESSURE
READINGS
THIS SUNDAY
IN THE LIBRARY
before & after
9:30am Service**

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

Ministry Team:

Rev. Don Gotham
srpastor@uticaumc.org

Music Ministry

David Fox, Organist, Bell, & Chancel
Choirs Director
FoxDavidL@sbcglobal.net

Christopher Heldt, Contemporary
Worship Leader
chris.heldt@uticaumc.org

Youth Leader

Suzy Palmer
suzy.palmer@uticaumc.org

Communications Director

Beth Miller
bmiller@uticaumc.org

Secretary/Bookkeeper

Charlotte Ramsey
charlotte@uticaumc.org

Custodian

Rachelle Heldt

Child Care

Caitlyn Wilson

Sunday Worship Times:

9:30 AM

with Organ, Choir and Handbells
in the Sanctuary

11:00 AM

with our Worship Band
in Fellowship Hall

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:

Items for The Weekly Messenger, The
Weekly Prayer List, or Announcements
must be submitted by the **Sunday**
prior to posting. Submit to
bmiller@uticaumc.org, contact the
office, or complete a form in the office.

Summer Worship Leader Schedule

June 2 — Chris Heldt

June 9 — Rev. Don Gotham
(Communion Sunday)

June 16 — Rev. Dr. Margie Bryce

June 23 — Chris Heldt

June 30 — Rev. Dr. Margie Bryce

July 7 — Rev. Jeff Regan

(Communion Sunday)

July 14 — Carol Morrell

July 21 — Rev. Dr. Margie Bryce

July 28 — Chris Heldt

August 4 — Rev. Dr. Margie Bryce
(Communion Sunday)

August 11 — Mary Dolenga

August 18 — Chris Heldt

August 25 — Bob Clark

September 1 — Rev. Jeff Regan
(Communion Sunday)

Sept. 8 — Rev. Dr. Margie Bryce

Sept. 15 — Martha Powers

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday

8:00am - 4:00pm

Friday

8:00am - 2:00pm

Phone: (586)731-7667

Like us on Facebook!

Utica United
Methodist Church

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www.UticaUMC.org



Going on vacation? Can't make it to
church due to weather or illness?

You can use "E-Giving" so you can
still give your offering during those
times that you can't be here. You can
even set up a recurring donation so
you won't have to remember your
envelope and to write that check.

The E-Giving tab is on our church
website at:

www.uticaumc.org

If you need assistance, feel free to
call the office!

Classes/Studies

"Not A Fan" - by Kyle Idleman

Sundays at 9:30am (Classes
also held Tuesdays at 11:00am)
in the conference room.

Teresa Winkler will lead this
study; see her with questions.
Books are available for purchase
during class.

Commit To Be Fit

Mondays & Thursdays
10am-11am in room 301

Follow along to fitness videos
with others. Includes variety of
chair aerobics, strength training,
and stretching.

Summer Adult Study:

"The Life You Have Always Wanted" - by John Orthberg

Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the
Boardroom.

A study that will encourage us in
our daily Christian lives. New
students are welcome at any
time!

Genealogy Study:

Fridays at 1pm in Library
Learn how to study genealogy
with Ray Lake. Remember to
bring your own pens and
notebooks! If you missed the
first class, you are still welcome
to join!