



# Weekly Messenger

JULY 12, 2019

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Methodist Church  
8650 Canal Road,  
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## "YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT SOMEONE'S STORY MIGHT BE"

AN ARTICLE FROM [PASSITON.COM](http://PASSITON.COM)

While I was shopping in a department store, a little girl walked past me (maybe 6 years old). She had long, light red hair, a light green coat and a red and white striped hat on. She was by herself looking at the children's toys. From the minute I saw her she really struck me somehow. I was so drawn to her.

Her mom found her and she was in trouble for wandering off, so I asked the mother if she wanted me to help her reinforce the importance of not wandering off. She said, "Please!". I told the little girl that when I saw her by herself I was worried about her. Then her mom and I chatted little bit.

They were in the store for a long time looking at things and I could tell that the mom really had to edit herself as far as what she could buy. She also kept threatening her daughter with calling her dad if she didn't stay close. They were a little loud and, in fact, one of the young employees was a bit rude to them. The mom seemed unsettled and the little girl was actually pretty patient. Despite everything, they were having fun together.

I knew immediately that I wanted to do something for them but I didn't know what. I thought about maybe buying some candy for the kids (she said she had 4 more at home). I hung around looking at things thinking something might strike me or that I would see her pick something up and put it back down. I just couldn't come up with what felt right, so I got in line behind them.

Well, it seems she was hoping to pay with her new store card but she hadn't received it in the mail yet and they wouldn't let her do it. I mouthed to the clerk that I would pay for her purchases and handed her my card so the mom didn't see me. I was trying to keep it a secret. The clerk told her that someone else was paying for it for her and she was confused. Then she started to cry. She saw me sign the slip and thanked me and asked my name. She told me her name was Eileen and that she had 5 children. Four boys at home, she said. (Continue reading on Page 2.)

# THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

## Continued from Page 1: You Never Know What Someone's Story Might Be

Then, "But, this isn't my only daughter. My oldest daughter, who was 17, died earlier this year. She was diagnosed with Bi-polar disorder and she committed suicide." It was then I knew why she was so unsettled, why she kept her little girl close and why I felt such a strong desire to help. One of the things they bought was a little wooden duck that you pull behind you on a string. Her daughter thanked me for it and walked out of the store pulling it behind her.

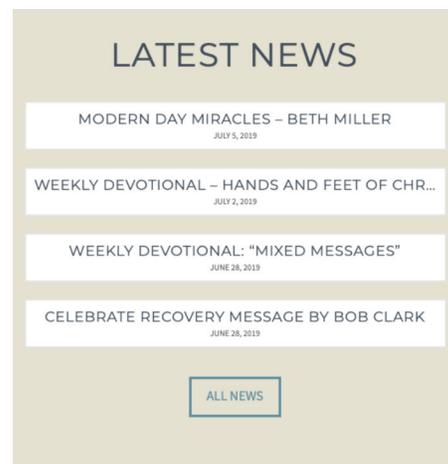
The clerks couldn't believe I had done that. And I wondered why it should be such a big deal. It's so EASY. It's true that at one point while I was wandering the store and thinking about it, I was a little embarrassed that I might be making an unwanted intrusion on a stranger's life by doing something for her and I hesitated. I am glad I followed through.

Submitted by Nancy Jo Graham at [passiton.com](http://passiton.com)  
(<https://www.passiton.com/your-inspirational-stories/1137-you-never-know-what-someones-story-might-be>)

## The New Utica UMC Website: Where to find News/Letters/Devotionals

As you scroll through the new homepage of the website, you will see a number of new additions. You can find upcoming events, our location and service times, and sermon/service information. If you continue to scroll, you will come to a section titled "Latest News". It is here that you can find the weekly devotionals, letters, and miscellaneous news articles.

If you have any questions about items on the website, please email [bmiller@uticaumc.org](mailto:bmiller@uticaumc.org) or call the church office.



## Utica United Methodist Men Monthly Breakfast

The Utica UM Men's Group will be holding their monthly gathering on

**Saturday, July 20th**

at **8:30am** in

**Fellowship Hall**

Come and enjoy breakfast, study the Word of God, and grow supportive connections with other men of the church.



## 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](http://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).



## Food Pantry Items needed:

**Rice**

**Pasta**

**Mac 'n' Cheese**

**Soups**

Bring your donations to the office on Sunday or any day during office hours. Thank you!

# THE WEEKLY MESSENGER



## S.T.A.R.S. and XCEL

The group went to Zap Zone for this week's field trip and had fun putting together puzzles.



# THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

## Weekly Devotional

### *"Pulling an Albert"*



When I was growing up my parents had a good friend named Albert. Albert and my Father had worked together and they often shared fishing vacations up north. When my Father was out in the boat fishing and the fish were biting, Albert would suddenly appear and pull up close to catch some fish. This irritated my Father who then would use the expression that Albert was "Pulling an Albert." This meant that instead of finding his own spot he was moving in on my Father's spot and catching fish that were meant for my Father. After all he had found the spot. Albert and my Father were close, my Father was the one who had to tell him the State Police had come to the lake looking for him because his daughter had been killed in an automobile accident. I know Albert was there when my brother died, and my parents were grieving. Albert and my Father had a

history. They were together through happy and sad times and never turned from each other even though my Father was irritated about the fishing spot. As long as I can remember "Pulling an Albert" meant someone was grabbing your success. I think they learned to forget the irritations of small things because they had been together through the big things. I have had, and thanks be to God still have, good friends that I hope I have been there for, and I know they have been there for me. Not that there haven't been days when we drove each other nuts. Families, friendships, church and relationships can be like that. We may irritate each other, but in the clutch, we are there. Jesus calls us to be in community with each other.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Lord we ask your forgiveness for when we are judgmental, when we are irritated, when we let anger lead us. Be with us in our relationships that we may show others your love. Be with those in our midst who are grieving, those who are hurting, those who are ill, those who suffer oppression. Be with our church that we may be a welcoming place that offers solace to the hurting, comfort to the afflicted, and light to those whose lives are in darkness. Be with our Pastor, our staff, and our leaders, may they feel your presence. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Grace Epperson

# THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

Save the Date

Sunday  
July 21<sup>st</sup>

**PULLED PORK SANDWICHES**

A Fundraiser for S.T.A.R.S. and XCEL Interns  
\*\*Sandwich prices are freewill donations\*\*

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING  
OUR MEMBERS AGES 70+

*Treasure's  
Lunch*

\$10 per person

70+ FREE!

JULY 14<sup>TH</sup>  
12:30PM

*Fellowship Hall*

PAY ENTRY FEE  
AT THE DOOR

\*\*11am Service will be held in the Sanctuary.

Utica United Methodist Men's

## ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

**AUGUST 10<sup>TH</sup>, 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

# THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

## **This Week's Calendar of Events**

### **Sunday, July 14th**

- 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  
**SANCTUARY**  
(this Sunday only!)
- 12:00pm - Youth Group (UMYF) meeting  
Room 101
- 12:30pm - Treasure's Lunch  
Fellowship Hall**

### **Monday, July 15th**

- 9:00am - S.T.A.R.S. / XCEL  
Various Rooms**
- 10:00am - Commit to Be Fit  
Room 301
- 2:00pm - Prayer Quilting  
Conference Room
- 6:00pm - Women's Emmaus 4th Day  
Library
- 7:00pm - Scout Troop 80  
Fellowship Hall

### **Tuesday, July 16th**

- 9:00am - S.T.A.R.S. / XCEL  
Various Rooms**
- 11:00am - Adult Study with Teresa Winkler  
"Not A Fan"  
Conference Room

### **Tuesday, July 16th Cont'd**

- 7:00pm - Multiple Sclerosis Support Meeting  
Parlor
- 7:00pm - Together in Missions (T.I.M.)  
Room 301
- 7:30pm - Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA)  
Room 104

### **Wednesday, July 17th**

- 9:00am - S.T.A.R.S. / XCEL  
Various Rooms**
- 6:30pm - Adult Bible Study  
Board Room
- 7:30pm - Praise Band Practice  
Fellowship Hall

### **Thursday, July 18th**

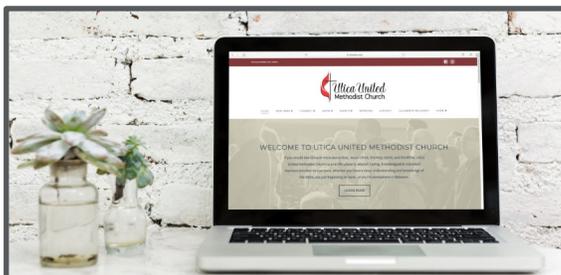
- 9:00am - S.T.A.R.S. / XCEL  
Various Rooms**
- 10:00am - Commit to be Fit  
Room 301
- 11:00am - Women's Emmaus 4th Day  
Library
- 6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery Service  
Fellowship Hall

### **Friday, July 19th**

- 1:00pm - Genealogy Study  
Library

### **Saturday, July 20th**

- 8:30am - United Methodist Men's Breakfast  
Fellowship Hall
- 9:00am - Ruth's Knit 'n' Stitch  
Conference Room



**Visit our new website today!**  
**[www.uticaumc.org](http://www.uticaumc.org)**

# 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

**\*\*NOTE: Sunday, July 14th, the 11am  
service will be held in the sanctuary.**

## 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

June 16 — Rev. Dr. Margie Bryce

June 23 — Chris Heldt

June 30 — Rev. Dr. Margie Bryce

July 7 — Rev. Jeff Regan

**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!

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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!