

Weekly Messenger

AUGUST 23, 2019

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

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL: "BROKEN"

Last week I wrote about how we heal after being broken. I have been broken in my life. When my brother died, I was broken. I could not concentrate, I mourned, I prayed for death so I could be with him again. Then I got Polio, but Polio brought me peace that I needed, the knowledge that I was meant to live, I recovered. Life went on and I became a Registered Nurse, married and had children. The year I turned 50 I found a lump and it was no different than any other lump I had found but something told me this one should be removed. The Mammography was negative, but the biopsies showed it was cancer. I had a Mastectomy and found it had already spread to the lymph nodes. I had a good faith but not a faith that would move mountains. I wanted only one thing and that was to see my children settled in their lives with people who would love them. I did 9 months of chemo and during that time my daughter was married to a wonderful man who I am proud to call son. Two years later my son found a wonderful girl and he was married, and I gained a daughter. My request had been granted and then my daughter was pregnant, and my requests became just 10 years Lord, so my grandchildren remember me. God has given me so much more than I ever prayed for including seeing those Grandchildren grow up and marry, (the last one will be married next week} giving me more Grandchildren and now Great Grandchildren. I know others with a faith as deep or deeper than mine who have died from Cancer and I grieve for them. I don't know why God has let a girl who weighed three pounds, was born into poverty with Ricketts and Malnutrition, hospitalized with pneumonia at age 3, survive for this long and seen her through so many trials but here I am, living for today. Every illness and grief I have known has only served to bring me closer to God.

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THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

Brighter Future Building Fund Update

It's hard to believe, but September 1 will be the one year anniversary of our Brighter Future Building Fund. Our goal is to raise \$500,000 by the end of 2021 for repairs and improvements to the church and parsonages.

The Joint Brighter Future Building Fund team has been working hard this year planning and obtaining quotes for two major projects – repairing the flat roof and updating the aging boiler, heating, and air conditioning systems throughout the building. The flat roof project has been approved and will be started very soon. The cost of that project is approximately \$50,000. The roof will be coated with a special sealant which is guaranteed for 20 years.

We are still working on the boiler, heating, and air conditioning project plans and quotes. There are many options to consider and those options come with a wide range of prices. We are doing some additional research and getting additional quotes in order to ensure we make wise choices. This project will most likely be done in phases once we raise additional funds.

Thank you for your faithful giving to our Brighter Future Building Fund. In addition to cash contributions, we are also able to receive stocks or other appreciated securities. Please contact the office if you would like to do this or if you would like to make a pledge for the Brighter Future Building Fund.

Thank you!

Mary Dolenga (Finance Committee)

Al Laity (Trustees)

Veteran Spotlight

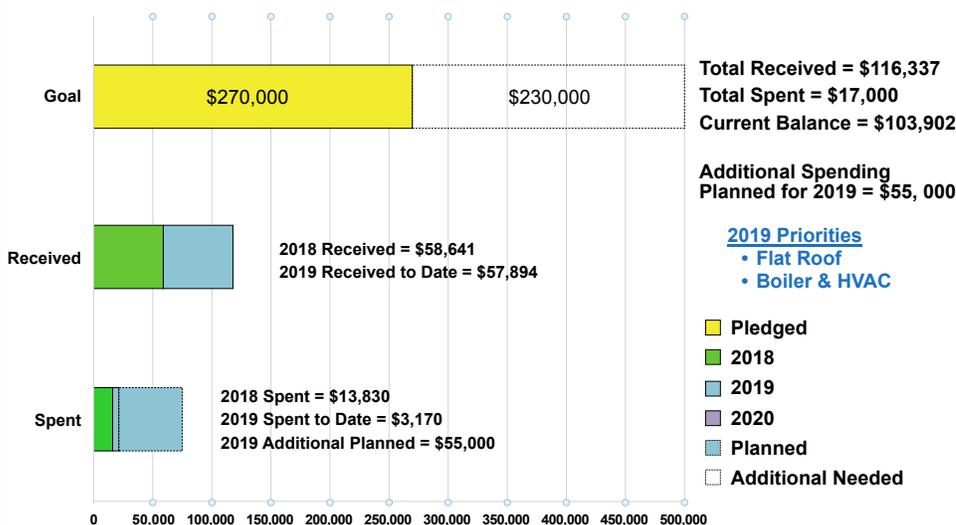
You may have recently noticed a new bench in the Veterans Memorial Garden. It was donated by Joyce and Duane Clark in memory of Joyce's parents, Kathryn "Katie" and Omar Helferich. Both Katie and Omar retired from the Utica School District. Omar was a long time member of our choir and Katie was a member of the various women's circles in our church.

Joyce has been a member of our church since 1932, making her the oldest member of our congregation. Duane has been a member since 1956, the same year Joyce and Duane were married by the Rev. Jones in the Cass Avenue church. Duane proudly served in the Air Force from 1948 – 1952, serving in Okinawa/Japan/Korea.

Please take time to thank Duane and Joyce for their dedication to our church.



Brighter Future Building Fund Status
8/15/2019



THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

Weekly Devotional: "Broken" Continued from Page 1

God has used them to increase my faith. I have seen people with horrific accidents or horrible illnesses become changed in their outlook and drawn closer to a faith stronger than they had known. A woman paralyzed in a car accident that changed from God would not leave me like this to accepting her changed life. A woman with cancer who was frightened but worried only for those she was leaving and then accepting that God would ease her fears and God would be with her children. A young man permanently injured in a motorcycle accident who praises God and lives his faith every day and instills it in his Son. We are all people who have been broken and healed by a faithful and loving God. Thanks be to God.

1Corinthians 13:13 "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

Lord, we thank you for all you have done in our lives, we thank you for the times that we have been drawn closer to you. We thank you Lord for those who live out their lives as examples for all of us, with courage and faithfulness. Be with those who seek you, may they find you in the love of others. May we only seek to serve you as you have called us to heal the sick, feed the hungry and to take in the homeless. Be with our Pastor, our Staff, and our leaders, give them wisdom and courage and let them know and feel your love in their lives. In Jesus name, Amen.

Grace Epperson

Food Pantry Update

Thank you for your generous support to the food pantry. At this time we are very well stocked, but if you still feel like contributing, we can always use canned meats, condiments (especially squeeze mayo), and crackers.

Answered Prayers: Thank You

Thank you to everyone here who has been praying for my daughter, Dawn Gyde Harrison. Her MRI shows no new growth of cancer. Praise God.

-Muriel Gyde



Utica UMC's Youth Group Seeking Furniture Donations

The Youth Group is in need of the following and are asking for donations from the church:

Blankets
Pillows
Bean Bag Chairs
Couch

All items can be used, but should be in decent/good condition. They will be used in the Youth room downstairs.

Please contact Suzy Palmer at suzy.palmer@uticaumc.org if you have anything to donate.

The youth thank you in advance!!

UMW Collection for Turning Point Macomb

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).



JOIN THE CHOIR!!

It's often said that, "one who sings, prays twice" so why not increase your prayer time by joining the choir? The fall season

begins on Monday, September 9th at 6:45pm in the Music Room. During the choir season, the choir rehearses from 6:45pm-7:40pm on most Monday evenings. We gather on Sunday's at 8:45am and sing most Sundays at the 9:30am Service. All that is needed to join is a love of singing. Join us this season as we raise our voices to the Glory of God! If you have any questions, contact David Fox at foxdavid@sbcglobal.net

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

Utica United Methodist Men's Annual Golf Outing



A big thanks from UMM for another very successful Golf Outing this year (August 10th). A special thanks to Aaron and Brittany Konold for their support and generous contributions.

We would also like to thank the many sponsors:

- Al Laity (Chrysler Rochester Hills)
- Joann Yung & family (Shogun restaurants)
- Gary Taylor (Boy Scouts)
- Muriel & Miriam Lenz
- Al & Sheila Manning
- John, Jill and Grace Young
- Ron Parak
- Dave Nesbitt
- Mark Nesbitt

All proceeds, after paying green fees, will go to the UMM general Fund. A little over \$1,000 was raised!

Thank you again,
Al Manning, UMM

Winning team members:

Andy Mudler, John Mair,
Steve Sleem, and Andrew Rudolf

Closest to the pin winners:

Barry Croteau and John Mair

Longest Drive winner:

Chris Blake

**Congratulations to all
of our winners!**



THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, August 25th

9:30am - Traditional Worship Service
Sanctuary

9:45am - Children and Youth Sunday School
Rooms 304, 305, 106

10:30am - Fellowship & Coffee
Parlor

11am - Contemporary Worship Service
Fellowship Hall

12:30pm - Youth Group
Room 101 & Fellowship Hall

Monday, August 26th

10:00am - Commit to Be Fit
Room 301

2:00pm - Prayer Quilting
Conference Room

6:00pm - Women's Emmaus 4th Day
Library

Tuesday, August 27th

7:30pm - Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA)
Room 104

Wednesday, August 28th Cont'd

6:30pm - Adult Bible Study
Board Room

7:30pm - Praise Band Practice
Fellowship Hall

Thursday, August 29th

10:00am - Commit to be Fit
Room 301

11:00am - Women's Emmaus 4th Day
Library

6:30pm - Celebrate Recovery
Fellowship Hall

Friday, August 30th

1:00pm - Genealogy Study
Library

Saturday, August 31st

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



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

August 4—Rev. Margie Bryce
(Communion Sunday)

August 4—Mary Dolenga

August 18—Chris Heldt

August 25 - Bob Clark

September 1 – Rev. Jeff Regan
(Communion Sunday)

Sept. 8 – Chris Heldt

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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Can't make it to church or
looking for a fast and easy way
to give your offering?

Find the E-Giving link on our
church website under the
"more" section:

www.uticaumc.org

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

Classes/Studies

"Into The Word" Bible Study

Mondays, starting Sept. 23rd
7:00pm in the Conf. Room

This study will focus on the book
of Isaiah. Contact Sharon
VanTuyt or the office for
questions.

Food For Body & Soul

Thursdays, starting Sept. 5th
at 12pm in the Conf. Room

Bring your lunch and study the
word of the bible with others!
The current focus will be the
book of John.

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.

Life's Healing Choices

Wednesdays
6:30pm in room 104

This is a Celebrate Recovery
class. Speak with Bob or Patsy
Clark if you are interested.

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!