



# Weekly Messenger

September 18, 2020

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- Live Stream Help .....2
- CROP Walk...2
- Virtual Kids Club/Help.....3
- Apple Pies/ Blood Drive Results/ Mark your calendars.....4
- Devotional.....5
- Back Page...6

## Ways to Help...

In continuing our efforts to fulfill our support in our ministries, the Together-In-Mission (TIM) group would like to ask for your assistance in helping support both Cass Community Social Services and the Baldwin Center with their growing needs.

**CASS COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES (CCSS)** was established as a nonprofit 2002. Prior to that many of its programs started as a part of Cass Community United Methodist Church. The Detroit-based agency works across the city in areas of concentrated poverty providing programs for food, health, housing and jobs. CCSS prepares and serves 700,000 meals annually. 300 homeless men, women and children currently stay in one of CCSS' shelters or permanent supportive housing programs. CCSS operates two weekly free medical clinics and a day program for 125 adults with developmental disabilities. 80 adults are currently employed in the agency's Green Industries which marry jobs with sustainability. <https://casscommunity.org>

**BALDWIN CENTER** was created as an outreach program of the Baldwin Avenue United Methodist Church in response to increasing poverty in the neighborhood. The congregation opened their doors to provide food and recreation to children in June 1981. The Family Soup Kitchen, tutoring services and a shelter soon followed and the programs offered at the church grew from there. In 2006, the congregation moved to Grace and Peace Community Church and Baldwin Center continued offering human service programs as an independent. For over 35 years the Baldwin Center has been providing critical services to the underserved population in the City of Pontiac Michigan and the surrounding area. The Center feeds over 30,000 healthy meals per year in its community kitchen along with 25 other critical programs and service. The Baldwin Center is deeply invested in the community we serve. Our vision is a thriving community with engaged citizens. Our promise is to provide the tools necessary for individuals and families in need to become vibrant, productive community members. <https://www.baldwincenter.org>

If you would like to donate items to either of these programs, we will be collecting on **Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>**. The following items are on their immediate wish list:

- Peanut butter
- Jelly,
- Cereal
- Soup
- Pasta
- Pasta sauce,
- Bottled water
- brown lunch bags
- Individually bagged snacks (ex. chips or cookies)

Thank you,  
Utica UMC – Together In Mission (TIM)

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

# THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

## Live Stream Assistance Needed

We are working on live streaming our services on Sunday morning. Currently we are recording both an audio and video file and are putting them together to produce a video of the service. To be able to live stream the service we need volunteers to learn how to use the streaming program, set it up on Sunday morning and run the live stream. We are looking for someone with some computer knowledge especially if you are familiar with Apple products. Please contact me at rachelle@uticaumc.org or call the church office 586-731-7667 if you are interested.

**Save the Date**  
**Sunday, October 4th**  
**@ 2:00 p.m.**

2020 Utica/Sterling Heights CROP  
Walk  
Hosted by  
Christ Lutheran Church  
12500 Canal Road, Sterling Heights,  
Michigan



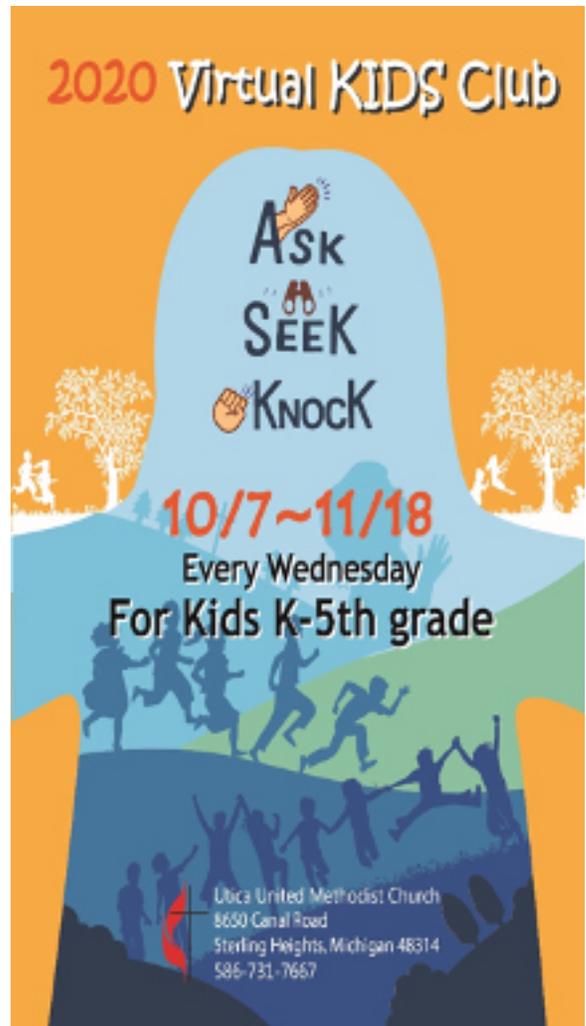
- Sign-ups begin Sunday after service – pick up a donation envelope from Sheila and Al Manning (sitting on the lawn)
- On-line donations are encouraged this year. If you take an envelope, a link is provided to set up your fundraising page.
- There are many ways for our church to participate – teens can get credit for service hours or honors society, support walkers by pledging, you can walk / bike in your neighborhood or treadmill if you cant make the actual walk, if you cannot walk then become a rocker and get an envelope or rocker form to get sponsors.
- 75% of donations go to Church World Services to alleviate hunger in poor communities throughout the world; 25% of donations stay in our community, going to Macomb Food Bank to support local hunger and poverty fighting programs.
- **We need 2 drivers at rest area to drive people who cant make the entire walk back to the church and to hand out water – no apples this year.**
- Prepackaged refreshments will be provided on return to Christ Lutheran Church.

# THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

## Utica United Methodist Church Fall Virtual KIDS Club

We are so glad to introduce ASK SEEK KNOCK 2020 Virtual Kid's Club. This is a great program for children and will teach the importance of how God takes care of His children. Our staff has been working hard to prepare the best Virtual Kid's Club experience for your child and we are excited to see the great things God has in store for us this year.

Please join us for Utica UMC's Virtual Kid's Club. It will be held every Wednesday, beginning on 10/7 at 4:30 pm until 11/18 for 7 weeks. Before & during Virtual Kid's Club, every child is given their package every week which will either be dropped off at home or picked up at Utica UMC. This program will include Zoom meetings and pre-recorded videos on YouTube for Sing & Play, Bible Stories, Crafts and other activities.



### FEELING CRAFTY?

Do we have the outlet for you!

Kids Club will be returning this fall by way of a virtual program. Each week, the children will receive a lesson, a snack, a music piece and a craft. The program will be led by our new Pastoral Intern, Sunhwa Hopgood. She has selected the theme, the weekly lesson focus and the craft.

Where do you come in? We need a volunteer for each week to video themselves assembling the craft. You can choose 1 week or any part of the 7 needed. Since everything will be ready for you, you can video weekly, or video your weeks all at once.

Contact Peggy Miller to hear more or sign up (586)254-4932 or text (586)557-0208.

# THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

## It's Pie Time Again!



The United Methodist Women are again making apple pies. Anyone willing to come in and help are more than welcome. You can for an hour or two or for the whole day. We start at 9:00 and end at 3:00. We will start making them on Oct. 7th and 8th. We will be social distancing with gloves and masks. We will also have less people at the tables.

If you want to order pies you can get a form on Sunday mornings or pick one up at the church office. You can also call Ruth Charlton at 586-731-8477. Please leave a message if you cannot get a hold of me. We will not be making a lot of extras so please order. If we need to we will have another work time later in the month. Thank you in advance for helping with our mission projects.

## Blood Drive Results!

Total results:

Actual Collection: 23!

2 were power red donors! Great!

1 FIRST TIME DONOR!

28 Donors Registered (went with a staff for health history)

7 Deferrals (donors that were turned away for medical reasons)

The blood that you collected will help 69 Hospital patients! (This is the IMPORTANT PART) 69 LIVES SAVED (since every blood donor can save 3 lives)! You really made a huge difference in the lives of those in need- thank you for being a HERO to the community! Those units were so desperately needed! Thank you for preventing dangerous blood shortages! Thank you for all of your hard work on this life saving event!!! Great job!!! Thank you for making the WORLD a BETTER PLACE!!

Thank you for your kindness and generosity!!

## Mark Your Calendars...

September 23 @ 6:30-8:30 Join Scouting Info drive thru. If you know a child interested in scouting share about this informational drive thru meeting.

October 4 - Troop 80 will be selling Popcorn before and after service. Look for them as you come in or leave church under the portico.

October 4 - Love Loaves will be distributed as you drive in for service. You may also pick up a love loaf in the office during office hours.

October 11, 18, & 25 - UMW Apple Pie drive-thru pick up days after service. Turn in your order forms to make sure a pie is waiting for you.

# THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

## HAND-ME-DOWNS

I had always thought Hand-me-downs were the clothing that was pre-used and the coats that were too big that I remembered when I was a child. But then I read an article that described Hand-me-downs as the things we leave behind. As I thought of this description of hand-me-downs, I thought of the things our children and grandchildren asked for when their Father and Grandfather recently passed away. Our children wanted his Bibles. When they both wanted the same thing, I was worried but then I looked and realized they could both receive at least 3 each. He had a lot of Bibles. Before he became ill, he had a daily practice. He would read the Upper Room, his current Bible, and do his prayer list. His list was quite long as he tended to not remove anyone once they were on it. Our oldest Granddaughter said she wanted something but would let me decide. I offered her the Mantle Clock he had received for 25 years of service, engraved with his name. I then offered our other Granddaughter another wooden clock from when he retired also engraved with his name. Our Grandson had already been promised his Grandpa's model car collection. I received as a child from my Grandfather a doll bed he had made. He was an excellent carpenter and the bed is made without nails and fitted together with dowels and made with love. When I look at this bed and touch the wood he touched and finished I am reminded of a man who loved his granddaughter very much and hugged her often. I hope that these things left behind will remind our children and grandchildren of a man that loved them always and that this is what they need to treasure the most.

The followers were distraught. How could they go on? What would they do? Jesus had died and now they were alone. But then the miracle!

Matthew 28:18-20 The Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go make disciples of all nations, baptizing in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

1 Corinthians 13:12-13 Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror, then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Lord, be with us in this time of a pandemic, guide us in all we do. Be with those who are alone, those who grieve, those who are ill, those who question. Be with our leaders, give them wisdom, understanding, and your guidance. We thank you for those in our lives that have shown us your love. Be with our Pastor, bless his ministry and give him strength for today and hope for tomorrow as he leads us through this difficult time. Be with his family, keep them safe. May we be the hands and feet of Christ in a world that is fearful, anxious, and uncertain. Heal our land. In the name of Christ, Amen.

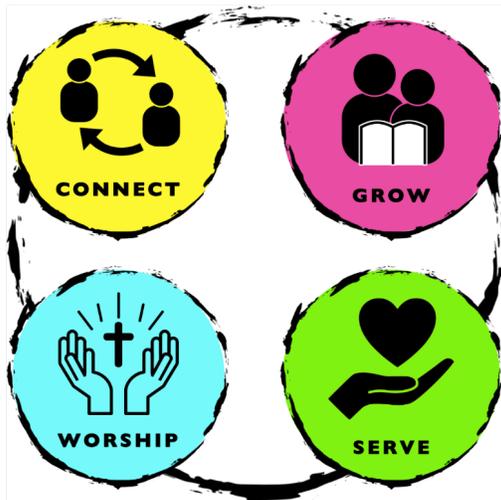
Grace Epperson



# THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

## Our Mission:

Inviting people to rely on Jesus to find unexpected purpose, peace, and joy.



## Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs 8am-4pm  
Friday 8am-2pm

**Phone:** (586)731-7667

*Our food pantry is open and available.*

## Sunday Worship Times:

Visit our website for worship videos and **join us for "Drive-In" Worship Service at 9am on Sundays.**

## Keeping ~Connected~

Stay in touch with us by following our Facebook page, subscribing to our YouTube channel, and checking our website ([www.uticaumc.org](http://www.uticaumc.org)).

If you are not signed up for the Weekly Messenger email, you can do so on our website by clicking the "More" tab and going to "Weekly Messenger" page to sign up now!

The weekly messenger will be sent on Friday's.

In addition, we have set up an account with Webex for groups to meet via telephone and video calls. We will continue to do our best to keep everyone connected during our time apart.

Find us on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)!!

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

## Ministry Team:

Reverend Don Gotham  
[srpastor@uticaumc.org](mailto:srpastor@uticaumc.org)

Ministry Leader Intern  
Sunwha Hopgood

Contemporary Worship Leader

Mer Renne  
[mer@uticaumc.org](mailto:mer@uticaumc.org)

Music Ministry

David Fox, Organist, Bell, &  
Chancel Choirs Director  
[FoxDavidL@sbcglobal.net](mailto:FoxDavidL@sbcglobal.net)

Communications Director  
Rachelle Heldt  
[rachelle@uticaumc.org](mailto:rachelle@uticaumc.org)

Secretary/Bookkeeper

Charlotte Ramsey  
[charlotte@uticaumc.org](mailto:charlotte@uticaumc.org)

Youth Leader

Suzy Palmer  
[suzy.palmer@uticaumc.org](mailto:suzy.palmer@uticaumc.org)

Child Care

Caitlyn Wilson

WHAT THEN SHALL WE SAY  
TO THESE THINGS?  
IF GOD IS FOR US,  
WHO CAN BE AGAINST US?

Romans 8:31

## Deadline Information:

Items for The Weekly Messenger, The Weekly Prayer List, or Announcements should be submitted by the **Sunday prior to posting**. Submit to [Charlotte@uticaumc.org](mailto:Charlotte@uticaumc.org), contact the office, or complete a form in the office.



You can donate online with a one time gift or set up automatic donations!

Visit our website to give now!

[www.uticaumc.org/e-giving](http://www.uticaumc.org/e-giving)

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