



Weekly Messenger

August 13, 2021

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"Going On To Perfection"

Not many things come up in the life of a congregation that stirs strong feelings as much as the times to gather to worship. Last fall, we adjusted our worship times to make attending the contemporary worship service more considerate of the needs of people with children. To accomplish this, we changed the time of our traditional service a half-an-hour earlier.

Beginning on September 5th, to better accommodate the needs of those who prefer the traditional service, we are adjusting the start time of that service back to 9:30 am. The contemporary service will continue to be at 10:30 am.

Plans have been made to accommodate Sunday School for children and will be offered during both services. We are very much looking forward to re-engaging with children and youth in this vital time of Christian education.

We have made more adjustments than we ever anticipated we would need to over the past eighteen months. We make this adjustment to best meet the needs of more people.

Thanks for your grace and commitment,

Rev. Don



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THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

August Theme Days

August 15th (MI Sports Team Day)
August 22nd (Western Theme)
August 29th (Stars and/or Stripes Day)

Starting in August we are encouraging you to join the fun of special dress days. The above Sundays show the suggested theme for each week. If you have something to wear for each theme please wear it to church that day.

I encourage you to take photos during these Sundays and submit them to rachelle@uticaumc.org to be included in the messenger for the following week to share the fun with everyone.



Celebrate!

WHAT: A Celebration for Brighter Future Building Fund

WHEN: Sunday, August 15 at and after both services

WHY: To PRAISE God and THANK all of YOU!

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

Book Sale!

The book sale is back once again, set up outside the main office. Book sale will end on August 22nd. We are now offering fill a bag for \$1.00 or any donation is accepted. Bags are located on the cart with the money box next to the book table. Pick your favorite books or those you might want to read!



UMW Collection

The United Methodist Women are collecting diapers size 6 and baby wipes now through September 5th for Abigayle Ministries. There is a collection tub in the Narthex with UMW sign on it. Please place diapers and wipes in the tub. This is a wonderful ministry to support.

Christmas Tea Planning Meeting

The Christmas Tea is returning this year and is scheduled for December 4th. If you are interested in helping out in any way, or just want to learn more about the Tea, please come to a planning meeting on Saturday, August 28th at 11:00am in the Parlor (outside the Sanctuary). If you have any questions ahead of time, please contact Gail Blazinski.



THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

Oil Change Ministry

The Free Oil Change Ministry is scheduled to be held at our church on **Saturday September 25, 2021 from 9 am to 3:30 pm**. The Free Oil Change Ministry provides oil change and fluid top offs for single parent, low-income homes. The Free Oil Change Ministry 2021 is supported by our church, as well as Trinity Lutheran and King of Kings Lutheran Churches.

With the complications that Covid 19 provided us, we were unsure if we would be able to provide it to the community this year on an in-person basis. Last year, Sterling Quick Lube at Van Dyke and 17 Mile Road provided an oil change, fluid top off and tire inflation check to 46 of our guests. We printed out vouchers to 61 people that called in requesting this assistance.

After discussing the many challenges, it was determined that rather than abandon this ministry when there is such a need, we would not be outsourcing the work this year. We decided that we would like to personally assist our guests. This allows us to make our guests aware of additional offerings which our church provides (i.e. Kids Club, Bible Studies, and Food Pantry), as well as invite them to visit our church on Sundays.

There are many volunteer opportunities available in the following areas: Set-Up, Take Down, Reception, Refreshments, Guest Fellowship, Supplies Purchase, Safety Check, Supplies Distribution. **Sign ups will be made available after church beginning on Sunday, September 5th.**

If you feel moved to make a monetary donation for the upcoming year, please note on your check the Oil Change Ministry, or if you want to donate cash see Ron Borgacz or Bob Baldwin and we will make sure it gets deposited.

Thank you for supporting this much needed ministry during this uncertain time. We are very grateful for the continued support of our congregation.



THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

SUNRISE, SUNSET

I was recently reminded of the song from Fiddler on the Roof, Sunrise, Sunset as a favored niece talked about the emptying of her nest. I remember the times when it was dinner for 4, trips for 4, vacations for 4. groceries for 4. Then one was married, and it became 3, then the other married and it was 2. I stated that I missed that nest of 4, but with that loss came gain. What I thought was sunset turned into sunrise as a son-in-law then a daughter-in-law were added, and we were 6 then 3 Grandchildren and we were 9. Then the grandchildren married and then we were 12. Now there are 3 great-grandchildren, and we are 15. I have seen the sunrises and sunsets of life and now I am in the sunset. I won't see the graduations or marriages of those 3 great grandchildren since even with longevity I would have to be over 100. This saddens me but I have been so blessed. My focus now has been to be remembered. When my grandchildren were born and I had had cancer and been treated that was the one thing I asked God for, time. Time to spend with them and time long enough to be remembered. God blessed me with much more than I asked for, and we have such happy memories. I remember well my Great Grandmother. She was kind and gentle. When talking to my Granddaughter one day she mentioned that Ethan the oldest saw a small suitcase that my Granddaughter had left out. He told her that Great Grandma would like that. She said it was covered with flowers and wondered if I had anything like that. I realized that I had taken a small, flowered bag on the plane because it was lightweight and could hold my kindle and things from my purse without being bulky. I wanted to cry because he had remembered something about me. The next time I go I will be sure to carry that bag. Recently I have had some minor health issues, but I plan on going to Colorado to see them again and to Illinois to see the others. I want them to remember the funny, present giving, do anything you ask Great Grandma.

Psalm 8:3-5 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon, and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.

Lord, we thank you for this day, for the glory and assurance of the sunrise and the beauty and the promise of the sunset. Be with those who hunger, those who have no shelter, those who thirst for you. Be with those who mourn and those who are ill. Lord, we ask that you be with our church, we yearn to be the hands and feet of Christ, show us the way. Be with our Pastor, bless his ministry, bless him and his family. Be with our Staff and Leaders, grant them your love and guidance. Be with us Lord in our sunrises and sunsets. May all we do bring glory and honor to you. In Jesus name, Amen

Grace Epperson



THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

Ministry Team:

Senior Pastor
Reverend Don Gotham
srpastor@uticaumc.org

Contemporary Worship Leader

Mer Renne
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Music Ministry

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

Communications Director

Rachelle Heldt
rachelle@uticaumc.org

Secretary/Bookkeeper

Charlotte Ramsey
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Office Hours:

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

Phone: 586-731-7667

Food Pantry available
by appointment only.

Deadline Information:

Items for The Weekly
Messenger, The Weekly
Prayer List, or
Announcements should
be submitted by
Wednesday each week.

Submit to
charlotte@uticaumc.org
for announcements and
prayer list and to
rachelle@uticaumc.org
for the Messenger and
Electronic Sign
or call the office.

Our Mission:

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

Keeping Connected

Stay in touch with Utica United Methodist Church by checking our website (www.uticaumc.org), following us on Facebook (Utica United Methodist Church) or subscribe to our YouTube Channel (Utica Umc).

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

We have an account with both Webex and also with Zoom for groups to meet via telephone and video calls. We are also allowing groups to meet inside once again. Please call the office to either set up a Zoom meeting or to schedule an in-person meeting.

Sunday Worship Times:

In Person Worship

9am -Organ/Hymns in
Sanctuary

10:30am - Praise Team in
Fellowship Hall

Online Worship

A recorded service will be
available online on Facebook,
Website and Youtube Sunday
mornings at 9am.

Donate Online:

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

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

