

Weekly Messenger

March 15, 2024

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"Mushroom Soup"

In a pinch. I saved sharing the recipe for the Mushroom Soup I brought to the Cook-off for a week when my time was crunched. This week has been a cruncher. FYI, I used Portobello mushrooms since Cremini were not available on the day I shopped. Enjoy!

Rev. Don

Hungarian Mushroom Soup

Ingredients

- 4 **tablespoons** salted butter
- 1 large yellow onion, chopped
- 1 **pound** cremini mushrooms, sliced
- 2 **cups** chicken or vegetable stock
- 1/2 **cup** dry white wine
- 2 **teaspoons** dried dill
- 2 **teaspoons** minced fresh thyme leaves
- 2 **teaspoons** paprika
- 1 **tablespoon** Worcestershire
- 1 **teaspoon** kosher salt
- 3 **tablespoons** all-purpose flour
- 1 **cup** whole milk
- 1/4 **cup** sour cream
- 1 **tablespoon** lemon juice, from 1 lemon (optional)
- 2 **tablespoons** fresh Italian parsley (optional)

Directions

1. Melt butter in a large pot over medium heat. When the butter is melted, add onions and mushrooms and cook, stirring occasionally, until onions are soft and translucent, about 8 minutes. Add the stock, white wine, dill, thyme, paprika, worcestershire and salt. Bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce to a simmer over low heat and cook, stirring occasionally, until the liquid reduces by 1/3, about 10 minutes.
2. In a small bowl, whisk flour into the milk until smooth. Add the milk mixture to the soup and cook, stirring occasionally, until the soup begins to thicken, about 10 more minutes.
3. Over low heat, slowly stir in the sour cream, and lemon juice until fully incorporated.
4. Divide the soup into four bowls and top with fresh parsley to serve.

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Updates from the Mini Pantry

Thank you to all who continue to support this wonderful extension of the mission work of our church. I have personally witnessed folks from our area drive up and remove some of the food items. I am humbled when I witness the elderly drive up, struggle to get out of their vehicle and methodically look over the selection of food we have provided. We are truly “up 2 something good” as the love of Christ shines brightly through our Mini Pantry. Thanks to a “less harsh winter” we are now placing canned goods back in the Mini Pantry.

Our current needs are as follows:

- Cans of Tuna Fish and/or Chicken
- Pancake Mixes and Syrup
- Small Jars of Peanut Butter and Small Jars of Jelly
- Small bags of Flour and Sugar

We prefer all items to be in plastic or metal containers if at all possible. Please reach out to the office or to the Mini Pantry Team if you have special needs and/or know of someone in our congregation or your neighborhood who is dealing with food insecurities.

We want to be a blessing to all.
Serving Up in the Name of Jesus.
Jim, Liza, Melanie, Ron and Martha

Easter Baskets for Sale

The Emmaus Group will be making and selling Easter baskets starting this Sunday, March 17th. This is a fundraiser for this group to help support those who wish to attend an Emmaus walk along with the missional work this group does. Stop by the table and pick out an Easter basket to give as a gift to someone you know. Make someone's Easter a little brighter.



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On Wednesday, March 6th, there were 10 Easter Baskets delivered to the Methodist Children's Home Society in Redford, Michigan. The baskets were donated by Utica UMC and were tailored to the wants and needs of 5 teenage girls and 5 teenage boys. Several churches have teamed up to assist MCHS with providing Easter Baskets to the residents and clients who participate in the children's programs.

The day of the delivery, I met with Eriann Scharer at the facility. She arranged the needs lists and contacted Methodist churches to solicit donations for the Easter Baskets. She expressed her gratitude for the response from Utica UMC and is preparing to present these gifts to the children on Easter Sunday. On behalf of the MCHS, she extended a word of thanks and extended an invitation for members of our congregation to come for a tour of the site this Spring. TIM is planning to arrange the tour during the month of May, so please plan to participate and see what a wonderful setting that the Children's Home is located on.

For those who are not familiar with the MCHS story, this site was the result of caring Christian women including Anna Kresge (wife of S.S. Kresge) in response to the Spanish Flu pandemic in the early 20th century. For over 100 years, children in need of support have been cared for at this facility. Utica UMC has been a supporter of the Children's Home for many years and have shared Jesus' love with our financial support and special needs collections of sporting goods, personal hygiene supplies, and more, over the years. Thank you for your contributions and please offer your prayers for these children. One final request is for you to join us when we tour the site during the month of May, 2024. More to come on the tour arrangements in the near future.

Together in Missions (TIM)





God's Country Community Ministries

At this time we have 12 team members that will be joining the Utica UMC mission trip to the Upper Peninsula. More are welcome. Come join us for a week of serving our Lord and sharing our faith. If you are interested, please notify Barry Croteau at 586-275-8122 or the church office. We welcome Utica UMC members, family and friends.

The application for the mission trip to GCCM was mailed on March 4th to request a week in June. As soon as our week is confirmed, we will schedule a meeting with all team members to discuss available details on transportation, meals and dietary restrictions, costs, equipment needs, and other topics as they are identified. We hope for this mission trip to be an extension of the entire body of Utica UMC, so please watch for needs of the mission team and opportunities to help us prepare for this trip. Our mission is to bring glory to God! Let our church be the entire body of Christ!

May God's guidance and blessings be with the Utica United Methodist Church as we seek to serve Him.

Together In Missions

Hands With Detroit

Consider how you can "get up to something" and think about helping support Hands with Detroit. See the flyer on page 5 for more information. There are ways you can help support by either volunteering your time and sign up to go and serve in Detroit on that day, or by purchasing a needed item from their amazon list and having it sent directly to Cass Community services.

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HANDS WITH DETROIT

GREATER DETROIT DISTRICT UMC

SATURDAY APRIL 27, 2024

@ Cass Community Social Services

Kitchen Help :: Grounds Clean Up :: Maintenance Projects

Document Destruction :: Doormat Construction

Offsite Collections {Ages 10+ are welcome!}



"SERVE ONE ANOTHER HUMBLY IN LOVE."

-GALATIONS 5:13

To sign up or for more information visit:

www.handswithdetroit.org

or scan our QR code:



THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

Matthew, One of the Thirteen

Matthew the Apostle was a successful man. He was a Tax Collector, good at his career, a success, well off, but tax collectors were not well thought of in the community, they seemed to be cheaters, often friendless, with no mercy, associated with the authorities, and money grabbers. They were, however, as I said, well off and therefore a success to many. Jesus saw Matthew at his table collecting taxes and said to him, "Follow me." Matthew rose up and followed Jesus just as the others had done. I thought that Matthew would have been the holder of the purse strings, but that was Judas. Perhaps Matthew had had enough of money and the problems it brought into his life. Matthew had probably learned that money won't buy you a lot of things, like happiness, peace of mind, salvation, or success in relationships. Poverty doesn't buy you these things either. A life of service for others, belief and faith in God and salvation comes much closer. He changed his life. He gave up his success. Died a Martyr's death, but died with his faith, love of others, belief in something bigger and better than himself, and love of Christ intact. He changed his life for a life of giving to others rather than himself, a life of bringing others to Christ. J. Ellsworth Kalas writes that Matthew was to many the picture of success, well off with the ability to become even richer and was in a profession unlikely to suffer from inflation or depression. But Jesus looked at this tax collector and said his words, "Follow me" and like the others Matthew heard those words and left his wealth and career behind and followed Jesus.

Matthew 9:9-13 As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the Tax Collectors booth. "Follow me" he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him. While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked the disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" On hearing this Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: I desire mercy, not sacrifice. For I have come not to call the righteous but sinners."

Lord, we thank you for each day given to us with another chance to do your will and another chance at forgiveness when we fail. Be with our church, be with those who are ill and those who grieve. Be with us as we seek your will in our lives, help us as we seek to help those who hunger, those who need you in their lives, those who thirst for your word. Be with Pastor Don and Laura and their family, guide and protect them. Be with our staff and leaders as they seek to serve the church. May we always feel your love and mercy surround us. May we in this time, in this place, be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ for it is in his name we pray and have our trust. Amen

Grace Epperson

*references from The Thirteen Apostles by J. Ellsworth Kalas



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SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES:

9:30AM

with Organ, Choir and Handbells
in the Sanctuary

10:30AM

with our Worship Band
in Fellowship Hall

Online Worship

A recorded service will be
available online on
Facebook, our church website and
on YouTube beginning at
9:00am each Sunday.

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday
8:00am-2:00pm

Mini Pantry

Food and Monetary
Donations are being
accepted.

Suggested foods are eat
and go items (tuna packs;
cracker items; granola
bars; fruit cups; salty
snacks

Keep Connected

If you are not signed up for our
Weekly Messenger email, you
can do so on our website by
clicking on the "More" tab, then
"Weekly Messenger"; on that
page you will find a place to
register for our weekly email!



*"Like" us
on
Facebook!*

Our Mission

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

Ministry Team

Rev. Don Gotham

srpastor@uticaumc.org

Music Ministry

David Fox, Organist, Bell, & Chancel Choirs
Director

FoxDavidL@sbcglobal.net

Mer Renne, Contemporary

Worship Leader

mer@uticaumc.org

Communications Director/Bookkeeper

Rachelle Heldt

rachelle@uticaumc.org

Deadline Information

Articles for advertising/
announcements must be submitted to
the office by 3:00pm on
Wednesday of each week.

Messenger: Email to Rachelle Heldt

Prayer List: Email to Rachelle Heldt

or call the church office.



Going on vacation; can't make it to church?

How about using E-giving so you can still give your offering for
those times when you can't be here **The E-giving tab is on our
church website: www.uticaumc.org**

If you need assistance, call the church office.

Celebrate Recovery, Thursday, 6:30pm

