

Weekly Messenger

April 10, 2026

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"Liberian Scholarship Ministry"

On behalf of Pastor Albert Barchue, the Together-In-Missions team is helping to support the Liberian Scholarship Ministry.

Unlike here in the United States, schools in Liberia are mostly private and like all private schools, parents of kids who attend these schools are required to pay fees for their kids in order to finance the costs of staff salaries and the general operations of the schools. Due to many unfortunate circumstances, many children do not have the means to pay the fees to get an education. This is where the Liberian Scholarship Ministry comes in and helps to sponsor those kids who do not have funds available to pay for their education.

If you would like to sponsor a student in full, here is a list of the cost per grade level:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Elementary Level (Grade 1-6)..... | \$225.00 |
| Junior High Level (Grade 7-9)..... | \$325.00 |
| Senior High Level (Grade 10-12) | \$400.00 |
| University Student..... | \$500.00 (per semester) |

This amount covers the annual registration and tuition fees and, in some instances, provides a set of uniforms for the sponsored child. You will receive a photograph of your sponsored student to put a face to the name.

If you would like to donate to this ministry, there will be a basket on a table in the Narthex. Ways to donate include cash, check, and e-giving. If you cannot fully fund a student, any donation amount will help. You can also pair with another church member or group to help sponsor a student.

If you are writing a check, please make it payable to Utica United Methodist Church with the memo line "Liberia Scholarship".

Please contact Pastor Albert, the together-in-missions team, or the church office if you have any questions.

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

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

VETERANS MEMORIAL

We are planning to add additional bricks to our Veterans Memorial Garden. We would like to get them installed in time for Memorial Day. In order to accomplish this, we need to place the order with the engraving company by May 1st. The cost of each brick is \$45.00. Order forms will be available right after Easter. If you have any questions, see Bob Clark.

Van Dyke Road Clean-up

On Saturday, April 25th from 8:45-11:00, we have the responsibility of removing debris from Van Dyke berms between 21 and 22 mile roads. Those who are interested and able are urged to sign up in the Narthex with Don or Kathy Weaver. If you need more info, call them at 586-260-8814. Chick-fil-a gift cards will be awarded to those who participate.

New Bible Study - "The Holy Spirit"

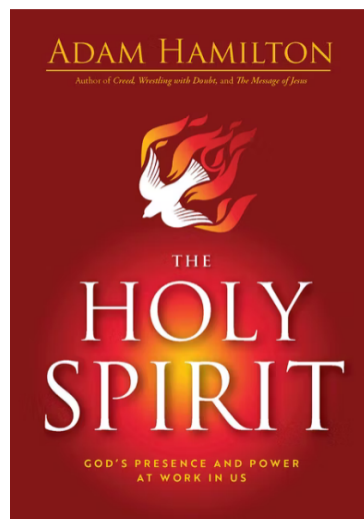
Please join me for 5 Weeks beginning May 5, 2026 from 11:00am to 12:30pm as we journey together learning and growing through this powerful study by Adam Hamilton.

The Holy Spirit is God's active presence and power at work in the world and in our lives. Through the Spirit, we are transformed, led, empowered, and guided in our faith journey. Jesus promised his followers that the Spirit would come alongside them as comforter and counselor, empowering them to transform the world.

In *The Holy Spirit*, Adam Hamilton explores what Scripture teaches about God's Spirit—from the Hebrew Bible through Jesus' promises in the Gospels, the powerful Pentecost experience in Acts, and the rich teachings found in the New Testament letters. This accessible study helps believers understand and experience the Holy Spirit's presence and power in their daily walk with Christ.

This is a relatively new release so I have asked Rachelle to order books through Cokesbury due to the fact that this study is currently not available through Amazon. Please let me know as soon as possible if you plan to attend so that I can work closely with Rachelle to secure materials for all who are interested in attending the class.

As always please contact me at:
Cell (586)703-1668
Email: ron_martha@att.net.
Martha Powers/Facilitator



THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

We are now Live!

Every Sunday, the 11am service will be shown live on our YouTube channel. Links are also available on Facebook and on the church website. Please click on the link or type in the following to view the live stream - <https://www.youtube.com/@uticaumc5212/live>.

The 9:00am service will continue to be recorded and will be posted the following week on Youtube.

***Please remember that if you watch the 9:00am service it is a week behind and the 11am service will be the current week.

Mini Food Pantry Update

ACTS 20:35 In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

The warmer weather has arrived and that allows better food collection options.

Currently we have a good stock on:

Mac and Cheese
Pancake Mix and Syrup
Spaghetti and Sauce

So with that being said we are in need of the following:

Large Boxes of Cereal
Oatmeal
Cans of Fruit
Cans of Ragu
Packages of Rice
Packages of Potatoes

Thank you again to Sharon for the wonderful donation of toiletries. We were able to assemble approximately 50-60 mini bags of personal items from shampoo to lotion to toothpaste to toothbrushes. Every little donation "Makes a Difference" and every gift from YOU continues to help God's Kingdom. Blessings and Thanksgiving,
Jim and Liza, Melanie, Linda, Cathie and Ron and Martha

Spring Cleanup at the Utica United Methodist Church Library

Question: Does the Bible really say that cleanliness is next to godliness?

Answer: No, it does not. The phrase "cleanliness is next to godliness" was popularized by John Wesley, an English cleric and founder of Methodism. He used it in his sermon "On Dress" in the late 18th century.

However, it is still spring, and it is time to do a little house cleaning or church library cleaning in this case. We're on it!

You will start to see some books that have culled from our library in the coffee gathering room. The first group of books will be all fiction books that have never been checked out and read. You are welcome to take home any of these books free of charge.

Special thanks to the ladies who helped me remove them from the library card catalog and library listing.

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

Cancer Care Group

Calling all people who knit, crochet or quilt. Peggy Miller is looking to form a new group called Cancer Care. This group would be working on making hats, lap blankets or shawls for cancer patients. This would be for all age groups, small children, up through adults. An organizational meeting will take place at church on Sunday, April 26th between services in the Adult Library next to the Sanctuary. Please contact Peggy Miller at pegm@me.com or by phone 586-557-0208.

Save the Date - Pancake and Sausage Breakfast

The United Women in Faith will be having a Pancake and Sausage Breakfast on Saturday, May 16th from 9-11am. A free will donation will be taken per person. More Information to come as we get closer to the date.

Featured Library Books

This week, I could not stop at one book as I found myself like the kid in the candy store and wanting to read all of the books at once.

Prayer Is a Hunger by Edward Farrell, S.T.L.

My curious mind was on the author wondering what the letters behind his name meant. It stands for Sacrae Theologiae Licentiatus. It is an advanced ecclesiastical degree in the Roman Catholic higher education system. He was also from **Detroit**. If you have an interest in improving your prayer life, this is a good start.

Call Number 248.32 in our church library

God is in the Manger by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

A collection of Bonhoeffer's devotions for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany. He drew from his sermons, letters and other writings, many of them composed in his prison cell prior to his execution. I challenge you to look up Dietrich Bonhoeffer in Wikipedia.

Call Number 242.33 in our church library

God and the Pandemic by N.T. Wright

A Christian reflection on the coronavirus and its aftermath.

Call Number 261.832 in our church library

The Cross and the Lynching Tree by James H Comb.

The book's aim is to explore the symbolic connections between Jesus's crucifixion 2000 years ago and the lynching of nearly 5000 Americans (most of whom were black, but about 1/4 of whom were white) from the late 19th century to the mid-20th centuries.

Call Number BR516C652011 in our church library

Wooden Tables

The church has several 8 foot wooden folding tables that are no longer needed. If you would be interested in one or more tables, please contact the church office and they will let you know when you can pick them up. The cost is a free will donation to the church.

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES:

9:30AM

with Organ, Choir and Handbells
in the Sanctuary

11:00AM

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 canned
meat, pancake mixes and
syrup, small peanut butter
and jelly, boxes of
crackers.

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. J. Albert Barchue
pastor@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
office@uticaumc.org

Deadline Information

Announcement Loop/Vertical TVs—
End of day on Tuesday each week
Messenger Articles and Prayer List by
Noon on Wednesday each week.
Announcement made during service
by 1pm Friday
E-mail rachelle@uticaumc.org or
office@uticaumc.org



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



Watch the 11am service Live on our YouTube
Channel every Sunday morning

<https://www.youtube.com/@uticaumc5212/live>