



Weekly Messenger

May 22, 2026

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"Happy Memorial Day"



John 15:12-13 **12** My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.
13 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

On this Memorial Day, let us remember those who fought bravely for our freedom that we have today. Many did not return home to witness this freedom and to them we say thank you!

The church office will be closed on Monday, May 25th in observance of Memorial Day. Enjoy this day and the freedoms we have because of the sacrifice of those who bravely fought and died for our country.

Utica United
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Sterling Heights, MI
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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.

STARS+ SUMMER CAMP STARTS JUNE 15 YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED

Our STARS+ Summer Day Camp program will run from June 15 - July 23 (Monday - Thursday). This year we will be focusing the program entirely on children ages 7 - 12. Registration is closed, we are full! Praise God!

With your generosity and a grant from the United Methodist Union, we are able to offer this program **free to all participants**. The camp offers the children an **opportunity to learn how much God loves them**. Each week there are crafts, activities, Bible stories, and field trips. Every day the children are provided breakfast, lunch, and a snack.

This year we are inviting you to participate in these ways:

1. **Sponsor a child** for \$10/day; or \$40/week; or **\$240 for the full 6 weeks**. Our goal is to sponsor 28 children. Mark STARS on your offering envelope or select STARS when using eGiving.
2. **Show and tell the kids** about a hobby or talent or **something you love to do** as a special guest.
3. **Serve in the kitchen** (flexible schedules).
4. **Support the Bake Sale on Sunday, June 28**. Our goal is to raise \$1,500 to support the interns' salaries. (Watch for more information in June.)

We are excited Jennifer (our director for over 10 years) and our 3 interns from last year (Marissa, Brooke, and Jacob) will be returning. We're looking forward to seeing some of our campers return and meeting some new campers. It's certain to be a fun-filled, action-packed summer with lots of smiling faces!

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

Mini Food Pantry Update

**“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.
Colossians 3:23-24**

In an effort to maintain a variety of food choices we could use the following items:

- **Cereal**
- **Peanut Butter**
- **Jelly**
- **Canned Meats**
- **Vegetables**
- **Fruit**

As always we are so grateful for the continued support and endless donations of food and money in order to keep the Mini Food Pantry stocked.

With Much Thanks,
Jim and Liza, Cathie, Linda, Melanie and Ron and Martha

MCREST 2026

Hello Church Family –

UUMC will be hosting MCREST the week of May 24 - May 31 again this year. We will be commuting each day to the women’s shelter in Mt. Clemens to serve the women and children.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT DURING THE LAST THREE WEEKS OF SIGN-UPS

We still have open slots for the following:

LUNCH PREP – UUMC KITCHEN:

Saturday – May 23rd – 10:00 AM (2 volunteers)

Saturday – May 30th – 10:00 AM (2 volunteers)

Please place your donated items in the bin located by the coat rack at both services.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, it would be greatly appreciated.
You can submit your donation to the church office with the ‘memo’ marked MCREST.

Any questions, please contact Linda Baker at 248-515-1977 or lbaker@sirco-associates.com

God Bless, UUMC MCREST Leadership Team

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

A Night at the Ball Park

Tickets cost \$38.00 each

Join us for an evening of food, fun and fellowship while enjoying a baseball game. Game is Friday, June 19th at 7:05pm. Gates open at 6pm and food will be served starting at 6pm until 7:30pm.

Al Laity will have sign up sheets and sell tickets after services.



Join us for a night of fun,
entertainment & baseball
at UWM Field in Utica!



UTICA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SUMMER PICNIC

COLIFTS VS. MAMMOTHS
FRIDAY, JUNE 19 - 7:05 PM
GATES OPEN 6 PM

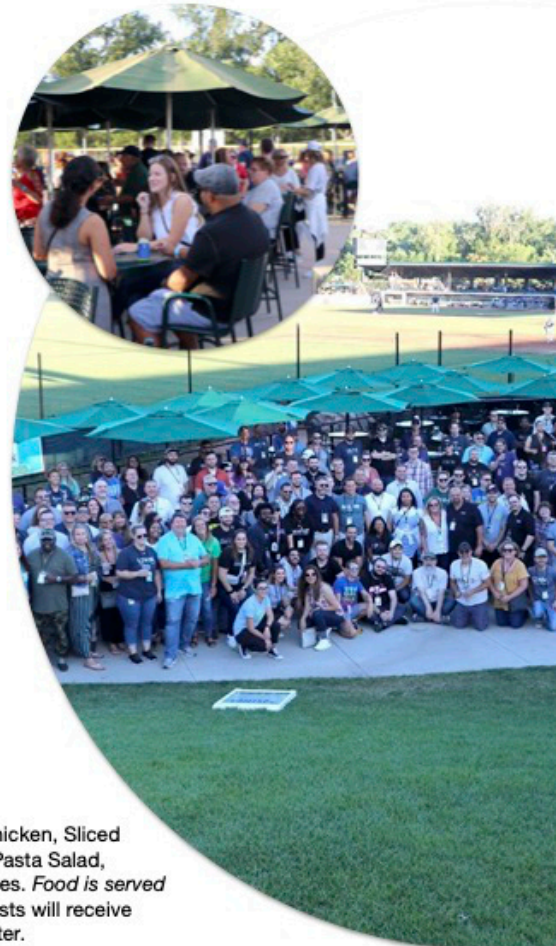
Group Perks Include:

- Game seating in party patio area
- Group photo on the field
- Welcome message on the scoreboard
- Kids Run the Bases after the game
- Meet JJ the Field General, the bat dog
- Meet & Greet with a team mascot
- Free Parking
- Fireworks Spectacular after the game

Enjoy an All American BBQ!

Premium Hot Dogs, Slow Roasted BBQ Pulled Chicken, Sliced Smoked Sausage with Peppers & Onions, Fresh Pasta Salad, Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Potato Chips, and Cookies. Food is served starting when the gates open for 90 minutes. Guests will receive unlimited soft drinks, lemonade, iced tea, and water.

[PREVIEW YOUR EXPERIENCE HERE](#)



THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

Spring Storms

We have had a few spring storms this year. With the storms have come pictures of rainbows. Rainbows bring us such hope and are reminders of God's promises to us. We may go through turbulent times in our personal lives, in our country, and even sometimes in our churches but always there is God's promises. When God could stand the earth and its inhabitants and their evil no longer, he flooded the earth and saved only a righteous Noah and his family and the animals of the earth to begin again. But then he gave us a promise. He made a rainbow in the sky as a sign. A sign that never again would he destroy the world.

Genesis 9:12-13, 16 And God said, "This is a sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come; I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on earth.

God then sent us another promise in the form of his son, Jesus Christ. A promise to not abandon us, that he is with us.

Matthew 28: Therefore, go and 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.

We are all going through tough times now; a time of wars, of uncertainty, of changes to the economy, even nature has unleashed its fury on us with floods, forest fires, natural disasters, and we have personal tragedies. We face surgeries, personal loss of loved ones, illness, family trials, aging and maybe a sense of isolation. Whatever your trial or my trial let us remember God's promises that he has not left us alone. He walks with us and will not leave us alone.

Lord, be with those who are facing difficulties in their lives. May they feel their fellow Christians lifting them up and supporting them in your name. May they feel your presence in their lives. I thank you Lord for those you have sent to me who support me and give me your love and help me live every day with gratitude for your blessings. Amen.

Grace Epperson



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!

Our Mission

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



*"Like" us
on
Facebook!*

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

CELEBRATE RECOVERY
God Never Wastes a Hurt!

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

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