

# Weekly Messenger

May 29, 2026

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

## "Prayer Ministries"

### **Altar Prayer Ministry: A Place of Comfort, Care, and Confidential Prayer**

At the close of our first service each Sunday, we offer a quiet and spiritual opportunity for prayer at the altar railing. This time is available to anyone who feels led to come forward— whether carrying a burden, offering thanksgiving, or simply desiring to be in prayer.

Two members of our prayer team are present each week to meet you at the railing. It is a blessing to listen, to pray with you, and to lift your requests before the Lord with care and compassion.

We want you to know:

- You are heard. Your prayer request matters, and we receive it with attentive hearts.
- You are being prayed for. We continue to lift your needs in prayer beyond that moment at the altar.
- Your confidentiality is respected. What you share is treated with the utmost discretion and sensitivity.
- Support is available. If you find yourself needing deeper guidance or counsel, we gently encourage you to reach out to our pastor, who is here to walk alongside you.

This ministry exists to remind you that you are not alone. Whether your need feels heavy or small, spoken or unspoken, you are always welcome at the altar.

"Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)  
We invite you to come.

Martha Powers

### **Prayer Connection: A ministry of dedicated intercessors who faithfully commit to pray every day for the ongoing requests submitted to the Church for prayer.**

We are a team of seven called Wall Watchers, taken from the words of Isaiah with the commandment to pray day and night for the fulfillment of God's promises.

- Our commitment is based in our belief in God's teaching that there is Holy Spirit presence, leading, healing and power in prayer.
- It is the desire of our hearts that every name and request be brought before the Lord each day.
- As in the Altar Rail Ministry, confidentiality is respected. What is shared in your request is treated with discretion and sensitivity.

This ministry exists to partner with you in seeking the presence of God over any situation you bring before Him.

"Pray at all times and on every occasion in the power of the Holy Spirit. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all Christians everywhere." (Ephesians 6:18)

Margaret Mowers

# 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

### **Featured Library Item** ***Second Glance a DVD*** ***By Christian Film Group***

Are there times in your life when you feel as if what you say or do just doesn't make a difference? Often, I think what difference will it make if I give to the church's Stars program or if I help with the mini pantry? I check out who is on the prayer list and then don't send a get-well card to someone in the hospital. What does it really matter? Does it make a difference?

Second Glance revolves around teenage Dan Burgess analyzing his value as a Christian. His high school friends are partying and seemingly having more fun than he is having. But are they really? Dan is given a glimpse of what a difference he is making in individual lives and what his friends' lives would be if he wasn't in school organizing and running a young Christian group.

While there is not a deep plot to the movie; there is lots of "meat" to it. This film would be an excellent choice for young teens making life decisions.

Call Numbers in our church library are SEC.

#### **Also recently added DVDs:**

**The Land Before Time**  
**Oliver and Company**  
**War Room**  
**The Princess Diaries**

# 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

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

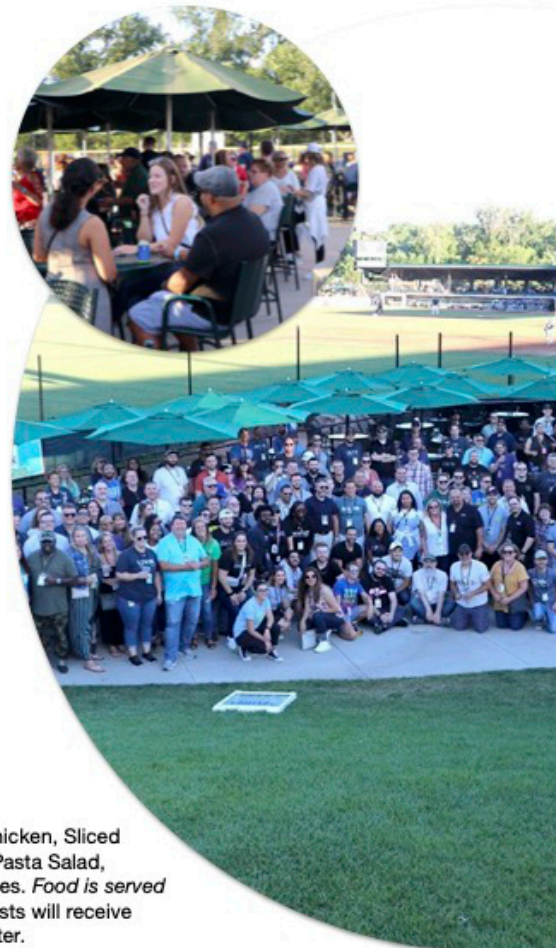
### Group Perks Include:

- 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



In Loving Memory of  
**Kirk Lawson**  
Please join us for a  
**Celebration of Life**

Thursday, June 11, 2026  
11:00 AM

Utica United Methodist Church  
8650 Canal Rd.  
Sterling Heights, MI 48314

A luncheon will follow  
in the Fellowship Hall

Together, we will honor and remember  
Kirk's life, friendship, and the memories we share

In lieu of flowers please consider donations to  
Utica United Methodist Church Music Fund

A time of visitation will be at 10:30am ahead of the service.

# THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

## United Women In Faith

All women of the church are invited to attend the United Women in Faith meeting on Wednesday, June 10th in Fellowship Hall. We gather at noon for a potluck salad and dessert luncheon. Bring a dish to share and your own place setting. Drinks are provided.

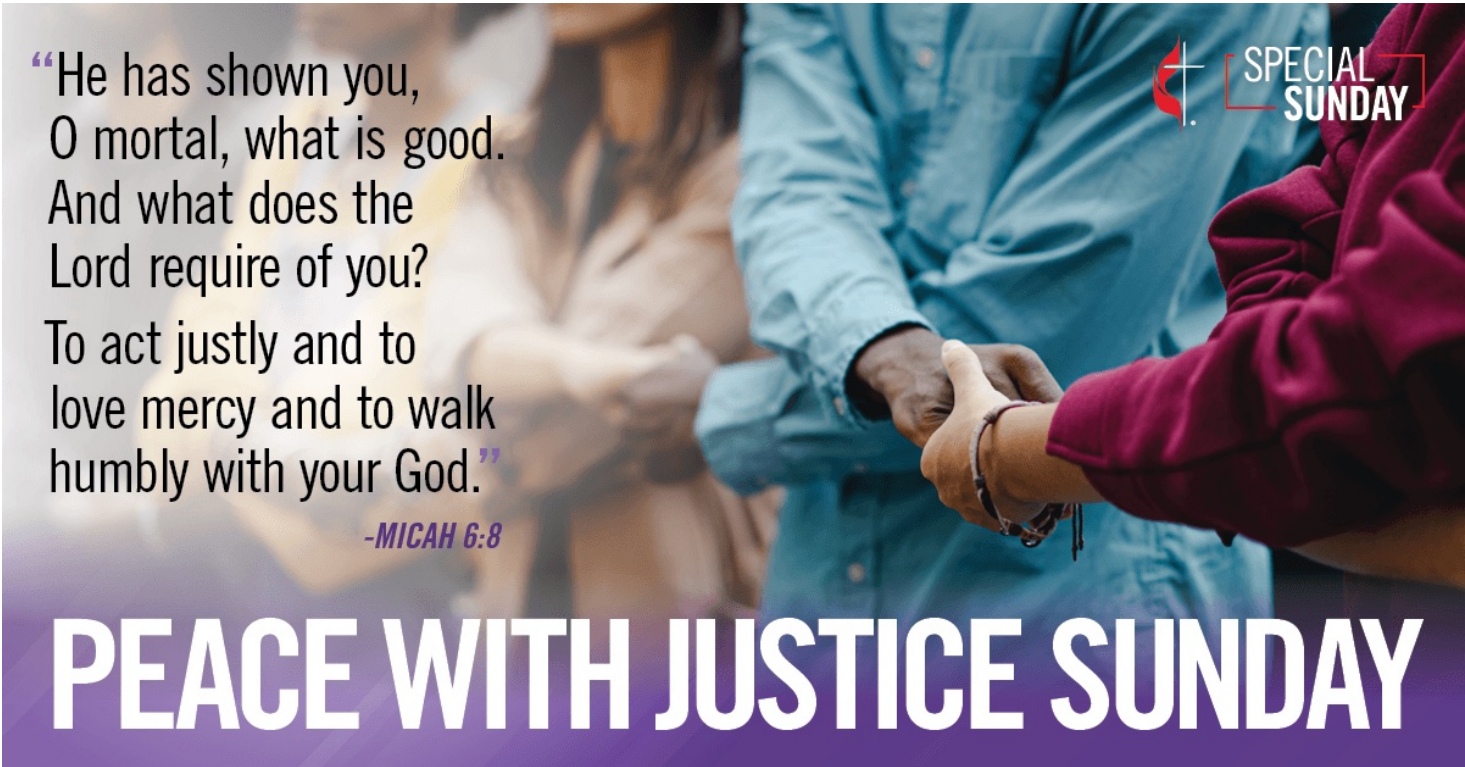
At 1:00 our speaker will be Sarah Dollison, attorney from National Legacy Solutions Center, sharing with us about "Estate Planning."

## Peace with Justice Sunday

Sunday, May 31st is Peace with Justice Sunday. Peace with Justice Sunday is one of the special giving Sunday's in the United Methodist Church.

Peace with Justice Sunday is a time for us to renew our commitment to transforming the world through justice and reconciliation. Through your contributions, we support efforts to reduce violence, advocate for human rights, and create sustainable solutions for peace.

You can make a one-time donation through e-giving or you can write Peace with Justice Sunday or PWJS on the other line of your offering or pew envelope. This donation will be sent to the conference in June, so there will still be time if you miss out on making a donation on May 31st to still turn in a donation for this special Sunday.



“He has shown you,  
O mortal, what is good.  
And what does the  
Lord require of you?  
To act justly and to  
love mercy and to walk  
humbly with your God.”

*-MICAH 6:8*



# PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

# THE WEEKLY MESSENGER



## Blood Drive

### Utica United Methodist Church

8650 Canal, Sterling Heights

**Wednesday, June 17, 2026**

**11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

To schedule an appointment, please visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter sponsor code: UTICAUMC or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](http://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



Scan to be directed to RapidPass®

**Come to give blood 6/1-28 for a \$15 e-gift card + chance to win a \$7.5K prize! See [rcblood.org/June](http://rcblood.org/June).**



Scan to schedule an appointment.

## Give Blood.

1-800-RED CROSS | [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) | Download the Blood Donor App

© 2026 The American National Red Cross | 817301-3 CW

[26] | Order ID: 1555573 | Item ID: 10070556 | Qty: 1 of 8 | 448504 | 2025-APR | 0148 | ARCL | 255298

# 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](http://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>