



Weekly Messenger

June 12, 2026

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"Meet the Interns"



"Hi! My name is Jacob Heldt and I will be a Sophomore at Wayne State University this upcoming school year! I am majoring in Actuarial Mathematics. This will be my second year as an intern for this summer camp! One of my favorite home activities is spending time outside and swinging! I hope to have a fun summer again this year!"

Hi everyone! My name is Brooke Metz, and this is my second year as one of the UUMC interns for the summer. I recently turned 20 years old and just finished my sophomore year of college. I am currently studying Applied Exercise Science in the School of Kinesiology at the University of Michigan, with an interest in becoming a chiropractor or a physical therapist. I also play on the University of Michigan Women's Ice Hockey Team! I am a very dedicated student and a hard worker who loves taking on challenges, growing through new experiences, meeting new people, and trying new things. I am looking forward to being a part of this program again this summer!



Hello! My name is Marissa Nowicki, and I am excited to be returning as a second year camp intern. I am now a senior at Eastern Michigan University, where I am still pursuing my degree in Early Childhood Education with an Elementary Education concentration. I have one more semester of coursework left before beginning my student teaching experience!

I am grateful for the opportunity to continue working with the bright and amazing children in this wonderful program! It is a blessing to be part of a community that is so dedicated to supporting and nurturing our youth as they learn and grow. I look forward to another great year of learning and serving alongside these incredible kids.

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.

Summer Office Hours

Office hours will be changing for the summer. The church office will be open Monday-Thursday 8am-2pm. The office will be closed on Fridays starting on June 19th through September 4th.

Deadline reminders -

Messenger Articles - Noon on Wednesday
Prayer list updates - Noon on Wednesday
Announcement Loop - End of day on Tuesday

All updates received after these deadlines will appear in the Messenger, Prayer List or Announcements the following week.

Thank you for supporting Together in Missions



June, 2026

Thank you and Congratulations!

Enclosed is your church's certificate for your successful participation in the 2025 Engagemi program.

Thank you for having the missional heart so central to our identity as Christians and United Methodists.

The Michigan Conference Board of Global Ministries appreciates your efforts at growing disciples committed to the transformation of the world through this window on mission that we call Engagemi.

For more information on the 2026 Engagemi program, use this URL to find the Engagemi webpage to download the 2026-2027 Engagemi Program booklet: <https://michiganumc.org/missions/engage-mi/>

We look forward to working with you to be "In Mission With" in 2026.

Rev. Dillon Burns
Board of Global Ministries



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 Book

Who Wrote the Bible?
By Richard Elloitt Friedman

How many of us just roll out this pat answer when questioned about who wrote the Bible? Off my lips comes the answer I was taught in second grade Sunday School class—that the Bible was inspired by God and written by men. That was the right answer for the teacher, and you got a gold star and didn't question things any further.

We were taught Moses wrote the first five books; Jeremiah wrote Lamentations and half of Psalms were written by King David. But is that true or is it just memorization drilled into us?

Freeman's challenges our conventional understanding of who wrote what and when. This book blows the binding off our conventional understanding and energetically pulls you on to a new chapter of understanding.

Call Numbers in our church library are 220, Friedman

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

STARS SUMMER CAMP STARTS JUNE 15 THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT

It's hard to believe our STARS Summer Day camp will be starting this Monday, June 15. **We are grateful** for everyone who has contributed to sponsoring our campers and volunteering to serve in the kitchen, for transportation, and as a special guest.

There are several **ways you can continue to support STARS**.

1. Sign-up now to bring something for our Baked Goods and Cookie Walk fun which will be on Sunday, June 28. We need a variety of cookies, sweet breads, pies, brownies, etc. Please bring the things you make to church on Thursday, June 25 between 9 AM – 2 PM or Friday, June 26 between 10 AM and Noon. Then, on Sunday, June 28, remember to **invite your friends and family to join you in selecting all the treats you desire from our smorgasbord of choices** before and after services for a free will offering. Our goal is to raise \$1,500 to support the interns' salaries.

2. Donate snacks throughout the 6-weeks. We need individually wrapped snacks and juice boxes. Due to nut allergies and a red dye allergy, all snacks **must be NUT FREE** and **some things** need to be **red dye free**. That does not limit what snacks can be brought in, just as long as there are some snack options that do not contain red dye.

Suggested snacks:

- Pretzels
- Assorted bags of chips
- Goldfish crackers
- Animal Crackers
- Mini Muffins
- Fun pop freezer bars
- Fruit Snacks
- Kool-aid or Caprisun pouches
- Juice Boxes
- Apple Juice
- Mini Cookie pouches

3. We continue to need **contributions to sponsor our campers**. Each \$10 received covers another day of camp for one camper. We have 2 more campers remaining to be sponsored in full.

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

A Free Pass

Jesus tells the parable of the workers in the Vineyard:

Matthew 20:1-15 “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out in the morning to hire men to work in his vineyard. He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. About the third hour, he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. He told them, you also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right. So, they went. He went out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour and did the same thing. About the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing around. He asked them, “Why have you been standing here all day doing nothing?” Because no one has hired us, they answered. He said to them, “You also go and work in my vineyard.” When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, “Call the workers and give them their wages beginning with the last ones hired and going on the first.” The workers who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each received a denarius. When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. “These men who were hired last worked only one hour,” they said, “and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.” But he answered one of them, “Friend, I am not being unfair to you, didn’t you agree to work for a denarius? Take your pay and go! If I want to give the man who was hired last the same as I gave you, don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?” So, the last will be first and the first will be last.

This parable reminds me of my brother, who called me just 6 weeks before his death and told me of accepting Christ and finding forgiveness. I was happy and expressed my joy with him but a small part of me said “So now you get a free pass? You get the same as what others have wanted their whole lives? You get forgiveness and a place at the table?” I realized later that in that phone call he was not just telling me about finding Christ but was seeking my forgiveness. He was my brother and though his problems had hurt me, I still loved him deeply and wanted him in my life. When I was very young, my brothers were both my protectors and my tormenters. They could tease me and harass me but no one else had better mess with me. I adored them. I know one day I will see my brothers again, the ones who held me in their arms and cried because they thought they had killed me when I was run over by a bicycle, the ones who taught me to “look them in the eyes and kick them in the shins,” the ones who told me that once I learned the alphabet frontwards, I had to learn it backwards, the ones who persuaded me that that snake was dead and not sleeping in the sun and so I picked it up, and my brother took me to the funeral home to see my other brother and help me as I wept.

Lord, we thank you for the stories that Jesus told, the stories that give hope to all. We thank you Lord for those who have touched our lives with their love. Help us Lord to be accepting of all, no matter where they are on their journey. Be with our church, show us your way. Be with our Pastor, bless his ministry and watch over him and his family. Be with our staff and leaders, give them your wisdom and guidance. Help us Lord to be a forgiving and accepting people. Be with those who are ill and those that are grieving, comfort them. Help us Lord to remember who we are and who we belong to, in Jesus name, 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!



*"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

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>