The Messenger

Mogadore United Methodist Church

October 2020

Notes from the Pastor

As I look back over the month of September while looking into October, we have passed many events. Some we never thought we would have passed, like having a virtual East Ohio Annual conference not only in one day, but also online. We have started to meet indoors for worship having two indoor services and two online services. We passed out hot dogs at our Friday tailgate before the Wildcat football games.

Even with all this, we still have also passed on things and events. We have passed on sharing hugs, greetings, food, gathering in-person as many events have shifted online. Even events coming up like charge conferences will be done by each church, and pastor consultations with District Superintendent Rev. Ed Peterson will be over Zoom. Again, there is a tension that exists as we get back to some of the old routine in our lives while at the same time looking at new ways of doing things.

Of course, there is excitement in doing new things but there is also fear. Excitement as to the possibility of creating something from a blank canvas as we navigate waters that we have never been while at the same time fear of those new waters. This year, like every year recently, Mogadore will be holding their Christmas in the Village. Of course, it will not look like it has in years past with everyone outside on Cleveland Avenue. Most likely it will have a drive-thru look to the event with stations throughout town. This is different, but also gives way to doing something new and creative as people might be driving through the church — well, the parking lot; I don't think we want people driving through the church, no matter how friendly we are. This creates new opportunities before us and ways that new things can happen.

Throughout Scripture, new things are happening, not just new things, but also new life. From God making all things new in Revelation 21:5; and also these passages:

"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." *(Ezekiel 36:26)*

"With God, all things are possible." *(Matthew 19:26)*

This last verse is Ohio's motto and even though it does not support a particular religion, it does give hope as to what is possible with God, and what is possible when we work with God to transform the community and the communities around us. When this happens, our own eyes are open, our own hearts are open and made new. Our identity that is in Christ starts to change; we start to see beyond what we are capable of doing on our own and what is possible with each other. This is the beauty of the Gospel, coming together as a community for new ways of ministry and life. So, may we go forth being open to what is new to us and what is strange to us, but what is life giving to us and those around us, now and ever.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Eric

The church office is now open 9 a.m. to noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. On Tuesdays, Pastor Eric will be doing online work for his doctoral dissertation. Tuesday, October 13 through Friday, October 16 Pastor Eric will be attending classes.

Treasurer's Report

Balance in General Fund as of January 1, 2020		$25,768.41
January Offerings	$ 16,259.00	
January Disbursements	$ 15,739.63	519.37
February Offerings	$ 14,771.34	
February Disbursements	$ 15,957.14	(-1,185.80)
March Offerings	$ 16239.20	
March Disbursements	$ 13,249.91	2,989.29
April Offerings	$ 11,969.20	
April Disbursements	$ 14,470.33	(-2,501.13)
May Offerings	$ 20,225.00	
May Disbursements	$ 11,887.05	8,337.95
June Offerings	$ 17,921.90	
June Disbursements	$ 12,852.94	5,058.96
July Offerings	$ 12,568.91	
July Disbursements	$ 13,326.70	(-757.79)
August Offerings	$ 6,595.00	
August Disbursements	$12,407.58	(-5,812.58)
Ending Balance August 31,2020		**$32,277.68**

It appears that the September receipts were very low, but we transferred $6,350.00 out of the General Fund and into the Capital Improvements Fund, which makes our actual receipts $12,945.00. That is still a little low for a five Sunday month, but will hopefully improve as we return to our indoor services. The August disbursements of $12,407.58 were about normal. For those of you who will still be unable to attend our services, please continue to mail your offerings to the church, or directly to my home address at 13523 Iris Ave. NW, Mogadore 44260.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the indoor services. Stay safe.

Barry Rudy, Treasurer

SERVANTHOOD IN THE CHURCH

Using your gifts for the Kingdom of God

Altar Guild: Maintains sanctuary supplies; oversees sanctuary appearance for seasonal changes, including flowers, and sets up communion. Meets as needed.

Christian Education: Planning and support team for Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, as well as Children's choir and special related events. Meets quarterly.

In-Reach: Dedicated to providing welcome, nurture and support and fellowship for everyone in the church and everyone who visits. Meets quarterly.

Finance Committee: Sets the church budget, manages financial affairs, and maintains records of donations, income and expenditures. Meets quarterly.

Leadership Development Committee (Nominating): Identifies and selects names for Christian Leaders in the church. Meets 3-4 times a year in late Summer/Fall.

Memorials: maintains records of designated memorial gifts, send thank you notes, and recommends funding for worthy memorial related purchases. Meets quarterly.

Missions: Plans and carries out being the hands and feet of Christ in a broken world. Meets quarterly.

Outreach: Determines how we can best reach out in Christian love, locally, globally, in order to carry out hope in this world. Meets quarterly.

Staff Parish Relations Committee: acts as a liaison between the church and paid staff as they identify and clarify its values for ministry for the making and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Meets monthly.

Trustees: responsible for managing all church property. Meets monthly.

UMW: Dedicated to raising money for missions, providing woman's small groups circles, providing funeral meals, presenting a variety of Spiritual development programs and fellowship groups. Meets as a group the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7pm, with other gatherings throughout the month.

Worship: Endeavors to provide a quality online or in-person worship experience for weekly services, as well as varied special services throughout the year. Meets quarterly.

Youth: Planning and supporting the youth leader in carrying out events, meetings, and the mission of the youth.

If you have an interest in serving in any of the areas listed, please fill out the form below or speak to Pastor Eric.

Name: _____

Area of Interest: _____

UMW News

United Methodist Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

Greetings! Last month we were able to hold our September UMW meeting and see some of our sisters again! Since our last meeting was held in February, we had quite a bit of catching up. One of the items we missed during this time was "A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial" - with the following prayer:

Creator God, the source of light and love, we trust in your goodness all the time. Transform our hearts through these sacrificial gifts and use our offerings to transform the world. We bow to you and pray, please continue to help us understand evermore the needs of others and how, in your plan, we may rise to meet those needs. May our abundance touch lives across the world in Jesus' name, Amen.

This wonderful prayer reminds me that in looking out for others needs, even simple kindness is more powerful than you realize. Michele Acord, our Treasurer asked that offerings for the call to Prayer and Self-Denial be sent to her address. And if you haven't given your pledge please send that to Michele as well.

Our circles were able to meet, Rebecca circle was hosted by Connie Heldenfels at her home and Naomi circle was hosted by Kathy Lang and Judy Huth in the fellowship hall at church.

October circle meetings are resuming:

Rebecca Circle – Wednesday, October 14 at 7 p.m. Hostess will be Barb Skye; please check with your circle for location

Naomi Circle – Monday, October 19 at 6 p.m. Hostess will be Judy Daniels, and it will be held at the church in the fellowship hall

Our monthly UMW meeting for October will not be taking place as we plan on meeting again in November.

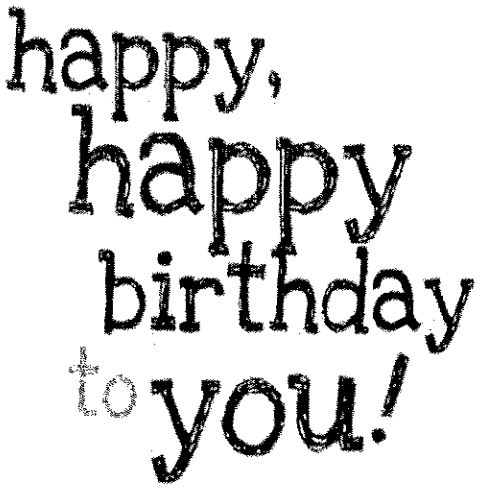
My hope for us all is to be well and safe.

Sincerely,

Sonia Stockett

October Birthdays

October 6	James Stockett
	Rita Ostrovsky
October 8	Kathyrn Roepke
October 10	Don Whitmer
October 13	Joe Smith
October 15	Duane Doss
	Tabitha Rinehart
October 16	Seth Seibel
October 23	Cheryl Rudy
October 25	Sam Short
October 30	Zoey Straight



MUMC in Mission: Sharing Christ's Love

October Ministries:

***CROP WALK**

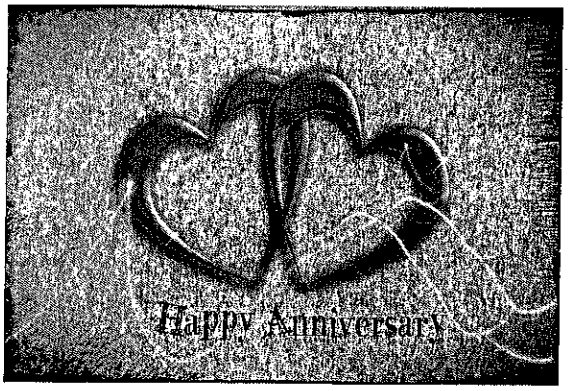
Once again, our church is supporting the annual CROP Walk, **Sunday, October 11, 1:30 P.M.** at Goodyear Heights Metro Park. Most of you are familiar with the fantastic work done by this charity event. Donations stay in the greater Akron area to help eradicate local hunger and fund support programs that enhance opportunities for marginalized neighbors. Walk with us if you can; if you can't, remember that our church is traditionally at the top of the donor list, far outpacing most of the other 12 or so churches involved, and we rely on your continued prayers and financial support to touch the lives of so many who need us. If social distancing makes you unable to personally sponsor a walker, please send a donation to the church, listed as CROP, knowing that every donation, large or small, added to others makes a huge difference, especially when touched by the power of Christian love.
Please contact Barry Rudy if you plan to walk.

*** Mountain of Food:** **Friday, October 16** is the next Open M monthly food distribution. Meet at the church at 7 a.m. to carpool. Safety protocols are in place. Hundreds of families rely on this special outreach, especially with current additional hardships.

***Single-use grocery bags get a second life if you donate them to OPEN M.** Thousands of bags are "recycled" through a second use **every month** by the OPEN M food pantry. Fresh produce and small sized non-perishables are placed into bags for safer and easier distribution to clients. We have a collection box in the church hallway. Please bring or send them to church at your convenience.

Future Event: The Holiday food drive for Open M will be held two weeks before Thanksgiving. Information will be coming out in the November newsletter.

Thanks for your prayerful support of these important ministries.



October Anniversaries

October 9	Tony & Lisa Seibel
October 26	George & Sue Thomas
October 28	John & Bette Sawicki

Charge Conference to Be Held November 1

In a year where nothing is as it used to be, that also means charge conference. It will be held on Sunday, November 1 at 2 p.m. Joe Burkhardt of Wedgewood United Methodist Church will be the presiding elder.

Guidelines for Virtual Charge Conferences

The Discipline of the United Methodist Church paragraph 246-251details the standards, authority, and purpose of a Charge/Church Conference. (¶246-Charge Conference General Provisions & ¶248 The Church Conference).

During the global Covid-19 pandemic Bishop Malone, in consultation with our Conference Chancellor Rex Miller, has authorized holding Charge Conferences in a virtual format. The Pastor and the Charge Conference Recording Secretary shall be physically present on the church property. Others may attend virtually or physically provided that social distancing precautions are in place and followed.

Based on the Book of Discipline and Ohio Revised Code Section 1702.31 (B), these guidelines are what is necessary to hold a charge (church) conference with most participants attending by electronic means.

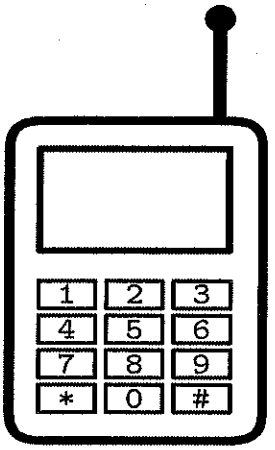
- The DS (or designated convener), Pastor and Charge Conference Recording Secretary shall be physically present on the church property. Others may attend virtually or physically provided that social distancing precautions are in place and followed.
- As is the case with any church conference, the meeting should be announced at least ten days in advance and limited to the stated purpose (call) for the meeting.
- Other members of the charge (church) conference may participate digitally (ZOOM, conference call, etc.) and may vote.
- The Recording Secretary would need to keep accurate attendance of each member physically and digitally present.
- It is recommended that the vote be taken by roll call. For example, the DS (presiding officer) would read the name of each member present (physically or digitally) and have the recording secretary record each member's vote. The recording secretary would then tally the vote and provide the DS or presider with the tally of the vote just taken. The DS would then announce the result of the vote and declare to the charge (church) conference is the motion was approved or failed.
- After the stated purpose of the charge (church) conference has been concluded the final action would be to adjourn the special charge (church) conference. Recording Secretary signs tally sheet and returns to Canal District Office.

Bishop Malone has determined that these guidelines are to be used during the phased-in building reopening period.

We are again participating in the Acme Community Cash Back Program. Shop Acme Fresh Market and collect receipts August 6, 2020 - December 26, 2020.

Please place your receipts in the envelope located on the Youth bulletin board.

Text in Church



No, we are not promoting texting during service — just an easier way to get communication out and RSVP for service times. If you haven't already been receiving texts and would like to, please call the church office at 330-628-1232 and give the secretary Joyce your cell phone number. It will be added to the system and will not be shared with anyone.

Thank you to all who have been responding to texts!

Volunteers Needed

There are several volunteer opportunities available to help with worship.

Worship leaders are needed for the 9 and 10:30 a.m. services. If you are willing to help, please contact the church office or see Pastor Eric.

Volunteers are also needed to serve as worship leaders for the online services or learning how to do online services. Again, contact Pastor Eric if you are interested.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

This celebration was established in 1992 with the mission of uplifting and encouraging pastors, missionaries and religious workers. And, in 2020, they could probably use a little more encouragement than normal.

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT TO ENCOURAGE PASTORS

At Summit Conference 2019 in Dallas, TX, Carey Nieuwhof polled a live audience of more than 1,300 church leaders. He asked, "Over the past year, how many times have you experienced burnout symptoms?"

A shocking 46% said they've experienced burnout once or twice in the past year. Another 38% said regularly (3-6 times) in the past year, and 9% said constantly. That's 92% of church leaders who have experienced burnout in the past year. And this was last year, before any of us had heard of COVID-19.

Please send a note, word of encouragement or do whatever you feel called to do to show appreciation.

October 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 9 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Worship	5	6	7 10:30 a.m. Bible Study	8	9	10
11 9 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Worship 1:30 p.m. CROP Walk at Goodyear Heights Metro	12 7 p.m. Executive Board	13	14 7 p.m. Rebecca Circle	15	16 7 a.m. Meet at the church to carpool for Open M Mountain of Food	17
18 9 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Worship	19 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6 p.m. Naomi Circle	20	21 10:30 a.m. Bible Study	22	23	24
25 9 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Worship	26	27	28	29	30	31

Pastor Eric at classes October 13 through 16

Church Staff:
Pastor: Rev. Eric Kluth
Church: (330) 628-1232
Parsonage: (234) 813-9040
Pastor's Cell: (216) 785-6798

Accompanist: Fran Snyder
Custodian: David Smith
Secretary: Joyce Selzer

«First_Name» «Last_Name»
«Location»
«Address»
«City» «State» «zip»

Mogadore United Methodist Church
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Find us on FaceBook!
Church Office Hours: 9 a.m. to noon
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays