



The Messenger

Mogadore United
Methodist Church

November 2020

Notes from the Pastor

November in the church year is a time of looking forward to 2021 in terms of vision, mission and leaders of the church and at the same time remembering the saints that have gone before us into the church eternal. This is a lot to comprehend; then throw in an election and on top of that, the reality that Thanksgiving will look different this year in the midst of a pandemic and it can get overwhelming. Overwhelming so much that we might ask “What is there to do?” “What does it matter if I (fill in the blank) _____?”

I wonder if the disciples ever had the feeling of being overwhelmed. I want to say, how could one be overwhelmed if they were in the present of the living Christ. I would think just being close to Jesus would take care of that, and maybe there is some truth to that in our own lives. The closer we get to Jesus, the more at peace we are in our lives. I also would say that they would be overwhelmed as they still had to carry on in life while at the same time following this teacher that seemed to be speaking and acting differently from others of the day. On top of that, Jesus starts talking about leaving soon, being raised from the dead and coming back, and then leaving again and not being able to come back, then will come back at an uncertain time in which no one knows except for God and I don't know about you, but I am overwhelmed just writing this. It is overwhelming, but even in the midst of this Jesus speaks some powerful words to the disciples and to us. Jesus leaves us with peace, a peace that come from the Holy Spirit. I love how Eugene Peterson's *The Message* explains it in John 14:25-27,

²⁵⁻²⁷ “I'm telling you these things while I'm still living with you. The Friend, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send at my request, will make everything plain to you. He will remind you of all the things I have told you. I'm leaving you well and whole. That's my parting gift to you. Peace. I don't leave you the way you're used to being left—feeling abandoned, bereft. So don't be upset. Don't be distraught.

I love those words of being left well and whole. This is exciting, amazing and maybe even confusing as how can Jesus be leaving and while at the same time leaving you well and whole. I would think that being well and whole means being with Jesus, not Jesus leaving, but we know that Jesus lives in us and is with us and this is the beautiful image of us being made well and whole. It is the beautiful image of our lives being constantly changed into the image of God. And so yes, Jesus does make us well and whole and at the same time not leaving us. This is a beautiful relationship and reminds us of the saints that have left this world but are with us today, still in our hearts, our memories, and our actions. May we not just today, but everyday live with this peace, a peace that is well and whole.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Eric

- This Sunday we will celebrate the Saints that have gone before us in the Church Eternal.
- Pastor Eric will be on vacation November 23 through 29.

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	\$ 16,239.20	
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)
September Offerings	\$12,411.78	
September Disbursements	\$11,800.16	611.62
Ending Balance September 30, 2020		\$32,889.30

The September offerings of \$12,411.78 and the September disbursements of \$11,800.16 were both a little below our monthly average. We have now moved our Sunday services back inside the church, but attendance remains well below our normal Sunday average. If you are not attending the Sunday church service, please continue to mail your offerings to the church, or directly my home address at 13523 Iris Ave. NW, Mogadore 44260.

— *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

Greetings!

As the fall foliage show continues, members of UMW met at Joyce Calderwood's front yard on a chilly 56° day to honor Tammy Calderwood with the UMW Mission Recognition Award.

Tammy Calderwood, a lifetime member of our church has devoted close to 25 years in raising funds for missions through the dinners for the Lions Rotary Club. President Lynn Straight and Treasurer

Michele Acord presented the award stating how grateful we are for the service Tammy has done for UMW. Tammy stated how she is reminded of past recipients and their generous contributions of devotion, wishing that many more people would enjoy being a part of UMW as she does. Asked if she knew how many dinners she has been involved with, Tammy responded with a hearty chuckle - hundreds! Working with Tammy you will see her calm joyful demeanor and her love for Jesus is always shining. Tammy has made these dinners a priority by even having employment contracts with a clause allowing her to not miss being involved with the Lion's dinners, and we are so incredibly appreciative! Our sincere thanks to Tammy Calderwood for being a part of UMW and we are all forever grateful!

We are planning on holding the November UMW meeting on November 17 at 7 p.m.

Rebecca will meet November 11, 7 p.m., at the home of Brenda Morris – please check with your group on the location.

As you are enjoying the rest of the fall season, here is a quote from a poem written by Emily Brontë

“Every leaf speaks bliss to me
Fluttering from the autumn tree.”

Sincerely,
Sonia Stockett



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.

MUMC in Mission: Sharing Christ's Love

November Ministries:

*** Mountain of Food:** *TWO* distributions will happen this November since the normal Thanksgiving meal had to be cancelled. The first is the usual Friday, **November 20**; (meet to carpool at 7 a.m.). The next special distribution will be **Tuesday, November 24**. Meet at the church at **noon** to carpool for the 2 to 4 p.m. distribution. Safety protocols are in place. Hundreds of families rely on this special outreach, especially with current additional hardships. Help is always needed.

***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.

Holiday food drive for Open M: We have been asked to provide 210 cans of **kidney beans** (1 lb. approximate size; NOT the jumbo size) A collection box is in the hall. Donations **MUST** be received by **Sunday, November 29**.

Thanks for your prayerful support of these important ministries.

Planning ahead:

Adopt-a-family for Christmas:

Each year we provide Christmas gifts and groceries for 4 or 5 needy families affiliated with Mogadore Schools. Normally, our generous congregation accepts the challenge to provide 40 – 50 gifts. Usually the gifts (identified by tags on the giving tree) are purchased, wrapped, and brought to church by you caring members. We will be doing that again this year for those of you willing to do the usual.

However, because of the pandemic, we are **adding an additional opportunity to participate** for those who think it too risky to do the usual routine.

If you don't want to shop, but want to help, you can send a monetary donation to church and someone else can shop on your behalf. Monetary donations should be in addition to your usual pledge and have the memo line specify **Adopt-a-family** to ensure its proper distribution. Donations **MUST** be received before **Sunday, December 13** in order to provide gifts in a timely manner.

If you choose this option, you may send your donations as soon as you are ready. (The earlier the better so that shoppers have ample opportunity to make selections before stock runs out.)

If you are *willing to be one of the special shoppers*, please call Russ Hull.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call Russ at 330-628-1552.

November Anniversaries

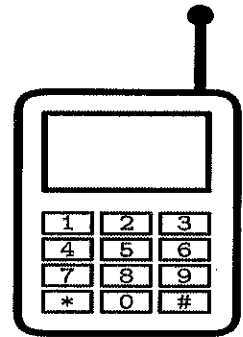
November 12	Jerry & Kathryn Roepke
November 19	Dan & Joyce Calderwood
November 21	John & Christina Lange
November 25	William & Debbie Grubb
	Kevin & Ashley Thompson



Text in Church

No, we are not promoting texting during service — but you can text the word CONNECT to (330) 302-2086 to receive communications and RSVP for service times. It will be added to the system and will not be shared with anyone.

Thank you to all who have been responding to texts!



November Birthdays

November 5 Virginia Reynolds
 November 6 Pam Schmidt
 November 7 Richie Stefan
 November 10 Gerry Hunsucker
 November 11 Tom McClary
 November 13 Sydney Stefan
 November 17 Beverly Kramer
 November 18 Barb Schrader
 November 26 Brenda Morris
 Daniel Stefan
 November 29 Kelly Rick
 November 30 Zander Straight
 Mike Lansinger



The next Bible Study will be our Advent Bible Study that will start on Wednesday, December 2 and we will look at the birth narratives in the Gospels. Please RSVP for the class so that we know how many will be in the space. There will not be a book for the class, just handouts. Sessions will be held at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. and will available online also.

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

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

November 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Daylight Savings Time Ends All Saints Sunday 9 a.m. Service 10:30 a.m. Service 1 p.m. Charge Conference	2 Community Day of Prayer	3	4	5	6	7
8 9 a.m. Service 10:30 a.m. Service	9	10	11 7 p.m. Rebecca Circle	12	13	14
15 9 a.m. Service 10:30 a.m. Service	16	17 7 p.m. UMW	18	19	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21
22 9 a.m. Service 10:30 a.m. Service	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
Pastor Eric on vacation November 23 through 29.						
29 First Sunday of Advent 9 a.m. Service 10:30 a.m. Service	30					



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
3828 Mogadore Road, Mogadore, OH 44260
(330) 628-1232 Email: mogadoreumc@att.net
Website: www.mogadoreumc.org
Find us on FaceBook!
Church Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays