



# Messenger

## Uniondale United Methodist Church

### September - October 2020

5867 N. Main St.  
P. O. Box 115  
Uniondale, IN 46791

Pastor Karen Ottjes  
260-228-3634

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 UniondaleUnitedMethodistChurch

Sunday Worship Service – 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School – 10:15 a.m.

### Upcoming Events



#### September and October Birthdays and Anniversaries

##### September

- 6 – Mindi Herstad
- 14 – Elaine McAfee
- 24 – Kim & Sue Chaney
- 30 – Gerry & Linda Houtz

##### October

- 18 – Linda Houtz

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Monday, September 7 –  | Labor Day                                      |
| Friday, September 11 – | Never Forget!                                  |
| Sunday, September 13 – | Communion Sunday<br>Sunday School starts       |
| Sunday, September 20 – | Food Bank Sunday-bring your food items         |
| Sunday, September 27 – | Kids Changing the World-bring your change      |
| Sunday, October 4 –    | Communion Sunday                               |
| Saturday, October 3 –  | Faith Circle 9 AM- <i>yet to be determined</i> |
| Sunday, October 18 –   | Food Bank Sunday-bring your food items         |
| Sunday, October 25 –   | Kids Changing the World-bring your change      |
| Saturday, October 31 – | Trick or Treat- <i>yet to be determined</i>    |



#### **\*\*Don't forget\*\***

- \* Save your pop tabs and can tabs for Riley's Children's Hospital. Collection can at the back of the church.
- \* Save your change for Children Changing the World on the last Sunday of each month.
- \* To sign up for CHURCH DUTIES on sheets at back table.

## A Word from Our Pastor

We had hoped and prayed that by this time things would be back to something close to what we consider normal after the COVID-19 virus pandemic. While we are getting back to a little more openness and flexibility in other areas of life, the future is still uncertain. Will another jump in illness cases lead to some steps back into tighter regulations on our gathering and traveling? Will we experience another shutdown? One thing that helps people to keep a positive outlook on life is to look beyond our personal circumstances and remember there are others nearby who have greater needs than we do. Most people get along better through the warm sunny weather seasons than when it starts getting colder and days are shorter. Each of us needs to participate in reaching out by phone or video call to those who live alone and need a listening ear, a word of hope and encouragement, some conversation, or some other kind of assistance we are able to provide for them.

Labor Day weekend is the traditional end of summer and the return to the school year schedule of activities for many clubs, sports and church activities. Most of the children and youth are already back in school – whether in the classroom, online, or some combination of the two, or even home schooling – for the vital learning they need. I am looking forward to getting back to our Sunday School schedule beginning on Sunday, September 13th. The Adult Class will move into the center section of the sanctuary so we can practice social distancing. Jim will be making coffee for those who would feel safe having some. We'll take your input about having cookies. The youth and children's classes will meet in their usual rooms with input from the parents and teachers about any needed changes due to the virus pandemic.

We are planning to have our first Celebration of the Lord's Supper (communion) on Sunday, September 13th (second Sunday this time only). We will take extra measures to make it safe for us to participate using gloves when filling the disposable cups with juice and bread and spacing them apart in the trays and then hand sanitizer when we come forward to receive the elements. Let me know if you have any further suggestions for our procedure.

Another important thing for each of us to be praying about in the coming two months is the elections on Tuesday, November 3rd. This election season may be one of the most significant in our nation in decades. As Christians we are responsible to know about the candidates and vote in the election so that those elected will be the best of the candidates we have to choose from. As Paul wrote, *"Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God and those that exist have been instituted by God. (ESV) ... For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. (NIV)"* Romans 13:1, 4

Shalom, Pastor Karen <><



## Committee News

### Trustees

Thanks to all who are keeping the grass cut, sidewalks clear of cut grass and tree branches and the weeds under control. At the most recent Church Council meeting, the Council approved making needed repairs to both front doors as well making modifications such that "panic bars" will be installed on each front door. This will allow locking the doors during church service, Sunday school, meetings, etc.



\*\*Please remember\*\*

Betty Cary  
200 Caylor Blvd. Apt. #120HC  
Bluffton, IN 46714

Barb Cook  
100 Caylor Blvd. Apt. #100  
Bluffton, IN 46714

Gary Cook  
Markle Health & Rehabilitation  
170 N. Tracy Street  
Markle, IN 46770

Jeanette Gilbert  
Golden Apple Unit  
Christian Care  
720 East Dustman Rd.  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
Or Mail to: c/o Jill Martin  
2172 E US 224  
Ossian, IN 46777

Margaret Hasler  
37446 Carson  
Farmington Hills, MI 48331

# BELIEF=OBEDIENCE

## THE VERSE EVERYONE LOVES TO QUOTE...

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." -John 3:16

## (20 VERSES LATER) THE VERSE EVERYONE LOVES TO IGNORE...

"WHOEVER BELIEVES IN THE SON HAS ETERNAL LIFE; WHOEVER DOES NOT OBEY THE SON SHALL NOT SEE LIFE, BUT THE WRATH OF GOD REMAINS ON HIM." -JOHN 3:36

## A Prayer for the Beginning of Autumn

O God of Creation, you have blessed us with the changing of the seasons.

As we welcome the autumn months, may the earlier setting of the sun remind us to take time to rest.

May the brilliant colors of the leaves remind us of the wonder of your creation.

May the steam of our breath in the cool air remind us that it is you who give us the breath of life.

May the harvest from the fields remind us of the abundance we have been given and bounty we are to share with others.

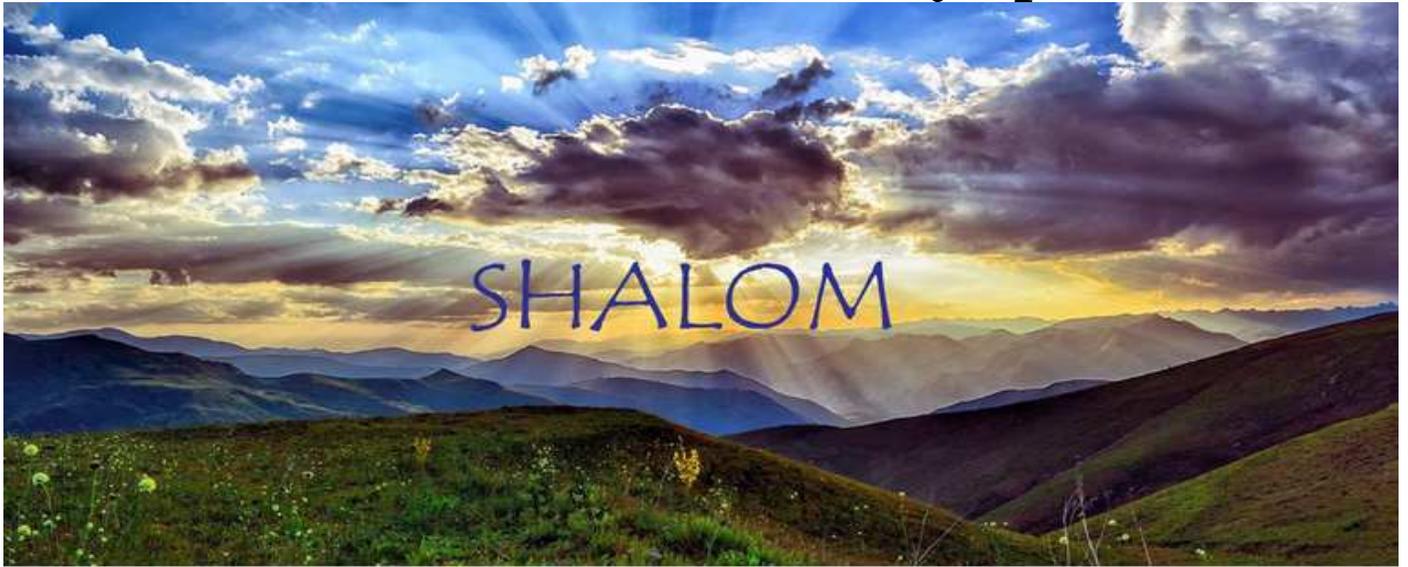
May the dying of summer's spirit remind us of your great promise that death is temporary and life is eternal.

We praise you for your goodness forever and ever. Amen.

### Treasure's Report

July 2020 Budget Summary	July Actual	July Budget	July Variance	Year to date Actual	Year to date Budget	Year to date Variance
TOTAL INCOME	3,370.81	3,991.83	(621.02)	29,149.92	27,942.81	1,207.11
TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES	2,563.84	3,991.80	1,427.96	23,737.98	27,942.60	4,204.62
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	806.97	0.03		5,411.94	0.21	

# What does the Bible mean by "peace"?



The word shalom is Hebrew for peace and describes harmony between humanity and all of God's good creation. Photo by RÜŞTÜ BOZKUŞ, courtesy of Pixabay.

The Hebrew word we translate as peace is “*shalom*.” The way “shalom” is used does not mean to feel calm nor the absence of conflict. Instead shalom, peace, is the result of right relationships with God, one another, and with creation. The concept of peace is wholeness in all of life.

The United Methodist Council of Bishops, in their 1986 statement “In Defense of Creation,” described the biblical foundation of peace:

“At the heart of the Old Testament is the testimony to shalom, that marvelous Hebrew word that means peace. But the peace that is shalom is not negative or one-dimensional. It is much more than the absence of war. Shalom is positive peace: harmony, wholeness, health, and well-being in all human relationships. It is the natural state of humanity as birthed by God. It is harmony between humanity and all of God’s good creation. All of creation is interrelated. Every creature, every element, every force of nature participates in the whole of creation. If any person is denied shalom, all are thereby diminished.” ([Peace with Justice Sunday and Special Offering](#), 2016 Book of Resolutions)

In the New Testament, Paul begins his letters, “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.” The bishops explained, “Paul’s letters announce that Jesus Christ is “our peace.” It is Christ who “broke down the barrier of hatred that divided us,” creating one humanity, overcoming enmity, so making peace (Ephesians 2:14-19).”

United Methodists recognize that “[God’s earth is aching for peace](#). Domestic strife, interpersonal violence and abuse, civil conflict, ethnic and racial clashes, religious schism and interfaith rivalry, terrorist attacks, wars between nations, and threatened use of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons—all of these prevent us from achieving God’s shalom.”

“The Bible makes [justice the inseparable companion of peace](#) (Isaiah 32:17; James 3:18). Both point to right and sustainable relationships in human society, the vitality of our connections with the earth, the well-being and integrity of creation. To conceive peace apart from justice is to compromise the hope that justice and peace shall embrace (Psalm 85:10).”

What will peace look like? When there is peace, no one goes hungry. When there is peace, no one is abandoned to fend for themselves. When there is peace, we support each other's thriving. When there is peace, differences are celebrated as gifts for the good of all. When there is peace, no external threats (though there may be some) prevent us from living the fullest lives we can. When there is peace, there is also every ground for joy.

When we pray for peace and offer one another the peace of Christ, we become channels of God's never-ending peace that reorders the world toward wholeness.

When we act in the spirit of Christ, we can "sow love where there is hatred, can dispense pardon where there is injury, can cast light where there is darkness. As [instruments of peace and justice](#), we can seek to replace discord with harmony and to repair the brokenness that shatters the wholeness of shalom."

Paul's letters offer assurance that peace is not something we have to wait for in some yet to be determined future. Peace is being poured out on us by God right now. The bishops remind us, "No matter how bad things are, God's creative work continues. Christ's resurrection assures us that death and destruction do not have the last word. Paul taught that through Jesus Christ, God offers redemption to all of creation and reconciles all things, 'whether on earth or in heaven' (Colossians 1:20). [God's Spirit is always and everywhere at work](#) in the world fighting poverty, restoring health, renewing creation, and reconciling peoples."

Have questions? [Ask The UMC](#) or talk with a pastor [near you](#). And check out other [recent Q&As](#).

*This content was produced by Ask The UMC, a ministry of United Methodist Communications.*

## **The Power of One**

One song can spark a moment,  
One flower can wake the dream.  
One tree can start a forest,  
One bird can herald spring.  
One smile begins a friendship,  
One handclasp lifts a soul.  
One star can guide a ship at sea,  
One word can frame the goal.  
One vote can change a nation,  
One sunbeam lights a room.  
One candle wipes out darkness,  
One laugh will conquer gloom.  
One step must start each journey,  
One word must start each prayer.  
One hope will raise our spirits,  
One touch can show you care.  
One voice can speak with wisdom,  
One heart can know what's true.  
One life can make the difference,  
You see, it's up to **You!**



## **"Hammering Nails"**

[Author Unknown]

There was a little boy with a bad temper. One day his father gave him a bag of nails, and told him that every time he lost his temper, to hammer a nail in the back fence. The first day the boy had driven 37 nails into the fence. Then it gradually dwindled down. He had discovered it was easier to hold his temper than to drive those nails into the fence.

Finally the day came when the boy did not lose his temper at all. He told his father about it and the father suggested that the boy now pull out one nail for each day that he was able to hold his temper.

The days passed and the young boy was finally able to tell his father that all the nails were gone. The father took his son by the hand and led him to the fence. He said, "You have done well, my son, but look at the holes in the fence. The fence will never be the same. When you say things in anger, they leave a scar just like this one. You can put a knife in a man and draw it out. It will not matter how many times you say 'I am sorry', the wound is still there. A verbal wound is as bad as a physical one."

## Autumn Word Search

Can you find the Autumn words in the puzzle below?

h	t	b	x	t	n	y	e	l	l	o	w
b	r	o	w	n	s	e	j	j	s	l	s
g	b	h	v	t	t	p	y	u	q	i	c
c	q	q	z	f	x	a	e	j	u	c	a
m	l	e	a	v	e	s	c	a	i	w	r
c	j	s	y	i	l	g	b	o	r	k	e
h	a	r	v	e	s	t	o	d	r	i	c
f	s	e	u	o	r	a	n	g	e	n	r
w	a	d	k	l	a	p	f	q	l	r	o
s	s	l	d	q	f	x	i	g	x	a	w
k	b	m	l	y	l	h	r	c	x	k	p
a	p	p	l	e	b	h	e	y	c	e	h

rake

scarecrow

brown

yellow

squirrel

leaves

apple

red

bonfire

harvest

fall

pear

orange

acom

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