



Messenger

Uniondale United Methodist Church September - October 2017

5857 N. Main St.
P. O. Box 115
Uniondale, IN 46791

Pastor Karen Ottjes
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 UniondaleUnitedMethodistChurch

Sunday Worship Service – 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School – 10:15 a.m.



September and October Birthdays and Anniversaries

September

6 – Mindi Herstad
8 – Brielle Kellam
12 – Suzanne Kellam
14 – Elaine McAfee
15 – Devin Evans
16 – Mary Cook
24 – Kim & Sue Chaney
30 – Gerry & Linda Houtz

October

18 – Linda Houtz



Upcoming Events

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Sunday, Sept 3 – | Communion Sunday |
| Sunday, Sept 10 – | Sunday School kickoff |
| Sunday, Sept 17 – | Food Bank Sunday-bring your food items |
| Sunday, Sept 24 – | Kids Changing the World-bring your change
Last day for collecting Coats for Kids |
| Sunday, Oct 1 – | Communion Sunday |
| Tuesday, Oct 15 – | Food Bank Sunday-bring your food items |
| Sunday, Oct 29 – | Kids Changing the World-bring your change |
| Tuesday, Oct 31 – | Trick or Treat in basement at 6:30-8 PM |
| Sunday, Nov 5 – | Daylight Savings ends
Communion Sunday
Charge Conference-St. Marks Decatur |

****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.
- * Cut out your "Box Tops for Education".
- * To sign up for CHURCH DUTIES on sheets at back table.

A Word from Our Pastor

Fall is in the air. The days are getting shorter. The weather has cooled off from our hot summer days. An evening walk is more comfortable now than a few weeks ago. Now it's time for activities that took a break over the summer to begin again.

Our children and youth have gone back to school for another year. Please remember to pray for them, their teachers and all the school staff as they adjust to new classrooms, subjects and routines. And don't forget to pray for the bus drivers too, since they are the first to see the students at the beginning of each school day and the last to see them as they return to their homes in the afternoon.

Sunday School will begin for children, youth and adults on Sunday, September 10th. The Education, Mission and Ministry Team met last week to plan for the teachers/leaders and materials that would be needed. Being a Christian is a lifelong learning, growing and maturing process. So this is a good time for all of us to get involved in a Sunday School class to study the Bible with others who are intentional about learning and growing in their faith. The stimulation of discussing with other believers what God's word says and how it applies to daily living helps us grow in our faith.

If there is any interest in having a daytime small group Bible study led by the pastor, I am willing to start one. The study could be topical or of a book of the Bible. Just let me know, if you would like to participate in it, and we'll talk about a day and time.

I am pleased with your responses to my sermons and your receptivity to building relationships with Jim and me. You are a warm and welcoming congregation who readily shares God's love and care with guests. Keep it up! I'm also open to hear your concerns about anything that you would like to see done differently.

This week take some time to meditate on the words of this hymn that talks about the value of the story of Jesus, God's "Word [who] became flesh and made his home among us." John 1:14a CEB

1. *I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love. I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true; it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.*

Refrain: I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory, to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

3. *I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet. I love to tell the story, for some have never heard the message of salvation from God's own holy Word.*

Shalom*!
Pastor Karen <><

*Shalom is a Hebrew word meaning peace, health, prosperity, welfare, favor, wholeness.

Committee News

STAFF /PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Staff/Parish Relations Committee met July 17, to sign a covenant which focuses on three areas to seek the best possible outcome for all through this time of transition. Presently, we are seeking to find a piano player. Music departments of area schools and colleges are being contacted.

TRUSTEES

We think the issue with the bees is finally done! Thanks to Steve for mowing in July and Roger in August. Dave Bennett will be mowing in September and we'll see what happens in October. Thanks to Jim and Chad for replacing several outdoor lights. Many thanks for everyone's selfless sacrifice of personal time to serve the needs of the church! Trustees are working on plans to make needed repairs to the parsonage before winter. So good to see everyone pitching in for the good of the church!

EMM COMMITTEE

The Education/Missions/Ministries Committee met on August 15. Donations were approved for Youth for Christ, Brickhouse Family Ministries, Forgotten Children, and Bashor Children's Home. In Sept. and Oct., a collection will be taken to support Bluffton First UMC's First We Care program. Jr. Church will not be reinstated at this time, but activity bags will be available for children up to 10 years of age during the church service. Children's, Youth, and Adult Sunday School classes will begin on Sept. 10. Kim Bennett volunteered to be our new Facebook Administrator.

FAITH CIRCLE

Reminder: We still have UUMC Centennial Cookbooks for sale! They are now reduced to \$5 each.

Please remember

Mary Etta Blessing
3890 W. Oak Rd.
Bluffton, IN 46714

Lura Burke
Ossian Health & Rehabilitation
215 Davis Rd.
Ossian, IN 46777

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

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

Mary Cook-Room 109
Gary Cook-Room 106
Markle Health & Rehabilitation
170 N. Tracy Street
Markle, IN 46770

Jeanette Gilbert
100 Caylor Blvd. Apt. #115
Bluffton, IN 46714

Margaret Hasler
37446 Carson
Farmington Hills, MI 48331



August 2017 Budget Summary	August Actual	August Budget	August Variance	Year to date Actual	Year to date Budget	Year to date Variance
TOTAL INCOME	3,659.83	4,209.92	(550.09)	37,455.12	33,679.36	3,775.76
TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES	2,709.15	4,209.92	1,500.77	30,132.86	33,679.36	(1,404.86)
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	950.68	0.00		7,322.26	0.00	

Preaching Truth Still Matters

Brother and Sisters,

I come to you this evening with a message that I did not intend to send today. In fact, I began this day with another topic on my heart and mind, however as I listened, watched, and learned more about the recent news in Charlottesville, Va., the Holy Spirit changed the words of my brain to expose what weighs heavily on my heart and the hearts of many across our country tonight.

Initially, I hoped to address the wide variety of preaching styles that I was fortunate enough to hear throughout my travels across the state throughout the past year; each richly unique in their ways of delivering God's word to all of God's people in our churches and our communities.

God's call and claim on our life is real and, most importantly, it cannot be ignored, as we would be running from what we are truly created to be.

For those of us called to live the Gospel message, in a time such as this, we must remember that the world needs the Church and we need the world, for neither can survive without the other.

I am reminded that there is division and discourse inside the walls of our Church, our homes, our government, on the walls of our Facebook accounts, and from the characters that we publish on Twitter. Many would argue, convincingly, that these are not ordinary times. Fear is on sale for half price and evil is ever present in global threats, relational discord, and dysfunctional leadership.

We are flooded with news that stirs us to our core, and that makes us more fearful of our brothers and sisters which threaten the health of a world in desperate need of what I heard a preacher share more than twenty-five years ago. "The Church has something to offer the world that the world can get from no other place." God reigns and the God we believe in is Love. We declare that Jesus Christ has and can make a way out of no way.

However, for the world to get anything from us, we must be honest and truthful. We can not avoid naming or calling out what is evil in its purest form ever manifested. Naming hate, injustice, and the sin of "-ism" is the only way for us to tackle the forces that would divide us and that would have any one of us believe that there is less opportunity to reach our highest God-given potential because of one group of people or another.

Brian Stevenson, founder and executive director of the [Equal Justice Initiative](#) and author of *Just Mercy*, said in an interview earlier this year, "In faith perspectives, to get to salvation— at least in the Christian tradition—you have to repent. There is no redemption without acknowledgment of sin. It's not bad to repent. It's cleansing. It's necessary. It's ultimately liberating to acknowledge where we were and where we want to go. We haven't done that collectively."

As our communities continue to wrestle with senseless acts of violence, as well as a recent rise in traffickers of hate that many thought to be dead and gone or at least they lied dormant in their appearance for years - it is the Church who can help unite and break down barriers and free those who are chained by society or by their own views, born in the falsity, that any human being is less than another.

So as the Body of Christ, I implore each of you to join me in living truth by:

1. Share this in your congregation, communities, mission fields, workplaces, at your dinner tables, and beyond in the days ahead;
2. Recommit to the [vows](#) that we took for our membership as United Methodist; and
3. Be living examples of the peace of which we are praying for in every corner of the world.

As we do all of these things remember that Together we are more.

**Be encouraged,
Julius C. Trimble
Resident Bishop**

Disaster Response: How you can help those impacted by Tropical Storm Harvey

Hurricane Harvey has been described, as “one of the largest disasters America has ever faced,” by Texas Governor Greg Abbott, indicating a prolonged recovery process. The Category 4 Hurricane, which made initial landfall in Rockport, Texas on Friday, August 25, has caused at least 30 deaths, injured many, and has forced thousands of residents from their homes.

The hurricane has now taken the form of a tropical storm, resulting in aggressive rainfall surpassing 50 inches over the next several days in parts of Texas and now Louisiana. Heavy rains and flooding are expected to last through Friday, with significant damages mainly deriving from the flooding.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) has been working intently throughout the past several days to effectively respond to the needs of those impacted by Tropical Storm Harvey, by issuing recovery grants to the Texas and Rio Texas Annual Conferences, as well as delivering cleaning kits to be distributed to those deprived of basic essentials.

UMCOR has organized a list of five things United Methodists and anyone else who may feel called to provide assistance, through a monetary donation, organizing relief kits, or through raising those impacted by Tropical Storm Harvey in prayer. The downloadable list and a bulletin insert can be found here: [UMCOR responds to Harvey](#)

If you wish to provide assistance to those affected by Tropical Storm Harvey, you can give in three ways:

1. Monetary donations are preferred right now, as monies are needed to help mobilize short and long-term recovery efforts, and provide aid for families that have been displaced or are incapacitated.
2. With the help your church or community, you can help supply [hygiene kits](#) and [cleaning buckets](#) (collection and distribution information available below).
3. UMCOR trained Early Response Teams are welcome to lend their efforts to help those who are experiencing immediate needs. Personnel must be trained and certified in emergency response procedures.

Monetary Donations

Give a secure gift to UMCOR Disaster Relief online:

https://secure3.convio.net/gbgm/site/SPageNavigator/gbgm_donate.html?type=1001&project=901670

SHORT URL: <http://bit.ly/2x5JczL>

To give by mail:

Advance GCFA

P.O. Box 9068

New York, NY 10087-9068

Please note in the memo line: [Advance 901670](#)

Cleaning Kit Collection

The following churches will be collecting UMCOR [cleaning buckets](#) and [hygiene kits](#) from now until September 24.

St. Joseph United Methodist Church
6004 Reed Street

Children's Page

Fall is Fun!



- 1—Red
- 2—Yellow
- 3—Blue
- 4—Green
- 5—Orange
- 6—Purple
- 7—Brown
- 8—Black

RatingBoK.com



Sunday School MAKES A DIFFERENCE