

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

271 Rocky Hill Rd. P.O.B. 701

Northampton, MA 01061

**SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2018 NEWSLETTER**

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God;  
For the good we all inherit; thanks be to God;  
For the wonders that astound us; for the truths that still confound us;  
Most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

“For the Fruits of This Creation,” UMH PG. 97 v.3, Fred Pratt Green, 1970

Greetings and Salutation to one and all,

I hope you all had a great summer; although the weather was not the best this year. I went on a Windjammer cruise in June for a week. My time wandering the Penobscot Bay was incredible. The sunsets, the friendships made and the ease of vacation made for a great respite. On a sailing boat there is no real itinerary. With no motors the wind takes us where it will. This captain steers and the ancient art of sailing eventually takes us where we want to go. We depend upon the weather. Both the good wind and the bad move the ship closer to our destination.

Although we have timetables and schedules that draw us far and wide, Our small community seems to be growing with a sense of optimism and Hope. We see people come and go, but yet we respond to the Gospel with Mission and kindness. In this crazy and impetuous world we are bombarded with all variety of hype and incivility. We are pushed here and there. We develop opinion based on the latest rumors or facts. But life goes on. Change is inevitable whether we are proactive or we procrastinate.

So welcome back one and all. As we go along, here are some things that we can do to keep this beautiful church going. Invite friends and acquaintances to church. As you know we have much to offer. Introduce them to me and to the people in the church. Let's try our best to make newcomers welcome. Help out wherever you can. Be a friend in Christ to all who share our church and our lives.

So, like the wind is to a sailing ship, let us put our faith in God's grace. Let us use our ingenuity and ability to steer the course of life, that will give us our destination in God's time not our own. Like the hymnal verse above, there are things we know, things that still confound us, but that love, the love of God in our hearts, makes all the difference.

Thanks be to God,  
Pastor David

### **Calendar for September:**

Weekly Sunday Morning Worship 10:00am  
Meet and Greet Fellowship 11:00am  
Bible Study following worship 11:30am  
Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup> - Missions Committee Meeting 3:30pm  
Thursday, September 27<sup>nd</sup> 9:00am – Fair Roll Baking  
Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup> 9:00am – Fair Roll Baking

### **Calendar for October:**

Weekly Sunday Morning Worship 10:00am  
Meet and Greet Fellowship 11:00am  
Bible Study following worship 11:30pm  
Wednesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> – Worship Committee Mtg. 1:30pm  
Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup> – Fair Pie Baking 9:00am

### **A Thank You from Shirley Smith**

To My CUMC Family;

A very belated thank you for the get well wished, cards and gifts during my very painful time with shingles and then the sprained ankle. I also appreciate the every Sunday afternoon visits from Joe, the bulletin and DVD's of the Sunday Services and the many visits from Pastor David. This all helps to keep me connected with my church

On another note, Loomis House here in Holyoke was recently purchased by Berkshire Health Systems. As of November 1<sup>st</sup>, our name will be changed to Day Brook Village.

Blessings, Shirley

**CHURCH FAIR UPDATE**  
**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF FAIR DATES!!!!**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9<sup>ND</sup> 4PM – 8PM**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10<sup>RD</sup> 9AM – 2PM**

**CHRISTMAS TABLE** – Sue and Leslie have been working on making items for this table. You don't have to be totally crafty so if you would like to help them finish up a few things, let them know.

**NEEDLECRAFT TABLE – JUDY & ADRIENNE COOPER**

On this table you will find knitted, crocheted, sewing and other handmade items.

**FOOD TABLE – PAM KUKUCKA & DOT LAMBERT**

All homemade food items found here plus church baked pies and our “famous” dinner rolls.

**JELLY / JAM / RELISH TABLE -**

A table for all canned goods and other related items.

**WOOD PRODUCTS–NEW THIS YEAR–ROCHELLE OELRICH & SUE ROUTHIER**

Locally made wooden children's furniture

**KITCHEN – JOE DEGRANDE AND NANCY HARDING**

Friday: Evening meal (American Chop Suey)

Saturday: Morning coffee and muffins

and soup and sandwich luncheon

**CHRISTMAS TREASURERS TABLE - VIRGINIA AHART**

An assortment of past Christmas past treasured non-craft ornaments along with manger scenes and other beautiful Christmas decorations.

THERE IS NO FAIR COMMITTEE THIS YEAR SO CHURCH COUNCIL IS HOPING THAT ALL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF CUMC HELP PROVIDE ANY ITEMS FOR ANY TABLES AND ASSISTANCE WHERE NEEDED. IN OCTOBER THERE WILL BE A SIGN UP SHEET FOR THOSE OFFERING TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AND / OR ITEMS FOR THE FAIR. MORE NEWS WILL FOLLOW IN NEXT NEWSLETTER (END OF OCTOBER).

## "Something New to Try for the Church Fair"

Virginia Ahart

A thought came to me as I was looking at the boxes of Christmas items in my attic that perhaps many of us have boxes like mine stored away too. Many are things we now no longer take out during the holidays for many different reasons. While I still have a Christmas tree, I have downsized it and I have enough to decorate at least two large trees. Some of these ornaments are just too large for my smaller tree. I have several manger scenes, all nice, but how many can one display?

What if for this year, we had a table of non-craft Christmas items in good condition for sale at our Holiday Fair? I would be willing to undertake this project for the following reasons:

It would encourage me to donate some of the many nice items I have enjoyed in the past, but stay in boxes because I don't use them anymore.

It would provide a new and different table for our fair.

It would help some of you to do some reduction in your collection.

And just perhaps, it will raise some additional funds for CUMC.

Let me know what your thoughts are,  
Virginia

### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

#### **An invitation to Join with the District United Methodist Women and Others**

In a Conversation on Mass Incarceration Awareness  
and The School to Prison Pipeline

The District United Methodist Women are joining with other groups for a time of conversation concerning the mass incarceration of mostly young and minority groups that has filled our prisons with non-violent people. This has been happening for years.

This incarceration has meant that not only men but sometimes women, who are with them when serve time has ended. Sometimes their crime has been the small amount of marijuana, now legal. Often this means job opportunities when released are not there and may lead to additional difficulties leading back to prison. Families are disrupted which may lead to poverty. Studies show that children living in these homes do not do as well in school. While this should not be the only reason for learning about this and maybe taking steps to change this, it costs all of us tax money, while we lose the benefits from people being productive and participating in society.

Join the UMW of our district and others (men are welcome too) on:

Saturday, September 29, 2018

Wesley United Methodist Church, Springfield

9:30am - Noon

Questions? Call Pearl Wilkinson (413) 315-1446

## Our Church's Joys and Concerns:

Sunday, July 15th:

Sherry - Hunter in Hospital, New Great-Grandchild and Jane - Thyroid Cancer  
Becky - Uncle Al - Mass General with heart issue and Margaret moving to Virginia  
Virginia - Roxie infection due to jaw surgery, prayers for whole family with  
interment of sister-in-law (Dick's brother's wife)  
Carol - New Great Grand Child  
Carolyn - Friend's son (Scott) having serious surgery, now in hospice

Sunday, July 22nd:

Sue - Prayers for Carol Barrett (Bluebonnet Diner)  
Carolyn - For Dee's parents at the passing of Dee  
Becky - Nephew Dana - Attending International Conference of Physics Teachers  
in Washington, DC  
Sherry - Prayers for Family of a friend who passed away  
Dot - George Gunn - Kidney Cancer - last days  
Carol - New granddaughter, and prayers for upper teenage drug issues  
Lois - Celebrate received rain, for earth and wildlife

Sunday, July 29th:

Carol - Dodge family member passed away  
Sue - Nancy Harding for safe travel to Maine to attend Bob Grant's interment  
service; short \$ in cash draw - found by another waitress  
Sherry - Lost close friend, Charlie  
Pam - Joe for Neave and Maura as they travel to Ireland with Papa Hackett for  
a three week family visit.  
Peter Kakos - Joy thanking God for CUMC opening living space for a family of 8.  
Joyce - Traveling with family to Scotland to visit daughter and family.  
Joe - Prayers for family of 8 month baby who coded.

Sunday, August 5th:

Virginia - Roxie's oral surgery went well; grandson Burt receiving Eagle Scout honor.  
Carol - 66th Northampton High School Reunion  
Claire - Friend Karen raising two Grand Children having surgery and other medical  
problems; cousin Dale - finished chemo, next is surgery  
Bea - Friend, John, had stroke - prayers  
Jetty - Prayers / Concerns for those close to California fires.  
Sue - Son Brian's stove oven blew up; Martha (Bluebonnet) Brain cancer  
now in Boston for further treatment; Dillon is a little trouble  
Carolyn & Virginia - Joy!! Attended "Mission U"  
Sherry - Friend, Helen, mother passed away  
Leslie - Zachary's classmates Grandmother passed away - Brain Tumor  
Art - Sister Joyce traveling visiting family in Scotland; Keep Grant family in prayers

Sunday, August 12th:

Claire - Friend Heidi / Surgery  
Sue - Martha @ Diner - At Baystate Medical / Brain Cancer surgery  
Becky - JOY! Niece Margaret, in training for new job; Nephew Tim, Birthday  
Carolyn - On way to church this morning saw various wildlife all eating together  
Sherry - JOY! Spent time with friends at their cottage on the Cape; Elleana having  
oral surgery.  
Jetty - Lathrop Bus Trip to Greenfield Common, homeless / hard life.  
BethAnn - Harlee survived 1st week of daycare; new job going well.  
Lois - Visited neighbors whose daughter-in-law committed suicide/prayers for family  
Dot - Visited elderly Aunt on Cape Cod - doing well

## **MISSIONS**

On behalf of the Missions Committee, we would like to thank the congregation for all your support in donations in kind to our mission projects.

## **COT SHELTER**

As you all know, CUMC continues to support the Cot Shelter Meals from November to April, one day per month. That's six (6) meals that we prepare, deliver, serve and do cleanup. It's that time again that we have made a commitment to do the meals on the third Monday of each month. The Missions Committee would like to establish at least three teams so that you only have to do two meals during this time frame.

The dates of meals are as follows:

Monday, November 19, 2018

Monday, December 17, 2018

Monday, January 21, 2019

Monday, February 18, 2019

Monday, March 18, 2019

Monday, April 15, 2019

Meals should be prepared on the Mondays and then delivered to the Cot Shelter by 5:30pm. The church kitchen can be used if desired. Dinner is generally served around 6:30pm with clean up to follow. A suggestion has been made to utilize crock pots to make meals and deliver as it would be easier in the long run. A menu plan is up to the team and keep it simple. If you have any questions about what to make, please see Sherry, Adrienne or Rochelle.

## **EASTHAMPTON COMMUNITY CENTER**

We collected 19 backpacks and a generous amount of supplies for the Easthampton Community Center. The backpacks were delivered during the last two weeks of August. Thank you all!

## **NORTHAMPTON SURVIVAL CENTER/EASTHAMPTON COMMUNITY CENTER**

We have delivered boxes of food to both locations over the summer. We will continue to deliver any donations monthly.

## **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

We have been collecting items to fill our boxes for OCC. We hope to complete 100 boxes for delivery in November. More information will come as to putting the remaining boxes together. Thanks for all your donations.

Our first scheduled meeting will be Monday, September 10, 2018 @ 3:30pm @ CUMC.

Your Mission Team, Rochelle (chair) Adrienne, Leslie, Sherry