

Fall Worship Schedule

Sept. 6 - **Listen** *Matthew 18:15-20*

The Gospel text uses the word “listen” a great deal. We are called to listen to one another. In listening we can build up the church and understand one another better. What prevents us from listening well? The text finishes with the well-known verse “where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” While we yearn for the full body of the church to gather, may we give thanks for the moments we gather with two or three, and know that God is with us!

Sept. 13 - **Forgive** *Matthew 18:21-35*

The Disciples begin asking how often they should forgive, Jesus gives them what is essentially an infinite number, and then tells them a story. Forgiveness is the heart of grace. God has forgiven, therefore we must forgive as well. When we hear the story Jesus tells, it seems easy to see the flaw in the one demanding payment. Yet, when are we like He, having expectations of others that fails to show our understanding of the grace we have received?

“Serving Christ in our Local Community”

Sept. 20 - **Generosity** *Matthew 20:1-16*

This is a powerful and challenging parable of grace. It doesn't seem fair, why would the landowner give the same pay to all the workers? This is certainly not the way we do things. The landowner acknowledges that he is being generous, should his generosity be diminished based on who receives it? In what way do we have expectations upon grace? What changes when we choose generosity?

Sept. 27 - **Inclusion** *Matthew 21:23-32*

Who is included, who is excluded, who gets to decide? In the temple the priests question Jesus' authority. Who is this poor teacher with these followers? Jesus gives them a short parable, who is doing the will of the father? The discussion may then ask of us, if those people are doing the work, are they not also included in the kingdom of God?

Even as we shelter in place, our UMW Rachel Circle has continued to support the food pantry at Fruit Valley Elementary School. Kathy Wright stays in close contact with Staci, the School's Family Resource Center Director, for the needed groceries. Kathy purchases needed items and delivers them to the school. This summer, Naomi Circle women joined in this much-needed mission with their monetary donations for food!

UMW Reading Program has many good books regarding social/racial justice. When our church re-opens we will gladly make them available to our church family. Currently, some of us are reading "SO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT RACE" by Ijeoma Oluo. YouTube has a great introduction to this book by the author, who happens to live in Seattle! Another book many are reading is "FINDING PEACE in an ANXIOUS WORLD" by Pastor Mark Flynn. {Certainly appropriate as our world is experiencing a pandemic.} There are video supplements for each of the first four chapters which also use The Serenity Prayer and The Book of Proverbs.

Eleanor Sefton,
Program Resource UMW

"Reading gives us somewhere to go when we're stuck where we are."



World of Thanks and Appreciation

Our United Methodist Women have been on a long summer break but the needs in the community have not.

Early in the summer, Rachel Circle of UMW made a large donation to the Fruit Valley School Food Pantry in Mindy Ludolph's memory. It was her pet project. Naomi Circle wanted to support their project also and had a Lazy Daze of Summer distance party to raise funds for Fruit Valley School. Between the two circles, we raised over \$600 to buy food for their food pantry.

A world of thanks and appreciation goes to Kathy Wright for collecting the money, buying the food and taking it to Fruit Valley School. Staci, the food pantry coordinator was ecstatic over receiving the food as they really had great need during this time of Covid-19. They run the pantry all year but the demand has risen this summer. Protein foods were especially needed so we were able to help out with our large donation. It is wonderful that our ladies could help families even at a distance, this is what we do for women and children all the time and hope to continue.

Again, extra Kudos go to Kathy for her extraordinary efforts to make this happen. We are Blessed to have her as a member.

Bev Thomas,
Co-President of United Methodist Women

September Celebrations

Birthdays

Ev Lucas	Emily DeLisle
James McGinnis	Harriet Johnson
Vaughan Shoemaker	Karen Tarvin
David Firestone	Joyce Gentry
Parker Synon	Shirley Stewart
Earl Gildehous	Jonas DeLisle
Patricia Swanson	Chris Mallars
Patrick Synon	Jack Newman
Valerie Bieber	Carl Andrew
Charles Friauf	Kazumi Hotai
Luke Wiesner	Elizabeth Janney
Joan Pratt	Jennifer Williams
Bobbi Selig	Cristina Rivera
David Griffin	Lynnette Trotter
Eugene Walters	Cheryl Dillon
Mary Hutchins	Amber Tripp
Lilia Ortega	Jared Femling
Gail Wikstrom	Carol Pierce
Glenn Kuhn	Deborah Spofford
Jacob Sawyer	Rita Toepfer
Jan Hanley	Jamie Harris
Karlene McKibben	Sharon Morrison
Sylvia Karabay	Marion Cavett
Joyce Kleinschmidt	Scott Hansen
Norma McGraw	Mark Wiesner

Anniversaries

Willcox, David & Sara
Cook, Lee & Kathy
Mehl, Michael & Michelle
Warren, Jim & Kathy
Martin, Shawn & Dani
Wikstrom, Gail & Nancy
Durgin, Ed & Jill
Gist, Tom & Jan
Firestone, Merril & Adele
Roe, Charlie & Pat
Qualls, Dean & Margene
Potter, Scott & Ruth
Niemeyer, Bill & Allison Duncan
Burson, Jerry & Nancy



Little Acorn Preschool

Greetings FUMC! Little Acorn will be moving forward with an online/at-home hybrid learning program that we have developed. We are pleased to share the LEAF (Learning, Engaging and Fun) program that we are cultivating and growing as we speak. The LEAF program will include a 2-week take-home packet with supplies and activities that will align with our online lessons, stories, songs and activities. Much of the LEAF program will be available for parents at their

convenience. If you would like to learn a bit more, you can view our presentation here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cnzfTelE408&feature=youtu.be>

We know this time has been extraordinary for everyone and hope this note finds you all happy and healthy.

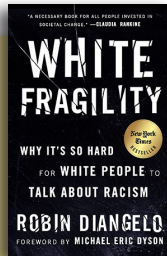
Go Team Little Acorn! - Katie Coop

Conversations & Community Christian Education

This fall, please consider joining with others in a time of Conversation and Community. Though we don't know when we will back together in the building we can continue to seek fellowship in our unique ways. Specific details will be coming.

September

White Fragility by Robin DiAngelo. Available in print or by Kindle. Hosted by Mary Lookingbill, join with others as she explores the topic of racism in America. This three-week ZOOM gathering will challenge us to look at our beliefs and our world in new ways.



SUNDAYS

Online Worship Service - 10 a.m.
 Youth Sunday School online - 11 a.m.

TUESDAYS

Facebook Live Devotional - 10 a.m.

WEDNESDAYS

M.S. Youth Group online - 1 p.m.
 H.S. Youth Group online - 3 p.m.
 Church Fellowship online - 5:30 p.m.

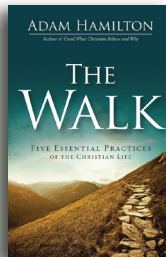
THURSDAYS

Facebook Live Devotional - 10 a.m.

The September schedule for Team and Committee meetings will be emailed as we confirm them.

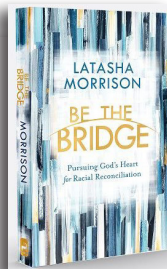
October

The Walk Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life by Adam Hamilton. Pastor Bruce will base his sermon series on these spiritual practices which support our membership vows as United Methodists. In addition to his preaching, a small group ZOOM will be available.



November

Be the Bridge Pursuing God's Heart for Racial Reconciliation by Latasha Morrison. Pastor Jim McGinnis will explore this Bible study which focuses on our racial disunity and the Christian response.



Contacts

Senior Pastor | Rev. Bruce Smith
 Program & Facilities Administrator | Gary Carter
 Director of Youth Ministries | Justin Nutting
 Director of Music Ministries | Thomas Rheingans
 Choir Director | Amber Tripp
 Nursery Coordinator | Jenifer Walton
 Treasurer | Michelle Mehl
 Office Administrator | Ginny Sorenson
 Maintenance Technician | Scott Hansen
 Lay Leaders | Evan Hull & John Gentry
 Trustees Chair | Thomas Musser