

FIRST NEWS AND NOTES

A Newsletter of The First United Methodist Church in Hagerstown

Sept. & October Newsletter 2018



The Pastors Pen

September and October are months of transitions. September starts with the hot days of summer and ends with the beginning of fall. October is full of the changing colors of leaves and the beginning of cool, crisp nights. These are times of the year that reveal the beauty and splendor of God's creative presence in our

world. It is also months of harvest. We see our home gardens finish their growing season and the fields become golden and ready for the harvest.

Harvest is an important theme in the Bible. God told the Israelites how they will harvest the grain and crops from their fields in a way that cares for the poor and also the environment (Leviticus 19:9-10). Jesus spoke not just of a physical harvest but also of a spiritual harvest. Jesus said "the harvest is mending, but the workers are few. Therefore I plead with the Lord of the harvest to send out workers for his harvest." (Matthew 9:37-38)

The church is the "send out workers" of the gospel. God has called us to be sent out into the world and share the gospel of Jesus Christ through loving God and neighbor. 80% of the Hagerstown community does not have a faith community. That means that there is a harvest in your area. There is someone living near you, maybe even your next door neighbor, does not know that God loves them.

The harvest is mending in our community. It's on us, through the power of Holy Spirit, to gather in God's children in Hagerstown and the surrounding towns into a faith in Jesus Christ.

Here's how you can start:

- 1) Pray for the lost
- 2) Read God's word
- 3) Invite someone to church
- 4) Follow up with that person (take them to lunch or coffee) and talk with them about Jesus
- 5) Pray for them
- 6) Go back to step 1

Grace and Peace, Pastor John



September and October are right around the corner and the Youth, Tweens, and Children have a lot of events to look forward to. Before we jump into the upcoming plans for the next two months, I want to address something that did not happen in August. In case you were unaware the Youth and Tweens had a scheduled visit to a nursing home, scheduled for August 26th. This event did not happen because of some miscommunication and I would like to apologize for that. Erin Doerstler and I will be discussing a new time and date within the coming weeks and will let you know when a new date has been selected. We will also make sure a letter is sent out to confirm the date, location, and all the other details.

With that out of the way, let us press forward. There will be some slight changes with our Sunday School hour for both the Tweens and the Youth. Erin Doerstler, Amy Zetzi, and myself will be taking some time to talk about new avenues to reach our Youth and Tweens. The children will continue as usual with the Deep Blue Curriculum in J.A.M. while Jean will continue to teach lessons inspired by Pastor John's sermons during K.I.D.S. During our evening hours, I will continue to create new and age appropriate lessons and activities for the Youth and Tweens. I do want to let parents know that I am also working with some other adults to put together a movie night for the Youth in September and I will let you know as soon as a date, time, and place have been selected.

October is also chalked full of **activities for the Youth, Tweens, Children, and even Adults to attend!** The first major event we have in October is **Creative Arts Camp**. Every year we continue to grow in numbers and we are expecting that trend to continue. This year **Creative Arts Camp will be from October 8-12** and we need all hands on deck to make this event run smoothly. If you would like to help with registration, in the kitchen, as a teacher, a traveler, or just a volunteer please speak with me and I will find a spot for you! I also need background checks for every adult that wishes to work with youth or children in every and all ways. If you have already filled one out last year, please let me know that you would like to renew yours, if you need a new one or details have changed, please speak with me and I will give you the appropriate paperwork. I need to insert this information by the end of September, so please let me know ASAP. Following Creative Arts Camp, we also have our **Annual Harvest Party** on October 13th. John and I have begun initial conversation on this matter and we have decided on hosting the event here at the church. Just as usual, it will be a pitch-in dinner and everyone is invited to attend. We will need a few hands to help with pumpkin painting and preparing the meat for the meal, so if you would like to help out in either of those areas please let me know. There are some other potential surprises, but I will keep those a secret for the time being.

Continued on Page 3

In This Issue

- *Pastor John Huff
- *Ministry Director
- *United M Women
- *Calendar Dates
September &
October
- *Stewardship
- *80+ Birthdays

Rev. Herschel Murray passed away on the Lord's Day July 22, 2018. He was a Hagerstown native and graduate of HHS. He went into the ministry and served those churches in the North Conference. Herschel had many attributes. He was kind, caring, honest, enjoyed being active, and enjoyed his favorite sports but most of all he wanted everyone to know the love of Christ. Our church will miss his prayers for us as a congregation. His sister, Linda Riley is an active member of our church. Betty, his wife is in a Middletown Nursing Home. He had three children, David, Joyce, and Janelle.



Happy Birthday 80+

September 23 –Don Higbee, 100 E Parkway Dr Hagerstown
September 24-Don Myers, 2070 Chester Blvd Friends Fellowship
Richmond 47374



October 10– Marvin Culy, 8221 Baker Rd Hagerstown
October 10-Shirley Retherford, 35 Lexington Ln Hagerstown

October 13-Pat Sharp, 260 W Main St
October 14-Susan Sanders, 252 N Sycamore St
October 21-Ted Asche, c/oKevin Cox, 17131 Massey Rd
Mooreland 47360
October 28-Jerry Adams, 158 Hampshire Dr Eaton OH 45320

Invite Your Friends

Fun Stuff Happening for Youth

7th—12th 2nd & 4th Sundays 6³⁰ - 8

Tweens (4th-6th) 3rd Sundays 6:30-8 pm

Sometimes there are changes.

Always check with Adam

Bring the Kids

Fun stuff happens

Every Sunday Morning

Beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Ages Birth thru 3rd Grade



Every Sunday during Worship Service
there is a special time just for
Kids In Divine Service Ages 3-3rd

UMW President Mindy Smith Shares with You

What a blessing to be part of such a giving Church Family!



Hope you've all had a pleasant summer and had time for all the family time, cookouts, swimming, traveling—whatever makes for a good summer vacation in your estimation.

This time I felt led to talk to you about the Purpose of UMW not focusing on our Busy-ness. Every time our small group *O* of Friendship for me) meets and also at the beginning of our quarterly General Meetings we begin by a unison reading of our Purpose:

The Organized Unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of Women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a Creative Supportive Fellowship and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

How does all that apply to me? And maybe to you?

“Shall be a community of women”.

When we have the opportunity to meet monthly in our small groups it gives us an opportunity to know the women we may only have time to greet briefly on Sunday Morning. We have time in our small group to share our struggles and problems, our joys and successes, and community is created. We grow stronger because of the friendship and connections we make in these times of community.

“Whose purpose is to Know God”

In our small groups and General Meetings we always share a time of learning. It can take many different forms at times someone gives a lesson from our UMW material, or maybe a book report on a book someone found meaningful, causing them to grow in their relationship to Jesus and it's just too good not to share with their sisters at Circle Meeting. Another form our learning can take is an outside speaker who wants to share about a Ministry that God has led them to. As you can see our meetings help us to know and recognize God in our lives as we share in these lessons.

So these lessons help us to know **“our purpose”** and to **“expand our Concepts of Mission”** which all lead us to increased **“Participation in Global Ministries.”**

If you haven't tried meeting with us in a United Methodist Women's meeting, we hope you will decide that now's a good time to try out a small group. Our smaller group times are listed faithfully by Carol in our bulletin so be checking there for what works with your schedule. It's all part of us working and growing together as Community.

Living ...



17% of all the financial gifts given through the church offerings are used to support ministries outside the church walls in our community, our country, and around the globe. We invite you to live out your faith by helping to trans-

Gleaners - Volunteer helping with this Mission Outreach!
Sept. 27 No Winter months
Back here April 26, 2019

UMW
 Continue saving postage stamps & box labels. Containers located in Narthex.

Food Donations Always Needed Community Food Pantry

Place food donations in the shopping carts located in the front hallway of the church. Or Drop off at the Trustee's Office, 37 E Main St
Jeffersonwpwayne@comcast.net

Congratulations
 Ross & Christine Waterman have a new baby, Eiley Kathryn, born July 23. She weighed 7 lbs. 6 oz and 20" She joins her big brother William.

 Lance Baldwin and Makalya Miller's baby boy, Bentley Alexander was born August 15 weighing 9 lbs.4oz. He joins his big sister Aubree.

Adam Duell, Director of Family Ministries
 Continued from Page 1...



The last event I want to speak on is the **Annual Youth Lock-In!** This year the lock-in will be on **October 19th** and we will begin at 6pm. Any student that is 6th-12th grade is invited to attend. Every youth that attends will need to complete a youth info packet and will need to abide by any additional rules that Mark or myself may create. In my discussions with Mark, 35 students are already interested in the event, with that in mind we will need a lot of adults to make this happen. If you would like to help out, please let me know and I will run a background check for you and give you any details you may need! This year **the underground theme is Contagion!** Mark is working on a complete overhaul of the traditional game and there will be all kinds of interesting twists and turns! Make sure to bring a bedding/sleeping bag, a snack to share (No peanut products), a flashlight, toiletry items, and a lot of courage! This is set up to be the most entertaining and frightening underground church, you've ever experienced!

With regards to any or all of the above topics, you can email me at aduell01@yahoo.com or can call or text me at (317) 709-4250.
 Blessings, Adam Duell

Stewardship Report as of August 30, 2018 = \$137,767

YTD Faith Promise (Mission) = \$4,410

YTD Total Giving for GOOD Fund (Capital Projects) = \$1,757

YTD Total Giving for Hours of Service = 928



Offering Envelopes

The church no longer identifies those that give by a number. Our giving records are maintained by the name of the giver either on the envelope used or by the name on the check. You may still designate your giving on the envelope to the same categories as we have always had: Church Ministries (budget), Faith Promise (missions), GOOD Fund (Capital Projects), and other special offerings or gifts.

We have also provided space to acknowledge the numerous gifts of time that our congregation gives to the church and our community. These are all gifts of love!

Did you pray for someone, read to the children, attend Bible study, work at the Thrift Shop, etc.? Put down your hours you volunteer on the bottom of the offering envelope. It is amazing to see hours you've given for God.

My Offering
 SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:15 am
 199 South Perry Street
 Hagerstown, IN 47346
FIRST CHURCH
www.firsthagerstown.org

Stop collecting treasures for your own benefit on earth, where moth and rust eat them and where thieves break in and steal them. Instead, collect treasures for yourselves in heaven, where moth and rust don't eat them and where thieves don't break in and steal them. Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. **Matthew 6:19-21**

Name _____ Date _____

My loving gift of treasure for God's Kingdom:

Church Ministries \$ _____ Faith Promise \$ _____

GOOD Fund \$ _____ Other: _____ \$ _____

My loving gift of time and talent to others:

I gave _____ hours of service to _____

I gave _____ hours of service to _____

Thanks Friends & Members:

On behalf of Communities in Schools of Wayne County we would like to thank you for your generous support. As a nonprofit organization, we depend on the community to recognize our impact and support our efforts, whether that be financially, through in-kind gifts, through volunteering, or through fostering community partnerships. You are a valued supporter of CIS Wayne Co and thanks to your generosity we will continue to pursue our mission of surrounding students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.

Thank you! Allison Ullery - Elementary School Hagerstown

New Fund Set for Tables

A Fund has been set for replacing and purchasing new lighter and easier to move 8 foot long tables for Fellowship Hall. We will start with a few and continue to add tables as the fund builds.

If you would like to give towards this, please mark your giving envelope for tables.

Contact Us:

Rev. John E. Huff
Senior Pastor
John.huff@inumc.org
812-592-0359

Adam Duell
Director of Family Ministry
aduell01@yahoo.com
317-709-4250

Rick Peelle
Director of Music & Worship
nccgardenspso@aol.com
765-220-2336

Carol Meyer
Church Secretary
hfumc@firsthagerstown.org
489-5536 (After office hours)

Connect with Us-
www.firsthagerstown.org



First United Methodist

199 South Perry Street
PO Box 65
Hagerstown, Indiana 47346

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 2
Hagerstown IN 47346
CART-RT.SORT
Return Service Requested

