

# United Methodist Church of Monroe

## Messenger

September 2015

*“Then the one seated on the throne said, “Look! I’m making all things new.” Revelation 21:5a*



It is that time of year—back to school, back to work, back into our daily routines and back to church. But when you go “back” you never really do go “back,” do you? Usually, you are in a new grade, new classes and hopefully the pastor isn’t preaching the exact same sermon that was preached last September. So, you will notice some new things as we welcome the fall here at the United Methodist Church of Monroe, starting with this newsletter template (which is still very much a work in progress).

The neat thing about God is that God is always making things new and fresh and it is with joy that we welcome Vivian Harris and Michelle Lambert to our staff. We have some new ministries that we are launching, such as introducing Carin Florin as our new Parish Nurse and new missions, such as partnering with the Mercy Learning Center.

Maybe God has something different in store for you as you get back into your routine. Check out our new and exciting website, ([www.umcmonroe.org](http://www.umcmonroe.org)) and see if there is something that piques your interest.

- Never tried Game Night? Come join us on September 19th.
- Always wanted to sing but was afraid to take that leap? Check out page 5
- Heard people talk about “Pivot” but have no idea what that ministry is? Read about it on the Mission section of the website.

We have a very exciting fall ahead with the start of Sunday School, Youth Group, the reception of New Members and the Harvest Fest (and that is just to name a few).

Where is God asking you to go when you go “back?”

In Christ’s Peace,

*Pastor Martha*

## *Health Notes by Carin Florin, Parish Nurse:*

UMCM Faith Community Health Notes: What is a Parish nurse?

The parish nurse program is new to our congregation but not new to the United Methodist Church. Faith community/parish nurses are licensed registered nurses who support and help the congregation and community in health and wellness. Using holistic approach to the mission in an attempt to bring healing to the body, mind and spirit (UMCOR, 2015).

As our parish nurse I will visit church members in the hospital or home. I can provide counseling or teaching on health related issues and practices. I am a member of the St. Vincent's Medical Center Parish Nurse program; this program extends the mission of St. Vincent's by insertion of a professional nurse who forms part of the healing ministry and a continued commitment to care of the sick and poor. This partnership also makes available a wide variety of health services and educational programs to the congregation.

I hope I was able to answer the "big" question about parish nursing. If you still have questions feel free to ask me. I am very excited to bring this program to our church. I have some ideas for us that are healthy, fun and that encourage spiritual growth.



Every newsletter I will have a health notes section and there will be a different topic each month. If you have suggestions or requests let me know as I always love to know what people want to know more about; nurses love to teach. I am currently working on securing an AED device for our church; there is a local group that is willing to help provide some financial assistance to secure AED's for all churches in our Monroe community--then we will be an even safer heart safe community...Stay tuned!!!

Our first health screening will be Sunday Sept. 27th during fellowship time. The screening will consist of blood pressure, heart rate and oxygen levels. I will keep records of these measurements and submitting quarterly statistics to St. Vincent's. The information submitted to St. V's contains no identification, only statistical data. Information for my use only (not submitted to St. V's) such as past medical history, medications, and allergies are very helpful for the health screening but if you feel uncomfortable giving this info it is not necessary. **Any information I gather will be held under the strictest confidentiality and retained in Pastor Martha's locked file cabinet.**

I am available anytime you're in need or have questions; feel free to call or email:

- Cell 203-450-7441
- Email [carinflorin@hotmail.com](mailto:carinflorin@hotmail.com)



**Christian Education News** Sunday School resumes on September 13th. We will “commission” the teachers during worship and celebrate with a special coffee hour after. All children and youth are welcome. Why not bring a friend? See Sue Simmons for more information.



*Please submit additions and corrections to the birthday and anniversary list to the office at 203-268-8395. We don't want to miss anyone! Thanks!*

8/3 Paula Fromm  
 8/6 Sheryl Rajpolt  
 8/7 Robert Turner  
 8/17 Kregg Gabor  
 8/20 Max Gray  
 8/21 Gordon Palmer  
 8/23 Josh Pantalone  
 8/24 Rose Aiello  
 8/27 Cheryl Pavia  
 8/28 Priscilla Bromley  
 9/1 Bob Griffith  
 9/11 Debbie Salvas  
 9/13 Chad Harris  
 9/13 Nick Palmer  
 9/14 Marilyn Jones  
 9/15 Kathy Schmalkuche  
 9/29 Gary Chrislip  
 9/30 Bill Smith

8/7 Bill & Kathy Schmalkuche  
 8/17 Dave & Sue York  
 8/20 Robert & Edna Turner  
 8/25 Kevin & Patti Early  
 8/25 Wayne & Martha Epstein  
 8/26 Bill & Paula Fromm  
 9/1 Gordon & Barbara Palmer  
 9/13 Bob & Brenda Pantalone  
 9/15 Roger & Bobbie Grant  
 9/20 Neil & Jennifer Chaudhary  
 9/23 Gordon & Laurie Palmer  
 9/24 Mike & Tammy Cahill

*(Please accept our apologies for not publishing August birthdays and anniversaries in July)*



**COLLECTING LOOSE CHANGE**

We are collecting loose change for the Waterman Scholarship Fund. Please place your loose change in the jug in the narthex

*Thank you so much!!  
 We were able to collect many backpacks and school supplies for Covenant to Care. Thanks for helping a foster child start the school year off right!*

*Thanks to all who have worked on the church grounds and especially to Doug Salvas who mows the lawn every week.*

*Thanks to Rose Aiello for taking on the not so fun job of cleaning the furnace room.*



Sign up today to host a coffee hour as a way to ...support fellowship...commemorate a special event...make some new friends...share your favorite cookies...celebrate Fall...All the basics (plates, cups, napkins, utensils, sugar) are supplied--including the coffee and instructions on how to make it. The host makes the coffee, heats the tea water and supplies the creamer...of course, no one will object if you want to put out juice and a few cookies. The sign-up sheet is posted outside the sanctuary or email the church office to book your date.

Family Game Night is Saturday, Sept. 19 from 6-8 p.m. Bring your favorite game and a snack to share. Join us for lots of fun and fellowship!



### **VOTE NOW for our new UMC Monroe t-shirts!**

We are excited to announce that UMCM is getting new T-shirts and we want to invite your input! A ballot is posted on the church's website ([www.umcmonroe.org](http://www.umcmonroe.org)) and can be found directly below the pictures "sliding" across the homepage. Additional details about sizing, fit, materials, cost, etc., are also included with the online ballot. If you don't have access to the internet, hard copy ballots and shirt details will be available on/near the College Student bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

**Please cast your vote by no later than Sunday, September 6, 2015.**

For questions or for more information, please contact Darlene Dobler-Palin.

## **Women's Literacy Program Seeks Volunteer Tutors!**

Mercy Learning Center, Inc., located at 637 Park Avenue in Bridgeport, is seeking volunteers to teach English Language Learners as well as reading and math in its one-on-one or small group-tutoring program. Tutors meet with their students at the Center twice weekly, for two hours each session. Over 850 students benefited from the MLC tutoring program last year.

A one-day training session is provided for all new tutors; teaching experience is not necessary. Upcoming training sessions will take place on Wednesday September 2, and Friday, September 11, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Lunch will be provided.

For more information, or to register for a training session, please contact Lynn Gabriel ([lynn.gabriel@mercylearningcenter.org](mailto:lynn.gabriel@mercylearningcenter.org)) or Sandra Santy ([sandra.santy@mercylearningcenter.org](mailto:sandra.santy@mercylearningcenter.org)), Tutor Coordinators, at 203.334.6699 or via email.

Join us for *Two Sisters: Martha and Mary* — beginning September 3, 2015.



We will explore the gospel passages in which Martha and Mary appear in order to discover the role these women played in the early church. We will examine Jesus' interaction with them and their relationship with their brother Lazarus. Questions we will ponder: Are the different types of people in this story still present in the world? How is the story relevant to modern life, especially our own?

Please join us for this Thursday morning bible study running from September 3 – September 24 from 10:00 am – 11:00 am in Meeting Room 2.



ALL youth in grades 6-12 are welcomed in our Youth Group for an opportunity to spend time with old friends, meet new friends and have fun in our faith journey.

Our goal is to reach students with the love of Jesus Christ, then encourage, equip and empower them to be Christ's ambassadors to the world.

Many activities at the church and within our community are being planned throughout the year. Bring a friend and come join the fun! You will have a great time learning more about yourself and your faith while helping others. The group will be meeting on the 2nd and the 4th Sunday of the month. **Our first organizational meeting will be held September 13<sup>th</sup> in the new Youth Room (Classroom 3). We want your input as to the décor of the room as well as to the topics you would like to discuss this year. Bring a friend!**

## *Choir News*

A graphic of a musical staff with a treble clef and several notes, including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, positioned to the right of the section header.

This is Michelle Lambert. I am happy to introduce myself as your new choir director. I am a voice teacher and professional singer, so I am excited to be combining my love of God with my love of music together with you here at UMC Monroe.

Our first choir rehearsal will be on Wednesday, September 2nd from 7:15-8:30pm. We will have a weekly warm-up and brush-up on Sundays at 9:00am. If you love singing and are interested in joining us, please contact me at [voiceteacherct@gmail.com](mailto:voiceteacherct@gmail.com). Every week at rehearsals, I will lead you in vocal exercises that will strengthen and enliven your unique voice. Let's make beautiful music together!

I look forward to seeing you soon!

Blessings and peace,

Michelle Lambert

**ANNUAL HARVEST FEST - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2015  
10 AM – 3 PM – RAIN OR SHINE**

**Wow! Time flies and we are a month away!** Please be sure the Fest is on your calendar and be ready to help where you can. It will take all of us to make this a successful and fun time for all! If there is an area you would like to assist in, please contact the lead person directly.

**Publicity** – Kathy Schmalkuche will be handling publicity. **Please take some flyers from the narthex and distribute to your family and friends.**

**Decorations** – Ideas and help needed for decorating to create a festive look! **See Betsy Sword if interested.**

**Set up** – The “annual moving of the sanctuary chairs” will be on Sunday, September 27. If you can stay after worship/coffee hour, many hands make it a quick job! Later in the week, chairs and tables will need to be moved in. **Please see Anita Stabler-Hussey.**

**Lunch:** Our menu consists of smoked pulled pork sandwiches, ribs, hot dogs, baked potatoes, chips, coleslaw, baked beans, cold drinks, coffee & apple pie slices. Help will be needed in the food line as well as assisting with the meat preparation. **Please see John Rajpolt** to help on the day of the fest or **Quintin Brantley** to help pull the pork ahead of time.

**Crafts/Gifts:** The Friendship Circle (Mondays at 10:30 am) & My Fair Ladies (Mondays at 7:30 pm) will meet every Monday during the month of September. All are welcome to join in. No experience is needed. These two groups are coordinated by Bobbie Grant ([rgrant01@snet.net](mailto:rgrant01@snet.net) or 203-268-5159). The ladies will also be working on the Harvest Fest signs.

**Apple Fritters:** Darlene Dobler-Palin & Gail Mas ([teddygmas@yahoo.com](mailto:teddygmas@yahoo.com)) are coordinating this popular booth! **If you have time available on Friday morning, Oct. 2, a bushel of apples will need to be peeled and diced for fritter use on Fest day.** Please see Gail if you can help on Fest Day.

**Children's Area:** They will be looking for help, especially youth, to help with the games & crafts for the children. This area will be located in our courtyard. Look for sign-up sheets a few weeks before the event.

**Canopy-style tents would also be welcome on event day. Please see Patty Hornak.**

**Vendors:** Still accepting vendors. Indoor tables are \$40/table w/chair. Outdoors is \$30 (own table must be provided). Vendor applications are available in narthex or on the website. **Questions can be directed to Rose Aiello.**

**Music:** Once again, Lisa Furman will be performing Bluegrass/Celtic music. She is scheduled to be with us from approximately 11:15 am through 2:30 pm.

Up-to-date information will be on the bulletin board in the narthex, as well as the weekly announcements, e-mails and on the website. Thanks to all! Contact this year's Fest Coordinator: **Anita Stabler-Hussey** ([amstab44@aol.com](mailto:amstab44@aol.com)) with any suggestions or concerns.

**ANNUAL PIE MAKING DAY!!!!**

**Come out on Saturday, Sept. 19 beginning at 8 AM and join others from your church family in preparing our “Famous Apple Crumb Pies”!** We will make 160 pies to freeze in preparation of

the Harvest Fest. All pie makers welcome! Any age! And no matter how long you can stay! Bring your own peelers & knives!



**Also Needed: A few volunteers on Friday morning, Oct. 3 at 9 am to bake 50-60 of the frozen pies to be sold at the Fest.**

Questions? Contact Rose Aiello at [buildingroses@aol.com](mailto:buildingroses@aol.com) or 203-261-5528.



If you're considering becoming a member of the United Methodist Church of Monroe, please join us for a 2-week New Members informational class. You will learn about our mission statement, what United Methodists believe as a denomination, how we work to live out our Christian beliefs and the main resources available to our church family members. *New members will be welcomed into our church family on September 27<sup>th</sup> during our 10 a.m. worship service.*

Sunday, September 13 – 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Sunday, September 20 – 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

\*\* Please let us know if you need child care.



## APPLE PIE ORDER FORM

Please fill out this form and return to the church office through the collection plate or by mail. Pies may be ordered baked or frozen/unbaked. All pies are \$15 each, **paid in advance**. All checks should be made out to "UMC of Monroe." Thank you for your support!

***Deadline for ordering baked pies is Sunday, September 27, 2015.***

Please **PRINT** the following information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

How many baked? \_\_\_\_\_ How many frozen/unbaked? \_\_\_\_\_

Total # of pies ordered \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Baked or unbaked pies can be picked up on Harvest Fest Day, October 3 *unless special arrangements are made with the church office for Friday, October 2 afternoon pick up.* Frozen/unbaked pies can also be picked up after worship on Sunday, September 20, 27 or October 4, 2015.

Worry  
doesn't prevent  
disaster  
it prevents  
**Joy!**

## Prayer Concerns

Chris Reardon- friend of Yorks-awaiting a liver & kidney transplant in Yale New Haven Hospital  
Bella's parents  
Marilyn Jones-diagnosed w/Stage 1 breast cancer  
Steve-depression  
Christine Stewart - friend of Marsha Cohn-cancer  
Kristen Griest-graduates from Army ranger school  
Bobbie Grant's friend Dolores-facing add'l surgery & treatment for cancer  
Greg Cable-Gail Mas' nephew-E Coli  
Kevin-recovery from stroke-Sue Simmon's friend's brother Marcos  
Gail Northrop  
Erica-mother w/2 young children-battling stage 4 breast cancer  
Evelyn Sweetnam- hospice care  
Marilyn Jones' friend Charlotte-recovery from stroke  
Luke's mother-in-law  
Rosemary- battling cancer  
Maureen Cummings-stroke  
Mary Poeta  
Craig-recovery from injuries from tree accident  
Suzette-Gail Mas' niece  
Shannon Rupp's grandparents  
Quinn-child in need of bone marrow transplant  
Bobbie Grant's friend-Donald  
Edna Turner-healing from hip surgery  
Jeff York-legal matters  
Marilyn's sister  
Marge Derle & daughter Millie as she cares for Marge  
Vannah Griffin  
Pat Reeves- Stage 3 colon cancer  
Audrey Scott-kidney issues  
Suzanne Snapp-stroke  
Barbara Palmer-medical issues  
Michael Hossler-continued healing  
Carl Sword's sister-in-law-Karen

Sylvia Turchin-multiple medical problems  
Baby Dylan May Murphy & parents  
Paul Lesko's friend-Sultan-liver cancer & wife Nancy as she cares for him  
Dotti Hossler's brother-stroke  
Cari Harris  
Linda Summa-Turner's daughter -cancer  
Bobbie's cousin's widow-Mary Johnson  
Theresa-friend of Yorks-cancer  
Rosemarie Lewis-Bobbie's friend-chemo for lung cancer  
Richard Rice-stage 4 kidney disease  
Dave York's cousin Richard-recurrence of cancer  
Ernie Salvas  
Robert Noll-cancer treatment  
Claudia Wallace's parents  
Olivia-Juvenile Diabetes  
Sue Simmons' friend- Debbie- battling MS  
Richard Olsen-terminal cancer  
Jimmy - Bobbie Grant's friend's son  
Lynn Abbott's grandson- Brady  
Fromm's friend-Radovan Frzop  
From Lydia: Hayley Annino-friend of Kathryn-leukemia  
Anna- friend of Sue Simmons-colon cancer  
York's daughter-in-law-Lori  
Jodi Kles -Sheryl's cousin - living w/rare form of cancer  
Military personnel  
Unemployed  
First responders, firemen, policemen  
Persons dealing w/serious medical issues, drug addiction  
Caregivers  
Guidance for world leaders  
Covenant to Care children, foster children  
Those who do not have anyone to pray for them  
Those who are persecuted for their faith  
Christians in harm's way  
Those going through personal turmoil & facing financial concerns

*If you would like to add a person to our prayer list, notify the church office or leave your request in the collection plate. Names will remain on the prayer list for 3 weeks. If you would like your name or that of a relative or friend to stay on the list longer, please contact the office.*

*If you would like to receive the list of joys and concerns lifted up each Sunday during worship please contact Pastor Martha at [PastorMartha@verizon.net](mailto:PastorMartha@verizon.net). She compiles them and emails them every Monday.*

### **Monthly Mini Missions: 2015**

*The leaves are starting to fall. Once it gets cold, cookies are perfect for our taste buds.  
**Cookie mixes!***



