

# United Methodist Church of Monroe



## *messenger*

OCTOBER 2017

### Embrace the Joy of Christian Giving

by George Cuff



I learned six truths about giving today --  
Truths from God's Word, not what men say;  
Truths that teach me how I should live,  
And the joy I receive as I learn to give.

I learned to give myself to God first,  
My will in His, completely submersed.  
I am bought with a price; I'm not my own.  
These things I enjoy He's given on loan.

I respond to God with a joyful heart;  
No grudging response as I do my part.  
My spirit enjoys a renaissance  
When giving freely is my response.

Someday soon I will give account  
For what I did with the great amount  
That God freely gave to meet my need  
And also to give as He decreed.

I learned to release what is His anyway,  
To bring my offering on the Lord's Day.  
I do not give to hear man's praise;  
I simply desire to live God's way.

I learned every time I receive my pay  
To bring my gift the next Lord's day.  
By giving with order and discipline  
It strengthens me and pleases Him.

I learned of God's Promise to supply.  
If the well of my riches ever goes dry,  
He will never stand idly by  
Forsaking His servant until I die.

God can be trusted to meet all our need.  
So don't be afraid to follow His lead.  
If you would find joy in Christian living,  
Embrace the grace of Christian giving.

*Pastor Macdon*



**UMC Monroe's choir is back and we'd love to have you join us!** The choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm and again on Sunday mornings at 8:45 am. We have two rehearsal times so that if you can't make one, you can come to the other! All are welcome!

Contact: Michelle Lambert



Our Church-Wide Prayer for the Month



## Seeking Coffee Hour Hosts

It's a wonderful way to support fellowship! Sign up using our new online SignUpGenius registration process -- visit our website and click on the coffee cup and you're ready to host a coffee hour! All of the basics are supplied including coffee, tea, sugar and paper goods. Coffee making instructions are in the kitchen. As host we ask that you make the coffee, heat the tea water, supply the creamer and juice and clean up. Snacks and sweets are not required unless you'd like to provide them. Please consider taking a Sunday and sign up today!



# Let's Celebrate!



happy birthday

10/01 Nancy Gray  
10/02 Kurt Bassett  
10/03 Maya Chaudhary  
10/03 Dave York  
10/10 Erin Brantley  
10/18 Haley Bassett  
10/23 Patrick Chrislip  
10/25 Russ Gray  
10/26 Kevin Early  
10/28 Will Steese

10/10 Ina and Art Beardsley  
10/15 Cheryl and Mike Pavia  
10/20 Sheryl and John Rajpolt



happy anniversary

Please submit additions and corrections to the birthday and anniversary list to the office at [umc@umcmonroe.org](mailto:umc@umcmonroe.org) or 203.268.8395. We don't want to miss anyone! Thanks!

# UPCOMING EVENTS



World  
Communion  
Sunday

## **Sunday, October 1**

Join us as we celebrate *World Communion Sunday* during our worship service. *World Communion Sunday* takes place on the first Sunday of October and is a world-wide celebration of the Eucharist.

## **The Social Issues Discussion Group**

Join us on October 15 at 11:30 am in Meeting Room 1 for a forum where concerned believers discuss their views on various social issues. The discussion is truly open with no agenda or curriculum to follow. Moderator: David York



## **Sunday, October 22**

Please join us as we celebrate *Laity Sunday* during our worship service. The ministry of the laity is the work of mission or ministry to which each believer is called. As Christians we are all called to this ministry or priesthood – not just clergy. Each of us has a responsibility to proclaim the Good News and reach out to others in love.

## **Sunday, November 5**

Did someone you love pass away in the last year (11/06/16 or later)? Would you like to remember them with a special time of prayer and consideration on **All Saints' Day**? If so, please submit your loved one's name online ([www.umcmonroe.org](http://www.umcmonroe.org)) or complete an **All Saints' Day** form from a Sunday bulletin (forms can also be found on the table in the Narthex) and drop it in the collection plate.



## **Two Planks: 2017 – 2018 Season**

<i>August, Osage County</i>	October 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29
<i>Altar Boyz</i>	February 23, 24, 25 and
	March 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11
<i>Beyond Therapy</i>	May 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13



Add [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) to your  
browser's bookmarks!

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support the United Methodist Church of Monroe every time you shop, at no cost to you. Visit our website for a link to AmazonSmile. Be sure to complete the one-time setup by selecting *United Methodist Church of Monroe (EIN: 06-6034463)* and the church will receive donations for qualifying purchases anytime you shop on [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com). For more information, please visit our website and search *AmazonSmile* or contact Steve Arnold or Kathy Schmalkuche.

# October Adopt-a-Wagon ... "Shine the Light of God" and fill our Pumpkin Patch with **ORANGE** foods!

Coming this October, help the Missions Committee as we grow our *Shine with the Light of God Pumpkin Patch* for our mini missions theme. Beginning Sunday, October 8 and running through Sunday, October 29 we will be collecting "orange" foods for the Monroe Food Pantry. "Orange" foods can be food that itself is orange (examples like canned pumpkin, canned carrots, or canned mandarin oranges) or food that is in orange packaging (examples like Frosted Mini Wheats cereal or Uncle Ben's rice). Any "orange" non-perishable food item is welcome as we grow our pumpkin patch for the food pantry. Keep your eyes out for anything orange as you shop this month!



Are you having fun with our monthly themed collections? Do you have an idea that would make a great collection theme? Sign up for a month and help us get creative with our mini missions! Visit the church website for the link to the sign up page to select your month.



*This just in ...*

Everyone who participated in our Sunday School kick-off was *caught* contributing main dishes, salads, desserts, beverages and sides for the luncheon or was part of the set-up or clean-up crew!

**... A BIG THANKS TO THEM!!**

Who will be *caught* next?



**HO-HO-HO HOLD THE DATE!**

**Breakfast with Santa** is set for Saturday, December 16 at 9:00 am. Stay tuned for more details! Questions: Anita Stabler-Hussey.

Page 4 of 14





**Apple pies ... *mmmm!!***



It was a busy morning at UMC Monroe on Saturday, September 10. Apple pies are ready for our **Harvest Dinner on Saturday, September 30 (4:00 pm – 8:00 pm)**! Sorry we don't have any photos of the pork pulling crew but we figured we didn't want anyone to see how we prepare our "famous" pork.

Thanks to everyone who helped make pies or contributed ingredients ... truly a multi-generational effort and a great job by all!

Order your freshly baked or frozen pies **NOW** at [www.umcmonroe.org](http://www.umcmonroe.org) or complete a pie order form (available at the church). Pies are \$15 each ... don't forget to order enough for the upcoming holidays!

Please help spread the word ... tell your family, friends, co-workers, classmates, teammates, neighbors, etc. – we'll see you at the Harvest Dinner!!



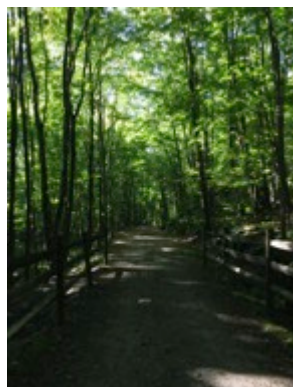
Our **Fireside Chats** continue! A few pictures from our session on a very crisp September night by the fire! Thanks to all of our participants for coming out and sharing your ideas and stories. We will be setting dates for sessions that were postponed. Stay tuned!

For more information, please contact Pastor Martha or visit our website and search for "Fireside Chat."



*"It's been great!"*

In the first three weeks, we have gone for two fun group walks, enjoyed some healthy apple pecan oatmeal, and even learned a few moves to get up from our desks to get stronger during the workday without breaking a sweat. The pounds are starting to disappear, too. Do you want in on the secret? Are you interested in joining the next session? See Bill Florin, any of the participants (there are many!), or visit the church website.



### ***Fitness and Friends ...***

Before, during and after pictures of our walk on the Gray Trail, the Housatonic Valley Rail-Trail and around Great Hollow Lake after week 1 of The Daniel Plan. Counting steps and connecting with friends!



## ***Youth Work Day***

Sunday, October 29 is the 5th Sunday of the month ... that means that our high school youth will be cleaning up around the church! Please make sure to thank them for their hard work!



# UMC MONROE YOUTH NEWS

## ***Sunday School is here!***

We are so happy to see kids participating in Sunday School again! We had a great turnout for the first day! Please consider signing up as a fill-in for our Sunday School staff! We are looking for volunteers to fill in for each curriculum event. This is usually 3 Sundays in a row! Our teachers are devoted, but could use an occasional break so that they may enjoy the service too! A sign up sheet will be devised and hung up in the narthex! Thank you for your help!

Sue Simmons



## ***Calling all Youth grades 6 – 12!***

We are so excited to begin another year of Youth Group! We will be meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm, starting on **Sunday, October 8**. Our youth will meet between 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm and parents are asked to attend from 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm. Youth Group is open for all youth who are going into 6<sup>th</sup> grade up through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. All are welcome ... invite your friends!



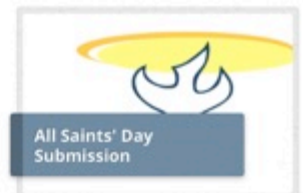


Home Welcome About ▾ Education ▾ Get Involved ▾ Missions ▾ Calendar Events ▾  
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Welcome ... we're glad you're here!

A welcoming family of caring Christians dedicated to joyful service to all God's people. Share in the Journey.



**VISIT US ANYTIME AT [WWW.UMCMONROE.ORG](http://WWW.UMCMONROE.ORG)!**



### ***Flags and Cell Phones***

If you have an old, worn flag that you need to dispose of properly, you can do so right at the church. Just place it in the collection box located in the narthex. The Marine Corp League and VFW in Stratford continuously provide this service to the public.

Used cell phones can also be recycled for our service men and women and left in the same box.

### ***Change for Waterman Scholarship***

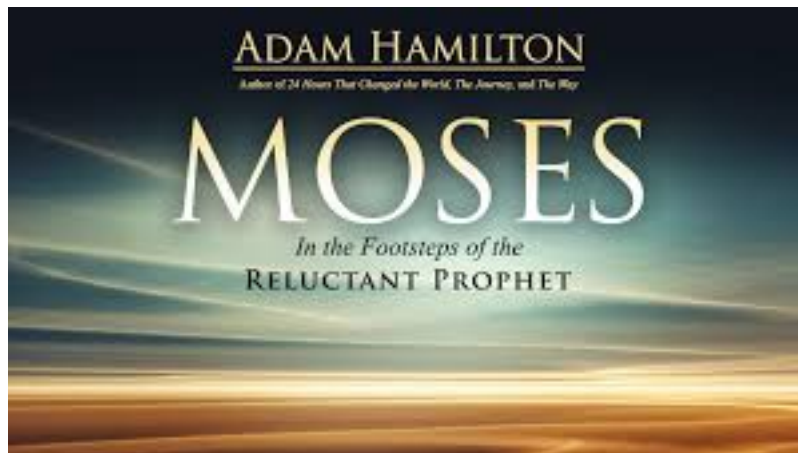
We are collecting loose change for the Waterman Scholarship Fund. There is a jug in the narthex for you to deposit loose change. All coins accepted! Keep an eye on the thermometer and watch it rise with your help!





# *Moses: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet*

## *Bible Study*



Thursdays, September 14 – October 19, 2017

Time: 10:00 am - 11:30 am ~ Location: Meeting Room 2

Retrace the life of Moses from his modest birth and rescue as a baby to the courts of Pharaoh, from herding flocks in Midian to leading his people out of Egypt.

We'll be guided in the footsteps of this reluctant prophet who grew in his relationship with God and by the end of life had successfully fulfilled the role he was given.

Please join us ... and feel free to invite a friend! For questions, please contact Pastor Martha.

\*\* If you would like Pastor Martha to purchase the book for you, please let her know by Wednesday, September 6. The book is \$14.

# *Dress a Girl Around the World*

## *Sew-a-Thon*



*Imagine a world where every little girl owned at least one dress!*

*What if that dress was made by you?*

*Calling all crafters or  
want-to-be crafters!*

### *Materials List:*

- Bring your sewing machine and a sewing kit

### *Extra Materials Needed:*

- Irons, ironing boards and cutting boards

### *Materials Provided:*

- Patterns, scissors and power cords
- Cotton fabric, double-wide ½” bias tape, ½” elastic
- All the support you need and lunch with a \$5

## Join us for a Sew-a-Thon to support Dress a Girl Around the World

UMC Monroe Fellowship Hall

Saturday, October 21, 2017

10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Questions:

Ethel Abraham

Registration:

contact [umc@umcmonroe.org](mailto:umc@umcmonroe.org) or 203.268.8395



Hope 4 Women International  
PO Box 8061

UMC Monroe • 515 Cutlers Farm Road • 203.268.8395  
[www.umcmonroe.org](http://www.umcmonroe.org) • [umc@umcmonroe.org](mailto:umc@umcmonroe.org)

Page 10 of 14



# Paper Shredding Fundraiser

Individuals and Businesses Welcome

DATE: Saturday, November 4, 2017 (rain or shine)  
TIME: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
LOCATION: Village Square, 401 Monroe Turnpike/Route 111, Monroe, CT  
(across from McDonald's)  
COST: \$10 standard archive box (approximately 15"x12"x10")  
Prices increase \$5.00 per size according to container  
PAYMENT: Cash, or checks over \$30.00 (made out to: UMC Monroe)

The material placed in the **PROSHRED** bin can include:

office paper	NCR paper	invoice paper	colored paper
windowed envelopes	glossy paper	file folders	computer paper
brochures	fax paper	ledger paper	letterhead
laser printouts	product sheets	envelopes	other office paper

\* No need to remove staples, paperclips, binders, etc. Shredding will be done on-site. \*

Proper destruction of confidential documents is a critical step in ensuring that you and your customers don't become victims of identity fraud. Take advantage of the convenience and security of having your sensitive household and business records destroyed by the Pros.



TO BENEFIT MISSIONS NEAR AND FAR OF THE

## United Methodist Church of Monroe

For more information email: [papershredding@umcmonroe.org](mailto:papershredding@umcmonroe.org)  
or visit our website [www.umcmonroe.org](http://www.umcmonroe.org)  
or our FaceBook page (@umcmonroe)



# *Holy Land Classic Tour*

## *Lent 2018*



**Tuesday, February 27 – Thursday March 8, 2018**

Imagine walking the steps that Jesus took during Lent. Not just virtually, but literally. We have an amazing opportunity to do just that this coming Lent in 2018. We are partnering with the Newtown UMC to go to the Holy Land. Touring with Educational Opportunities we will go from the shores of the Sea of Galilee to the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem with many stops in between. Brochures and more information about the tour is available on our website.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to explore what many of us only get to read about. This is our opportunity to discover why scholars call the Holy Land the “Fifth Gospel.” Youth are welcome to participate as well as friends and family -- no need to be a member of UMC Monroe.

For questions, please contact Pastor Martha.

UMC Monroe • 515 Cutlers Farm Road • 203.268.8395

[www.umcmonroe.org](http://www.umcmonroe.org) • [umc@umcmonroe.org](mailto:umc@umcmonroe.org) • [@umcmonroe](https://www.facebook.com/umcmonroe)

Page 12 of 14

# Prayer Concerns



Anita Stabler-Hussey's friend's son, Rob - rehab  
 Michelle Lambert - ill  
 Pastor Martha's sister, Elin Dowd - undergoing treatment for liver disease  
 Bobbie Grant  
 Audrey Stabler-Hussey - continues to battle kidney disease  
 Dotti Hossler's granddaughter, Maddie – battling mono for a month  
 Gary Chrislip - surgery on 10/03 to remove part of liver for further testing  
 Westhill HS in Stamford - had a scare and Bethany who attends there  
 Pastor Scott - knee surgery  
 Marilyn Jones - not doing well  
 Family and friends of Patrick Ambrose – 41-year-old on his passing  
 Pastor Andrew Brunson - imprisoned in Turkey  
 Ben Abercrombie and family - Harvard freshman football player - injured neck his first game  
 Dotti Hossler's brother, Roger  
 Joe Lennon's brother, Michael - diagnosed with colon cancer  
 Cahill and Wilson families on the passing of Tammy's Dad  
 Relative of Patti's co-worker, Anna – Adam – traumatic brain injury from accident  
 Lauren - continued addiction battle  
 Rob McDermott, Lynn Gregory's son-in-law  
 Kenny Schwab, Betsy Dutton's son  
 Shaun - battling addiction  
 Pastor Martha's friend Cassandra's husband, Wayne – Stage 3 throat cancer  
 Debby Couture - pancreatic cancer and husband Jim as he cares for her  
 Gail Mas' granddaughters, Sara and Amanda  
 Dr. Bill - overseas missionary work  
 Cooper Abbott, Lynn's grandnephew  
 Sue Simmons' brother, Jeff  
 Howard Davidson, Betsy's brother - COPD  
 Gail Mas' niece, Suzette  
 Jeanne Baklik  
 Dotti Hossler's sister, Loretta - severe concussion  
 Kathy's 97-year-old great-aunt, Marie Houdek - hospice

Fromm's friend, Radovan Frzop - paralyzed with some feeling  
 Dexton and Caleb  
 Tyson, Lynn Abbott's grandson - Benign Rolandic Epilepsy  
 Roy G - child with serious epilepsy  
 Wallace's friend, Audrey Scott - needs kidney transplant  
 Friend of Billy Schmalkuche – Jill - long-term rehab  
 Olivia - child with Tuberous Sclerosis causing seizures  
 Dolores Ovesny  
 Jeff York  
 Tom Boomershine  
 Darcy and Cameron  
 Robert Ellis - co-worker of Claudia Wallace - cancer  
 Greg, Gail Mas' nephew - cancer  
 Evelyn Sweetnam - hospice care  
 Linda Summa - Turner's daughter - cancer  
 Olivia - Juvenile Diabetes  
 Sue Simmons' friend, Debbie - MS  
 Jimmy - Bobbie Grant's friend's son  
 York's daughter-in-law, Lori  
 Gayle  
 Jodi Kles - Sheryl's cousin - living with rare form of cancer  
 Military personnel  
 Unemployed  
 First responders, firemen, policemen  
 Persons dealing with serious medical issues  
 Caregivers  
 Covenant to Care and all foster children  
 Those who do not have anyone to pray for them  
 Christians around the world persecuted for their faith  
 Drug epidemic - addiction and deaths  
 Refugees  
 Unspoken burdens that reside upon people's hearts  
 Youth - effects of social media and those being bullied  
 Wisdom for world leaders  
 Children with mental illnesses  
 Unity and peace in our nation and around the world  
 Those affected by the numerous hurricanes this year - Harvey, Irma, Jose and Maria  
 Those affected by the earthquake in Mexico

*If you would like to add a person to our prayer list, or to receive a weekly copy of the joys and concerns email [prayerrequest@umcmornoe.org](mailto:prayerrequest@umcmornoe.org), call the 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.*



**REMINDER:** The deadline to submit information to Denise ([umc@umcmornoe.org](mailto:umc@umcmornoe.org)) for our monthly newsletter is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. When making your submission, please include all content and provide a contact name. Any submission received after the deadline is not guaranteed publication and may be deferred to the next month. Thank you!

**United Methodist Church of Monroe** **Oct 2017 (Eastern Time)**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>World Communion Sunday</b> 10am - SS: Sunday School 10am - Worship Service 1:30pm - Girl Scout 2pm - Two Planks	10:30am - Friendship Circle 7pm - Two Planks	11:30am - MM: Missions 7pm - Two Planks	5pm - Organist Rehearsal 7pm - Two Planks 7:30pm - Choir Practice	10am - BS: Moses: In the 7pm - Two Planks		9am - The Daniel Plan: 40
10am - SS: Sunday School 10am - Worship Service 2pm - Two Planks 4pm - YG: 2017 - 2018	10:30am - FC: Friendship 7pm - Two Planks	7pm - Two Planks 7:15pm - CC: Church	5pm - Organist Rehearsal 7pm - Two Planks 7:30pm - Choir Practice	10am - BS: Moses: In the 7pm - Two Planks		9am - The Daniel Plan: 40
<b>Newsletter Deadline</b> 10am - SS: Sunday School 10am - Worship Service 11:15am - St: Social Issues 2pm - Two Planks	7pm - Two Planks	7pm - Two Planks	5pm - Organist Rehearsal 7pm - Two Planks 7:30pm - Choir Practice	10am - BS: Moses: In the 7pm - Two Planks	8pm - Two Planks Theater:	10am - Sew-A-Thon @ 6pm - CANCELLED - FGN: 8pm - Two Planks Theater:
<b>Lally Sunday</b> 10am - SS: Sunday School 10am - Worship Service 4pm - Youth Group @ 5pm - Two Planks Theater:	10:30am - FC: Friendship	7pm - Hills of Monroe	5pm - Organist Rehearsal 7pm - Two Planks 7:30pm - Choir Practice		8pm - Two Planks Theater:	<b>Harris's Marriage Vows</b> 8pm - Two Planks Theater:
10am - SS: Sunday School 10am - Worship Service 5pm - Two Planks Theater:			5pm - Organist Rehearsal 7:30pm - Choir Practice			9am - Paper Shredding