

*United Methodist Church of Monroe*



# *messenger*

*AUGUST 2019*



***"Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus.  
'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit  
eternal life?'" Luke 10:25***

Dear Friends:

Luke tells us that a lawyer asked Jesus, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus responded with a question of his own, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" The lawyer answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." Jesus told him "Do this and you will live." But that wasn't enough for the man. He wanted Jesus to tell him who he should consider a neighbor, and who he could exclude. So, Jesus told him what we know as the *Parable of the Good Samaritan*.

The Samaritans were despised by the Jewish people because they were descended from Jews who remained in Israel following the Assyrian exile and intermarried with the Assyrians. They worshipped differently and neither group had any interactions with the other. So, when Jesus told the lawyer a parable where the Samaritan was the better neighbor, he was offended. The lawyer didn't want everyone to be his neighbor. He wanted to be able to pick and choose, but Jesus made it clear that everyone is a neighbor that we need to care for.

I'm writing this two days before our ASP team leaves for West Virginia. In this case, our neighbors are about ten hours away in the mountains of Appalachia. I am always astounded by the level of poverty that we find there. A trip like this is always eye-opening and life-changing. We are not professional renovators, but, with God's help, we will do some amazing work to make someone's home warmer, safer, and drier, and help them feel God's love.

On behalf of the team, I want to thank everyone who has prayed for us, written notes for us to read on the trip, donated money or organized a fund-raiser to help us meet our goal. We could not have done it without each one of you. And on behalf of the people we will serve in West Virginia, thank you for being a good neighbor.

Enjoy the rest of your summer.

In Christ's Service,

*Pastor Mark*



When on vacation ...  
                                   be with us in spirit.  
 The rest of the summer ...  
                                   be with us in person.

*Let's Celebrate!*



For all the notes, cards and prayers for our ASP Team!



***Change for Waterman  
 Scholarship –  
 DISCONTINUED:***

We will NO LONGER collect loose  
 change for the Waterman  
 Scholarship Fund.



happy birthday

08/03 Paula Fromm  
 08/06 Sheryl Rajpolt  
 08/07 Bob Turner  
 08/20 Max Gray  
 08/23 Joshua Pantalone  
 08/24 Rose Aiello  
 08/27 Cheryl Pavia  
 08/28 Priscilla Bromley  
 08/28 Andrew Steese

08/07 Kathy and Bill Schmalkuche  
 08/17 Janice and Mark Allen  
 08/17 Sue and Dave York  
 08/18 Claudia and Steve Wallace  
 08/20 Edna and Bob Turner  
 08/25 Patti and Kevin Early  
 08/26 Paula and Bill Fromm



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!

**Seeking Coffee Hour Hosts**

It's a wonderful way to support fellowship! Sign up using SignUpGenius registration process -- visit our  
 website and click on the coffee cup and you're ready to host a coffee hour! The online link is...  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e49a4af22a6fa7-sunday>

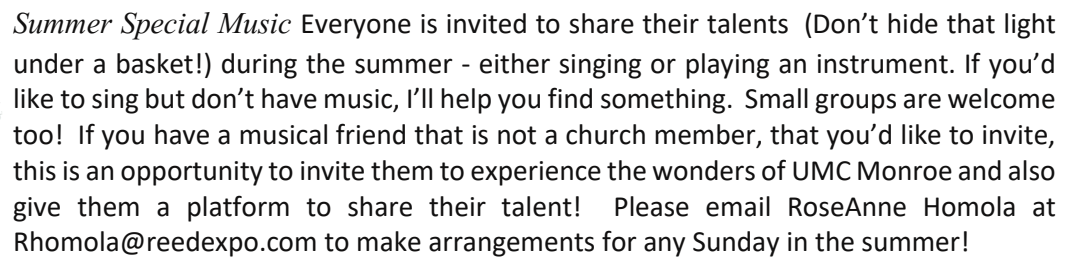
All of the basics are supplied including coffee, tea, sugar and paper goods. Coffee making instructions  
 are in the kitchen. As host we ask that you make the coffee, heat the tea water, supply the creamer  
 and juice and clean up. Snacks and sweets are not required unless you'd like to provide them. Please  
 consider taking a Sunday and sign up today!



## *UPCOMING EVENTS*



Still on hiatus for the summer and we'll be back in the fall. Watch for more details in the mid/late August timeframe. Moderator: David York.



# Dress A Girl Around the World Sew-a-Thons 2019

September 21: Monroe Congregational Church  
October 19: United Methodist Church of Monroe  
November 2: Monroe Congregational Church

Time: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm (includes lunch)  
RSVP to Liz Skarzynski at 203.257.7174 or [DressAGirlSouthernCT@yahoo.com](mailto:DressAGirlSouthernCT@yahoo.com)

UMC Monroe Contacts: Ethel Abraham and Tayna Lennon



Dresses made in Monroe were delivered to the girls at the Orphanage in Uganda. Do you see any dresses you made? Photo provided by Liz Skarzynski.

# MISSIONS

## *Spooner House Sandwich Collection and Delivery*



Our next scheduled Sandwich Making for Spooner House is August 11! Sandwiches can be dropped off in the kitchen before worship. The individually wrapped sandwiches should have 1 slice of meat (thick sliced, any kind) and 1 slice of cheese (thick sliced, any kind) -- no condiments, please. Our goal is to make 75 sandwiches.

\*\* Spooner House also has a need for paper products such as paper cups, paper lunch bags, toilet paper and paper towels, and iced-tea/lemonade mixes. We will be collecting those items in addition to the sandwiches and they'll be delivered the same day. \*\*

Thank you for your consideration. Contacts: Ethel Abraham and Tanya Lennon

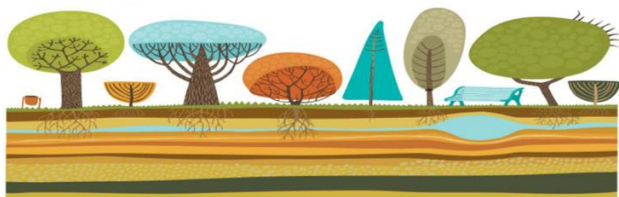
## *“Stuff the Bus” is back for our August Mini Mission!*



As the summer winds down and the kids get ready to return to school, help us "stuff the bus" with much needed supplies to make it a successful year for area students! We will be collecting backpacks and school supplies for those in foster care at **Covenant to Care**. This year we are including Backpacks and supplies for older youth too, including kids going off to college or tech school, 8<sup>th</sup> grade to HS or even into the work force after HS who have little support. **Deadline is August 18th.** Lunch box snacks (single serve crackers, cookies, puddings, apple sauce, etc.) for the **Monroe Food Pantry** will run through the end of the month. All items can be left in the "school bus wagon". Thank you for helping start the school year off right for the kids in our community! Questions: Tanya Lennon and Ethel Abraham



## Save the date: Outdoor Worship Service at Webb Mountain!



**Worship Service at Webb Mountain**  
**Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**10am**

The Worship and Missions Committees invite you to join us for an outdoor worship service at Webb Mountain (in lieu of our regular Sunday worship service) at 10:00 am on Sunday, August 25. Stick around after worship and help us “do all the good we can” by working in the beautiful *Susan Kimball Memorial Butterfly Garden*. Pack a picnic for your family to join us for lunch when our gardening work is done. More details and information about carpooling to follow! Hope to see you there!!

\* In the event of rain we will hold worship at the church. Notification will be made via email by 8:30 am that morning.

In just a few weeks we will be distributing a new edition of the **Church Directory**. If you have any changes to your address, email, phone, cell phone, etc., that you want to include, please send an email to [admin@umcmonroe.org](mailto:admin@umcmonroe.org) by Sunday, September 8.

NOTE: If you have a college student or an adult child living away from home and you'd like to add or update their contact info for 2019/2020, we welcome that input, too.

Contact: Kathy Schmalkuche



The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 9:6-7, “Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (NIV)

Be kind and kindness will be showered upon you, show respect so it may be returned to you, forgive generously so that your shortcomings may be forgiven. Do not sow anger for it too shall be reaped in abundance. Give of yourself in love, for you have already reaped the greatest generous gift God has given. His son, Jesus. We are blessed, let us bless others.



# UMC MONROE YOUTH NEWS



Our **2019 – 2020 Sunday School** program kicks off on Sunday, September 8 with a potluck luncheon to follow. All youth Pre-K through high school are welcome and nursery care is available. Feel free to invite a friend!

And to our adults ... if you're interested in getting involved in the Sunday School ministry, please contact Pastor Mark.

Registration information will be available by the end of August. We look forward to seeing you at Sunday School!

Luncheon contact: Rose Aiello

*Friends are **always** welcome –  
no need for them to belong to our church!!*

Anyone interested in coordinating a craft for Grades 5 and under on the first Sunday of the month (Communion Sundays) from October through June, please contact Sue Simmons ([suszq55@aol.com](mailto:suszq55@aol.com)).



Add [smile.amazon.com](https://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](https://smile.amazon.com). For more information, please visit our website and search *AmazonSmile* or contact Steve Arnold or Kathy Schmalkuche.

# ASP Trip



We would like to take this opportunity to thank you once again for your thoughtful and generous support of our ASP Team and group. During the week of July 13-20, we travelled to Craigsville, West Virginia for our first mission trip to Central Appalachia. We have been back for a couple weeks now but know that this experience will have a continuous impact on our daily lives.

Through our service we gave hope by giving of self. Love was shared among strangers and we know that the world is a better place. We have many God moments, pictures, videos, and stories to share. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 6pm where we will host a thank you dinner at the church.

We hope you can join us, but if not, we will certainly have other opportunities to share our special experiences with you!

With many thanks from you ASP Team,  
*Janice Allen, Pastor Mark Allen, Colin English, Juliana Epstein, Wayne Epstein, Cooper Rupp*









# 2019 Bible Reading Marathon



***Calling all members of UMC Monroe! Please join us for the annual Bible Reading Marathon this summer!***

- What:** Reading the Bible aloud in public  
Bring your own bible or use the one that is provided!
- Why:** To proclaim the Word of God over the town of Monroe as a Witness to God's Unity through Community.
- Dates:** Thursday, August 1 – Saturday, August 3  
8:00 am – 8:00 pm daily
- UMCM Dates/** Thursday, August 1 – noon – 2:00 pm  
**Times:** Friday, August 2 – No assigned time (please bring a chair as we might be temporarily relocated across the street during the Farmers' Market)  
Saturday, August 3 -- No assigned time  
\* Looking for a minimum of 8 participants a session - 15 minute each
- Where:** The Gazebo on the Monroe Town Green  
Fans will be provided in the gazebo to keep you cool!

For more information on how to be part of this exciting faith event, contact Janet Morris at 571.439.6548 or via email at [whimsyjanet57@gmail.com](mailto:whimsyjanet57@gmail.com).

*All are welcome! Stop by anytime!*

# *Covenant to Care for Foster Children*



## *Backpacks and Back-to-School Supplies*

*Covenant to Care for Children of Greater Bridgeport will be collecting school supplies and backpacks for all school ages, including college students for the upcoming school season. You can leave any donated items on the shelf in the Narthex hallway. The deadline to donate is Sunday, August 18.*

*Your help would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Ethel Abraham at 203.430.0338.*

*UMC Monroe • 515 Cutlers Farm Road • 203.268.8395  
www.umcmonroe.org • umc@umcmonroe.org • @umcmonroe (Facebook)*



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.

# Prayer Concerns



Joe Lennon's brother, Michael-continued treatments for cancer  
Pantelone family on the passing of Bob's uncle, Samuel  
Lauren & her mother, Linda  
Sue Simmon's brother, Jeff-alcohol addiction  
RoseAnne's dad, Ken-healing of health issues  
John Salvas, nephew of Alice Salvas & cousin of Doug  
Salvas-recurring lung issues  
Family & friends of young father killed in auto accident on Route 59  
Ron Bombero-severe burns on body from work accident  
Marilyn Jones  
Anita's friend, Bob Vitali-passed away  
Jacob, 5-year old & his family & doctors-Jacob recently diagnosed w/100% blindness in one eye  
Roger Grant-fall  
Dotti's friend, Paul-recovery from back surgery  
Kathy Schmalkuche-Sciatica  
Sheryl's mom-seizures  
Jim Eastwood  
Lynn's friend, Mary-Stage 3 cancer-improvement  
Kathy's friend, Dick Hormel-treatment for melanoma  
Anita's cousin, Brett Bailey-cancer  
Lynn's friend Mary Ellen  
Diane Greco-friend of Allen's-cancer has spread  
Dexton  
Pastor Martha's father-Rev. Richard Rice  
Josh, London & Jessica  
Lynn Abbott's grandson Tyson- rare genetic disease (Coffin Siris)  
Bill & Marie Schmalkuche, Bill's parents  
Fromm's friend-Radovan Frzop  
Lynn Gregory's grandson Carson  
Mason & his mother Amanda  
Vivian's brother Wayne-Parkinson's  
Michelle Lambert's friend-Kristyanne-ovarian cancer  
Sheryl's Aunt Marge-hospice care  
Dotti Hossler's sister Loretta

Delores Ovesny  
Caleb  
Ben Abercrombie -football player w/broken neck  
Dotti Hossler's brother Roger  
Kathy's great-aunt Marie Houdek-hospice  
Roy G-child w/serious epilepsy  
Friend of Billy Schmalkuche-Jill-long-term rehab  
Jeff York  
Tom Boomershine  
Robert Ellis, co-worker of Claudia Wallace-cancer  
Linda Summa, Turner's daughter -cancer  
Olivia-Juvenile Diabetes  
Sue Simmons' friend, Debbie- MS  
York's daughter-in-law-Lori  
Jodi Kles, Sheryl's cousin - living w/rare form of cancer

Abused children  
The United Methodist Church  
Military personnel  
Unemployed  
First responders, firemen, policemen  
Persons dealing w/serious medical issues  
Caregivers  
Those who do not have anyone to pray for them  
Christians around the world persecuted for their faith  
Drug epidemic-addiction & deaths  
Refugees  
Unspoken burdens that reside upon people's hearts  
Youth-effects of social media & those being bullied & increasing suicides  
Wisdom for world leaders  
Unity and peace around the world  
Those suffering from depression and/or loss  
Mental health issues & associated stigma  
Conditions at the US southern border

*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

Aug 2019 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>28</div> <div>10am - Worship Service</div> <div>8pm - RAIN DATE: Two</div>	<div>29</div> <div>12pm - Two Planks Summer</div>	<div>30</div> <div>12pm - Two Planks Summer</div>	<div>31</div> <div>12pm - Two Planks Summer</div>	<div>1</div> <div>8am - Bible Reading</div> <div>10am - Bible Study - Simon</div> <div>12pm - Two Planks Summer</div> <div>6pm - Two Planks Theater:</div>	<div>2</div> <div>8am - Bible Reading</div> <div>12pm - Two Planks Summer</div>	<div>3</div> <div>8am - Bible Reading</div> <div>12pm - Private Party</div>
<div>4</div> <div>10am - Communion Sunday</div> <div>10am - Worship Service</div>	<div>5</div> <div>8am - Liz's Summer</div>	<div>6</div> <div>8am - Liz's Summer</div> <div>11:30am - MM: Missions</div>	<div>7</div> <div>8am - Liz's Summer</div>	<div>8</div> <div>8am - Liz's Summer</div> <div>10am - Bible Study - Simon</div>	<div>9</div> <div>8am - Liz's Summer</div>	<div>10</div>
<div>11</div> <div>10am - Spooner House</div> <div>10am - Worship Service</div>	<div>12</div> <div>8am - Liz's Summer</div>	<div>13</div> <div>8am - Liz's Summer</div>	<div>14</div> <div>8am - Liz's Summer</div>	<div>15</div> <div>8am - Liz's Summer</div> <div>10am - NO Bible Study</div>	<div>16</div> <div>8am - Liz's Summer</div>	<div>17</div> <div>8pm - FGH: Family Game</div>
<div>18</div> <div>10am - Worship Service</div> <div>11:15am - Tea Party/Coffee</div>	<div>19</div> <div>8am - Liz's Summer</div>	<div>20</div> <div>8am - Liz's Summer</div>	<div>21</div> <div>8am - Liz's Summer</div>	<div>22</div> <div>8am - Liz's Summer</div> <div>10am - Bible Study - Simon</div>	<div>23</div> <div>8am - Liz's Summer</div>	<div>24</div>
<div>25</div> <div>10am - Webb Mountain</div> <div>10am - Worship Service</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>29</div> <div>10am - Bible Study - Simon</div>	<div>30</div>	<div>31</div>