



# United Methodist Church of Monroe

## *messenger*

OCTOBER 2019

## **Interim Preacher Assigned to us!**



**Transition: A passage from one stage to another.**

*The United Methodist Church of Monroe is in transition.  
As Methodists we have experienced this in our past  
and have continued on in our journey of faith.  
There is much hope within our community of worshippers.*

The Rev. Carol Gibson has graciously agreed to serve as our worship leader for the month of October and November. She will shepherd us beginning October 13th with a communion service.

Rev. Carol Gibson is a retired elder in the United Methodist Church. She has served churches in Fairfield, Greenwich, and Milford and as an interim in Wilton. Blessed with four daughters and six grandchildren, Carol and her husband, Bruce now live in Trumbull. Carol continues to be active in ministry enjoying guest preaching and leading groups in biblical studies. She also volunteers at the Shelton Home, and has been leading retreats for 36 years at Wisdom House in Litchfield.

She can be addressed simply by her first name Carol (pronounced Carolee) or formally as Rev. Gibson.

We ask for prayers for our new interim preacher, Rev. Gibson and for our church as we go forward serving our savior Jesus Christ.



### Website help needed:

Assistance needed w/ongoing website maintenance. Please see Kathy Schmalkuche for details. The site is a vital part of our outreach & the first step for people looking for a church.



Please remember to support your church with your weekly offering!

Thank You!!

## Outdoor Service at Webb Mountain

Our thanks to all who participated at our outdoor service on August 25<sup>th</sup> and to all who stayed to help spruce up the Susan Kimball Memorial Garden afterwards!

## Seeking Coffee Hour Hosts

It's a wonderful way to support fellowship! Sign up on our church website and click on the link: <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!



# Let's

# Celebrate!



happy birthday

10/01 Nancy Gray  
10/03 Maya Chaudhary  
10/03 Dave York  
10/10 Erin Brantley  
10/13 Barbara McCann  
10/14 Janet Morris  
10/18 Haley Bassett  
10/21 Margaret Bain  
10/22 Kailea Krom  
10/23 Patrick Chrislip  
10/25 Russ Gray  
10/26 Kevin Early  
10/28 Will Steese

10/09 Laura and Dick Bartlett  
10/10 Ina and Art Beardsley  
10/15 Cheryl and Mike Pavia  
10/20 Sheryl and John Rajpolt  
10/23 Barbara and Ken McCann  
10/26 Cari and Chad Harris



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



## Social Issues Discussion Group

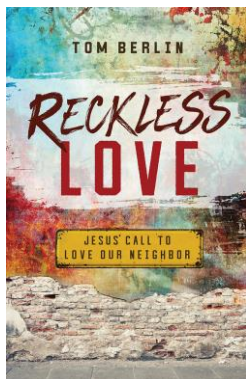
Join us for a forum where concerned believers discuss their views on various social issues. The discussion is truly open with no agenda or curriculum to follow. Our next meeting is October 20 at 11:15 am in Meeting Room 1. Moderator: David York.

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

October 19: Right here at UMC Monroe!

Time: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm (includes lunch)

\*\* Please RSVP to Liz Skarzynski if you're planning to attend so she has an accurate count for lunch. Her contact info is 203.257.7174 or DressAGirlSouthernCT@yahoo.com. UMC Monroe Contacts: Ethel Abraham and Tanya Lennon



Thursday morning Bible Study Group will continue their study of Tom Berlin's book, "Reckless Love: Jesus's Call to Love Our Neighbor". All are welcome to join us at 10am on October 3, 10, 17, and 24<sup>th</sup>.



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.

# MISSIONS



## “Pave the Way to Recovery”

Our thanks to all those who contributed to our “commemorative brick” and donated any items for the men of PIVOT Ministries.



If you are looking to help those in the Bahamas, remember you can use the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) for your gift. Submit your donation directly on the UMCOR website (<https://www.umcmmission.org/umcor>) **OR** simply write a check to UMCOR & write on memo line “UMCOR-Bahamas Relief” & we will forward your gift to UMCOR. ***Donations should be made by October 15th so we can send all donations in one check. No amount is too small!*** Charity Navigator confirms your entire amount goes to direct relief since there are no admin costs. Thanks everyone for your generosity!



## Bridgeport Rescue Mission's Great Thanksgiving Project

With fall's crisp days upon us, the chilly days of winter will be here before we know it! The Missions Committee would like to invite everyone to help us keep our neighbors in need warm this winter. We will once again be participating in the ***Bridgeport Rescue Mission's Great Thanksgiving Project*** by collecting new or gently worn winter coats that will be distributed to children and adults in our area. All sizes of children's and adult coats are needed. Other winter wear like hats, gloves, scarves, etc. are welcome too. Stay tuned for more details for our collection to begin later this month. In the meantime, start looking in your closets at home for any gently worn coats you are no longer using and give them a new purpose to help our neighbors!

To learn more about the Mission's ***Great Thanksgiving Project***, please visit their website at <https://bridgeportrescuemission.org/the-great-thanksgiving-project/>.





# UMC MONROE YOUTH NEWS

## Sunday School is back - it's Rally Day!

It was a busy day at UMC Monroe as we celebrated Rally Day! Our service included the 2019 - 2020 Sunday School Kick Off, and the recognition of our Sunday School teachers.

And in Methodist tradition we finished the day with a kick off ice-cream social! Yum!!!



**We're looking for a volunteer to coordinate crafts for Grades 5 and under on the first Sunday of the month (Communion Sundays) from October through June. If you have an interest, please speak to Sue Simmons ([suszq55@aol.com](mailto:suszq55@aol.com)).**



## Halloween Candy Donations Needed!

Youth Group will be representing the church at the town-wide Trick-or-Trunk event on Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup> (Rain Date 10/27). The kids will be handing out candy along with stickers wishing local families a Happy Halloween from UMCM. Donations of "fun-size" bags of candy are needed and can be brought to the church by October 20<sup>th</sup>. Thanks for your support!



# Paper Shredding Fundraiser

Individuals and Businesses Welcome

DATE: Saturday, November 2, 2019 (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

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)



This year we will celebrate All Saints' Day on Sunday, November 3. It is a day to recall those who have died in the faith throughout history. Obviously there would be no Christianity without faithful disciples of Christ who have held fast to their faith in good times and in bad. There have been countless martyrs who have died witnessing to the love of God and the saving grace of Christ. And sad to say, in some parts of the world, Christians are still persecuted and even slain for their beliefs. Take time to think of our Christian heritage, and remember with thanksgiving those who have held fast to their faith no matter what.

Did someone you love pass away in the last year (between 11/04/18 and 11/02/19)? Would you like us to remember that person with a special time of prayer and consideration on All Saints' Day? Please register your request on our website, [www.umcmonroe.org](http://www.umcmonroe.org), or complete the form below and drop it in the collection plate. (Please print information)

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE BORN (mm/dd/yy)</i>	<i>DATE DIED (mm/dd/yy)</i>
_____	____/____/____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____	____/____/____
_____	____/____/____	____/____/____



# Breakfast *with* Santa

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2019

\* 8:30 am - 11:30 am at UMC Monroe

Children (12 and under) \$5 • Adults \$8

Register online at [www.umcmonroe.org](http://www.umcmonroe.org) by Friday, December 6

Registration is first come, first served until we reach capacity. Follow signs for Breakfast entrance!

Crafts! • Stockings! • Pictures with Santa!

Please bring a non-perishable food item for the Monroe Food Pantry  
and join in our ongoing efforts to help our neighbors!

## NORTH POLE GIFT DEPOT

Come shop with us for the holidays! We will have gift ideas for everyone on your list! Select from cute, unique items at affordable prices at our *North Pole Gift Depot*! There is no admission charge or pre-registration required for *North Pole* shopping. Follow signs for shopping entrance!



United Methodist Church of Monroe • 515 Cutlers Farm Road  
[breakfastwithsanta@umcmonroe.org](mailto:breakfastwithsanta@umcmonroe.org) • [www.umcmonroe.org](http://www.umcmonroe.org) • 203.268.8395





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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.

# Prayer Concerns



Family of Quintin Brantley on the passing of his mother  
Lynn Abbott's sister-hip replacement recovery  
Uncle Eddie-medical issues  
Jim Eastwood-recovering at home  
RaeLyn, Gail's granddaughter-recovery from 2<sup>nd</sup> seizure  
Bob Pantelone, malignant brain tumor  
Family & friends of Pastor John Blossom on his passing  
Gail's daughter, Joann-possible skin cancer  
Gail's niece, Loretta-medical issues  
Whalen family on John's grandmother passing  
Friends & family of Lynn's friend, Mary, on her passing;  
especially her niece on settling estate  
Maggie Carr's husband, John-recovery from valve  
replacement surgery  
Gail's friend, Valerie-cancer  
Husband of Patti's co-worker, Tom Moore-brain injury  
from work accident  
Bill Florin's friend, Bruce-cancer  
Vivian's cousin, William Marshall-hospice care; his wife  
Sue & family  
Gail's sister, Joan-COPD  
Gail's friend, June-rare cancer found in blood  
Suzette, Gail's niece-medical & personal issues  
Bill & Marie Schmalkuche, Bill's parents  
Joe Lennon's brother, Michael-cancer treatments  
Lauren & her mother, Linda  
Sue Simmon's brother, Jeff-alcohol addiction  
RoseAnne's dad, Ken  
Marilyn Jones  
Roger Grant  
Sheryl's mom-seizures  
Dexton  
Pastor Martha's father-Rev. Richard Rice  
Fromm's friend-Radovan Frzop  
Lynn Gregory's grandson, Carson  
Lynn Abbott's grandson Tyson- rare genetic disease  
(Coffin Siris)

Mason & his mother, Amanda  
Vivian's brother Wayne-Parkinson's  
Michelle Lambert's friend-Kristyanne-ovarian cancer  
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, Monroe & beyond  
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  
"Sandwich" generation

*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@umcmmonroe.org](mailto:umc@umcmmonroe.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 2019 (Eastern Time - New York)**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 10am - Pivot Ministries 10am - Worship Service	30	1 11:30am - MM: Missions	2	3 10am - Bible Study - 5pm - Cooking Class @	4	5
6 World Communion Sunday 10am - Communion Sunday 10am - Worship Service	7	8 7pm - Task Force Study	9	10 10am - Bible Study - 5pm - Cooking Class @	11	12
13 10am - Worship Service	14	15	16	17 10am - Bible Study -	18 10am - UMC Monroe: Dress	19
20 HOLD: Missions Sunday 10am - Worship Service 11:15am - St: Social Issues	21	22	23	24 10am - Bible Study - 5pm - Cooking Class @	25	26
27 HOLD: Missions Sunday 10am - Worship Service	28	29	30	31	1 5pm - Cooking Class @ 9am - Paper Shredding @ 10am - CANCELLED: Dress	2

**\*\*Please visit our website for the most up-to-date information about our activities\*\***