

United Methodist Church of Monroe



messenger

NOVEMBER 2019



I'm finding it difficult to wrap my hands around the fact that it's November already and transitioning from one season to the next!

We welcome the month by gaining an hour by setting our clocks back on November 3. (Does anyone really gain an hour of sleep?) Then we'll watch the final leaves fall, the temperatures become brisk, complete the fall sports season and finish up on November 28 with all the traditions that surround the Thanksgiving holiday. (Perhaps that includes some Black Friday, Small Business Saturday or Cyber Monday shopping?)

We also find ourselves amid transition again at UMC. What better time to use it to forge ahead! *"I am the church. You are the church. **WE** are the church together."* **WE** can do this. **WE**, as a family, support one another and have the common bond of wanting to be disciples of Jesus Christ. We don't always have to be in agreement, but there's no reason to not work together to make it work.

In the upcoming month, there will be an opportunity for each of you to commit your support of our church with your time, talents and treasures. With the three combined, we can do our very best in fulfilling our mission!

From that ol' familiar hymn, *"We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing ..."*; whether it's gathering around the dinner table this Thanksgiving, attending meetings, trudging off to work or school, making sandwiches for Spooner House, or attending a worship service ... take the time to pause and give thanks to God for all He has done. Let us offer Him our thanks for the big and small blessings in our lives.

God's Peace,
Rose Aiello
Lay Leader and Church Council Chairperson



Please remember to support your church with your weekly offering!

Thank You!!

Let's Celebrate!

November

Rev. Mark and Janice Allen
3212 Lost Pine Way
Portage, MI 49024



Just in time for Veteran's Day

A brick honoring UMC Monroe's beloved James W. Hussey has been placed on the brick walk saluting our veterans. The brick walk is located in front of the Monroe Town Hall.



happy birthday

11/08	Leigh Gray
11/11	Phil Gray
11/11	Bill Schmalkuche
11/14	Tanya Lennon
11/18	Liam Whalen
11/20	Max Reynolds
11/21	Dick Bartlett

11/27 Patty and Dave Hornak



happy anniversary

Please submit additions and corrections to the birthday and anniversary list to the office at 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 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!





IN THE NEWS ...

A NEW OIL TANK was installed in the “wing” of the church by Sippin Energy! Thanks to Dotti Hossler for her efforts in getting this project completed ... and to those Trustees that helped to clear a portion of the furnace room. We received assistance from the conference for half the replacement cost which was then matched by a church family. God is good!!

SPEAKING OF TRUSTEES ... please be sure to come out for the Church Work Day on Saturday, November 9 beginning at 8:30 am. You don't need to be a Trustee to help out! There is plenty to do for everyone. There will be a list of projects posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. Yard work at both the church and the parsonage will be the priority before the colder weather sets in. (Alternate plans can be made if you can't make it on November 9)

THE TASK STUDY GROUP met on Wednesday, October 9. In addition to our chair, Rev. Ed Horne, we were joined by Rev. Laura Galbraith, Pastor at Asbury UMC in Forrestville. Our UCMCM laity include Rev. Dave York, Rose Aiello, Brian Sherwood, Bill Florin and Janet Morris. The Group continued working on a church assessment report that includes our background, our community, current ministries and activities of UCMCM, financial implications and fulfilling our mission. The group will reconvene on Monday, November 18 after the Finance Committee meets to develop potential budget(s) and update the financial reports for 2019.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE NEWS At the recent Annual Conference session, local churches were grouped into “Cooperative Parishes” in order to support and strategize with one another with each “Parish” being assigned a coordinator. Accordingly, UCMCM has been included in the “Greater Bridgeport Parish” along with Golden Hill, Summerfield, Nichols, Long Hill, Mary Taylor Memorial, Westport/Weston, Fairfield Grace, Easton, Jesse Lee and Stratford. Tisha Branch is our Parish Coordinator. One of the first meetings of our Parish (together with the Elm City Parish) will be held on Friday, November 15 from 6:30 to 9:00 pm at the Westville UMC in New Haven. Bishop Bickerton will be sharing information on the future of Methodism. A group of laity from UCMCM will be carpooling to the meeting. If you are interested in attending, please contact Rose Aiello, Lay Leader.

Registration: <https://nyaconference.online/CTCoopParishMeetingLaityRegisterNov15>

UPCOMING EVENTS



Daylight savings time ends on Sunday, November 3 at 2:00 am ... don't forget to adjust your clocks before you "fall back" into bed!

Fall Clean Up/Church Work Day: Saturday, November 9

Our church work day is set for Saturday, November 9 beginning 8:30 am. A sign-up sheet is posted in the narthex for various projects to be done around the church, inside and out. Families are welcome. Come for an hour or for the morning! Great fellowship while maintaining our biggest church asset! Can't make it that day? You can still participate by taking a task and completing it on your own time. Questions? Please contact Brian Sherwood or Chad Harris.



Curious what's happening in Generation Bridge?

On Tuesday, November 12, there will be a light lunch hosted at the Monroe Senior Center to discuss legacy on our autumn years. Sign up is at the Senior Center or reach out to Brian Sherwood directly.

On Saturday November 16, we're working on a program with the Trumbull YMCA to understand what we need to do in order to *Make Fitness a Priority In Our Lives*. A speaker is still needed so if anyone had a suggestion we are open! Please contact Brian Sherwood.

For more information, please visit the Generation Bridge website (<https://www.generation-bridge.com/>)



Generation Bridge

Save the date! ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE AND REPORTING

Our 2019 Charge Conference is set for Sunday, December 8 at the United Methodist Church of Westport/Weston (46 Weston Road, Westport).

Committee reports for the charge conference are due to the church office by November 15.

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 November 17 at 11:30 am in Meeting Room 1. Moderator: David York.



Our Youth Group is planning to serve dinner for the visitors at Spooner House on Friday, November 22. We're still working through the details to make that happen, but please hold the date!



Did you know that the beloved hymn “Joy to the World” turns 300 this year? Composer Isaac Watt’s interpretation of Psalm 98 invites us to sing a “new song” which we will do beginning on the first Sunday of Advent, December 1st and throughout Advent during our worship services at 10 a.m. Using Worship Design Studio creator and visionary Dr. Marcia McFee’s inspirational series “Heaven and Nature Sing,” we will prepare for the coming of Jesus to this world and discover that the depths of joy can be found especially in the midst of suffering, the work of justice and the presence of compassion. We will experience the Advent wreath in a new and very different way, we will be inspired by the music, scripture and messages, and we will be better prepared to go out and bring “Joy to the World!” Please contact Patti Early at pearly3216@aol.com or .203. 261.3216 to learn more and find out how you can assist in preparing for this meaningful worship experience.



Advent Worship Planning Session: Sunday, November 10

An Advent Worship Planning Session is scheduled for Sunday, November 10 after worship. We welcome everyone to participate! Contact: Patti Early

*Remember during the winter season ... **Register for inclement weather alerts!***



Enroll for text and/or email alerts if you would like to receive notice when UCMC is closed or activities cancelled. Go to our website, click on “Resources”, then “Inclement Weather”, then “NBC CT Storm Alerts” in the last sentence. It will take you directly to the enrollment page. For breaking news: (1) Tune in to NBC WVIT, CBS WFSB or ABC WTNH; (2) Visit our website at www.umcmonroe.org, or (3) Check our Facebook page @umcmonroe. Be prepared!

Kindness is Free

As told by Barbara Blackman

Recently, I was at a Panera Bread with a friend. She asked for a coffee after her main order had been paid for. The young cashier Haley, mid 20's I'd say, gave her a coffee cup and said "This is on me." My friend was surprised, offered to pay anyway, and said "Thank you" when the clerk said she could not pay for it.

My friend went to get her coffee. The clerk said to me:

"KINDNESS IS FREE."

Wow, what a statement.

She followed it with: "So is hatred – kindness is better."

I think this will be my new mantra, -- Kindness is Free.

The next time someone says something ugly and I am inclined to fight back, I hope I will have the grace to simply say "Kindness is Free." That ought to be enough.

Feel free to share this widely – more kindness in the world would be a good thing.



amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Add 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. For more information, please visit our website and search *AmazonSmile* or contact Steve Arnold or Kathy Schmalkuche.

MISSIONS

November Mini Missions ... Stuff a Turkey!



Gobble gobble! It's time to **"Stuff the Turkey"** for the Monroe Food Pantry for our November Mini Mission! We will be collecting all the fixings for a special Thanksgiving meal for families in our community.

Suggested donations: boxed stuffing mix, gravy (canned, jar, or mixes), turkey broth, instant mashed potatoes, canned vegetables (corn, peas, carrots, etc.), green bean casserole ingredients (canned green beans, cream of mushroom soup, fried onions, etc.), canned yams, cranberry sauce, canned pumpkin (or other fruit pie fillings), baking mixes (pie crust mix, cake mix, corn bread mix, etc.), any other non-perishable items your family enjoys as part of your Thanksgiving meal. We will also be

collecting Big Y turkey discount coupons.

Please place your donations in the Mini Missions wagon in the narthex by Sunday, November 24 for delivery to the Monroe Food Pantry in time for holiday distribution to area families.

Movie Night, Sandwich Making/Collection and Delivery for Spooner House

Our next scheduled sandwich collection for Spooner House is November 17! 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 50+ sandwiches.



If you're free on Saturday night, November 16, please join us for Movie Night and sandwich making. All are welcome! Please bring your sandwich items along ... after we make sandwiches, we'll watch the movie *Breakthrough* (PG). *Breakthrough* is based on a true story of a faithful mother who prays for her 14-year-old son to come back from the brink of death and be healed after he drowns in a lake. We're planning to kick things off at 5:30 pm ... please watch for more details!



Spooner House also has a need for the following additional supplies for the shelter: aluminum foil, napkins, kitchen size trash bags (15 gallon), cleaning solution (409, liquid disinfectants) and/or holiday supplies (turkey gravy packets, cranberry sauce, instant potato mix, stuffing). We will deliver these additional items at the same time we deliver sandwiches.

Thank you for your consideration! See you at the movies!

DRESS a GIRL Sew-a-Thon

Our fellowship hall was filled with the sounds of sewing machines hard at work making special dresses for girls in need at the *Dress a Girl Around the World Sew-a-Thon* on Saturday, October 19. We had a wonderful turn out of volunteers (@30) who filled the event with joy and excitement as each new dress was completed.. A total of 188 dresses were made that day including many made by our own UMC of Monroe members. We also made accessories like dolls, bracelets and clothing for boys, too!

A few fun facts about Dress A Girl in 2019 to-date:

- We have had 8 meetings
- We have packed 1,142 dresses
- We are working with several organizations to help deliver the dresses to girls in need and at risk.
- Working with these organizations our dresses have gone to several countries (Guatemala, Haiti, Jamaica, Kenya, Mexico and Uganda) and we hope to expand this list in the year to come:

Stay tuned as we'll be publishing a list of sew-a-thons for 2020 soon! Questions: Tanya or Ethel





UMC MONROE YOUTH NEWS



Jesters, minions, Clifford, witches, spider webs and air dancers, oh my! Our UMC Monroe youth had an awesome time at the *Trick or Trunk* at Masuk High School with three decorated. Thanks to all who donated candy. We gave away 500+ pieces that had our church name on them! Our youth did an awesome job representing our church.





Paper Shredding Fundraiser

Individuals and Businesses Welcome

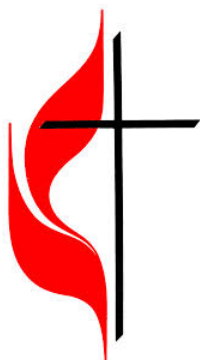
DATE: Saturday, November 2, 2019 (rain or shine)
TIME: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
LOCATION: Village Square, 401 Monroe Turnpike/Route 111, Monroe, CT
(across from McDonald's)
COST: \$10 standard archive box (approximately 15"x12"x10")
Prices increase \$5.00 per size according to container
PAYMENT: Cash, or checks over \$30.00 (made out to: UMC 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
or visit our website www.umcmonroe.org
or our FaceBook page (@umcmonroe)

South Central Emmaus XLII

Friday, November 8 - Sunday, November 10, 2019

Trinity Episcopal Church, Seymour

Calling all Prayer Angels!

SERVE
God



SERVE
Others

~ Matthew 25:31-40

We've been preparing for South Central Emmaus Weekend XLII and it is just around the corner! UMC Monroe's Juliana Epstein, Emily Florin and Bill and Kathy Schmalkuche are serving "on team."

Please consider being one of our Prayer Angels! A great deal of prayer goes into each Emmaus weekend. While participants are on the retreat, our Prayer Angels lift them and the weekend itself, up in prayer. Your prayer is a wonderful gift to each person on this Emmaus weekend.

To choose a day and time, visit our website www.umcmonroe.org and click on the Emmaus Prayer Angels button or sign up on the registration sheets in our attendance booklets. Include your email and we'll send you a reminder of the day(s)/time(s) you selected a few days before the weekend. Questions? Please contact Patti or Bill.



Breakfast *with* Santa

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2019

* 8:30 am – 11:30 am at UMC Monroe

Children (12 and under) \$8 • Adults \$10

Register online at 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 • www.umcmonroe.org • 203.268.8395

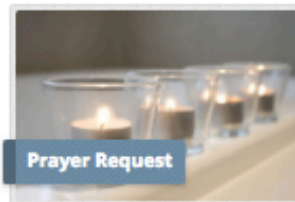


[Home](#) [Welcome](#) [About](#) [Education](#) [Get Involved](#) [Missions](#) [Calendar](#) [Events](#)
[Contact Us](#) [Resources](#)

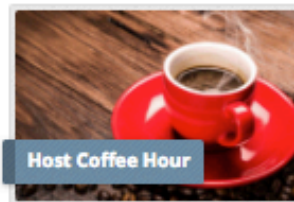


Welcome ... we're glad you're here!

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



Prayer Request



Host Coffee Hour



Mini Mission Wagon



Ministry Staff



Newletters

Visit US ANYTIME at 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



Gail Mas' grandson, Mason and Mom, Amanda - injury to hand
Mark Hazzard - recovery from open heart surgery/valve replacement
Friend of Fromms', Scott Krasko, and his family – redeployed to Tunisia
Family of Courtney Neville on her sudden passing from encephalitis - Courtney was only 36 year old with 3 young children
Lauren and her mother, Linda - continued prayers as Lauren has had positive progress in struggle with addiction
Brett Bailey - stomach cancer
Rhena, Kelley McAlexander's friend and Rhena's mom, Peggy - on Peggy's recent tumor diagnosis
Dotti's friend, Anne - pancreatic cancer
Mark (and family), lineman for Eversource - healing from serious auto accident
Donna Lynn and children, work colleague of Patti - sudden loss of husband, Alan
Lynn Gregory's grandson, Carson
Ken
Bill Schmalkuche's Dad - health issues
Bob Pantalone – treatments
Lynn Abbott's Uncle Eddie - medical issues
RaeLyn, Gail's granddaughter - recovery from 2nd seizure
Gail's daughter, Joann - possible skin cancer
Gail's niece, Loretta - medical issues
Vivian's cousin, William Marshall - hospice care; his wife Sue and family
Gail's sister, Joan - COPD
Gail's friend, June - rare cancer found in blood
Gail's niece, Suzette - medical and personal issues
Joe Lennon's brother, Michael – cancer treatments
Sue Simmons' 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 Abbott's grandson, Tyson - rare genetic disease
Vivian's brother, Wayne - Parkinson's
Dotti Hossler's sister, Loretta
Delores Ovesny
Caleb
Ben Abercrombie – football player with broken neck
Dotti Hossler's brother, Roger
Kathy's great-aunt, Marie Houdek - hospice
Roy G - child with 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 with rare form of cancer

Abused children
The United Methodist Church, Monroe and beyond
Military personnel
Unemployed
First responders, firemen, policemen
Persons dealing with 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 and deaths
Refugees
Unspoken burdens that reside upon people's hearts
Youth - effects of social media and those being bullied and increasing suicides
Wisdom for world leaders
Unity and peace around the world
Those suffering from depression and/or loss
Mental health issues and 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, 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@umcmonroe.org) for our monthly newsletter is the 15th 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							Nov 2019 (Eastern Time - New York)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat							
27 10am - Worship Service	28	29 7pm - Finance Meeting	30	31 10am - BYOB (Bring Your	1 5pm - Cooking Class @	2 9am - Paper Shredding @ 10am - CANCELLED: Dress							
3 10am - All Saints' Day 10am - Communion Sunday 10am - Worship Service	4	5	6	7 10am - BYOB (Bring Your	8	9 8:30am - Fall Clean							
10 10am - Worship Service 11:15am - Advent Worship 6pm - Sunset Recovery	11	12 11:30am - MM: Missions 7pm - CANCELLED: Church	13	14 10am - BYOB (Bring Your	15 9am - Charge Conference 6:30pm - Cooperative	16 5:30pm - Movie Night and							
17 10am - Spooner House 10am - Worship Service 11:15am - St: Social Issues	18 7pm - Task Force Study	19	20	21 10am - BYOB (Bring Your	22 5pm - HOLD: Youth Group	23							
24 10am - Worship Service	25	26	27	28	29	30							

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