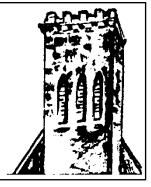
United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak

1176 East Main Street • Shrub Oak, New York 10588 • Office: 914-245-4682 • Fax: 914-743-1003
Parsonage: 914-245-3114 • E-mail: <u>umcso.ny@gmail.com</u>



"OUR THIRD CENTURY IN SERVICE OF THE LORD"

Reverend Pastor Sandra B. Mantz



October 2023 Vol. 45, No. 9

Mailed on September 28, 2023 - Next Deadline 10/15/23

Dear UMCSO Family,

I hope this day finds you well. I love the fall. I enjoy the crisp weather and watching as the leaves change. It is a time for reflection for me. I enjoy the seasons, because I watch the cycle of life around me. I love this quote: "I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers."

(L. M. Montgomery, author of Anne of Green Gables). I totally agree.

I enjoy every season but there is something special about the fall. It gives people a chance to appreciate the beauty of nature when autumn leaves turn different colors and gracefully fall down from the trees. I just love the warm colors of the yellows, oranges, reds, and crimsons that autumn brings our way. The very air itself seems to hold a clean crispness as the squirrels' scamper around, greedily stuffing acorns in their jaws, while dried leaves one by one slowly fall, toiling and spinning in the dance of a graceful decent.

I also enjoy picking apples and putting out hardy mums and pumpkins outside of the parsonage door. There is nothing like a cup of tea and a delicious apple crisp to warm my spirit and makes the house smell delightful too. I try to have a thankful heart, no matter what the season is. There is a lot to get stressed about. Our world is challenging. Do not live in fear.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

(John 14:27)

- > Remember F.E.A.R: False Evidence Appearing Real.
- Let's endeavor to live our lives with a thankful heart.
- Pray: Make it a habit to praise God, thanking God for His every present vigilance and love.
- ➢ Bible: Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth! Read the Word of God: Do not be intimidated by it. It holds all the truths to surviving as Christians on this earth. It is God's word, rich and full of tips for victorious living.
- ➤ Live a faithful life: Be a light in our dark world. Love one another too. God is present to help; God wants to be in a relationship with us and for us to surrender our concerns to him. God will grant us peace and then we can bring hope to others in need.

May God bless you all richly.

Blessings and Love in Christ, Reverend Pastor Sandra B. Mantz

UPCOMING **FVFNTS** OCTOBER



SUNDAYS, 10:30 AM WORSHIP WILL CONTINUE **IN-PERSON & LIVE** STREAMED

Sunday, October 1st

Open House following worship at the parsonage.

Sunday, October 8th

Adult Sunday School, 9:30am, GP Room.

Sunday, October 15th

Halloween Festival, 12:30 pm

Saturday, October 28th

ASP 5K Run at FDR Park, 9:00 am.

Please remember to share these events, planned for you, with family members and friends in the community.

LOOKING AHEAD NOVEMBER

All Saint's Sunday

Will be celebrated on Nov. 5th

Breakfast Run

Sunday, November 5th

Donations welcomed:

Sun. 10/8: Toothbrush/Toothpaste

Sun. 10/15 Bar Soap Sun. 10/22 Socks

Annual Cooperative Church

Charge Conference

Sunday November 19th, 2:00pm.



Trustees' Meeting

Monday, October 2nd at 7:30 pm, via Zoom.

Nominations Meeting

Wednesday, October 4th 7:00 pm via Zoom.

Sunday School Teachers'

Sunday October 22nd following worship.

2024 Confirmation Class

For Children in 7th grade and higher. (Date to be announced.) Please contact Pastor Sandy or Deborah Vesuvio. Administrative Assistant.



Please contact Michele Squibb squibbm14@gmail.com

If you would like to sign up for flowers on the altar. The following dates are still available:

November 12th December 10th

NEW MEMBERS

If you are interested in joining our Church family, please contact Pastor Sandy or Deborah Vesuvio. Administrative Assistant.

KNOW SOMEONE WHO COULD USE A CARD?



If you know someone who is sick or having surgery, please let us know. Our dedicated members, Annette Reynolds and Lynne Schrot, send cards to those who aren't well. We will send a card to cheer them up or encourage them.

Maxine Haigh

UPDATES TO UMCSO CHURCH DIRECTORY



If you have any updated information or new emergency contacts, please contact Marilyn Bucher or the office to have your records updated.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Tawyanna Francis	2
Margie Carlock	3
Gretchen Gale	3 3 3
Daniel Pagano Sr,	3
Emily Grace	4
Gayle Spina	4
Je'Tesia Martin	5
Derek Walls	5
Christopher Closi	9
Greg Gale	10
Cory Casey	11
Lindsey Gilbert	11
Lisa Will	11
Pat Watkins	13
Hank Schrot	16
Cherie Philips	17
Bruce Shields	17
Glory Dharmaraj	19
Maureen Magley	21
James Pinto	21
Alexandra Beliakovich	
Shkoda	22
Cassie Gaylor	23
Glen Bucher	25
Cathy Galeckl	25
Billy Ryder	29
Bob Davies	31



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Maria & Tommy Demartino	2
Patricia &Tony Capozza	3
Maureen & Larry Magley	3
Annette & Russ Reynolds	3
Dorothy & David Zugner	3
Lisa & Douglas Gaylor	7
Nancy & Ken Mannino	11
Fran & Bob Davies	12
Kathy & Jack Casey	15
Mary & Nigel Ferreira	22



Special thanks to all our volunteers who so freely and willingly give of their time and talent in the name of the Lord!

Music Director/Organist

Dawn Zampell

<u>Choir</u>

Al & Alice Fennell Bev Goodman Twila Hunter Beverly Martinez Marshall Moseley Hank & Lynne Schrot Jerome Marcelly

Liturgists

Annette & Russ Reynolds Lynne & Hank Schrot Marilyn Bucher Barbara Conklin Rachel Ward Pinto Daryl Lindholm

Ushers

Annette Reynolds Debbie Vesuvio Doreen Matthews Kathy Schiavi Barbara Conklin

Audio/Visual

Cliff Cullum
Dylan Matthews
Joey Spina
Pheby Arvee

Altar Flower Contributors

Maxine Haigh Fran Davies The Reynolds Family



Administrative Assistant

Deborah Vesuvio Trainer: Mary Ferreira

Communications & Chimes

Naline Jagdeo Marilyn Bucher Peter Hoernes

Financial

Cliff Cullum Doug Gaylor

Altar Flower Coordinator

Michelle Squibb

Hospitality

Alice Fennell

Lay Representative

Dianne Benincasa

Men's Group

Russ Reynolds

Northern Westchester Coop

Parish

Dianne Benincasa

Social Activities

Kathy Casey

Staff/Parish Relations

Annette Reynolds



Sunday School

Lisa Peterson-Grace

Youth Ministry

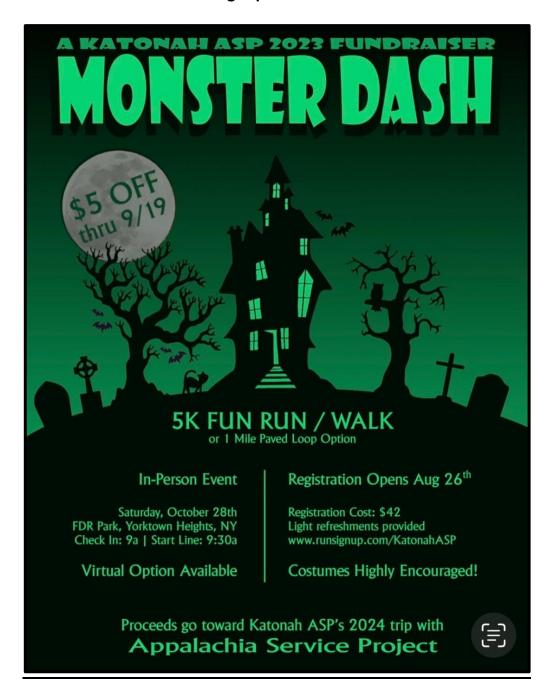
Cory and Lisa Casey

Education

Kathy Casey Lisa Grace Peterson

ASP 5K Run/Walk at FDR Park, Saturday, October 28th at 9:00 am

If you'd like to sign up or sponsor, please see Cory Casey or visit www.runsignup.com/KatonahASP.



We welcome any donations which will go toward the Katonah ASP's 2024 trip with Appalachia Service Project.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER

Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it. ~ Proverbs 22:6

Our Sunday School Kickoff and Pancake Breakfast on September 10 was a great success! We enjoyed delicious food and a chance to reconnect after the summer vacation. Special thanks to chefs, "Flapjack" and Lisa Casey, as well as sous chef PJ and all of the dedicated volunteers who helped make the breakfast a special event for our church family.

During the Children's Moment, Pastor Sandy led "Blessing of the Backpacks," and then the children went off to Sunday School.





This year, we have restructured our classes slightly. We are using an approach called "Godly Play." This approach teaches the children to listen for God and to make authentic and creative responses to God's call in their lives. Each week, a storyteller recounts a story from the Bible, using figures or puppets to help act it out. The students are

encouraged to wonder about the meaning of the story, and the younger ones are then asked to respond to the story using a medium they choose – drama, painting or drawing, building with Legos, and so on. The older youth go to a separate room to discuss the connection of the story to their lives. The goal is for all of our students to make meaning of the story in a way that makes sense to them.





As we move into the fall season, please mark your calendars for our **Halloween Festival** on **October 15**. We will have a Trunk or Treat, pumpkin patch and decorating, hayride, and much more! Kids of all ages can come in costume and enjoy a fun day with our church family.

Please help us by supporting these events so we can grow our Sunday School. Our goal is to teach our youth the good news of Jesus Christ so that they will go into the world to share His love. Together, we can make a difference in our families, our community and our world.

Yours in Christ, The Sunday School Teachers

WHAT MAKES OCTOBER DIFFERENT?

October 1st - World Communion Sunday

In 1930, Presbyterian Pastor Dr. Hugh Thompson Kerr, who served as a moderator of the General Assembly, developed the concept of uniting all churches for a celebration. That year, World Communion Day was adopted. Since 1940, it has been celebrated annually around the globe.



Partaking in Holy Communion celebrates our oneness in Christ and joins us all in Christian unity.

Donations collected by the UMC are dedicated to:

- supporting racial/ethnic students in achieving their educational goals;
- providing scholarships, grants, mentoring and training for leadership development globally;
- supporting racial/ethnic scholarships for students pursuing ordained ministry (deacon or elder) and includes a mentoring program

To learn more, click on the link below:

https://www.umc.org/en/content/world-communion-sunday-ministry-article

October 9th - Columbus Day

Christopher Columbus, (1451–1506), was an Italian explorer and navigator from the Republic of Genoa, Italy. He arrived in the Americas in 1492 on board his ship, the Santa Maria. His fleet consisted of 3 ships including the Niña, Pinta and Santa Maria.



His initial mission was to find and chart a western sea route to China, India, and the gold and Spice Islands of Asia. By error, he arrived in the Bahamas on October 12, 1492. He is known to be the first European to explore the Americas

Columbus' achievement began the Columbian exchange between Europe and the Americas and opened the way for

European countries to colonize and exploit those lands and their peoples. It is marked by the massive transfer of human populations, cultures, ideas, animals, plants, and diseases which killed a large proportion of the indigenous peoples.

Plants native to the Americas, such as potatoes, tomatoes, and tobacco, were exported to Europe. On the reverse side, African coffee and Asian sugar cane became cash crops for Latin America. Wheat became a food staple.

Columbus Day became an official state holiday in Colorado in 1906, and later became a federal holiday in the United States by proclamation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1937.

It is also celebrated as the Day of the Race (Día de la Raza) in Latin America and some Latino communities in the United States.

Traditionally, celebration of Columbus Day includes:

- ➤ teaching lessons about Christopher Columbus and his voyages; hosting activities to celebrate Italian-American heritage in the USA (some communities host parades and street fairs with colorful costumes, music and Italian food);
- ➤ teaching lessons about Native American culture; and in many cities and towns that honor indigenous peoples, activities are held to celebrate traditional culture, food and dance.

To learn more, click on this link:

https://www.history.com/topics/exploration/christopher-columbus

October 15th - Laity Sunday

The word "Laity" originates from *laos*, meaning "people of God," and is used to describe members of a church's congregation. They are non-clergy leaders who are called to fulfill the Great Commission through acts of service that "heal and liberate a broken world".

The purpose of Laity Sunday is to celebrate the work that has been accomplished by the Laity within and outside of the Church and also to emphasize the importance of continuing that work.

The Laity Sunday theme for 2023 comes from II

Timothy 1:1-14. Under the call to "Rise Up," the

people of God will continue to echo the invitations of this passage:



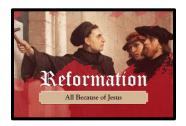
- Rise Up and **revive** God's gift of faith (that first lived in those who loved us);
- Rise Up and **reveal** the grace in Christ that brings life together, with and for others;
- Rise Up and **remain** committed to sound teaching (the pattern of healthy words witnessed in those who model faith); and,
- Rise Up and **retain** this reliable gift of good and beautiful things placed in our trust by the Holy Spirit.

In summary, "Laity Sunday is one way we express the core Christian conviction that *all* are called to participate in God's mission to create healthy, flourishing life in the world."

To learn more, click on this link:

https://www.resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/liderazgo-en-la-imu

October 29th - Reformation Sunday



In 1517, Dr. Martin Luther nailed his Ninety-five Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. He had many concerns that countered the teachings of the church in Rome. For example, he did not believe in the selling of certificates of indulgences which people believed would wipe away their sins, provide salvation, and lead to eternal life.

Today, "Reformation Day is a day set aside to recognize, remember, and celebrate the Protestant Reformation." It also provides "a sense of moving toward unity and community. It is an opportunity to repent of the sins and excesses of the past and to celebrate our common faith, even if we still cannot celebrate a common ritual and sacrament."

To learn more, click on this link:

https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/reformation-day-what-why-and-resources-for-worship

October 31st - Halloween

Over 2,000 years ago, the Celts lived mainly in what is known today as Ireland, the United Kingdom and northern France. Halloween's origin can be traced to the ancient Celtic festival of "Samhain" (pronounced sow-in).

October 31st marked the end of summer, the harvest, and the beginning of the dark, cold winter a time of year that was often associated with human death. "Celts believed that on the night before the new year, the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead became blurred." They celebrated Samhain, when it was believed that the ghosts of the dead returned to earth. Wearing costumes was part of the ritual.

The Roman Empire conquered most of the Celtic region by A.D. 43 and ruled for 400 years. During that time, two Romanorigin festivals were combined with the Celtic celebration of Samhain. In A.D. 1000, the church made November 2nd All Souls' Day, a day to honor the dead.



Today, Halloween is celebrated with different activities such as trick-or-treating, carving jack-o-lanterns, festive gatherings, donning costumes, and eating treats.

To learn more, click on this link: https://www.bibleinfo.com/en/questions/it-wrong-celebrate-halloween

LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE READINGS OCTOBER 2023

Sunday, October 1 st (18 th Sunday after Pentecost/ World Communion Day)	Sunday, October 8 th (19 th Sunday after Pentecost)	Sunday, October 15 th (20 th Sunday after Pentecost/ Laity Sunday)
Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 (UMH #799) Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32	Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 (UMH #750) Philippians 3:4b-14 Matthew 21:33-46	Exodus 32:1-14 Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 (UMH #829) Philippians 4:1-9 Matthew 22:1-14
Sunday, October 29 th (22 nd Sunday after Pentecost/ Reformation Sunday) Deuteronomy 34:1-12 Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 (UMH #809)	Sunday, October 22 nd (21 st Sunday after Pentecost) Exodus 33:12-23 Psalm 99 (UMH #819) I Thessalian's 1:1-10	
I Thessalian's 2:1-8 Matthew 22:34-46	Matthew 23:15-22	



October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 - 18 th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY/ World Communion Sunday 10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com Adult Sunday School 9:30 am, GP Room Open house – Parsonage, after Worship	Women's Small Group 7:00 pm Trustees Meeting 7:30 pm ZOOM	Bible Study 10:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm	4 Small Group 1 1:00 pm Nominations Meeting 7:00 pm ZOOM	5 Prayer Group 11:00 am Chapel Bible Study 7:30pm ZOOM	Small Group 2 10:00 am Conference Call Crafts for a Cause 11:00 am	Men's Group 8:00 am Small Group Leaders 9:30 am
8 - 19 th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) 10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com Adult Sunday School 9:30 am, GP Room Donate Toothpaste/Toothbrushes	9 Women's Small Group 7:00 pm	Bible Study 10:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm	11 Small Group 1 1:00 pm	Prayer Group 11:00 am Chapel Bible Study 7:30pm ZOOM	Small Group 2 10:00 am Conference Call Crafts for a Cause 11:00 am	14 Men's Group 8:00 am
15 - 20 th Sunday after Pentecost/ (Green) Laity Sunday 10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com Adult Sunday School 9:30 am, GP Room Halloween Festival 12:30 pm Donate Bar Soap	Women's Small Group 7:00 pm	Bible Study 10:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm	18 Small Group 1 1:00 pm	Prayer Group 11:00 am Chapel Bible Study 7:30pm ZOOM	Small Group 2 10:00 am Conference Call Crafts for a Cause 11:00 am	Men's Group 8:00 am Small Group Leaders 9:30 am
22 - 21st Sunday after Pentecost (Green) 10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com Sunday School Teachers' Meeting after Worship Adult Sunday School 9:30 am, GP Room Donate Socks	Women's Small Group 7:00 pm	24 Bible Study 10:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm	25 Small Group 1 1:00 pm	26 Prayer Group 11:00 am Chapel Bible Study 7:30pm ZOOM	27 Small Group 2 10:00 am Conference Call Crafts for a Cause 11:00 am	28 Men's Group 8:00 am ASP 5K Run/Walk 9:00 am PDR Park
29 - 22 nd Sunday after Pentecost/ (Green) Reformation Sunday 10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com Adult Sunday School 9:30 am, GP Room	Women's Small Group 7:00 pm	Bible Study 10:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm				FOOD PANTRY Every Sunday is Food Sunday!