

United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak

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The Chimes

“OUR THIRD CENTURY IN SERVICE OF THE LORD”

Honorable Reverend Sandra B. Mantz



May 2024 Vol. 46, No. 5

Mailed on Apr. 29, 2024 - Next Deadline 5/15/24

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I enjoy every season. I continue to be amazed by the beauty of God's creation. Whether or not I am taking a walk through the woods, strolling down the beach or even gazing at flowers on the side of the road, I am always so blessed.

Just outside of the church there is a tree growing in the middle of a chain link fence. With God nothing is ordinary. When I look closely, I can see the buds on the branches coming out of the gnarled trunk. New life and growth is happening despite the visible obstacles.

The tree symbolizes the challenges and sorrows in life that can leave us feeling defeated. When we fully give ourselves over to God, however, our view of the troubles and sorrows of life changes. The circumstances may remain the same, but our outlook changes and we gain a new perspective. Even in the midst of our troubles, God is there offering us a chance for transformation.



Looking at that tree trunk reminds me of life. Is life easy? No. Do we at times encounter pain? Yes. But Jesus reminds us to come to him.

Matthew 11:28-30: *“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”*

God provides rest for our weary souls. We are weary of bad news and stress. God makes all things new. We need to trust, believe, surrender and obey.

2 Corinthians 5:17: *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”*

There is always hope. So, remember in the midst of your busy lives God will restore, revive and renew. How? Take some time to pray and listen.

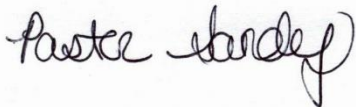
Mark 1:35: *“Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.”*

Jesus left the others to spend time with God. Jesus shows us how to rest. Rest is a necessity. It is also an act of worship. Take time to talk with the Lord. Take a walk around your yard, gaze at the beauty of the spring. Then take all your burdens and lay them at the foot of the cross! Praise God who makes all things new!

If you look very closely at the picture above, you may wonder, how does it continue to grow? The trunk has become a bit misshapen. However, it is still alive and thriving!! Clearly, its roots are strong. May we stay rooted in our Lord who loves us so much .

Colossians 2:7: *“Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.”*

Love and Blessings in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Andy". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

UPCOMING EVENTS
May 2024



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

Confirmation Day:
 Sunday, May 19th. Come
 support and celebrate our
 newest members.

Rummage/Bake Sale:
 Saturday, May 25th from
 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Come
 one and all, bring your family
 and friends!



Small Group Leaders:
 Saturday, May 4th

Trustees' Meeting:
 Monday, May 6th

Mission's Meeting:
 Wed. May 8th on Zoom

VBS Planning Mtg:
 Wed., May 15th at 7:00
 pm in the GP Room.

**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 & Lynne
 Schrot send cards on behalf
 of our church family. So,
 please let us know and we
 will send a card to cheer
 them up or encourage them.

Maxine Haigh



MAY BIRTHDAYS

Lisa Casey	3
Logan Gaylor	3
Sundeep Thomas	3
Brent Horton	7
Eric Coleman	9
Richard Haigh Jr.	11
Karla Marie Ruth	15
Joshua Moore	17
Derek Gilbert	19
Michael Will	20
Mary Washburn	21
Sharon Krueger	23
Jamal Neal-Young	24
John Neal-Young	26
Kathy Schiavi	26
Debby Haigh	27
Kim Ryder	27
James Horton	31



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Darrah and Michael Walls	6
Glory and Jacob Dharmaraj	25
Sharon and John Krueger	31



ALTAR FLOWERS 2024

Thank you for your gift in providing Altar Flowers for the glory of God! Please contact Michele Squibb squibbm14@gmail.com if you would like to sign up for flowers.

UPDATES TO UMC SO CHURCH DIRECTORY



If you have any updated information or new emergency contacts, please contact Maxine Haigh or the office for updating.



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

Choir

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

Altar Flowers

- The Geis Family
- The Reynolds Family
- The Emsley family Fund
- The Casey family

Liturgists

- Marilyn Bucher
- Doug Gaylor
- Karla Ruth
- Daryl Lindholm

Education

- Kathy Casey and Lisa Grace

Communications & Chimes

- Marilyn Bucher
- Debbie Vesuvio
- Cliff Cullum

Communion Stewards:

- Rachel Ward



Audio Visual

- Cliff Cullum
- Pheby Aryee
- Joe Spina
- Dylan Matthews

Ushers

- Annette Reynolds
- Debbie Vesuvio
- Doreen Matthews
- Kathy Schiavi
- Barbara Conklin
- Freddy Arias
- Nick Aryee
- Linda Hoernes
- Betsy Reynolds Goldhorn

Greeters

- Maxine Haigh
- Susan Crookston
- Jonathan Goodman

Children's Moment

- Pastor Sandy

Hospitality

- Alice Fennell

SPR

- Annette Reynolds

Cooperative Parish

- Peter Hoernes
- Dianne Benincasa

Sunday School Corner

“For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.” -- Romans 8:14

As we enter the beautiful season of spring, we are grateful for a very special Easter celebration last month. Many thanks to Yvonne Chung and Theresa Aryee for leading the children in a Resurrection Easter egg hunt during Sunday School. This celebration helped the children understand and remember the story of Holy Week. After church, the children also got to participate in an outdoor egg hunt for candy.



This spring, we are looking forward to many exciting events. On **May 19**, we will be celebrating **Confirmation** for some of our youth. Please mark your calendars so you can be there to support them.

Also be sure to mark your calendars for **Honors Day** on **June 16**. On this special day, all of our children and youth will participate in the service, and they will be recognized for their participation in Sunday School. After church, we would love everyone to join us for our **Honors Day Picnic!** We will be providing hot dogs and hamburgers; if you are able, please sign up to bring a side dish or dessert to share.



We are very excited that over the summer, our church will be hosting a **Vacation Bible School**. The theme will be “Celebrate The Savior - Jesus Gives Us Joy!” It will take place **July 22-July 26 from 4:30 to 7:30 pm each day**. Supper will be served, and then the children will enjoy some fun and exciting learning activities.

Looking towards the fall, we are planning a **Breakfast Run** during the month of September. Our youth will once again travel to Manhattan serve breakfast to some of our needy brothers and sisters in Christ. They will also distribute bags of necessities to those who would like them, so we are looking for the following donations:

- Plain, dark T-shirts in large or extra large sizes
- Black men’s socks
- Toiletries, such as soap, toothpaste, and toothbrushes. (The toothbrushes and toothpaste given out by dentists are perfect if you care to donate them.)

We thank you for your support of our children and youth. May God bless you and fill your hearts with His love!

Yours in Christ,
The Sunday School Teachers

A Heartfelt Thank You...

for the overwhelming love I felt on my Birthday! I thank you all for your cards, calls, and texts, and for such a beautiful surprise luncheon! As some of you know by now, it's not easy to render me speechless, however you managed to! I am truly blessed for this church family and the lifelong friendships that continue to grow out of it. I love you all and hold you all in my heart and my prayers daily. May our worship and ministry see many more happy years together.

Love and Blessings Always,

Patricia Bradley





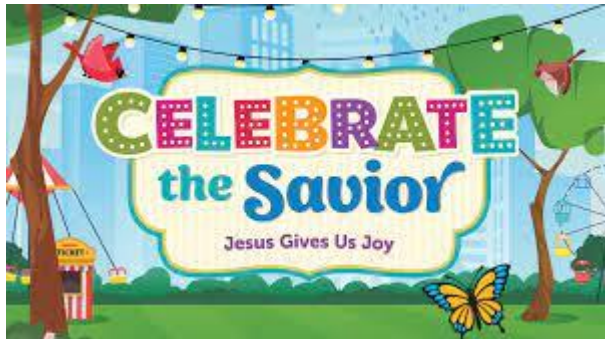
A Huge Shout-Out and Thank You to Our Audio/Visual team; Pheby Aryee, Joe Spina, Dylan Matthews (NOT PICTURED), and of course Cliff, for faithfully keeping us all connected and engaged in worship services, both in person and online.



Saturday, May 25, 2024

Volunteers are needed for bake sale items and anyone interested in gathering to bake pies can contact Sarah Alliston to make arrangements. Also needed are volunteers to help with: Set Up (8:30 - 10:00am), Helping day of (10:00 am - 3:00 pm), and Clean Up (3:00 - 4:00 pm) Sign up sheets are posted in the breezeway.

Why Attend Vacation Bible School ?

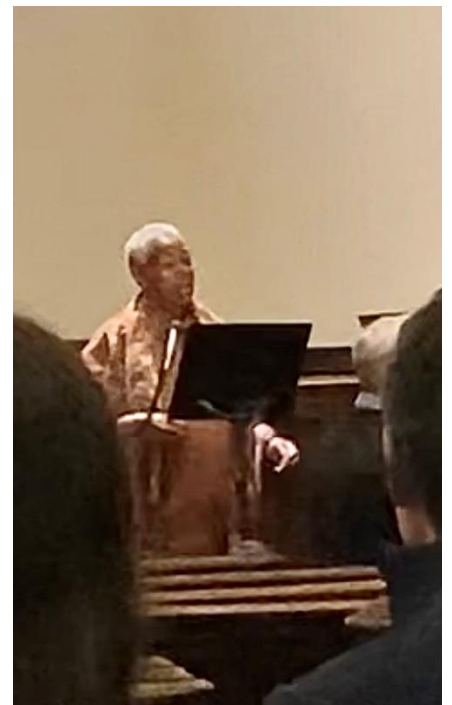


VBS stands for Vacation Bible School, and it is a summer church outreach focused on giving kids a fun and creative place to learn about the Bible and to build relationships with other kids and churches in the area. VBS offers the church fun and creative methods of teaching kids and youth Christ-like values and relationship-building skills. It is an excellent outreach tool into the


community—a way to invite those who do not normally attend to come into the church, get involved, and build relationships with others and with Jesus Christ. Churches generally run VBS for a week, and each program has its own theme (medieval castles, water parks, the Old West, etc., for example) that children can explore. A week of VBS usually includes games, snacks, crafts, skits, and, of course, Bible lessons! There is always a connection between God and the theme, allowing kids to discover God in a creative way and it offers a variety of ways for the entire congregation to become involved. We invite you join us from July 22nd - 27th. We'll begin with a light supper from 4:30 - 5:00 and VBS will follow from 5 - 7:30 pm. Please watch for more details soon.




We were blessed with a visit from the Bishop and the DS on April 8th. It was a wonderful evening of fun, fellowship, and worship and Colette wowed us all with her beautiful voice!



LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE READINGS

<p><u>Sunday, May 5th</u> (6th Sunday of Easter)</p> <p>Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98 1John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17</p>	<p><u>Sunday, May 12th</u> (7th Sunday of Easter)</p> <p>Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19</p>	<p><u>Sunday, May 19th</u> (Pentecost)</p> <p>Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Romans 8:22-27 John 15:26-27, 16: 4b-15</p>
<p><u>Sunday, May 26th</u> (Trinity Sunday)</p> <p>Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17</p>		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Every Sunday is Food Sunday!</p>			1 <u>Small Group 1</u> 1:00 pm	2 <u>Prayer Group</u> 11:00 am Chapel	3 <u>Small Group 2</u> 10:00 am	4 <u>Men's Group</u> 8:00 am <u>Small Group Leaders</u> 9:30 am
5 (6th Sunday of Easter) (White) 10:30 am <u>Worship, Sanctuary</u> <u>On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com</u> <u>Communion will be next Sunday as Pastor is away</u>	6 <u>Women's Small Group</u> 7:00 pm	7 <u>Bible Study</u> 10:00 am <u>Bible Study</u> 7:00 pm	8 <u>Small Group 1</u> 1:00 pm	9 <u>Prayer Group</u> 11:00 am Chapel	10 <u>Small Group 2</u> 10:00 am	11 <u>Men's Group</u> 8:00 am
12 (Ascension Sunday) (White) HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY 10:30 am <u>Worship, Sanctuary</u> <u>On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com</u> Mother's Day	13 <u>Women's Small Group</u> 7:00 pm	14 <u>Bible Study</u> 10:00 am <u>Bible Study</u> 7:00 pm	15 <u>Small Group 1</u> 1:00 pm	16 <u>Prayer Group</u> 11:00 am Chapel	17 <u>Small Group 2</u> 10:00 am	18 <u>Men's Group</u> 8:00 am <u>Small Group Leaders</u> 9:30 am
19 (Pentacost) (Red) Confirmation 10:30 am <u>Worship, Sanctuary</u> <u>On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com</u>	20 <u>Women's Small Group</u> 7:00 pm	21 <u>Bible Study</u> 10:00 am <u>Bible Study</u> 7:00 pm	22 <u>Small Group 1</u> 1:00 pm	23 <u>Prayer Group</u> 11:00 am Chapel	24 <u>Small Group 2</u> 10:00 am	25 <u>Men's Group</u> 8:00 am <u>Rummage/Bake Sale</u> 10:00-3:00
26 (Trinity Sunday) (White) 10:30 am <u>Worship, Sanctuary</u> <u>On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com</u>	27 <u>Women's Small Group</u> 7:00 pm	28 <u>Bible Study</u> 10:00 am <u>Bible Study</u> 7:00 pm	29 <u>Small Group 1</u> 1:00 pm	30 <u>Prayer Group</u> 11:00 am Chapel	31 <u>Small Group 2</u> 10:00 am	

