

United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak

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“OUR THIRD CENTURY IN SERVICE OF THE LORD”

The Chimes

Honorable Reverend Sandra B. Mantz, Pastor



June 2026 Vol. 48, No. 6

Next Deadline 6/25/26

Dear UMCSO Family,

It is so wonderful to see the trees and flowers budding around us. A couple of weeks ago, I had noticed a couple of trees behind the parsonage; they looked bare and I mentioned it to one of our Trustees. Russ Reynolds, our chairperson said to me they are Locust trees and are late bloomers. Today I looked up and indeed they were blooming. I had thought they were dying and needed to be cut down. I had given up on them. However, Locust trees are hardy. They bloom late and are strong.

“Locust trees are fast-growing flowering trees that belong to a family of flowering plants called Fabaceae. The most common types of locust trees are the black locust and honey locust tree. Locust trees are hardy trees that are known for their hard and durable wood, fragrant sweet spring flowers, and colorful fall foliage. Locust trees can live for over a hundred years, and the wood is one of the hardest woods from any deciduous tree. Locust tree lumber is exceptionally durable and the timber is excellent for making furniture, fence posts, flooring, and small boats.”

<https://leafyplace.com/locust-tree/>

As the strongest timber in North America, black locust helped build Jamestown and hardened the navy that decided the War of 1812, yet today few Americans have heard of it. The nation’s taste in ornamental trees has changed fairly dramatically since the first street plantings were made in Williamsburg, Virginia, in the 1730s. Botanists have suggested that the black locust is one of the few examples of a tree exported by the American Indians from the mountains to the coastal plain for domestic use...<https://barkhouse.com/2015/07/29/1781-yorktown-march-denoted-by-bark-house-split-rails/>

For me it is symbol of tenacity and strength. Our God is an awesome God. If he can use a tree like the Locust just think of how he can use each one of us. God's hope is beyond the reality of this world. Events may threaten to hurt us, stress us and shatter us but the gift of hope will not let us down. It is not just wishful thinking but a promise of a brighter present and future.

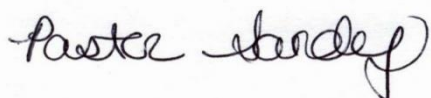
In 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 we read: *But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.* Through God we gain power, strength and hope. We rejoice in the hope and the glory of God.

Here is a wonderful passage from Romans 5:3-5: *We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.*

Nothing will ever separate us from the power of God through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. Hope will not disappoint us. Embracing hope is a choice. Is God so real to you that you can and will trust and follow God with every part of your life? When difficulties come will you retreat and become overwhelmed, or will you hang on to hope? Let us focus on our relationship with God. No matter what you are facing today trust and hold on to God's unchanging hand. Life is not always on the mountaintop. I heard a quote: *"Mountain top experiences are for views but fruit is grown in the valley."* Try not to let circumstances overtake you. Too often we try to use God to change our circumstances while he is using our circumstances to change us. Pray for our world that we may live in peace and harmony. As we look at the new growth around us may it continue to bless us!!

May God bless us all as we endeavor to embrace hope and faith in God.

Blessings and Love in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Andy". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed text "Blessings and Love in Christ,".

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 2026



SUNDAYS, 10:30 AM

IN-PERSON & LIVE STREAMED

Confirmation Classes: meet every Sunday following worship, upstairs in Room #21.

June 5th: Family Night! Bring your family and friends for our next (hopefully outdoor) family night, 5pm. Please sign up in the breezeway and bring a dish to share.

June 6th: Our annual Rummage/Tag sale from 9 am – 3 pm.

June 10-14: Annual Conference

June 14th: Confirmation Day! Please plan to attend to celebrate, support and welcome our “official” new members!

June 21st: Honors Day and Father’s Day. Church BBQ following worship! Please submit names of all graduates to the church office by Tues, May 26th. (umcso.ny@gmail.com)

June 27th: ASP trip from 6/27-7/5



Small Group Leaders:

Sat. June 6th and 20th, 9:30 am on Zoom.

Education Meeting: Sunday, June 7th following worship.

Trustees Meeting: June 8th at 7 pm (Zoom).

Annual Conference: Pastor, along with our district lay delegates, Russ Reynolds and Peter Hoernes, will be away from June 10th – June 13th for the Annual Conference.



Lee Norman	6/3
Dylan Schiavi	6/3
Pheby Aryee	6/4
Andy Galecki	6/4
James Hoernes	6/9
Jeannie Brunton	6/12
Hallie Robcke	6/12
Riley Jensen	6/13
June Willis	6/13
Margaret Abraham	6/15
Sophia Stella	6/15
Daniel Haigh	6/16
Azaria Shkoda	6/17
Twila Hunter	6/21
Charles Rigg	6/21
Wesley Battle Jr.	6/22
Landy Guevara	6/23
Lynne Schrot	6/23
Lila Ryder	6/28
Jack Casey	6/30



Rob and Lilia Gutowski	6/3
Brent and Kelley Horton	6/5
Dom and Kathy Schiavi	6/8
Debbie and Gary Speedling	6/1
Daryl and Len Lindholm	6/1
Susan and Albert Closi	6/21
Peter and Linda Hoernes	6/22
Norman and Margaret Reid	6/28
Pastors Enock and Iwy Yatri	6/28
Jay and Linda Drisko	6/30



ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to sign up for flowers on the altar please see the sign-up sheet in the breezeway or contact Michele Squibb (squibbm14@gmail.com) or Barbara Conklin (Sunflower777@gmail.com)

KNOW SOMEONE WHO COULD USE A CARD?

If you know someone who is sick or having surgery, please let us know. Annette Reynolds will send cards to those who aren't well. So, please let us know and we will send a card to cheer them up or encourage them.
~ *Maxine Haigh*



UPDATES TO UMCSO CHURCH DIRECTORY

We are working on a new Church Directory and work very hard to keep our contact information up to date. If any of your information has changed, or you know someone's who has, please get in touch with Maxine Haigh, Marilyn Bucher or the church office so that we can keep our records as current as possible.

Sunday School Corner

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

As we wind down the school year and look forward to the summer, we are looking forward to a few exciting end of the year activities!

On **Sunday, May 31**, our Sunday School teachers and youth will be traveling to Manhattan for the **Breakfast Run**. We will serve breakfast and provide a few necessities to some of our needy brothers and sisters in Christ. Please feel free to join us for packing at **6:00 am** on Sunday, or for the trip itself.

On **Friday, June 5, at 5:00 pm**, we plan to gather for a fun-filled **Family Night**. We will start with a pot trust dinner, and then enjoy some games together.

Finally, please join us for our annual **Honors Day Service** on **June 21**. In addition to our regular Sunday School lessons, all of our classes have been focusing on the Lord's Prayer this spring. On Honors Day, they will share some of what they have learned, as our elementary students lead us in prayer and our middle school students perform a puppet show. We will use the occasion to honor our graduates as well. If you have a student graduating, please reach out to Pastor Sandy so that we are able to celebrate everyone.



Finally, please join us after the service for our **Honors Day Picnic!** BBQ Chef Doug will be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers, and we hope some of the congregation will sign up to provide side dishes.

We thank you for all of your support and prayers during this school year.

Yours in Christ,

The Sunday School Teachers



Our Annual Rummage Sale takes place on Saturday, June 6th from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Clean and lovingly used items can be dropped off beginning May 30th through June 5th. We are also looking for volunteers to help bring all items over to the Parish Hall Friday night, June 5th. Please let Annette Reynolds or Linda Hoernes know if you can help.

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Confirmation Sunday is June 15th! Please plan to attend as we support, uphold, celebrate and welcome these Confirmands of 2026 into official membership of the UMCSO family:



Chloe Frances
Colleen Gutowski
Thomas Antonucci

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Join us On **Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>** for our annual **Church Picnic**



following our Honors Day Service! Hot dogs and Hamburgers will be provided but please sign up in the breezeway to bring something to share!



Congratulations to our  
**CLASS OF 2026!**

*College Graduates*

**Samantha Palumbo**

(Betsey Reynolds Goldhorn)

(Graduated from CUNY on 5/28/26 with her Master's Degree in  
Disability Services)

**Daniel John Haigh**

(Maxine Haigh)

(Graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Rhode Island with a  
Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering)

**Ben Brooks**

(Cheryl Brooks, Karla Ruth)

(Graduated from SUNY Oswego with a BS in Business)

*And Congratulations to...*

**Dan Pinto**

(Rachel Ward)

(on passing the Professional Engineer Civil Transportation Examination and  
earning his PE Licensure designation)

We are so proud of your accomplishments and our prayers surround you  
as you take the next steps along your journeys.



**LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b><u>Sunday, June 7th</u></b><br/> <b>(2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)</b></p> <p>Gen 12:19<br/>           Psalm 33:1-12<br/>           Rom 4:13-25<br/>           Matt 9:9-13, 18-26</p>        | <p><b><u>Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup></u></b><br/> <b>(3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)</b></p> <p>Gen 18:1-15<br/>           Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19<br/>           Rom 5:1-8<br/>           Matt 9:35 -10:8 (9:23)</p> |
| <p><b><u>Sunday, June 21st</u></b><br/> <b>(4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)</b></p> <p>Gen 21:8-21<br/>           Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17<br/>           Rom 6:1b-11<br/>           Matt 10:1-24-39</p> | <p><b><u>Sunday, June 28th</u></b><br/> <b>(5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)</b></p> <p>Gen 22: 1-14<br/>           Psalm 13<br/>           Rom 6:12-23<br/>           Matt 10:40-42</p>                              |



# June 2026

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Monday                                                                                | Tuesday                           | Wednesday | Thursday                                                                                                                       | Friday                                                                | Saturday                                                                                               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1                                                                                     | 2                                 | 3         | 4 <u>Prayer Group</u><br>11 am Chapel<br><br><u>Small Group 1</u><br>1 pm Zoom<br><br><u>Eve. Bible Study</u><br>7:30 pm Zoom  | 5 <u>Small Group 2</u><br>10:00 am<br><br><u>Family Night</u><br>5 pm | 6 <u>Men's Group</u><br>8:00 am<br><br><u>Small Grp Ldrs</u><br>9:30 am<br><br><u>Tag Sale 9am-3pm</u> |
| 7 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) (Green)<br>(White)<br>10:30 am <u>Worship, Sanctuary</u><br><u>On-line Live Worship: <a href="http://www.umcso.com">www.umcso.com</a></u><br><b>Communion Sunday</b><br><b>Education Meeting after worship</b><br><b>Young Adult Gathering 5 pm</b> | 8 <u>Trustees Meeting</u><br>7 pm (Zoom)<br><br><u>Women's Small Group</u><br>7:00 pm | 9 <u>Bible Study</u><br>10:00 am  | 10        | 11 <u>Prayer Group</u><br>11 am Chapel<br><br><u>Small Group 1</u><br>1 pm Zoom<br><br><u>Eve. Bible Study</u><br>7:30 pm Zoom | 12 <u>Small Group 2</u><br>10:00 am                                   | 13 <u>Men's Group</u><br>8:00 am                                                                       |
| 14 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) (Green)<br>10:30 am <u>Worship, Sanctuary</u><br><u>On-line Live Worship: <a href="http://www.umcso.com">www.umcso.com</a></u><br><b>Confirmation Sunday</b>                                                                                       | 15                                                                                    | 16 <u>Bible Study</u><br>10:00 am | 17        | 18 <u>Prayer Group</u><br>11 am Chapel<br><br><u>Small Group 1</u><br>1 pm Zoom<br><br><u>Eve. Bible Study</u><br>7:30 pm Zoom | 19 <u>Small Group 2</u><br>10:00 am                                   | 20 <u>Men's Group</u><br>8:00 am<br><br><u>Small Grp Ldrs</u><br>9:30 am                               |
| 21 (4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) (Green)<br>10:30 am <u>Worship, Sanctuary</u><br><u>On-line Live Worship: <a href="http://www.umcso.com">www.umcso.com</a></u><br><b>Honors Day/ Father's Day/Church Picnic</b>                                                                    | 22                                                                                    | 23 <u>Bible Study</u><br>10:00 am | 24        | 25 <u>Prayer Group</u><br>11 am Chapel<br><br><u>Small Group 1</u><br>1 pm Zoom<br><br><u>Eve. Bible Study</u><br>7:30 pm Zoom | 26 <u>Small Group 2</u><br>10:00 am                                   | 27 <u>Men's Group</u><br>8:00 am<br><br><u>ASP Trip</u><br>Through 7/5                                 |
| 28 (5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost) (Green)<br>10:30 am <u>Worship, Sanctuary</u><br><u>On-line Live Worship: <a href="http://www.umcso.com">www.umcso.com</a></u>                                                                                                                     | 29                                                                                    | 30 <u>Bible Study</u><br>10:00 am |           |                                                                                                                                |                                                                       |                                                                                                        |