

United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak
July 26th, 2026 – Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

ALTAR FLOWERS: The flowers on the altar are given by Lynne and Hank Schrot, “In honor and celebration of their 60th Wedding Anniversary!”

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: Waiting is never easy for us.

P: We are a culture of “instant” response.

L: Today, God is asking us to wait; to be patient.

P: It is not going to be easy for us to do that.

L: Quiet your spirits and open your hearts to God’s word for you today.

P: Lord, be with us. Help us to be ready to hear and respond to your word.
AMEN.

PRAISE AND WORSHIP: “Lord, I Need You”

PRAISE SHARING

OPENING PRAYER:

Lord of preparation and transitions, we are already halfway through our summer months. We sit and wonder where the time went, did we spend it well in your service. Give us these next few weeks for renewal that we may be prepared to work through your church for your world. Keep us mindful of the needs of family, friends and others, that we will be your faithful disciples, for we ask these things in Jesus’ Name. AMEN.

OPENING HYMN: “Shout to the Lord” (Halos)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Diligent Lord, who watches over us at all times, be with us all these days. We confess that we have allowed a host of worries and frustrations to crowd out your word for us. As you give us peace and your transforming love, also forgive all those times when we have been less than faithful disciples. Gently visit us again with your healing powers. Restore our hope and courage and joy for all the times ahead. We ask this in the name of the Master Healer, Jesus Christ. AMEN.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

Here is some wonderful news! While we were worrying and fretting, God has been at work in our lives offering healing and peace. Receive these gifts in the name and love of the Lord our God. AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 105:1-11 (NIV)

Romans 8:26-39 (NIV)

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS (*Children will be dismissed right after*)**HYMN OF PREPARATION:** "You Are my All in All" – FWS #3040**GOSPEL:** Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (NIV)**SERMON:** Searching for the Finest Pearl

1. The Spirit is Always There
2. We are More Than Conquerors
3. The Serene and Perfect Gem

RESPONSE HYMN: "Jesus Draw Me Close"**OFFERTORY:** Special Music Selection by the Halos**DOXOLOGY****PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER****CLOSING HYMN:** "We are Called" – FWS #2172**BENEDICTION:**

Go forth with joy, celebrating all the many ways for us to serve our Lord. Give us courage, hope, peace and love that we might bear these gifts to others. Go in peace. AMEN.

https://ministrymatters.com/2020-06-10_worship_connection_proper_12_a1/

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 105:1-11 (NIV)

¹ Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done.

² Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.

³ Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

⁴ Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.

⁵ Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced,

⁶ you his servants, the descendants of Abraham, his chosen ones, the children of Jacob.

⁷ He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth.

⁸ He remembers his covenant forever, the promise he made, for a thousand generations,

⁹ the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac.

¹⁰ He confirmed it to Jacob as a decree, to Israel as an everlasting covenant:

¹¹ “To you I will give the land of Canaan as the portion you will inherit.” Praise the LORD.

Romans 8:26-39 (NIV)

²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies.

³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

³⁶ As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers,

³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (NIV)

³¹ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field.

³² Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.”

³³ He told them still another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough.”

⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls.

⁴⁶ When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ “Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish.

⁴⁸ When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away.

⁴⁹ This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous

⁵⁰ and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ “Have you understood all these things?” Jesus asked. “Yes,” they replied.

⁵² He said to them, “Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old.”

UMCSO WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Zoom links are included in Mailchimp. Please contact us with your email (umcso.ny@gmail.com) or call 914-245-4682 if you would like to receive Mailchimp emails.

WOMEN'S SMALL GROUP: Meets once a month at 7:00 pm on Zoom. Next meeting: August 17th

MORNING BIBLE STUDY: **On break until Sept.** Tuesday 10:00 am (In Person)

PRAYER GROUP: Thursday, 11:00 am (Chapel)

SMALL GROUP 1: Thursday, 1:00 pm (ZOOM)

EVENING BIBLE STUDY: Thursdays, 7:30 pm with Pastor Sandy (ZOOM). (See link below). **Thursday night Bible Study is on break for the summer and will meet again in Sept.**

SMALL GROUP 2: Friday, 10:00 am (phone 1-267-807-9495; 656355452#)

MEN'S GROUP: Saturday 8:00 am (ZOOM)

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: 9:30 am in the GP room (In person)

TRUSTEE'S MEETING: First Monday of every month. Next: TBD

SMALL GROUP LEADERS MTG: Next meetings: Saturday August 1st and 15th, 9:30 am (Zoom)

Pastor Sandy Mantz invites you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Bible Study **(No meetings for the summer, resumes in Sept)**

Date/Time: Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2610447551?pwd=MXVIUGgvOFRrS3RZNVB2a0plRi8rUT09>

Meeting ID: 261 044 7551

Passcode: 246240

One tap mobile

+16469313860,,2610447551#,,, *246240# US

+16465588656,,2610447551#,,, *246240# US (New York)



SMALL GROUPS SUMMER SCHEDULE: Please see the above “Weekly Schedule” for all groups that are breaking for the summer.

YOUNG ADULT GATHERING AND PICNIC: has been rescheduled **for next Friday, July 31st** at 6:00 pm at the Parsonage.

BOWLING FELLOWSHIP: Bowling group is also on break until Sept.

PUTNAM VALLEY FOOD PANTRY: Is experiencing a great need for women’s feminine products. There will be a collection box for supplies in the breezeway that will be delivered to Grace UMC every Wednesday. Please donate as you’re able.



Rally Day: Sunday Sept. 13th. Breakfast and blessing of the backpacks

United Women of Faith Meeting: Saturday, Sept. 18th at 5:30 at Grace UMC

Women’s Fall Tea: Saturday, Sept. 26th, From 2-5 pm

Trunk or Treat: Sunday, Oct. 25th from 1-3 pm

(Any updates and further details will be provided closer to these events)

REACH US ON FACEBOOK

United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak

<https://www.facebook.com/Blessedassurance.today>

There is a link to the Church's website
Pastor Sandy will post inspirational verses regularly

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Birthdays

Darren Darling	7/29
Dawn Zampell Brown	7/30
Linda Purcell	7/30
JoAnn Stokes	7/30
Evan Yatri	7/31

Anniversaries This Week

Hank and Lynne Schrot	7/30
Michael II and Kelly Barnett	8/1