

United Methodist Church at Shrub Oak
September 13, 2026 – Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

ALTAR FLOWERS: The flowers on the altar are given by the Church with thanks and gratitude to our guest preacher today, Reverend Dr. Marjorie Nunes.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: Sing and rejoice! The Lord reaches out to you with healing love!

P: The Lord is our strength and our power!

L: Dance before the Lord, a dance of joy and hope!

P: The Lord brings us joy and lifts us up in hope.

L: Come, let us worship God who is always with us.

P: Let us celebrate the good news God brings to us each day. AMEN.

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

PRAISE SHARING

OPENING PRAYER:

When we feel overwhelmed by the storms of life, enter our hearts with your redeeming love, O Christ. When our fears overtake us and we cannot find our way, give us direction that we might faithfully serve you all our days, singing your praises! AMEN.

https://ministrymatters.com/2017-08-17_worship_connection_proper_19_a/

OPENING HYMN: “Come Share the Lord” – FWS #2269

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Lord, we confess that we don't always turn to you in our troubles. Sometimes we are paralyzed by fear and anxiety. We cannot see “the light at the end of the tunnel”. For us, there is only the ongoing darkness and hopelessness. Clear our sight, O Lord. Bind up our wounded spirits! Fill us with your mercy and love. Forgive us when we stray; when we fear; when we falter. Pick us up and place us on pathways of peace and hope, for we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

Hear the Good News: No matter what befalls us, the Lord walks with us on the path, bringing us courage and hope. No matter what, we belong to the Lord, now and forever. AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 50:15-21(NIV)

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS/BLESSING OF BACKPACKS (*Children will be dismissed right after*)

HYMN OF PREPARATION: "Grace Greater Than Our Sin" – UMH #365

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 18:21-35 (NIV)

MESSAGE: Forgiveness and Grace Go Hand in Hand (Reverend Dr. Marjorie Nunes)

RESPONSE HYMN: "Freely, Freely" – UMH #389

OFFERTORY: Special Music Selection

DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN: "O, How I Love Jesus" – UMH #170

BENEDICTION:

Go in peace into God's world to serve and help others. Go in confidence of God's presence with you. Go into this world with messages of hope and reconciliation. Go in love. AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 50:15-21 (NIV)

15 When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?"

16 So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died:

17 'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

18 His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said.

19 But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God?

20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

21 So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 18:21-35 (NIV)

21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?”

22 Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

23 “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants.

24 As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him.

25 Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

26 “At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’

27 The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

28 “But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded.

29 “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’

30 “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt.

31 When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

32 “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to.

33 Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’

34 In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. 35 “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.

Reverend. Dr. Marjorie Nunes



The Reverend Dr. Marjorie Nunes is a Retired Ordained Elder who formerly served as the Pastor of Hicksville United Methodist Church. She also served as the pastor of Summerfield United Methodist Church in Bridgeport, Connecticut, as well as several other pastoral appointments in over 20 years of ordained ministry. Before entering fulltime ministry, she had a successful career in business where she worked for over 16 years. During that time, she responded to the call to ordained ministry after a few years of deliberate prayer and discernment. Rev. Nunes received both B.A. and M.A. degrees, with honors, in

Economics from Hunter College. She earned a Master of Divinity Degree with distinction from Union Theological Seminary in May of 2000, and completed her Doctor of Divinity Degree at Hartford Seminary in 2012. We look forward to hearing her message today.

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: September 21st.

MORNING BIBLE STUDY: **(Starts This Week)** Tuesday 10:00 am (In Person)

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

SMALL GROUP 1: Thursday, 12:30 pm (ZOOM) **Please note new start time**

EVENING BIBLE STUDY: **(Starts This Week)** Thursdays, 7:30 pm with Pastor Sandy (ZOOM). (See link below).

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: **(Resumes 9/27)** 9:30 am in the GP room

TRUSTEE'S MEETING: First Monday of every month. Next: Mon., 9/14 at 7 pm (Zoom)

SMALL GROUP LEADERS MTG: Next meeting: Saturday September 19th, 9:30 am (Zoom)

Pastor Sandy Mantz invites you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Bible Study **(Meetings resume Sept 17th)**

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

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SMALL GROUPS ARE RESUMING SOON:

Groups starting this week:

Trustees Meetings – Starts This Week, 9/14, at 7 pm on Zoom

Tues. Morning Bible Study – Starts this week, 9/15, 10:00 am GP Room

Thurs Eve. Bible Study – Starts this week, 9/17, 7:30 pm Zoom

Sun. Morning Bible Study – Starts on 9/27, 9:30 am GP Room

Bowling Group – Starts on 9/27, 2-5 pm JV Lanes

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.



Super Sundae: Sunday Sept. 13th. Blessing of the backpacks and ice cream sundaes at coffee hour.

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

Cooperative Parish Picnic: Here at UMCSO, Saturday, Sept. 19th, at 1:30 pm.

Rally Day: Sunday Sept. 20th kicks off a new school year with our annual Pancake Breakfast at 9:30 am.

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

Parsonage Open House: Sunday, Oct. 18th following worship.

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

Annual Craft Fair: Saturday, November 14th, 9 am-3 pm.

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

Helen Sacchelli-Gouveia 9/14

Victoria Akulich 9/15

Fran Maddalone 9/17

Anniversaries This Week

Bill and Kim Ryder 9/14

Patty and Larry Robcke 9/18