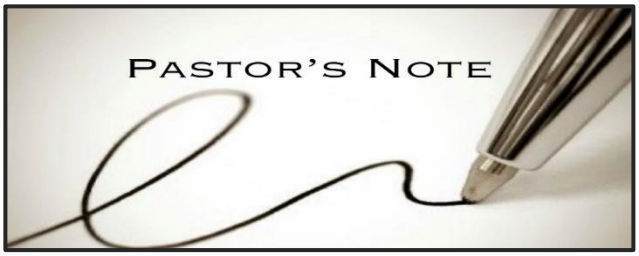


1176 East Main St.
Shrub Oak, NY 10588
914-245-4682

"Our Third Century in Service of The Lord"

Honorable Reverend
Sandra B. Mantz

November 2026 Vol. 48 No.11 Next Deadline Nov. 27, 2026



Dear UMCSO Family,

Yesterday David and I drove up to Bear Mountain and the views and the colors of the trees were just so beautiful. I am so thankful for the beautiful things that God gives to us all. November is such a special month as we celebrate Thanksgiving. We offer thanks to God for the blessings bestowed on us. It all started back in 1621, after a devastating first year in the New World, when the Pilgrim's fall harvest was finally successful. They had a feast of corn, fruits, and vegetables, along with fish which was packed in salt, and meat that was smoke cured over fires. They found they had more than enough food to put away for the winter. Finally, the Pilgrims had beaten the odds! They had built homes in the wilderness, raised enough crops to keep them alive during the coming winter, and were at peace with their neighbors. Their Governor, William Bradford, proclaimed a day of

thanksgiving that was to be shared by all colonists and their neighbors – the Native Americans.

My memories of Thanksgiving continue to bless and nurture me. It means sitting down with family and friends for a wonderful repast. While I was growing up, our Thanksgiving Day began in church for a service of testimony and praise. Our family traveled to my grandmother's house in Montclair, New Jersey. There would be cousins, aunts, uncles and a vast array of friends. My Grandmother's table had an abundance of food on it. She came from North Carolina, and we had more than enough of everything, including room at the table for whoever showed up. The Mantz family now happily carries on the tradition today.

For me Thanksgiving is about love. It is a reminder that no matter what we face, God is good and will bring us through. 1 Thess. 5:18 says – *"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."* Sometimes the circumstances of our lives are not always the best. In fact, they may be downright bad. But we are still to look for something to be thankful for! God is faithful. God has given us life. God is available to us, cares for us and listens to us. God is a faithful God. The pilgrims toiled. It was a cold winter; folks had died, but they rejoiced in the harvest. They had an attitude of gratitude. The secret of thankfulness is that it changes us. It lifts our spirits. It is a tool to get us through when times are difficult. Pray and trust the Lord who will make all things well.

As a community of faith, we live in love and power because of God!! We stand in faith knowing that we are not alone. Life in this world is challenging but Jesus understands. He suffered and died on a rugged cross for us out of love to give us hope. Jesus rose again for us and reigns in glory. Give your life anew to Jesus. Have a Blessed November and a Happy Thanksgiving!

Blessings and Love in Christ,

Pastor Sandy

Being a Christian is like being a pumpkin. *God lifts you up, takes you in,* and washes all the dirt off of you. He opens you up, touches you deep inside and scoops out all the yucky stuff--including the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc. Then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside you to shine for all the world to see. This was passed on to me from another pumpkin. I liked this enough to send it to all the pumpkins in my patch.



P is for the People that Jesus came to save.
U is for the Unconditional love to each one He gave.
M is for the Message that we should all be sharing.
P is for the Priceless gift God above showed he is caring.
K is for the King of Kings.
I is for the Insight He brings.
N is for the Nails in His hands.
S is for our Savior who gave His life so we could stand.

UPCOMING EVENTS
November 2026



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

Craft Fair and Bake Sale: Sat. Nov.14th 9 am – 3pm

Charge Conference: 2 pm at Peekskill UMC.

Trim a Tree: Sunday, Nov. 29th following the service. There will be a signup sheet in the GP Room for anyone who can volunteer to plan a craft idea, bring the necessary craft supplies, and man the table.



Trustees: Monday, Nov. 2th at 7:30 pm on Zoom.

Ad Council: Wednesday, Nov 4th at 7 pm on Zoom.

Craft Group Meeting Dates:
Sat. Nov. 7th – 10 am
Craft Fair Set-up: Fri. Nov 13th, 5-7 pm

Craft Fair and Bake Sale: Sat. Nov.14th 9 am – 3pm

Education Meeting: Sunday, November 15th following worship.

Bowling Group: Weekly meetings are resuming Nov.1st and will meet Sundays at JV Lanes from 2-5 pm, all are welcome.



Birthdays

Albert Closi	11/2
Nigel Ferreira	11/3
Caroline Matthews	11/3
Ricky Haigh III	11/5
Daniel Pinto	11/5
Patricia Antonucci	11/7
Susan Closi	11/7
Anthony Supino Jr.	11/7
Craig Davis	11/8
Michelle Galecki	11/8
Carmery Battle	11/10
Donovan Matthews	11/10
Khloe Francis	11/11
Charlie Donadio	11/13
Iwy Yatri	11/13
Emily Galecki	11/15
Debra Ruth Mancusi	11/16
Theresa Aryee	11/17
Steven Speedling	11/19
Leslie Sutton	11/19
Grace Reynolds	11/20
Linda Drisko	11/21
Leo Gutowski	11/21
Dylan Matthews	11/21
Jessica Santoro	11/21
Michael Barnett Sr.	11/23
Jamen Cervini	11/27
Michele Squibb	11/28
Greyson Bucher	11/29
Marilyn Bucher	11/29



Anniversaries

Debra & Mike Mancusi	16
Jacqueline & Fernando Arias	17
Theresa & Augustus Aryee	20
Cherie & Locksley Philips	25

Sunday School Corner

"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth." ~3 John 1:4

It's hard to believe Thanksgiving is just around the corner! Here at our church, we have so many blessings for which we can thank our Lord. One blessing was the very successful **Trunk or Treat and Blessing of the Animals** event on October 25. Pastor Sandy blessed several excited pets, while children were able to go "trunk or treating" at some beautifully decorated cars. The children also painted pumpkins, and enjoyed some donuts and apple cider. The hayride through the cemetery was a real highlight. Many thanks to all of our volunteers for making the whole event possible, and especially to the Supino family for running the hayride.











Looking ahead, mark your calendars for **Trim-A-Tree** on **November 29**!!

So, as we prepare for Thanksgiving this year, let us remember all the ways our Lord blesses us and think of how we might share His blessings with others.

The Sunday School Teachers



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 (Sunf1ower777@gmail.com)

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. 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

If you have any updated information or new emergency contacts, please get in touch with Maxine Haigh, Marilyn Bucher or the church office.

OCTOBER 2026 EVENTS

Women's Tea











Baptisms





Trunk or Treat and Blessing the Animals



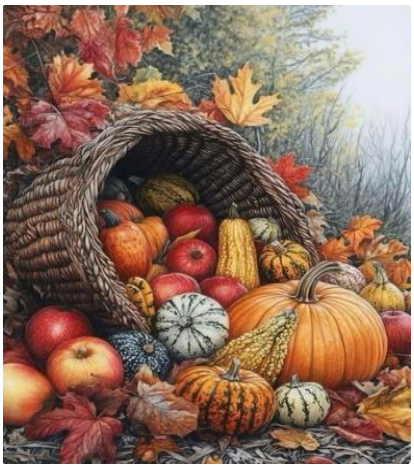










HARVEST BASKETS: We will be sponsoring our annual Harvest Basket outreach program to support those in our local community who may be in need this holiday season. If you'd like to donate, we accept non-perishable foods (as listed below) or monetary donations toward an ACME gift card intended for purchasing a Thanksgiving turkey. We kindly request all donations be received by, November 23rd. We also ask that you check the "best by" dates to ensure freshness for **Thanksgiving. The bags will be packed in the GP Room on that day for delivery. If you would like to gift a check or cash, please contact Kathy Casey at:** luminany@aol.com

Suggestions: Cranberry Sauce, Canned vegetables, Canned Yams, Boxes of Stuffing, Boxes/Pouches of Mashed Potatoes, Jars/Pouches of Gravy, Canned Fruit, Boxes/Pouches of Brownie, or Cookie Mix. We thank you in advance for your generosity and look forward to another year of this great mission.



Trim a Tree is Sunday, Nov. 29th following the service. There will be a signup sheet in the GP Room for anyone who can volunteer to plan a craft idea, bring the necessary craft supplies, and man the table.

Lectionary Scripture Readings



Sunday, November 1st **(All Saints Sunday)** Josh 3:7-17 Psalm 107:1-7,33-37 1 Thess 2:9-13 Matt 23:1-12	***Sunday, November 8th*** **(24th Sunday after Pentecost)** Josh 24:1-3a, 14-25 Psalm 78:1-7 1 Thess 4:13-18 Matt 25:1-13
Sunday, November 15th **(25th Sunday after Pentecost)** Judges 4:1-7 Psalm 123 1 Thess 5:1-11 Matt 25:14-30	***Sunday, October 22nd*** **(Christ the King Sunday)** Ezek 34:11-16 Psalm 100 Eph 1:15-23 Matt 25:31-46
Sunday, October 29th ***(1st Sunday of Advent)*** Isa 64:1-9 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 1 Cor 1:3-9 Mark 13:24-37	

November 2026

1 **All Saints Sunday** (White) **HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY** **10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary** **On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com**	**2** **Trustees Meeting** **7:30 pm-Zoom**	**3**	**4** **Ad Council Meeting** **7:30 pm-Zoom**	**5** **Prayer Group** **11:00 am** **Chapel** **Small Group 1** **1:00 pm** **Bible Study** **7:30pm ZOOM**	**6** **Small Group 2** **10:00 am** **Conference Call**	**7** **Men's Group** **8:00 am** **Small Group Leaders** **9:30 am** **Craft Group** **10:00**
8 24th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) **10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary** **On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com**	**9**	**10** **Bible Study** **10:00 am** **GP Room**	**11** **Veteran's Day**	**12** **Prayer Group** **11:00 am** **Chapel** **Small Group 1** **1:00 pm** **Bible Study** **7:30pm ZOOM**	**13** **Small Group 2** **10:00 am** **Conference Call**	**14** **Men's Group** **8:00 am** **Craft Fair/Bake Sale** **9-3 pm**
15 25th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) **10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary** **On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com**	**16** **Women's Meeting** **7 pm Zoom**	**17** **Bible Study** **10:00 am** **GP Room**	**18**	**19** **Prayer Group** **11:00 am** **Chapel** **Small Group 1** **1:00 pm** **Bible Study** **7:30pm ZOOM**	**20** **Small Group 2** **10:00 am** **Conference Call**	**21 Men's Group** **8:00 am** **Small Group Leaders** **9:30 am** **Charge Conf.** **2 pm Peeks. UMC**
22 Christ the King Sunday (Purple) **10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary** **On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com** **Thanksgiving Sunday**	**23**	**24** **Bible Study** **10:00 am** **GP Room**	**25**	**26** **Thanksgiving**	**27** **Small Group 2** **10:00 am** **Conference Call**	**28** **Men's Group** **8:00 am** **Decorate Sanct.**
29 1st Sunday of Advent (Purple) **10:30 am Worship, Sanctuary** **On-line Live Worship: www.umcso.com** **Trim a Tree following worship**	**30**					