



CLINTON

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

This past week was a violent week in America. In four separate incidents across the country, four individual shooters took the lives of 36 people and injured 65 others in public spaces. Two of the four shooters died as well.

I need you to hear three things very clearly.

God hurts. This kind of deadly violence is not God's plan or will; it's the very opposite of it. And it greatly grieves God!

God cares. God's healing presence is working in the lives of people affected including: those who've lost loved ones, those recovering from injuries, first responders and health care workers involved, the alleged shooters and their families, and the community at large. Please continue to pray for all those affected.

God can. God can, and is working, to do something. But in God's wisdom, we human beings are asked to partner with God to change the violent reality that too often dominates the news cycle. The outcome of this partnership depends on all of us.

"What can I do that would make any difference?" Do no harm! Start with the words you speak. Words matter! They can bring harm or healing. That's true in national politics, school playground politics, and everywhere in between. Partner with God by doing no harm, and start with the words you speak. It can change you and those around you. Imagine what might happen!

We're headed back to our "Keeping the Dream Alive" series. Joseph's stuck in an Egyptian prison, but God's dream is alive and well! I can't wait to gather with you for Sunday worship at 8:15 or 10:30 a.m.! See you then.

Your partner on the journey, Pastor Steve

Daily Bible Reading and Prayer

Sunday: Psalm 13:1-6

Pray for the faith to trust in God's faithful love and presence in your life.

Monday: Isaiah 65:17-25

Be thankful for God's plan for a new future in your life and world!

Tuesday: Mark 8:22-26

Pray for patience to allow Christ's healing and clarity to work in you.

Wednesday: Romans 12:1-2

Pray for God's power to transform you into the new creation God has in mind.

Thursday: 1 Corinthians 13:8-13

Thank God for the certain clarity that is to come through faith in Christ.

Friday: Genesis 41:1-32

Remember, and rely on, God's power to help discern and guide.

Saturday: Genesis 41:33-57

How might God be putting you in a place to do greater good?



Sunday Assistants

Office Host:
Patty Moore

Gathering Music:
8:15—Frances Harvey
10:30—David Cummings

8:15 Song Leader:
Gary Dubina

8:15 Nursery:
Susan Hutcherson

8:15 Ushers:
The Harrison family

8:15 Greeters:
Ralph & Linda Sites

Continental Breakfast:
Jim & Sandi Cox

10:30 Ushers:
Fred & Carolyn
McAllister

10:30 Greeters:
Janet Mansfield &
Adele Bernard

Bus Driver: Rocky Austin

Splash Bash Tonight!

It's time to cool down and celebrate summer with a pool party!! Grab your family and join us tonight, August 8th from 5:30 to 7:30 at the Artesian Park Outdoor Pool. The church will provide pizza, fruit, water and a treat! We can't wait to see you there!



UMW to Meet—Everyone Invited!

The United Methodist Women will meet this Friday, August 9th at 9:00 AM. Their program will be a speaker from the Rainbow Network, so if **anybody** would like to hear more about this program, please join the group for this presentation!

Also mark your calendars for the next Harvester's road trip on Friday, September 13th. A sign up sheet will be posted in the coming weeks.

Prayer-A-Van

Our church bus will head out on Sunday, August 18th at 5PM. You are invited to join us for a caravan of prayer to our schools. The group will leave the church at 5 pm and travel together to each school in our community to pray for the students, teachers and administrators as they prepare to begin the new school year.

Meet the Pastor

More opportunities for people to gather in homes and meet the new Pastor, Steve! Sign up sheets are in the Green Room for some September/October dates. Call the office if you can't make it in to sign up!

Coming Up!

Thursday, August 8th
5:30—Splash Bash at the Pool

6:00—Trustees Meeting

Friday, August 9th
9:00—UMW

Sunday, August 11th
8:15—Early Worship
9:00—Fellowship Time
9:30—Sunday School
10:30—Late Worship

Tuesday, August 13th
8:30—Pickleball
5:15 pm—Pickleball

Thursday, August 15th
8:30—Pickleball

Sunday, August 18th
Back to School Blessings
8:15—Early Worship
9:00—Fellowship Time
9:30—Sunday School
10:30—Late Worship
5:00—Prayer-A-Van

Call the church office for more information about any calendar items!

Prayers are needed for:

Connie Briggs, Richard McQuitty, Charlsie Shoemaker, Ted Bolich, Loyd Zehnder, Maxine Evans, Jill Bernard, Wilbur Slocum, Rachel Wooten, Kim Kimbrell, Olivia Svehla, Kent Summers, Mary Nold, Ben Doup, Betsy Owens, Matt Palmer, Danny Miles, Steve Winther, Karen Partridge, Jeremy Thomas, Jim Bilbruck, Jarrod Boyles, Donny Burton, Tom Ross, Caroline Wilson, Melvin Dennis, Sharlene Wirsig, Jean Ann Sidwell, Margie Best, Rick Wolf, Mike Lester, Rosie Banfield



Building Project Update



Our "Forward in Faith" financial campaign is completed, with current commitments standing at \$1,875,000. A total of \$695,335 of those commitments has already been received. Thank you for your generous support of Clinton UMC's mission by investing in the ministry resource of our building!

The Building Committee is beginning to work with the architect to finalize the remodeling/new construction design and cost plan. The process of selecting a general contractor is also starting. Finally, the Committee is working to develop a recommendation for the project's final financing package. Please keep the Building Committee in your prayers!

The final plan for the project, including the financing package, will be approved by the Church's membership at a formal meeting. This Church Conference will be held later this year. The Committee's desire is to move through this final decision-making process by mid-November.

If you have questions about the building project, please contact Building Committee chairperson Dave Garnett (660-351-2966) or Pastor Steve Blacksher (steveblacksher@clintonumc.org, 660-525-4422).



Safe Sanctuary

Do you volunteer with our children's programs? Nursery, Sunday School, Youth, Angelus Choir? If so, you must be Safe Sanctuary certified. Talk to Jennifer Kiely for more information.

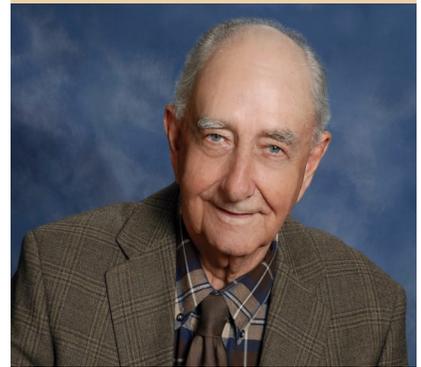
Early Childhood Enrichment

Do you know a mom/dad that needs a break? Our Early Childhood Enrichment (ECE) program starts in September 4th and 5th as a 2 or 4 day program for 2-4 year olds! The program is M/W or T/TH, from 8:30-11:30 A kid-friendly environment with 2 teachers and small class sizes. Chances for indoor gym and outdoor play, crafts, music, snacks, and even a few letters and numbers! They learn to follow directions, play nice with others and function in a group setting.

Cost is \$70 per month, with a price break for 4-day or more than 1 child. Call the office for more information 885-5597. Fill out the registration form and bring it to the church office to reserve a spot before it fills up!



Schedule your photography session



Lifetouch Picture Directory Sign Ups This Sunday!

Since it's been over 3 years since our last pictorial directory and we've had so many changes in our church, we thought it would be time for a new one! Every person/family that gets their picture taken gets a free 8x10 and a free directory. You can buy more pictures if you want, but that's not required. Photo sessions will be September 18th-21st. The cool thing is that YOU can sign up now using the link on our webpage. (I put the link in the email for you!) We will start signing up people on Sundays at church this Sunday, August 11th. We want everyone to be part of this useful directory.

Time for a new picture!



Jamaica Mission Trip

August 12th is the date to sign-up for this mission trip. The trip dates are January 26 through February 2, 2020. The cost is \$1,000. You will need to take a \$100 deposit in to the First Baptist Church office starting August 12th.



The trip will involve working with teens, children, babies, special needs and older adults living in facilities. They will do crafts with them and love on them. There will also be some light construction at those facilities as well as in the town where they stay. No specific skills needed other than being able to do stairs to get to the second floor where they stay. The trip is somewhat designed around those who sign up as far as how much construction they do. They do expect the trip to fill up quickly, so if people are interested in going, they will want to sign up quickly once signups open up.

Festival of Sharing – 2019 and UMW Challenge



Our focus this year will be on collecting hygiene kits to be distributed through Church World Service to those in need. A list of items is available at church. **UMW Women challenge everyone to participate in this program as they are all participating!**

We will also be raising funds to purchase the PETs (mobility carts for those unable to walk). If you've not seen one of these carts I urge you to go to their website, www.festivalofsharing.org and see what a difference they have made in people's lives.

There will be a box in the green room for collection of the hygiene kits, and if you can help with a donation for the PETs please indicate "Festival of Sharing" on your check and turn it in to the office. Please have your kits or checks to the church before September 25th.

Carolyn McAllister, Outreach Committee Chair

Back to School Year Dates

Mark your calendars for the following back to school events here at church.



Back to School Blessing—Sunday, August 18th—both services—a blessing for students and all school staff people.

Prayer—A—Van—Sunday, August 18th at 5pm

Youth starts Wednesday, September 4th

ECE starts Wednesday and Thursday, September 4th and 5th

Angelus Choir starts Wednesday, September 11th (changed from last week)

Look for some new studies/groups starting up too! Call the office for more information on any of these items.

Learner's Bell Choir

You are invited every Monday night from 5:15-6:00 to Learner's Bell Choir. The purpose is to enjoy playing music even if you do not read music! After 2-3 meetings, we are already playing "Amazing Grace" with bells and chimes.



We've had several players recovering from injuries. We are fortunate a couple new players are joining us at Learner Bells and a couple seasoned players come to fill in the melody and bass!

If you used to be in Bell Choir and would like to just play for fun, this is your opportunity. No one in Learner Bells has to play in a church service. I'm so pleased that we are continuing Learner Bells again.

Please join us Mondays from 5:15-6:00 upstairs across the hall from the balcony. Regular bell practice will begin September 2nd from 6:00-7:00.

Jean Graham, Bell Director