

July 16th, 2020



CLINTON

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A few weeks ago, I was having a random conversation about all the usual stuff: COVID-19, economic downturn, racial injustice, how different things are. The person I was talking to pondered out loud, “I wonder what God is up to in all of this?” It was a good question.

Full disclosure here, I don’t believe that COVID-19 is God’s fault. I don’t believe that it was God’s will George Floyd was killed. I don’t believe that a person losing their job is part of God’s higher purpose. I don’t believe God enjoys us being anxious, or afraid in the midst of change. But I do believe that God is at work in all things, constantly working for our good.

So, what is God up to in all of this? I don’t know for sure yet. But I am certain of one thing; in “all of this,” God is up to something new!

Our next “Front Yard Conversation” will be on Tuesday, July 28, at 7:00 p.m. We’ll gather in the front yard of our church campus where there’s plenty of shade and room to “social distance.” This will be “BYOLC” event (bring your own lawn chair). As we share and listen to each other, the main thing I’d like to talk about is “How do you see God at work in all of this?”

I look forward to our conversation on July 28. If you’re not able to attend, please feel free to call, text, or email and let me know how you see God at work.

I also believe God is at work when the church gathers for worship, so I look forward to gathering with you this Sunday whether that’s in-person, online, or on the radio.

Your partner on the journey,

Pastor Steve

Next Week’s Scripture Readings:

Sunday, Psalm 8:1-9

Be thankful that you are created by God for a unique and special purpose.

Monday, Genesis 28:10-22

Be thankful that no matter where your journey takes you, God desires good for you.

Tuesday, Psalm 139:1-12

Pray that you can know God’s presence wherever you are.

Wednesday, Matthew 6:25-34

Pray that in all life’s circumstances, you keep seeking God’s kingdom.

Thursday, Hebrews 12:1-2

Pray for the wisdom and courage to stay focused on Jesus, no matter what.

Friday, Philippians 4:10-13

No matter the circumstances, pray for Christ’s strength and peace.

Saturday, Romans 8:18-28

Be thankful for the preferred future God is working out for you.

Sock and Underwear Fund Drive - Last Week to Donate!

In prior years, we've collected socks and underwear for students in need that were distributed at the Bright Future Back-to-School Fair. This year is a little different. They are still having the Back-to-School Fair but they are asking for monetary donations for the socks and underwear so you don't have to shop and handle packages! Make a separate check to the church and mark it "Socks" and we'll get the money to Bright Futures. Monetary donations are needed on or before July 19th, so don't delay!



Scholarships to be Presented



This Sunday, June 19th after the late service, we will present the 2020 Scholarships. Presentations will be made in the shade of our front lawn. Congratulations to these recipients of the following \$1,000 scholarships.

Megan Swaters—The Ethel T. Kunkler Methodist Scholarship
Natalie Wagoner—The Sarah Margaret Gilbert Scholarship
Peyton Kiely—The Bettyrae Fluke Memorial Scholarship
Alaina Pogue—The Marvin Fluke Memorial Scholarship
Zach Jones—The Ola Barnett Scholarship
Victoria Hager—The Don Broyles Scholarship
Macey Mitchell—The Nancy Setley Memorial Scholarship
Abbie Dameron—The Suzetta Braun Busby Memorial Scholarship
Andy Pogue—The W.E. "Buddy" Braun Memorial Scholarship

In addition, the remaining Ola Barnett Scholarship was divided among all recipients and they will receive an additional \$100.

A special thank you to all those past and present who have made these scholarships possible for the young adults in our church. And a big thank you to all church members for what you've done through the years to love and support these students as they grew up in the church.

Thank You!

Thank you for your generous donation to the Literacy Council of Clinton. We are using this money to help purchase books for the "Back to School Fair". Thank you for your dedication to children's literacy in our community.

Vivian Taylor, President, Literacy Council of Clinton

Sunday Services!

We have re-opened our church building for "in-person" worship and will continue. There will be two worship services (8:15 a.m. and 10:30 am). Right now, the building will not be open for any other church activities.

If you plan to attend worship with us "in-person" on Sunday, please contact the church office by noon on Friday to let us know if you will be attending the 8:15 or 10:30 service (660-885-5597 or email office@clintonumc.net). Due to social distancing requirements, limited seating is available.

If you are not feeling well or have health issues putting you at risk with COVID-19, we ask that you please stay home and continue worshipping with us virtually. We will continue to offer the 8:15 worship service online on our Facebook page (@UMMClintonMO) and on the radio (KDKD 95.3 FM).

Prayers are needed for:

Caroline Wilson,
Melvin Dennis,
& Tom Ross





The Tech Team Keeps Online Viewers in Touch

What began as a necessity from humble beginnings, our online service has blossomed into a top quality video production! Our video system has been ramped up with new gear and cameras so that our Facebook Live viewers are getting an enhanced video service with items such as hymn words, prayers and sermon slides to help you “join in” from home. We know some people aren’t ready to come back to in-person worship (that’s ok!), so we are glad to offer this option for them!

We’ve learned a lot in a couple months and this will help us when we finally open up the new worship center! So check us out on Facebook Live each Sunday at 8:15 @ UMCCClintonMO (even non-Facebook users can watch!) Facebook users—make sure to leave a comment to let us know who’s watching at home! Thanks to the Missouri United Methodist Foundation for a grant we received to help fund some of this equipment and also to the Trustees who had the thought and vision to make this happen!

Great is thy faithfulness,
O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not,
thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been,
thou forever wilt be.

See the possibility
of God’s grace...
and embrace it!

**Who’s
the King**

Deadline
July 19th!

Donate money for socks and underwear
for kids in need!
See newsletter or website for more details!



Sunday, July 19th

8:15—In Person Worship

8:15—Facebook Live and
KDKD

10:30—In Person Worship

11:30—Scholarship Presenta-
tions on Lawn

Contact Us

We are here to help, so please contact us if you need anything!

Here’s how to get in contact with the church staff so we can help you! Steve, Jennifer and Sam work limited hours at their offices but still mostly at home.

Office—**Kathy Garnett**—

at 602 S. 3rd Street

660-885-5597

office@clintonumc.net

Pastor—**Steve Blacksher**—

660-525-4422

steveblacksher@clintonumc.net

Music—**Sam Lucas**—

660-351-4555

samlucas@clintonumc.net

Youth—**Jennifer Kiely**—

660-924-3926

jenniferkiely@clintonumc.net