

August 13, 2020



# CLINTON

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

“This is weird, but it’s what we need to do right now.”

I’ve found myself saying this a lot during the COVID-19 pandemic. In all of this here at Clinton UMC, we’re leaning into Jesus’ teaching to love God and others well. We’re being guided by our Wesleyan heritage that tells us to: 1) do no harm, 2) do good, and 3) attend to all the means of grace. We’re following the recommendations of the CDC and our state and local health officials as best we can.

Despite the many changes and restrictions, I’ve seen our church live creatively into the mission “to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!” The youth group, small groups, a Sunday School class, and church committees have met outside. Our online ministry now includes video conferenced meetings, Facebook videos, and live-streaming worship. Our Connections Team, Congregational Care Team, and others are reaching out to people by phone.

Last Sunday we celebrated Holy Communion with pre-sealed individual wafers and grape juice cups both in worship and a drive through format. We also celebrated as six young people publicly professed faith in Christ; face masks, social distancing, and an online congregation included. I’ve never seen a Confirmation service like it! And I felt the power of the Holy Spirit at work!

I firmly believe that our church can successfully come out on the other side of COVID-19, by figuring out the new things to start and keep doing to better make disciples of Jesus! And I’m catching a glimpse of what some of those new things might just look like!

Can’t wait to gather with you for worship this Sunday in-person, online, or on the radio!

Your partner on the journey, Pastor Steve

### Next Week’s Scripture Readings:

Sunday: Matthew 5:43-48

Pray for the faith and courage to love your enemies.

Monday: Genesis 37:1-11

Pray for God’s strength when tempted with hatred, envy, or jealousy.

Tuesday: Genesis 37:12-28

Pray to know God’s presence in times of suffering.

Wednesday: Romans 11:25-36

Pray to know the depths of God’s wisdom and knowledge.

Thursday: James 1:1-8

Pray for faith and endurance in times of testing.

Friday: Matthew 14:22-33

Pray for the faith to hear Jesus’ call and step out of the boat.

Saturday: Psalm 133:1-3

Pray for God’s love and unity in your family.

## Christmas Cheer in August

Since everything in 2020 is different, we are doing blankets a little different this year! More people than ever before will be needing help, so let's start early and get those blanket donations coming in. Blankets are still \$8 each and checks can be made payable to the church and marked "Blankets" in the memo or you can give on the website as an option in the online Vanco giving.



## Bishop Farr Bike Ride



Are you a motorcycle enthusiast? Join Missouri Bishop Bob Farr Sept 19-20 as he travels around the Missouri Conference on his motorcycle in support of the Mozambique Initiative. If you would like to participate in this motorcycle trek across the state, please register so that you can receive updates and information about the

journey. <https://mzinitiative.com/moto-rally/>

## Congratulations to Our Recent Confirmands!

Jennifer Kiely is so proud of these 6 young adults—congratulate them when you see them—Maddison Goodloe, Kenadie Austin, Sean Miles, Ethan Johns, Brandt Henrich, and Isaac Duncan.



## Thank You!

Dear Church Family—We would like to thank you for selecting us for the Church scholarships. Your kindness and support through the years is very appreciated.—Andy & Alaina Pogue

Dear Church Family—Thank you for choosing me to be the recipient of a church scholarship. I'm grateful for the opportunity to further my education. It is a blessing to be a member of such a caring and generous congregation. Sincerely, Natalie Wagoner

Dear Church Friends—I want to thank who sent birthday cards to me! I don't know if I feel 80 years old, because I don't feel any older than I did last year! I am blessed to be part of such a wonderful church! Bessie Thomas

## Contact Us

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  
sam lucas@clintonumc.net

Youth—**Jennifer Kiely**—  
660-924-3926  
jenniferkiely@clintonumc.net

**Clinton UMC Connect—  
660-851-1341**

**It's new number and it's here for you to use** to connect with us during Sunday worship whether you are in-person, online, or on the radio. Radio listeners can text messages to this number and let us know they are listening, and opportunities to respond to Steve's thoughts and questions via text messages will arise during the Sunday service. Connect with us!

## Prayers are needed for:

Please pray for Deborah Elrod and her family in the death of her step-father Raymond Frost.  
Prayers also for Mike Sites, Caroline Wilson, Melvin Dennis, and Tom Ross

