

The United Methodist Church of Antioch

THE MESSENGER

“The mission of the United Methodist Church of Antioch is to grow in faith, worship God following the teachings of Jesus Christ, and be instruments of God’s love, through the Holy Spirit, as we reach out to our community and the world.”

November, 2023
Volume 7, Issue 10

FROM PASTOR KATIE’S KEYBOARD...

Thank you all for the lovely cards and gifts that people have given for **Pastor’s Appreciation Month!** I am so thankful to be appointed here, serving Christ with all of you. I am thankful for the ways you all look forward, trying to be more faithful today than you were yesterday, and holding



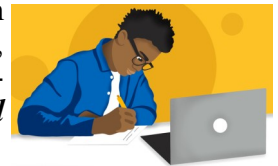
room that tomorrow will still be another opportunity for growth. Together, we will continue to work in God’s strength to create glimpses of God’s Kin-dom in our world today. We are currently in the middle of our stewardship sermon series. I think this is an interesting series because we are looking at ways we can revitalize our church using Wesleyan ideas. We are called to be good stewards with all that God gives us – our time, our money, our gifts, our whole lives – because it all is a gift. How we respond to this generous gift is about our discipleship, it is about who we are as Christians, as Wesleyan Christians. In October we looked at the importance of the Living Word, and Saving Faith. November will find us looking at the importance of Holistic Spirituality, Accountable Discipleship, Formative Worship, and Missional Vocation. **Paul Chilcote** first wrote about these areas for Wesleyan Renewal in 2002, and most recently he finished a book that revisits these ideas while he was leading the pilgrimage I was on this summer. His new book, *Multiplying Love*, looks at these same 6 ideas in the wake of the current circumstances of The United Methodist Church, with many annual conferences seeing large percentage of their churches leave the denomination. I commend the book to you – and invite you to a conference-wide book study with the author on Monday, November 6 at 1pm via Zoom. You can find out more information and



register at: <https://www.umcnic.org/calendar/multiplying-love-presentation>. That last Sunday in November also brings a couple other opportunities. You will be invited to turn in your pledge cards that Sunday, as well as having the opportunity to participate in **United Methodist Student Day** – one of the six Special Sundays of The United Methodist Church. The giving from this day goes to the broadest allocation of scholarships that the denomination offers, both to undergraduate and graduate students. I look forward to worshipping with you as we close out this liturgical year. And, in December we will start the church year preparing for the arrival of Christ! (Wow...maybe I shouldn’t have put that in print... it seems like time is moving too fast, as it is!)

register at: <https://www.umcnic.org/calendar/multiplying-love-presentation>. That last Sunday in November also brings a couple other opportunities.

You will be invited to turn in your pledge cards that Sunday, as well as having the opportunity to participate in **United Methodist Student Day**



– one of the six Special Sundays of The United Methodist Church. The giving from this day goes to the broadest allocation of scholarships that the denomination offers, both to undergraduate and graduate students. I look forward to worshipping with you as we close out this liturgical year. And, in December we will start the church year preparing for the arrival of Christ! (Wow...maybe I shouldn’t have put that in print... it seems like time is moving too fast, as it is!)

- November 5 1 Thessalonians 5:9-22
Wesleyan Renewal: Holistic Spirituality
All Saints Sunday
Holy Communion
- November 12 1 Corinthians 12:12-26
Wesleyan Renewal: Accountable Discipleship
- November 19 1 Chronicles 16:23-36
Wesleyan Renewal: Formative Worship
- November 26 Matthew 25:31-46
Wesleyan Renewal: Missional Vocation
Reign of Christ Sunday
United Methodist Student Sunday;
Pledge Card Sunday

Pastor Katie

ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE

I came across a humorous quote from a book entitled, *I Have Spoken, An American History Through the Voices of the Indians*, published in 1971. As with most satirical, (or serious) humor, it makes a point. "I would say that we discovered the white man, too. At that time we hadn't known that there was land across the sea, so I think by the same token that next time I go to England or Italy, I intend to take a flag and plant it and claim it for my Indian people, because, after all, it would be the first time that I had ever seen it, so therefore I would discover it." Sometimes "discovery" is only in the mind the discoverer. May you all have a grateful blessed Thanksgiving.



Michael DeBenedetto

GRATITUDE WESLEYEN RENEWAL

During this fall season we are thankful for the many gifts God has given us. I am also thankful for the many new members who have joined us this year. We look forward to the people coming who hopefully will be members soon. God has been generous in providing life needs during the time of world strife. We should share that generosity with our church, so we can continue to provide the many ministries with which our church is involved. The theme of our gratitude campaign is *Wesleyan Renewal*. Pastor Katie will be sharing many of her experiences from her summer studies. We hope to create a culture of generosity that touches every person in our church. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow. Let's all join together and show our generosity!!



Ken Graesser, Gratitude Committee

MISSIONS

Missions Committee

The next meeting of the Missions Committee will be on November 19th after the second service.

Carol Cichonski



MORE ON MISSIONS

Wow! It was just summer and now we are thinking about the upcoming holidays. We are a church based in Missions. Below are some opportunities with which to get involved:



Kids Above All

The Kids Above All Holiday Gift Drive is just around the corner. Starting November 5th and on November 12th, you can pick a child's name to sponsor, before and after services. Gifts need to be \$50.00, so all kids are receiving like valued items. Please stop and pick a child to sponsor for the holiday season. Gifts need to be returned to church on November 14th, unwrapped, and with the child's name attached. You might want to go together with someone and sponsor a child as a team. Thank you for supporting God's children this holiday season.



Judy Degand

United Methodist Student Sunday

November 26th is United Methodist Student Sunday which celebrates the local Christian educational ministries through the *Annual Conference*. In 2022, we as members of UMC in the United States gave \$224,000 to fund over 70 scholarships. These donations provided scholarships for undergraduate, graduate, or doctoral level programs for United Methodist students. Every dollar – **yes 100%** - received goes towards supporting and educating a new generation of principled Christian leaders for the church and the world. Supporting this special Sunday is truly an investment in our future. Look for special envelopes or mark your regular donation envelope with *United Methodist Student Sunday*.



Christmas Cookie Walk

This year's cookie sale will be on December 9th. Watch for more details, but it's never too early to start looking at recipes.



United Voices for Children Sunday

December 31st, as all fifth Sundays in months with five Sundays, NIC Fund #778 -

PADS Collection

This will take place in January, 2024. We'll review their needs closer to the collection time.

MORE ON MISSIONS

UMCOR—War in Israel/Gaza

We are saddened by the significant loss of life caused by the ongoing violence in this region.



UMCOR is processing a grant for one humanitarian aid partner and is in communication with others to determine how

best to deliver desperately needed food and emergency supplies to the many innocent victims of this crisis. You can give to UMCOR's international disaster response and recovery efforts at: <https://advance.umcmission.org/p-641-umcor-international-disaster-response-and-recovery.aspx>.



Caps and Lids



Thank you to everyone who has donated caps and lids for different nonprofits to make benches. Starting November 1st, I will no longer be collecting caps and lids.

Sally Rodgers

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

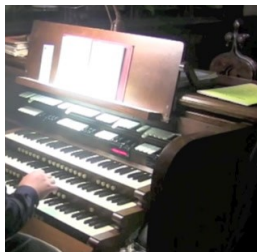
Our *UMCA Youth* were busy in October getting the church's new handbells ready to be put into service! They did a great job polishing the bells, making them shine in time for the first handbell choir rehearsal. Kids and teens are invited to join us on Sundays at 9:15 am in the Youth Room!



Elisa Gueffier

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

November brings us our first of three upcoming organ concerts showcasing our organ. *Keith Lencho* returns with a performance on November 11th, Veterans Day. Keith intertwines his performances with very interesting tidbits about the music, the history of its origins, and relevance to the present. His ability to play complex works completely from memory is impressive. The organ concert begins at 11:00 am, runs for about 45 minutes and is followed by refreshments and fellowship.



Save the date...December 9 will be our next concert with *Kay Sutton*.

MORE ON MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Invite neighbors and friends! November 5th and November 19th will see the continuance of our handbell choir rehearsals from 11:45 to 12:30 in the Music Room. We had a fantastic opening rehearsal in October and yes, the handbell choir is still open to additional ringers. I am delighted that I need to add an additional table and more bells. All ages 6th



grade and above are welcome and our current membership is certainly multi-age. During our first rehearsal we learned how to ring, and we were successful in playing our first piece as we are preparing to play in worship services in *Advent*. Many thanks to the youth and their leaders for their great work polishing the bells. The bells not only sound wonderful; they are beautiful!

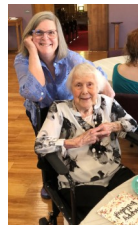
UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH

United Women In Faith of Antioch will be hosting the *Madrigal Singers* from the *Antioch High School District 117* conducted by *Mr. Hickley*. The traditional event is open to all and begins at 1:00 pm on Wednesday, December 6th in the Sanctuary of United Methodist Church of Antioch. Refreshments for the singers will be served during the meet and greet with the talented group following the Madrigal Christmas Concert.

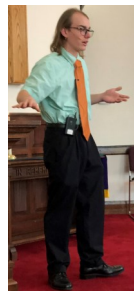


The next UWF meeting is Wednesday, November 1 with "bring your own lunch" at 11:45 am and the meeting to follow at 12:30 pm. Please join us as we celebrate what being thankful is all about!

HAPPY 100th RUTH!



GUEST PREACHER ALEX!



OUR CROP WALK TEAM

The United Methodist Church of Antioch
848 Main Street
Antioch, IL 60002
Office: 847/395-1259
Pastor: Rev. Katie Voigt
Office Email: umc.antioch@att.net
Website: umcantioch.org
Like us on Facebook:
United Methodist Church of Antioch

Our regular in-person worship schedule is Sunday mornings at 8:00 am and 10:30 am. We also go live on our **Facebook** page. The link for the recorded service can be found on our website at umcantioch.org. Please join us in person or online for worship!

[Jesus said] “the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.”

John 14: 26

The Holy Spirit embodies the life force of the universe, the power of God, the animating energy present in all things and captured by none. Therefore we pray:

May the gifts of the Holy Spirit bring fire to the earth so that the presence of God may be seen in a new light, in new places, in new ways. May our own hearts burst into flame so that no obstacle, no matter how great, ever obstructs the message of God within each of us. May we come to trust the Word of God in our heart, to speak it with courage, to follow it faithfully and to fan it to flame in others. May the Jesus who filled [all kinds of people] with his Holy Spirit fill the world and the church with new respect for [all people’s value], power, and presence.

Give us, Great God, a sense of the Breath of Spirit within us as we pray for our church, our community, our Christian Education department, and ... (*State the goal in your own life at this time for which you are praying.*) —**Sister Joan Chittister**