

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALM SPRINGS

THE MESSENGER

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Power to the People

I love teaching the history of United Methodism! And I especially enjoy inviting folks to consider who we are and why we are, based on the time and place of our birth: 18th Century England.



What was going on then and there?

It was “The Age of the Common Man.”

It was “The Age of Reason.”

It was a time of revolution and democracy.

It was a time when regular folks rose up to declare they could control their own destinies; they didn’t need heads of state...or church...telling them what to think and what to do.

Methodism began as a reform movement inside the Anglican church and was wholly lay-driven. John Wesley established classes of congregants who desperately wanted a lively spiritual life, something not to be attained with the higher-ups of the current Church of England. Wesley created a rigorous “method” of spiritual practice that folks could do on their own and with the encouragement of one another.

Early Methodists even regularly preached among themselves! Sure, Sunday morning was dedicated to worship at the nearby Anglican cathedral because there you could partake of Holy Communion, consecrated by the priest. But otherwise, Methodists received as much, if not more, from the scriptural reflections of one another, which were offered in other worship services throughout the week; and, once the movement moved to the US and Methodism became its own denomination, on Sunday’s when an ordained Methodist Circuit Rider was not in attendance (he would visit each of the congregations in his circuit only about once every three months).

Things have changed, in my opinion, for both better and worse since those early days. We are, in 21st Century Methodism, blessed with great preaching and worship leading from many a great ordained pastor. However, it’s always important...and most wonderful...to return to those very rich roots of our early days and claim our belief that it’s through the experiences and ideas of the whole of our community that we truly grow in love, and grow in God through Christ.

I am very excited that next Sunday, October 21, is “Laity Sunday.” A quartet of thoughtful, inspired folks from our congregation will share a brief reflection on a favorite scripture text. We will discover how much we have to learn from one another, and, I believe, gain even deeper appreciation for the very special Body of Christ we are and continue to more faithfully be.

Power to the People!

Pastor Jane

TRUNK OR TREAT IS BACK!

The Christian Education Team is hosting Trunk or Treat this Halloween! Start brainstorming your costumes and car decorations! The event will be held on Wednesday, October 31st from 5 to 7 pm in the west parking lot of the church. We are hoping for about twenty cars to fill the parking lot. This is a great chance to hang out with your friends from church, make some new friends, and pass out candy.



Email admin@umcps.org if you are interested in participating.

CELEBRATING ALL SAINTS DAY ON OCTOBER 28TH



In the past, the church has celebrated All Saints Day on the first Sunday in November. This year, due to the number of people who will be participating in the Pride Parade and Festival, we will be celebrating on Sunday, October 28th. This is a wonderful opportunity as a church family to honor family and friends and remember their part in our lives.

Please let the church office know of any names you would like to be lifted up during the worship service.

HOW TO: USING THE COMMUNICATION CARDS EFFECTIVELY

These cards that have been keeping your seat warm in the sanctuary are our communication cards- a card for folks to fill out when they would like to connect with the church and receive information about some of the programs and opportunities available. There is also a space on the back of the card for prayer requests.

These communication cards have taken the place of the red books. We hope that newcomers will fill out these cards, and our regular attenders will only fill these out to update their contact information or prayer requests. This card does not need to be filled out weekly!

We have already received some wonderful responses and information from folks that the red books just did not facilitate. We look forward to finding new ways to connect and communicate with each other in the future!



GETTING TO A HAPPY PLACE



Cynthia A. Bond Hopson writing about 'defining happiness' says that happy people tend to naturally, "serve others and possess a set of traits that are fairly easy to define and list." Some of the 19 traits she lists:

- Living in community
- Mentoring & sharing what they know & have
- Living & giving generously & benevolently to others
- Befriending & learning from children & the elderly
- Challenging themselves daily to live beyond expectations
-

She also notes that happiness is linked to understanding that we must first be true to God to discover and receive happiness rather than seeking it in secular realms.

These traits are shared by members of the Care Team as they strive to live out Christian caring in our church community. There are many opportunities to reach out to our broad community through a variety of personal contacts - greeting visitors, writing, phoning, personal visits, and prayer.

The Care Team meets to share and plan on the 4th Thursday of the month at 4:00 p.m. - next meeting is October 25. Come and see if this may be your route to a Happy Place.

Annette Funk, Care Team Captain

Prepare to Set Sail!

It's time to get excited about your church, so get ready to come aboard the Steward-Ship Campaign 2019.

There are many different ways that we can give to God-through our gifts, talents, time, and our efforts to move towards tithing. Giving to God supports worshiping where ALL are welcome, feeding the hungry, fighting against social injustice, teaching Jesus' love, and making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Prepare to set sail October 21st for a cruise into the adventure of giving, officially docking on November 18th.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

October 16- Hapi Veikune
 October 19- Juan Gutierrez
 October 19- Linda Rudolph
 October 20- Dick Zinnert
 October 21- Vicki Nyi
 October 22- Patsy Crouser
 October 23- Cathy Dykstra
 October 28- Tina Stormont
 October 31- Lin Manuel

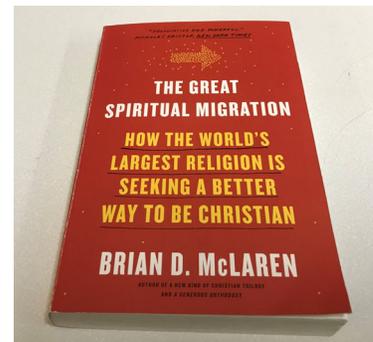


SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE HAS BEGUN!

Sunday Night Live, the book study group of the church, had its first meeting on Sunday, October 7th.

There are about 13 folks reading through *The Great Spiritual Migration* by Brian D. McLaren together. There were 8 people at the first session, with room for more! There are a couple of books available for purchase in the church office.

If you love to read and discuss opinions and ideas with others, then this is the group for you! See you Sunday night at 5 pm in the Christian Education building.



AIDS WALK 2018



Grab your favorite walking shoes and come join a group of friends from church who will be walking in the AIDS Walk!

Several members of the church will be participating in the 31st annual Desert AIDS Walk this Saturday, October 20th at Ruth Hardy Park at 8 am. In addition to the walk, there will also be a health and wellness festival at the park with food and entertainment.

If you would like to join the fun and walk with us, please contact Doug Oostdyk at 616-915-9924 or d.oostdyk@outlook.com. Walkers of all levels and ages are welcome to join. We will be wearing our awesome tie-dye church shirts.

THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



The United Methodist Women (UMW for short) had their first meeting of the fall on October 3rd. The group had 4 visitors, including Anne Solomon of Twenty Nine Palms who led a discussion on 'hats'- more specifically, how women of the church wear different hats and fulfill many different roles

in the church, at home, and in the community. As a fun exercise, the ladies each received a small straw hat on which they wrote the different 'hats' that they wear. The meeting ended with a delightful lunch and fellowship time.

The United Methodist Women meet the first Wednesday of the month at 10 am at the church to be in relationship with each other and God and to work toward being in mission with the community and the world. Any and all are welcome to attend the next meeting on November 7th.

Vera Glur, President of the UMW

UPDATE OF KITCHEN REMODEL

The remodel taking place in the kitchen is moving right along! This week there has been plumbing and electrical work, the cabinet faces have been refinished, the wallboard is up, and the old flooring has been removed. The project is moving forward nicely!

For those who are providing for coffee/fellowship time, please keep in mind the limited use of facilities. Food brought will be served from the container it was brought in. Let's keep it simple!

THANK YOU!!!

A big thank you to YOU! September 30th's birthday celebration (my 60th and Jack Davis' 90th) was more special than words can say. Your generosity in creating a fund for day bus passes for our homeless community was fantastic! We now can add this to the service we can offer the needful in our neighborhood.

Also, another big thank you to the SPRC and Worship Committees for the most wonderful "Pastor's Welcome Lunch" for me you created, following worship on October 7. The catered Mexican





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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

UMCPS.ORG

FALL BACK ON NOVEMBER 4TH

In just a few short weeks on Sunday, November 4th we will be setting our clocks back. This is also a great reminder and opportunity to change your smoke alarm batteries, your carbon monoxide detector battery, and rotate your emergency food and water supplies.



MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!

The church is preparing for our new directory and we need your help! Stop by the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings through November 11th to sign up to get your picture taken. Each 'family' gets a free 8x10 photo and church directory.

Lifetouch will be at the church Monday, November 12th through Wednesday, November 14th. Time slots are available in the afternoon and evenings.

You can also call the church at 760.327.5931 or stop by the office to sign-up.

WANTED: MORE YARN!



The Prayer Shawl Ministry met this week to continue their work creating beautiful prayer shawls to bless and comfort folks in the community and around the world, but they are in need of more yarn. The brand of yarn they use is Lion and the make is Homespun, available at Michael's and Walmart. One prayer shawl requires 3-4 skeins of yarn. Donations are gratefully accepted!

Shawls are available to be given to anyone who is need of prayer and comfort. Stop by the office to pick one up today!

The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl group will be Wednesday, October 24th at 1 pm in the church atrium.