Dear Friends,

This past Sunday I had the honor and privilege to offer words of Confirmation for my oldest grandson, Roman. This is a special thing as a pastor to watch your grandchildren grow in their faith and reach a point in their life when they make a public confession of that faith. Roman has always been a very deep thinker about things of the faith. He has given me a list of questions before about matters of faith and religion. Often, these are tough questions that his mother refers to me for an answer. He has asked questions like: “What about all of those who came before Jesus, will they go to heaven?” Another good one was, “How long has God been around and what does God look like?” Those are a couple of the tough ones and I thanked his mother for referring them to me. Anyway, Roman was confirmed and I was given the honor of laying my hands on him and saying the words: “Roman, may the Holy Spirit work within you, that being born through water and the Spirit you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ.” What a special feeling it was to do this!

Another “twist” to the service was that another young man was being confirmed who is the son of the woman who was my first infant baptism (other than my own children) on Christmas Day 1977. I had performed the wedding service for her parents and then baptized their daughter over a year later. This was special, too, in that the mother had been raised in the Church and now her son was making his commitment to Christ. As I laid my hands on him, there was a sense of peace knowing that I had been a part of something that had lasted over forty years from one generation to another. When you see this happen, you are reminded that God’s Spirit continues to work in our world and touches the lives of generation after generation. And, you think how blessed you are to be a part of the Spirit’s work, though just a small part. Sunday, was a good day!

I know Yiwen led you all in worship and did an excellent job. I, again, feel blessed in that I have had the privilege over the years, to have associate pastors who were, and are, deeply committed to doing the work of God in the world.

This coming Sunday, October 7, is World Communion Sunday, when we celebrate the Lord's Supper with Christians around the world. This is a time when we remind ourselves that God’s love and grace are for all people as well as reminding us all that we are one in Christ even though we live in another part of the world and speak a different language.

Just a reminder that we are having a study on “The Way Forward” on Tuesday mornings and Wednesday evenings during the month of October. This is a study on the issues related to human sexuality that will be dealt with at a special called session of the General Conference of the United Methodist Church on February 23-26, 2019 in St. Louis. You are invited to sign-up for one of these sessions.

See You Sunday,

Alan
In Sympathy:
Sympathy to family & friends of Fern DeJarnett who passed away on October 1, 2018.
Sympathy to Nelda Hinckley & family & friends on the death of her husband, Conrad Hinckley, who passed away on September 27, 2018.


Save the Date: Join us at Hunan's for Saturday Night Live, October 6, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. Your hosts for the evening will be Sharon & Larry Meyer and Barb & Doug Bedient.

Many hands help to make our church thrive! We would like to thank our church staff for their dedication and commitment to FUMC. Sunday, November 4 will be our Pastor-Staff Appreciation Sunday.

After each service, please join us for a cake and card reception in the Atrium.

October is designated as Pastor and Staff Appreciation month. There are many ways you can show your gratitude:
- Pray for our pastors and staff.
- Write a card or note of thanks and place it in the “Basket of Thanks” in the Atrium on October 14, 21, 28, or November 4.
- Tell them! ~ Feedback is always appreciated!
- Share your cooking talents!

FUMC STAFF
Alan Rhein - Pastor
Yiwen Bi - Associate Pastor
Sharon Rannar - Office Manager
Necia Jannings - Director of Christian Education
Anita Hutton - Organist & Parish Visitor
Robert Weiss - Music Director
Janet Earnest - Finance
Barbara Mueller - Office Assistant
Jeff Peterman - Custodian
Jack Peterman - Sunday Custodian
Sheli Peterman - Relief Custodian
Carol Cain - Nursery Worker
Anne Krippenstapel - Nursery Worker
Jessie Church - Nursery Worker
Lia Driscoll - Nursery Worker

When should we have a thankful heart? (1 Thessalonians 5:18) ... give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
FUMC will send volunteers to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center on October 30, 2018! Join others for a day of service at the agency that provides assistance in emergencies across the world!

20th Anniversary Celebration “I CAN READ”
Date: October 27th
Time: 6 p.m. to midnight
Location: Carbondale Elks
Cost: $50/person
Contact: Marilyn Tipton (618) 559-3452

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Disciples for Sunday, October 7, 2018
Outside Greeters: Koch Family
Van Drivers: Dan Anderson III, Don Bryant, Jr.
Welcome Center: 8:15 Carol White;
10:45 Lavina Thomas
October Communion Ushers: Karl Bartelsmeyer, George Everingham, Jan Waggoner
October Communion Committee: 8:15 Anita Hutton; 10:45 Anita Hutton

PRIMETIMERS
Luncheon & Program
THURSDAY
OCT. 25, 2018
11:30 a.m., Lunch $8
Program: Saluki Dawgs

In Sympathy:
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OCTOBER CALENDAR

Thursday  4     UMW Priscilla Circle, 1:00 p.m.
Friday   5     Church Women United, 10:30 a.m., Heritage Room
Tuesday 16    Morning Circle, 10:00 a.m.
             Speaker: Yiwen Bi - Hostess: Sue Stucky

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**How do you get to Carnegie Hall? Practice, practice, practice!**

Or, be invited. (And then practice, practice, practice!)

Some of our singers could use help with expenses for the trip, so on Sunday, October 14 at 4 p.m., we will perform a benefit concert in our Sanctuary. This program of about one hour will feature members of the Sanctuary Choir and a lot of very fun music. Admission is free, but donations will be gratefully accepted to help with the trip. Even if you are unable to attend the concert, we would still welcome your contributions. Checks should be made out to FUMC and include “Carnegie Hall” in the memo line. Thank you for your support.

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**Eventbrite - SPARC Conference Planning Committee presents**

"Weathering the Storm" 8th Annual Regional Disaster Conference -

**Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at The Pavilion of Marion, Marion, IL.**

WTS 2018 is a one day event located at the Marion Pavilion in Marion, Illinois and is designed for responders and the general public, including the medical community, public safety and security, emergency management, private business, educational institutions, and individual persons. Sign up at [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/weathering-the-storm-8th-annual-regional-disaster-conference-tickets-45803684052?aff=eac2](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/weathering-the-storm-8th-annual-regional-disaster-conference-tickets-45803684052?aff=eac2)

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**BOY SCOUT TROOP 66 CHRISTMAS WREATH SALE**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7, after both services**

The wreath sale is the largest Troop fundraiser. The funds raised help pay for summer camp and other scouting events. Call Brian Gorecki at 534-9617 for more info.

A SECOND OPPORTUNITY TO BUY A WREATH WILL BE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21

**TROOP 66 POPCORN SALES** are important to the Troop and its council, the Greater St. Louis Council, and allows boy scouting to exist.

STOP BY AND VISIT WITH US ON THE 7th AND THE 21st!!

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**“Let There Be Peace on Earth”**

**Children sing with the choir.**

Sunday, October 14 at 10:45 a.m.

On Oct. 14, we will meet at 10:00 am in the sanctuary to rehearse with the sanctuary choir. The children will sit together during the beginning of worship and will be dismissed to Children’s Church following the anthem.

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**FUMC T-SHIRTS**

AVAILABLE in the NARTHEX or see Necia for more information

Child sizes—XS, S, M, L $8
Adult Sizes—S, M, L, XL, XXL $10

Proceeds go to the FUMC Sanctuary Choir for their trip to Carnegie Hall

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**Bandy’s Pumpkin Patch**

15020 Pumpkin Patch Rd, Johnston City, IL 62951

Sunday, October 14, 12:00 Noon

All are invited to join us after church at Bandy’s Pumpkin Patch for a hayride, hotdogs and smores, and an afternoon of fun in the maze and children’s barn.

Sign up in the narthex.

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**Enough**

by Adam Hamilton

Renew Class—Room 402
Investors Class—Room 404
Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

**The Way Forward**

Room 410
Classes led by Pastor Alan

Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.
From July 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018, the following memorials were received:

- Richard "Dick" Bradley, Music Fund - NYC Trip
- Anita Hutton
- Richard "Dick" Bradley, Music Fund
- Conrad & Nelda Hinckley
- Andrew & Janet Earnest
- Gordon & Carol White
- Jane Robertson
- Gerald Fink, General Memorials
- Marlene Fink
- Conrad Hinckley, General Memorials
- Gordon & Carol White
- C. L. Murden, Building Fund
- Anita Hutton
- Gordon & Carol White
- C. L. Murden, General Memorials
- Ruth Parker
- Conrad & Nelda Hinckley
- Billy B Staff
- Joe & Kathy Swindell
- Billie Rae & Jeffrey Phillips
- Mike & Emma Jean Durr
- Fred Neal, General Memorials
- William & Evelyn Bailey
- Robert Reid, Building Fund
- Andy & Janet Earnest
- Sharon Ramnar
- Steve & Pam Yarbrough
- Alan & Connie Rhein
- Robert Reid, General Memorials
- Conrad & Nelda Hinckley
- Bill & Joyce Crippen
- Beth Arthur
- Albert Kent
- John & Aveniel Cherry
- Dan & Barbara Kimmel
- Gordon & Carol White
- Betty Bishop
- John & Sally Washburn
- Doug & Barb Bedient
- Ron & Cheryl Browning
- Joan Hart
- Ed & Sue Tresnak
- John & Betty Graig
- William & Bettye Doerr
- Gail & Linda White
- Bob & Jan Weiss
- Robert Reid, Music Fund
- Phyllis Joseph
- Ruth Parker
- Robert Reid, Outside Maintenance Fund
- Anita Hutton
- Larry & Sharon Meyer

**SUNDAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**Children’s Opportunities, Sundays**

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. **Children’s Sunday School** (K-5th grade) uses the Deep Blue from Cokesbury. Main Topic: “We Are Family” — October 7: Sunday School—“Family Blessings”

Sundays at 10:45 a.m. **Children’s Church** (K-5th grade). All children are invited to Children’s Church following the Children’s Time at the 10:45 a.m. worship service.

**Youth Opportunities, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.**

9:30 a.m. **Junior/Senior High Class** meets in Room 414 and uses a variety of materials connecting the lessons of the Bible with issues relevant to today's youth.

**Adult Opportunities, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.**

- **Renew** - Renew is a group of women seeking deeper meaning in their lives through Bible study, reflection, and prayer. They meet in Room 402. Women of all ages are welcome.
- **The Investors Class** - On Sunday, September 30th, the Investors class will begin the stewardship study, ENOUGH, by Adam Hamilton. Investors is an intergenerational class for all adults. They meet in Room 404, the Chapel. Everyone welcome!
- **The Electives Class** - Scripture studies following the lectionary led by Rev. John Sims. They meet in the Heritage Room. All are welcome!

**Small Group Opportunities**

- **The Daniel Plan Essentials** meets in Room 403 at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesdays. Everyone welcome. Daniel Plan will not meet in October.
- **Grateful Hearts** meets on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in Room 308. They will be starting a study of Anxious for Nothing by Max Lucado on September 19.
- **Youth Group** meets on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. in the Chapel.
- **Men’s Group**. All men of the church are invited to coffee and refreshments on Tuesday mornings at 8:30 a.m. in the Heritage Room. We discuss anything and everything from the perspective of our relationship with God.
- **Gentle Toning, Stretch, and Yoga Techniques** meets on Thursdays at 5:45 p.m., Room 404, the Chapel.
- **Golden Yoga** meets on Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m. and on Fridays at 9:30 a.m., Room 404, the Chapel.

Get Connected...to great opportunities for spiritual growth and fellowship on your Christian journey.