



# *The Messenger*

## *First United Methodist Church of Mexico*

### *October 2019*

#### *From the Pastor...*

Dear Family and Friends of Mexico First United Methodist Church,

Grace and Peace to you in the name of our beloved Savior, Jesus who is the Christ.

One of my spiritual disciplines is to pray the formal Daily Office style prayer from *Celtic Daily Prayer* or the companion website of the Northumbria Community. This is a monastic community located in northern England who are committed to prayer and live semi-apart from the world. Below is one of their daily meditations – I encourage you to read it slowly, allowing the words to soak into your soul.

Go peaceful  
in gentleness  
through the violence of these days.

Give freely.  
Show tenderness  
in all your ways.

Through darkness,  
in troubled times  
let holiness be your aim.

Seek wisdom.  
Let faithfulness  
burn like a flame.

God speed you!  
God lead you,  
and keep you wrapped around His heart!  
May you be known by love.

Be righteous.  
Speak truthfully  
in a world of greed and lies.  
Show kindness.  
See everyone  
through heaven's eyes.

God hold you,  
enfold you,  
and keep you wrapped around His heart.  
May you be known by love.

*Paul Field*

<https://www.northumbriacommunity.org/meditations/meditation-day-19/>

This is my prayer for you as people called to follow Jesus Christ.

In Christ's Love,

*Pastor Grace*

## OCTOBER IMPORTANT DATES

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Bible Study @ Parsonage 6:30 pm
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Friendship Unit @ Stefanos 6:00 pm
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Choir 6:00 pm
- 7<sup>th</sup> Admin Council Meeting 6:30 pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> Choir 6:00 pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> UMMen's Roast Pork Dinner 4:00 – 7:00 pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> SPRC Committee Meeting 6:30 pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> LECM Potluck and Meeting  
at Pennellville UMC 6:00 pm
- 16<sup>th</sup> Bible Study @ Parsonage 6:30 pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> Choir 6:00 pm
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Bible Study @ Parsonage 6:30 pm
- 24<sup>th</sup> Choir 6:00 pm
- 24<sup>th</sup> Discipleship & Growth meeting 7:00 pm
- 26<sup>th</sup> Church Cleaning Day 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- 26<sup>th</sup> Charge Conference 2:30 pm
- 28<sup>th</sup> Trustees Meeting 6:30 pm
- 30<sup>th</sup> Bible Study @ Parsonage 6:30 pm
- 31<sup>st</sup> Choir 6:00 pm

## THANK YOU, THANK YOU...

- to the Sunday School teachers for the start of the new year.
- to everyone who donated items for Brown Memorial Luncheon and who attended to help with the lunch.
- to all the people who visit the sick and shut ins and who take meals to them.
- to everyone who agreed to serve as a church leader beginning in January 2020.
- to Jonita Greenhouse for printing the fabric labels for lap robes.

*The Family of Marge Perth would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone for their generosity and kindness. The luncheon, cards and donations were greatly appreciated.*

*God Bless you all,*

*Elaine and Family*

## October Christmas Shoebox Items...

The October items sought for the Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes that our church will fill in November are:

**School supplies, Tools, Sewing kits, Balls and Ball caps**

The donation box is in the church narthex.

Thank you to all who contribute to this ministry.



## **Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes**

Time is fast approaching for the collection of all shoe boxes to then be distributed and sent to needy children around the world. This is a great opportunity for these children to see that someone cares for them and it may lead them to know Jesus. Each box is packed with small toys, hygiene items, clothes, and school supplies. When the boxes are distributed to the children by Samaritan's Purse, a book entitled *The Greatest Journey* is given to each child. This book, written in the child's own language, teaches them how to faithfully follow Christ.

We will be packing shoe boxes in our Fellowship Hall on Saturday, November 2nd, from 10-noon. Any boxes you pack at home can be brought to church then or just bring in the items you wish to donate, and we will include the items in a box. All are invited to come and help pack!

*Picture: Sue Morton and Rose Ann Myers sort items donated so far this year for Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes.*

## **Charge Conference**

*Saturday, October 26, 2019*

*2:30 pm*

*Mexico First United Methodist Church*

## **Church Clean Up Day**

By Hope Lenhart

The Administrative Council has designated Saturday, October 26, 2019 as Church Clean Up Day! This is to do some deep cleaning of our beautiful church. Our custodian does our day to day cleaning, however, as a part-time custodian, there just isn't enough time to accomplish all this deep cleaning. So once again, we are asking church members to volunteer some time to meet this need. We have done this in the past; however, it has been a couple of years since our last cleaning day.

We have designated nine areas in the church that need some attention: The Sanctuary, Narthex, Chancel, Choir lofts, Balcony, Front staircase/Landings, Sunday School rooms/Common room, Fellowship Hall and the Kitchen. We will be dusting corners and clearing out any cobwebs, dusting furniture, dusting windowsills, vacuuming pews, removing dated materials, re-organizing bookshelves, etc.

This will take place from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. If you would like to help, please see Hope Lenhart or Lori Behling (contact information is in the church directory). We will organize teams for the designated areas to ensure we meet our goal. If you can only help for an hour, that hour of your time will be greatly appreciated! We also need folks that are familiar with these areas and know what needs to be kept and what can be disposed of. Let's get our church polished up before we head into the Advent season.

Peace and blessings to all and many thanks for all that you do!

## **OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

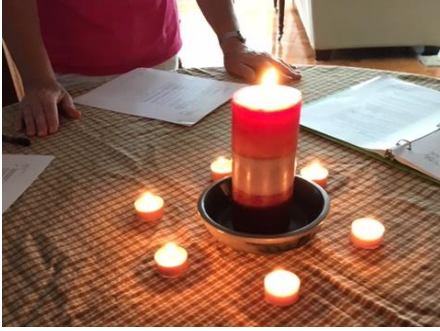
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Charles Bateman
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bill Palmer
8 <sup>th</sup>	Norma Griffin
10 <sup>th</sup>	Judy Von Zagorski
12 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Watros, Evan Lenhart
15 <sup>th</sup>	Tonaya Gorton
16 <sup>th</sup>	Merrilee Gorton
18 <sup>th</sup>	Deanna and Elizabeth Spencer
21 <sup>st</sup>	Had Fravor, Phil Kugler
25 <sup>th</sup>	Addison Lenhart
27 <sup>th</sup>	Carol Aldrich
29 <sup>th</sup>	Rick Sherman
31 <sup>st</sup>	John Aldrich



## **OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES**

5 <sup>th</sup>	Joe & Jean Wallace
6 <sup>th</sup>	Gary & Alicia Weber
9 <sup>th</sup>	Don and Shirl Field
15 <sup>th</sup>	Had & Linda Fravor
18 <sup>th</sup>	David & Sharon Anderson
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Andy & Cindy Ross
26 <sup>th</sup>	Doug & Jean Irwin





### *You Friend Me – Bible Study*

Each woman in the 6-week Bible study, led by Carol Aldrich, lit their own smaller candle from the center candle symbolizing the life and light we have in Jesus.

We ended this session with a prayer asking God to help us forgive others and spread His light into the world.

### **Leading Public Prayer**

This class will be held at the Palermo UMC, 11 County Route 35 in Palermo on Monday evenings, September 30 through October 28 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The class is open to all. Ernest Warren will be leading the class and you can contact him for an application and for further information.

Email [urnman2015@gmail.com](mailto:urnman2015@gmail.com) or call 716-490-3676.

### **Baby Announcement**



*Proud parents Joelle and Nathan Hutson are happy to present their newborn baby girl, Millie Ann Hutson.*

*She was born September 5, 2019 at 10:33 pm. She weighed 5 lbs. 11oz and was 18 inches long.*

*Congratulations!*

### *Lake Effect Cooperative Ministries*

#### *Blizzard Bags*

We are collecting single serve shelf stable entrees such as Oodles of Noodles, Ramen noodles or canned single serve soups/meals. The stuffing party will be on November 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.

### ***UMMen's Pork Dinner***

All you can eat roast pork dinner sponsored by the United Methodist Men.

**Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup> 4-6 p.m.**

Menu will include: roast pork, mashed potatoes, butternut squash, stuffing, homemade applesauce and dessert.

\$10.00 Adults, \$9.00 Seniors and \$6:00 Children age 7-12, age 6 and under free

If you would like to volunteer to help with the dinner, see Jeremy Spencer.

## *Need to Contact our Church?*

*The phone is: 315-963-3066. The email address is: [fumcmexico@gmail.com](mailto:fumcmexico@gmail.com)*

*The mailing address is: First United Methodist Church, PO Box 255, Mexico, NY 13114*

**PLEASE VISIT OUR CHURCH WEBSITE: [www.mex1umc.com](http://www.mex1umc.com)**

**Our FACEBOOK is: [www.facebook.com/fumcmexico](http://www.facebook.com/fumcmexico)**

*Please Join Us For Worship at 10:00 am.*

*Children's Church at: 10:15 am Sunday School at: 8:45 am*

### **Discipleship and Growth Group**

Mexico First's Growth Group was created several years ago to help church members grow spiritually as well as increase worship service attendance. The group has sponsored many activities and means of promoting the church since its creation. Approximately six months ago, members of Growth realized they needed to discern a common understanding of God's purpose for the group in order to move forward in a unified manner.

Pastor Grace facilitated conversations about discipleship during the month of August. Growth Group participated as part of their discernment process. The group realized how crucial discipleship is to the success and longevity of a church. Making disciples of Jesus Christ is about creating relationships between people so they can begin or grow deeper in their relationship with Christ, eventually creating numerical growth in a church.

We as a church are beginning to emphasize making disciples of Jesus Christ. In response, Growth Group is re-creating itself with the new name "Discipleship and Growth Group." Pastor Grace is serving as the interim leader until the end of December.

The mission statement of the Discipleship and Growth Group is:

*"To provide the tools to our congregation and others so that they can begin, or strengthen, their spiritual life to do God's work. Part of God's work is to make disciples."*

The Discipleship and Growth Group's next meeting is October 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. New members are always welcome

### **Admin Council Notes**

#### September Administrative Council Highlights

We were reminded again of all that so many people do for the church, community and each other. Highlights from the meeting include:

- A report from Tom Farr regarding the status of the Stained-Glass Window Project and that the project has started and is slated to be completed by November. In addition to the project, the trustees have been busy addressing the many details needed to do for the upkeep of both church and parsonage.
- The appeal to church members near and far to consider contributing an extra one hundred dollars this past month has resulted in additional monies to help offset increasing expenses and the hope is that donations will continue as the winter is fast approaching with the associated costs of cold and snow. Much gratitude was expressed for the donations made thus far.
- Monday's Meals will resume September 30<sup>th</sup> and be served the second and fourth Monday of each month. Hope Lenhart and Cathy Stock presented the request and they will co-coordinate the project under the direction of Pastor Grace. A press release will provide additional details.

Everyone is welcome to attend Ad Council meetings, although only elected members of the Council may vote. Our next meeting is Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

### What is 100 for 100?

For many years, our church annually hosted an auction to 'feed our finances'. The funds generated helped us pay the bills. "100 for 100" replaces the auction and provides a way for everyone connected to the congregation to engage in additional stewardship by giving an extra \$100 to assist with the increasing costs of "making our church happen". Please earmark your donation in the check memo or envelope as "100 for 100". The donation can be a lump sum or divided into increments. Examples include an extra 33 dollars a month from now through December, which is about a dollar a day. If 100 dollars is too much, anything extra helps; just remember to note it as "100 for 100". Thank you in advance for your extra contribution towards feeding our finances and your commitment to make disciples of Jesus Christ locally and globally.

### Office Hours

#### *Diane's Office Hours:*

Tuesday 9:30 am – 12:30 pm  
Friday 8:30 am – 1:30 pm

#### *Pastor Grace's Office Hours:*

Monday 9:30 am – 1:30 pm  
Wednesday 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm  
Fridays 9:30 am – 1:30 pm

Pastor Grace's hours may fluctuate due to off-site meetings.

### ***Monday's Meals to Return to FUMC***

By Hope Lenhart

Our Monday's Meals program was in operation for almost 10 years when in June, the Outreach Committee felt that the program had met its purpose and was time to close shop due to the declining number of diners coming each week. This was a hard decision to make and a sad day for the Committee and all the volunteers who worked Monday's Meals. Over the course of the summer, volunteers and church members alike heard much disappointment expressed throughout the local and church communities of this change.

We felt that there was still a need for this ministry in our community. So, after much thought and prayer, the Monday's Meals program will start up again on September 30<sup>th</sup> and run through June 22, 2020 under the leadership of Hope Lenhart and Cathy Stock. Meals will be served from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm every second and fourth Monday of the month. Since this schedule allows only 19 meals during the year, we will not follow the MACS school calendar as in the past, with the exception of Memorial Day. However, should the MACS schools close due to inclement weather, there will be no meals served that day. Our days of operation, and observed holidays for the 2019-2020 year are as follows:

September 30 <sup>th</sup>	February 24 <sup>th</sup>
October 14 <sup>th</sup> Columbus Day – Open	March 9 <sup>th</sup>
October 28 <sup>th</sup>	March 23 <sup>rd</sup>
November 11 <sup>th</sup> – Veteran's Day – Open	April 13 <sup>th</sup>
November 25 <sup>th</sup>	April 27 <sup>th</sup>
December 9 <sup>th</sup>	May 11 <sup>th</sup>
December 23 <sup>rd</sup>	May 25 <sup>th</sup> – Memorial Day - Closed
January 13 <sup>th</sup>	June 8 <sup>th</sup>
January 27 <sup>th</sup>	June 22 <sup>nd</sup>
February 10 <sup>th</sup>	

## SERVING in OCTOBER

### GREETERS

6<sup>th</sup> Faith & David Hubbard  
13<sup>th</sup> Jeff & Quinn Sherman  
20<sup>th</sup> Diane & Jim Sokolowski  
27<sup>th</sup> Barb Sullivan

### LITURGISTS

6<sup>th</sup> Diane Tupper  
13<sup>th</sup> Bill Butman  
20<sup>th</sup> Hope Lenhart  
27<sup>th</sup> Mary Grants

### USHERS

Thank you to all ushers who serve during  
worship.

### COUNTERS

Christy Hall & Esther Granger

### TRASH REMOVAL

Jeremy Spencer

### **Outreach**

We are very grateful to everyone who donated, shopped, cooked and/or served at Brown Memorial Sunday, September 8. When we arrived at 2:15, there were several families already waiting for the 3 pm 'Free Community Meal'.

We learned the past few weeks have seen increased numbers in folks partaking in this meal and fellowship and at least 100 individuals had a warm, healthy meal on the 8th. Once again, we were humbly reminded of all Brown Memorial does to minister to their community, including Life Skills classes, Bible Studies, Youth Group, a clothing closet, food pantry, and after school tutoring.

## *Fall Recipe from Diane Sokolowski*

### *Pumpkin Cake*

#### **FOR THE CAKE**

2 cups all-purpose flour  
2 tsp. ground cinnamon  
1 tsp. salt  
1 tsp. baking powder  
1/2 tsp. baking soda  
1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg  
1/4 tsp. ground ginger  
1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, softened  
1 cup packed brown sugar  
1/2 cup granulated sugar  
4 large eggs  
1 tsp. pure vanilla extract  
1 (15-oz.) can pumpkin puree



Preheat oven to 350°. Line a 9"x 13" baking pan with parchment and grease with cooking spray. In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, cinnamon, salt, baking powder, baking soda, nutmeg, and ginger. In a large bowl using a hand mixer (or in the bowl of a stand mixer), beat butter and sugars together until light and fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add vanilla and pumpkin puree and beat until incorporated. Add dry ingredients and mix until just combined. Pour batter into prepared baking pan and smooth top. Bake until a toothpick inserted in middle comes out clean, 30 minutes. Let cool completely.

#### **FOR THE FROSTING**

1 (8-oz.) block cream cheese, softened  
4 tbs. butter, softened  
2 cups powdered sugar  
1 tsp. pure vanilla extract  
Crushed gingersnaps for garnish

In a large bowl using a hand mixer, beat cream cheese and butter until smooth. Add powdered sugar and beat until no lumps remain, then add vanilla. Lift cake out of pan by parchment paper and place on serving platter or cutting board removing the paper. Frost cake using an offset spatula and top with crushed gingersnaps.

## But Whom Do You Say That I AM?

E T A C O V D A E W H														
R U R E T S A M F O G														
A V R S U S E J L N O														
W R E T M W A Y I C L														
V I N Y D A A K D D O														
R A T S G N I N R O M														
D A Y S T A R C P T					S A L D N A T S R I					F O R E R U N N E R				
E V G F N O P H H O					T U J G R O L E S N U O C H C N A R B O									
N M P E I A G O N O					F U O R H A D U J F O N O I L I F E I T									
E E M V M I M O S R					S F K H O R N O F S A L V A T I O N S A									
R S A A H O F F E T					K E E N D O G Y T H G I M L A M E N H I									
A S S Q N G D D O I					L A N I N O S N E T T O G E B Y L N O D									
Z I T J O U N N N N					D E C A E P F O E C N I R P H Y P L P E									
A A E D Y O E G A C					O R S T N E N I V D I V A D F O N O S M									
N H R Z W H S L Q					A R S D P O C J T L A M B O F G O D B V F									
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N O I T A D N U O F Y														

Advocate  
Almighty  
Alpha and Omega  
Amen  
Apostle  
Beloved Son  
Bishop  
Branch  
Bread  
Captain  
Carpenter  
Chosen  
Christ  
Consolation  
Cornerstone  
Counselor  
Day Star  
Deliverer

Door  
Emmanuel  
Everlasting  
Faithful and True  
First and Last  
Forerunner  
Foundation  
Governor  
Head  
High Priest  
Holy and Just One  
Horn of Salvation  
I AM  
Jesus  
Judge  
King  
King of Kings  
Lamb of God

Lawgiver  
Life  
Light  
Lion of Judah  
Lord  
Lord of Lords  
Master  
Master  
Mediator  
Messiah  
Mighty God  
Morning Star  
Nazarene  
Only Begotten Son  
Passover  
Priest  
Prince of Peace  
Prophet

Redeemer  
Resurrection  
Rock  
Savior  
Servant  
Shepherd  
Son of David  
Son of God  
Son of Man  
Vine  
Way  
Wonderful  
Word