

# SPIRIT SONG

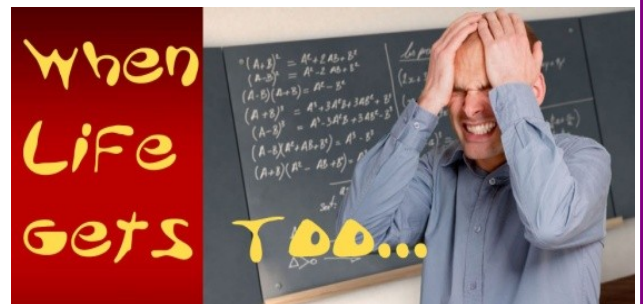
## From the Pastor

The night before our kids went back to school, I asked them if they were excited to go back to school. It didn't take a second for Julie to reply, "No. I don't want to go back to school. I wish I could have remained as a child forever." That was a stupid question to ask. I regretted it! Should I repent for asking such a silly question? That reminds me of the story of Little Mary who just got home from her first day at school, was asked by her mother, "Honey, what did you learn today?" "Not much," replied Mary, "I've got to go back tomorrow."

This summer seems very short and is going by fast. But that's a reality no matter how you think it is. Back to school. Back to life. Back to reality. These words don't sound the best, but reality is something that we all have to face whether it's school, work, people or whatever.

Are you excited to face reality as you get up each morning? Or are you overwhelmed to fight against those life realities. Matthew 10:16 describes how Jesus was feeling when he was sending his disciples out into the world: "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves.

Therefore be as wise as serpents and as innocent as doves." How can we be wise like serpents, so that we can cope and survive when life gets too...I would like to invite all of you to a new sermon series '*When Life Gets Too...*' For the next seven weeks, we will identify this subject of being "too..." and look at the Biblical perspective on living life within reasonable boundaries.



One important reminder: we are going to have 'Back to Church' Sunday on September 7 and 'Bring Your Friends' Sunday on September 14. According to Dr. Thom Rainer, "Eighty-two percent of the unchurched are at least somewhat likely to attend church if invited." Furthermore, "Only two percent of church members invite an unchurched person to church. Ninety-eight percent of church-goers never extend an invitation in a given year" (*The Unchurched Next Door*). Reach out, engage, and invite them to the Church, where they can find peace and strength through the word of God and fellowship with brothers and sisters in Christ.

By the way, Julie came back home with a big smile from the very first school day. I knew why she wanted to go back to school tomorrow because of her friends.

Now, are you excited to go to church along with your friends?

*Pastor Tae Sung*

# United Methodist Women

## Supper and Tin Auction

The UMW will meet on September 18th at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall for a Pot Luck Supper followed by a Tin Auction. We would like everyone attending to bring a salad, main course or dessert to be shared. Beverages will be provided.

Just fill a decorative Tin with goodies or maybe not so goodies and we will have a great time auctioning them off. A lot of fun is had by all. This meeting is open to all women of the church.

I don't know if the ladies of the church realize that just being a member of the church you are considered a member of UMW. In fact you can still come and not be a member. We would like to encourage all women of the church to attend our programs. We think that you would find them interesting and you would find out how much UMW does for missions.

## District Fall Gathering

On Sept. 27th The Central Mass. District will hold there Fall Gathering at Aldersgate UMC in Worcester, Ma. The Theme is Your Voice In Action. We hope to have a sizable group from our church representing Oxford.

The registration fee is \$9.00 which includes a lunch. Deadline for registration is Sept. 22nd. Please consider coming with us, it's a great day and we will be home in mid-afternoon. Please contact Nancy Rand or Marion Sergel if you would like to join us.



## Worship Returns to 10:30

We will be starting our regular worship service at 10:30 on **September 7th**. We will be recognizing our Sunday School teachers during the service and will have a pot luck lunch after church. Please plan to stay for this time of fellowship and invite a friend to come with you. to Church

## Fund Raiser Dinner

There will be a Fund Raiser Dinner held on Sept. 8th at the Publick House to raise money for our Mission Shares, which support our missionaries, hospitals and medical staff and children's centers in 165 countries around the world. This will be a barbeque held in the big white tent. The cost is \$13 for adults and \$5 for children 4 - 12. The price includes beverage and dessert. For further information please contact Sandy Dam.

September  
14



**10:30  
Worship**

**6pm  
Youth Group**

## Confirmation Class

Sunday evenings, September 14 through October 19, from 5PM-6PM

Confirmation Class will be held for six weeks during the hour before Youth Group on Sundays. Any youth over age 12 who is interested in becoming a member of the church is welcome and encouraged to come. Please see Pastor Tae Sung or Karenlee Hickey for information.

Confirmation Sunday will be November 23

## New Members

New members will be welcomed into the church on Confirmation Sunday November 23. Any adult who would like to become a member of Charlton City United Methodist Church should contact Pastor Tae Sung.

## Men's Early Morning Fellowship

The Charlton City United Methodist Men will be holding men's coffee fellowship every Wednesday morning from 5:30am to 6:30am. Come join us for great coffee and...who knows what else!!! (More info speak with Jim Hall)

# Mission—Outreach

## Outreach/Mission team

Jesus has called us to administer His love and hope with outstretched hands within our local and global community. Recently 14 members of Charlton City United Methodist Church went on a mission trip with next Step Ministry to East Rockaway, Long Island, New York. This was a life changing trip. Amazing stories continue to be told! The Holy Spirit clearly visited and many missionaries report tremendous closeness with God and each other as a result.

With His grace Marsha Mason and Nancy Rand coordinate visitation to the home bound, our ill and nursing home friends and members as well as Christmas caroling to bring cheer during the Advent season. Love freely given. We have an active Bread Ministry in which every Monday including holidays, 3 of our team members, Cindy Dighton, Linda Ditomasso, and Nancy Russell take turns picking up 2 to 3 grocery carts filled with day old breads and desserts then in turn distribute this bounty from the Big Y to our church family, the Center of Hope (mentally challenged services), St. Joes' food pantry, Oxford UMC for the Worcester Fellowship lunches and the Homeless Veteran's shelter, and the Community Cafe.

In midwinter we host a themed Valentines pot luck buffet to enhance fellowship during the long cold nights of February. Our Nancy Russell has a tremendous card ministry which brightens the days of so many in our church community. We try to be the hands and feet of Jesus to bring hope, joy and the message of God's bountiful love to a hurting world. We thank the amazing generosity and support of our church family to bring this ministry to God's children.

## Community Café Serving Family Luncheons For All Ages

Join a dozen or more gathered for a simple family meal at noon, on the last Saturday of every month. Help the mission team to set up, serve and/or clean up! We are there from 11 to 1:30 and love to have an extra set of helping hands so we can sit and have a cup of tea or coffee and share a meal with our guests. The food is great and the company even better. Join us won't you? Friends and family are welcome in Fellowship hall.



## Food Pantry Donations Needed



**Imagine a world with no hunger... and you helped.** It is entirely in our power to help our families here in Charlton get enough food, each time you go to the grocery store think about buying an extra box of crackers or cereal or even a more substantial NON-PERISHABLE food item.

Plant Seeds of Hope and Love in a World Short on Both  
pointing to our risen savior as a powerful message of peace in a big bad world!

# Youth Group

I will be the youth group coordinator this year, stepping into the very big shoes of Marilyn Gerard. Thank you Marilyn for your leadership and devotion to the youth. The youth had a successful mission trip to help Super Storm Sandy victims in Long Island, and I would like for them to continue to reach out to others in our local community. The Youth Group can provide many opportunities to build community, grow in faith, participate in service and to learn more about their identify as Christians.

The Youth Group provides a safe, welcoming place for your child to have fun and have faith! Please encourage your son or daughter to be involved in our Youth Group. I am looking forward to working with our children, along with my team of John Kelley, Pastor Tae Sung and Mina, and I am confident we will have a successful year. Youth Group will start on Sunday September 14 from 6:00 pm through 7:30 pm. All middle and high school students are welcome. - *Betty Darling*

## Upcoming Activities :

**SEPTEMBER 7** after church - Youth Group members have been asked to help out at Back to Church Sunday by meeting in the kitchen after church to help bring out the food and to stick around to help clean up.

**SEPTEMBER 14** - first day of Youth Group 6:00 pm

**OCTOBER 4** - Potential outing to Worcester's Wesley UMC for the Go On Tour Worship Concert. Please see [youth2015.com](http://youth2015.com) for information on this event

# Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study will begin on September 10th at 10:00 at Nancy Rand's home. We are so grateful to Nancy for opening her home and all the wonderful smells of food and coffee as we open the door each week. The time passes quickly as we pray, study, gab and munch together. What could be more perfect than that? This is an open bible study and you do not have to be a member of the church to join. New comers are always welcome. If you have not already signed up and would like to check us out, please call Jean Anderson at 508-248-7423.

## Men's Supper - September 13 Baked Ham and Scalloped Potatoes

Saturday, Sept 13th, 5:30 to 7pm. Come and enjoy food and fellowship with friends and neighbors. As always there will be continuous serving and take-out. Adults \$10, \$6 for children six to twelve, and children five and under eat free. .

Tickets may be purchased at the door although reservations are appreciated. Call the church office at (508) 248-7379 for information and reservations. The building is handicap accessible.



# Sunday School

Sunday School will start on Sunday September 7th. We hope your family will join us Sunday at 9am as we start a new year learning all about God's incredible love. After church service, there will be a pot luck luncheon to welcome everyone back to church after hopefully a beautiful and rested summer. Do you know someone that hasn't come in awhile? Maybe you know someone looking for a church for not only themselves but for their children. Maybe a relative? Let's invite them to Sunday school and see what's new. Let's build our church from the foundation up. We are also in need of teachers this fall. If you are love children, want to share Gods love and are interested, please talk to Karenlee Hickey.

In God's love  
Karenlee

## PIES\*\*PIES\*\*PIES\*\*

MMMMM!!!! Can you smell that? It's the aroma of apple pies. Can you believe fall is around the corner and that means it is apple pie time. That smell will be wafting through the church in the weeks to come. We will be asking for donation of time, sugar, flour, eggs, butter, shortening, monetary donations. You may wonder what are we talking about. The week of October 13<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup> the church is abuzz making apple pies. How many you ask? This year we are cutting back to around 300. I know I said only 300 pies, we have made more. How do we accomplish this feat? First we ask for donations for the ingredients to make the pies (sign up sheet in the narthex), next we gather everyone that would like to help out on Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup> (which is Columbus Day a holiday for some) starting at 9AM until 9PM (we don't expect people to stay the entire time, but an hour or two is such a great help)

We even provide lunch and dinner. We repeat this schedule on Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> and if we have to we finish on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. We bake some of the pies, some are sold and picked up that week, and the rest are frozen for future sales. All the money raised from this event is put in the general fund for the church expenses. At \$10 a pie we will raise at least \$3000 for the church, have had fun doing it and have a tasty treat to enjoy. Now you ask what can you do? You can donate ingredients or make a monetary donation (we are pretty thrifty shoppers), you can join us making the pies (there is a job for everyone-young or old, man or woman, experienced-unexperienced)-we really do have a lot of fun, it's a social event too and lastly SELL! SELL! And SELL! Or BUY! BUY! And BUY! We have order sheets if you would like to sell pies to co-workers, family, friends & neighbors. The pies are sold baked or frozen and they keep for a long time, as many of our parishioners can attest to. So order enough for the year.

If you have any questions, please see Lynne Ellis, Karenlee Hickey or Priscilla Walker.

## Calendars

The UMW is starting to work on our Community Calendar for 2015. If you are not on the calendar for your loved ones birthdays, anniversaries, or memorials and would like to be included, please see Nancy Rand or Sandy Dam. We have been doing this fund raiser for at least 60 years if not more We do not want to exclude anyone. So please contact us so we can include you on the Calendar. The price remains the same. \$3.00 for the calendar and .25 for each listing.

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September 2014

**CALENDAR**

Rally Day, Teacher recognition, pot luck .....Sun, Sep 7 at 10:30 am  
 Fund Raiser at Publick House ..... Mon, Sep 8  
 Men's Baked Ham & Scalloped Potatoes ..... Sat, Sep 13 at 5:30 pm  
 Bring a Friend to Church ..... Sun, Sep 14 at 10:30 am  
 Caring Fellowship..... Sun, Sept 14 after worship  
 Council.....Mon, Sep 15 at 7pm  
 UMW Supper and Tin Auction.....Thu, Sep 18 at 6:30 pm  
 UMW Fall Gathering in Worcester ..... Sat, Sep 27  
 Newsletter due ..... Tue, Sep 23

**ONGOING**

Sunday School..... Sundays at 9 am  
 Adult Study with the Pastor..... Sundays at 9am  
 Worship .....Sundays at 10:30 am  
 Men's Early Bird Coffee ..... Wed, Apr 2 at 5:30am  
 Women's Bible Study..... Wednesday at 10 am  
 Wednesday Evening Study Series ..... Wednesday at 7pm  
 Intercessory Prayer.....Thursday at 11:30am  
 AA ..... Saturdays at 7 pm  
 Community Café .....Last Saturday of the month at noon

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RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED

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Sunday's  
 9:00 am Summer Worship