

MALTA UNITED



Methodist Church MAY 2021

PASTOR JEREMIAH'S MESSAGE

49 And pointing to his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! 50 For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother." (Matthew 12:49-50)

I have been blessed in my life to be part of congregations where people lived as a loving family. I have been a part of churches where people referred to women as "Mother" As a child I had a "Grandma" and "Aunt" who were part of our church. These were even the women who were with me the morning my sister was born, as mom and dad were at the hospital. I don't know that he was called grandpa, but I fondly remember how one little guy, at one of the churches I served, would almost always be found on the lap of one of the older men in the church. He would run to get on his lap on Sunday mornings. To live in loving relationship with one another, as one hopefully has loving relationship with their family, is one of the blessings Christ offers us, and a calling Christ gives to us.

Over the Month of May, we will start a new sermon series, our first one in a while. I have entitled it "We are Family," and yes I was thinking of that song from the year I was born for those of you familiar with it. Each week we will think about some aspect of how God uses family imagery to call us to a closer relationship with others, and with God known to us through Jesus Christ.

As we think about family and God, I want to invite you to think about something as well. I have been offered a seat at the table at many family gatherings over my life, not just my own family, but

sometimes others. For instance, I remember when one of my friends from Boston invited me and several others to her house for Thanksgiving. Knowing we were far from our families and would not be able to go home for Thanksgiving. For that year, however, all of us were beloved family members of Burda family. How can we reach out and invite others to our table, so to speak? In what ways can we invite people to grow in faith as part of our congregation through worship, online activities, VBS, and other ways? How might we perhaps help someone explore faith for the first time? Who might we reach out to? We are all God's children. God's beloved children. Let us reach out and invite some more of our kindred to dinner in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Update on Covid-19 Mitigation Efforts at Church

I wanted to give a few updates on where we are with Covid-19 restrictions in our church activities. First off, I want to emphasize that the goal of these efforts are to make sure that we don't spread the virus, and frankly have any more people from our congregation get sick. We ask that you continue to wear a mask when you are in the building, and use the hand sanitizer when you arrive in the building. Sign in so we can do contact tracing (which we pray we won't need). And finally continue to maintain social distancing between yourself and those not in your household/family of 6 feet. These are not the most fun, but they have been shown to work. And they are recommended by our county health department.

For me the biggest disappointment is that we cannot do congregational singing (at least inside) for the foreseeable future. I hope that might change by mid-summer, but I make no promises. Fortunately the rates of infection after a bump locally, state-wide, and nation-wide seem to be heading down again.

Finally, I want to make one final comment on why we do all this. On one level it is to protect ourselves and our person health. However, as much, if not more, social distancing, masks, sanitizing hands, and immunizations are to help everyone, not just ourselves. I got the immunization a couple months ago. As Fire Department Chaplain, I was able to get it, for which I am thankful. Yes, it protects me, but it's not about me, it's about everyone. The more people who are protected in any way the better. Because it means that the virus will spread less and be more and more contained. People have said to me when I wear a mask, "are you scared?" In all honesty, yes I am, but I am more scared of spreading the virus to someone who might get sick and die or suffer permanent damage than I am of getting sick myself. I believe we are called to love our neighbors and doing what we can to stop the spread of Covid-19 and any other illnesses is part of that call.

I will continue to keep you updated as policies and procedures change.

Blessings and peace everyone, Pastor Jeremiah.



Communion will be served
on the 1st Sunday
of each month starting in **May**.



Please give Pastor Jeremiah or the church office (815) 825-2118 the names of any high school or college graduates from our church for 2021. Thank you!



MIDWEST MISSION DISTRIBUTION CENTER

IS IN **DESPERATE NEED** OF
"0-6 MONTHS ONSIES".

The "onsies" will go into Midwest Missions
Layette Kits.

There are 4 people from our church going on the one day MMDC Mission Trip on May 11th and they will take all donations for the Personal Dignity Kits and Onsies with them. Please bring your items to the church before **May 10th** and put them in the box marked (Midwest Mission). Thank you!



Upper Room Devotionals

are available for May/June.

I can mail one to you!

Just call the church office at (815) 825-2118 or email the

church at maltaumc@outlook.com.



2021 **NI VIRTUAL** **ANNUAL** **CONFERENCE**

The 182ND Northern Illinois Annual Conference will be held July 16-17, 2021 ONLINE thru zoom.

THEME: JESUS MAKES A WAY

IMPORTANT DATES:

- Online registration opens **June 1** and closes **June 30**. **Cost: \$30** (covers video production, voting technology, worship planning and other administrative expenses.)
- Clergy Session - **June 28, 10 am - 12 noon** via Zoom.
- Legislation and Historical Documents due **May 3**. (no exceptions)
- 2021 Ordination Service - **Oct. 1**. Limited in-person service.
- Fall Session - **Oct. 2**



When sending an email to the Church please use:

maltaumc@outlook.com



Check the table in the narthex for copies of the Elementary School Supply list, Midwest Mission "Personal Dignity Kits", extra May newsletters, **May/June Upper Rooms**, and flyers for Habitat for Humanity.

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www.glasbergen.com



"If I send my prayer as a text message, will I get a faster reply?"



Vacation Bible School is coming soon!
Theme: **"The Knights of the North Castle"**

Mark your calendars:

Monday, June 21 – Thursday, June 24
6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Be **STRONG** in the Lord
and in the **STRENGTH** of His Power!

Malta UMC is hosting and joining us is
Esmond UMC



May 7th James & Amanda ROEWER
(10 Years)



Malta UMC Lay Leadership

Church Council Chair: Ed Cheek
 Board of Trustees Chair: Tom Plote
 Committee of Finance & Stewardship Chair:
 Bill Augustlne
 Staff, Pastor & Parish Relations Chair:
 Marcia Hueber
 Worship Ministries Chair: Jodi Slade
 Mission & Outreach Chair: Mary Lynn McArtor
 Christian Education Chair: Kitty Jouris
 Membership Care Chair: Sue Augustine
 Committee on Lay Leadership Chair:
 Pastor Jeremiah
 Committee on Records & History Chair:
 Marilyn Berg

If you are interested in joining one of these groups, please contact the Chair.
 They would love to hear from you!

Rainbow Covenant is getting a new look from

to



The Conference Board of Global Ministries announces the release of a new conference mission-giving book called "Mission Links: Living the Beatitudes" which replaces the Rainbow Covenant book & logo. Mission Links is the product of more than 12 months of prayerful, reflective work for the committee, which sought to update and refresh the book's design and content while linking connectional giving to scripture.

LIVING THE "BEATITUDES"

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.

Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely[b] on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Matthew 5:1-12 (NRSV)

The BEATITUDES are essential & relevant today!

Taken from the new Mission Links Book.

happy
Birthday
may your wish
come true

2	Melissa Vidor Sawyer Willrett Jacque Fucilla
8	Ann Anderson
12	Myron Plapp Larry Vint
13	Kamryn Madsen
14	Jamie Willrett
17	Denice McArtor
18	Janice Frye
19	Reese Hueber
22	Colton Plapp
24	Jason Hueber
25	Hope Willrett
29	James Quincer
31	Ken Stark

How to Plant a Garden

How to Plant a Garden!

For the garden of your daily living, plant three rows of peas:

1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash:

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness



Plant four rows of lettuce:

1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce really love one another

No garden without turnips:

1. Turnip for meetings
2. Turnip for service
3. Turnip to help one another



To conclude our garden we must have thyme:

1. Thyme FOR EACH Other
2. Thyme for family
3. Thyme for friends

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There is much fruit in your garden. You reap what you sow.

New gardeners learn
by trowel and error





HELPING OUR KIDS AT MALTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Below is a list of supplies and items we can donate to help the children of our Malta Elementary School. We will have a collection box for these items in the narthex of the church.

School supplies NEEDED:

Boxes of crayons with 24 colors, glue sticks, boxes of #2 pencils, boxes of Kleenex, 3 ring binders, plastic school folders, black dry erase markers, scissors, (for younger and older children, and boxes of regular colored markers. (I believe they come in boxes of 8 colors). Finally a donation of a new stocking hat, pair of gloves or mittens would be wonderful. (Hand-made mittens and hats are ok, as long as they are new).



is in

NEED of "PERSONAL DIGNITY KITS"

Please help Midwest Mission by bringing contributions for their "Personal Dignity Kits." Place these items in the box in the narthex marked (Personal Dignity Kits).

NEEDED: (Value \$15)

- 1 Bath Hand Towel – No Kitchen Towels**
- 1 Bath Washcloth – No dishclothes**
- 1 Adult Toothbrush – No multipacks**
- 1 Bar of Soap – 3 to 4 oz.**
- 1 Shampoo – 15 to 18 oz.**
- 1 Deodorant – 2 to 3 oz.**

(Stick, roll on, or pump)

- 1 1-gal resealable Plastic Bag**
- \$2.00 donation for razor & toothpaste**

All items must be new and placed in a 1-gal resealable plastic bag.

Here is a list of all the other KITS that are needed at Midwest Mission.

Monetary donations are welcome for any of these kits: **Feminine Hygiene Kit- \$50; Home Care Kit - \$20; Student Kit - \$16; Tornado Kit - \$50; Layette Kit - \$45; Birthing Kit - \$9.** Monetary donations can be sent to MMDC, 1001 Mission Drive, Pawnee, IL 62558



UP COMING EVENTS IN MALTA

**Saturday, May 8 -
Malta Lions ROSE DAY**

Saturday, June 12

Malta Fire Dept. Pancake Breakfast

from 6:30-11:30 a.m. For tickets & more info contact Dave Fenstermaker (417) 291-2031.

There will be a **Tractor Trot 5K Race** – starting at 9:00 a.m. at Lions Park. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Contact: Brenda Jergens at brendajergens@gmail.com or Katie Fenstermaker at kkuhl@hotmail.com

Classic Car Show from 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Build-A-Bear from 3-6 p.m.

MUSIC IN THE PARK

1-3 p.m. "The Relics" and 4-6 p.m. "Bossy Dog"

Food:

Tinez Tacos from 1-5:30 p.m.

Big D Hot Dogs from 3-6 p.m.

7-11 p.m. Street Dance next to Remington's with "The Sensations"

Saturday, June 19th

Family Fishing Day at Prairie Springs

Fishing license not required.



Monday, June 21 -

Thursday, June 24

at Malta UMC with Esmond UMC.

Additional **Music In The Park** scheduled for

July 22 and **August 26**



"Giving a hand up, not a handout"

Habitat for Humanity of DeKalb County and your church share many of the same hopes and principles. Like you, Habitat is founded in faith. We are seeking to put God's love into action. Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope. We know that our faith extends out into the communities where we live. With your help we can continue to build homes for hard-working families who need a hand up, not a handout. Habitat homes are not free, but affordable for individuals who are willing to commit to a partnership with Habitat.

Since 1996 Habitat for Humanity of DeKalb County has been working with local families, churches,

businesses, and volunteers. To date, we have completed 14 homes. The challenges of this work have been greater over the past year, yet we were able to start and complete a home in 2020. We hope that in 2021 we will be able to reconnect with our church partners and collaborate on future building projects.

The opportunities for your church to join Habitat include:

- **Matching funds through special collections/contributions to Habitat for Humanity:** We are blessed to have the support of Thrivent Financial, who will match contributions from area churches. Every dollar that is donated by our church partners will be doubled. Your contributions will change lives for years to come.
- **Team Building Construction Day:** Most Saturdays a dedicated group of volunteers and leaders work on the current Habitat homebuilding site. We welcome volunteers from your congregation to join us, whether you are experienced or not. All you need is a desire to serve. Working with Habitat provides another way to build fellowship among church members.
- **Lunches for volunteers:** Habitat provides lunch to all volunteers on construction days. We welcome any interested church groups or members who would like to provide lunches for the work crew on a specific Saturday construction day.
- **Working on committees:** Habitat's mission to serve families in need is accomplished only through the time and efforts of committed individuals working together. Committees such as Family Selection, Public Relations and Church Relations are always eager to receive help.
- **Board of Directors:** Habitat is governed by a Board of Directors, consisting of individuals serving two-year terms. Directors must be residents of the State of Illinois.

We would be happy to speak to your congregation about the mission and opportunities at Habitat for Humanity of DeKalb County. Feel free to contact Roy Smith, Executive Director (815-991-5341, hfhdekalbcounty@gmail.com) with any questions.

Matthew 25:40 (NIV)

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"



CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS:

Next meeting in June:

Church Council Committee:

Pastor Jeremiah Thompson

Church Council Chair: Ed Cheek

Secretary of CC: Sue Augustine

Church Finance: Bill Augustine

Church Financial Secretary: Nancy Plote

***Send all monies & donations to Nancy Plote
at 411 S. Malta Rd., Malta, IL 60150**

Church Treasure: Kevin McArtor

Lay Leader Delegate: Jodi Slade

Alternate Lay Delegate: Mary Lynn McArtor

Church Education: Kitty Jouris

Ruth Hueber



Congratulations to

Matthew Folkerts

Graduating May 14th from the

Colorado School of Mimes

Parents: Mike & Jane Folkerts

Grandparents: Marilyn & Harry Berg



MALTA /AREA MILITARY MEN AND WOMEN CURRENTLY SERVING OUR COUNTRY

Almburg, Brett
Bakken, Benjamin P.
Bakken, Monique
Barclay, Kendra
Bulta, Andy
Clark, Ben
Clark, Kerry
Howe, Chase
Hoyle, Steve
Brett Johnson & Mrs.
Samantha Johnson
Madsen, Jeff

Nelson, Michael
Norman, Jacob
Page, Greg
Peterson, Eric
Ritter, Matt
Swink, Ashley
West, Jonathon M.
West, Lawrence R.
Wilson, Kim
Woodyatt, John M.
Yedinak, Pete



Send Cards & Letters (anytime) to the **Troops**,
Send them to:

Support Our Troops
13791 N. Nebraska Avenue
Tampa, FL 33602








2021

Vicke's Office Hours:

Mon, Wed, Thurs 8:00 – Noon



There will be an outdoor Memorial Day Service for the Malta Village. All other details unknown for now.

SUNDAY	MON	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRI	SATURDAY
						1 MAY DAY
2 5th Sunday of Easter with Communion In-Person or on Zoom	3	4 Staff, Pastor, Parish Relations Meeting 7 P.M. in-person at church	5 Prayer Group 7pm In-Person or on zoom	6 NATIONAL PRAYER DAY	7	8 Malta Lions Rose Day
9 6th Sunday of Easter In-Person or on Zoom 	10	11	12 Prayer Group 7pm In-Person or on zoom	13 4H at 6:30 p.m. ASCENSION DAY	14	15  Armed Forces Day
16 ASCENSION SUNDAY In-Person or on Zoom	17	18	19 Prayer Group 7pm In-Person or on zoom	20	21	22
23 PENTECOST Sunday In-Person or on Zoom	24	25	26 Prayer Group 7pm In-Person or on zoom	27	28	29
30 TRINITY SUNDAY In-Person or on Zoom	31 					



Malta UMC
(815) 825-2118

maltaumc@outlook.com

Rev. Jeremiah Thompson, Pastor
Vicke Heins, Adm. Assistant
Mon – Wed – Thurs 8-Noon.

Keep Informed on our Web

Page at: Maltaumc.org and on

Facebook:

MaltaUnitedMethodistChurch



Malta United Methodist Church
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Malta, IL 60150

TO: