



# MALTA UNITED



## Methodist Church

### November 2021



## PASTOR JEREMIAH'S MESSAGE

As I and our worship team (who are wonderful and for whom I am deeply grateful) talked about worship planning for this month we noticed something, literally every Sunday in November is a "special Sunday" in some way. Each Sunday of this month will be either a time when we will remember a civic holiday, or a Christian Holy Day.

In times past Christians used holy days and traditions around them to teach key aspects of our faith. In times past when many could not read, and or did not have access to the all the information now available at our fingertips, Holy Days, special foods or songs related to them, images used to celebrate them and more helped people understand the love of God, the "Salvation Story." Holy Days weren't just a day on a calendar they were a time to grow in faith.

As we go through the Sundays of November together, and remember Holy Days, like All Saint's Sunday, or civic holidays like Veteran's Day, what might we have to learn from them? How might God speak to us in a new way? How might Christ's love touch our hearts? How might we share Christ's love with others? I invite us all, the pastor very much included, too open our hearts

and minds to what God might have to teach us in this month ahead through the holidays and Holy Days of November.

In Christ, Pastor Jeremiah



Starting on Monday November 29<sup>th</sup> and for the next 4 weeks on Monday Evenings our Church will be doing an Advent Study entitled "All the Good." Through reading, daily devotionals, and video we will be thinking about preparing our hearts for Jesus to again come into our world and our lives, and also pondering how we can carry Jesus' love to others. The study will be from 7:00-8:30pm each week, and will be on Zoom (or in person at church if you cannot access Zoom.) All members of the church, Middle School aged and up are invited to join us for this study, as we prepare our hearts for Christmas, and consider how we can gift the love of Christmas to others. Join us!



There will be two cluster youth events this November. The first will be on Sunday **November 7 at Chana UMC**. There will be a game night with games of all sorts for youth, some light refreshment, and a time of prayer, this will be from 4:00-6:00.

The second event will be Sunday **November 28, at Rochelle UMC**, again from 4:00-6:00.

That Sunday in addition to being the first Sunday of Advent, is the first day of Hanukkah this year. The events our Jewish siblings remember at Hanukkah each year helped shaped the world of Jesus and the rest of the New Testament. Understanding this story helps us understand our own faith, and scriptures. So, we will learn about Hanukkah, and share some wonderful food, and see how learning this story can help us understand our faith story. Join us for fun, food, and to grow in faith.



## **NOVEMBER**

**11/24 Larry & Vicky Vint – (36 Years)**

**11/26 Gerald & Mary Lynn McArtor  
(61 Years)**

## **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND DRIVE UPDATE**

Our church repairs are underway. You may have seen the large boom being used and the men working on our church roof.

Thankfully the leaks were stopped before serious damage occurred in our building. The projected cost of work to be done this fall is \$114,356.23 for bell tower/parapets, roof, soffit, and fascia. Thus far three payments have been made totaling \$83,450. The final payment will be due when the work is completed.

The tuck pointing and miscellaneous painting and repairs inside the building will be done in the future.

As of Sunday, October 17, our faithful and generous have contributed \$71,590.

At our last Ad Council meeting a Resolution was passed, that will go before Charge Conference for approval to borrow up to \$150,000 from Resource Bank over a five year period. This loan will allow us to get the work done in a timely manner with repayment over 5 years. The parsonage property will be used as collateral for the note.

**Thank you** to all who have stepped up and gotten this project off to a tremendous start.

Remember checks can be sent to Nancy Plote, Financial Secretary, 411 S. Malta Rd., Malta, IL 60150 or Malta UMC, P.O. Box 158, Malta, IL 60150.

**Finance Committee**



**November 7**      **Marcia Hueber**  
**November 14**    **Denny & Vicke Heins**  
**November 21**    **Frank & Kitty Jouris**  
**November 28**    **Ruth Hueber**

If for some reason you cannot make it, please contact Vicke Heins or the church office at 815 825-2118.

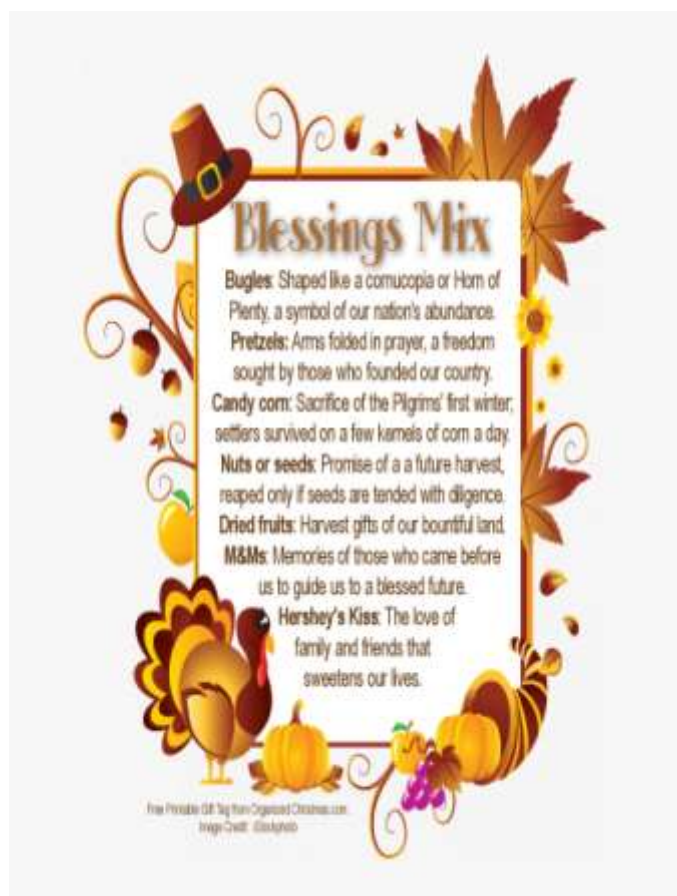
**Thank you for your service!**



## TODAY'S SISTERS

Because of Thanksgiving (Thursday, November 25), **Today's Sisters is being changed to Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup>** and will be held in the Church Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m.

Hostess for November: Ginny McElhatten  
 Devotions & Minutes: Norma Hopkins



**Contacts: Jacque Fucilla or Jodi Slade**



<b>6</b>	<b>RUTH HUEBER</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>MADELINE HILL</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>VICKY VINT</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>DOROTHY STODDARD</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>ANNIKA ANDERSON</b> <b>McKINZIE ANDERSON</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>MYRNA DODGE</b> <b>KEVIN MCARTOR</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>DAWN COOK</b> <b>JERRY JORDAL</b> <b>KRIS STARK</b>

### Malta UMC Lay Leadership

Church Council Chair: Ed Cheek

Board of Trustees Chair: Tom Plote

Committee of Finance & Stewardship

Chair: Bill Augustne

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

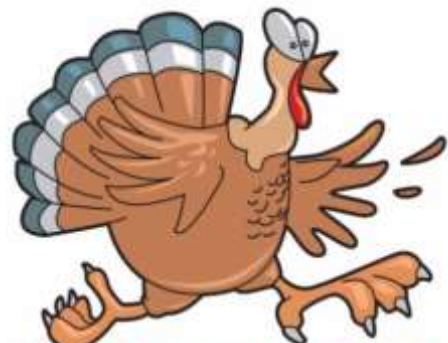
If you are interested in joining one of these groups, please contact the Chair. They would love to hear from you!



Happy  
Special  
Birthday  
to  
**Dorothy  
Stoddard**  
  
"97"  
on  
11/14/21



HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY!



**Run for your LIFE!**  
**It's NOVEMBER!!**

## ACTION GROUPS FOR FELLOWSHIP/COFFEE HOUR



MARCH/JULY/**NOVEMBER 2021**

**Co-Chairs:**

Heins, Vicke & Denny	815-252-0841
Hueber, Marcia	815-762-0010

Anderson, Ann & Marlin	815-825-2695
Berg, Marilyn & Harry	815-761-6232
Davison, Verna	815-756-2008
Fenstermaker, Katie & David	417-291-2031
Hopkins, Norma	815-751-1454
Hunt, Brenda & Jay	815-762-9845
Jordal, Linda & Jerry	815-601-6262
Quincer, Alice & Jim	815-761-8750
Siebrasse, Pat	815-970-5304

APRIL/AUGUST/**DECEMBER 2021**

**Co-Chairs:**

Jouris, Kitty & Frank	815-751-3238
Vint, Vicky & Larry	815-751-5178

Abbott, Joanne & Dennis	815-825-2563
Arndt, Noel	815-751-0404
Augustine, Sue & Bill	815-762-5553
Butler, Florence & Paul	815-761-4788
Glen, Stella	815-761-2302
Hill, Rachel & Jason	630-441-0585
Hueber, Ruth	815-764-9932
Kyler, Shirley	815-751-2435
Schafer, Sandy	815-825-2364
Thompson, Pastor Jeremiah	815-592-3764
Willrett, Hope & Gene Hickey	815-901-8486



## HELPING OUR KIDS

**at Malta Elementary School**

The school supplies needed are: 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 also okay, as long as they are new.)

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## Upper Room Devotionals

for November/December are available in the church narthex for you to pick up, or I can mail one to you. Just call the church office at (815) 825-2118 or send an email to [maltaumc@outlook.com](mailto:maltaumc@outlook.com)

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**Turn your clocks back at Midnight  
on Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup>**

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### **CHURCH COUNCIL TEAM:**

Pastor Jeremiah Thompson

Church Council Chair: Ed Cheek

Secretary of CC: Sue Augustine

Church Finance: Bill Augustine

Church Financial Secretary: Larry Vint/Nancy Plote

Church Treasure: Kevin McArtor

Lay Leader Delegate: Jodi Slade

Alternate Lay Delegate: Mary Lynn McArtor

Church Education: Kitty Jouris

Ruth Hueber

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**The Northern IL Conference recommends**

**A "SPECIAL OFFERING" SUNDAY**

coming up **November 28<sup>th</sup>** for  
**United Methodist Students.**

This fund supports Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Campfire, 4-H, Big Brothers & Sisters, and Amachi programs.

## **CHURCH WORSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE**

Dear Church Family,

We want the ministries of our church to be accessible to as many people as possible. In that spirit, it has been suggested that it might be easier for some people to participate in Sunday worship if our worship time was moved from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM. We want to hear from you on this question. Please fill out this short survey below, and **please only fill it out once**/here or at church. Finally, if you have any other thoughts please share them on the back.

Thank you all and God Bless!

\_\_\_\_\_ It is better for my household to have a 9:00 AM Worship Time.

\_\_\_\_\_ It is better for my household to have a 10:00 AM Worship Time.

\_\_\_\_\_ Either worship times is equally good for my household.

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DOING THE MOST GOOD

## **THANKSGIVING APPEAL**

Just \$2.37 is all it takes to share nourishing food and God's Love with someone who is hungry and alone this season of Thanksgiving. Imagine the joy your gift will offer a family. *That's the power of what you can do by simply giving today!* When you give, you will feel good knowing you shared your blessings with neighbors who are less fortunate.

Send your gifts to: The Salvation Army,  
P.O. Box 442, DeKalb, IL 60115



# COOKIE WALK



**December 11, 2021**

Membership/Care Committee will once again host their wonderful Cookie Walk where members and friends of Malta UMC can participate in a giant cookie/candy exchange for just \$7.50 per pound. Come to Malta UMC Fellowship Hall on Saturday morning, **December 11, 2021** from **9 to 11 a.m.** to choose your own assortment of Christmas cookies and candy.

Due to COVID we will be requiring masks be worn by everyone and guests will be given a number at the door and asked to wait in the sanctuary for their turn to go downstairs to the Cookie Walk. This is to avoid a crowd waiting on the stairs and limit the number of guests around the cookie tables.

Our committee is excited to do the Cookie Walk. We truly enjoy seeing how much pleasure our guests get from seeing and choosing from all the beautiful cookies our church bakers provide. Many of us love the opportunity to bake our specialties. This is a fun way for church members to share some Christmas spirit and sample each other's baking talents. If everyone participates, how many different cookies could one sample? We have become well known to several out of town guests who return each year, saying “*Malta has the best selection.*”

All ladies of the church will be asked to bake at least 4 dozen of their favorite Christmas cookies to donate to our Cookie Walk on Saturday morning, December 11. We would like all bakers to identify the kind of cookies they bring and, if possible, key ingredients—nuts, chocolate, dates, etc. Please do not pre-package cookies as we display them on large trays. Deliver cookies and candy to Malta UMC by 8 a.m. Saturday morning. If you would like to select cookies at the time you deliver, we will accommodate you, even though the Cookie Walk officially opens at 9 a.m.

This year we have decided to give 100% of our profits to our church Capital Improvement Fund. We feel keeping our church building structurally sound is important to everyone in our community. We sincerely appreciate everyone's donations and purchases in making our Cookie Walk a success!





Lowell & Claudia Wertz  
P.O. Box 496  
Lansing, IL 60438

October 2021

Dear Friends,

At last, we are planning our return to Africa! We hope to return to Kigoma in November. The *Johnson & Johnson* vaccine is now available in Kigoma and our key workers are getting vaccinated. We plan on getting our booster shots before departure and have bought N95 masks for the trip out. We are very excited to return to our mission work in Tanzania.

We marvel at how God has provided for us during this pandemic. We were speaking during furlough in the USA when the churches closed. Unable to continue furlough and unable to return to Africa, we found ourselves a bit stranded. We had purchased a travel trailer to use during furlough and it became home. Our *Arctic Fox* trailer was the perfect "bubble". It was able to handle winter weather, and we have been safe and comfortable.

The little trailer became "nerve central" for *Joy in the Harvest*, allowing us to remain in close contact with our staff in Kigoma. We provided purchasing and technical support, put together the repeater project for *Radio JOY*, and shipped a container. Although, understandably, financial support dropped, we were able to secure two PPP (forgivable) loans. That allowed the work to continue unhindered. God provided for us and the work in difficult times. Here are some current news items:

- The container has arrived in the capital of Tanzania, has been inspected, and is awaiting final customs release. We received an exemption from duty taxes.
- The American ambassador, Mr. Donald Wright, visited *Radio JOY* in September for an interview and a tour of the work of *Joy in the Harvest*. He was pleased and impressed.
- The 150 foot tall tower for the repeater project is ready to be imported from Kenya to Tanzania. Mwenge is headed to the border to help the process along.
- *Joy in the Harvest* won our 25 year long legal battle for land at the *Tanzania Court of Appeal* (Supreme Court). We are hauling dirt to the site to repair erosion damage.
- We were able to spend family time together with my son Luke, his wife Kara, and our grandkids, Levi (8) and Julia (5). For overseas missionaries, such time is treasured.
- *JOY's* finances are in the red. So many churches and friends have suffered financial loss during Covid. We deeply appreciate those who have sacrificially given. Please pray with us in this time of financial need.

As we prepare for our return to Africa, we cannot find all the words to express our love for all of you who make it possible for us to be missionaries for our Lord Jesus. So I will just say,  
THANK YOU!

Love,

Lowell + Claudia

# NOVEMBER 2021

**Vicke's Office Hours: M-W-Th 8-Noon**



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b> Worship Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m.	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> PRAYER MEETING 7PM	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  <b>Fall Roast Beef Dinner – Drive Thru 4:30-6:30 PM</b>
<b>7</b>  <b>ALL SAINTS DAY</b> Youth Game Night at Chana UMC 4-6pm	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> PRAYER MEETING 7PM	<b>11</b> <b>4H 6:30 p.m.</b> 	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> PRAYER MEETING 7PM	<b>18</b> <b>TODAY'S SISTERS</b> 9:00 A.M. AT CHURCH	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>  <b>Christ the King Sunday</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> PRAYER MEETING 7PM	<b>25</b>  <b>HAPPY THANKSGIVING</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>  Youth Event at Rochelle UMC 4-6pm	<b>29</b> <b>Advent Bible Study</b> 7-8:30pm In-person/ or on Zoom	<b>30</b>			MALTA UMC P.O. BOX 158 MALTA, IL 60150 815 825-2118	

SPECIAL CHURCH OFFERING TODAY  
"UNITED METHODIST STUDENTS"  
November 28th

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING



**Malta UMC**

**(815) 825-2118**

[maltaumc@outlook.com](mailto:maltaumc@outlook.com)

Rev. Jeremiah Thompson, Pastor

Vicke Heins, Adm. Assistant

M – W – Thurs 8-Noon.



Keep Informed on our Web

Page at: [Maltaumc.org](http://Maltaumc.org) and

Facebook:

MaltaUnitedMethodistChurch

**Malta United Methodist Church**  
**201 E. Sprague Street (P.O. Box 158)**  
**Malta, IL 60150**

TO: