



# *THE MESSENGER*

*HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH*

*1108 Steel Road, Havertown ~ 610-446-3351*

*Email: [hopeumchavertown@verizon.net](mailto:hopeumchavertown@verizon.net)*

*September 2021*

## *FROM THE PASTOR:*

I am filled with anticipation as we enter into the fall season of the year and as our program year gets underway. I've used the phrase many times but, I have to admit, I truly feel it right now – that God is doing a new thing among us. (see Isaiah 43:19) The question for us? Will we be receptive to it? Will we be open to changes, challenges, and the new opportunities that God is placing before us? Yes, we will! This is my prayer, for I believe that the Lord wants to revitalize this ministry to the glory of God and for the benefit of the people in Havertown and in our surrounding community. It's already happening!

A short two-week sermon series will happen in September called, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." It is timely and, yes, it expresses our prayer together. Please be present in worship in the chapel if you can or you will also be able to be with us via the livestream zoom each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. as well starting Sept. 12 from Union. The time for the livestream on September 5 will be 10:30 a.m. as it has been through August. A podcast is being distributed for Aug. 29 as there will not be a livestream offering that week only.

I invite you to renew your fellowship with your church family. We must continue to be cautious while there are still concerns about the coronavirus, and we will. But we have found ways to be the church together in different times and we are learning anew that the church is a people and that's us. Please keep the verse below with you this month as you enter into the new things that God is doing in your life and in your church. It is a verse that hangs over my desk and it centers me every day. May it do so for you. Blessings, Pastor MJ

*"Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in  
The name of the Lord Jesus." - Colossians 3:17*

# SEPTEMBER WORSHIP



## **Sunday, September 5: Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:30 a.m. Holy Communion – “God Said Yes!” (Mark 7:24-37)

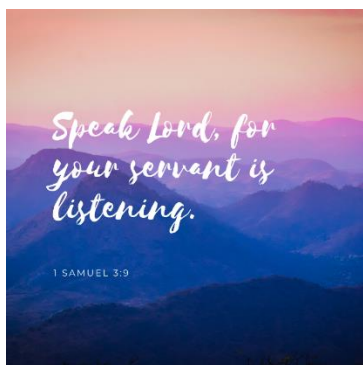
## **Sunday, September 12: Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

### **Holy Communion / Rally Day!**

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

9:30 a.m. New 2 week series – “Speak, for Your Servant is Listening”

Hearing God – I Samuel 3:1-10



## **Sunday, September 19: Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

9:30 a.m. Hearing God in the Spirit – John 16:1-16

## **Sunday, September 26: Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

9:30 a.m. Pastor Brenda Del Rosario preaching

**WORSHIP:** The worship service is being livestreamed from Union for those who cannot yet join us in person in the church. A link for the livestream is sent out each Friday or Saturday and also available on Facebook. You are able to see and hear what is happening in worship and you have a chance with the live webinar to share your prayer concerns and joys in the chat. This is a new experience for us and one that will make worship more accessible to a number of our congregational family and friends.

### **SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

Due to increased concerns about the spread of the Delta variant of the coronavirus, we are requesting all persons, vaccinated and unvaccinated, to wear their masks in this public space. Delaware County is still listed as a high risk county. Let's give ourselves what we have come to call "social distance" as we are seated in the rows. We will not, at this time, use hymnals nor pass the offering plates. Those plates will be in the back. *If you are not feeling well, we ask you to remain home and make use of the Live stream option.* Also, at this time if you are having an extended conversation with someone, it is probably a good idea to step outside to talk. Thanks so much, everyone, for your cooperation!



### **A Healing Society**

Susan Lawrence M.D. wrote a book, published in 2006, "Creating a Healing Society", which can help us understand the unhealed human trauma that causes most of the societal problems leading to drug addiction, alcoholism, violence and crime, eating disorders, unemployment, homelessness, poverty, terrorism, and war. Much of it began as traumatic childhood experiences, such as abuse and neglect, which have an impact on adults years later. We're aware of the PTSD that affects soldiers, but most of us are not as aware of how common childhood traumas are. Dr. Vincent Felitti, a researcher on the topic, is quoted, "Adverse childhood experiences are the most important determinant of the health and well-being of our nation." Traumatic experiences of children living in unhealthy family environments can be very subtle but have devastating long-term effects. Any event or ongoing situation can be traumatic if it overwhelms an individual's ability to cope, making them feel helpless. Shaming a child through criticism and frequent yelling are examples of potentially traumatic experiences.

In order to create a healing society, those who have experienced trauma, whether in childhood or in harmful adult relationships, must be willing to do the difficult work of recovery, which can be assisted by skilled therapists. When we realize that we have hurt others out of our own pain, we are able to see those who have traumatized us from a new perspective of understanding. Susan Lawrence works with The Catalyst Foundation to teach people how to understand and deal with the traumas they have experienced. The foundation has been providing weekly rehab programs in California prisons for many years that have had a major impact on the lives of traumatized people. Each of us can help to create a healing society by being a caring listener and by treating children and adults with respect.

*Parish Nurse Barbara Drake*

\*\*\*\*\*

### ***HAITI RELIEF:***

#### **The United Methodist Committee on**

**Relief** appeals for prayer and support for Haiti and its people. UMCOR is working with partners in Haiti on how to best meet the immediate needs of survivors following Saturday's devastating earthquake.

For families of those who have died or are missing, we extend prayers of comfort. For communities experiencing upheaval and uncertainty, we offer prayers of peace.

You can give to UMCOR's International Disaster Response and Recovery fund  
**:UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery Advance #982450**  
or give online: <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/982450/>.



## *From Pastor Brenda... (sharing with our Hope members)*

I can't believe summer is over! Where did it go?? Sad to see this season end, BUT great news! Sunday School for ALL ages will begin September 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 AM! Isn't that exciting?! I can't wait to see everyone as they enter their designated Sunday School classes.

Students from ages 3 to 10 will enjoy the Fall curriculum "Celebrate Wonder." These are familiar lessons to the children, that follow the same lesson format with fun activities to reinforce the lesson taught. 'Celebrate Wonder' will emphasize the wonder of God's power in each Bible lesson and how it applies to our daily lives.

The youth (11-17) will have an entirely new curriculum called, 'FATHOM.' Three different study books will be used for September through Advent.

1. 'The Bible'
2. 'The Wilderness; Exodus to Deuteronomy'
3. 'A Deep Dive into the Story of God' (Advent)

The Adult Bible group will meet in the Lounge where Barbara Drake will be leading the study on 'Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom.' This is about the kinship of Christians and witnessing to others.

All the Sunday School teachers have been working hard behind the scenes planning an exciting return for all our students. We look forward in seeing each of you in just a few weeks!!

Blessings!



Our Hope Family Children and Youth are welcome to join our friends at Union for these Sunday School classes. *The time however, at Union, does conflict with our Worship Schedule here, 9:45 a.m.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## **FAMILY GAME NIGHT ON ZOOM**

*September 17 @ 7:00 p.m.*

Join us for an enjoyable time of fellowship and fun with trivia, boggle, and "guess the destination" games online. We hope that you will zoom in with us! A link will be sent.



Mike Cutillo	Karen Karosas
Pat Cutillo	John and Mary Grey Emmett
Ann Mazi	Tanya Long
Gregg Downs	Martie Drew
Rishi Harriperad	Cris' friend, Barb
Donna Shenkman	Gloria's friend, Lynn



**Happy Birthday** to the following people with September birthdays:

Mary Anne Geer	09/06	Nolan Daniel Kirby	09/17
Dottie Hey	09/06	Dave Engler	09/17
Kennedy Carlin	09/10	Debbi Molnar	09/18
Herman Kirby	09/15	June Kozak	09/27
Bobby Popky	09/16		

*Please let us know if we missed your Birthday!*



**Hope Food Bank Adjusts to COVID**

With the rise in Delta variant causing caution, the food bank distributed Giant grocery store gift cards in August, when 36 families were served. Thanks to all who are contributing financially to make this possible. Let Sally Kiner know if you are interested in helping and she will be in touch with you about the details for each month's 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday distribution. ([sallykiner@gmail.com](mailto:sallykiner@gmail.com)). Thank you all!



## **BIBLE STUDY**

You are welcome to join us for the Friday Bible Study led by Ann Eves **each Friday at 2:00 p.m.**

**Forgiving What You Can't Forget**  
**A newly begun study! Please join us!**

Time: Friday 02:00 PM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting

[Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

## **WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM**

Pastor MJ is proposing a new study to begin on **September 8** and continuing **every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. on zoom.**

We return to a Biblical study of the Acts of the Apostles: **Acts: Awakening to God**  
This study is insightful and helpful and, yes, we hear about waking up, alive in Christ, as this study of the early church informs our living today. You are welcome to join us! A new link will be emailed to you.

