



# The Messenger



Chalfont United Methodist Church \* 11 Meadowbrook Lane, Chalfont, PA 18914-2810  
Phone: (215) 822-2807 \* e mail: office@chalfontumc.org

Fall 2018

## *On the Mend: Healing What Ails Us*

### *Tentative Sermon Schedule*

*Are you sick and tired of being sick and tired? Are you ready to be “on the mend?” Beginning Sunday September 2 we will work to uncover the wounds that are holding us back from living our best lives. Using the book of Mark we will explore the many stories and teachings of Jesus that speak of healing and wholeness. Join us as we move out of our old ways of being into new possibilities.*

**September 2 - “Healing Intentions”** (Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23) *Service is outside in the courtyard; Holy Communion*

Hurting others or being hurt by others seems an inevitable part of life. In our scripture for this week, those concerned with ‘the law’ (*the correct way to do things*) are admonished by Jesus. The only way to be undefiled, Jesus says, is to know wholeness on the inside, and not just focus on appearing ‘pure’ on the outside. Our intention becomes love when we are healed from the inside-out.

**September 9 - “Healing Inhibitions”** (Mark 7:24-37) *Reception of New Members*

As we explore the ways in which we need to be healed, this Sunday we consider the things we are closed off to, and the things about which we stay silent. Shutting things out or holding things in can both be dangerous to our health. Healing can mean the freedom to face difficult things. Jesus says to us, “be opened!”

**September 16 - “Healing Fear”** (Mark 8:27-38) *Holy Communion*

Jesus begins to speak about his death to the disciples and it stirs up such fear in Peter that he chews Jesus out! Jesus returns the favor and tries to give his followers another perspective: Sure, it is risky to live the Gospel-way, but what is the risk of NOT doing this? How do we heal our fear of losing the things of this world so that we can truly live?”

**September 23 - “Healing Pride”** (Mark 9:30-37)

The pride of being number one often comes at the cost of trampling others. Jesus turns the definition of being ‘first’ upside-down: it is by serving others that we are lifted up and made whole. What relief and healing could come by letting go of the need to be right, to be first or to ‘win?’”

**September 30 - “Healing Divisions”** (Mark 9:38-50)

In the scripture this Sunday, Jesus’ disciples are concerned about who is part of the ‘in crowd’ and who isn’t. Jesus says, ‘*Come on! Whoever is not against us is for us!*’ And then he goes on claiming that the worst thing you can do is to be a stumbling block to someone else... even and especially if they are not up to your standards! Are we creating healing wholeness or division?”

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## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

**IN MEMORY:** Since our Spring newsletter, well loved member **Bob Page** has passed away. We send our condolences to his family.

We send our condolences to the family of former member **Robert Pankoe**. He passed away on August 7.

**NEW ADDRESS:** **Jim** and **Doris Reece** are now living at 1108 Brittany Point, Lansdale, PA 19446. Their telephone numbers have not changed.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** **Laura** and **John Romano** have a new son, **Grant Oliver Romano**, born April 23.

Also congratulations to **Betty** and **Cassel Williams**, who had their 70th Wedding Anniversary in August.

**GRADUATE RECOGNITION:** (*High school*) **Peyton Campbell** - CBSouth to Temple U., son of **Preston** and **Susan Campbell**; **Evan Hamer** - CBSouth to Temple U., son of **Jason** and **Lauren Hamer**; **Shawn Wiley Manieri** - Lasalle to Gettysburg C., Grandson of **Harry** and **Yolanda McGinnis**; (*college*) **Jacob Cody** from Penn State, son of **Dave** and **Sue Cody**; **Toni Spiller** from Arcadia U., daughter of **Sue Walla**.

## THANK YOU'S TO CUMC

**Thank you from the New Britain Food Larder** for your donation of cash, and produce from the CUMC Community garden.

**Rev. Green** thanks you for your donations which he received for mission work helping the needy in Moldova.

**Thank you from Habitat for Humanity** for your donation of \$180.00.

**The UMMen** sold 252 hoagies and raised \$1,065.00 during their spring fund-raiser. They thank you for your continued support.

**The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)** thanks you for your donation of \$319.00 to the Red Bird Mission in Kentucky, and \$150.00 to UMCOR's global missions.

**Thank you from the Red Cross.** The blood drive held in May collected 35 pints of blood. (*Their goal was 29 pints*). **There will be another Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, September 4 (2:00 to 7:00 pm, Family Life Center)**

**Jim Weikert** would like to thank everyone at CUMC for the cards, well wishes and prayers during his current recovery from by-pass surgery

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

**The United Methodist Women will be gathering in the Family Life Center on Saturday, September 15** at 9:00 am for brunch. At their meeting they will plan this years events. All women (*and teen girls*) are invited to join.

**Also, keep an eye out for more information about our "Bird Town" presentation at the October meeting.**

## BENCHES FROM GIANT

**The Outdoor Spaces group is happy to announce** that Giant Food Stores has donated two sturdy benches to CUMC's outdoor project.

**For 95 years Giant has tried to play an active role** in improving the quality of life in the communities they serve. Since 1997 they have donated over 1,500 benches (*made of recycled materials - removing 15 million bags from the environment*) through their Bags to Benches Program. **We are honored to have received these benches, and thank the Giant Food Stores for their community support.**

## OUTDOOR SPACES

**From the Outdoor Spaces Committee to fellow Gardeners:** Are you planning your fall gardening? If you have perennials that are in need of thinning or are just too abundant- than consider donating to CUMC.

**The following are plants that we would love to add to our environment:** black-eyed susans, echinacea, rudbeckia, ferns, small woody flowering shrubs, daffodil bulbs, etc.

**We thank you ahead of time for helping enhance our church grounds.** A Saturday morning work day will soon be announced, and your donations will be appreciated at that time. *Debra Schaar*

## CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

**Last year the Boy scouts and Lions Club sold Christmas trees in front of the church building.** They sold approximately 500 trees! That's a lot of families coming by the church during the holiday season! This year, we'd like to reach out to those folks and share the Christmas story with them.

**The current thought is to take folks on a journey to Bethlehem and tell the story along the way.** Pastor Barb is putting together a team to work on this project. If you'd be interested in helping out (*or would like more information*) please contact her at 610.310.8349 or bjseekford@gmail.com.

## CHANGES TO THE WORSHIP SCHEDULE

As most of you are aware we discontinued the 11:00 worship service for July and August. Unfortunate circumstances led to this decision. Mike, our drummer, was battling cancer and his wife, Pastor Erin, our worship leader, was off to care for him, and other praise team members had vacations planned. Also, attendance at the service has been light and with summer vacations coming we knew it would be even more sporadic. As a result, it was decided to put the 11:00 service on hiatus for the summer. Regrettably, we are unable to start it back up in September. We need some time to regroup and reassess.

At this time we will have one worship service at 9:30 and are hoping folks from the 11:00 service will join us. To help them feel welcomed we are making a few changes to the service. Beginning in September we will have communion on the first and third Sundays of the month. (*11:00 had communion weekly!*) We have also installed a screen which allows us to project the service; it also provides us with more options for song choices. A few members of the praise team will join us at 9:30 (*as they are able*) and will help with the music.

*We ask for your prayers as the Leadership Board and Worship Committee discern the best way for us to move forward in the coming months.*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL - FALL 2018

When there are changes to the worship schedule - it follows that there will be changes to the Sunday School program. The 11:00 service had a pre-school class and one for "older" young people. The 9:30 service has had one class encompassing all ages of elementary school.

The teachers and Pastor Barb got together to come up with a plan for the coming year. Children of All ages will meet (*after the opening music*) in the room across from the Nursery. There they will watch the video together. The pre-school children will remain in that room. *A NEW Sunday School area is being created in the Family Life Center for the other children.*

Sue Cody and Laurie Warren will be responsible for the Pre-school class. Marcia Weikert, Janet Boylan and Louise Peardon will be responsible for the new class. They intend to work with different ages in different ways so that the classes will be friendly to any child (*of any age*) that comes to their class. This is a big experiment, and we hope that the parents of our children will encourage us by sending us their children.

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**October 7 - "Parched Places"** (*Isaiah 58:1-12*) *The Rev. Jane McCarthy preaches (no communion)*

**October 14 - "Healing Hold-Outs"** (*Mark 10:17-31*) *Students receive Bibles*

"What is your 'hold-out?' The rich man could agree to all kinds of things to 'get in good' with God, but in the end, he loved his possessions more than anything. The scripture says that Jesus looked at him and loved him. He saw into the rich man's heart and could see what was holding him back from true living in the reign of God. A healing wholeness comes with knowing that whatever we hold dear is what will, in the end, hold us."

**October 21 - "Healing Power"** (*Mark 10:35-45*) *Holy Communion*

To follow Jesus is to find power in the opposite of what most 'rulers' say makes you important. To be a tyrant is to claim a false power based on a deep fear. To claim a healing power is to find strength in humility."

**October 28 - "Healing Vision"** (*Mark 10:46-52*) *Series Conclusion*

"We come to the last week of our series on healing. Like the people in the scripture stories we have encountered, we have heard Jesus point the way toward a more whole and rewarding way of living when we confront the wounds from within. We are 'on the mend!' This last story of healing offers the idea that when we ask Jesus for in-sight, we can expect results. What insight have we gained in this journey of healing?" (*based on a series from: [www.worshipdesignstudio.com](http://www.worshipdesignstudio.com)*)

## *The Messenger*

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### STAFF DIRECTORY

REV. BARBARA SEEKFORD	Pastor
REV. ERIN MAURER	Deacon; Worship Leader
CRIS FRISCO	Director of Music
ED HOEHING	Church Administrator

## IMPORTANT DATES

### **Sunday, September 2**

*(Morning worship at 9:30 outside in the courtyard -  
weather permitting; communion)  
Labor Day Sunday*

### **Tuesday, September 4**

*(Red Cross Blood Drive, Family Life Center  
from 2:00 to 7:00 pm)*

### **Sunday, September 9**

*(Return to the Sanctuary; worship at 9:30  
with the reception of new members;  
Sunday School during worship begins.)*

### **Sunday, September 16**

*(Worship at 9:30 am - Sanctuary; communion)*

### ***WELCOME BACK:***

Choir  
Sunday School  
Boy Scout Troop 133  
Cub Scout Pack 133  
Girl Scout Troop 2142  
Girl Scout Troop 2285  
United Methodist Women  
Watercolor Class