



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
The Community Church Serving Northeast Philadelphia

10901 Calera Road ☐ Philadelphia, PA 19154
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THE STAFF

OCTOBER, 2024



Autumn can be a refreshing time of year, at least in this part of the country, when one can enjoy relief from the oppressive heat and humidity from the summer as the temperatures change, and a sense of renewal takes place. As the daylight lessens, and with a chill in the air, the chlorophyll production on the leaves of certain trees begins to dissipate and eventually stops, thereby producing the change of colors on the leaves as the green tones disappear. I find it interesting that while the leaves are in the process of dying off as these trees prepare for winter dormancy, we are blessed with a splendid array of vibrant colors to enjoy. It is a perfect reminder that our Creator made the change of seasons to remind us that in life things change. It is inevitable.

As life progresses, and people age, some find *change* challenging, based on their own personal experiences such as the loss of loved ones or friends, new physical challenges or limitations, job loss, or fear of the unknown when stepping out of their comfort zone, or when their normal routines are interrupted. On the other hand, there are others that tend to be more adaptable, and are able to welcome new experiences without reservation.

In the 1960's, a song entitled *To Everything There Is a Season*, (subtitled as *Turn! Turn! Turn!*) was made popular by a group called the Limelighters, as well as a group called the Byrd's, and was also sung by various recording artists. The origin of the song, written by folksinger and songwriter Pete Seeger, is taken from the Bible, and found in Ecclesiastes 3:1 - 8. A beautiful rendition of *Turn, Turn, Turn*, performed as a duet by Judy Collins and Pete Seeger can be found online. It has a special significance for me, as I was requested to sing this song during the memorial service for my cherished aunt, who had passed away years ago on Christmas day. In the first verse of Ecclesiastes Chapter 3 (ASV), we are reminded of the following: *For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven.*

(Chorus)

*To everything (turn, turn, turn)
 There is a season (turn, turn, turn)
 And a time to every purpose under heaven*

A time to be born, a time to die
 A time to plant, a time to reap
 A time to kill, a time to heal
 A time to laugh, a time to weep.
 (Chorus)

A time to build up, a time to break down
 A time to dance, a time to mourn
 A time to cast away stones
 A time to gather the stones together.
 (Chorus)

A time of love, a time of hate
 A time of war, a time of peace
 A time you may embrace
 A time to refrain from embracing
 (Chorus)

A time to gain, a time to lose
 A time to rend, a time to sow
 A time for love, a time for hate
 A time of peace, I swear it's not too late.
 (Chorus)

In closing, I happened to find an encouraging thought featured in a daily devotion written by Dr. Ed Newton, entitled *Navigating Seasons of Change*. "Life is full of seasons—some marked by joy and abundance, while others by trials and tribulations. Yet, in the midst of both the highs and lows, God remains constant. His love unwavering and His presence ever near." This is something that we all need to keep in mind as we navigate through life. ~ *Paula Direso, Editor*

From the Pastor's Desk...

OUR STAGES OF ELIMINATION IN LIFE

Author unknown

1. **At 60 - 70**, the workplace eliminates you. No matter how successful or powerful you were during your career, you'll return to being an ordinary person. So, don't cling to the mindset and sense of superiority from your past job, let go of your ego, or you might lose your sense of ease!
2. **At 70**, society gradually eliminates you. The friends and colleagues you used to meet and socialize with become fewer, and hardly anyone recognizes you at your former workplace. Don't say, "I used to be..." or "I was once..." because the younger generation won't know you, and you mustn't feel uncomfortable about it!
3. **At 80**, family slowly eliminates you. Even if you have many children and grandchildren, most of the time you'll be living with your spouse or by yourself. When your children visit occasionally, it's an expression of affection, so don't blame them for coming less often, as they're busy with their own lives!
4. **At 90**, the Earth wants to eliminate you. Some of the people you knew have already departed forever. At this point, don't be sad or mournful, because this is the way of life, and everyone will eventually follow this path!

ALWAYS REMEMBER:

1. The only thing that won't eliminate you eternally is God, because at the end of our journey here on earth we shall all return to Him with accounts of how we lived our lives.
2. So, meet Him more.
3. Communicate with Him more.
4. Obey His orders, laws, commandments and statutes.
5. Maintain your presence with Him.

Therefore, while our bodies are still capable, live life to the fullest! Worship God in truth and in spirit. And there will be no regrets living out our lives for Him!

Be blessed!

Rev. Navin Satyavrata

PROSE and POETRY



Flight or Fight

Contributed by Aken V. Wariebi

Run if you choose or stay and fight!
Fight the heartaches with strength,
And all adversities with prayers.
Fight for life to be better not worse,
Important, not feared nor insignificant.
Cause no fights will wait,
So, shine the light God gives.

Run if you choose, but worries will follow you,
And so will the shadow of your flow where your milk and honey grow.
Where your destination lies what is avoided may still be there,
Waiting for confrontation or resolution in disguise,
Like flies, and bees and cocktails from grapes that are squeezed.

So be free, be honest and be real,
Especially to you since you cannot run from yourself!
Know that all paths have seasons,
And some may fall on the journeys you choose.

The heart speaks...
It has a language of its own,
Speaking mysteriously low-key or loudly,
With a somewhat boisterous behavior,
And more beside
Demanding, adjusting, adding up scores
Of failures, and yes, feelings of much love.

It dances like an unknown shadow
Vigorously beating and wiping away teardrops
From painful stories, while healing itself of adversities, queries,
Then acting as if it has to be buried!

Concealed, held in various disguises,
Falls for or attracts others with their baggage,
Touching lives, or trying to discover humors like snow flurries,
Believing nothing but accepting curiosities.

Climbing up and down as it beats in the today
To test, to relax, to figure out suspicious lobbies;
Yet confirms with actions as it begins to trust who it chooses,
Like how a bird clings to its feathers,
With tallies counted of trust scattered or shattered.

In its own way the heart speaks to itself,
Calming soothing and forgiving mistakes,
Embracing itself as God leads.

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
The people of the United Methodist Church

OCTOBER, 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 1:00 - Bible Study 6:30 - Daisy & Brownies Troop #920	3 7:00 - Chancel Choir Practice	4	5 9:00 - UMM Brreakfast 12:00 - AA Meeting Wood Hall
6 9:00 - Praise Service 10:30 - Traditional Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 - Sunday School 4:00 - AA Meeting Wood Hall 6:30 - Girl Scout Troop 9744	7	8 7:30 - Al-Anon/Alateen	9 1:00 - Bible Study 6:30 - Daisy & Brownies Troop #920	10 6:00 - Worship Meeting 7:00 - Chancel Choir Practice	11	12 12:00 - AA Meeting Wood Hall
13 9:00 - Praise Service with Holy Communion 10:30 - Traditional Worship 10:30 - Sunday School 4:00 - AA Meeting Wood Hall 6:30 - Girl Scout Troop 9744	14 6:00 - Car Cruise 7:00 - UWFaith Meeting	15 STAFF ARTICLES DUE! 12:00 - Ruth Circle 7:30 - Al-Anon/Alateen	16 1:00 - Bible Study 6:30 - Daisy & Brownies Troop #920	17 7:00 - Chancel Choir Practice	18	19 12:00 - AA Meeting Wood Hall 6:30 - Halloween Dance
20 LAITY SUNDAY 9:00 - Praise Service 10:30 - Traditional Worship 10:30 - Sunday School 4:00 - AA Meeting Wood Hall 6:30 - Girl Scout Troop 9744	21	22 7:00 - Lydia Circle 7:30 - Al-Anon/Alateen	23 1:00 - Bible Study 6:30 - Daisy & Brownies Troop #920	24 7:00 - Chancel Choir Practice	25	26 12:00 - AA Meeting Wood Hall
27 9:00 - Praise Service with Holy Communion 10:30 - Traditional Worship 10:30 - Sunday School 4:00 - AA Meeting Wood Hall 6:30 - Girl Scout Troop 9744	28	29 7:30 - Al-Anon/Alateen	30 1:00 - Bible Study 6:30 - Daisy & Brownies Troop #920	31 7:00 - Chancel Choir Practice		

DID YOU KNOW WE HAVE A



Please refer to our website (listed below) for updated cancellations and information, and share this notice with other members.

Are you the head of a committee or work group? Are you planning a church event? Would you like information about your committee, group, or event placed on the church website to be available to all members, neighbors, and the world? If so, please e-mail this information to our e-mail address which is as follows: webservant@umcgoodshepherd.org.

Our church website address is: www.umcgoodshepherd.org.



EDITOR'S CORNER

Thank you for your monthly contributions to *The Staff*. In order to enter and edit your articles for each month's edition, PLEASE submit your information by the 15th of each month by emailing your articles to: secretary@umcgoodshepherd.org. You may also leave a phone message on: 215-632-1929.

If your articles are not received on time, they may not be included in *The Staff*.

If you have not received an emailed copy of *The Staff*, please notify the administrative secretary at the email address listed above.

PRAYER CHAIN



To put a **JOY OR CONCERN** on the prayer chain, or if you would like to become one of the prayer team members, please email Joyce Cartwright at: dotgojoy1590@aol.com. For those who are not computer savvy, Betty McLaughlin handles the telephone requests and notifications, so feel free to leave a message at 215-947-3317.

SUNDAY SERVICES

9:00 AM Praise Worship Service
10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service

Holy Communion will be served at the 9:00 AM Praise Service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

Holy Communion will be served at the 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service on the 1st Sunday of the month.

The 10:30 AM Sunday service is offered online via Zoom, by logging onto the Facebook page via the church website, or via Facebook: @goodshepherdumcphila.

We pray that you will come out and experience a warm welcome and a sweet spirit of fellowship.



Good Shepherd Children's Sunday School
10:30 AM

If you would like to volunteer to serve as a Teacher or an Aide, please contact: Walt Dziuk at 215-637-7898, or email: waltdziuk@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY



We meet weekly at 1:00 PM in the choir room on Wednesdays. We look forward to studying God's Word, which deepens our understanding of the Scriptures, while bringing us closer together. We hope you will consider joining us.

CHANCEL CHOIR meets on **Thursdays at 7:00 PM**. If you enjoy singing, please consider joining the choir to express your faith through music! New members are always welcome.





The repair work to the Altar / Chancel area, which began on September 25, 2023, is now completed. The cost for these repairs, including extra work done, totaled: \$49,050.00. The cost of repairs done in Wood Hall, Offices, Nursery Room and the Sunday School Room totaled: \$4,925.00. Total combined costs were: \$53,975.00. Total received by way of donations and contributions: \$47,427.39, which leaves a deficit of \$6,547.61. Any donations or contributions towards the balance due are highly appreciated.



Recently, our Pastor, Rev. Navin Satyavrata, had his cell phone hacked again. Any phone calls, texts, emails, or any other unknown or suspicious things that might come to you, please ignore and delete the same. Our Pastor and our congregation members will not send messages asking for money or other support without the Pastor's or the Church's knowledge.

READING AND RELIGION

Contributed by: Phyllis Brock
The Days I Loved You Most
 By Amy Neff



Evelyn and Joseph were raised in New England and fell in love in the summer of 1941. Now, after being together for sixty years, they have gathered their three grown children to share the devastating news: Evelyn has received a heartbreaking cancer diagnosis, and Joseph can't live without her. So, in one year's time they will end their love story on their own terms.

Over the next year, the couple retraces their past—all the joys and regrets that brought them to this moment. They embark on a journey to live out their greatest dreams and to connect with each of their children. As their final days draw closer, they must confront the reality of what's to come, and make peace with the legacy they will leave behind for their family.

This is a timeless tale of devotion — a tribute to the enduring power of love, and a reminder that even in the darkest moments, there is always hope and beauty to be found.

MISSION PROJECTS



Items are needed for the United Methodist Service Center (Serenity House). Collection dates: **October 6th, 13th, and 20th (last day)**. We will be filling a large bag with the

following items:

Tissues: small pack	Toothbrushes
Toothpaste	Emery boards
Lip gloss	Deodorant
Combs	Hand sanitizer
Bars of soap	
Bath/shower scrubber with string	

Arch Street UMC Collection October 27 – November 17th



We will be collecting the following items for the Arch Street UMC Grace Café, for homeless men and women:

Sweatpants and tops	Backpacks
Hats, scarfs, gloves	Jeans
Towels (new and old)	Detergent (Pods)
Heavy socks	Coats
T-Shirts	Clothes Hangers

Please pack all items in trash-bags or boxes. Please label each container – Sample label:

- Backpacks: 3
- Socks: 10 pairs
- T-shirts: 5

Several volunteers will be needed to transport these items to Grace Café. Please see or call Betty (215-947-3317) if you are able to assist. We are also planning a day to feed the homeless at Grace Café. Details will be provided in the future. Blessings, Betty McLaughlin, Chair, & Missions Team.

UNITED METHODIST MEN'S BREAKFAST



Our next Men's Breakfast will be held on **Saturday, October 5th, at 9:00 AM**. Mark your calendar and please come and enjoy a delicious meal prepared by our gracious hostess, Pat Sommers, as we join together for fellowship. We hope to see you there!

WORSHIP MEETING: The next meeting will take place on **Thursday, October 10th, at 6:00 PM.**

The Worship Committee has requested the following: Kindly send all **Announcements** to Danielle Parker by 5.00 p.m. the previous day (Saturday) to her email: hidefalls@verizon.net or text her at: 215-480-3398.

Also please send all **Joys and Concerns** to either Jeannette Cartwright or Joyce Cartwright by 5.00 p.m. on Saturday. Jeannette Cartwright's email: bonanzafive@verizon.net and her cell number is: 215-539-7716. Joyce Cartwright's email: dotgojoy1590@aol.com, and her (home) telephone number is: 215-676-3856.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

The United Women in Faith East District Annual Celebration will take place on **Saturday, October 12, 2024, at the First UMC of Germantown, located at: 6001 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA, 19144.** Coffee hour will begin at **9:00 AM**, and the celebration will be from **10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.** The theme will be: "Your Vote Counts!" The guest speaker this year is Margaret Harris. They will be collecting underwear to give to Arch Street UMC for the homeless, so all donations will be gratefully appreciated. If you are interested in attending this event, please call Barbara Parncutt for details: 215-637-6457.



Our next **UW Faith** meeting at Good Shepherd will take place on **Monday, October 14th, at 7:00 PM.** Our guest speaker will be Rev. Navin Satyavrata, and his topic for the evening will be "Brokenness." All women are invited, so please join us, and bring a friend or family member.

CAR CRUISE NIGHT!



A Car Cruise will take place in the church parking lot on **Monday October 14th.** The cruise starts at **6:00 PM.** Hot dogs, hamburgers, and drinks will be available for sale. Come join us to see the cool cars!

RUTH CIRCLE



We will be meeting on **Tuesday, October 15th, at 12:00 PM** in the Choir Room for Christian fellowship and devotions. For any questions, contact Mary Beth Ciesielski at: 215-341-7828. We hope you will join us!



The Social Committee will be hosting a Halloween Dance on **Saturday, October 19th, at 6:30 PM.** Our DJ, Tom Parker, will be spinning the spooky dance tunes. We ask everyone to dress up in Halloween costumes and to bring a dessert. (No dinner will be provided) Come join us for a night of fun!

LYDIA CIRCLE, our circle for today's working



women, will meet again on **Tuesday, October 22nd, at 7:00 PM.** We will be meeting monthly on Tuesday evenings. If you'd like to join this circle, or have any questions, please contact Jeannette Cartwright at: 215-676-3856 or 215-539-7716.



On **Tuesday, October 22nd, from 8:00 AM to 11:00 PM,** Boscov's is featuring their **Friends Helping Friends** event. The cost is \$5.00 for a shopping pass, **(valid in store or online)**, which entitles you to 25% OFF mostly everything! – Exclusions apply. Customers may also register for a chance to win a \$100 Boscov's Gift Card at each store - 50 winners total. They can also scan the QR code on their shopping pass with their phone for a chance to win. If you can help sell passes to co-workers, family, and friends, it would be greatly appreciated. Good Shepherd keeps 100% of the shopping pass donation proceeds. If 20 members sell 20 passes each, we can raise \$2,000! Please see Brian Calhoun for passes, or contact him at: 267-538-7759. Happy shopping!

CHRIST SERVANT MINISTRY TRAINING

The Christ Servant Ministry Training will take place on **Saturday, November 2, 2024, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM** at **Hopewell United Methodist Church**, located at: 852 Hopewell Road, Downingtown, PA 19335-1215. (Downingtown is less than an hour away.) This is an intensive CSM course. Please bring your own lunch for the day. Drinks will be provided by Hopewell.

Registration: To register click on the Website: christservantministries.net/events. If you have any questions, please contact Sheri Kentner by clicking her name at the bottom of the page on the Website.

The cost for the training is \$30.00. Please pay with either a debit or credit card when registering. If you need financial support towards the fees, please contact Pastor Navin immediately.

Kindly note that the men who wish to attend the same can take this as priority over the UMM Breakfast on the same day.

TRUSTEES: The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday, December 3rd, at 6:30 PM.**

Happy Birthday

OCTOBER

2 - Devin Boakye	5 - Beresford Newstead
8 - Bob Parncutt	8 - Sylvia Tarawalley
6 - Judy Camponelli	9 - Sadie Mae Gurtcheff
9 - Candy Dorzon	15 - Saye Gondeh
23 - Michele Bennett	23 - Barb Parncutt
26 - Bud Cartwright	



OCTOBER

10th – Bud & Joyce Cartwright



If you would like to include your name on the **STAFF BIRTHDAY or ANNIVERSARY LIST**, please include your name and the day and month you were born, or your names and anniversary date and send an email to: secretary@umcgoodshepherd.org.

C*O*L*L*E*C*T*I*O*N*S

Do you know we collect the following items?

1. Eyeglasses – Delivered to the Lion's Club.
2. Non-perishable food for our food bank.

There are collection baskets for these items in the Narthex.

We are currently collecting the following Christian books: Upper Room, Daily Bread, and Response Magazine, and other Christian periodicals. Please put them in the wicker baskets in the Narthex.



We are recycling aluminum cans. (soda or cat food cans, or any aluminum cans. If a magnet sticks to a can, then it's not aluminum. Please note: canned vegetables and soups are not aluminum). There are blue buckets that say: "cans only" next to our trash cans. You can drop your cans off in the buckets, or Rosemarie Gross can stop by your home and pick them up from you. She will take them to the recycle center and cash them in, and the money will go to Good Shepherd. **Please continue to donate your cans!** Please contact Rosemarie at: 215-868-5304.

a little fun
EVERYONE

UMC OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

10901 Calera Road, Philadelphia, PA 19154
2024 - Community Social Events

Saturday, February 10, 06.00 p.m. - 09.00 p.m.
Valentine's Day Dinner and Dance

Saturday, March 16, 05.30 p.m. - 09.00 p.m.
St. Patrick's Dinner with program

Saturday, March 23, 11.00 a.m. - 12.00 Noon
Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 13, 09.00 a.m. - 02.00 p.m.
(Rain Date – April 20, 09.00 a.m. - 02.00 p.m.)
Car Cruise and Flea Market

Saturday, June 15, 06.30 p.m. - 08.00 p.m.
Game Night

Saturday, June 22, 09.00 a.m. - 01.00 p.m.
African Food Sale

Sunday, June 23, 10.30 a.m.
African Praise Service

Saturday, September 07, 09.00 a.m. - 01.00 p.m.
(Rain Date - September 15, 01.00 p.m. - 05.00 p.m.)
Car Show and Flea Market

Sunday, September 08, 10.30 a.m.
Rally Day Worship Service followed by Picnic

Sunday, September 22, 10.30 a.m.
African Day Service

Saturday, October 19, 06.30 p.m. - 08.00 p.m.
Halloween Dance

Saturday, November 09, 11.00 a.m. - 01.00 p.m.
November Tea

Saturday, December 14, 08.00 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.
Breakfast with Santa

Sunday, December 15, 06.00 p.m. - 08.00 p.m.
Live Christmas Nativity

Car Cruises
Saturdays – Dates TBD
March, May, June, July, August, October

2024 Church Programs

Sunday Worship Services
09.00 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.

Sunday School for Children
10.30 a.m.

United Women in Faith
Second Mondays 07.00 p.m.

Ruth Circle
Third Tuesdays 12.00 p.m.

Bible Study
Wednesdays 01.00 p.m.

Lydia Circle
Fourth Tuesdays 07.00 p.m.

United Methodist Men's Breakfast
First Saturdays 09.00 a.m.

Ash Wednesday Service
Wednesday, February 14, 07.00 p.m.

Lenten Dinners and Bible Study
Wednesdays in Lent 06.30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Service
Thursday, March 28, 07.00 p.m.

Good Friday Service
Friday, March 29, 07.00 p.m.

Easter Sunday Service
Sunday, March 31, 10.30 a.m.

Advent Dinners and Program
Wednesdays in Advent 06.30 p.m.

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
Tuesday, December 24, 07.00 p.m.

IN THE SERVICE OF OUR COUNTRY:



Thank you for all you do to keep us safe!

Daniel Bader, VI
Nolan Bader
Evan Kuehl
Michael McLaughlin
Ryan Sutch