



# The Connection

September 2022

A monthly publication of the

**Millington United Methodist Church**

**Our Mission: To Know Christ, and to  
Make Him Known**



01 Nilah Berry  
03 Mark Colosky  
04 Lynnette Love  
04 Chelsea Pletcher  
08 Bill Demaray  
08 Tammy Roselles  
09 Karen Demaray  
12 Kristina Stohon  
12 Meredith Demaray  
12 Kayla Dickson  
13 Destany LeVan  
14 Sam Henderson  
15 Charles Koski  
17 Sue LeVan  
18 Ann Marie Atkin  
19 Kristi Schenk  
20 Cory Fisher  
20 Leah Burns  
24 Marguerite Aulbert  
27 Pastor Pete Crawford  
28 Mel Ayotte

## September Scripture Readings

1. Matthew 21:21-22
2. Hebrews 11:1-3
3. Hebrews 11:4-7
4. Hebrews 11:8-12
5. Hebrews 11:23-31
6. Hebrews 11:32-12:2
7. James 2:14-17
8. James 2:18-26
9. Proverbs 3:5-6
10. 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
11. 2 Corinthians 5:6-7
12. James 1:5-8
13. Galatians 2:15-16
14. 2 Timothy 4:7-8
15. Romans 4:13-14
16. Romans 4:15-17
17. Romans 4:18-25
18. Romans 5:1-5
19. Romans 10:9-11
20. Matthew 17:14-21
21. Psalm 37:5-6
22. 1 Timothy 4:10-12
23. Galatians 3:23-29
24. John 3:14-17
25. Romans 1:16-17
26. John 11:23-27
27. 1 Corinthians 15:16-22
28. Ephesians 3:16-19
29. Mark 10:46-52
30. 1 Peter 1:6-9
31. Galatians 2:20

## Special Days in September

1. National Burnt Ends Day
2. National Lazy Mom's Day
3. National Tailgating Day
4. National Pastor's Spouses Day
5. National Cheese Pizza Day
6. National Read a Book Day
7. National Acorn Squash Day
8. National School Picture Day
9. National Teddy Bear Day
10. National Swap Ideas Day
11. National Grandparent's Day
12. National Day of Encouragement
13. National Bald is Beautiful Day
14. National Parents Day Off
15. National Double Cheeseburger Day
16. National Step Family Day
17. National Apple Dumpling Day
18. National Wife Appreciation Day
19. National Talk Like A Pirate Day
20. National Fried Rice Day
21. National Pecan Cookie Day
22. National Ice Cream Cone Day
23. National great American Pot Pie day
24. National Singles Day
25. National Quesadilla Day
26. National Family Day
27. National Chocolate Milk Day
28. National Strawberry Cream Pie Day
29. National VFW Day
30. National Hot Mulled Cider Day

**~Pastor~**

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Monday-Thursday 8am—noon



## Pastor Carol's Corner

Have you stepped into my office? If not, I invite you to do so sometime soon for two reasons... 1. I'd love to visit with you and 2. I'd love for you to see how I have made it my own. I'm told that it looks more lived in than it has in a few years.

One of the many things you will notice in my office is a whole lot of books. I love books! Some of the books in my library were my grandfather's, my mothers, or other mentor pastors, some are from seminary that I used in my theological studies, some from continuing education classes, there are books that I have used in group studies in churches, reference books, and books upon books! As my kids say... I have books, books, and more books – oh and there are books at my home office if I can't find it at the church office. The truth is that I have lent so many books out that I could fill a few more boxes of books – and I gave about 4 boxes of books away before I came to Millington! I might have a book obsession! Anyway, I was thinking about the Spiritual Gifts Inventory I invited all of us to complete in July. (If you have not done this, there is still time) When reviewing those that I have received I had an amazing revelation about Millington UMC. Almost all of those that have been turned in had one of the three top spiritual gifts as Faith. Yet, because of the amount of hurt and pain that we have gone through due to issues in our community, culture, and church we are having a hard time living into that gift of Faith. This made me, of course, think of a book – James W. Moore wrote a study almost 30 years ago titled *Healing Where It Hurts*. This was a study I did over a decade ago with a group of women. I will be using some of the concepts on this book as a preaching focus for the month of September. I want us to begin to reflect on how we start to heal and step out on faith, trusting God and the healing power of love to bring us back to wholeness as people and as a community.

One of the ways I think we can begin to heal is by simply being in community together, or in other words – simply being together outside of worship. We are going to have a fun fellowship activity at least once a month. Our first one is Friday, September 2 at 7pm in our Sanctuary for a live simulcast of DAVID from the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA. I invite you to join in the first of these events. You are more than welcome to invite others to join us as well. But part of this time is to simply learn to be together again as community. Look for more fun activities in the coming weeks and months!

Pastor Carol

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# Finance



# Moment

We wonder - why does it matter that we give? How does generosity help us flourish? God doesn't need our money! He already owns it all, doesn't he?

Giving helps congregations thrive. The fruit of this giving is tangible and visible, immediate and long-term.

Churches with generous members offer more ministry, work with greater confidence, and make a greater impact on their communities and on the world.

Giving aligns us with God's purposes. Our giving helps people, relieves suffering, and reaches people who don't know God's love.

Giving changes us inside. Giving moderates our drive for acquisition. We live in a materialistic society that pressures us to pursue many things that do not lead to real happiness. Giving resets our internal compass in the right direction, helping us to draw closer to God.

Giving mirrors God's nature. We are created with God's nature imprinted on our souls; we are hard-wired to be social, compassionate, connected, loving, and generous.

Giving fosters a healthier relationship to money. Every time we spend money, we make a statement about what we value. When we give, we develop a detachment from the pull of our materialistic society.

Giving encourages intentionality. The practice of generosity opens us to deeper reflection about wealth and how it relates to our purpose and happiness.

Giving deepens our relationship with God. When we give generously, our beliefs and trust in God rise to tangible form. We become doers of the word and not hearers only. Generosity feeds our love for God.

The practice of generosity stretches us to offer our utmost and highest to God rather than to give in a manner that is haphazard, unplanned, reactive, or mediocre. People who are generous make giving a first priority, and they go the second mile. They do not give from the '*what's left over*' place, but from a '*what comes first*' priority. From "Five Practices of Fruitful Living, by Robert Schnase"

This month, try praying about your giving. Is it joyful? Is it given in love for our most generous God? Is it extravagant?





## Mission & Outreach Notes for September

I will bring your attention to the Equal Exchange products we have available for our use. Tea, coffee, and cocoa.

What is Equal Exchange? It is a farmer owned co-op that allows a farmer to get a fair price for their products instead of selling their products to the large companies who many times exploit the small farmers, paying them the smallest amount possible. We have these products available and if you would like more information about Equal Exchange/Fair Trade, there are brochures on the case here in the Narthex.

These products may be a bit more expensive than in grocery stores, but they are quality products, and they benefit the small farmers in Africa and South America.

I also will remind you of another project our committee supports. It is saving medicine bottles for the Free Medical Clinic in Flint. We have a container for these used medicine bottles in the Narthex. In order to take them to the clinic, the labels need to be removed. The best way I have found to remove the labels is to soak them for a few days in soapy water, scrape the labels off, then remove the glue with Goo-Gone and wash then and dry them. Any questions, call me.

The Free clinic staff really appreciate these.

We will be having another meeting of our committee on September 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Anyone with ideas as to how to serve and reach out to our community, let us know. Come join us!

*Maury Chapin, Chair*

Mission and Outreach





## MORE THINGS TO COME.....

### Shop with Scrip now Called RaiseRight

As you may know we have participated in the Shop with Scrip Gift Card program for many years. As we have changed, so has it...

1. Shop with Scrip is now called RaiseRight.
2. Ad Council has approved changing the use of RaiseRight rebates to help fund our Sunday morning music costs.
3. Sunday, September 25 following worship, grab a cup of coffee and come back into the sanctuary for a short informational meeting led by Pastor Carol on how to better use RaiseRight (Scrip) program, how to sign up for and use the cellphone app, along with how ordering and availability of physical gift cards will be changing.

### Sunday Morning Coffee

Are you a Coffee drinker? How about water? Well then you are in luck... each Sunday, beginning September 11, coffee, hot water and ice water will be available for everyone from before Sunday School until fellowship time after worship. There will be lids for coffee cups if you need them. Let's stick around and build back community.

### Church Conference:

Believe it or not it is time to think about our annual Church Conference. It has been a few years since we have had an in person fall Church Conference. This year, our District Superintendent Rev. John Kasper is using Discipleship Zones to complete our Church Conferences. **Ours will be Sunday, October 16th at 6:00 pm at Mayville UMC.** All are invited to attend this meeting. All members of Millington UMC are invited to vote on the business at hand. There will also be a short presentation on the current status of the relationship between the United Methodist Church and the Global Methodist Church. There will be an attempt to clear up misinformation and answer questions to the best of our ability.

### Building Community

What ideas do you have about building community? We are looking for ideas to rebuild our community after COVID, the ongoing cultural divisions, church divisions and other issues. We need to come together as one community. Understanding that even though we are different we are still one body of Christ. Do you need some thoughts to get you started? Here are some starters... We also need people who are willing to help organize each of these.

- Tailgate party – hotdog, lawn games, potluck under the pavilion
- Pre-Thanksgiving Church-giving... a meal where we share our favorite Thanksgiving sides (turkey provided)
- Christmas Caroling
- Family Game Night
- Movie Night

As you can see some of these take more work than others, but none take a lot! These are just opportunities to gather and remember who we are and whose we are! They are also great ways to invite friends and family!



## Upcoming Events and Information...

Mission & Outreach Mtg.

September 12th

7pm

Trustee Mtg.

September 12th

6pm

Address for Pastor Carol

Rev. Carol & Allen Bouse,

Jacob & Andrew

601 Leland St, Flushing MI 48433



Thank you so much for the beautiful wind chimes that were a gift from the church family after the death of my mother. They are hanging outside on our front porch. I love hearing them. They are so very special. Thank you also for the many thoughts and prayers during these difficult days. I am so grateful to be serving a congregation who cares for us so deeply. Pastor Carol & family.



## BLOOD DRIVE

The need is constant.  
The gratification is instant.  
**Give blood.**

### Blood Drive

Friday, September 9th

12 to 5:45 pm

Location: MUMC

Sponsored by: Pineview Mennonite Church

Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)

To Pre-Register

We recently received a check for \$173.75 from Planet Green for cartridges collected.!

Thank you to all those who help raise money for our Children's program by recycling your ink cartridges. Effective March 1, 2020, the only thing that Planet Green will accept after that date is ink cartridges. Please bring your items to the church office to be collected. Thank you!

### What we recycle: Ink Cartridges

We will **NO LONGER ACCEPT** cell phone & accessories, GPS & radar detectors, calculators, eBook Readers, iPods/MP3 Players, Digital/Video Cameras, PDAs, iPads/Tablets, Video Game Consoles & Accessories.

### RaiseRight Gift Card Program



A Special Veteran, Teacher Gift, Weddings, Showers, Birthdays and Anniversaries, Graduations, Christmas, or just to say Thank You...don't forget you can purchase or order your RaiseRight Gift Cards from Barb in the church office. Proceeds from this program go to help support our Children's programs. There are several cards available in the office and 100's you can order. We have earned another \$21.52 for the youth group account just this month! Thank you! See Barb in the church office if you would like to purchase or order cards.



Have you hugged your  
teenager today?

### ***Nominations Committee will be meeting***

Attention everyone – it is that time of year as we look to our slate of officers and examine how God is calling us to serve once again. Our Committee on Nominations and Lay Leadership will begin to meet very soon and we will be exploring our needs for 2023 and beyond. Please be in prayer for us and our church family.



As some of you might know, we are in the midst of changing over to using a new church database and we want to make sure everyone's information is correct. We would also love to get a current picture of everyone. So here is what we are going to do.

On Sunday Morning's from 9:30 – 9:50 and again after worship from 11:00 – 11:30 stop by and see Allen and the Bouse boys in the chapel. You give them/double check your information in the database along with getting your picture taken.

Here are the dates they will be in the Chapel

Sunday, September 11

Sunday September 18

Sunday, September 25 (before worship only)

Sunday, October 9

We can arrange to meet people at other times if needed. We hope to get our whole church family both photographed and updated! Any questions – contact Allen at 989-906-2186



# churchtrac

### Easily given

It was only a sunny smile,  
And little it cost in the giving;  
But it scattered the night like morning light,  
And made the day worth living.....

It was only a kindly word,  
A word that was lightly spoken;  
Yet not in vain, for it stilled the pain  
Of a heart that was nearly broken.....

It was only a helping hand,  
And it seemed of little availing;  
But its clasp was warm, and it saved from harm  
A brother whose strength was failing.....

A smile may lighten the falling heart,  
A word may soften pain's keenest smart,  
A touch may lead us from sin apart.  
How easily either is given!

-Source uncertain

### Labor Day Laughs

Take a break and enjoy this work-related humor!

- My first job was in an orange juice factory. I got canned because I couldn't concentrate.
- When I couldn't hack it as a lumberjack, I got the ax.
- I wasn't suited to being a tailor.
- Working in the muffler factory was too exhausting.
- I was a banker....until I lost interest.
- I realized there was no future in being a historian.
- Any way I sliced it, I couldn't cut the mustard at the deli.
- I studied to become a doctor but had no patients.
- My job at the coffee shop was always the same old grind.
- When I worked as a plumber, the tasks were too draining.
- I was hired at a gym but wasn't fit for the job.
- Finally, I got a job at a bakery; I kneaded dough!

# Puzzle!

Search for and circle all the bold words from Psalm 18:2, which reminds us where we find our strength.

The **LORD** is **MY ROCK**, my **FORTRESS** and my **DELIVERER**; my **GOD** is my rock, in whom I **TAKE REFUGE**. **HE** is my **SHIELD** and the **HORN** of my **SALVATION**, my **STRONGHOLD**.

S	T	R	O	N	G	H	O	L	D	T	S
O	L	O	B	K	I	E	Y	E	J	S	A
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# GOD ROCKS!

### A primer on love

Is life not full of opportunities for learning love? Every man and woman every day has a thousand of them. The world is not a playground; it is a schoolroom. Life is not a holiday, but an education. And the one eternal lesson for us all is how better we can love.

—Henry Drummond



September 2022						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 7pm Viewing of "David" live Come and bring a friend	3
4 9am Sunday School 10am Worship  13th Sunday after Pentecost	5  Labor Day –Bridge Walk	6 8:30 am Women's 4th Day 6pm Men's 4th Day	7	8	9 12—5:45pm Blood Drive 	10
11 9am Sunday School 10am Worship  14th Sunday after Pentecost Patriot Day National Grandparents Day	12 6pm Trustee mtg.  7pm Mission & Outreach mtg.	13 8:30 am Women's 4th Day	14	15	16	17
18 9am Sunday School 10am Worship  15th Sunday after Pentecost	19	20 8:30 am Women's 4th Day 6pm Men's 4th Day	21	22  First Day of Autumn	23	24
25 9am Sunday School 10am Worship  16th Sunday after Pentecost	26	27 8:30 am Women's 4th Day	28	29	30	

## A Note from Barb...

*Here we are entering the first month of autumn already! Our month of change.*

*We can see and feel the changes happening all around us. The weather is changing with cooler mornings and evenings, school has begun again and along with that comes football and soccer games. Soon the trees will be changing their colors and then dropping their leaves. The garden is producing its bounty and we will soon need to get our canning and freezing done. Lots of changes in our routines. Even our flowers are changing at this time of year. They are so beautiful right now, but soon with the frost, they too, will change.*

*With the cooler weather, comes campfires, apple cider, hot chocolate, and of course s'mores! Lots of changes. Most all of us love these things, and probably take them for granted without even thinking about it. All these changes affect each of us in numerous ways. "Fall has always been my favorite season. The time when everything bursts with its last beauty, as if nature had been saving up all year for the grand finale." -Lauren DeStefano*

*The one thing that never changes is God's love for us. We need to remember to enjoy the changes around us every day. But we also need to remember to thank God for the beauty and bounty that he has blessed us with. Autumn is proof that change can be beautiful.*

*Fall is my favorite color!*



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**Our Mission: To know Christ and to make Him known**

Check out our Sunday service online on our Facebook page at :

**Millington United Methodist Church**