



THE UNITED

South Avenue United Methodist Church

A UNION OF CHRIST, ROSS AVENUE AND SOUTH AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES



October 2021

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Pittsburgh PA 15221

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FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART OCTOBER 2021

When we cleaned out my parent's home in 2018 after my mother's death I found a little napkin holder I had made in metal shop many years ago when I was in the 8th grade. She kept it on top of her built-in oven and kept her bills in it. I knew it was there, I had seen it on many occasions. I was surprised that she kept it. My mother was a minimalist and was not one to keep a lot of STUFF. I could not bring myself to throw it away, even though it is in very bad shape as you can see. Not only is it in bad shape, I didn't do a very good job in making it. I have it sitting on my shelf in the office collecting dust but also serving as a reminder that my mother, for whatever reason, decided to keep it for all of these years. I like to think she kept it for sentimental reasons, because I made it, but I can't be sure of that. It certainly has absolutely no monetary value. It looks like it belongs in the trash.



Are you a 'keeper'? Do you hang on to things? It is important to hold on to material things that are of sentimental value that bring a smile to your heart and face. It is equally important to hold on to cherished memories that warm the heart.

There are those 'things' however, that we should NOT hold on to, things that should be tossed in the trash in order for us to heal and move on. When we cling to the negative we discover resentment, anger, bitterness, an unforgiving spirit takes root and festers which steals our joy, happiness and productivity. We find ourselves stuck in the quagmire of miserableness. Paul's letter to the Ephesians tells us in chapter four: "Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice."

As I write this letter, the calendar has turned to the first day of fall. My mother was also one for spring cleaning as well as fall cleaning: scrubbing walls and woodwork, drapes and curtains, cleaning out cupboards and tossing that which was no longer of use.

As we step into this new season perhaps we too need to do some fall cleaning and rid ourselves of all the negative things that are holding us back.

Blessings,

Pastor Russel

SAUMC & MIFFLIN AVENUE UMC CHURCHES

Charge Conference will be held on October 19, 2021 at Mifflin Avenue UMC at 7:00 pm.



AN UPDATE ON VINCE MROZ

Vince has started his seminary class work at the Lutheran Concordia Seminary in Missouri. So far all his class work is online and he is at home.

While a student, Vince will be working as a Vicar at Christ Lutheran in Forest Hills and at Trinity Church of the Deaf in Wilkinsburg.



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY OCTOBER 3, 2021

World Communion Sunday (first Sunday of October) provides scholarships for U.S. racial- and ethnic-minority students and international students, on both undergraduate and graduate levels.



CROP WALK 2021

Don't forget to support your CROP walkers this year. Betsy Monheim is walking in Frick Park. Pat Deleonibus is doing her walk at another time over the same course. David Lamont and his daughter are planning to do the traditional walk on Sunday Afternoon October 10 and Glenn Matteson will be walking in Oakmont and Verona the day before.



UNITED DEADLINE

The deadline for the November United will be Monday, October 25. Leave articles in the church office or email them to Helen McAfoos at hmcafoos@comcast.net.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN W PA CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING October 23, 2021

Dutilh UMC in Cranberry is the location of this year's annual meeting. Topic: "Who Is My Neighbor". Registration 9:30 am, Start time 9:45 am.

There will be a video on Racial Justice followed by a panel discussion. For more details see the announcement posted on the Women's Ministry Board near the Action Table.

Attendance can be in person or by Zoom. Cost \$8.00. Registration deadline October 8.

ALERT FOR ENJOY BOOKS

Women's Ministries will again sell Enjoy Books this year for 2022. They should arrive in the church office by early October. The cost is the same as last year - \$30.00 each. This helps in our efforts to raise money for missions. The flyers in the church office will help you with the offerings. It's not just restaurants – look for dry cleaners, florists and many more.

If you have this year's book, don't forget to check for coupons you still might want to use before they expire on November 1. There are some that are good until December 31.

You may buy your new book before the old one mostly expires on November 1 and begin using it immediately! It makes a great Birthday, Thank-you, Anniversary and/or Christmas present. How about as a hostess gift? Books will be available in the church office or call Mabel Matteson at 412-826-5831.



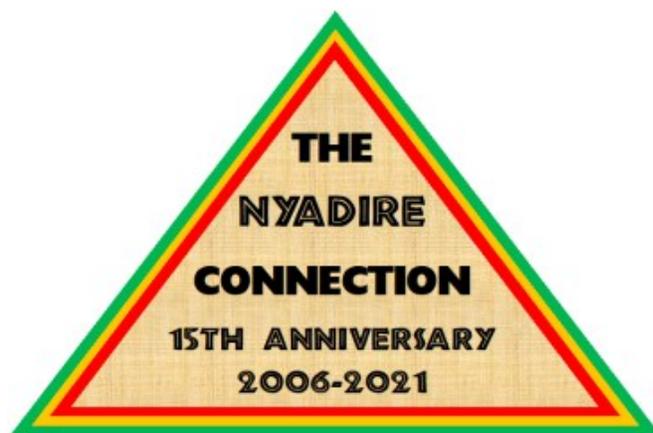
A MESSAGE FROM THE PITTSBURGH DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

As we continue to experience a high positivity rate for Coronavirus, I ask for your continued cooperation in following the CDC recommended guidelines for all persons to wear masks in indoor public gatherings. Christ calls us to care for our vulnerable neighbors. We must continue to protect the most at risk – children unable to be vaccinated and those with compromised health situations.

Should you have a person test positive for Covid after being present in worship, I expect you to move to online worship for the week following and to report to me the incident.

May God bless us all with health and hope and patience.

Faithfully,
Deborah Ackley-Killian
Pittsburgh District Superintendent



CELEBRATE 15 YEARS OF THE NYADIRE CONNECTION

The Nyadire Connection (TNC), based in Pittsburgh, is a faith-based non-profit volunteer organization that seeks to support and sustain the United Methodist Mission in Nyadire, Zimbabwe. TNC is celebrating its 15th anniversary with a celebration event on Sunday, November 14 at 6 pm, at Dutilh UMC (1270 Dutilh Rd, Cranberry Twp, PA 16066). Tickets are on sale now!

Please join us for appetizers and desserts, and to hear more about TNC's future from our local leadership and special guests by video from Nyadire. Tickets are \$25 each or, you can buy a package of 8 for \$160. For more information or to purchase a package of tickets, please contact TNC's Debbie Little at deborah.little0@gmail.com

TNC was formed after a group of Pittsburgh residents visited Nyadire on a mission trip and returned with a passion to support the Mission and build lasting relationships with the people there. Working closely with local leaders at the Mission and United Methodist Church leadership in Harare, Zimbabwe, TNC provides support for 12 programs focused on three areas: Health, Orphans and Education/Relationships.

www.Nyadire.org