

# ***The Messenger 2.0***

***September 22, 2021***

***A publication of The Saugerties United Methodist Church***



## ***Saugerties United Methodist Church***

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Welcome to the newest incarnation of The Messenger. It's been a while since we've had news of what's going on in our church, congregation and district. This is , at this time, a bit of a work in progress. I'll be needing help from everyone – from committee meeting dates and news, news on current and future events, Mother Goose information, to suggestions, questions, contact information; basically the things we were used to, and things you would like to see. That's why I'm asking for your help.

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For now, please forgive any omissions and mistakes by yours truly; I want to bring you the best and most complete information there is. Please send me anything you would like to have included in the next issue of Messenger 2.0. When would you like to see Messenger 2.0 in your inbox? Let me know.

By now, many of you have met, and welcomed Rev. Dr. Marva Usher-Kerr. We are so fortunate and blessed to have her here with us, and her energy and vision for the future of Saugerties UMC and the surrounding community are exciting and timely. Let's continue to welcome Pastor Marva, her gifts and graces, and her leadership and guidance.

## ***From the Chair of Finance:***

Are you clever, resourceful and full of good ideas?

Uncle Sam wants you!!! [insert picture of Uncle Sam here]

Well, to be honest, Uncle Sam probably would not know what to do with clever, resourceful people, but

let me tell you, SUMC does.

Your invitation to serve comes in the Messenger this month.

I am talking about fund raising, yes, I know, fund raising. The Finance Ministry would like to have a

separate group to recommend fund raising activities. Not looking for rummage sale and take out dinner kinds of ideas, but innovative ideas, where funds can be raised without too much effort. Last year or so we asked Deising's for Irish Soda Bread and resold it at a profit. Do you have ideas like that really good one?

Would you be willing to be on a committee to discuss and submit 5 to 10 ideas which could be used during the next year, to help the church continue its mission in the community.

Please consider this. Let me know.

Thanks,

Audrey Klinkenberg

***But wait, there's more...***

Coming soon to a church we all love.

This year we will have a formal stewardship campaign during the month of November. Preaching, teaching, eating and pledging are on the agenda for the month. There will be a guest from The Frontier Foundation here with us, to lead us through to the New Consecration Sunday, late November or early December. Thanks to Pastor Marva Usher-Kerr for knowing who to call.

Church members and friends need to pull together to bring light into the church on a daily basis. Your participation in this call to stewardship will be a doorway to help you grow in your faith and love of Jesus.

Finance Ministry

## ***United Methodist Women:***

The first meeting of the Saugerties United Methodist Women was held on September 21 at Rider Park. This was a planning meeting, and a time for everyone to catch up with one another. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 19 at the Church for pizza and a program. The Fall Annual District Meeting for UMW will be on Saturday, November 6 from 9:00 - 12:00 via Zoom. The theme is "Being Good Neighbors". See Joan Robinson for registration forms.

## ***Sunday School News:***

**Sunday School** will resume on Sunday, October 3, but there will be some changes. The start time will be 10:30, the same time as church. Children will begin in the sanctuary with their parents. After the opening of the church service, they will be escorted from the service by their teachers and go to their classrooms (the same rooms currently used by Mother Goose). Parents can pick their children up in these rooms at the close of the church service. The Sunday School material will be new. We will be using "Dig In" Sunday School curriculum. For children that cannot physically be in Sunday School, we hope to have them join us via a computer. We will also send material home for these children. The curriculum is geared toward children in preschool to grade 6. Older youth may volunteer to help the teachers in the classrooms as teachers' aides. Children will be required to wear masks when we open, but hopefully this situation will change in the near future.

**Youth programs** - Junior & Senior High - There will be a meeting on Sunday, September 26, from 6 - 8 pm in the Fellowship Hall to discuss the Methodist Youth Fellowship programs. This will be a discussion led by the teens of the church who have participated in these programs in the past. They will discuss the future of these programs in our church; how often they may want to meet; what project do they want to work on. We encourage any teen to invite their friends and join the discussion.

## ***We need you:***

They say it takes a village to raise a child, and this church has been a proud part of raising many, many wonderful children into some pretty wonderful adults. Saugerties UMC has played a big part in the lives of many young adults and older adults over the many years this church has stood on this corner lot, and prior to that on the lot the Exchange Hotel sits on currently. I say this because historically, this church, God's House, has had many fine clergy at the head of the congregation, the laity. And each of those clergy persons had the willing and capable assistance of their laity. A worship service consists of many parts, all of which are to glorify and praise God, His Son Jesus and the Holy Spirit. In today's world, perhaps more than ever before, we need to realize we are our sister and brothers keeper. From a welcoming smile, a meaningful hug or a hearty handshake, to sharing in hearing the good news to helping share the good news, we all have a necessary and important role in praising our God together. Ushers, lector's (or liturgists, if you like), greeters, and our young acolytes, are very much a part of magnifying and glorifying His Name and kin-dom. A beautiful part of the glorious and holy experience that we all come together to share. Jesus came to serve, and taught us to love (serve) each other. Greeting your neighbors as they enter His house, guiding your sisters and brothers into the safety of the sanctuary, bringing the light of Christ into and out of the sanctuary as an acolyte, are important and meaningful bits of service to each other and to God. Singing in the choir, reading His word and the days important messages are ways to use the talents God gave youth praise Him and bring others closer to Him. The beauty of service, to God and each other is that none of it is hard. It's using your gifts to give gifts to others. Please think about it, pray on it, and see if perhaps Jesus is giving you a little nudge, maybe a little more interest in knowing more about service. If you'd like to explore service and perhaps hear more about what you can do, please see any of the lay servants (Joan Robinson, Karen Reynolds, Diane or Al McDowell) and ask any question you might have. We look forward to talking with you.

## ***Outdoor Yard sale:***

We will be hosting another outdoor yard sale at the Church on October 8 and 9. The hours are:

Friday, October 8 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Help is especially needed to set up tables Friday morning and move items on to the tables, and then for clean up on Saturday. We will also need tents in case it rains (as it has in our 2 previous outside sales!). If you have items to donate, please bring them on Friday morning to minimize the handling involved. No price marking is needed since we will be accepting donations for items purchased at the sale.

Part of the incentive for this sale is to clean out the Church basement so that water issues can be addressed. At the end of this sale, any items of value that are left over will be boxed, and the boxes will

be placed in the chapel behind the screen so that they will be ready for the Church Holiday Fair scheduled for November 19 and 20.

## ***Holiday A-Fair:***

2021 Holiday A-Fair

Plans are underway for the Church holiday fair on November 19 and 20. Some changes may be required in how the Friday dinner and Saturday luncheon are held, but we are hoping that this event can proceed, and that Covid will not cause it to be cancelled. Stay tuned!

## ***Get Cookin':***

We have cookbooks!

The Parish Laity Coordinators for the Catskill Hudson District have coordinated a fund raising cook book sale. Over 400 recipes from around our district were collected, organized and compiled into a cookbook with cover art by a youth in our district. These books are being sold for only \$11 each, and \$10 of the money raised goes directly to the Church.

Only a limited number of cookbooks are available for sale!

Questions? Contact Diane McDowell

## ***Charge Conference:***

Charge Conference

The Saugerties UMC Charge Conference is scheduled for December 5. This important meeting, led by our District Superintendent, directs the work of the Church. In addition to a time of fellowship and celebration, the mission and ministry of the Church is reviewed. Reports are received, members of the Church leadership are elected, and the salary for the pastor and staff is set.

This year, charge conferences will be held as Cooperative Parish events. All churches in the parish will have a joint Cooperative Parish gathering to start, and then everyone will break out into charges for their individual business meetings. Saugerties UMC is part of the Esopus Parish, and the gathering will be held at the Reservoir UMC, 3056 State Route 28, Shokan, NY 12481.

## ***Saugerties High Clothing Donations:***

Saugerties High School will again be collecting donations of clothing on October 23 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

## Mother Goose Fundraiser:

**DATES TO SAVE**  
9/17/21  
.....  
**SALE START DATE**  
10/1/21  
.....  
**ORDER DUE DATE**  
10/1/21  
.....  
**MONEY DUE DATE**  
Shop online at  
[www.reg.fundraisingshoppingcart.com](http://www.reg.fundraisingshoppingcart.com)  
School ID - R 3090392

## **Facebook:**

SUMC has a presence on Facebook, and if you haven't seen it, a search on Facebook for "Saugerties United Methodist Church" will yield great rewards. The mission of our church on social media is, as stated by Bishop Bickerton on the NYAC page, "We strive to share God's love by creating safe places where all are accepted and welcomed, connecting the needs of people to the presence of God, and transforming the world through Christ." Facebook and social media offers us an opportunity to share who we are, what we believe and what we do, with the broader community around us. We are able to share our Sunday worship services with anyone, anywhere in the world. We may see 25 or 30 of our sisters and brothers in our sanctuary on any given Sunday, but the potential to reach many, many more during and after the service is tremendous (we've done it). Here is where you can help:

Many of you are seeing the page, and following it, clicking like on many of the different posts you're finding there; the serious, the humorous, the thought provoking. In general, each post is being seen 40-60 times. However, I've noticed also that if a post is shared, it gets about double the amount of views, and if it's shared 2 or more times, the number of views is doubled and more again. Imagine if all of us shared what I hope all of us believe, the numbers reached would become astronomical! Aren't we all inviting our neighbors to church every week? Imagine, with one click on the share button, how many neighbors you could invite to our church. Sisters and Brothers, if you like what you see, share it. More people will see and know us, and will come to see and know our Risen Savior.

Stay well.

Al