

Caton United Methodist Church Messenger

July 2018

A Note From Pastor Char

Dear CUMC Family,

Have you ever been in that place where you have had a deep craving for something that drives you crazy and NOTHING can satisfy that craving except for that one item? Let's say it is a banana. You are craving that banana and you know that you bought fresh bananas at the grocery store last week. You walk to the kitchen with your stomach nagging at you and there on the counter is the banana. As you approach what looks to be a beautiful, sweet, satisfying banana your heart melts. Your stomach gets excited! You pick up the banana and turn it over only to see that the bottom half is brown, slimy and rotten! The fruit had spoiled. What was once something that you spent your hard earned money on, something that you desperately craved, is now a worthless pile of mush that no longer is able to do its job—feed the hungry.

Sometimes I think that this is the feeling that God gets when God looks at the churches across the world. God's desire is to reconcile the world so that all people can find a way to heaven and experience the fullness of life God offers. As we have talked, churches were built in places of importance as beacons of light meant to lead people to salvation through Jesus Christ. These churches had steeples that boasted a cross lifted high above everything else. Churches were built so that they were easily recognizable. Churches were a place of safe-haven and comfort. Churches are where you go to find release, hope and grace.

As I have been driving around from place to place I notice a lot of beautiful churches. One of our joys when we travel is to check out these other churches and explore their ministry. Sometimes we walk away inspired, excited and eager to come home and tell people about it. But other times this church ends up being like that banana—beautiful and satisfying on the outside but soft and mushy on the inside having lost all its integrity. As you walk into a church you see beautiful sanctuary and everything has an organized place. Nobody talks to you. You receive the 'awkward stare' reminding you that you are an outsider. The worship is mediocre. Finally, you are able to leave and not a single person has said hello. This is the story of many churches across the globe; churches who once claimed their mission of making disciples for Jesus Christ but now have lost their vitality.

This is something that I spend a lot of time wrestling with to try to ensure that we, the people of CUMC, do not inherit this story. Over the past few years that UMC has been doing some studies and seeking the answer to the question: 'What is a vital congregation? What do they look like? How do we create them? How do we nurture them?' They have been able to find many great ways to ensure that the church does not lose its focus on making disciples. They said that there are four main areas of focus:

- Combating the diseases of poverty by improving health globally.
- Engaging in ministry with the poor.
- Creating new places for new people and revitalizing existing congregations.
- Developing principled Christian leaders for the church and the world.

These are the goals of the church—to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ in an effort to make disciples through our work as servants offering radical hospitality, compassion, grace, forgiveness and hope. There are many ways in which these goals can be accomplished but there is only one place to start—with us! In an article by one of my former District Superintendents, she wrote something that I fully agree with and is the key to keeping us from being the banana:

If we're serious about being the church, we need people who are serious about following Jesus Christ – not just in name, but in action. We can't just talk the talk; we need to walk the walk. What does that mean? It means having a vital relationship with Jesus Christ through:

- an active prayer life
- immersion in the Scriptures and other faithful writings
- regularly participating in worship
- Participating in a small group with other Christians who will encourage and hold one another accountable.
- being involved in the ministries of the church
- having a willingness to serve others with true humility and compassion
- Possessing a desire to share the love and grace of God made present in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus with others.

Here at CUMC we are working on becoming more and more intentional about the things we do. I want to encourage us to continue to 'step up' our participation in the ministry in whatever way we can—this might mean stepping out of our comfort zone, it might mean using the gifts that God has given to us, it might even mean taking a break from something that we have done forever and showing somebody new how it is done. Discipleship is all about growing in relationship with both God and neighbor. How are you growing? How are you influencing someone else? Together we can ensure that CUMC is not a banana but a healthy vital congregation that is intentional about making disciples for the transformation of the world.

From one disciple to another,

Pastor Chad

Summer Tithes

Here is a reminder about giving to CUMC this summer as you are traveling! Online giving is available using your Realm account or through the church website. Online giving allows you to give your tithe or offering using a credit card, debit card or electronic check. You are also able to set up a schedule for 'automatic giving'.

To use online giving, sign on to your Realm account and click on the giving tab on the left. Next, press the 'Give' button on the upper left of your screen. After pressing the Give button, the 'Give Now' screen will appear. Fill out the required information and when complete, press the 'Give' button at the lower left of the screen and the transaction will be processed.

To use Online giving from the website, go to www.catonumc.org. Find the 'Announcements' box on the right and click on the link for Online giving. This will bring up the page for 'Give to the Caton United Methodist Church'. To use this method, you must have a valid E-mail address. At this point, you may sign into your Realm account or process your giving as a Guest.

If you have any questions, please contact Don Haussener at 607-524-6784 or Brenda Swanson at 607-524-6715.

Church Family News

Congratulations to the following high school seniors: Gabrielle Jankowski (Linda Riley's granddaughter), Kaylyn Thomas (daughter of Nikki and Ken Thomas) and Taylor Burnside (granddaughter of Candi and Bob (Twaz) Thompson). Wishing Gabi, Kaylyn and Taylor much happiness and success on the next chapter in their life.



June July

June 8 th	Michael Clark	July 1	Taylor Burnside
June 12 th	Jessica Sayers		Micah Sayers
June 17 th	Nancy Huber	July 2	Bob Blanchard, Sr
June 18 th	Ron Begell	July 8	Kay Pavlick
June 20 th	Evelyn Gridley	July 11	Jim Gridley
June 28 th	Don Haussener	July 12	Allison Clark
	Elaine Stewart	July 14	Matthew Clark
		July 21	Maryjane Blanchard
		July 27	Shirley Smith
		July 30	Tom Windows

<i>June Anniversaries</i>	
June 17 th	Robert (Twaz) & Candi Thompson
June 18 th	Mike & Kathy Dunn
June 25 th	Tom and Ellen Windows
<i>July Anniversaries</i>	
July 8 th	Gage and Julianne Coon
July 11 th	Andy and Jen Webber
July 26 th	Pastor Chad and Jessica Sayers
July 29 th	Andy and Barb Passmore





Congratulations to Lucretia West on her Special Recognition Award. She was recognized at the Mountain View District United Methodist Women's Spring District Dinner on May 14th.. Lucretia became a member of CUMC in January 1996. Her artistic talents have created beautiful paintings which have been displayed throughout the area and at the church. Her musical talents have been utilized in the Praise Band. Her artistic talents are now being used to create a beautiful backdrop mural for the Upper New York annual conference. Over the years as a member of CUMC she was active in VBS, care of the church and mission locally, regionally, and last year with a trip to Cuba. She was presented with a pin and a certificate recognizing her achievements at the May 20th worship service. Congratulations, Lucretia for serving God with the talents he has provided for you.



Drive Thru Chicken Bar-B-Que

Wednesday – July 18th from 4:00 pm until gone.

Cost: \$9.00

Menu: Half a chicken, salt potatoes, baked beans, roll and butter, and a brownie

Drive up – pay for dinner

Drive forward – pick your meal up

Drive away (No fuss/No muss)

Volunteers and donations needed

(sign up sheet will be on the announcement table)

Mission Projects

Potters Hands Foundation – Paper Towels and Tissue

On Monday – June 18th – Pastor Chad, Joni Kehoe, and Brenda Swanson delivered the paper towels and kleenex to the Potters Hands Foundation house. Not only were they grateful but were very surprised when we had a truck full. Thank you again for your continued support in assisting to rescue young women from human trafficking.

UMCOR Health Kits

One of the CUMC family mission projects are the UMCOR Health Kits. What are the health kits and where do they go? The Health Kits are basic necessity items that can be used by individuals who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or a natural disaster. The items needed are listed below (all items must be new) – Health Kit value: \$12.00

- 1 washcloth*
- 1 hand towel (15x25 to 17x27 inches)*
- 1 comb (sturdy and at least 6 inches long)*
- One toenail or fingernail clipper*
- Bath size soap (3 oz. or larger)*
- 1 adult toothbrush (not removed from packaging)*
- 10 adhesive bandages (3/4 x 3 inches)*
- One gallon size resealable bag*
- \$2.00 to purchase toothpaste*

Vacation Bible School

“Splash Lagoon” is our theme for Vacation Bible School

Dates: Sunday – July 8th to Wednesday – July 11th

Time: 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Ages: 4-12 (Registration recommended but not required)

Songs, activities, bible stories, and snacks being planned.

Spread the word!!!!

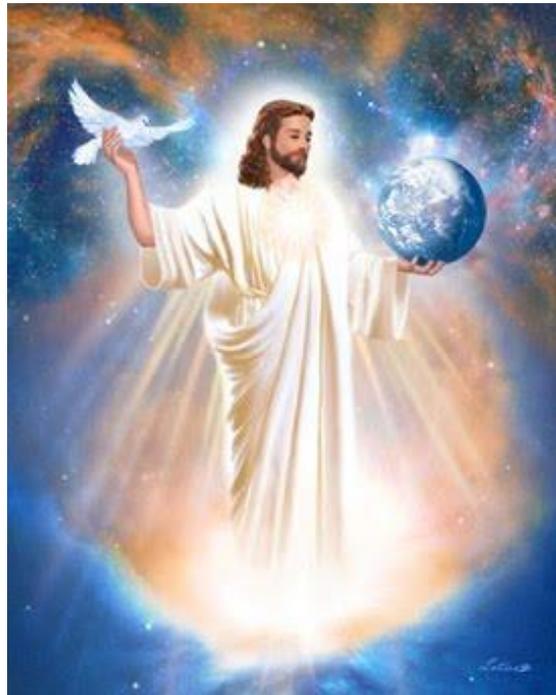
Volunteers needed to help with registration, directing and assisting the children, photography. For more information see Pastor Chad and Brenda

Do You Know What Is Happening in 2018? CUMC will be celebrating its 185th Birthday

In 2008 CUMC church family celebrated their 175th birthday. On September 9th we will be celebrating our 185th Birthday. Bishop Webb from the Upper New York Conference will be here to worship and celebrate with this. We are planning a luncheon celebration. If you would be interested in helping with this celebration please see Pastor Chad or Brenda.

This is a quote from the 1983 Supplement that was compiled by Church Historian, Francis Allen, Helen Tobey and Pastor Melanie Cole.

“Those who see only yesterday live in the past. Those who think only of today are not the dreamers for tomorrow. The creative minds of today are working toward the realization of the hopes of tomorrow.”



July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:15am Praise Band Rehearsal 9:30am Worship – Communion 10:30am Fellowship	2 5:00pm Worship Planning	3 4:00pm Mobile Food Truck (Lindley-Presho UMC)	4 	5 4:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal	6	7
8 8:15am Praise Band Rehearsal 9:30am Worship Communion 10:30am Fellowship 6:30pm VBS – Splash Canyon	9 5:00pm Worship Planning 6:30pm VBS - Splash Canyon	10 6:30pm VBS – Splash Canyon	11 6:30pm VBS – Splash Canyon	12 4:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal	13	14
15 8:15am Praise Band Rehearsal 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship	16 5:00pm Worship Planning	17	18	19 4:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal	20	21
22 8:15am Praise Band Rehearsal 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship	23 5:00pm Worship Planning	24	25	26 4:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal	27	28
29 8:15am Praise Band Rehearsal 9:30am Worship 10:30am Fellowship	30 5:00pm Worship Planning	31				

Caton United Methodist Church
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