



The Steeple

November 2023



Pastor's Page

Message from Pastor Ira Cameron – A Short Bio



Ira and Simone Cameron Have lived in Ware MA for the past 41 years, where they raised their two sons, Scott and Michael. We have been blessed with two wonderful grandchildren, Scott's son Adam and Michael's daughter Evelyn. Simone and I just celebrated our 55th anniversary earlier this year.

My first appointment as a licensed Local Pastor was in 1993, the same year that I started working for the US Postal Service, at the bulk mail center in Indian Orchard, where I worked as mechanic repairing mail handling equipment, retiring after 22 years. During that time, I served churches in Uxbridge, Ludlow where I retired, and Monson, where I retired for the second time.

Prior to my appointment as an LLP in 1993, I served churches in Connecticut, New York and Massachusetts as Sunday School teacher, youth and young adult group leader, Dean of Jr./Sr. high UCC music camp and certified lay speaker in the Southern New England Conference UMC.

As a retired Licensed Local Pastor, I have and still do serve on two district committees (Superintendency and Ministry) and last year, just before Bishop Devadhar's retirement, he saw fit to appoint me as Sacramental Minister for the Commonwealth West District doing a lot of pulpit supply ministry throughout this district and beyond.

While my pastoral appointment to the United Methodist Church of Holyoke, Granby and South Hadley is as a short-term interim pastor, it is my intention to remain in close association with you and your church until such time as the New England Conference can appoint an appropriate pastor whose gifts and graces closely match your church's ministry needs.

I would like to invite all members and your friends and families to come and see what is new and exciting that your church has done in the past two or three years to really make your church a warm and welcoming place to come and worship the Lord.

I look forward to having the opportunity to meet and get to know so many more of you, as we worship God together here in South Hadley. Please, come and make yourselves comfy, this is your home.

Blessings, Ira

Church office: 413-532-0500
e-mail: office@UMCSouthHadley.org
Dr. Heather Reichgott, Minister of Music

Worship Sunday 10:00 a.m.
web site: UMCSouthHadley.org
Ann Felsentreger, Secretary

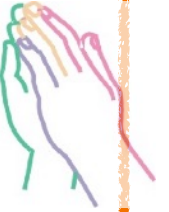
Neighbors Helping Neighbors: 413-437-7593



November 6 is All Saints Sunday and we are inviting you to bring a picture of a loved one you want to memorialize. You may light a candle and say their name or speak briefly.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father,
May we take this day, as You have given it, to find the beauty of Your creation, the peace of Your spirit and the comfort of Your presence. Let us take time to be a blessing to others as You continually bless us. All praise and Glory to You. Amen.



Submitted by Lori Bozeman, Lay Leader, Brunswick UMC, Many Waters District

JOIN PASTOR IRA

Pastor Ira invites you to join him in Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m. starting on Tuesday, November 14 for conversation and fellowship. We will gather every Tuesday and decide what we will discuss.

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

Come worship, give thanks for all that's good in our lives and pray for the future on Thanksgiving Sunday, November 19. You are invited to help those in need by bringing non-perishable food or a financial donation for Neighbors Helping Neighbors food pantry.



While hunger is a year round issue, the upcoming holidays tug at our heartstrings and we tend to be more aware at this time of year. As you consider what you might bring to be blessed on November 23rd we suggest you might mark each month of your calendar and make either a food or monetary donation to any of the feeding ministries in our area on a regular basis.



BAKE SALE

UWF BAKE SALE

Sunday, November 19 9:00 a.m.



Why: To raise money for the Methodist's Women's Mission

Who: Everyone can Participate

How: Bake, Buy or Donate

Why: To help support the United Women in Faith missions.



CELEBRATION, CONCERNS & MORE

PLEASE PRAY FOR:



Carol Brunelle, Beth Dietz, Marion Winters, Jessica Guarnera, Dave Fanaras, Tim O'Donnell, Lily Marion, Kathy Washburn, Darlene Dout, Heidi Barta, Renata Cournoyer, Lucy Huegli, Bill Guarnera, Andrea Schlachter, Dee Brooksbank Kelly & Steve Camp, Dot Lambert & Family, Nancy Uhl & Family, Kevin McLaughlin, Bill Pead, Bill Beyer, Cathy Demers, Adele Reynolds Family, Family of Samantha Snopek.



STEEPLE LIGHTING

Our steeple is lit during the month of November in loving memory of Pauline Kiakis by George, Alex & Tyler.

If you would like the steeple lit for one month, the fee is \$25.00. The deadline is the 25th of the month. More than one person/family may participate.



CONGRATULATIONS to Bree Hackett, Gabby Walz and Aubrey Fugiel who were this year's recipients of the North Main Street Churches Scholarship.



So. Hadley Methodist Church

Grab & Go

**Mac & Cheese with a slice of Ham
& White Chocolate Cranberry Bars**

November 17 5:00 to 5:30 p.m. \$12.00

Menu: Includes **Beverage**

To order: call: 413 532-0500 text 413 695-1212
 email: office@UMCSouthhadley.org



Meal will be delivered to your car. Pull into the church driveway and you will be directed on where to line up, pay for your order and it will be brought to your car. Easy peasy!

If you will help prepare the food call or email the church.

THE CASSEROLES FOR KATE'S KITCHEN ARE DUE NOVEMBER 26

Thanks to all who helped, 7 casseroles were delivered in October to Kate's Kitchen.

Thank you to Carol & Tom Deren for delivering the casseroles.
Everyone is invited to help.



All are invited to **join the United Women of Faith** on November 9 at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Rose Novak will lead us in devotion and Ann will be hostess.

PEOPLE ARE HUNGRY: CASSEROLES FOR KATE'S KITCHEN

Who: Will **you help?** Join us by making a casserole for Kate's Kitchen

When: Once a month or whenever you can. This month's casseroles are **due November 26th.**

What: Cook one pound of some sort of pasta, add pasta sauce, add ground meat and maybe cheese. Please label what kind of meat is in casserole, i.e. poultry, pork, beef.

How: The UWF provides a pan and asks that the casseroles be frozen and then put in a plastic bag. You can bring it to church any time during the month and put it in the freezer.

Why: To do the work of God by helping feed hungry people.

Thank you for any help you can give towards this mission project.
The casseroles are much appreciated.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

November 5: *All Saints Sunday*
Reminder to set your clocks back Daylight Savings time ends.
9:15 a.m. Choir warm-up

November 6: 6:00 p.m. SPRC
7:00 p.m. *Annual Conference* in Fellowship Hall and on Zoom - All are invited to participate.

November 8: 9:00 a.m. UWF in Fellowship Hall

November 14: 9:00 a.m. Discussion with Pastor Ira

November 17: 5:00-5:30 p.m. Grab & Go

November 19: 9:15 a.m. Choir warm-up
9:00-11:30 a.m. UWF Bake Sale

November 23: **Have a blessed Thanksgiving** Thursdays 6:30 p.m. Bell choir rehearsal
No choir rehearsals 7:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal

November 26: Casseroles for Kate's Kitchen are due.

December 5 : 6:00 p.m. Council & Trustee in Fellowship Hall & on Zoom

December 10: 9:00-noon *UWF workshop*, before& after worship help make cards & a craft for our Friends at Home & put together White Christmas bags

December 15: 5:00-5:30 Grab & Go

December 24: 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Casseroles for Kate's Kitchen are due.

FROM OUR LAYLEADER

It's hard to believe we are already in November. Thanksgiving is coming, and then Advent and Christmas. I know people who feel that they don't have much to be thankful for, and I understand that feeling. But while I understand, I don't share the feeling. No matter how bad the world is, we always have things to be thankful for. I have lost people I love in the fall, most recently, Samantha, who was like a daughter to me. I am sad she is gone, but I am thankful she is not enduring the terrible pain anymore, and I am also thankful she was in my life.

I am very thankful to live in the greatest country there ever was. While we have such abundance, not everyone shares in it. I am thankful I have the opportunity to help families by providing food. I think I get more than I give at the pantry. It feeds my soul.

I am thankful for this church; it provides a form of shelter for me. I have friends, and I know I am welcome here, even when I drive people crazy. I am renewed and strengthened in this place.

I am thankful for Pastor Ira, who once again, has come out of retirement to help us be who we are meant to be. He is a wealth of experience and knowledge and is a kind and caring person who will benefit us in the short time we are privileged to have him.

I am thankful to be alive, even though my body frequently lets me know it hates me. I look forward to a rich holiday season with new experiences and old traditions. And while I do not welcome this time of year, I shall embrace it and rejoice in the many things for which I am grateful.

I wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and hope you are able to truly be thankful for your blessings.

Mary Lou

THANKFUL
GRATEFUL
BLESSED!

BE A SECRET SANTA – How can you help?



'Tis the time for the Secret Santa for Christmas program. We have children who will need gifts, and that means we need more people to shop and donate money too. Last year we helped 74 children have a happy Christmas.

You can help by:

Buying gifts for 1 or more children

Donating money to help pay for gifts - before December 4

There is a Wish Card for each child. Some want toys, some want clothes or boots. The 'wish cards' will be available November 19th or sooner. Your help is always welcome. If you have question or would like to help, talk to Ann 413-695-1212 or Martha.

For too many local children this Christmas, stockings hung by the chimney with care will be empty. Too many local parents will be heartsick that they can't give their children a Christmas with the pleasant surprises.

If you know of a family who will go without gifts, give their information to Ann. Names and all information will be kept confidential.

Catch the spirit of Christmas and become a Secret Santa.

CELEBRATE DIVERSITY

All are welcome - loved for who you are, exactly as you are.
Join us for worship or join in one of our missions.

United Methodist Church
Of
Holyoke, South Hadley & Granby
30 Carew Street
South Hadley, MA 01075

Worship Sunday 10:00 a.m. in our Sanctuary and on Zoom and YouTube



Pastor Ira Cameron
413 348-6282
pastorira@juno.com

If you are in need of prayers or need to speak with pastor call or email.
e-mail: office@UMCSouthHadley.org
Church office 413 532-0500 Leave a message.
web site: UMCSouthHadley.org

UWF: HATS, MITTENS, SCARVES



It's time to start knitting and buying mittens, hats & scarves. We will have a Christmas tree to hang the hats and mittens on. We will deliver them to those in need and many will be used for the Secret Santa gifts. New are best but slightly used are welcome. All sizes are needed. This small mission project has been going on in our church for what seems like forever and the children and adults who are cold appreciate the hats and mittens.



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
30 Carew Street
South Hadley, Massachusetts 01075-2705
Return address service requested.

