



The Steeple

May 2024



BREAKING NEWS!!

We have a pastor!

As of June 1, we have a pastor! Pastor Hwang Heo will be officially appointed in June at the New England Annual Conference. While appointments begin on July 1, SPRC asked District Superintendent Megan Stowe if it would be possible for Pastor Hwang to start June 1. She said it was up to him, and after consulting with his family, he agreed. We feel blessed to have Pastor Hwang a month early.

We are excited that Pastor Hwang is a singer, which has made Heather and all the choir very happy. In an effort to be available outside of Sunday worship, for such things as visitation, attending Church Council meetings, and other things that come up, Pastor Hwang will lead worship three Sundays monthly (four in months with five Sundays), and SPRC will continue to provide individuals for the remaining Sunday. Since we have heard positive feedback about the variety of people leading worship, we feel this is another positive in the next chapter of our church life.

We had a discussion with Pastor Huang about our priorities, suggesting our number one need is to have some young blood in church. As the father of three girls, ages 4, 7 and 11, he is more in tune with youth than some of us, and we are grateful to have that experience among us once again.

Pastor Hwang is married to Sooyoun (“Soo”) Kim, who is the pastor of the Trinity UMC in Hadley. I believe it was God’s grace that led Rev. Stowe to bring Pastor Hwang to us, and I see a bright future for our church. I invite all to come meet Pastor Hwang beginning in June. When the pastor and SPRC decide the schedule of his Sundays, you will be notified.

We need each other, especially you, so please come be with us on Sunday mornings.

Church office: 413-532-0500

e-mail: office@UMCSouthHadley.org

Dr. Heather Reichgott, Minister of Music

Neighbors Helping Neighbors: 413-437-7593

Worship Sunday 10:00 a.m.

web site: UMCSouthHadley.org

Ann Felsentreger, Secretary



So. Hadley Methodist Church

Grab & Go

Polynesian Pulled Pork Sandwich

May 17

5:00 to 5:30 p.m.

\$12.00

Menu: Polynesian Pulled Pork
Chocolate Trifle 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.

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



PLANT SALE



In case you haven't noticed, spring has sprung! Now we can spend time outside without bundling up or shoveling.

And that means it's time for gardening! Do you grow things? Maybe flowers, food, greens? Do you like to look at pretty flowers? Eat good food? You're in luck, because we (UMC of Holyoke, South Hadley & Granby) are having a plant sale on **May 18, from 11 to 2.**

What can you do? You can bring plants. It's time to divide some perennials, in order to make the mother plant healthy. Bring us your divisions. You can share seedlings you may have started. You can bring a plant that you don't appreciate anymore. You might even purchase something to donate.

You can also come and buy something at the plant sale. If you don't buy it for yourself, perhaps a neighbor deserves a thank you. Perhaps someone needs to be cheered up. Maybe you are (or know someone) thinking of trying something new.

This is a good opportunity for all of us to be on hand to show our church is still alive. Maybe it would be a good time to do some weeding or trimming. Let's get in the spirit and show our neighbors we are still here. Let's show we can come together for the good of the church. Let's decide to make a new beginning along with Mother Nature.



CELEBRATION. CONCERNS & MORE



PRAY FOR:

Carol Brunelle, Beth Dietz, Jessica Guarnera, Dave Fanaras, Tim O'Donnell, Kathy Washburn, George Kiakis, Lily Marion, Darlene Dout, Heidi Barta, Andrea Schlachter, Renata Cournoyer, Lucy Huegli, Bill Guarnera, Kelly & Steve Camp, Kevin McLaughlin, Bill Pead, Cathy Demers, Bill Beyer, Jerry Rubackin, Jim Anspach's Family - parents, Gene & Rene and Uncles Earl & Tom Anspach, Mark Felsentreger, Bob Falgares, Anna Dunlap, Christie Pead

† Prayers & sympathy to Elizabeth & Robert Barron on the death of there daughter Hazel.

LOOKING FOR OUR GRADUATES



Please inform the office if there is a new graduate to celebrate. The names will be posted in the June newsletter.

cs lewis

I believe in Christianity
as I believe that the sun
is risen - not only because
I see it but because by it
I see everything else.

Have
Faith
in
GOD



United
Women
in Faith

JOIN US ON MAY 8TH

We will be gathering at 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Join us for prayer, laughter and food as we plan for missions. In April Carol & Tom Deren delivered 8 casseroles to Kate's Kitchen. You can help by making a casserole. They are due on May 26.

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS.

NAME THEM ONE BY ONE.
COUNT YOUR
MANY BLESSINGS
SEE WHAT GOD HAS DONE.



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

It is time for any of our church family who have finished their first year in an accredited institute of higher education and are continuing on to apply for the North Main Street Churches Scholarship. Applications for this scholarship will be accepted from May 1 through June 30. You can email or call the church office for an application.



The North Main Street Churches Scholarship Fund is a combination of funds donated for student scholarships from the Falls Congregational Church and the So. Hadley Methodist Church. The Scholarship will be awarded in September after the scholarship committee has reviewed all applications.



CWS BLANKETS - HEARTS & CARDS



Starting May 5th and continuing through June 16th you can give a special gift in honor or memory of your mother, father.... or any person you would like. The United Women in Faith of our church have hearts or Mother's Day cards or Father's Day cards for sale for \$5.00 each.

You may purchase a card to give to your mother, father or other special person or you may get a  red heart to honor or memorialize a special person and pin the heart on the blanket that will be on display. The proceeds will go to Church World United Service Missions to buy blankets to be used by people in need. Some of them may stay right here in the area. This is a great way to show your love by helping to keep others warm! 

MARK YOUR CALENDAR ALL WELCOME

Every Sunday after worship join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee and...

All are invited to joins us on:

Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. Join Pastor Ira in Fellowship Hall for coffee & conversation

Thursdays 6:30 p.m. Bells rehearsal in the sanctuary

7:15 p.m. Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary

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

May 12: Happy Mother's Day

May 14: 6:00 p.m. Council & Trustee in Pastor's Office

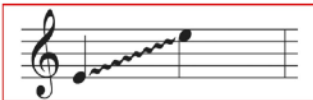
May 17: 5:00-5:30 p.m. Grab & Go

May 18: 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Plant Sale

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



Grace Notes



On May 19: 2:00 p.m. Celebrate Pentecost with an afternoon of inspirational music at Our Savior's Lutheran Church
319 Granby Rd. So. Hadley

benefitting Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Pantry.

Cost is Free-will offering at door. Checks may be made out to Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Inc.



FROM OUR BISHOP

Bishop Peggy Johnson intends to appoint Pastor Hwang Heo to the UMC of Holyoke, South Hadley, and Granby effective July 1, 2024 subject to fulfilling all the requirements needed for a successful transition by the pastor and the respective churches affected by the appointment.

The appointment will be finalized at the 2024 Annual Conference Session of the New England Conference.

After consulting with his family, Pastor Hwang has agreed to start June 1.

GOD IS GOOD

FROM OUR LAY LEADER

Have you noticed? It's spring! Flowers are starting to bloom, trees are turning green and allergies are making people miserable. Ah yes, good ole' spring. It's a time of rebirth, when nature reminds us that no matter how dark and cold the winter, it always ends. I feel our church is on the brink of rebirth with the appointment of Pastor Hwang. It feels like the spring after a tough winter of uncertainty. We are hoping more of our young people will show renewed interest in our church, but a new pastor cannot do anything alone. He needs his posse, and that is US. How shall we partner to wake up those members who have been staying at home? How do we reach young people, many of whom are looking for something to believe in? A partnership is needed, a partnership with a pastor, a church and God.



It is important to remember our pastor is being paid for a quarter time appointment. This involves basically preaching on Sundays and not much else. If you ever wrote a sermon, you should understand. It's a time-consuming task. It's also important to remember the quarter time appointment is determined by church attendance. What does that mean? It means your presence matters. It mostly matters to those of us who miss you and want to see you, but it is more than that. When more of us worship together, more energy is brought to the service and we support each other. It is the reason we join with Faith UMC for Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday. The bottom line is we love you and need you.

We hope to see you on May 17 at our Grab & Go (pulled pork and trifle- yum!), on May 18 at our plant sale and in church on June 2, when we welcome Pastor Hwang to our family. Good things are happening; come be part of the church's season of spring.

Mary Lou

PRAYER 2 Corinthians 8:21: For we are trying to do what is right in the sight of both God and people. (The Inclusive Bible, the First Egalitarian Translation)



Lord, deliver us from the sanctification gap. May our neighbor never see a difference in what we say we believe and how we live in the world. May we become like Jesus, both wise and innocent so that we become the new Eve and Adam living out the ways things should always have been. Let us live in ways that bring the kingdom of God to reality. May we always put your approval over that of our neighbors and be willing to

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 on YouTube



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



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