



The Steeple

August 2024



OUR CHURCH

When I was growing up, our family had some dramatic swings in our financial situation. There were times when money was plentiful, and times when there was constant worry. Through it all, my mother would say, "There's nothing wrong with us that money couldn't cure." When she said that, I understood and it centered me; I appreciated that our family was strong and full of love.

I feel this applies to the state of our church right now. We are full of love for each other, the church, and all of God's children, and that love keeps us strong. Our financial situation may be grim, but we continue to step up in the ways we are able. You may have read last month about some of the ways that some of us contribute. So many do so much, that there was not room to celebrate it all, so here is some more.



Lois Felsentreger, turning 99 this month!, is in the middle when the United Women in Faith have a bake sale, and unless her family makes her stay home, she is in worship each week, folding bulletins for us. She is a faithful supporter of the pantry, too, and you have to appreciate her love for all. God bless you, Lois. 99 is quite amazing!

George Kiakis is ready at any moment to lead worship, and he has done that many times this year. His message is always relevant and we are deeply grateful for his willingness to share his faith, love and his presence with us. His love for this church is deep.

What would we do without Kevin? There he is with his bass guitar, either backing up Heather or leading us in her absence. If you ever played an instrument, you know it can be unnerving to do what he does and we are so appreciative of his music.

Brian Tabor has a calming way about him, and when he is liturgist, you have a feeling that everything will be okay. Brian sings in the choir for special days and he is an important member of the worship committee.

John Hackett is out there in the elements when we are all happy not to be. He keeps the parking lot ready to use and even gives the ramp special attention by what I call backward plowing (!) He also tolerates my special requests to make the shed more accessible.

Daniel Hackett has something to say whenever there is an all-church meeting, and it is always relevant, sometimes challenging. Soon you will hear him give a message on a Sunday morning. It would be wonderful if all our young people could search themselves and find a way to give a message too.

One person who did that some years ago is Lisa (Felsentreger) Fugiel, who credits her

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Pastor Hwang Heo Email: pastor@UMCSouthHadley.org Office hours by appointment. Dr. Heather Reichgott, Minister of Music	Ann Felsentreger, Secretary Church office: 413-532-0500	Worship Sunday 10:00 a.m. e-mail: office@UMCSouthHadley.org Web site: UMCSouthHadley.org Neighbors Helping Neighbors: 413-437-7593
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willingness to give a sermon with her ability to give speeches now, in her leadership role in the world of nursing education.

You may have seen Carol Deren, Martha, or some of the Hacketts working on the grounds, especially the front hill. This summer has been a beast, and we don't want to endanger anyone's health, so the weeding is lacking, but just you wait...

Is the toilet not flushing? The door not closing? An electrical issue? Who you gonna call? Our own problem buster, Ron Motyka, of course! We are so fortunate he has the skills, experience and willingness to do what needs to be done. Of course, when he is traveling around the country he isn't available, but in that case we call his cousin Scott.

While Ron is keeping the church standing, Karen is working on outreach, fundraising and public image. Her position on the pantry's Board of Directors intersects with the church, and the goals of both are always in good hands with Karen. She always has innovative ideas and we are fortunate she is up to the challenge.

Although Alan Felsentreger has stepped off the committees he served on, he is blessedly a regular at the Grab & Go's, doing anything that needs done, including slicing meat on (what I call) the Fisher Price slicer. Personally, I would rather have him in the kitchen than sitting on a committee.

We are hoping for one of Mark's amazing outside movie nights before the snow falls.

Dave Towne has surfaced as a huge help to the church as well as the pantry. He is usually a big piece of the Grab & Go's, offering his years of experience and apparent unlimited energy.

Our new friend, Angie has blessed us with her talent at the piano and we hope there will be more times. She also sings like an angel, so here's hoping she joins the choir.

I am quite sure there are things and people I have missed, and I apologize. Just know, that by being present in worship and around the building, even if you sit and watch the work while sipping lemonade, we love you and appreciate you. If you don't join us, we really hope you will, for we are stronger together.

Love you all!

Mary Lou



“Go out into the world today
and love the people
you meet.
Let your presence light
new light
in the hearts
of others.”
Mother Teresa

CELEBRATION, CONCERNS & MORE



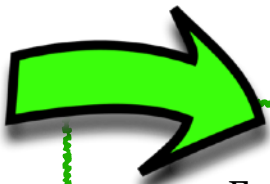
PRAY FOR:

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, Mary Lou Guarnera



Congratulations

to Taiwo Obadeyi on the birth of a baby girl and to big brother, Ayomide, who welcomes her.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR ALL WELCOME

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

All are invited to join us on:

August 16: 5:00-5:30 p.m. Grab & Go

August 20: 6:00 p.m. Council & Trustee in Pastor's Office

August 24: Casseroles for Kate's Kitchen are due.

August: The United Women In Faith will not meet in August due to vacations. Join us on September 11th.



The September-October *Upper Room* Daily devotionals have arrived. You may pick one up on Sunday mornings or contact the church office to make arrangements to get one. Thank you to Frank and Mark Hudgik who started us receiving the *Upper Rooms*.

OUTREACH ALL OF US

-From UMC New England Conference: Please join in praying for all those affected by the devastating floods across New England. United Methodists in New England can also help by donating to UMCOR's U.S. Disaster Response & Recovery: You may mail donations or leave in offering plate on Sundays. Please designate for Disaster Relief.



PEOPLE ARE HUNGRY Only four casseroles were delivered in July! The August casseroles are due on August 25th. You can help - cook 1 pound of pasta and some kind of protein, add tomatoes or spaghetti sauce, put in a casserole pan & put it in church freezer. Thank you to all who help. Thank you to Carol & Tom Deren for delivering the casseroles.



POCKET PRAYER SHAWL



Do you know what a pocket prayer shawl is? Do you know where to get one? As the name suggests, it is a small version of a prayer shawl, small enough to fit in a pocket, purse or even a helmet. They are infused with prayers, intended to comfort the owner. As for where to get one, there is a basket of them in the rear of our sanctuary. You are invited to help yourself. They have been knitted and crocheted for anyone who needs comfort on the go and they may be given to anyone who needs one. Please help yourself. If you would like to make some, contact Carol Deren or Ann Felsentreger for information.

PRAYER MINISTRY

Join our **Prayer Chain**. When prayer requests are received, Ann will forward them to those on our Prayer Chain. As a family of faith, may our love for each other reach out in times of sorrow and struggles. May your prayers be raised for God's divine mercy.

Please let Ann know if you'd like to join us in this ministry. Contact: Ann at office@UMCsouthhadley.org



So. Hadley Methodist Church

Grab & Go



Pulled Pork Sandwich

August 16 5:00 to 5:30 p.m.

\$12.00

Income to benefit our scholarship fund

Pulled Pork Sandwich Beverage
Peach Surprise Bag of Chips



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

Notify us if anyone in your party has a food allergy.

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.

DO YOU KNOW?

Did you know that the women's group send cards to our church family? A card is sent when someone is sick, in the hospital, or a family member dies. We try to send one for new babies and special birthdays.



BUT we need your help. First you **need to tell** Ann in the church office that a card should be sent. It would be great if you also included the person's address along with the name; with so many people using email the address we have might not be correct.

AND we are in need of cards, especially 'thinking of you' and 'sympathy' cards. If you have any you would like to donate you can leave them in the back of the sanctuary or the office. Please mark the bag 'cards for UWF.'

It is such a great feeling to receive a card. It lets people know we are thinking of them.

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

Pastor Hwang Heo

Email: pastor@UMCSouthHadley.org

Pastor's office hours by appointment.

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