



The Steeple

September 2024



SERIOUS BUSINESS TO CONSIDER

As we are trying to adjust to the blessedly cooler weather, plus dealing with school and college, we have some serious business to consider.

For many years, too much of our income, in the form of offerings, fundraising, rent from the pantry and AA, has gone to supporting our building. Our budget has been extremely tight, and now our property insurance has increased to over \$11,000!

While we all love our church building, our mission is not to be in it, but to be leaving it, and making disciples of Jesus. As United Methodists, our mission is to be in the world, spreading the love of Jesus, not hoping we can pay our bills.

With our monetary reserves, other than designated funds, rapidly running out, we need to have a serious conversation. Here is a breakdown of our budget. In order to see the big picture, I have created three groups, making it easy to see the problem.

Building costs:	\$36,193
Salaries and operating costs:	\$38,750
Being the church (mission shares, music, office)	\$10,412
Total expenses:	\$85,355
Total income:	\$71,695
Deficit:	\$13,660



I think it's obvious we must figure out what to do before we default on any of our obligations. We need to consider this information, talk about it, meet and come up with a way forward so we can do what we were meant to be doing as the body of Christ.

Mary Lou

HOW WE COMMUNICATE

The newsletter is our primary means of communication with you. Most newsletters are sent via email, but we do mail paper copies for people who do not have email. Please make sure your contact information is updated by emailing the church office at office@UMCSouthHadley.org or calling Ann at 413 532-0500.



'A' Weekly Invitation' is also emailed. If you are not receiving it and would like to please let Ann know.



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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ALL WELCOME: singers and ringers and... stringers?

Welcome back to the beginning of another season of inspiring music at our little church!

Bells: All you need to bring is the *ability to count to 4*. The rehearsals will be on Thursdays 6:00-6:45. Please let me know if this does not work for you.



Our first two bell rehearsals Sept 5 and Sept 12 will be Newbie Rehearsals for new ringers. Experienced ringers can still come if it would be fun for you, but we will be moving very very slowly to teach newbies how to ring and how to understand their part in the music.

The whole group will start on Thursday Sept 19.

Band: Kevin and I have been getting together roughly every other Friday afternoon at 3. New band members are always welcome! If you play an instrument and want to give it a try let me know. Again, let me know if you're interested but the rehearsal time is a barrier.



Choir: We will alternate every other week between Thursday 6:45-7:30 and Sunday after church. Attending half of the rehearsals is okay, if you can do one day but not the other. This week, we will meet on Thursday, Sept 5.

All members of the choir who are available will sing in church Sunday the 8th. It will be easy to sing.

All singers, ringers and stringers! Please let me know the dates of all Sundays that you know you can't participate in the service, from now through Christmas.

Thank you!

Heather

JOIN THE WOMEN

All are welcome to join the women on September 11 at 9:00 a.m. We will gather in Fellowship Hall & on zoom, plan our missions, support each other, share a devotion, pray. There will be refreshments, laughter and fellowship.



It's time to plan November Bake sale, crafts for White Christmas bags, Secret Santa and more.

THANK YOU to all who donated cards for our card mission. It is such a great feeling to receive a card. It lets people know we are thinking of them. Your donation helps to make this possible.



On Friday, September 27 at 5:30 p.m. relax in Fellowship Hall with hot dogs, pop corn and a movie. Bring the family.

Being friends.

It's all free.

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, Barbara Granger, our church

Prayers and sympathy to family & friends of Lois Eaton who died on July 2.



MARK YOU CALENDAR ALL WELCOME

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

All are invited to joins us on:

- September 11: 9:00-10:30 a.m. The United Women In Faith All Invited To Join us.
- September 15: 11:00 a.m. Choir rehearsal
- September 20: 5:00-5:30 p.m. Grab & Go
- September 24: 6:00 p.m. Council & Trustee in Pastor's Office
- September 29: Casseroles for Kate's Kitchen are due.

YOUNGEST AND OLDEST



In worship on August 18th we were blessed to have the youngest and oldest members of our church. Motunrayo is 5 weeks old and Lois Felsentreger is 99 years old.

CASSEROLES FOR KATE'S KITCHEN



Six casseroles were delivered in August! The September casseroles are due on 29th. You can help.

Thank you to all who help. Thank you to Carol & Tom Deren for delivering the casseroles.

UPPER ROOM DAILY DEVOTIONALS

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*.

UWF: HATS, MITTENS, SCARVES

It's time to start knitting and buying mittens, hats & scarves. There will be a Christmas tree to hang the hats and mittens on. We will deliver them to those in need and most will be used for the Secret Santa gifts. New are best but slightly used are welcome. All sizes are needed. This 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.



-From UMC New England Conference:

As our neighbors here and abroad face flooding, hurricanes, wildfires, and forced migration, you stand with UMCOR as we extend the love of God to each and every precious life.

Your support helps UMCOR remain one of the most trusted names in disaster response. You help us help vulnerable communities recover from catastrophe and rebuild their lives.

Each and every human soul is precious in God's sight. Please continue to be there for survivors with your gift to UMCOR today.

So. Hadley Methodist Church

Grab & Go



Meatball Grinder

&

Apple Crisp

September 20 5:00 to 5:30 p.m.

\$12.00

Meatball Grinder Beverage

Apple Crisp 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.



PRAYER

For Strength and God's Presence

Lord, At the start of each day, help us to recognize you above all else. Enlighten the eyes of our hearts that we might see you and notice how you're at work through our lives. Give us wisdom to make the best choices, fill us with a desire to seek after you more than anything else in this world.

Let your Spirit and power breathe in us, through us, again, fresh and new. Thank you that you are greater than anything we may face in our day. Thank you that your presence goes with us and that your joy is never dependent on our circumstances, but it is our true and lasting strength, no matter what we're up against. We ask that your peace lead us, that it would guard our hearts and minds in you. We ask for your grace to cover our lives this day. We love you Lord...we need you.

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.