

United Methodist Church of Savage

The Messenger

SUMC....the place to be!

May 2010



**The United
Methodist
Church of
Savage**

Church:

9050 Baltimore Street
Savage, Maryland 20763

Church Office:

Faith & Ministry Center
9032 Baltimore Street
Savage, Maryland 20763

Office Hours:

Monday -Friday, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Worship Times:

Adult Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:45 a.m.

Church Contact Information

Phone: (301) 725-7630
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Website Address:

<http://www.umcsavage.org>

Pastor:

Douglas E. Fox

Church Secretary:

Sharon Brown

Newsletter Editor:

Pam Mullay

Our mission statement:

Our purpose is to introduce people to Jesus Christ, to mature them as Christians, to teach and empower them for ministry in the church, and to support them as they do evangelism and mission in the world.



Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for *God all things are possible*" (Mark 10:31.)

Dear brothers & sisters in Christ,

It had been difficult to convince my parents to move from the house they'd lived in for 50 years, but they were moving together and would be together in their own bed, in the nursing home. Their love from 67 years of marriage gave them confidence to face my mother's grave illness and the move.

On my last visit, I took Mom, in a wheel chair, to the nursing home's beauty shop. When the beautician held a mirror, so Mom could see herself, Mom said (in a nearly inaudible voice,) "Oh, doesn't that look nice and it makes me feel good." Two days later she died, on a Thanksgiving Day, six years ago. My father died a few months later.

The gospel lesson for **May 9, Mother's Day** is John 14:23-25:

Jesus said, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. [24] Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

[25] "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. [26] But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. [27] Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

Jesus was about to leave his disciples for the final time. He gave them the Holy Spirit as a gift to keep them "feeling and looking good!" Even with the final struggles with evil or death there will be no defeat. God's love, through Christ's example gives us confidence to face anything. In our families, in our homes, in our church we are together with God's love.

As we gather for worship on **Mother's Day, May 9th**, or any other day, may we gather in thanksgiving knowing Christ's death and resurrection gives life a new beauty and a new meaning. Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you," and departed. Jesus promises to make a home with those who love him. Let us build our homes and church on a foundation of love! We will "feel good and look good" when we're practicing loving obedience to God.

Douglas Fox, pastor

Worship Planning for May 2010. Please attend Worship!

Date	Scriptures	Hymns	Sermon title & theme
May 2, 2010 <i>5th Sunday after Easter</i> <i>Communion</i>	Acts 11:1-18 Revelation 21:1-6 John 13:31-35	2223 FWS*, They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love 382, Have Thine Own Way Lord 560, Help Us Accept Each Other 77, How Great Thou Art	<i>"Make No Distinctions,"</i> The early church makes a dramatic discovery, "God's love is for all people!" Have we learned that lesson?
May 9, 2010 <i>6th Sunday after Easter</i> <i>Mother's Day</i> <i>Festival of Christian Home</i>	Acts 16:9-15 John 14:23-29	569, We've a Story to Tell to the Nations 2158 FWS, Just A Closer Walk with Thee 349, Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus 408, The Gift of Love	<i>"Peace I Leave with You,"</i> Jesus promises to make a home with those who love him. Let us build our homes on a foundation of love!
May 16, 2010 <i>Ascension Sunday</i>	Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53	512, Stand By Me 2086 FWS, Open Our Eyes 610, We Know That Christ is Raised 568, Christ for the World We Sing	<i>"The Power to Work in Christ,"</i> Paul gave thanks for the faith of the Christians in Ephesus. "God, through faith in Christ, gives us power!" Claim the power!
May 23, 2010 <i>Pentecost</i>	Acts 2:1-21 Romans 8:14-17 John 14:8-17	384, Love Divine, All Loves Excelling 404, Every Time I Feel the Spirit 347, Spirit Song 2241 FWS, The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve	<i>"Led By the Spirit,"</i> Pentecost celebrates the power of the Holy Spirit constantly working in the world. Pray for God's Spirit to lead us and our church.
May 30, 2010 <i>Trinity Sunday</i> <i>Peace with Justice Sunday</i> <i>UMC Special Offering</i> <i>Memorial Day Weekend</i>	Romans 5:1-5 John 16:12-15	64, Holy, Holy, Holy 189, Fairest Lord Jesus 368, My Hope Is Built 61, Come, Thou Almighty King	<i>"Hope Doesn't Disappoint,"</i> Even in our suffering God brings us endurance, hope and new life. Father, Son & Holy Spirit in is the world.

Administrative Council

Required by the 2008 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church? Yes

Chairperson: Jim Tolliver

Functions and Responsibilities

- Provides for the planning and implementing of programs of nurture, outreach, witness, and resources of the local church (SUMC).
- Provides for the administration of the organization and temporal life of the church.
- Leads the vision and strategic planning process within the church.
- Implements and annually evaluates the missions and ministry of the church.
- Creates and sustains the congregation's plan specifically for discipleship by:
 - * working with the pastor to build a shared vision of discipleship;
 - * planning ministries of nurture, outreach and witness that help the congregation live its God-given vision;
 - * ensuring that ministries of the church are aligned with the mission of disciple making;
 - * allocating human and material resources for implementing ministry plans;
 - * providing an administrative infrastructure for the church;
 - * evaluating the effectiveness of the ministry plan; and
 - * acting as the administrative agency of the charge conference.

Members of the Administrative Council include chairpersons of the various church committees, as well as the congregational lay leader, and the lay member to the annual conference.

Time Required of Administrative Council Members:

The Administrative Council meets for approximately two hours the second Tuesday of each month with the exception of July and August. Members are strongly encouraged to attend these meetings. There are occasions when the Council must meet briefly, usually following the worship service, to address specific issues that arise requiring more immediate attention. Members may have to spend some time leading up to a meeting to prepare for issues to be addressed.

The breeze, the trees, the honey bees—All Volunteers!

Committee Day Potluck Luncheon on May 16.

Come and see where you can give back to the church.

Congregational Lay Leader

Required by the 2008 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church? Yes

Responsibilities

- Serves as the primary advocate for and representative of the laity in the congregation.
- Engages in spiritual practices and serves as a model (example) to the congregation of good habits of personal devotion and discipleship.
- By way of example, builds awareness of the role of laity within the congregation.
- Helps to foster awareness of the ministry of the laity through ministry in the home, workplace, community and the world.
- Establish ways within the congregation to recognize and celebrate all the ministries of the laity. This might include:
 - * Observing Laity Sunday, using the third Sunday in October;
 - * Inviting community groups to worship and recognize their work as ministry;
 - * Recognize laity who have become lay speakers and announce training events for laity;
 - * Regularly promote special opportunities for service and mission projects.
- Meets regularly with the pastor to discuss the state of the congregation and the needs for ministry both within and beyond the congregation.
- Serves automatically as a member of charge conference, church administrative council, finance committee, nominations and leadership development committee and staff/pastor-parish relations committee.
- The congregational lay leader must be a professing member of the congregation.

Time Required of the Congregational Lay Leader:

The congregational lay leader is a busy individual.

He/She is encouraged to regularly participate in various meetings convened by the administrative council (once every month, except July and August), finance committee (three to four times per year), nominations and leadership development committee (at least twice per year) and the staff/pastor parish relations committee (four to six meetings per year).

Time will be required to organize Laity Sunday (3rd Sunday in October) and in promoting other aspects of ministry of the laity.

Those you can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer!

Committee Day Potluck Luncheon on May 16.

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Education Committee

Chairperson: Jim Tolliver

Functions and Responsibilities

- Work with the pastor to provide continuous oversight for the complete Christian education program.
- Work with the pastor to build and interpret a congregational vision for the Christian education program.
- Insure the functioning of the Sunday School Program by assessing needs, identifying gaps and setting priorities.
- Identification and equipping of Sunday school teachers, as well as, insuring the availability of adequate and appropriate curriculum material and other teaching supplies.
- Promote small group education classes (outside of Sunday School) by identifying and equipping effective group leaders and obtaining appropriate educational material.
- Promote special educational programs such as Vacation Bible School.
- Develop and minister the annual education budget.
- Work with other committees (such as the SPRC) to ensure a safe church environment for children, youth and others.

Sunday school teachers are automatically members of the Education Committee. A few additional members may come from the congregation.

Time Required of Committee Members:

There are usually at least three meetings of the education committee each year, with each meeting lasting an hour. Additional short meetings may be convened to address specific issues as they arise.

The world is hugged by the faithful arms of volunteers.

Committee Day Potluck Luncheon on May 16.

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Finance Committee

Required by the 2008 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church? Yes

Chairperson: Hal Harrelson

Functions and Responsibilities

- Provide financial direction and demonstrate faithful stewardship of the congregation's finances.
- Provide for annual funding programs.
- Create and administer a fully-funded program budget.
- Establish two-way communication between the congregation and the committee regarding church finances. This would include using the worship bulletin, offertory sentences and announcements, church newsletter, giving statements, treasurer's report, the finance chairperson's report and results of giving reports.
- Generation of financial reports for use at the congregation, administrative council and charge conference. These include:
 - * Church Budget (draft). Final version approved by Administrative Council.
 - * Monthly and annual financial reports.
 - * Various financial reports and audits mandated by the United Methodist Church.
 - * Annual congregation giving statements, produced from counting of weekly offerings.

Time Required of Committee Members:

We meet about three to four times per year, for an hour or two each meeting, to formulate the draft budget, generate the various financial reports and audits required by the Church, discuss fundraising ideas, and develop means to report the church's financial state to the congregation.

Finance Committee members take turns counting the weekly Sunday offering. Counting is an important function of the committee, as it not only safeguards the church's funds but also provides an accounting to each donor of their gifts at year end. There are usually about 10 committee members, and counting must be done by at least two people, so each member will usually count about once every five weeks. Counting takes 30-45 minutes and is done at the church immediately after the last service each Sunday. After counting is complete, one of the counters drops the donations off at the bank night deposit window located in downtown Laurel.

Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless!

Committee Day Potluck Luncheon on May 16.

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Lay Member to the Annual Conference

Required by the 2008 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church? Yes

*The **annual conference** is the annual meeting of the lay and clergy members of a particular geographical region, which is also called a conference. Each conference is assigned a bishop who has authority over the United Methodist churches within the geographical region. The meeting sets directions and budget for the area churches under the conference. The bishop appoints clergy members to their place of service for the next year. The United Methodist Church of Savage and the cooperative parish to which it is connected are part of the Baltimore/Washington Conference.*

Responsibilities

- Participates in the annual conference sessions, including voting on all matters except those pertaining to ministerial relations.
- Reports to the congregation in the week following the annual conference session and to the church council at its next meeting, or within three months after the close of the conference session.
- Interprets, with the pastor, the actions of the annual conference session to the congregation.
- Serves as a member of the Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee (SPRC), Church Administrative Council, and Finance Committee.

Lay member of the annual conference must have been a professing member in good standing of The United Methodist Church for at least one year prior to taking the position.

Time Required of the Lay Member to the Annual Conference:

Lay members to the annual conference are required to attend the annual conference. For purposes of the United Methodist Church of Savage this will be the Baltimore/Washington Annual Conference. This meeting is generally held in May or June and covers two and a half to three days. The bishop may occasionally call extra sessions if there is emergent business. Attending the conferences and other sessions may require members to take time from work.

Additional time will be spent in participating at meetings of the SPRC (four to six meetings per year), the Church Administrative Council (usually once per month, except July and August) and the finance committee (three to four meetings per year).

Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the heart.

Committee Day Potluck Luncheon on May 16.

Come and see where you can give back to the church.

Mission and Outreach Committee

Chairperson: Rosemarie Celentano

Basic Responsibilities

- Attend & participate in meetings.
- Support outreach programs, such as, the Food Pantry and Elizabeth's House
- Donate time to make our mission a success.

Time Required of Committee Members:

Committee meets about four times per year with each lasting approximately 45 minutes to one hour. Meetings are not on a regular schedule. Meetings are held when there are projects to work on; this may include the Thanksgiving baskets or the food pantry.

Members are encouraged to help to support the food pantry through donation of money, food and time. Members may donate time at Elizabeth's House which is where they feed the homeless.

At Christmas, gift bags are filled with small gifts & books and then are delivered to the shut-ins. Volunteers are needed to shop, as well as, deliver these bags.

No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another.

Committee Day Potluck Luncheon on May 16.

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Nominations and Leadership Development Committee

Required by the 2008 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church? Yes

Chairperson: Pastor Douglas Fox

Responsibilities (From the Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church)

- Identify the gifts and strengths of persons in the congregation.
- Develop their gifts and skills and nurture them in their mission or ministry roles.
- Deploy persons according to their gifts and passion in areas of service within the church, community, and world.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of their service and provide necessary training and support.
- Monitor the progress of their development and celebrate their accomplishments and service.
- Advocate for members to participate in church training events.

The Nominations and Leadership Development Committee must work with the Administrative Council and charge conference to identify and recruit individuals to serve on the various church committees and as chairperson of the Administrative Council, lay member to the annual conference, lay leader of the congregation and possibly as a church representative on district committees.

Time Required of Committee Members:

Committee meets several times for one and a half hour meetings in the fall, prior to charge conference, to develop the leadership team for the church. Other meetings may be held throughout the year to fill vacancies.

God and angels don't get paid even though theirs is some of the most important work around. Ditto for volunteers.

*Committee Day Potluck Luncheon on May 16.
Come and see where you can give back to the church.*

Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)

Required by the 2008 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church? Yes

Chairperson: Dave Carlisle

Functions and Responsibilities as Listed in the Book of Discipline

The SPRC is the administrative unit in a local church where staff and congregational interests are integrated to focus on the mission of the church.

Specific tasks for the SPRC include:

- Educating and reminding both staff and the congregation to focus on working together toward the mission of the church by promoting unity and encouraging, strengthening, nurturing, supporting, and respecting the pastor(s), staff, and their families.
- Leading conversation between the congregation and the staff/pastor about ministry direction, including recommendations about staff positions to carry out the work of the church.
- Developing and recommending written policy and procedures on employment of non-appointed staff, including provision for insurance, pension, and severance pay.
- Assessing job performance of the staff/pastor at least annually for the purpose of realigning staff position descriptions with the mission of the church.
- Conferring and consulting with the district superintendent.
- Supporting lifelong learning and spiritual renewal for all staff (continuing education).
- Identifying and supporting individuals from the congregation whom God seems to be calling for ordained ministry.

The SPRC works with individuals and groups, including:

- The pastor and other ordained leaders.
- The lay staff, full time and part time.
- The congregation (individually and corporately).
- Candidates for licensed and ordained ministry.
- The community outside the walls of the church.
- The district superintendent.
- The United Methodist conference staff and general church staff.

Membership and Time Required of Committee Members:

The SPRC has between five and nine members. They are representative of the congregation or charge. Members include a young adult and may also include a youth. The lay leader and a lay member of the annual conference area also required to be members of this committee. In cases where a charge includes multiple churches, the SPRC should have at least one representative from each of the local churches. The SPRC must not include an immediate family member of the pastor or staff or more than one person from the same household.

The SPRC membership is divided into three groups or classes that rotate. With the exception of the lay member of the annual conference and the lay leader, members are elected to three-year terms. At the end of the three-year term, an SPRC member cannot immediately serve again.

The SPRC shall meet at least quarterly (~ two hours per meeting). It shall meet additionally at the request of the bishop, the district superintendent, the pastor, any other person accountable to the SPRC, or the chairperson of the SPRC (typically one-two additional meetings/year). The one meeting that is well established is the meeting that takes place each November to review staff performance. It is at that meeting that the pastor's evaluation will be completed for sending to the conference.

Trustees Committee

Required by the *Book of Discipline* of the United Methodist Church? Yes

Chairperson: Dennis Brown

Basic Responsibilities (From the *Guidelines*)

- Oversee, maintain, and supervise all local church property, including buildings and grounds.
- Be responsible, in conjunction with the pastor, for all use of the church buildings and grounds.
- Report annually to the charge conference on the state of the church's property, equipment, investments, and resources.
- Receive and administer all gifts made to the congregation; make certain that all trust funds of the congregation are invested properly.
- Ensure that the articles of incorporation of the congregation are kept up-to-date, if applicable.
- Maintain adequate insurance coverage on all church property and develop appropriate risk management policies.
- Submit to the committee on finance the annual budget requests for insurance, property maintenance and improvement, and new property purchases.

Examples of Specific Responsibilities (From the *Guidelines*): Review and evaluate all church property; Evaluate service contracts and insurance coverage; Conduct energy audits; Review building use policies; Inspect heating and air-conditioning systems for efficient use; Inventory and inspect equipment; Check all fire extinguishers; Schedule and conduct fire drills; Project financial needs for next year's budget; and Review year-end needs for annual reports and audit.

Time Required of Committee Members

There are usually at least eight meetings of the trustees committee each year, with each meeting lasting an hour or so. Additional short meetings may be convened to address specific issues as they arise. Individual or groups of trustees may also spend time between meetings seeking quotes from vendors for repairs and special projects and monitoring work performed by them. Trustees also supervise church-wide work days which usually occur once in the spring and fall.

Volunteers are love in motion.

Committee Day Potluck Luncheon on May 16.

Come and see where you can give back to the church.

Worship Committee

Chairperson: Karin Book

Responsibilities:

- Working with the pastor to organize regular, as well as, special worship services.
- Changing the altar clothes, banner, and collection plate coasters when appropriate by church season.
- Provide altar flowers when needed.
- Check altar candles and candle lighter to make sure they are functional.
- Provide communion sacraments during your months of altar service.
- Assist in organizing Lenten programs and dinners.
- Recruit liturgists and individuals for special music for worship services, as needed.
- With weddings and funerals, make sure appropriate altar clothes are on the altar.

Time Required of Committee Members:

The Worship committee meets two to four times per year, with each meeting lasting about 30-45 minutes. The time for the duties above varies on how many times per month the altar clothes must be changed and if there is a special communion for some reason. More time may be required during the Lenten season.

Being good is commendable, but only when it is combined with doing good is it useful.

Committee Day Potluck Luncheon on May 16.

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of Savage

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Email: office@umcsavage.org

Address Correction Requested



www.umcsavage.org

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Calendar of Events

Sunday, May 16 - Committee Day Potluck Luncheon - please bring a dish to share!

Saturday, May 22/Sunday May 23 - Junior Youth Group Overnight Amusement Park Trip

Saturday, June 5 - Strawberry Festival

Sunday, June 6 - End of Year Junior Youth Group Picnic (F&MC) 3-6 p.m.

Saturday, July 4 - Time Change for Sunday Worship Service from 10:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.

Committee Day Potluck Luncheon

Sunday, May 16 will be our Committee Day Potluck Luncheon after the worship service. On this day, we will showcase all of the committees within the church and look for those who are interested in volunteering to sign up to help on the committees.

In order for our church to move forward, we need many volunteers. Committee Day is an opportunity for fellowship and also an opportunity for our members to get more involved in our church. Please review the committees listed in this newsletter. Each committee chairperson will be available on Committee Day to answer any questions you may have.

Remember that many hands make for a light load. God Bless!