



Grace Notes - October 2019

Panama United Methodist Church

Rev. Steven M. Taylor, Lead Pastor

From Pastor Steve's Desk...

(This is the next installment of an ongoing series of articles regarding what we believe, why we believe it, and why it matters. **In the United Methodist Church, there is change coming.** Within our global denomination, we have some serious divergent views on the authority of scripture, human sexuality, and what that means in the world and in our church. We aren't sure what the changes will look like, but we know that in order to respond to God's call to be the church in the 21st century, the anchor of our doctrinal identity, we need to know what that is. So, I invite you to join me on this journey for God's glory and to build up the church.)

...on doctrine...

Part 16 - Of Baptism

One of my favorite duties as the pastor of the church is the baptism of people in the congregation who are growing in spiritual maturity. When someone asks me to baptize them, adult or youth, or to baptize a child, I am honored and humbled. Yet, I also pray that the single motivation for the person coming to me to be baptized is the Holy Spirit's prompting them to accept God's gift of grace and make a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. For children, the parent(s) are the ones who make that initial commitment for them.

Baptism is, therefore, a joy and a challenge. It's a joy for both the person being baptized and the congregation because it's a celebration of how God is working in their lives. It's a challenge for both the congregation and the person being baptized because it's the beginning of a journey that is not always easy, but through which we are all continually renewed and strengthened as Christian disciples. Baptism is not simply fire insurance, saving a child of adult from hell. It is, however, a gift from God that envelopes a human being into the kingdom of God, as a response to their acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior,

As a church, a clear and concise understanding of baptism is critical to our understanding of who God is calling us to be and how God interacts with us through the Holy Spirit. Here's what Article of Religion 18 says about this: *"Baptism is not only a sign of profession and mark of difference whereby Christians are distinguished from others that are not baptized; but it is also a sign of regeneration of the new birth. The Baptism of young children is to be retained in the Church."* (From The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church - 2004. Copyright - 2016 by The United Methodist Publishing House.)

Baptism, therefore, is both a ritual that sets Christians apart from those who are not baptized, and it is an outward sign of new birth into a life that is committed to the teachings of Jesus Christ. One cannot be fully Christian without being baptized - it is our sign and seal of identity in Christ. In addition, one cannot fully live into one's baptism vows without accepting God's gift of regeneration from sin through Jesus.

OK, that's great for adults, but, you may ask, why do we baptize children? The short answer is: because that's what we do. Yet, theologically and biblically, those who are not yet old enough to accept God's grace for themselves are brought into the kingdom of God by persons representing the support structure for that child. In due time, given the nurture that child receives from both the parents/guardians AND the congregation, that child will fully live into the covenant made with God at baptism. This happens when they accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior for themselves (in the UMC, this usually happens around confirmation age), completing the sign of new birth.

From Pastor Steve's Desk...(continued)

Speaking of confirmation, we will soon be starting a confirmation class, which includes an invitation for baptism. As we celebrate with joy the public professions of faith, let us also be bound together to accept the challenge of continuing to nurture all these persons as we grow in faith and spiritual maturity.

God is pouring out great blessings on our church. I thank God for our willingness to give Him the glory and honor and praise for it all.

Come to the water...profess and live!

Shalom,
Pastor Steve

Next: Part 18 - Of the Lord's Supper

Looking ahead...Mark your calendars!

October 12 - Tailgate Party at PCS @11:30am
October 13 - Confirmation Classes begin; 5-6:30pm
October 17-20 - Keryx Weekend
October 18 - Flu Shot Clinic; PCS; 10am - 1pm
October 26 - PUMC Harvest Dinner
October 31 - Trunk or Treat
November 3, 10, 17 - New Members Classes
November 23 - Christmas in Panama
December 10 - Annual Charge Conference

CenterPoint Update (September)

This weekend, we are celebrating Labor day, a day set aside to relax from our labors. Here at PUMC, we are participating in a Labor of Love, giving to the CenterPoint campaign. As Kyle reported last month, we have already paid \$79,000 of the principal. With this month's receipts, we will pay an additional \$8,000 of the principal. This month we have received \$16,468.67 for a total of \$740,969.09, which is 79 percent of the goal of \$932,793.41.

Thank you for your continued support of the CenterPoint Campaign. Due to your faithful giving, we have been able to enjoy the addition for nearly 8 months already!

Next Course for New Members and Baptisms

In October/November, Pastor Steve will be leading a new members and baptism course for anyone interested. The course will be three weeks and will discover the basics of the Christian faith, what it means to grow in Christ, and your place in the ministry of the Church Of Jesus Christ here at Panama UMC. If you are new to Panama UMC, this course is for you. If you have not been baptized, and would like to be, this is the course for you.

If you are interested, or have questions, please let Pastor Steve or Debbie Johnson know. The first class will be either before or after worship, depending on the will of the participants.

Baptisms and new members will be welcomed in November during worship.
Sign-up sheets are available on the Welcome Table.

Panama United Methodist Church MissionStatement

We seek to love the Lord God by introducing people to His Son,
Jesus Christ, and helping these relationships to grow.



BIBLE QUIZZING

October Update

We took 1st place at the quiz meet on September 28th in Hornell!!

I am very proud of the quizzers because they worked together as a team. They work really hard and it shows. Kudos to Gracie, Juliana and Levi for earning individual awards as well. Thank you all for your encouragement and support of our quizzers. We appreciate your interest in our team and engaging us in conversation. Please keep Jubal, Josiah, Jalynn, Josh, Juliana, Gracie and Levi in your prayers as they learn Mark 4, 8 and 9; Hebrews 7 and 9; and Peter 2 for our October 26th quiz.

Becky Cable
By Faith coach

FLU SHOT CLINIC

October 18

Panama Central School

10am - 1pm

For further information,
contact Laura Holmberg, PCS school nurse
or email her at lhholmberg@pancent.org.

CONNECTIONS

School is in session...and THAT means Connections is up and running, Please keep our leaders, (Sandy Crossley, Joan Monroy and Tara Hosier), in your prayers.

Please keep the snacks coming, enough for 20 children. They love cucumbers, apples, and anything else nutritious!

Thank you!

Looking For Something To DO?

Please check the PUMC OCTOBER calendar for meetings and events which you might like to attend. The calendar can be found on the last page of this edition of the newsletter.

Looks like it is another busy month. We hope you can find something of interest to you. There is almost always something going on at the PUMC!

Grace Notes Birthday and Anniversary Calendar

If you are new to the PUMC (or for some reason we do not have your birthday or anniversary information), please leave Pam a note in the "Newsletter" mailbox in the office so we can add you to the list.

We would simply need your first and last name as well as your dates to be added.

THANKS!

SUNDAY Morning Team - October

USHERS

Charlie and Debbie Loveless
Pat and Kristy Catanese

October 6

Birth-2: Kim Davis and Marlie Seekings

October 13

Birth-2: Jenn Johnson and Dawn Sard

October 20

Birth-2: Carolyn Hughesman and Tina Akam

October 27

Birth-2: Marge Vollmer and Graham Vollmer

Thank you for volunteering to take care of our little ones during the worship service. We appreciate you! Currently, we are scheduling people to serve in one nursery only. During this time, if and when it becomes apparent that we need an older nursery, too, we will be asking for additional help on that Sunday morning. If something comes up and you cannot serve, please trade with someone or find a replacement.

Check the information
on the Welcome Table
for how YOU can bless
the food pantry clients this
Christmas!
You will be blessed!



Keryx Ministry Weekend

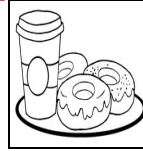
October 17-20

If you are interested in writing letters of encouragement to inmates, please see Susie for further information.

Also, if you would commit to pray before, during and after the weekend, there is a sign up sheet on the Welcome table.

THANKS!

**FREE Blood Pressures
and Fasting Blood Sugars**
is starting in October in Jody's office!



Sunday Morning Coffee Time

Coffee, tea, and light snacks, are available on Sunday mornings, from 8:30 until 10:15am. Please join us!

The café continues to be a very busy place on Sunday mornings. The coffee is ready to go between 8 and 8:30am. We go through a lot of goodies each week. We would welcome your donations of baked goods or healthy snacks which can be brought in and placed in the refrigerator or freezer in the kitchen at any time. Please label them for the Café. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

You don't have to be a "member" of the hospitality team to offer your services occasionally. If you are interested in helping, please stop in at the café on Sunday mornings and talk to Pam, Julia, Debbie L or Roberta S.

YOU'RE INVITED!

Panama United Methodist Church's



When: October 31st

Where: Panama UMC

When: 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Trunk Decorating Contest

**All are welcome to participate!*

Cider, coffee, and donuts!

Call 716-782-4031 for more information!

Broccoli Quiche

Jody Marsh, Parish Nurse

Broccoli, frozen, chopped, cooked, 1 1/2 cups
 Onion, medium (red), raw
 Garlic, fresh, 1 medium clove
 2 eggs
 1/4 c. almond milk, plain, unsweetened
 2 light mozzarella string cheese sticks
 1/2 c. potatoes, white or red, sliced and cooked
 3 Tbsp. cottage cheese, 1%

Saute' onion, garlic, and potatoes in cooking spray.
 Add the broccoli in the onion, garlic, potatoes mix
 on the stove.

In a separate bowl, crack 2 eggs.

Pour in almond milk, a few tablespoons of cottage
 cheese and two part skim cheese sticks
 with eggs.

Mix it all together and cook it in the oven at 350
 degrees for 30 minutes.



The God's Groceries Food Pantry
 can be found at PUMC, next to the kitchen. If there is a need, please call the
 church office for more information,
 or see Tina Swineford.

The Food Pantry entrance is on
 Church Street...look for signs.

Monday Morning: 9-10am

Monday Evening: 6-7pm

Thursday Evening: 5-7pm

W.A.M. (Women and Missions)

Women and Missions meets the 2nd
 Monday of each month. We are
 eagerly looking forward to welcoming
 women who want to join us and help
 us come up with some fresh ideas
 for ministry within our community.
 Please join us on October 14th at
 11:45am in the conference room.

Don't forget your lunch!

If you have questions,
 please be in touch with Kathy Foulk.

<<<< Just One 4 Others >>>>

The OCTOBER item of the month is MOUTHWASH!!!

Thank you all for supporting this
 ministry. If you have any questions, please contact
 Jody, our Parish Nurse. Please place your
 donations in Jody's office in the hallway
 just past the elevator.

CAMPING

What amazing testimonies we had from
 our campers. It was such a blessing to hear
 about their experiences, how they experienced
 God at camp, and how appreciative they were to
 be able to attend.

Let's plan to send even more youth to
 summer camp next year!

Thank you to the youth for sharing, and
 thank you to the congregation for your support
 of Christian summer campers.

LUNCH BUNCH

LUNCH BUNCH will resume our
 monthly gatherings on Wednesday,
 October 16th (always the 3rd
 Wednesday of the month) in the
 Community Room at NOON.
 All you need to bring is a (suggested)
 \$5 donation and an appetite! You
 could also bring a friend or two!

With Sympathy to the Family of...

Pamela Jean "Pammy" Cooper
August 14, 1966 - September 28, 2019

Pam, a 1984 graduate of Sherman Central School, was born to Chester Carey and Jean Speelberg Ferguson. In addition to her parents, she is survived by her husband, Dale Cooper, a stepson, Dale Winchell, and four sisters, Brenda Ohlsson (Arden), Candy Scarem (Shannon), April Rotunda (Jeff) and Stephanie Bentley (Jay). She is further survived by many nieces and nephews. Visitation and the funeral were held at the Findley Lake UMC. Burial was in Mina Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Findley Lake Volunteer Fire Department or the Sherman Fire Department.

and

Janice A. Carey
October 30, 1934 - October 1, 2019

Janice was the daughter of Wilbur and Gertrude McAllister. She is survived by her children, Paul Carey (Lydia), Dan Carey (Cindy), Cindy Vega (Mike), Bernie Blankenship (Dave) and Sandy Rose (Alan). Janice is also survived by a brother, three sisters, a half-brother, 14 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and several nieces (including Candy Scarem) and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Marvin Carey and a half-brother. Visitation and a Memorial Service were held in Erie. Memorials may be made to the Salvation Army, 1022 Liberty St., Erie, PA 16502.

***The love and prayers of the church and community
are with you and your loved ones as you continue
through this time of grief and adjustment.***

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are so blessed at the PUMC to have Christian Education classes for EVERYONE!

We have Pre-K classes all the way up to our Senior Adults!

Listed below are the classes, rooms and the teachers that are available each week.

If you are interested in the topics for the adult classes,
you may contact Becky Cable for that information.

All classes (except Stacy's) run from 9:00am - 9:50am each Sunday morning.

Children's Classes:

PreK - 2nd: Rotating leaders; Room B-2
3rd - 5th grade: Sarah Merritt; Room 214
6th - 8th grade: Becky Cable; Room 215
9th - 12th grade: Jessica Nelson; Youth Room

Adult Classes:

George Anderson; Room B-1
Marge Vollmer; Room B-4
Denny/Cindy Furlow; Conference Room
Jon Cable; Room 216
Stacy Taylor; Wednesday; 3:30pm - Gallery

See you next Sunday!!!!

Panama United Methodist Church's

Harvest Dinner

Saturday, October 26th
4:30pm-7pm
PUMC Community Room

Take-out available
Donations accepted

Bake Sale available
All proceeds go to
the Missions Team

Fun for the  *whole family*

22 E Main St, Panama, NY

PUMC Harvest Dinner 2019 plans are in the works.

SAVE THE DATE - Saturday, October 26th.

We are very excited about the prospect of sharing God's love (and some really good food!) with our friends and neighbors in and around the Panama community. Because of our expanded gathering space in the Community Room, we are able to seat more people more comfortably than ever before!

We are looking for a variety donations and there are several ways you can help (room set up, serving, pouring coffee, filling orders in the take out room, peeling potatoes, clean up, etc.),

Sign up lists are on the Welcome table.

We are looking for donations of money for turkeys (\$25/per turkey x 20 turkeys); pies (35); and cakes (6), in addition to a variety of grocery items which will be used ahead of the dinner. *****We are planning on a potato peeling party - watch for details!!*****

QUESTIONS??? See Julia or Pam.

October Birthdays and **Anniversaries**

- 1 Matt Komarek, **Glenn/Melissa Topolski**
- 2 Dave Calcaterra, Amy Caldwell
- 3 Pam Ireland
- 4 Steve Halpainy, **Pat/Joyce Dole**
- 5 Kyle Hinsdale, Ariana Range
- 6 Levi Munsee, Krista Odell, **Don/Tabetha Butler**
- 7 Adalynn Wiggers, **Jim/Linda Roraback**
- 9 **Joe/Darcey Lyon**
- 10 Rebecca Wheeler, **Tina/Mark Akam**
- 12 **Joe/Jean Edwards, Jeff/Jody Hay**
- 12 David Anderson, Jim Roraback
- 15 Ricky Eggleston
- 17 Lee Crosby, **Buck/Kristine Seekings**
- 18 Carm Catanese, Joyce Edwards
- 19 Mary Rappole, **Adam/Tory Irgang**
- 20 Tammy Hosier, Sue Woods
- 22 **Neil/Cindy Sturges**
- 22 Kandi Torres, Charlie Loveless
- 23 Stacey Furlow
- 24 Betty Crosby, Adam Irgang
- 25 Doug Hosier
- 28 Allison Halpainy, **Brad/Shirley Osborne**
- 30 Debbie Edwards, Joe Osborne
- 31 Dawn Sard, Melissa Wiggers

Looking ahead to November...

- 1 Mike Sard, Carol Simmes, Cindy Sturges, Joel Wiggers
- 2 Chris Comstock
- 3 **Tom/Sally Baer**
- 1 Tina Akam

Every WEDNESDAY







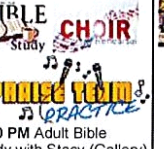








Choir Rehearsal
7pm

We would like to see
YOU there!!!

Please join us...we have
a chair just for you!

If the names of your immediate family are not included on our monthly birthday/anniversary list, please drop a note into the Newsletter mailbox in the office workroom or let Debbie in the office know. (First and last names as well as birthday and or anniversary dates). We would like to include you and yours!

OCTOBER 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>29</p>  <p>Communion for October this Sunday with Roy Miller Penny, Label, Food Collection 8:15 AM - 8:45 AM Prayer (Conference Room) 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM WORSHIP! Rev. Dr. Roy Miller 11:30 AM UCAN-LOVE INC Local Ministry meeting (Conf Rm) 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM Private Party (community room) 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Youth Group, grades 7-12 (Youth Loft)</p>	<p>30</p>  <p>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Prayer & Praise Meeting (Conference Room)</p>	<p>1</p>  <p>6:00 PM Grace Visitation Team Meeting (Conference Room) 7:00 PM Band of Brothers Discipleship Group (Library) 7:00 PM Ladies of Light Discipleship Group (downstairs)</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>3:30 PM Adult Bible Study with Stacy (Gallery) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Praise Team Practice 7:00 PM Celebration Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>3</p>  <p>4:00 PM - 8:00 PM Harmony Senior Citizen Gathering (Fellowship Hall & Kitchen) (time gives one hour before and after for set up and clean up) 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Bible Quiz Practice</p>	4	5
<p>6</p>   <p>Communion Sunday 8:15 AM - 8:45 AM Prayer (Conference Room) 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Blood Pressures & Sugars (in Jody's office!) 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM WORSHIP! Pastor Candy Scarem 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Youth Group, grades 7-12 (Youth Loft)</p>	<p>7</p>  <p>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Prayer & Praise Meeting (Conference Room)</p>	<p>8</p>  <p>6:00 PM Grace Visitation Team Meeting (Conference Room) 6:30 PM Church Council (Community Room - Finance folks meet at 6:15p)</p>	<p>9</p>  <p>3:30 PM Adult Bible Study with Stacy (Gallery) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Praise Team Practice 7:00 PM Celebration Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>10</p>  <p>10:00 AM Senior Council of Chautauqua County (Bev Smith) (Community Room) 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Bible Quiz Practice</p>	11	12
<p>13</p>  <p>8:15 AM - 8:45 AM Prayer (Conference Room) 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM WORSHIP! Pastor Benjamin Taylor 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Confirmation Class 2019 / 2020 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Youth Group, grades 7-12 (Youth Loft)</p>	<p>14</p>  <p>Bert and Roberta leave for Haiti for 6 months 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 11:45 AM WAM - Women and Missions 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Prayer & Praise Meeting (Conference Room)</p>	<p>15</p>  <p>7:00 PM Band of Brothers Discipleship Group (Library) 7:00 PM Ladies of Light Discipleship Group (downstairs)</p>	<p>16</p>  <p>11:45 AM Lunch Bunch (Community Room) 3:30 PM Adult Bible Study with Stacy (Gallery) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Praise Team Practice 7:00 PM Celebration Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>17</p>  <p>5:00 PM - 7:00 PM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Bible Quiz Practice</p>	<p>18</p>  <p>10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Flu Shot Clinic at PCS</p>	19
<p>20</p>  <p>8:15 AM - 8:45 AM Prayer (Conference Room) 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM WORSHIP! Sam Catanese, Lay Leader 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Youth Group, grades 7-12 (Youth Loft)</p>	<p>21</p>  <p>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Prayer & Praise Meeting (Conference Room)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:45 PM CE Team Meeting (conference room) 7:00 PM Staff Parish Relations Team Meeting (Conference Room)</p>	<p>23</p>  <p>3:30 PM Adult Bible Study with Stacy (Gallery) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Praise Team Practice 7:00 PM Celebration Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>24</p>  <p>5:00 PM - 7:00 PM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Bible Quiz Practice 7:00 PM Nominations Team Meeting (Conference Room)</p>	25	<p>26</p>  <p>9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Bible Quiz Meet (Homell) 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM Harvest Dinner</p>
<p>27</p>  <p>8:15 AM - 8:45 AM Prayer (Conference Room) 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM WORSHIP! 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Confirmation Class 2019 / 2020 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Youth Group, grades 7-12 (Youth Loft)</p>	<p>28</p>  <p>9:00 AM - 10:00 AM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Prayer & Praise Meeting (Conference Room)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:00 PM Worship Team Meeting (Conference Room)</p>	<p>30</p>  <p>3:30 PM Adult Bible Study with Stacy (Gallery) 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Praise Team Practice 7:00 PM Celebration Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>31</p>  <p>5:00 PM - 7:00 PM God's Groceries Food Pantry OPEN 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Trunk or Treat 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Bible Quiz Practice</p>	1	<p>2</p> <p>12:00 PM - 5:00 PM Dawn Cornstock (husband's surprise 50th)</p>

Reverend Steven M. Taylor, Lead Pastor
steven.taylor@panamaum.org
Candy Scarem, Director of Student Ministries
candy.scarem@panamaum.org
Debbie Johnson, Ministry Coordinator/Admin. Asst.
debbie.johnson@panamaum.org
Julie Nagel, Music Director/Accompanist
Krista Odell, Accompanist
Jody Marsh, Parish Nurse
Jon Cable, Custodian

Pastor Steve's Office Hours
9:00am - Noon: M, W and Th

Church Phone (716) 782-4031
Church Fax # (716) 782-2326
Church E-mail – contact@panamaum.org
Church website - www.panamaum.org
www.facebook.com/panamaum

**Please check the calendar
inside for weekly
meetings and activities
for the month of October.**

**Cornerstone District Office
Christ First UMC
663 Lakeview Ave.
Jamestown, NY 14701
(716) 665-2423**



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