

Panama United Methodist Church
Reverend Steven M. Taylor, Lead Pastor
Grace Notes - September 2019

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 the Sacraments

The most favorite things found in the Christian church, and especially any church in the Wesleyan tradition, are the sacraments. We love to see people baptized, whether they are infants, children, youth, or adults - we love it! We also love those Sundays when we gather together to celebrate Holy Communion - very special times of spiritual awareness and connecting with God.

The question sometimes comes up, though: what does the United Methodist Church say about baptism and communion? What is our understanding of these two critical tenets of our faith?

Here's what Article of Religion 15 says about this: *Sacraments ordained of Christ are not only badges or tokens of Christian (person's) profession, but rather they are certain signs of grace, and God's good will toward us, by which he doth work invisibly in us, and doth not only quicken, but also strengthen and confirm, our faith in him.*

There are two Sacraments ordained of Christ our Lord in the Gospel; that is to say, Baptism and the Supper of the Lord.

Those five commonly called sacraments, that is to say, confirmation, penance, orders, matrimony, and extreme unction, are not to be counted for Sacraments of the Gospel; being such as have partly grown out of the corrupt following of the apostles, and partly are states of life allowed in the Scriptures, but yet have not the like nature of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, because they have not any visible sign or ceremony ordained of God.

The Sacraments were not ordained of Christ to be gazed upon, or to be carried about; but that we should duly use them. And in such only as worthily receive the same, they have a wholesome effect or operation; but they that receive them unworthily, purchase to themselves condemnation, as St. Paul saith. (From The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church - 2004. Copyright - 2016 by The United Methodist Publishing House.)

John Wesley firmly believed that in order for people to respond to the salvation offered in Jesus Christ, worship, prayer, and the practice of their faith in everyday life must include engaging in the sacraments. For us, the church would not be the church without baptism and holy communion. Next month, I'll take us deeper in the waters of baptism, followed by communion in the month after that.

(Continued on the next page)

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

For now, it is important for us to understand that the sacraments are not some magical incantation that creates something out of nothing by our own hands. The sacraments are God's gift to the church - a means by which God can pour out His grace, love, and mercy on the church so we will stay intimately connected to the Father, through Jesus the Son and the presence of the Holy Spirit.

I look forward to the sacrament as often as possible, and I pray that we find in them the gift of God's unfailing grace and the basis for our eternal hope in being believers in the gospel message of salvation. Come to the table...come to the water...and live out your Christian journey together in Him.

Shalom,
Pastor Steve

Next: Part 17 - Of Baptism

Looking ahead...Mark your calendars!

September 8 - Sunday School Fall Kick-off; following worship

September 15 - Youth Group Kick-Off

September 25 - See you at the Pole; 7am

September 28 - Bible Quiz Meet in Hornell

October 17-20 - Keryx Weekend

October 18 - Flu Shot Clinic; PCS; 10am - 1pm

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

October 26 - Harvest Dinner (PUMC Community Room); Watch for details!!!!

December 10 - Annual Charge Conference

Next Course for New Members and Baptisms.....Coming this fall!!!!

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. A sign-up sheet will be available on the Welcome Table soon.

See you there!

Panama United Methodist Church Mission Statement

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

SUNDAY Morning Team - September

USHERS

Tim and Tena Dills
Peter and Paula Komarek

NURSERY HELPERS

September 1

Birth-2: Stacy Taylor and Lilly Odell

September 8

Birth-2: Jessica Keefer and Madie Pearson

September 15

Birth-2: Kathy Foulk and Lisa Waller

September 22

Birth-2: Ken and Katie Braun

September 29

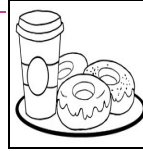
Birth-2: Julia Nelson and Gracie Cable

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.

***FREE Blood Pressures
and Fasting Blood Sugars
will be starting in October.***



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.

Welcome to the Family!

Eloise Elizabeth Butler

was born on August 5, 2019
to Michael and Erica Butler
of Charlotte, North Carolina.

She weighed 10lb 2 oz., and measured 21" long.

"Baby Lo's" happy grandparents are
Don and Tabby Butler.

We congratulate you on the birth of this precious child and we pray God's richest blessings on you all as she grows in the love of Christ.

Keryx Ministry Weekend

October 17-20

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

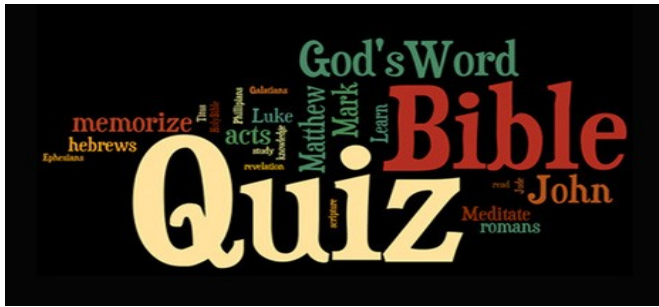
Also, if you would commit to pray before, during and after the weekend, there is a sign up sheet on the Welcome table.

**BE
ON
THE
LOOKOUT.....**

for information (coming soon)

how we can bless the food

pantry clients this Christmas!



BIBLE QUIZZING

Becky Cable, Coach

Our season has officially begun with six returning quizzers and one rookie. We have Josiah, Juliana, and Levi Graham, Jubal Samuelson, Jalynn Brewer, Josh Cable and Gracie Cable. Our practices are every Thursday at 6:30pm so please check us out. Our first quiz tournament will be Saturday, September 28th at Hornell UMC.

Our material this month is Mark 1, 3 and 6; Hebrews 1,2 and 6 and 1Peter 1. Our team name this season is ***By Faith***, taken from Hebrews 11:3, "By Faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible."

Looking For Something To DO?

Please check the PUMC **SEPTEMBER** 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!

CAMPING

On September 15, during worship, the youth that attended Summer Camp will be sharing their camp experiences. We look forward to hearing from them!

We were blessed to be able to send **20 kids** to Christian camp this past summer.

CONNECTIONS

School is in session ...and THAT means Connections is up and running, as well! We had a perfect evening for the welcome back picnic on August 29, and it was well attended by our Connections families.

Please keep our leaders, (Sandy Crossley, Joan Monroy and Tara Hosier), in your prayers as we begin the year.

Thank you, in advance, for donating snacks for our children. Please supply enough for at least 20 children per day.

THANK YOU!
(Stacy Taylor)

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.

ZUCCHINI CHIPS

Jody Marsh

2 zuchinni, sliced very thin
1 Tbsp. virgin olive oil
1 Tbsp. Ranch seasoning
1 tsp. dried oregano
Kosher salt
Freshly ground black pepper

Preheat oven to 225 degrees.
Spray a large cooking tray with Pam.
Slice zucchini into very thin rounds, using a mandolin if you have one.
Pat zucchini with paper towels to draw out extra moisture.
In a large bowl, toss zucchini and oil, then add all other ingredients and mix.
Place in a single layer on cooking tray.
Bake until crispy, 1 hour and 20 minutes, checking after 1 hour.
Let cool before serving.

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

The **SEPTEMBER** item of the month is
TOOTHBRUSHES!!!

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.



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 September 9th at 11:45am in the conference room. Don't forget your lunch!

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

LUNCH BUNCH

LUNCH BUNCH will resume our monthly gatherings on Wednesday, September 18th (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 Families of...

Brenda L. Maloy

October 20, 1962 - August 3, 2019

Brenda was the daughter of Joyce Terry Bergman and the late Kenneth Bergman.

She is survived by her mother, Joyce, her daughter, Sara Shirley;
her son, Joshua Putman, her grandson, Robert Putman;
her sisters, Karen Lewis, Judy Burdick and Kathy Foulk;
and her brother, John Bergman.

She is also survived by many beloved nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Brenda's life was held on August 7, 2019.

Loved ones are welcome to send donations to the Panama Fire Department.

John R. Ireland

December 20, 1950 - August 22, 2019

John is survived by his wife, Donna, with whom he celebrated 48 years of marriage the day before he passed away. His immediate family consists of his son, Michael (Jessica) Ireland of Los Angeles, CA, his daughter, Alicia (Nicholas) Smith of Sumter, SC and his grandson, Liam.

Also surviving are three brothers, Jack (Keith) Ireland, Jerry (Pam) Ireland, and Jeff (Brenda) Ireland, his sister, Ann (Shawn) Schnars, many sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews and cousins.

John was preceded in death by his parents, Jarvis and Margaret (Perkins) Ireland, and a daughter, Bethany, on June 22, 1976, with whom he was reunited in burial.

Memorials can be made to Roswell, Alliance Foundation; Chautauqua County Hospice and Palliative Care; or First Covenant Church in Jamestown.

Norene E. Lindquist

June 7, 1940 - August 23, 2019

Norene is survived by her husband, Dene, to whom she was married on July 3, 1959 and had recently celebrated 60 years. In addition to her husband, Norene is survived by 3 children, Allison (Henry) Johnson, Alan (Suzie) Lindquist and Daniel (Rebecca) Lindquist, nine grandchildren, eight great grandchildren,

two brothers, Norman (Sheryl) Button, John Button and a sister, Sharon Rea.

She was preceded in death by her parents, James and Ellen Button, and a great granddaughter, Norah Brown.

Memorial contributions may be made to New Beginnings Baptist Church, Kennedy, NY.

*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 KICK-OFF!



Join us...**following worship**...on Sunday, September 8 for food, fun and games as we gear up for another season of Sunday School! Come meet our teachers, have some popcorn and candy apples, play some cornhole, maybe even get your face painted! Everyone is welcome!

YOUTH NEWS

IMPACT

<<<<1>>>>

See You At The Pole (SYATP)

Panama Central School Flag Pole, September 25; 7am;

Cider, hot chocolate and donuts to be served.

In case of inclement weather, we will meet in the student athletic lobby.

<<<<2>>>>

Student Leader Meetings begin September 18th during lunch. Students in grades 6-12 are welcome to join us to develop as Christian Leaders and prepare to lead IMPACT meetings on Thursdays. Without Student Leaders, this program cannot happen within the school.

<<<<3>>>>

IMPACT meetings for all students will begin on September 19 during lunch. Pizza will be available again this year for \$1 per slice. Students, come join us and reach your school with Christ.

YOUTH GROUP

<<<<1>>>>

Youth Group launches September 15; 7-8:30pm; Students in grades 7-12 Are welcome to join. Volunteer opportunities are available within your ministry. See Candy Scarem for more information or attend the next Youth Support Ministry Team meeting on September 7 at 6pm in the Youth Loft for more information.

<<<<2>>>>

Sign Up NOW - Believe - PUMC Confirmation Experience begins October 13 at 5pm. Available for students in grades 7-12. This is a time for students to learn about their church, the Church community and what it means to be a faithful Christian.

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 will be looking for a variety donations and there will be 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 will be out on the Welcome (information) tables on or about September 29th.

We will be looking for donations of money for turkeys (\$25/per turkey x 18 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!!*****

Let's get excited and make this dinner our best yet!

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2 Andrew Foulk, **Shawn/Ann Schnars**
- 3 **Brian/Janice Franklin**
- 4 Jane Nagel, **Sam/Carm Catanese**
- 5 Kim Davis, **Steve/Stacy Taylor**
- 6 **Duane/Emily Baker, Jerry/Gloria Scholton**
- 7 Kila Kester, **Bert/Roberta Anderson**
- 10 Julie Dilley
- 11 Casey McGaffick
- 13 Robert Cartwright
- 15 Peter Komarek, **Jeff/Larissa Enlow**
- 16 Alyssa Woods
- 17 Roberta Anderson, Jerry Scholton, **Christopher/Carolyn Hughesman**
- 18 Aiden Keefer, Andrew Lescynski
- 19 Daniel Cartwright, Carrie Munsee
- 23 Tony Sali, **Lester/Wyona Wevers**
- 24 **Jonathan/Jessica Komarek**
- 26 **Todd/Amanda Kolstee**
- 28 Charlie Auge, Dave Hinderer, Michael Range
- 29 Greg Edwards, **Jack/Linda Sturges**

Looking ahead to October...

- 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 Krista Odell, **Don/Tabetha Butler**
- 7 **Jim/Linda Roraback**

WEDNESDAY,
September 11
7pm

CHOIR
REHEARSALS
BEGIN

We would like to see
YOU there!!!

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

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 September.

Cornerstone District Office
Christ First UMC
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(716) 665-2423



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