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The SIGN

Our Saviour's United Methodist Church
Growing Each Day by Worshiping God; Loving One Another;
and Serving Others.



You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:14,16 NIV

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors

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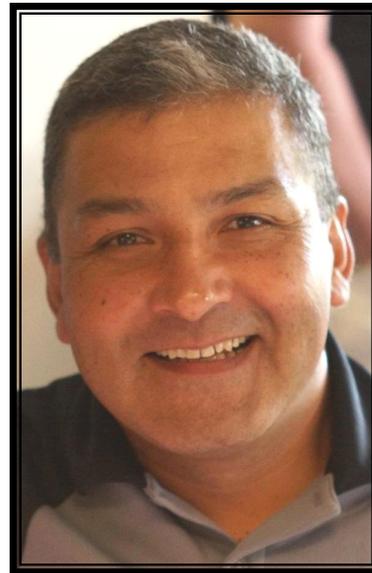
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UPDATE ON A WAY FORWARD

Having received and considered the extensive work of the Commission on a Way Forward, the Council of Bishops will submit a report to the Special Session of the General Conference in 2019 that includes:

- All three plans (The Traditionalist Plan, The One Church Plan and the Connectional Conference Plan) for a way forward considered by the Commission and the Council.
- The Council's recommendation of the One Church Plan.
- An historical narrative of the Council's discernment process regarding all three plans.

As a delegate to General Conference, I have yet to see the detailed report of the Council of Bishops for the UMC Way Forward.

The Council of Bishops has acknowledged there is support for each of the three plans within the Council. However, the majority of the Council recommends the One Church Plan as the best way forward for The United Methodist Church.

Here's a detailed look at all three plans (the way I see it).

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ONE-CHURCH PLAN (recommended by the Council of Bishops)

This plan would allow for contextualization in different parts of the world (This already exists in Africa, Asia, and Europe). This plan is based on the belief that we can be a church with a large enough tent for people to disagree about homosexuality and yet remain together as The United Methodist Church. This plan will neither affirm nor condemn LGBTQ persons. It would remove the restrictive language against the practice of homosexuality in the Book Discipline.

Clergy will be free to decide whether they are willing to preside at same-sex weddings or not, based on individual conscience. Clergy, through their normal Board of Ordained Ministry process, would discern who is fit and fruitful for clergy service in their annual conference. This plan would remove the current prohibitions without creating new obligations or affirmation. It should put an end to clergy trials for celebrating same-sex weddings. It would also respect local church decisions whether to host same-sex weddings or not. The Book of Discipline would protect clergy who do not want to officiate same-sex weddings. Likewise, all would be allowed to follow their conscience in matter of ordination.

CONNECTIONAL CONFERENCES MODEL (considered but not recommended by Council of Bishops)

The Connectional Conferences Model is grounded in a unified core that includes shared doctrine and services, and one Council of Bishops, while creating different branches that would have clearly defined values such as accountability, contextualization, and justice. The church will remain a global church. In the U.S., the five geographically distinct jurisdictional conferences would be replaced by three overlapping conferences: one traditional conference, one progressive conference, and one centrist conference. Each annual conference would choose to be a member of one of the three connectional conferences based on their affinity to the conference's theological stance on homosexuality. Any local church that disagrees with the annual conference decision could vote to join a different branch conference.

TRADITIONALIST MODEL (not recommended by Council of Bishops)

The Traditionalist Model would affirm the current Book of Discipline statement that the practice of homosexuality is "incompatible with Christian teaching." It will preserve the status quo. Boards of Ordained Ministry would still be prohibited from recommending LGBTQ candidates for ordination. Officiating same-sex marriages would still be a chargeable offense, and being a self-avowed and practicing gay clergy would continue to be a chargeable offense. Requires clergy found guilty of breaking current or future disciplinary provisions regarding the performance of same-sex marriages to surrender their credentials.

The Traditionalist Model would demand increased accountability to the Book of Discipline—not only for individual pastors but also for churches, bishops, and even annual conferences, all of which could face punishment. No local church will be required to vote on anything. However, congregations that disagree with their annual conference decision to enforce the Discipline could

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vote to withdraw from the UMC or join a newly created autonomous-affiliated or concordat Church.

The final report is being translated from English to French, Kiswahili and Portuguese (The United Methodist Church's three other official languages). It is set to be made public after July 30. Other United Methodist groups and individuals have submitted petitions, which are also being translated. All translated materials heading to the Special Session of the General Conference will be sent to delegates in the Advance Daily Christian Advocate by Nov. 26.

Certainly, this is a pivotal and critical moment in the life of the United Methodist Church. In my view, there is no model that is unproblematic. Regardless of the direction the church goes, there will be pain involved. But my hope is that the delegates to the Special Session of the General Conference in 2019 are open to the possibilities that have not yet been brought forward for discussion that could make for an even better way forward for the UMC.

One of my favorite sayings is: 'In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; and in all things, charity.' That is, if we preserve unity in essentials, liberty in non-essentials, and charity in both, our affairs will be in the best position. It is my hope and prayer that through the Special Session of the General Conference we could show the wider culture how to disagree without being hostile and offensive to each other, and without dehumanizing those whose perspectives differ from our own, something that is so prevalent in our divided culture and toxic politics.

If you would like to learn more about the Way Forward process, the Northern Illinois Conference General/Jurisdictional Delegation will be holding listening and conversation sessions this fall. You can choose to attend any one of the locations.

October 6

9:00 am Rockford District (Freeport: First Ridge)

1:00 pm Dekalb District (Sterling: Wesley)

October 20

9:00 am Chicago NW District (Park Ridge)

1:00 pm Chicago Southern District (Chicago: St. Mark)

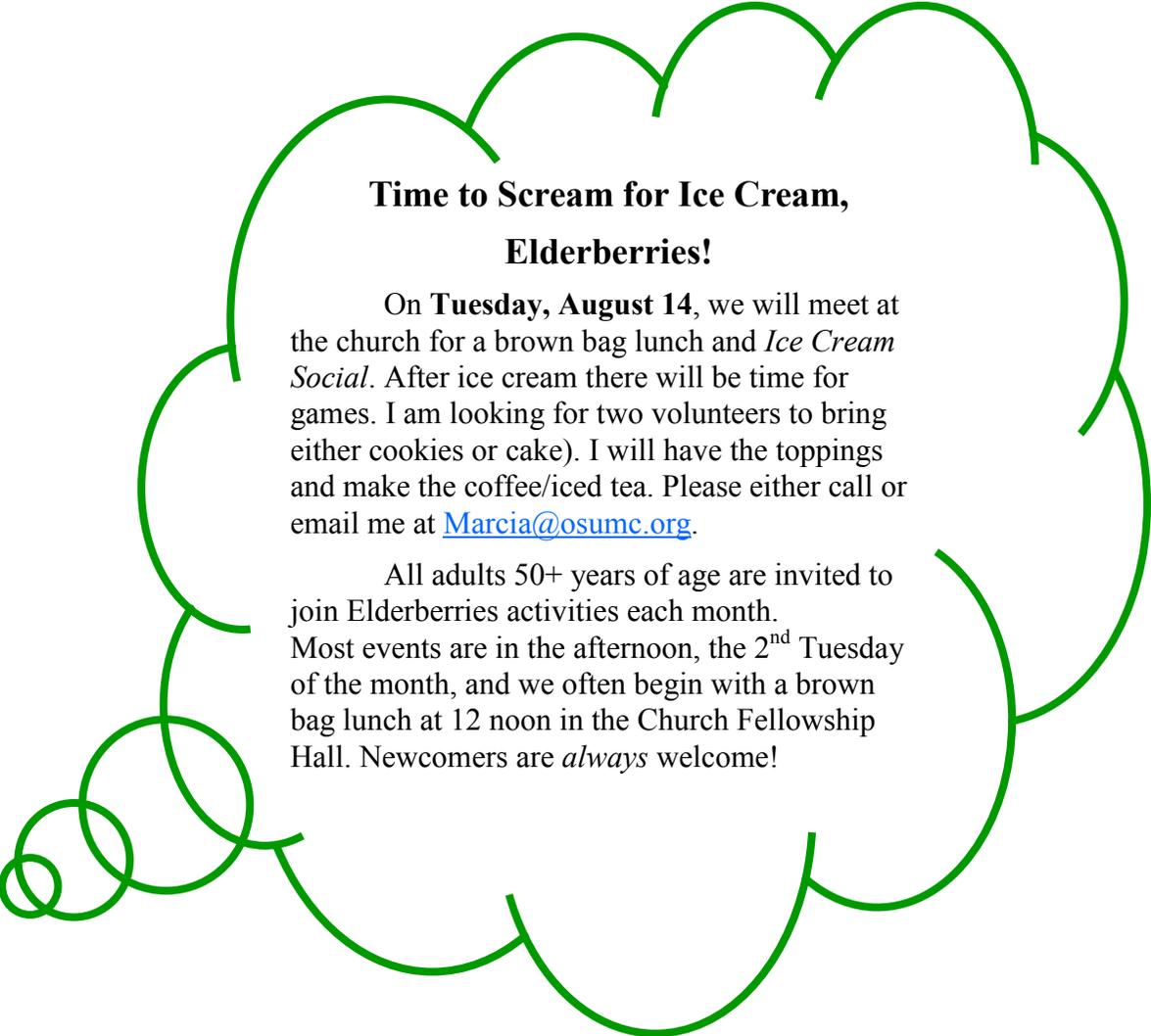
November 10

9:00 am Elgin District (Barrington)

1:00 pm Aurora District (Bethany Fox Valley)

Please, keep our NIC delegation in your thoughts and prayers.

In Christ's service and yours,
Pastor David



**Time to Scream for Ice Cream,
Elderberries!**

On **Tuesday, August 14**, we will meet at the church for a brown bag lunch and *Ice Cream Social*. After ice cream there will be time for games. I am looking for two volunteers to bring either cookies or cake). I will have the toppings and make the coffee/iced tea. Please either call or email me at Marcia@osumc.org.

All adults 50+ years of age are invited to join Elderberries activities each month. Most events are in the afternoon, the 2nd Tuesday of the month, and we often begin with a brown bag lunch at 12 noon in the Church Fellowship Hall. Newcomers are *always* welcome!

United Methodist Men Spiritual Congress (Sept. 14-16)

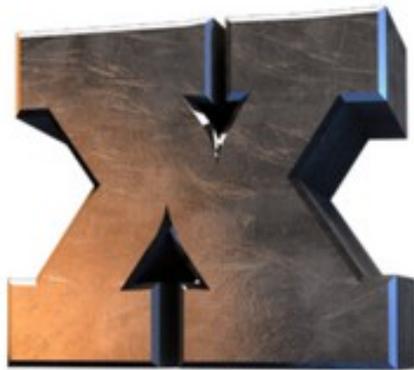
Conference Point Center, Williams Bay, Wisconsin.

Theme: *Teach a Man to Fish*.

Featuring: Rev. Drew Oakley and David Holcombe of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of United Methodist Men Younger Men's Work Group.

Kickoff for Christ

September 9 11:30-3pm



Games

OSUMC style

Join us as we celebrate the start of a new school year. Fun for the ENTIRE family with food and games.

"GREETERS needed for September thru November. This is a great opportunity to meet people who go to Our Saviour's that you greet at the front door. We ask you to arrive 20 minutes before the 1st service and if possible, greet for the 2nd service from 10:15 until the service starts. No experience necessary! There is a sign-up sheet on the table by the entrance to the office (underneath the June thru August list) . If you have any questions, please contact Art Hogsett at (847) 767-8414."

Blessing of the Backpacks!!

Sunday, August 26, 2018

9:30a.m.



ANYONE who carries a backpack (students, teachers, etc.) is encouraged to bring their backpacks to church! Pastor David will be doing a special blessing over them as we begin a new school year.

4th Annual Larry Sicher Memorial Golf Outing

It will be held on Thursday, September 13 at the Poplar Creek Golf Course in Hoffman Estates, Illinois.

Check-in is 11:30am., followed by lunch. Shotgun start at 1:00pm. Dinner is 6:00 pm. \$150.00—Golf/Cart/Banquet. Dinner only—\$65 and Raffle/Silent Auction. All funds raised will go to support WACO which runs the daycare facility across our parking lot (originally started in our church). See Art Hogsett for information.

Volunteers in Mission (VIM) Trip to Panama — Sept 2018

It is not too late to contribute to the Panama Teaching Mission trip in September. Mary Legg and Sonia Lecce will go to Cienagieta, Panama to work with a team focusing on the training and instruction of new Health Promoters for the Ngabe people. We will help specifically by teaching about the use of common medicines and help in CPR instruction. We are very excited looking ahead to this new chapter in our mission to help the Ngabe continue to be healthier and more self sufficient. Others will teach core values, why are health promoters needed, who needs them, discuss family needs such as sanitation, nutrition, disease prevention, mental health. At the end, students will do a "teaching presentation" to demonstrate what they have learned during the week.

All contributions will help with expenses or as a gift to the Community Health Project for the Ngabe administered thru Rainbow Covenant giving. Sonia and Mary are grateful for all the help OSUMC has provided over the years for this mission. **Please use the blue offering envelope for your donation and indicate Panama Mission 2018 on the memo line of your check. Support money may be given up until Aug 26.** We will be in Panama from Sept 2 until Sept 9 to share your love and compassion with our friends. We look forward to giving a presentation for the church and for UMW both of whom have supported this ongoing mission faithfully and generously.

In addition, the team is looking for 2-3 sponsors to help individual Health Promoters. We are asking for a \$30 donation to pay for a tote bag, teaching materials and manuals, writing tools, paper and first aid items such as gauze, ointments, tape, vitamins and the like. The team will purchase the supplies so there is no shopping involved. We will attach your photo to a tote bag and will take a photo of the receiving health promoter to take back to share with the sponsor. We hope this will make the association more personal and meaningful. This will be a first come first serve proposition, so in order to become a sponsor, please contact Mary personally by phone or email (marysnyderlegg@comcast.net or 847-891-7258).

Single, widowed, or divorced? Tired of eating alone and fast food? Join a group at Our Saviour's, **Dining Without Partners**. We will be meeting at a nice restaurant each month for good dinner and conversation. Only requirement will be to reserve in advance and to bring cash, since occasionally some places don't provide "separate checks." Our next dinner will be at **Pinstripes on August 18**. Please reserve your seat at the table by calling Lynda Riggs, 847-712-1993 or email riggslm5@att.net.

We will be meeting the 3rd Saturday of the month at the following restaurants, join us when you can.

September 15 - La Hacienda

October 20 - Wild Fire (11:30 lunch, instead of dinner)

November 17 - Bahama Breeze

December 15 - Weber Grill



Who's up for an Adventure?

- Summer Sunday School Volunteers are needed
- See Heather to sign-up
- One-Sunday Commitments
- Worship and Learn with some great kids



UMM Annual Golf outing - August 26th

Any questions, please contact
Al Iverson -
cell# 847-513-3662



Youth Mision



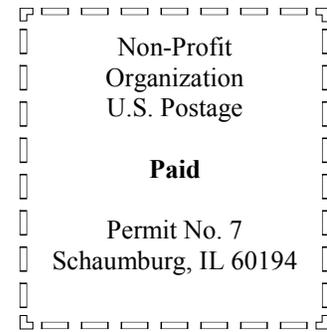


Youth Mission Detroit



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Return Services Requested



The SIGN

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Worship 9:00 & 10:30am

Summer Worship 9:30am
(June 3—Sept 2, 2018)
Email

OSUMC@osumc.org
www.osumc.org

[facebook.com/oursavioursumc](https://www.facebook.com/oursavioursumc)

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He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the
gospel to all creation. Mark 16:15 NIV

