

October 2018— Vol. 60 * No. 10

The SIGN

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



Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors

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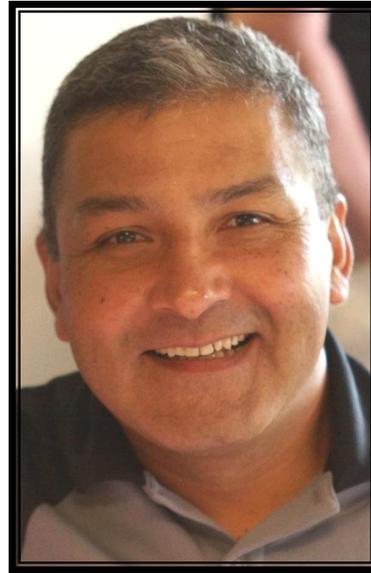
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*Not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.
Hebrews 10:25*

Guess, what is the typical ratio for attendance to membership in United Methodist Churches in our country? 70%? 60%? Nope. The typical ratio is only 40%. This means that there are far more people who consider themselves 'members' (and are considered thus on the roll books) than those who actually attend on a regular basis. Now reduce that number by another 50% to 70% and you have the folks who participate with their church family beyond Sunday morning worship—what we often refer to as the "core" members.

I wondered whether our congregation would fit this mold. Our roll books show approximately 634 members as of our last

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Charge Conference. An average Sunday morning worship attendance is 135 people. I'm no math genius, but when I run those numbers, I come up with 21.3%. We are certainly below the median!

Isn't it sad that we maintain such low standards and expectations for something that should be the highest calling in our lives? I wonder what the basketball team would do if 40% of their players showed up for practice... Or Motorola, if 40% of the employees showed up for work... And yet, in the Church, we are more likely to think of our attendance as offering God the special gift of our presence, rather than understanding it as the privilege and responsibility that it is.

Ginghamsburg United Methodist in Tipp City, Ohio, led by Rev. Michael Slaughter, has a membership of over 2,000. Yet the number of worshippers each week runs about 500 more than their membership. Why? Because the congregation has decided to take membership responsibilities seriously. They require participation in membership classes, participation in service-outreach ministry, participation in small groups and participation in accountability groups. And they track attendance and regularly purge their roll of inactive members. So why do they continue to have such a huge number of non-member attendees? Because people are thinking long and hard about membership before committing.

This is where we miss the boat so often in mainline churches. We wrongly believe that if we just make things 'easy enough' or 'convenient enough,' then people will come. (Many bowling leagues require more of their members than our churches.) And yet, it doesn't work in the long-term. People may come, but they won't stay. They would prefer to date the church—have her around for special events, take her out when life feels lonely, and keep her around for a rainy day, but they would never commit to it. People have numerous opportunities for "easy" and "convenient" at every corner. We don't even have to leave the house to buy groceries anymore!

What would it look like if we, as a congregation, decided to start taking our commitment as disciples as seriously as we take our commitment to our jobs, our families, our leisure time...? What would it look like if we stopped worrying about "offending" one another, and started holding one another accountable? What would it look like if we gave up the claim we hold on our lives for the sake of this God who gives us each and every breath?

It would look like the Kingdom of God.

In Christ's service and yours,
Pastor David

It's a Work in Progress, Elderberries!

How does an outing to hunt Trolls and view Scarecrows sound! It sounded like fun to me! The details are not yet complete (I'm not sure where September went)! Here are the details under consideration, but not yet arranged:

What: An outing in our church bus to Morton Arboretum.

Cost: Approx. \$15/person

Date: **MONDAY**, October 15 (or 22)

Things to consider: I am told there will be a fair amount of walking to see the Trolls, but worth the effort if you are physically able. If you decide to remain on the bus and *not* walk, you could still enjoy the Fall colors, and you would be welcome! Of course the day would end with ice cream!

Please call (847.882.5714) and leave a message, or email (Marcia@osumc.org or jmneedler@sbcglobal.net) if you are interested.

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 Women Count Down to Bazaar Day

Ladies, we need many helping hands to complete numerous Craft Bazaar projects. Please join us Wednesday, October 17 Circle for a work day from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. We will break for lunch at 11:30 so please bring a sack lunch, desserts will be provided by hostesses. We understand everyone's schedule is different, so come all day or come for whatever time you can. If you have been working on projects at home, this is a good time to bring them in for pricing.



Thank you from the Health Promoters (and Mary and Sonia) !

I would like to thank the whole congregation for your generous support of the teaching mission to Panama that Sonia and I worked on in September. It was a very memorable trip and, from my perspective, the very best experience I've had in all the times I've been to help and support the Ngobe. We worked, we listened, we taught and we interacted every day with the eight new health promoter trainees. They were very eager and attentive, full of questions and excitement to learn and to be with us. They were all very proud to have been selected to become health promoters for their respective communities and are looking forward to becoming leaders for their neighbors.

Two of our OSUMC members, Kathe Neyer and Susan Gellersted, sponsored a health promoter. Each student received a tote bag with the cross and flame logo - each of the ladies chose one that was the same color as the dress she was wearing that day; I don't think the men cared! They will use the bag to carry their student manual and other items they need for their studies. The 2 students they sponsored each wrote a thank you note and I would like to share the notes with you. They reflect the feelings of gratitude and humility that these men and women feel for the people who come to help them.

From Susana Montezuma:

My Lady, Kathe Neyer: First, I am grateful for your part of sending me the material for my work. I only want to tell you that God has given you much love. Some day I would like to meet you in person. Many kisses for you. Thank you, Susana Montezuma

From Emidio Cedeno:

Beloved and generous, Susan Gellersted: For me here, you are a hero, a star and a special person. I wish you much more life and many blessings. I am grateful for you.

Be happy, Emidio Cedeno.

Of course, a member of our team translated the notes from Spanish since neither student speaks English. They are both very diligent and determined people. Susana has 6 children (4 have gone to high school) and Emidio is a young man trying to improve himself and find a path to success before he marries and has a family. We are all very impressed with the level of commitment and interest these new trainees have shown. Sonia and I were able to provide a gift from Our Saviour's of \$1000 from the funds donated from our congregation. In addition, your sponsorship helped us fund our mission trip. We remain so very grateful and amazed at the support you all have offered. Please keep our Ngobe friends in your prayers as they continue their lessons and their commitment to the improving the health of those in their communities. Mary Legg and Sonia Lecce



"**GREETERS** needed for October thru November. This is a great opportunity to meet people who go to Our Saviour's. 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."

You may now order altar flowers via email.

Whenever you wish to have flowers displayed on the altar for a special occasion, you may do so by emailing Barbara Glasby in the church office at barbarag@osumc.org. Please include your name, the date you wish to have the flowers displayed, and the wording you want in the bulletin. The sign-up flower chart is no longer posted; all orders will now be placed via email. The cost will remain at \$37 per arrangement, and payment may be placed in the offering plate.



I am pleased to announce that our youth and children's Christmas Pageant will be presented on Sunday, December 16 during one service at 9:30. All children and youth have an opportunity to participate in the program. We will be performing "The First Christmas" with a lot of speaking parts available. They don't need to memorize the parts, we will make little cue cards for everyone. Please let me know if your children/grandchildren will be performing with us that day.

We will practice during the 10:30 service on Sunday, December 9 and have a run through on Saturday, December 15th at 10am. I would love to see everyone involved this Christmas! If your child/grandchild is interested in performing, please email Heather Schluckbier at heather@osumc.org



OUR SAVIOUR'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TRUNK OR TREAT

EVERYONE WELCOME

OCTOBER 28TH
11:00-NOON
701 E. SCHAUMBURG RD. SCHAUMBURG

**Decorate your
car trunk and
hand out candy**

BRING THE KIDS FOR
FUN TRICK OR
TREATING!



Parents or Grandparents of 3rd graders! We will be celebrating Bible Sunday on November 18. Please let Heather Schluckbier know if you child/grandchild would like to be included. Email her at heather@osumc.org.

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 **Wild Fire on October 20. This will be a 11:30 lunch.** 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.

November 17 - Bahama Breeze

December 15 - Weber Grill



Monday Men's Study

Join us for *GO FISH*, a six week Andy Stanley study video and discussion series on sharing our faith. The study began on September 24 @ 7pm in Room 4. Why is it we can't talk about what God has done in our lives as naturally as we can spin fishing tales? The answers are probably different for each of us. But we know we should be able to share the *GOOD NEWS* of God's saving grace. So let's learn how. Questions? Contact Fred Collins, derfdog@aol.com or 847-885-4329.

Calling All College Students!
If you haven't given your address at school to the church, please email the information to Heather Schluckbier at heather@osumc.org

And Have An Awesome Year!!

Presented by:
Our Saviour's UMW
701 E. Schaumburg Rd.
Schaumburg

Saturday, Nov. 3
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

*Free Admission and
Parking

*All items are handcrafted by
church members



Holiday Craft Bazaar



Featuring:

- Handcrafted Christmas items & greeting cards
- Floral creations
- Thanksgiving table décor
- Gifts for friends, family & kitchen
- Cookies by the Pound
- Post Office
- Granny Ruthie's Attic
- Buck-a-Book
- Advent calendars for kids & dogs

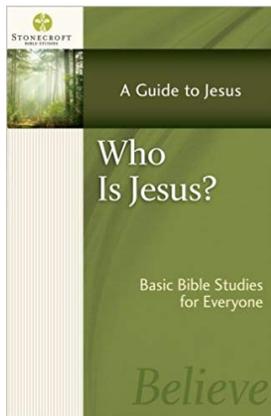
*Proceeds benefit our
local community &
Missions worldwide.

*Hot lunch served all day.

Our Craft Bazaar is Saturday, November 3:

- We need cookie bakers. Please see Paula Schray for details and sign up sheet. She is asking for 12 dozen of one kind, but we will gladly accept small quantities in order to give us more variety.
- We have a separate bake shop for cakes, pies, jelly, relish, candies, etc. We appreciate all donations. They may be brought to the church Friday, November 2 for pricing.
- Sign up sheets are circulating for work assignments and food donations for the Lunch Box.
- Donations for Granny Ruthie's Attic can be brought to the church starting October 28. No clothing, appliances, or large furniture accepted. Much preparation is needed to set up the Bazaar. We need helping hands to transport goods from North House, room set up, kitchen prep, last minute pricing, set up of cookie boxes, etc. Please see a member of the Bazaar Committee if you are able to assist.

We appreciate all help to make this another successful Bazaar. All proceeds fund missions locally and worldwide.



Jesus Christ is the most extraordinary person who has ever lived. This study will help readers consider why He came, what He said, and what He did, finding fresh inspiration for engaging with Him in life-transforming ways

Monday Women's Bible study will be using a six week study about Jesus. This study will begin on Monday, October 8th. We will read and complete the study during our time together. (No homework) Each chapter can stand alone so plan to join us whenever you can. We meet in the church parlour from 7 - 8:30pm. If you have any questions, please contact Paula Schray at 847-352-3028



September Fest Parking netted \$10,725. Although the proceeds were down from most other years, every penny is a blessing.



Stewardship Emphasis: "A Disciple's Life"

The theme of our stewardship emphasis this year is "A Disciple's Life." The greatest misconception is that the ministry is something that the preacher or the staff does, ministry is for the ordained full time personnel of the church. While it is true that God has called some to the ministry as a profession he has called all of us to be ministers, he has called all of us to minister for Christ - at work, at home as well as in the church. The Gospel of Mark (Chapter 3) says that Jesus called the Disciples unto himself...and later he sent them forth." Jesus not only called the disciples but when he sent them out he gave them every resource to carry out the task that they had been assigned. Luke 10 says that Jesus appointed evangelists to go on ahead, heal the sick, preach the gospel, and pray very hard that the Lord would send more workers. All believers were sent, none were exceptions! In the same way, we are all called to become not only members of the Body of Christ, but also Disciples who "go" and "make" other disciples, "teaching" them to obey all that Jesus commands. During October we will explore what a Disciple's Life entails and how we can become better disciples and life-long followers and learners of Jesus Christ.

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|--------------------|--|-------------------------|
| October 7, | <i>"A Life of Worship"</i> | <i>Romans 12:1</i> |
| October 14, | <i>"A Life of Hospitality"</i> | <i>John 13:34-35</i> |
| October 21, | <i>"A Life of Discipleship"</i> | <i>Matthew 28:19-20</i> |
| October 28, | <i>"A Life of Service"</i> | <i>Mathew 25:44-45</i> |
| November 4, | <i>"A Life of Generosity"</i>
<i>Communion/ Consecration Sunday</i> | <i>Mathew 6:24-34</i> |



**Our Saviour's United Methodist
Church**
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The SIGN

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Worship 9:00 & 10:30am

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

701 E Schaumburg Road
Schaumburg, IL 60193

You are *Beautiful*
For you are *Fearfully*
And *Wonderfully* made.

PSALM 139:14