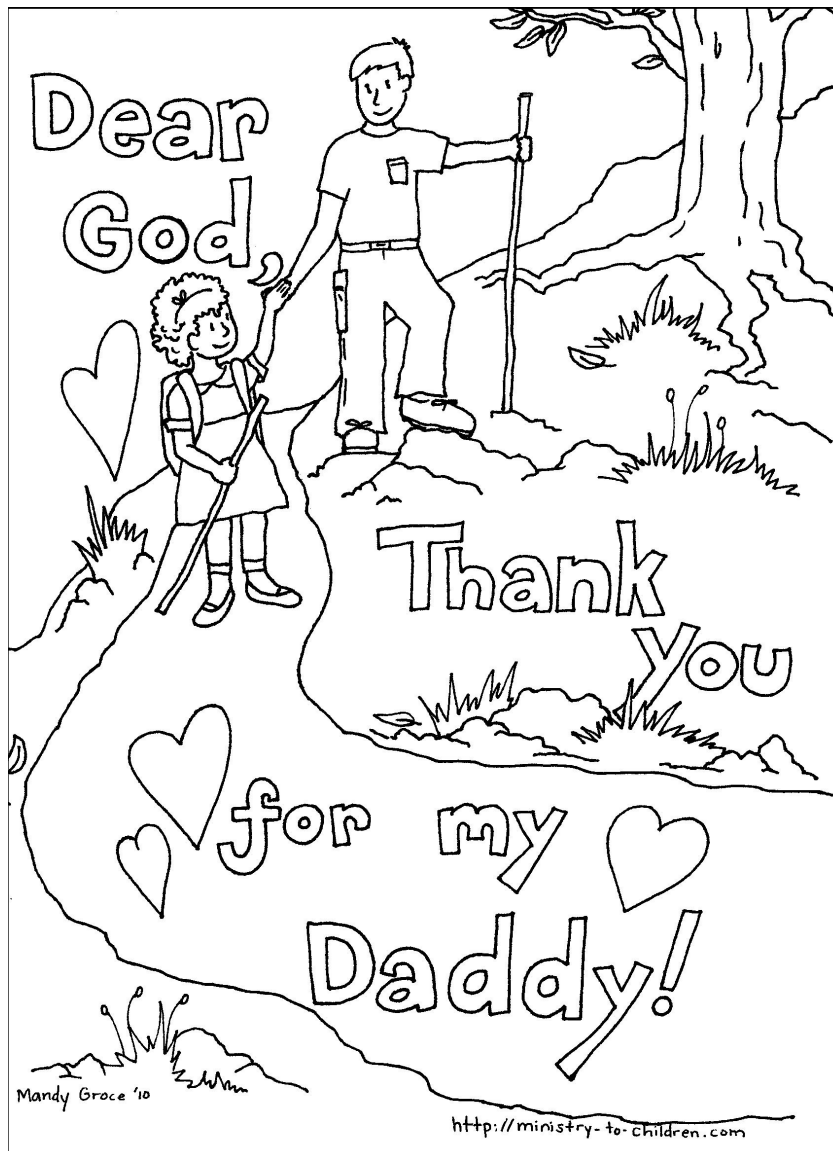


The SIGN

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



Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors

Staff Directory

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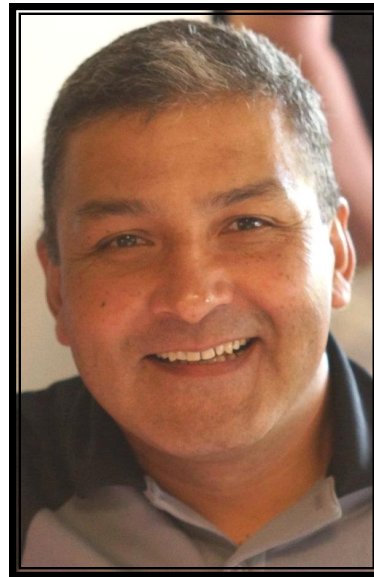
Heather Schluckbier, Dir.

Lay Leader

Art Hogsett

Missionaries

Clara Mridula Biswas—Cambodia
Larry Kies—Africa University
Sandra Kay Raasch—Honduras



UPDATE ON THE COMMISSION ON THE WAY FORWARD

In 2016, at the request of the General Conference of the United Methodist Church, the Council of Bishops (COB) appointed the Commission on the Way Forward (CoWF) to help our denomination to find a way forward on issues related to human sexuality.

The Council of Bishops charged the Commission on the Way Forward with the bridging the denomination's deep divisions on homosexuality and fostering church unity. (United Methodists hold a wide range of positions regarding issues of human sexuality. Each member operates out of sincerely held beliefs and are convinced of the moral views they espouse.) The Commission is formed by eight bishops, eleven laity, eleven elders and two deacons who represent, in general, our Church's theological diversity.

The Council of Bishops (COB) met in Chicago in May. Their discussion was centered on *The Way Forward* report submitted by the Commission on the Way Forward (CoWF). The report considers three plans for a way forward:

1. The Traditionalist Plan

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It affirms the current Book of Discipline language and places a high value on accountability. The church policy book says the practice of homosexuality “is incompatible with Christian teaching” and lists officiating at a same-gender union or being a “self-avowed practicing” gay clergy member as chargeable offenses under church law.

2. The One Church Plan

It removes the Book of Discipline's restrictive language and places a high value on contextualization. This sketch also specifically protects the rights of those whose conscience will not allow them to perform same-gender weddings or ordain LGBTQ people.

3. The Connectional Conference Plan

It creates multiple branches that have clearly defined values such as accountability, contextualization and justice. This model would provide a space within the overall church where different groups could operate according to their conscientious beliefs. It would maintain shared doctrine and services and one Council of Bishops.

All three models come with a way for churches to exit the denomination

The Council of Bishops' recommendation to the General Conference is *The One Church Plan*. While this plan will be singled out for primary consideration, the other two plans remain a possibility for adoption by the General Conference delegates. This means the General Conference will have all three plans in front of them for consideration, and has the right to adopt, reject or amend any of them.

A brief view of *The One Church Plan* is as follows:

- Removes the restrictive language from the current Book of Discipline.
- Recognizes the diverse theological and scriptural understanding of our global church.
- Provides generous unity for conferences, churches and pastors.
- Does not require any annual conference, bishop, congregation or pastor to act contrary to their convictions. It offers more local decision-making.

Maintains the current leadership structure of the denomination as one body.

A full report, which will include a complete description of each Plan, and a historic narrative of the CoWF work will be published no later than July 8, 2018. The report is currently being edited, translated (into six different languages), and is under Judicial Review for compliance with our Book of Discipline. The entire report will be available to all after it has been properly prepared.

Ultimately it is the General Conference with its 864 lay and clergy delegates from all over the world - not the Council of Bishops – that will chart the way forward for our Church next February 23-26, 2019 in St. Louis, Missouri.

Certainly, what is before us as a Church is a very complex issue given the global nature of our denomination and the changes that are taking place in our communities and the world. However, despite the challenges we face, I personally believe that we can

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live together, like family, and still have differences and disagreements in our approaches regarding issues of human sexuality.

The Northern Illinois Conference Delegation to the General Conference 2019 (GC19), of which I am a part, has been working hard as we discern where we believe the Holy Spirit is leading us, the church. The delegation hopes and prays that after the General Conference we will emerge as one church united and ready to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. So please, pray daily for the delegation, as well as all the Bishops and the delegates of the General Conference.

If you want to read and learn more, you can go to the Northern Illinois Conference's website at www.umcnic.org. You can also talk with me personally for more information. I will post updates as soon as they are available.

In Christ's service and yours.

Pastor David Lagos-Fonseca

Save the Date, Elderberries

We have been invited to a picnic on Tuesday, June 12, at 12 noon. Pastor Shirley Pulgar-Hughes and Pastor David Lagos-Fonseca have invited us to a picnic lunch at the parsonage. We are to bring nothing but our smiling faces! I would like to tell them as soon as possible how many people will be attending; please leave a message for Marcia at 847-882-5714 or at jmneedler@sbcglobal.net by Wednesday, June 6.

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 usually begin with a brown bag lunch at 12 noon in the Church Fellowship Hall. Details may be found in the newsletter or weekly bulletins

CHRIST WITH US - THE ADVENTURES OF FLAT JESUS

As Christians we are called to keep Christ at the center of our lives and to spread the gospel wherever we go. This summer in your travels and adventures take Jesus along...and tell us about it!

Who is Flat Jesus?

The original "flat" character was Flat Stanley, star of a book by Jeff Brown in which a boy has remarkable adventures after waking up one day to discover he is flattened to half-an-inch thick. This was the beginning of the Flat Stanley project in schools to help children with literacy and geography and from this grew the Flat Jesus Project.

The Flat Jesus Project

"And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age" Matthew 28:20

Flat Jesus reminds us to keep Christ at the center of our lives even, or especially, when we are far from our church home. As you are out and about this summer, take Jesus along for the adventure. You'll love taking Flat Jesus out to dinner or the park, to exotic locations such as Europe or Hawaii, to the zoo or to camp - wherever you and your family go. It is a great way to remember that Jesus is always with us, wherever we go. Then document the adventures with pictures you share with your Christ Church family. This project is for EVERYONE, not just families with children.

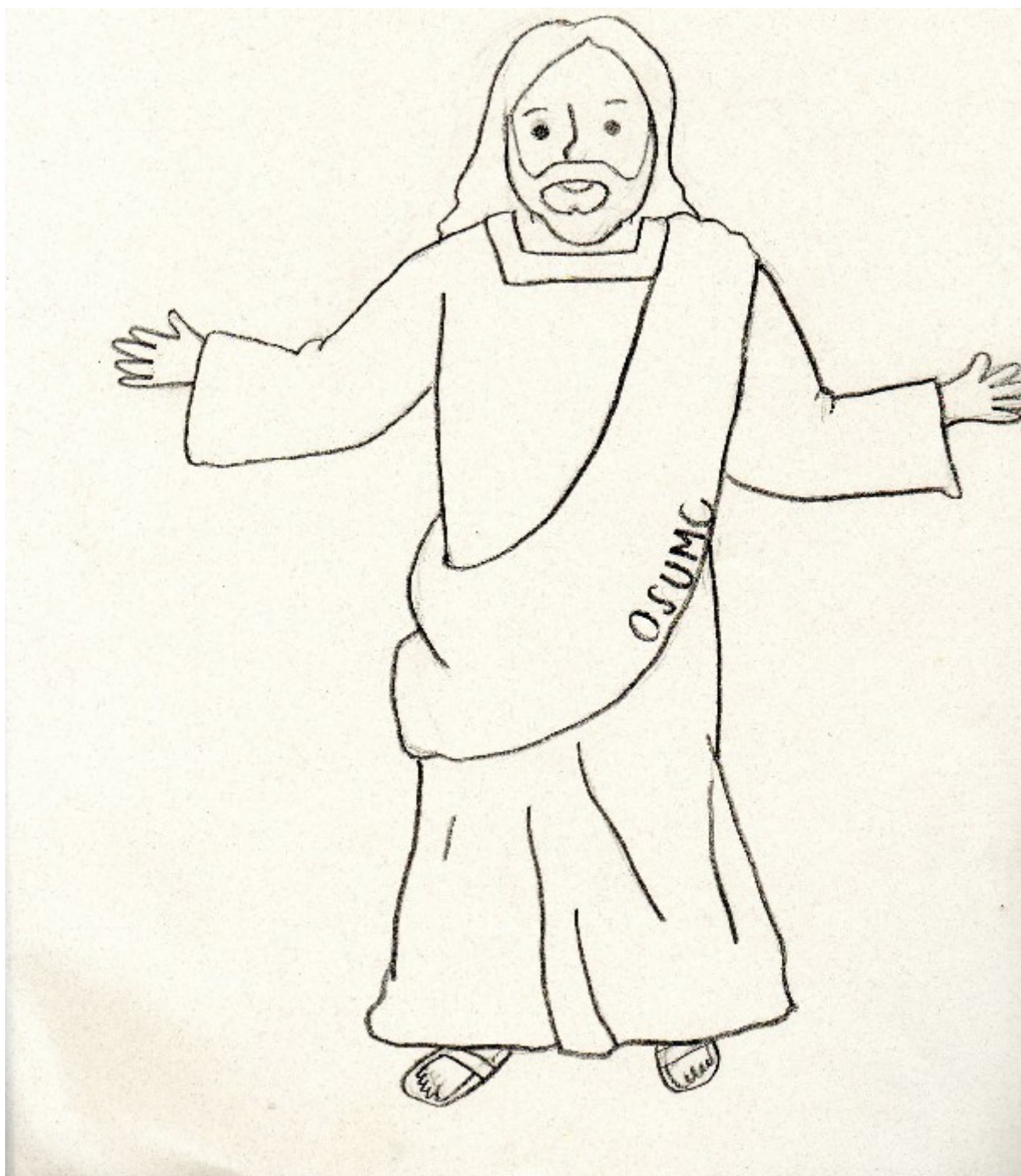
HOW TO CREATE YOUR VERY OWN "FLAT JESUS": Take a printed "Flat Jesus" from the various spots around the church. Thank you to our very own Olivia Misch for the drawing! Decorate your "Flat Jesus." Be creative! You can make one for yourself and one for a friend! When you have taken photos of "Flat Jesus," you can upload your "Flat Jesus" picture by...

1. Emailing it to Heather Schluckbier at heather@osumc.org.
2. By uploading your picture directly to the OSUMC Facebook page. It will be so exciting to see where our church family members go this summer! And remember, Jesus is with you ALWAYS.

Save the date for the
UMM Annual Golf outing
- August 26th

Sign-ups begin on
Sunday June 3rd!

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



Flat Jesus

Annual Conference REVOTE

Not long ago, through an email, I shared with you our Bishop's letter expressing her dismay at the denomination's failure to ratify constitutional amendments ensuring the full inclusion of women in the church.

Due to an error, Annual Conferences around the world will be revoting on one of two constitutional amendments dealing with women's equality. At the 2016 General Conference, when the Independent Commissions Committee considered Amendment 1, it deleted the sentence, "The United Methodist Church recognizes it is contrary to Scripture and to logic to say that God is male or female, as maleness and femaleness are characteristics of human bodies and cultures, not characteristics of the divine." The amended copy also changed the last sentence to "The United Methodist Church shall work collaboratively with others to address concerns that threaten women's and girls' equality and well-being." (See below)

As the petition was processed and then the constitutional amendments were prepared to go out to annual conferences, it appears that 'delete the second sentence in its entirety' was missed. So the words that went to annual conferences contained text that should have been stricken before it went out.

Since some annual and central conferences have already held their sessions this year, their voting will take place next year. To be ratified, a constitutional amendment first requires at least a two-thirds majority vote at General Conference, which happened in 2016. Then, each must win at least 66.7 percent of the total votes at annual conferences around the world.

The good news of this revote means that we United Methodists have a rare opportunity to right an injustice. While this doesn't erase the painful message sent by the first vote, The United Methodist Church has the opportunity to send a new message, that of our unequivocal commitment to the equality of women and their full inclusion in our church. Everyone should be welcomed at every table at every level of our connection.

[Amendment #1 added language that both men and women are made in the image of God and that we as a church seek to eliminate any discrimination against women and girls. This amendment received an aggregate vote across all the annual conferences in our global church of 66.5%, falling short of the necessary 2/3 majority by .2 % (less than 100 votes). It failed to change our constitution.]

Annual Kenneth Young Benefit Auction & Ice Cream Social - June 3

Starting after service

THE PRESENCE FACTOR

There's an old joke that a woman hasn't fully committed to attending an event until she's decided what she's going to wear to it. Laugh if you want, but there's a deeper message here: Showing up often involves a level of preplanning and dedication.

And that's true on Sunday mornings as much as it is any other time of the week. So consider this: When it comes to attending church, is your assumption that you'll be there every week, and everything else must work around that commitment? Or is your thought that you'll go as long as you don't have too much else to do? The concept of presence is an important concept for any Christian.

To help explain why, let's go over this Scripture verse: "since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others" (Rom. 12:5). Notice the part that says, "each of us needs all the others." It's hoped that the next time you consider missing worship service, that phrase will stick in your mind. See, we need to be careful about the idea that we go to church just so we can get something out of it. Going to church also offers us an opportunity for us to give.

What kind of church would we be if every member—every single member—showed up on Sunday with the thought, *Who can I bless today?* or *How can I serve?* No doubt, it would be a place where needs were met. It would be a place of joy, excitement, and selflessness. And it would be a place in which everyone felt that they fit. As journalist and author Jane Howard once said, "Call it a clan, call it a network, call it a tribe, call it a family. Whatever you call it, whoever you are, you need one." And it, apparently, needs you, too.

Faithfully yours,

Pastor David

A Notary Note to Note!

Our Saviour's has renewed the Notary license for Marcia Needler. She will be available to *all* church family members who may need a notary. You may email her at jmneedler@sbcglobal.net or phone her at 847/882-5714.

From the Stewardship Corner

"One day, at a church meeting, a very wealthy man rose to tell the rest of those present about his Christian faith. 'I am a millionaire,' he said, 'and I attribute it all to the rich blessings of God in my life. I remember that turning point in my faith. I had just earned my first dollar, and I went to a church meeting that night. The speaker was a missionary who told about his work. I knew that I only had a dollar bill and had to either give it all to God's work or nothing at all. So at that moment I decided to give my whole dollar to God. I believe that God blessed that decision, and that is why I am a rich man today.'

He finished and there was an awed silence at his testimony as he moved toward his seat. As he sat down a little old lady sitting in the same pew leaned over and said to him: ***'I dare you to do it again.'*** "

We are sure that this story resonates with the story of your life as you have received many blessings from God day after day. We dare you to "step forward in faith" and support the new vision for OSUMC. That is, to be generous and open-hearted in the sharing of your gifts and resources, be they material or spiritual. We dare you to step forward in faith by accepting that God will strengthen us for the task ahead and will provide for all our daily needs (Philippians 4:19).

All you have to do is to prayerfully, take a moment to think about how you can best support your church, how you can improve your stewardship of time, talents and possessions. Think what the Lord requires from you. Then explore what it all means in your daily life, in your church, and in your community.

Your faithful and generous commitment and involvement will help make meaningful ministry happen here at our church and throughout our United Methodist connectional system. We count on you for this new journey. Thanks be to God for your presence, gracious and unconditional giving of your time, talents, and resources!

The Stewardship Team

One Worship Service from June 3rd until September 2nd.

From what we have observed during summertime, our attendance tends to drop for both services. People are busy and take time off to rest and go on vacations. It has been commented that the energy felt in a combined service is great. So for these reasons, the worship committee has decided to have one worship service during summer (9:30 a.m.).

There will be Summer Sunday School from June 3rd until August 26th. Students will begin Sunday School in the sanctuary. We will return to two services on September 9th.

Worship Committee

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 **Villaggio's** at 1242 Lake Street, Roselle on **June 16**. 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.

July 21 - Sweet Baby Ray's

August 18 - Pinstripes

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



Come sail away...

WHEN YOU'RE LONELY...
JESUS RESCUES!



The best week of the summer!

Our Saviour's United Methodist Church

701 E. Schaumburg Rd, Schaumburg

June 11-15, 2018

9:00am- 12:00pm



Register online at vbspro.events/p/osumc

\$30 if registered before May 20, after May 20 \$35, on June 11 \$50
Maximum cost of \$70 per family (except for those registering on June 11)

For more information email Heather at heather@osumc.org



**Our Saviour's United Methodist
Church**

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The SIGN

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The righteous
man walks in
his integrity;
**His children
are blessed
after him.**

PROVERBS 20:7