

# The Messenger

## Adult Sunday School and Advent Study

The adult Sunday school class has just completed a month of study in Psalms. Moving from Laments, to chanting to praise. On October 1 we started a new monthly emphasis asking the question: "Is faith a gift or a choice? Is it something God does or something we do for God?" Come examine what it means to be people of faith. Adult Sunday school class meets in the library at 9:45 a.m. before service.

Starting Sunday mornings on Nov.

## October 18, Game Night and Snacks

Our next game night will be on Saturday, Oct. 18, at 6 pm. Bring your favorite games and favorite Halloween snacks to share. Game nights are downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.

## Vision Statement of the UMC

A few months ago, The United Methodist Church released a new vision statement, "The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections."

The UMC still has the same mission statement, "The mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." And we still have our mission statement, "Our mission is to share God's love by building a Christian community with diverse family groups that serve God and others." It's printed on the front of the bulletin each week. The problem with these statements is that after they are written and become a standard feature of the bulletin, they are often forgotten.

The key to having a vision or mission statement is that we need to

30, from 9:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., we will be studying from Dr. Amy-Jill Levine's newest book "A Child is Born."

The book is an Advent journey through the conception and birth narratives of a number of figures in the old testament (Hebrew Bible). A sign-up sheet will be posted in November so that books can be ordered. (Books are also available on Amazon.)

Game nights are a great time to come together for fun and enjoy time with other church members. Board games, card games, word games, etc. are all welcome at game night.

revisit the statement periodically to see if that still works for our community. It also means coming up with priorities and what living out the statement actually looks like.

During the discussions over disaffiliation, the leadership talked about our identity as United Methodists and how we supported missions.

In January we have new leadership coming in, which includes Florence Higgins becoming Lay Leader to replace Sharon Beaver, who restarted the newsletter and the First Sunday collection before moving away. While Florence's first priority will be to get the details in place to expand our food distribution into refrigerated items, after that it's a little more open. And that's where your input comes in. Let Florence and I know if there are things you think we need to be doing as a church. Our task is to listen, then prioritize and see what we can actually accomplish.

## Calendar highlights

### Oct. 2 - Fiber Fellowship

The next Fiber Fellowship will be at 1:30 p.m. at the Pfeiffer's.

### Oct. 4 - God in Nature

God in Nature series will end with Hillegard of Bingen at 9 a.m.

### Oct. 5 - World Communion

World Communion Sunday celebrates the unity and diversity of the universal Christian community. As we gather around the Lord's table, we recognize our unity in Christ, joining with others worldwide in Holy Communion. Embracing this commitment, United Methodists are dedicated to nurturing diverse leadership within the church by allocating funds for scholarships and leadership training for under-represented students. Contributions fund scholarships for U.S. and international students, as well as grants for global inclusion, diversity, equity, and access training.

### Oct. 16 - UWF Meeting

The next UWF meeting will be 1:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

### Oct. 18 - Game Night

Our next game night will be at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

### Oct. 23 - Food Sorting

Food sorting will begin at 1 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

### Oct. 24- Food Distribution

Food Distribution will be at 9 a.m. Volunteers are asked to arrive at 8:30 a.m.

### Upcoming Distribution Dates:

October 24

November

TBA

December

TBA

