

July 28, 2024



TELLING YOUR STORY

"News Worth Sharing: A Life Worth Living"



WELCOME

PRELUDE *Allegro di Molto* C.P.E. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

Why are you here? Maybe you are here because you recognize in your own story a greater story,
one spoken since the beginning of time by prophets, preachers and peacemakers, a story where God calls the world into liberation and wholeness. Maybe you are here because you have glimpsed a moment of love that is beyond human reach,
all the grace that lies just beyond our fingertips, that transforms the ugly into the breathtaking, the impossible into the real.

Maybe you are here, not defined by faith but with a deep conviction

that the ending to everyone's story is yet to be written and can be shaped into life by justice and compassion.

Maybe you are here because there is someone who needs to hear your story and feel welcome into the story of God

Let us join together in listening and sharing in the greatest story, the story of God's grace.

OPEN HYMN SING

OPENING PRAYER

**God, we bring our stories to this place, and we wait to be held by yours.
We bring our faithfulness: shape it with grace.
We bring our success: shape it with generosity.**

We bring our weaknesses: shape them with compassion. We bring our possibilities: share them with hope. We confess, God, that the way is hard, and we are tired. Speak into our tiredness with your story of grace. We confess that the way is unclear, and we do not know the path. Speak into our wandering with your story of vision. We confess that we are tired of waiting and we just want to make it happen. Speak into our impatience with your story of wisdom. Let your story be our story... we pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

SIGNS OF PEACE AND UNITY IN CHRIST

PASSING OF THE FRIENDSHIP FOLDERS

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

SUNG RESPONSE

Jesus Loves Me no. 191, vs 1

**Jesus loves me! This I know,
for the Bible tells me so,
Little ones to him belong;
they are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

MUSIC *Peace, Like a River, Kum Ba Yah*
Jean Anne Shafferman
Summer Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE John 9:1-12

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he

was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

HYMN *His Eye is On the Sparrow*
TFWS no.2146

MESSAGE *News Worth Sharing:
A Life Worth Living*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING

You may give your offering by text- Text UMCWC \$50 to 73256, by using the QR code on your screen, at umcwc.org, through the mail, by automated giving through Realm, or by dropping it off at our office.
Thank you for your generosity.

OFFERING VIDEO

OFFERING RESPONSE no. 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

OFFERING PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*
TFWS no. 2153

BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH

As we depart from this place of worship,
may we go forth with hearts open to serve.
With new found vision that sees beyond our own needs,
**may we seek opportunities to uplift
and support others.**

Guided by the light of Christ's love,
**may we shine as beacons of hope
and compassion.**

May God grant us courage to step forward boldly,
and humility to follow where we are called.
Go now to serve with vision and purpose,
Amen.

POSTLUDE *Postlude on "Duke Street"*
Hatton/Radice

Bold text indicates congregational response.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Message: Rev. Cyndi Stouffer
Liturgists: Rev. Mercedes Case,
Rev. Allen Keller
Reader: Bill Bremner
Summer Choir Director: Tom Sabatino
Organist: Steve Campitelli
Children's Message: Rev. Cyndi Stouffer
Live Stream Team: Tim Case, CC Clark,
Jake Joslin, Heidi Krug, Brad Rush,
Jacqueline Rush, Cory Smith, Steve Stouffer



SERMON SERIES FOR AUGUST

Incredible Stories: Unlocking the Parables of Jesus

Aug. 4 - Field of Dreams: Scattering Seeds/God's Abundance

Aug. 11 - The Speck and Log, and the Leaven: Do Not Judge

Aug. 18 - Lost and Found: God's Embracing Welcome

Aug. 25 - The Uninvited Guests: God's Light Giving Love

Trip to the Biblical Tabernacle Experience in Lancaster Saturday morning August 17

All are invited to see a full-scale reproduction of the Hebrew Tabernacle. Located at the Mennonite Life Visitors Center, it is built according to instructions in the Old Testament. This visit is especially meaningful if you have taken a Disciple class. The 10 am tour is approx. 45 minutes. Sign up sheets are in the Gathering Area.

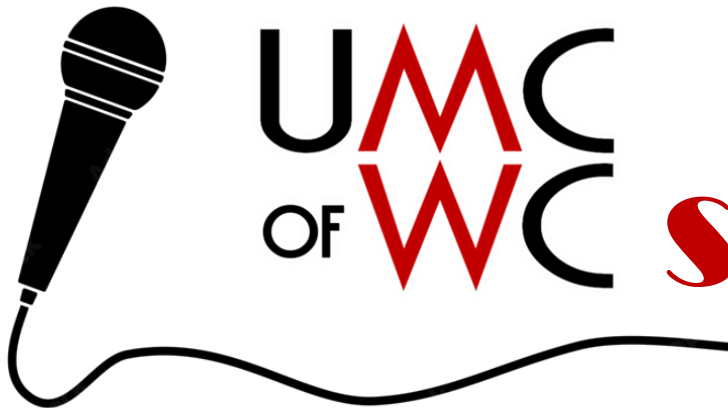


ICE CREAM AT THE MELTON CENTER

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11

We will be serving ice cream at the Melton Center from 3-6 pm. Come and enjoy free ice cream. Get to know our neighbors and enjoy some basketball. The Melton Center is located at 501 E. Miner St., but can also be accessed via the 300 block of E. Market St. (right before KFC/Taco Bell)

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS SO SCOOP ICE CREAM.
Contact Kelly Lynn (Kelly@umcwc.org)



September 28

7:00 PM

Story Slam

Theme: "HOME"

A great evening of fun and fellowship! Refreshments will be served.

Instructional Workshops will be offered (Dates coming soon)

A story slam is a live storytelling event where participants share short, true stories about themselves with an audience. Story slams are usually held around a theme and participants are given a time limit. Stories are told verbally and without notes.

Come and share your story!



INSTALLATION SERVICE FOR REV. CYNDI STOUFFER

Sunday, September 29

Breakfast at 9:15 AM

One Worship Service at 10:00 AM

Please join us as we officially install Pastor Cyndi as the Senior Pastor of UMCWC.