

## From The Pastor's Desk

### God Is Still Speaking!

When people hear that I am preaching on a movie, quite a few of them tilt their heads in confusion and curiosity. Then they ask, "How? How could a talk on a movie be a message from a pulpit?" For those who have a traditional viewpoint on preaching, a sermon must begin and end with the Bible. A preacher could use movies, novels, and news on the media as an illustration of his/her message, but the core message should be found and grounded in the Holy Scripture. I strongly agree with these points. I believe a message on Sunday morning cannot be a talk reflecting the personal opinion of a preacher, but should be solidly grounded in the Good Book. But my conviction on biblical preaching does not go against my idea of developing a sermon on movies. Here is why.

God is still speaking, and S/He is speaking not only through the Good Book but also through things in this world. Theologians named this kind of thought as sacramental theology. The moon, sun, and stars keep telling how great our God is. The changing of seasons teaches us of God's faithfulness. Bread and wine on the altar preach how merciful and gracious our Lord is. Hugging our family in the morning, we hear God's message: "I love you!" Sharing a meal with those who are not as fortunate as we are, we see ourselves being a vehicle of God's message of love. The movie is one of millions and zillion of things that God is speaking through. What we hear from these things in the world does not go against the message in the Bible. Instead, the divine word in things confirms and strengthens the word from the Bible. This is why I do not hesitate to develop a sermon on things like movies, songs, and paintings.

When we expand this idea of sacramental theology, we can say that a pastor is not the only one who finds God's message. God is speaking to everyone as well as through everything, and everyone is capable of hearing His/Her voice, whispering to our heart, because of His/Her Grace that comes before us. For this reason, I'd like to invite you to share with me the message that you found in the classic Christmas movie, "It's a Wonderful Life." I believe most of you have watched this movie more than once. What did this movie teach you? Why do you like it or not? And why do you think this movie inspires so many people through generations?

Please, feel free to share the message that you found. I will make four Advent sermons based on your sharing. Thank you for your active participation in advance!

– Pastor Myung

# THE HERALD ANGEL

**CUMAC:** Through your kind giving, The CUMAC Community Closet is able to provide a resource for both disaster recovery and building the self-sufficiency. Our team provided disaster relief to over 250 individuals and families last year.

We appreciate **Lee Wallin**, who led the service and delivered the children's message last Sunday.

## This Week

**November 17, Sunday 10:00 am: Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost** Choir takes a Sabbath. **Confirmation Class at 4:00 pm** in the Scott Christern Conference Room.

**November 17–24: Family Promise Week** If you want to help, please talk to Melinda Iannuzzi or Mille Valentino.

**November 19, Tuesday 10:00 am—2:30 pm: Residence in Ministry** We are hosting about 25 UM pastors who are in the ordination process. If you have offered to help serve lunch, please meet Pastor Myung during fellowship hour **today**.

**November 21, Thursday: Bishop's Day on Northern Region** at the UMC of Little Falls, 139 Main St., Little Falls. **9:00 am: Clergy Session 7:00 pm: Laity Session.** If you need help attending this event, please contact the church office.

## Upcoming

**November 24, Sunday 10:30 am: Thanksgiving Sunday combined service with Light & Salt Korean Presbyterian Church.** A Thanksgiving banquet will follow the service. Please **bring a side dish** to share. Dessert will be provided. **Also, note the time change of the service.**

**November 29, Friday: The church parking lot** will be closed for 24 hours.

**December 1, Sunday 10:00 am: First Sunday of Advent 4:00 pm: Christmas Tree Decorating with Pizza.**

**December 8, Sunday 10:00 am: Second Sunday of Advent** During the service, we will dedicate the new Christmas tree in loving memory of **John Marino.**

**December 8, Sunday 4:30 pm: Annual Christmas Dinner** in the Fellowship Hall.

**December 11, Wednesday 5:00 pm: Holiday Dumont Walk-In Dinner** Calvary United Methodist Church, 85 West Madison Avenue, Dumont. Please consider helping serve, donate or offer fellowship. For more information, please contact **Melinda Iannuzzi** at 201-906-7571.

**December 14, Saturday 11:00 am: Infant Baptism of Kalya Susan Santore** Kayla is the daughter of Heather Groff & Brad Santore and the great-granddaughter of Joan and Walter Steinel.

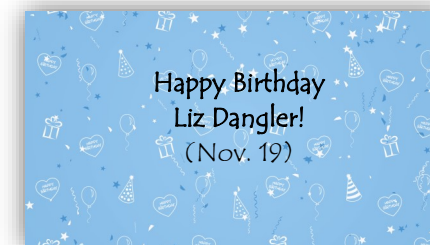
## Please Pray For...

Please review the prayer chain and let the church office know of any changes you may have

**Elaine Welch; Mark Lupardi**, for a quick recovery from his injury; **Dexter Bennett** for a fast and easy recovery from surgery; **Mark Wright**, who is expecting to have surgery; **Clair VanBuren** recovering from an illness; **Sam Brewton**, friend of Liz Mabery, for the quick and easy recovery from heart surgery; **Joe DiStafano**, friend of Lori Lavino, who is battling cancer; **Asca**, David Lee's friend's wife, for fast and smooth healing from surgery; **Cari Camizzi** for full restoration of health; **Yalcin Sarier**, Sue Sarier's father-in-law, who has passed away; **Sandy Moss** for good health; Tammy Harrington's mother, **Debbie**, for a fast and smooth recovery from surgery; **Raechel Wallin**; Karen Mabery's father, **Wayne Schultz**; **Lori Lavino**, who has a health issue; **Nides Vazquez**, who is at Emerson Rehab; **Soo Min Ban**, for continued recovery; **Barbara Shirley** for a fast and easy recovery from surgery; **Tom Harrington's father** who is battling cancer; **Barbara Bystrom**; **Valerie Anolik's** friends **Julia and Alexa**; **Cathie Allen**, friend of the **Maberys**; **Betty Hausen**, **Jackie Manning**, **Jackson Sharkey** (son of Tammy's friend)

### PRAYER CHAIN

If you have any prayer concerns, please call or email Pastor Myung at 201-297-7445, Pastorhan17@gmail.com, Roberta Hoag at 201-394-8069, or Donna Miller at 201-384-0285 to start the calls. They will then call the first person on the "chain" and the request will then be passed on.





### **Sunday Morning Team Schedule**

#### **November 17**

**Ushers:** Jackie Dubois, Roberta Hoag, Ken Bystrom,

**Lounge Lizard:** Maria Anolik

**Multimedia:** Jordan Flavell-Boney

**Sunday School:** Suzanne Sarier

**Youth Group:** Karen Mabery

**Scripture:** Gary Miller

**Fellowship:** Olga Greenwald

#### **November 24 Combined Thanksgiving Service**

**Ushers:** Maria Anolik, Millie Valentino, Ed Greenwald

**Joint Fellowship:** Linda Farber & Light & Salt

#### **December 1**

**Ushers:** Millie Valentino Maria Anolik Ed Greenwald

**Greeter/Lounge Lizard:** George Chien

**Multimedia:** Amanda Jahn

**Sunday School:** David Lee

**Youth Group:** Karen Mabery

**Scripture:** Jennifer Otto

**Communion:** Carol Camizzi

**Fellowship:** Donna Miller /Leslie Wiles

### **Evening Supervisors**

November 17..... Pastor Myung

November 18 ..... Tom Otto

November 19 ..... Ken Bystrom

November 20 ..... Light & Salt

November 21 ..... Kumiko Ishikura

November 22 ..... Joe Kolacia

November 23 ..... Pastor Myung

Would you like to Usher ?

Be a Greeter?

A Communion Steward?

Teach Sunday School?

We are always looking for volunteers  
to add to our Sunday teams.

Please speak with Pastor Myung

## **Announcements**

**Do you want to light the Advent candle** and open the **Advent worship?** If so, please talk to Pastor Myung before the first Sunday of Advent!

Please tell Pastor Myung why you like or don't like the classic Christmas movie, **"It's a Wonderful Life."** He is planning to preach on this movie during Advent, and he needs your help! For this sermon service, please read "From Pastor's Desk" on Page 10.

Please make a **pledge for 2020.** You can find the pledge cards and stewardship letter on the usher's table. You can submit your pledge card until the end of December.

Please join our ten-month-long journey to read the **Book of Psalm, Proverbs, and Isaiah.** The church office will send you one chapter a day with a short prayer written by Pastor Myung. If you do not have internet access, please pick up the reading schedule from the usher's table. Please join this simple and basic practice of faith!

Do you want to know more about the **GNJ Way Forward?** Please pick up and read the United Methodist News Services article regarding the special session of the GNJ Annual Conference from the usher's desk. Please consider this article as an alternative report of Pastor Han on the special session of the GNJ Annual Conference.

We are now taking reservations for our  
annual Christmas dinner fundraiser  
Please see Heather Tamburro or Suzanne Sarier

Sunday, December 8 4:30 pm

Dinner catered by Italian Connection  
\$25/pp children 15 & under \$12

Fire pit! Christmas fun & Fellowship! Music!