

PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

This October, we take time to thank and show appreciation to our Pastor and his wife for their service to God and our local body. The Leadership Board Invites you to share a card of appreciation, a gift card, or maybe a treat as an outward expression of your gratitude. You can mail cards directly to the parsonage or drop them off at the church office. Thank you for helping show Pastor Gary and Beth Ann some extra love this month!

THE MISSION FIELD

Do you see a need that has gone unmet? We're looking for a few outwardly-focused ministry ideas. If you have any suggestions for how Ithaca UMC can connect with the community to offer hope and purpose in Christ, please get in touch with one of the members of the Leadership Board: *Pastor Gary Simmons, Mark Monroe, Ben Bates, Jim Bowen, Joelle Gibson, Keegan Hartman, Glenda Konecny, Scott Merchant, and Anna Rittersdorf.*

NEXT SERMON SERIES

Countercultural Christianity
Why We Can Know the Truth and Why it Matters
October 25 – November 21, 2021

We live in a confusing age. Things once considered obviously true are now rejected. Things once considered unthinkable are now thought to be unquestionable. Honorable attitudes and behaviors are sometimes considered unacceptable and even immoral. We've not just lost the ability to know right from wrong; we've lost the ability to know what's real, what's true, and what's false.

Truth and integrity have become subjective, something found within, and created by each of us individually. We imagine ourselves to be free thinkers. We're "free" from the constraints of authorities, "free" from the tyranny of tradition, and "free" from anyone else's expectations. We're "free" to imagine that reality conforms to our imaginations and fantasies, even though it doesn't.

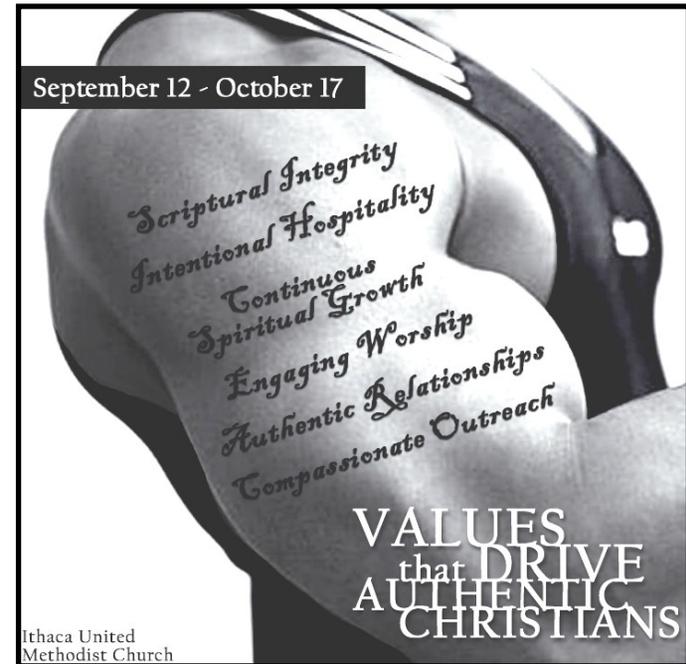
During this series, we will explore a few ways that Christianity is counterintuitive to the prevailing reasoning of today's culture. We will consider the perspective that God gives us on many of today's issues and why it matters for us to follow God's Word over cultural norms.



ITHACA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Connecting with our community by
offering hope and purpose in Christ.*

October 2021



GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Children's Church at 10:30 AM during Worship Service

All children preschool - 6th grade are welcome. Pastor Gary will dismiss them to the education wing for a Christ-centered experience geared for them. Please retrieve your children following the service.

Cry Room and Nursery Care

Available during Sunday worship service for children 3 years old and under. Both are located in the education wing and the nursery is staffed by volunteers on a rotating schedule. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the nursery or if you'd like to volunteer, please contact Deana Schaffer at 989-576-1765.

Assisted Listening System

A "Hearing Loop" is provided in this sanctuary for the benefit of hearing aid users. To use this service, please switch to "T".

STAY CONNECTED

Senior Pastor: Gary Simmons
Assistant to the Pastor: Mark Monroe
Worship Leader: Keegan Hartman

Contact Pastor Gary

Parsonage: 989-875-3086
E-mail: PastorGarySimmons@Gmail.com

Questions to ask? Announcements to make?

E-mail: Connect@IthacaUMC.org
Phone: 989-875-4313 (Leave a message)
Church Office: Currently Unstaffed
Join the Prayer Chain: Prayer@IthacaUMC.org

Sermons, calendar, and much more online!

Website: www.IthacaUMC.org
FB & Insta: @IthacaUnitedMethodistChurch
YouTube: IthacaUMC

Facebook



Instagram



Website



YouTube



UPCOMING EVENTS

Leadership Board Meeting

Thursday, October 14th at 6:30 PM in the church basement.
Open to anyone who would like to attend and observe the discussion.

Praise in the Parking Lot

Friday, October 29th starting at 5:00 PM.
Games, snacks, and pumpkin painting start early, followed by praise and worship with the band at 6:00 PM.
Bring a lawn chair.



Painting Project

The parking lot has been refreshed with vibrant yellow and blue paint. Plenty of clearly-defined spaces are available. Invite all your friends.

ONGOING COLLECTIONS

Baby Shower for the Nursery

Many thanks to those of you who helped revitalize our infant care facility. Head to the education wing to see the improvements. Donations are still welcome.

Baby Bottle Boomerang

Pregnancy Services of Gratiot County will be accepting donations during their Baby Bottle Boomerang fundraiser. All donations will be matched up to \$10,000 by United Way of Gratiot and Isabella Counties. Details are available at pregnancyservicesgratiot.com and on a flyer in the lobby. Fundraiser ends October 18th.

Operation Christmas Child

Samaritan's Purse's annual international evangelism project has begun. Shoeboxes can be dropped off in the box in the lobby and will be packed on a later date. National Collection week is November 15th - 22nd.

FAITH@HOME

Small groups are a great way to build authentic relationships with other Christ followers and dive deeper in discipleship. If you'd like to take this opportunity to grow in your faith and experience Christian camaraderie, we encourage you to join an existing small group or start one of your own. Please contact Mark Monroe at 989-506-7996 or Ken Gibson at 989-388-2831.