

CAMDEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
PO BOX 104  
CAMDEN, NEW YORK 13316

September 2021



# CAMDEN UMC NEWSLETTER

Pastor: Rev. Wendy Morrison Youth Pastor: Matt Morrison Secretary: Leslie Coe  
September 2021

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## **Pastor's news**

Hello Friends,

I want to say thank you for being patient with me over the summer as we have had a lot of changes in our family. Hannah turned 18 and graduated high school in a matter of a week. We spent the beginning of the summer celebrating with her. At the beginning of August, we drove her to Alabama where she is attending Marion Military Institute with the hopes of going to the Coast Guard Academy. Thank you for all of your support. She is doing wonderful. Cresting weekend takes place September 3rd where she will officially become a Cadet.

From Tracy Lawrence's song "Time Marches On", we hear the words, "The only thing that stays the same is everything changes". I think that all of us can agree with those words. In the last year and a half, we have had nothing but change. And everything is still changing, isn't it? But, if we were to look back on our lives, where would we be if nothing changed. Life is about change! And we change as well! At the same time, we don't like change. We fight change all of the time. "Why can't things just remain like they are?" Because without change, we will not go anywhere, we will not grow.

*Pastor's News Cont.*

Here is a wonderful reminder amidst all of this change though: Hebrews 13:8: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. While everything around us and within us is changing constantly, we have a God who does not change. He is the same God today as He was yesterday. He will be the same God tomorrow that He is today. He never changes! He is our solid rock!

Don't get stressed out or worried about all of the changes. Instead, turn to the God who never changes. Turn to Him in prayer. Cry your heart out to Him!

God Bless,  
Pastor Wendy Morrison  
Camden United Methodist Church &  
Cleveland United Methodist Church

### **Changes in person and Zoom Worship Services**

As you know at this time New York is fully open. While there are a few restrictions still in place, almost all have gone away. We can meet without distance restrictions and masks for those vaccinated. We can sing without masks and normal distance. We will start passing the offering plates, but we need ushers. We will continue to use the individual serving communion elements until stated otherwise. We can hand out bulletins, as well as provide devotionals for you to take. We do ask that you wear masks whenever you are talking with others and walking in or out of the building. This is due to increasing numbers in Oneida County. Please be aware that the status of restrictions can change with little notice. We may have other restrictions in September when Headstart returns for the school year. We will update you as soon as possible of any changes.

August 29<sup>th</sup> will be our last live online service. This means that we will no longer have a 2 pm service each Sunday. We will record the service at Camden. We will then share the link on our Facebook page and email the link to those who would like it. Dan and Leslie are still working this out and the link may take you to YouTube to watch the video. If you have any questions please feel free to call the church cell phone at 315-225-6259, if I do not answer, please leave a message with your name and number and I will return your call.

### **Worship Planning**

Our next Worship Planning meeting will be on **September 19<sup>th</sup>** following the church service at noon. We will be planning the August worship services. We will be meeting in person unless we need to change this. If you are unable to meet in person, you are welcome to send your thoughts and suggestions to Pastor Wendy or Leslie.

### **Youth News and Game Night**

Sunday School will start up on September 12<sup>th</sup>. Matt will need adult volunteers each Sunday so that we are in Safe Sanctuary compliance.

Game night will resume on September 17<sup>th</sup> and will continue on the third Friday every month via Zoom. The zoom meeting ID is: 994 8229 3713

Stay safe, healthy, and keep your eyes focused on The Lord.

Pastor Matt Morrison.

### **Ladies Fellowship & Christmas Bazaar**

The Ladies Fellowship meetings are postponed until further notice. We will not be having our Christmas Bazaar again this year.

## **American Red Cross Bloodmobile News**

There is always a need, more so now. The American Red Cross continues to protect those giving as well as those receiving blood. If you are donating, be advised you will need to wear a mask to give. If you are healthy and able, please seriously consider donating. The next Bloodmobile will be coming soon. Watch for signs around town to donate. The August blood drive had 29 registered donors collected 29 pints and 1 first-time donor. Come help exceed the goal. All blood types are always welcome.

Rapid Pass allows you to complete the reading material and the questions on the day of your donation, but before you arrive. This will allow for more donors by speeding up your registration process. Visit [redcrossblood.org/RapidPass](https://redcrossblood.org/RapidPass) to learn more. Please help by sharing the gift of life, the need is always present. The cost to you is about one hour of your time.

## **Seekers Study Group**

The Seekers group is meeting Sunday mornings at 9:40 am in the Fellowship Hall. All are invited to meet with us. We use "The Upper Room Disciplines A Book of Daily Devotions" you are welcome to participate if you would like. The books are available through Cokesbury as well as other booksellers.

## **Loaves and Fishes Bible Study**

Bible Study in Camden will begin September 15, 2021, and continue every Wednesday at 6:30 pm, in person, and through Zoom. You may bring something to eat, but no sharing yet just to be extra cautious. The Zoom ID is (same as previously): 965 9213 0014

## **Harvest Dinner**

We will be having our Harvest dinner this year on October 21<sup>st</sup> starting at 4 pm for takeout only. Start preparing to bake pies! Stay tuned for more information as we get closer.

## **Choir News**

The choir will start sharing their gift of music in September. The choir will start meeting on Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup> for a rehearsal before Singing during church on September 5<sup>th</sup>! All who would like to sing are welcome!

## **Church Office and Building News**

The church office hours at this time are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1-3 pm with extended hours as able, the Pastor & the secretary have resumed working at the office. The secretary is not working on Tuesday and Thursday (this is to ensure the serving of Food Pantry clients). Pastor Wendy continues to work on Wednesdays and Fridays. You may call the church (315-245-2600), the cell phone at 315-225-6259, or e-mail the office at [camdennyumc@gmail.com](mailto:camdennyumc@gmail.com). If no one answers the cell phone, please leave a message and we will call you back (we can receive text messages as well). The secretary has this phone near her every day.

If you would like to dedicate our worship bulletins to loved ones please check with the secretary to book the date. Dates available are **September 5, 12, 19, & 26, October 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31**. The minimum suggested donation is \$6.60 for a Sunday; dedications still appear in the digital bulletin and can be printed for you if you are interested (when able to be back in the office). If you would like to dedicate a hymn to loved ones for one of our worship services, for a donation, please check with the office for the date and pick the hymn.

The deadline for the **October** newsletter is Wednesday, **September 8, 2021**. If your group has news for the newsletter, please let the office know. If you are interested in helping to produce the newsletter, please let the office know.

## **Volunteers Needed**

Now that we have very limited restrictions we need volunteers to help with worship each week. We are looking for people willing to be ushers, assistant Sunday school adults, and counters. Ushers hand out bulletins and collect the offering each week. To help with ushering please contact Janice Alvord (315-245-0634). To help with Sunday school please see Matt Morrison (315-533-7701). For counters, we need teams of 2 unrelated persons to count and deposit the offering on Sunday afternoons at the bank. To offer to be a counter please contact Karl Keil (315-245-1080). The more volunteers we have for each of these areas the fewer times the volunteer teams will be needed.

Thank you for helping our church as we continue to move forward.

## **Food Pantry Hours**

The Camden Area Food Pantry (located at 84 Main Street. Use the parking lot behind Main street) is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 am to 12:30 pm, and Tuesday evenings from 6-7 pm. Please **call 315-335-4615** Tuesday- 10:00 am-12:30 pm or Thursday- 10:00 am-12:30 pm to schedule an appointment for food and or donations, as we are operating by appointment and starting in July we will schedule walk-ups for the next pantry day. Please leave a message with your name and number if we do not answer. If you do not have access to a phone, please stop by the Food Pantry between 10:00 and 12:30 on Tuesday or Thursday. If you come without an appointment you will need to be scheduled for the next pantry day. Thank you!

## **Food Pantry News for July 2021**

Hello Church Family,

Thank you for your continued support and care for our community.

In June we were again able to offer our clients many fresh fruits and vegetables from local sources, the Cluster of Produce, and through purchasing. In June we continued to receive and provide fresh produce and herbs from our local farmers and the Cluster of Produce. The fresh produce we offered were chives, oregano, mint, thyme, green leaf, red leaf, and iceberg lettuce, beet greens, cucumbers, carrots, celery, apples, potatoes, pineapple, and farm-fresh eggs. Our clients were very happy to receive the fresh produce we were able to provide to them.

We served 33 households made up of 46 adults, 38 children under the age of 18, and 21 seniors over the age of 65, for a total of 105 individuals. We were able to give out 1,575 meals to these neighbors.

Our Church giving for July was \$105.00. Your giving is very welcome by our clients. Through your giving, we can continue to serve our clients through the years. You make a difference in the lives of our neighbors.

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Thank you for your continued support over the years.

Thank you from the Clients and Staff of the Camden Area Food Pantry!

Submitted on behalf of Diane Hertweck.

## **Prayer Chain**

If you have a prayer request that needs to be shared, please contact the office (phone 315-225-6259 text as well; email: camdennymc@gmail.com) and we will start the prayer request both by email and by phone. The office will contact Winnie Dunn so she can contact those wishing to be called, by phone.

## **Scripture readings for September**

September 5, 2021: Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23; Psalms 125 or 124 (UMH 846); James 2:1-10 (11-13) 14-17; Mark 7:24-37

September 12, 2021: Proverbs 1:20-33; Psalm 19 (UMH 750); James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

September 19, 2021: Proverbs 31:10-31; Psalm 1 (UMH 738); James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37

September 26, 2021: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22; Psalm 124 (UMH 846); James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50

## **Options for Tithing**

We have a few options set up to continue giving to the church. Your financial support is still important whether in person or virtually. We hope that some of these options will be helpful to you.

Our first options are to mail your offering to the church. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 104, Camden, NY 13316. We are checking our mail regularly, so your offering will be collected and counted regularly. The next option is similar, giving through your bank. You can set up an automatic payment through your bank, or you can choose when you want an offering to be sent. Your bank will print a check through this option and send it to the church (P.O. Box 104, Camden, NY 13316). This is available routinely with banks, not just at this time.

If you are joining worship in person we have started passing the collection plates again.

The next is through electronic giving. We now have a link on our Facebook page and our website to “give now”. This option allows you to use a credit/bank card directly from your bank account. You can choose from a drop-down menu for where you would like to give. You are also able to add another transaction at the same time. This allows, for example, you to give to the “general budget” and “Benevolence”.

The Camden United Methodist Church has set up Text giving. The number for text to give is 315-522-6229. Feel free to use this as an additional way to support the church. For guidance in text giving contact the church secretary.