

Good Tidings

October 2020



Arnold Mills United Methodist Church

Rev. Arlene M. Tully

Web Page: www.amumc.org

Phone: 401-333-5203

email: office.amumc@gmail.com

Dear Church Family,

As you may know, the Reentry Team has been meeting weekly for several months to develop and implement plans for outdoor worship and for a return to indoor worship. On September 21 the Church Council approved a proposal to resume indoor worship and Sunday School effective October 18. Initially there will be only one worship service at 10:00 AM and reservations will be required due to limited seating in order to accommodate social distancing. **If you wish to attend in-person worship, we ask that you first carefully read the “Guidelines for Indoor Worship”** available online [here](#) or by mail (call the church office at 401-333-5203 to have a copy sent to you).

Here are some of the guidelines to give you an idea of what indoor worship will look like:

- Seating for worshippers will be limited to 18 pews. Only single individuals or groups from the same household/family unit may occupy the same pew. Pews must be reserved each week.
- The temperature of all staff, volunteers, and attendees will be taken with touchless thermometers, with a maximum allowable reading of 99.4 degrees.
- Six feet of distance will be maintained at all times between parishioners not from the same household or family unit.
- Face masks will be required at all times.
- There will be no physical contact (passing of the peace, hugging, hand shaking, etc.).
- There will be no congregational singing.
- There will be no bulletins. All responsive liturgy will be displayed on the monitor.
- Windows will be opened and exhaust fans will be used to increase ventilation.
- Worshippers must enter and exit by the front door only (unless the elevator is necessary, in which case entry is by that door).
- There will be no access to the rest of the building, except for Sunday School and restroom use.
- Sunday School will be held in Cargill Hall, with windows open for ventilation. Children will be dropped off prior to worship at the greeter's table.
- We will continue to live stream the worship service and offer recordings on DVD for those who prefer not to attend in-person worship.

I'm sure these restrictions aren't what any of us had in mind when we dreamed of returning to the sanctuary. Having to limit and reserve seating in a house of worship may feel especially objectionable. However, our priority is the health and safety of the congregation, and this time of social distancing won't last forever. In the meantime I hope you'll join me in praying that we will continue to be an active, faithful, loving community of faith, even though we're physically distant for a season. Let us pray also for all those battling COVID, those who've lost loved ones, frontline medical teams, and the researchers seeking vaccines and effective treatments.

Stay safe. Be well. Take good care of each other.
Pastor Arlene



Vital Conversations

Racism and the U.S. Church

VIDEO DISCUSSION SERIES: “VITAL CONVERSATIONS”

Wednesdays at 10 AM or 7 PM via Zoom beginning October 21

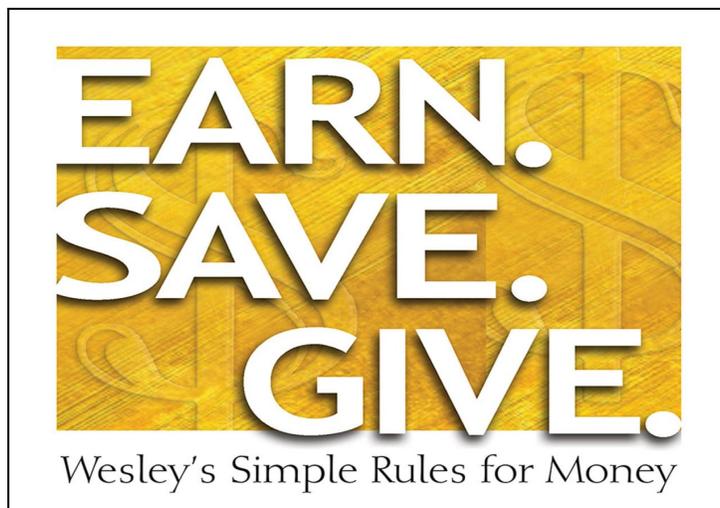
“Vital Conversations” features contemporary theologians, sociologists, and other thought-leaders dealing with challenges of race, culture, and oppression in the church and world today. The videos (ranging from 11-20 minutes) are presented by the General Commission on Race and Religion of The United Methodist Church.

Wednesdays at 10 AM—<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84755871803>

Wednesdays at 7 PM—<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/839125938>

Earn. Save. Give.

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, boiled fiscal responsibilities down to just three rules: Earn all you can. Save all you can. Give all you can. Sounds simple, right? Simple, yes, but not easy – especially in today’s culture of consumerism. That’s where our stewardship program, “Earn. Save. Give”, comes in. This twenty-first century translation of Wesley’s money management philosophy will give you a new way to think about money, not only during our stewardship program, but for the rest of your life.



This year’s program includes:

- Daily emails of devotional readings and weekly activities. (We will be happy to mail the devotions if you do not have access to email—just let us know.)
- Weekly sermons that connect to James A. Harnish’s book, *Earn. Save. Give.*
 - ◇ October 4: “If You Could Ask for Anything”
 - ◇ October 11: “Money —The Excellent Gift”
 - ◇ October 18: “You Can’t Take It with You”
 - ◇ October 25: “How Far Will You Go?”
- Weekly links to brief videos presenting Wesley’s principles on money :
 - ◇ October 4: “We Don’t Need More Money; We Need Wisdom”
 - ◇ October 11: “Earn All You Can”
 - ◇ October 18: “Save All You Can”
 - ◇ October 25: “Give All You Can”

We hope you’ll join us as we reflect on the wisdom in the preaching of John Wesley and the teachings of scripture regarding our relationship to money.

TALKING ABOUT RACISM

Our nation is at a turning point for racial justice and equality. In order to make the necessary changes in our culture, systems, institutions – and *ourselves* – we must understand the origins, the manifestations, and the remedies for racism. It is important to educate ourselves about what racism is and to understand the myriad of ways it impacts the lives of people of color. To follow up on Pastor Arlene’s sermon series on racism, racial inequality, and the call of our faith to work for justice, here are some of resources she recommends:



Books

- *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo
- *How to Be an Anti-Racist* by Ibram X. Kendi
- *Tears We Cannot Stop* by Michael Eric Dyson
- *America’s Original Sin* by Jim Wallis
- *My First White Friend: Confessions on Race, Love and Forgiveness* by Patricia Raybon

Films

- “Race: the Power of an Illusion” – California Newsreel’s outstanding 3-part documentary about race in society, science, and history. Available to rent at: <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/race/103372104>
- “13th” – A documentary that explores the history of race and the criminal justice system in the United States. Available on Netflix.

Exploring Implicit Bias

- Project Implicit – Non-profit organization educating the public about implicit social cognition - thoughts and feelings outside of conscious awareness and control. The goal of the organization is to educate the public about hidden biases. You can select an Implicit Association Test from a list of possible topics, including race at: <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>
- “Implicit Bias: What We Don’t Think We Think” — The United Methodist Church’s General Commission on Religion and Race’s online course on implicit bias, providing multiple entry points for learning about, thinking through, and transforming action regarding implicit bias.

Other Resources:

- The United Methodist Church’s “Anti-Racism Resources” list at <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/anti-racism-resources-from-united-methodist-general-agencies>
- “White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack” by Peggy McIntosh. This groundbreaking essay, published in 1989, is one of the most authoritative texts on the subject of white privilege. Available at: <http://convention.myacpa.org/houston2018/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/UnpackingTheKnapsack.pdf>
- Smithsonian Museum Online – The Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture just launched “Talking About Race”. This online portal provides digital tools, online exercises, video instructions, scholarly articles, and more than 100 multimedia resources tailored for educators, parents and caregivers—and individuals committed to racial equality. Go to: <https://nmaahc.si.edu/learn/talking-about-race>



DON'T MISS OUT ON NEWS YOU CAN USE!

We want to be sure you're receiving important news and information. If you haven't updated your email address, phone number, or mailing address recently, please contact George in the office at 401-333-5203 or office.amumc@gmail.com.

You can view the October 2020 NE Conference Newsletter [here!](#)

WORSHIP VIDEO DVDs

If you can't join us in person for outdoor worship and don't have access to the internet to watch our online worship service, but you do have a DVD player, we can provide recordings of the Sunday worship services. Just call Pastor Arlene at 401-335-5156 and she will arrange a no-contact drop off each week.



WORSHIP BY PHONE

Can't join us in person for outdoor worship and don't have access to the internet to watch our online worship service? You can now listen to our worship service by phone. Just call (401) 217- 4837 to hear a recording of the most recent Sunday service in its entirety – no internet needed!

WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING

Tuesdays from 6:30—7:00 PM

Join us on Zoom as we gather to share our concerns and to pray for the people and situations in need near and far. The link for the Zoom meeting is zoom.us/j/563411339



VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR

Sunday morning coffee hour is back, effective September 13. Join us as we gather online at 11:30 AM to catch up with old friends and get to know new ones at zoom.us/j/678414614



PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Arlene's office hours are by appointment while the church building is under shutdown. To set up a time to meet (either via Zoom or socially distanced in person, please email her at pastor.amumc@gmail.com or call 401-335-5156.

PRAY ALWAYS. PRAY ALL WAYS.

A video series exploring different types of prayer.



What comes to mind when someone mentions prayer? Maybe you think of sharing your needs and concerns with God, or perhaps reciting The Lord's Prayer, or participating in the worship liturgy. However, there are many other types of prayer and many other ways to talk with and be present to God.

For the next several months, Pastor Arlene will be guiding us on an exploration of new ways to pray. About once a week she will publish a new video via Facebook and the church website describing a different prayer practice from a variety of Christian traditions. You can access all the videos, along with a downloadable a prayer guide for each at www.amumc.org/spiritual-formation. By expanding our definition of prayer and enlarging our repertoire of prayer techniques, we can greatly enrich our spiritual lives.

"Pray always." (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

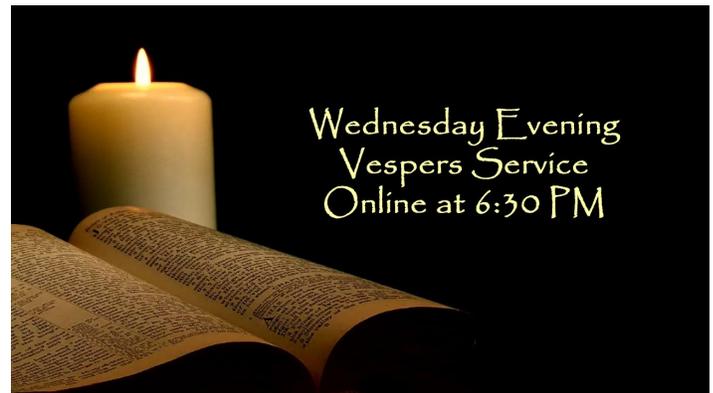


SUNDAY SCHOOLERS' GAME NIGHT—October 5 at 6:30 PM

Pastor Arlene is hosting a Zoom game night for Sunday Schoolers on the first Monday of each month at 6:30 PM. Join us for games like Wheel of Fortune, Pictionary, Family Feud, and more. Contact Pastor Arlene at pastor.amumc@gmail.com for the Zoom link

ONLINE VESPERS SERVICE

Each Wednesday evening at 6:30 PM we offer a brief service of Vespers (from the Latin for "evening"). This is a quiet, contemplative service in which we give thanks for the day just past, offer praise to God, and prepare for our night's rest. Each week the service is posted online at 6:30 on our Facebook page and at www.amumc.org/vespers.



VIDEO CAMERA OPERATORS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers to operate the new ceiling mounted video camera for live streaming worship services once we return to the sanctuary. No experience necessary. Please contact Pastor Arlene at pastor.amumc@gmail.com or 401-335-5156.

September Trustees Report

The Trustee Committee met on the Cargill Hall lawn at 6:30 PM on September 9, 2020.

After Pastor Arlene's inspirational opening prayer, the Secretary's Minutes from July were read and approved.

The Treasurer's Report stated that overall, our portfolio is performing well this year. Even with the withdrawal of \$31,200 for repairs and painting of the church, hall, and parsonage, the balance was up \$4500. A motion was put forth to invest 30-40% of the portfolio with a company other than Rockland Trust. The motion did not carry.

Our ancient system of heating pipes has been repaired quite often this past year. All the traps are currently being reevaluated and replaced if necessary, in order to avoid problems in the 2020-21 heating season.

Two projects being addressed in the parsonage are the changing of the water filters and adding a closet door in the study. Also, the landscaping has been nicely trimmed.

A new copier/printer has been bought for the church office.

The Reentry Plan was presented and supported by the trustees voting to spend up to \$2500 for a disinfecting fogger. This will be important to sanitize the facility after services which are scheduled to start in mid-October.

Looking into starting up the church bell has been put on hold until cooler weather as there is a large wasp nest at the entrance to the tower.

The American flag waving out front is new.

The kitchen refrigerator has been cleaned out and set to conserve energy.

Waste Management will now empty our dumpster on an on-call basis rather than monthly.

A water cooler has been installed in the alcove across from the kitchen for future use. Eastland Electric added a ground fault interrupter plug.

We are hoping to find one or two more trustees to join us this fall. The commitment means a one-hour meeting once a month and volunteering to help with the necessary care of the buildings, either physically or finding outside resources. No one is overloaded by too many requests. We do work as a team!

Call me if you would like to know more.

Lindsay Gettinger

401 374-2351

Missions Committee Report

October 2020

Note: The various Mission and Social Concern activities continue to be modified or on-hold due to the ongoing health crisis. Please follow the various announcements from the church office as decisions are made to reschedule or readjust these services and programs.

Meals in the Park

The most recent Meals in the Park event was held on Sunday, August 2nd at Bouley Field on Social Street in Woonsocket, RI. Thank you for your donations of sandwiches, chips, desserts and homemade masks for our August meal. We fed around 80 people and gave out 120 meals. Our support for this program means so much to so many people. **Our next meal is Sunday October 11th.** Please let Karen know if you can bake, make sandwiches and or volunteer in the park. We will be having sausage and peppers again and BBQ chicken. Please call Karen 333-2166 if you have any questions or would like to donate to this wonderful program.

Franklin Farm Community Garden

The Franklin Farm Community Garden volunteers are beginning to wind down the 2020 harvest season. **So far the harvests have been bountiful so there continues to be a need for more volunteers on the Monday and Thursday evenings: 5 PM to dusk!** The volunteers have donated over **34,000 pounds of vegetables** to the RICFB as well as various soup kitchens and food pantries in northern RI. **Unfortunately, the Harvest Festival had to be cancelled due to the health care crisis.** Any questions contact Pam or Chip Thurlow; thurlowcp@gmail.com; 401-333-1235.

Dave's Marketplace Day Old Bakery Donations

The Monday, Wednesday and Friday transporting day old baked goods from Dave's Marketplace at Chapel Four Corners to various community organizations continues! A signup chart is available for interested volunteers. Contact Chip Thurlow if interested: thurlowcp@aol.com.

Habitat for Humanity

The next Habitat for Humanity project is under development. We will notify AMUMC members when volunteer dates are announced. Any questions, contact Chip Thurlow: thurlowcp@aol.com.

Cintas Clothing Donation

The Cintas clothing and our church donations to the St. James Episcopal Church and occasionally to the Community Care Alliance, both in Woonsocket have been **temporarily cancelled for the current time.**

Clothing and Boxed and Canned Goods Donations

The donated goods are transported to either the Northern RI Food Pantry or the Woonsocket Shelter as necessary.

Chip Thurlow, Chairperson

AMUMC Missions and Social Concerns Committee



ARNOLD MILLS FALL YARD SALE

- WHEN:** SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2020 FROM 9 AM TO 3 PM
- WHERE:** AMUMC PARKING LOT TO THE LEFT OF CARGILL HALL
- WHO:** MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH
- WHAT:** HOUSEHOLD GOODS, BAKE GOODS, CRAFTS, BOOKS, ETC.
- WHY:** NO HOLIDAY FAIR THIS YEAR SO IT IS ONE WAY WE CAN HELP RAISE NEEDED FUNDS

DETAILS: IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A TABLE WHATEVER YOU BRING, YOU SET UP, YOU SELL, AND THEN YOU TAKE WHATEVER IS LEFT TO A CHARITY OR HOME AGAIN.

YOU MAY KEEP YOUR EARNINGS OR DONATE SOME OR ALL OF IT TO AMUMC.

MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING WILL BE REQUIRED! HAND SANITIZERS WILL BE AVAILABLE.
RAINDATE WILL BE OCTOBER 17TH.

QUESTIONS? ENTHUSIASM FOR JOINING IN? PLEASE CALL OR E-MAIL ME!

LINDSAY GETTINGER (401) 374-2351

LINDSAYGFG@GMAIL.COM

Worship Committee



I want to take this opportunity to recognize and thank those who serve on the Worship Committee so our experience at worship time is as meaningful as possible. Not only does it take a village to raise a child but also to assist in our church life. When you see these people be sure to say "thanks". Our church wouldn't be what it is without them.

Acolytes: Stacy Johnson
Altar Flowers: Sharon Bizier
Altar Guild: Rachel Odom, Pam Thurlow and Ann Hetherington
Altar Steward: Ross Hancock
Choir Rep: Pam Thurlow
Greeters: Anne-Marie Rivard
Liturgist: Rebecca Puleo
Music Director: Joey Mazzarella
Ushers: Rich Bizier
A reminder that we would like to add to our Altar Guild team and are looking for Acolytes. If you are interested, please contact me at thurlowcp@verizon.net.
Pam Thurlow, Chair
Worship Committee

Upcoming Events

October 4: World Communion Sunday
October 8: 2020 Church Conference
October 12: Columbus Day
October 14: Board of Trustees Meeting
October 18: Indoor Worship Begins
October 31: Halloween

SPRC News

Our committee also includes Lee Ann Cotta, Stacey Johnson, Joyce Fox, Sandy Angell, Anne Hetherington, and Brandon Bell.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns having to do with the staff of the parish feel free to see any member of the committee or you can email us at amumcsprc@gmail.com



Arnold Mills UMC's Social Media

Find us on social media! We are on Facebook where you can read Pastor Arlene's Daily Reflection and on Instagram.

Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Arnold-Mills-United-Methodist-Church-115722435105941>

Twitter at https://twitter.com/ArnoldMills_UMC

Instagram at https://www.instagram.com/arnold_mills_umc

Listen to sermons on our website at <http://www.amumc.org>

Subscribe to sermon podcasts at <http://www.buzzsprout.com/434047>

Prayer Requests

Prayer requests are sent out each week to every address on our email list. We understand that not everyone who asks for prayer in worship during "Sharing Our Joys and Concerns" wishes to have that information shared on the email blast. If you would like to have a prayer request included in the weekly email, please use the "Prayer Request" form on the table in the back of the sanctuary, call the office at 401-333-5203, or email office.amumc@gmail.com. Prayer requests will remain on the prayer list for one month. If you would like a prayer request to remain longer, just let us know.



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Cumberland, RI 02864
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Rev. Arlene M. Tully



Check out our webpage at www.amumc.org

We invite all to our Outdoor Sunday Services at 9:30 a.m.

Indoor Sunday Services with limited seating
begins on October 18th at 10:00 am.
See Pastor Arlene's enclosed letter for details!

Holy Communion celebrated the first Sunday of each month.