

*Today is a brand new day*  
**TO TURN OVER A NEW LEAF**



# Words of Wisdom



2020 has been the most bizarre year I think I've ever experienced. I'm sure you have some similar feelings. We have been challenged in ways we could not have even imagined before this. August 4th, I began my third year serving at Plainfield UMC. July 1st began my 25th year in ministry. Prior to that I was in the corporate world for over 20 years. So, I've seen a lot over the years. In fact, I felt I could say with confidence I've pretty much seen it all. However, I was wrong! 2020 has presented challenges and realities I couldn't imagine.

I am sure that wherever you find yourself in life today, you are facing situations and circumstances that still surprise you. As we enter September my sense is that we are at a new place. By that I mean we are not as shocked as we have been, maybe still somewhat numb but overall, we've entered an uncomfortable familiarity living amid this Covid pandemic. I'm careful to not call it a new normal because I hope and pray this does not

become normal. To be sure we will move forward in some new ways that will not revert to what we are used to. Times like this give us an opportunity to adapt, adjust and advance to new realities. We don't know what the new realities are yet.

So, what are we to do? We hate not knowing what is coming next. No matter, the reality is we don't know until it slowly unfolds. So, what do we do? We move forward not confident in what comes next but confident in the God we call Abba (translated means daddy, a term of trust, affection, and endearment). We identify ourselves as Christian which means we are Followers of Christ. Therefore, we live into that which we know; we are not alone, we are loved. We will be given strength, endurance, courage, and faith to face whatever comes next. Scripture tells us that if Christ is for us, who can be against us. In addition to having Jesus with us, we have each other. We are community. We are Sisters and Brothers and together there is nothing we cannot face or overcome together. That's why Plainfield UMC matters. As we live this reality, we are showing others the incarnate love of God for them. And we are inviting them to join this community and experience the love of Christ in real and tangible ways. We are living vessels of God's love! That make Jesus smile!



As we enter September, let's do so embraced and sustained by the gifts of God around us. I've included two pictures that represent some of the gifts given me. One picture is of my two youngest granddaughters, Morgan and Brooklyn. I was talking to my son Matt the other day and asked him how the girls were doing. He went on and on about Brooklyn and what a sweet baby she is, always smiling and sleeping through the night. So, I asked how Morgan is with all this change. His answer was, "she's an... challenge." Later, he sent me the other picture you see. Apparently, he is doing a back-yard project and trying to soften Morgan with some on the job training using a Bobcat. These pictures move me and remind me of just how blessed I am. So, tomorrow I will get up and start all over again seeking to learn what it means to really follow Jesus and to do it. How about you?

Blessings,

*Pastor Dick*



## September 13th

We'll be serving communion at the church from 11-12:30pm  
Specific instructions will be sent via email.



## Sunday School

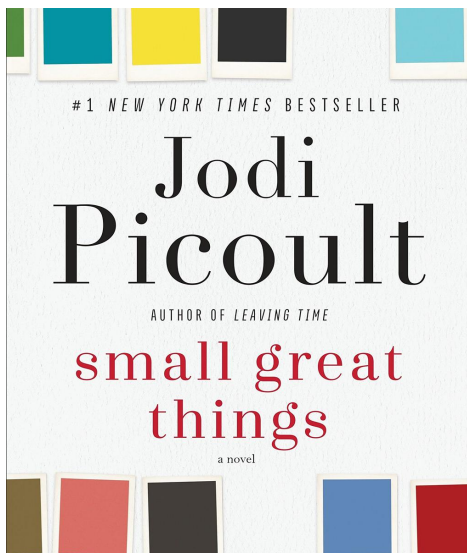
The format is different, but the mission remains! These challenging times have sparked creativity and innovation in the way we nurture our children and youth in the faith. We invite your family to engage with us as we learn the stories and traditions of our faith, build community, and serve others. Experiences are tailored to specific age groups and are low-stress for families! There is no cost to participate and all families are welcome to join us. Registration is necessary so we have enough materials.

**For more information and to register please visit our website: [plainfieldumc.com](http://plainfieldumc.com)**



## Sunday School Team Members Needed

PUMC is looking for a few additional volunteers to help with Sunday School this year. We need people who are willing to participate in Zoom calls on Sunday mornings with classes (about 30 min), people who are interested in recording craft and science demos, and collaborators who will work with teams to make SS fun! Interested in finding out more? Please contact Pastor Sherry at [sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com](mailto:sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com).



## Women's Book Group

Looking for something fun to add this fall? Try out the Women's Book Group! Pop in any month you can for a great discussion via Zoom. Links are sent via email, so contact Pastor Sherry to be added to the email list ([sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com](mailto:sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com)). Here's our upcoming books:

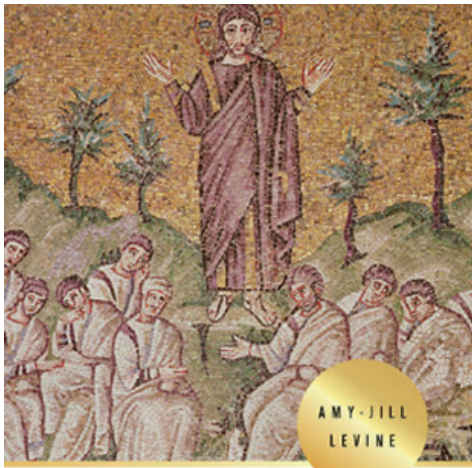
**September 17th:** Small Great Things by Jodi Picoult

**October 15th:** When We Left Cuba by Chanel Cleeton

**November 19th:** The Other Mrs. By Mary Kubica

(with Special Author Visit via ZOOM!)

**December 17th:** Untamed by Glennon Doyle



## SERMON *on* the MOUNT

## New Adult Ed. Class

You have two opportunities to join in an adult class where we will be looking at Jesus' Sermon On the Mount. What must it have been like to hear Jesus deliver this sermon? What did his words mean to people in the crowd? How did it change their lives and what do his words mean to us today? This is a six-week study based on Matthew 5-7. Companion books are available. There will also be weekly video snippets to watch. We will hold two weekly opportunities for discussion: Sunday mornings at 10:45am (beginning Sept. 20th) or Mondays at 11:30am (beginning Sept 14th). To sign up for the class, contact Pastor Sherry at [sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com](mailto:sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com).



## Volunteers Needed

PUMC is scheduled to serve at the Ridgewood Pantry in Joliet on Wednesday, September 23rd. We need helpers in the afternoon who can lift boxes and load them into client's cars. Strong arms and backs required; social distancing measures must be followed. Can you help? Contact Pastor Sherry at [sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com](mailto:sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com).

## Stepping Forward-A 40 Day Walking Challenge

If you can walk to the kitchen for a snack, this challenge is for you! The Stepping Forward Challenge begins on Monday, September 14 and concludes on Saturday, October 24. Accepting the challenge is as easy as 1, 2, 3

1. Set a goal for yourself. Sample goals:
  - Walk to the mailbox every day or twice a day
  - Walk around the block every day
  - Walk 2,000 steps each day
  - Walk 6,000 steps each day
  - Any goal you wish to achieve. No goal is too small or too big.
2. Facebook Message Sheri Martin to join the private Facebook Group PUMC Stepping Forward or email Sheri Martin at [sheri.m630@gmail.com](mailto:sheri.m630@gmail.com) if you are not a Facebook user. If you would like accountability and wish to share your goal, please send your goal to Sheri and send a weekly update each Monday. If you wish to keep your goal private, there is no need to share.
3. Start walking Monday, September 14.

Every Step Counts - Walking is one of the simplest ways to get active.

# Virtual Youth Concert to Benefit Ohio Mission

Sadly, PUMC had to cancel our Youth Mission Trip to J.O.S.H.U.A. (Journeys of Service Helping Upper Appalachia) this summer due to COVID-19. But, we still want to do what we can to support them and their ministry. So, we have put together a virtual talent show featuring our youth which we will be premiering on PUMC's Facebook at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 20th.

We invite you to watch the program, and then make a donation to support JOSHUA. Youth Ministries will collect your donations and forward them on to JOSHUA to help support them in this time. Executive Director Deacon Ashley Steele tells us donations are down, and, of course, no work groups were able to come this summer. So, their ministries and the families they serve are really hurting right now. Your donation will go a long way toward helping JOSHUA weather this financial storm. You can mail a check to the church office, or make a donation through the PUMC app. Either way, please be sure to indicate "JOSHUA" as the designated recipient for your donation. If you prefer, you can make additional donation today at [www.urbanmission.org/donate-3/](http://www.urbanmission.org/donate-3/). We also encourage you to spend time praying some special prayers for JOSHUA the week of Sept. 20, using the prayer guide below.

## Prayer Guide to Support JOSHUA Urban Mission

- Sunday, Sept. 20: Pray for wisdom, guidance, and inspiration for Rev. Ashley Steele and the rest of the staff at Urban Mission as they seek God's will while navigating the COVID pandemic.
- Monday, Sept. 21: Pray for the clients who are served by the Urban Mission. Ask God to help provide the resources they need to survive this economic downturn.
- Tuesday, Sept. 22: Pray for the mayor and the political leaders of Steubenville, OH, (where JOSHUA Urban Mission is located). Ask God to grant them wisdom as they seek the best ways to meet the needs of their community in this difficult time.
- Wednesday, Sept. 23: Pray for the volunteers who help make Urban Mission a success. Pray for them to have strength and dedication to their task.
- Thursday, Sept. 24: Pray for good health – mentally, physically, and spiritually – for everyone connected with Urban Mission.
- Friday, Sept. 25: Ask God for clarity on how your own gifts and abilities can be used to foster greater community transformation, whether locally, at a statewide level, nationally, or internationally.
- Saturday, Sept. 26: Join with the Urban Mission staff as they commit "to pray daily for justice, mercy, humility, and above all, love, to triumph in our world."



## What's Your Word?

On Sunday, Sept. 13 at 6:30 p.m. PUMC Youth Group will kick off with a special meeting at church, "Live on the Lawn!" We'll meet outside with social distancing, masks, and all recommended safe health practices. Rain date is Sept. 20. Youth will have the opportunity to make their own bracelets with an inspirational word they choose. These bracelets come from an organization called "My Intent" and are intended to help our youth stay focused on what inspires them for the coming school year. We'll also have individually packaged snacks and drinks, socially distanced games, and a short discussion. Regular Youth Group meetings will be on Zoom at 7:00 on the First and Third Wednesday of each month. Socially safe outings and meetings will be held once a month, weather permitting. A complete Youth Ministries Calendar to be available at the meeting.

# August Prayer List

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- George (Fern) Angelos' godson, Bob Johnson
- Lonny Bodie
- Connie (Barry) Brown's stepmother, Lori Elliot
- Carolyn & Jeff Dement's nephew, Shawn; friend, Lynette Wilson and family
- Diana Facemyer
- Shirley Fassiotto
- Harriet Glasgow
- Kathy Hermansen's sister-in-law, Kandace Hermansen
- Judy & Elmer Eddy's friend, Jim Sossong
- Greg Hill
- Carole Holloway (hip surgery 8/6)
- Carole Holloway's friend, Thommy Evans
- Carole Holloway's friend, Nancy Yarbrough
- Heather Holtquist - for Baby Cecilia
- Kate (Witkiewicz) Iverson's sister-in-law, April Courtright
- Karen Koziol's dad, Mitchell Koziol
- Sandy Krzywanos
- Sandy Krzywanos' sister, Wendy
- Bob Kutsy's friend, Henry Young
- Margie & Ron Lee
- Chip Mackley's friend, Paul
- Ken (Lana) Magsam's sister, Joleen Perkins
- Misty Martin
- Carol May's sister, Mary Blackburn (in hospice); and father-in-law, Joe May (about to go into hospice)
- Harriett Nelson's mom, Harriett Crismon
- Diane Robert's sister's friend, Cindy
- Sarah Olson's brother & sister-in-laws
- Bob Snyder's friend, Joel Swartz
- Adam Stephens
- Angie Sullivan's Aunt Joyce
- Traver and Moore families on the passing of MickeySue's father, Jack Moore
- MickeySue Traver's sister-in-law, Angel
- Martha Wassenaar
- Georgia Whitley
- Heather Young - for teachers, school staff, and students who are going back to in-person learning
- Nancy Ziech's mother, Violetta; and Aunt Amy
- Mary Snydersmith for the communities in eastern Iowa affected by devastation of derecho
- Debbie Barker - prayers for this nation & the world to come together in love
- Mizwicki Family's grandsons Cameron & Ian Hartigan and the Hartigan Family Ron's (Karen) Mizwicki's uncle, David Colby & Family; friend, Marie

## Our Deepest Sympathy

Jack L. "Captain" Moore, 89 years old, father of MickeySue (Tim) Traver, passed away on Wednesday, August 26, 2020 in Chillicothe, IL, after his battle with cancer. Surviving are his wife, Harriett (of 67+ years); daughters, MickeySue (Timothy) Traver, Mary Christine (Paul) Spiezio, and Michelle (Terry) Easler; son, John Matthew Moore; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Please keep MickeySue and family in your thoughts and prayers.



*with deepest sympathy*



# SEPTEMBER

**09-02-2020**

**3:00pm** Chat with the Pastor (*Facebook*)

**09-03-2020**

**7:00pm** Small Group Ministry

**09-06-2020**

**10:00am** Online Worship

**09-09-2020**

**12:00pm** Widows Group

**3:00pm** Chat with the Pastor (*Facebook*)

**09-13-2020**

MEMs Grandpal Match Day

**9:00am** Confirmation

**9:15am** Sunday School

**10:00am** Online Worship

**11:am** Mobile Communion

**6:30pm** Youth Group "Live on the Lawn"

**09-14-2020**

**11:30am** Lunch Bunch

**6:30pm** Ad Council Meeting

**09-16-2020**

**12:00pm** Widows Group

**3:00pm** Chat with the Pastor (*Facebook*)

**5:00pm** Youth Group (*Zoom*)

**09-17-2020**

**7:00pm** Women's Book Group

**09-18-2020**

**11:30am** Widows Group

**09-20-2020**

**9:00am** Confirmation

**9:15am** Sunday School

**10:00am** Online Worship

**10:45am** Adult Sunday School

**09-21-2020**

**11:30am** Lunch Bunch

**09-23-2020**

**11:30am** Trinity Food Pantry (*Off-Site*)

**12:00pm** Widows Group

**3:00pm** Chat with the Pastor (*Facebook*)

**09-24-2020**

**7:00pm** Education Meeting (*Zoom*)

**09-27-2020**

**9:00am** Confirmation

**9:15am** Sunday School

**10:00am** Online Worship

**10:45am** Adult Sunday School

**09-28-2020**

**11:30am** Lunch Bunch

**09-30-2020**

**12:00pm** Widows Group

**3:00pm** Chat with the Pastor (*Facebook*)

## Doris Stabler Scholarship

The following young women are recipients of the Doris Stabler Scholarship for 2020/2021.

Carter Brown	Grace Glodoski
Sophia Mae Hiatt	Taylor Holstead
Mallory Jarot	Ariana Jiménez
Melanie Shiffer	Amelia Vidad
Emily Vido	

Congratulations to each of them and best wishes as they embark on a new chapter in their lives - going to college either on-line or in person.

## Thank You

"To the Doris Stabler Scholarship Committee, Thank you so very much for bestowing upon me your scholarship. My family and I are very blessed to be part of your church community. We appreciate your generous support and prayers as I pursue higher education in Biology at Norwich University. - Amelia Vidad"

"Dear Doris Stabler Scholarship Committee, Thank you so much for the scholarship. I will be attending Concordia University Chicago this fall and greatly appreciate it along with the support from my church. - Grace Glodoski"

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## Plainfield UMC Staff

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## Pastoral Staff

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**Roger Beitzel, Youth Director**  
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## Worship Services

**10am** Sunday Online Worship

**3pm** Wednesday Online Chat, Pastor Dick or Pastor Sherry