

# DISPATCH OCTOBER 2023

Dear Dunlap family and friends,

With the arrival of October comes the arrival of the Scary or Spooky time of year. Some will decorate their homes with items designed to startle, scare, or disgust any who drive by. Others will celebrate the season in a more playful way with cartoony witches and Linus waiting for the Great Pumpkin in the pumpkin patch. Some will be visiting haunted corn mazes and haunted houses, watching scary movies and designing the perfect bloody costume. Others are watching goofy Halloween movies, pulling together their princess dresses and ninja costumes, and looking forward to fun events at churches, zoos, and museums. Others still will choose to ignore the holiday or only acknowledge it when they enjoy the good deals on candy shaped like pumpkins.

This season looks like a lot of different things to a lot of different people...some scary, some fun, and some, it just isn't that important to them. There is no doubt, however, that for a large portion of the population, the chance to be scared in a controlled and safe way is appealing. Being scared can give you an adrenaline rush that is hard to find any other way, and some find this enjoyable. Whether they get it by watching scary movies, jumping out of airplanes, or picking up the latest book by Stephen King, it is common to seek out some fright. Humans often like to be afraid...to a point.

Within the next few months, we are going to shift from a season of fear to a season where we will begin to hear the words "Do not be afraid." In October, the world gives us permission to be afraid, but once December arrives, God encourages us to move from fear into joy.

This year I find myself thinking about the last three months of the year as a metaphor for our Christian journey. In October, we explore the things that have caused us fear or pain or barriers to participation in our full life with Christ. Now, this happens at an extreme level since we don't really have to worry about zombies or witches with green faces. But, as the year goes on, those things we pretend, those things that frighten us, are banished to the memories of Halloween. We turn from screams of fear to shouts of joy.

In our real lives we face many things that cause us fear, both real and imaginary: cancers and seizures, loss of income and unknown futures, fear of the dark and heights, fear of death and life, and even fear that God may call out of what makes us comfortable. I would contend it is perfectly acceptable to name those fears, to acknowledge they exist as a part of our lives. We don't have to deny their very existence in order to deal with them. But, at some point in our journey of faith, we will come to the point where we hear the words "Do not be afraid." Do not be afraid, because God is with you. Do not be afraid, because God has this all in hand. Do not be afraid, because that fear is getting in the way of your faith; it is getting in the way of your ability to see all that God has done.

And so the time comes for us to shift our focus from fear to joy, and we can ONLY do so with the grace and love and power of our God. It doesn't necessarily make the scary things disappear. They are still a part of our lives. However, by the power of our glorious God, we can face them, and we can have joy.

God bless,  
Pastor Melissa

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

October 4th	Mike Bushman
October 6th	Kellie Wheeler
October 7th	Andrea Nelson
October 7th	Ron Utley
October 22nd	Tobi Price
October 23rd	Helen Glick
October 25th	Marcia Brothers
October 26th	Steve Kilmer
October 30th	Donna Miles

## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

October 22nd	Ron & Laura Utley
October 24th	Steve & Ruth Kilmer
October 26th	Jerry & Kay Adkins
October 26th	Dave & Paula Kercher
October 27th	Mike & Pam Garber
October 28th	Bruce & Tammy Hill

## OCTOBER LITURGISTS

## OCTOBER ALTAR FLOWERS

October 1st	Wes & Jennifer Davis in Honor of	October 1st	Jane Hunsberger
October 8th	Peg Miklic in Memory of Jack	October 8th	Helmsmen
October 15th	Tobi Price	October 15th	Karen Newland
October 22nd	Jerry & Kay Adkins in Honor of our 49th Anniversary!	October 22nd	Carolyn Vollmar
October 29th	Bruce & Tammy Hill in Honor of their Anniversary!	October 29th	Dave Vollmar



# October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Boy Scouts @ 6:30PM	3 Worship @ 6:30PM	4 Meal @ 6:00PM Kids Club @ 6:30PM	5 Cub Scouts @ 6:30PM	6 St. Jude's Trike-A- Thon	7
8 Helmsmen & Potluck	9 Boy Scouts @ 6:30PM	10	11 SWANS @ 1:00PM Meal @ 6:00PM Kids Club @ 6:30PM	12 Cub Scouts @ 6:30PM	13	14
15	16 Boy Scouts @ 6:30PM	17 Preschool @ 6:00PM Finance @ 6:30PM	18 Meal @ 6:00PM Kids Club @ 6:30PM	19 Cub Scouts @ 6:30PM	20	21
22 Charge Conference @ 2:00PM @ Trinity	23 Christian Ed @ 6:00PM Boy Scouts @ 6:30PM	24	25 Meal @ 6:00PM Kids Club @ 6:30PM	26 Cub Scouts @ 6:30PM	27	28
29	30 Boy Scouts @ 6:30PM	31 <u>Trick or Treat!!!!</u> <u>6PM-7PM</u>				

# It's time for Trick or Treat...and we need your help!

We are hosting a drive~thru Trick or Treat time for our community on

**Tuesday, October 31st from 6~7 PM**

We are also welcoming you inside for some fun crafts, please join us!

**You can help make this possible by:**

- Donating Trick-or-Treat candy (individually wrapped). Please have it to the church by October 22nd.
- Signing up to volunteer to help that night.

If you are interested in helping,  
please sign up in the back on the sign up sheet



# DUMC Shut In Ministry

*Some information concerning our Shut-Ins has been updated. Contact the church office for the updated copy of the Shut-In list, or pick up a paper copy of the newsletter in the church lobby on Sunday Morning.*



Dunlap United  
Methodist Church  
*Growing in Christ-like Love  
through intentional Outreach  
and Worship*

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Pastor's Cell: (765) 438-4545  
E-mail: [dunlapumc@frontier.com](mailto:dunlapumc@frontier.com)  
Office Hours:  
Mon. - Thurs.: 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
(closed 12-1)  
Friday: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

## Our Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Melissa Englehart
Education Director	Alice Morris
Preschool Director	Cindy Covey
Office Manager	Brianna Primm
Custodian	Laura Utley
Choir/Bell Choir Dir.	TBD
Organist	Lois Coney

## Find us online!

**[www.elkhartdunlapumc.org](http://www.elkhartdunlapumc.org)**

Want to watch a service you missed?

Need a bulletin?

Wonder what time your meeting is?

Want to pay your tithe?

All of this and MORE is available  
on our web site!