



# COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

A Monthly Publication of Community United Methodist Church-1614 Ruddiman Dr North Muskegon, MI 49445

August 2017 - Vol 17 Issue 8

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**August 10th**  
Northside Parade  
@ 7:30pm

**August 11th**  
Taste of the  
Northside  
6-10pm

**August 12th**  
Art Fair  
9am—4pm

**August 27th**  
United Methodist  
Women Sunday  
(1st service)

**August 29th**  
Missionary Paul  
Webster Visiting

## *A Note From Pastor Jeremy*

Thanks so much to the many of you who've been working to make us welcome. First it was the people who did so much on the parsonage and for us personally. Then this month many of you have gathered friends at your homes or elsewhere, and had us come over to meet people face to face in groups. A smaller number of you have met with me one on one, but I hope that will continue. At every gathering I've been asking some version of the same questions:

- Tell me how you came to this church and why you've stayed;
- Tell me where you think the church ought to be;
- Name a big audacious dream you have for the church.

Thanks to the many of you who came out and shared your answers with me. I hope that many more of you will take the time to share your dreams for the church. We need to become dreamers and doers. Here are some of the dreams I've heard so far:

- More people in worship
- More small groups
- More people involved in service activities
- More welcoming to people of any gender or sexual identity
- Update the gathering space
- Become a church for the whole Muskegon area
- More young children
- Activities for fathers with young children
- More progressive social leadership
- Update everything
- More spirit-filled worship

There's a lot to think about, and lots to do. It will be easy to be distracted by all the shortages that get in the way of moving forward: shortages of money, of commitment, and of love for one another. So whatever your big vision is for the church, let's get ready by shining up our commitment to God, to the church, and to one another. Summer is a great time for most people to examine their giving, before we head into a new school year of expenses. It's a time to decide on our time priorities, before the fall comes with its rush of new opportunities and demands on our time. As it does every year, summer is racing away, with fall on its heels. God is calling us to a new future together. Will we be ready?

### **Worship through August**

In August, Jeremy will continue his summer series, Jesus 101, with an introduction to the basics of the Christian faith, through the Gospel of Matthew. Please be sure to invite your friends who haven't been to church in a while. This is a time of new beginnings!

**August 6:** Stepping Up to the Life of Faith. What's it going to take to be a Christian? Jesus sets high standards for our actions, so what really matters? Are there ways that Christians should be different from other folks? Matthew 5:21-37, part of the Sermon on the Mount.

**August 13:** Moving on to Perfection. This phrase from John Wesley is a whole different way of looking at the goals of Christian living. Are you ready for a radical life of service? It comes from Matthew 5:38-48.

**August 20:** is a day of celebration and reflection from the Appalachia Service Project team trip to West Virginia that happened in July, at both services.

**August 27:** 11:00 message: New Clothes. Stepping away from the love of material things. From Matthew 6:24-34. 9:00 will include a United Methodist Women program.

**Get to know Pastor Jeremy** with a meet and greet opportunity. Join any of the following groups to connect with Jeremy.

Thursday, August 3rd at 7pm at Ric & Marjean Fritz's Home (589 Peterson)

Wednesday, August 9th at 8am at Brooklyn Bagel

Wednesday, August 9th at 3pm at Roy & Sharon Beetham's Home (608 Ruddiman)

## **ATTENDANCE**

Here are attendance figures for July 2017 (and July 2016)

	1st Service	2nd Service	2017 Totals	2016 Totals
7/2/17	98	44	142	133
7/9/17	94	58	152	138
7/16/17	81	54	135	247
7/23/17	87	60	147	117
7/30/17	n/a	n/a	n/a	139

## **SUMMER IS WINDING DOWN...DON'T MISS WORSHIP IN THE PARK!**

You won't want to miss your opportunity to join us out in the park. The park service will run through Sunday, Sept 3rd and then will move indoors. The service begins at 11:00am each Sunday. Seating will be provided but you're welcome to bring your own camp chairs, blankets, whatever you feel comfortable in. **See you at the park!**

## **CROP WALK**

Mark your calendars for this year's CROP Hunger Walk which benefits those locally and globally by ending hunger one step at a time. The date is Sunday, Oct 1st at 1:00pm beginning at Central UMC (1011 2nd St)

## **CROP WALK PROMOTER NEEDED**

Vanessa Hyrns, our CROP Walk organizer, is looking for a promoter during 2nd service starting in August. If you have a passion for CROP Walk (a walk to raise funds for food), contact Vanessa at 231.744.0681

## **UMW SUNDAY**

Join us on Sunday, August 28th, during 1st service, as we celebrate the United Methodist Women. Hear a message brought to us by Vondie Woodbury and learn about the important work the ladies our church and woman all over the world do.

## **RIDES AVAILABLE**

Did you know that our Member Care Team can be used as a resource for you in helping to find a ride to Sunday morning worship, church events, or even doctor appointments? If you find yourself in need, please call Joyce Andree at 744-0268, who can assist by coordinating with our church volunteers.

## **ATTENTION ALL MEN!!!!**

You're invited to a special MEN'S DAY PROGRAM on Saturday, Sept 23rd from 8am-12:30pm at The Frauenthal Center. The event is FREE and the theme is "Ignite Your Passion for God." There will be 3 speakers discussing the topics of diversity, passion, and life story. Here Rev Jeff Bowman, Rev Dr. H. Michael Lemmon, and Retired Major Brian Shul, USAF. These passionate speakers will build excitement and encourage men's hearts. For more information, contact George Harryman at 231.744.7325

## **August Birthdays & Anniversaries**

- 1—Billy Lowe, Golman & Lori Eslick\*
- 2—Grace Goszkowicz
- 3—Carol Kulicamp, David & Mary Purtee\*
- 5—Sandy Reynolds, Diane Tennant
- 6—Robby Blastic
- 10 —Rebecca Weipert, Larry & Terri Williamson\*
- 11—Pam Halmond
- 12—Bob Schneeberger, Vondie Woodbury, Nathaniel Bartman
- 14—Vanessa Hyrns
- 16—Chase Eslick
- 18—Jack Landon
- 21—Jack & Lois Berends\*
- 22—Melissa Hill
- 24—Joe & Doris Wolters\*
- 25—Anna Blastic, Jeremiah Harryman
- 26—Vicki Kaiser, Kaylum & Tara Dicks\*, Tim & Mary Ann Haak\*
- 27—Doris Wolters, Jean Cooper, Georgia Williamson
- 28—Gene Fethke, Francesca Williamson
- 29—Buzz Kersman, Judy Slicker
- 30—Ruth Long, Tom Porritt

\*denotes anniversary

Would you like your birthday and/or anniversary added or deleted from this list? If so, please contact Wendy in the office at 744.4491

## **CAMP SCHOLARSHIP HOME RUN!!**

We have faithful givers who commit to regularly funding a camp scholarship program so kids in our church and community to go to Christian summer camps. This year, we handed out 10 scholarships for a total of \$2,250!!! Thank you to all who contribute to this fund. You have made an impact on a child's life.

## **MISSIONARY PAUL WEBSTER VISIT**

Paul Webster is a missionary we support in Zambia. Paul is going to be in the States and will be visiting us on the evening of Tuesday, August 29th. (Exact time: TBD) Please mark your calendar and join us as we hear the amazing work Paul is doing in Africa and how we each can make a difference.

## **ASP UPDATE/SUNDAY**

Our Appalachia Service Project (ASP) mission team made it back to North Muskegon. They had a fantastic, safe trip and made an impact on some families in need in West Virginia. Hear all about their mission on Sunday, August 20th at BOTH services. (NOTE: 2nd service will move indoors on this Sunday.)

## **CHECK IT OUT**

Downstairs in our lounge, Jon & Beth Proctor have added a coffee table that houses a nearly 100 year old quilt. Made by people of our church at the time, this historic quilt has been cared for by the Marquard family and now is being cared for by us. When you get a moment, check it out.

If you would like to include news into the monthly newsletter, please submit an announcement form to the church office by the 20th of each month by dropping it off or emailing to:

wendy@communitychurchumc.org

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[www.communitychurchumc.org](http://www.communitychurchumc.org)



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# COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

[WWW.COMMUNITYCHURCHUMC.ORG](http://WWW.COMMUNITYCHURCHUMC.ORG)

**Pastor:**

Jeremy Williams—jeremy@communitychurchumc.org / 231.720.5422 (call or text)

**Office Administrator:**

Wendy Hodgkin — wendy@communitychurchumc.org

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## COMMITTEE LEADERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

**Ad Council:** Kevin Dick (719.8006)

**Children's Christian Ed:**

**Endowment:** Gene Fethke (744.2205)

**Evangelism:** Doug Wood (894.9677)

**Finance:** Vondie Woodbury (744.7435)

**Financial Secretary:** Deb Huisingsh (744.6160)

**Helping Hands:** Wayne Halpin (744.2817)

& George Harryman (744.7325)

**Junior High Leaders:** Matt & Stacie Vander Velde (903.9127)

**Lay Leader:** Marjean Fritz (766.8614) & Doug Wood (578.1463)

**Lay Member to Annual Conference:** Doug Wood (894.9677)

**Member Care:** Debbie Gale (744.0115)

**Missions:** Ric Fritz (766.8614)

**Mission for Area People (MAP):**

**Nominations:** Pastor Phil (670.7796)

**Senior High Leaders:** Doug Wood (894.9677) & Kim Zelinsky (215.3927)

**Scouts:**

**Staff Parish Relations:** Rob Huisingsh (312.632.9253)

**Treasurer:** Wendy Hodgkin (744.4491)

**Trustees:** Steve Schultz (744.5571)

**United Methodist Men:** George Harryman (744.7325) & Dick Hammond (719.2724)

**United Methodist Women:** Sandy Reynolds (766.3306)

**Worship:**

**Young Adult Committee (YAC):** Deb Boes (744.9035) and Becky Fairfield (744.9669)

**Youth Council:** Nick Zelinsky (215.3928)