

The Methodist Message

AUGUST

2024

Pastor's Page ...



Do you remember the “plate spinner” variety show guy from the Ed Sullivan show? Yes, I’m aging most of us! We might have been awed at the marvel as the guy ran back and forth keeping all the dozens of plates going. We were amazed! What would happen if he couldn’t keep up? The ceramic plates would crash to the floor broken into shards. A *trick* turned into *trash*.

Recently, I spoke with the kids and adults attending the worship service about being aware of how many “plates” all of us are “spinning.” I encouraged all of us to be more patient and kind in our expectations and demands of each other. Everyone received a drawing of the “plate spinner” and were encouraged to write on the “plates” all the things we were trying to keep “spinning.” Each of us have so many things on our “plates.”

As disciples on the path with Jesus, we should be striving to be more loving and kind to everyone we meet, but this is especially so in the church family. We have the whole world out there mistreating each other and “against us.” Jesus gives us, in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke (Mt. 18: 15-17, Lk. 17:3) instructions on how to talk with, and to, each other if there is a disagreement between disciples. Maybe you have heard me say, “Agree to disagree in the love of Christ.” The grace of God which is extended to each of us over and over must be extended to all our brothers and sisters especially in the church family.

We should be examples of Jesus as His disciples. When we choose (and it is a choice) to not act towards each other with patience, kindness and God’s grace, we are a stumbling block to others and our hypocrisy hurts the possibility of strengthening another’s spiritual journey or maybe even turning them completely away from God. People of all ages, backgrounds and experiences are looking to us, and listening to us, to see if we will really be salt and light, and treat each other the way Jesus instructs us. The Golden Rule: “Treat others as you want them to treat you” (Mt. 7:12 CEV) is only “golden” if we live it out as Christ’s disciples. We can do this, if we choose to, if we want to.

Let’s continue on our path of discipleship, growing together, not apart. As we care for our own “plates” spinning, let’s help each other to keep their “plates” going. We wouldn’t want our plates or each other’s to come crashing down to become broken shards of trash. You are valuable and so are our brothers and sisters in Christ. Let’s live like it!

God’s Shalom and mine, Pastor Billie Lou

SCHEDULE OF LEADERS and SERVICES while Pastor Billie Lou is on vacation

SLFUMC

BUMC

AUGUST 4 (Pastor is here-Communion)

Theme & Scripture: *The Call of the Fisherman* Luke 5: 1-11
 Liturgist/Leader: Gary Amiels
 Kids Message: Pastor
 Tech: Video 1 (each church has their own copy)
 Communion Steward: *at the altar rail* Karen Galloway
 Special Music: Pat Pyle
 Health Care Team: Gladys Poindexter, Terry Bailey
 Edgar

Jan Edgar
 Pastor
 Video 1
 Edith Humm
 Karen Short, Jan

AUGUST 11 (Pastor gone - vacation #1 - 4 weeks)

Theme & Scripture: *Walking with Jesus in the Storms* Matthew 14: 22-34
 Liturgist/Leader: Cheryl Irvin
 Kids Message: Deb Brune
 Tech: Video 2

Lois Arthur
 Edna Bell
 Video 2

AUGUST 18 (Pastor gone)

Theme & Scripture: *Bedrock or Stumbling Block?* Matthew 16: 13-19, 21-23
 Liturgist/Leader: Linda Johnson
 Kids Message: Dawn Lake
 Tech: Video 3
 Brunch following worship

Lynne Holloway
 Sheri Murphy
 Video 3

AUGUST 25 (Pastor gone)

Theme & Scripture: *"I Will Not Deny You"* Matthew 26: 31-35
 Liturgist/Leader: Terry Bailey
 Kids Message: Nancy Hodges
 Tech: Video 4

Edith Humm
 (no kids mes-
 sage)
 Video 4

SEPTEMBER 1 (Pastor gone-no communion)

Theme & Scripture: *From Cowardice to Courage* John 21: 12, 15-17
 Liturgist/Leader: Deb Brune (sub for Roger)
 Kids Message: Lynne Holloway
 Tech: Video 5
 Health Care Team: Gladys Poindexter, Terry Bailey
 Nagel

Lyndsay Wingle
 Lynne Holloway
 Video 5
 Lois Arthur, Linda

SEPTEMBER 8 (Pastor is here)

Theme & Scripture: *The Rest of the Story* Acts 2: 14, 38-41
 Liturgist/Leader: Roger Brown (sub for Sabatovich's)
 Kids Message: Pastor
 Tech: Video 6 (*end of series*)

Lois Arthur
 Pastor
 Video 6 (*end of series*)

SEPTEMBER 15 (Pastor is here)

Theme & Scripture: *Simon Peter - Epilogue: The Silent Years* 1 Peter 5: 2-4, 2 Peter 3: 18
 Liturgist/Leader: Terry Bailey (sub for Sam Miller)
 Kids Message: Pastor
 Tech:

Lois Arthur
 Pastor



Love Reaching Out

SPONSORED BY CENTRAL BAY DISTRICT

Why Love Reaching Out?

- Starting, sustaining, & transitioning local church outreach
- Hear from leaders about how they started, connected, and restarted
- Be renewed in prayer and worship with District Superintendent John Kasper preaching
- Ask questions, reflect, and imagine what might be in your next setting

When?

Saturday, September 21, 2024
9:00am - 9:30am: Registration & Refreshments
9:30am - 2:00pm: Worship & Keynote Speakers

Where?

Mount Pleasant First United Methodist Church
400 South Main Street, Mount Pleasant, MI 48858

Registration:

- Register Early Before September 1
 - Individual: \$25 // Group of 3+: \$20 Per Person
- Register After September 1
 - Individual: \$35 // Group of 3+: \$30 Per Person
- Register online or mail attendee names & a check to
 - PO Box 5386, Saginaw, MI 48603

Keynote Speakers

- John Kasper**
 - District Superintendent
- Matt Witkowski**
 - Director of Community Ministries at Trinity United Methodist Church Grand Rapids
- Amelia Kasper**
 - Director of Community Connections at Central Michigan Health Department
- Kim Bos**
 - Director of Wesley House at Ferris State University



Scan to Register



FALL LAY SERVANT CLASSES

Have you ever thought about being a lay servant? UMC Lay Servant Ministries will be offering three different classes throughout Central Michigan that you can attend and get the classes needed to be a lay servant for the church. The three locations are:

Auburn UMC—September 7th & 14th from 9 am—3 pm

Edmore Faith UMC—October 12th & 19th from 9 am—3 pm

Wesley Foundation, CMU Campus— November 2nd & 9th from 9 am—3 pm

Registration Information:

- Download the registration form from the Central Bay District website and have it signed by the appropriate people. <https://centralbay.michiganumc.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2023/08/LSM-registration-buckley.pdf>
- Bring your signed registration request form with you to the first class.
- Please bring your lunch, the required textbook, a bible, pencil and paper for notes, and an open mind.

BRECKENRIDGE – HEMLOCK – MERRILL – WHEELER FOOD PANTRY

Following are items the pantry could use for weekly distribution.

Cake Mix/Baking Mixes	Toilet Paper
Hamburger Helper	Paper Towels
Canned Chicken/Tuna	Facial Tissues
Canned Vegetables/Fruit	Shampoo
Pasta	Deodorant
Canned Tomatoes/Spaghetti Sauce	Hand Soap
Cereal	Dish Soap
Jell-O/Pudding	Laundry Soap
Assorted Soups	Toothpaste/Toothbrushes

BRECKENRIDGE - HEMLOCK - MERRILL - WHEELER FOOD PANTRY 2015 - 2024 YTD YEAR END DATA

Year	Households Served	People Served	New Families	Food Donation Pounds
12/31/15	386	1,138	43	5,271
12/31/16	383	1,095	26	12,228
12/31/17	379	1,075	35	12,364
12/31/18	348	938	33	14,861
12/31/19	351	919	31	12,971
12/31/20	340	881	40	10,792
12/31/21	293	707	28	7,245
12/31/22	258	653	29	9,492
12/31/23	324	892	55	11,194
6/30/2024 YTD	198	568	24	4,628
2015 - 2024 YTD	3,260	8,866	344	101,046

Average families served per week is 6-8.



August Birthdays

1. Janet Palmer
2. Frank Gotts
9. Dale Bushre
11. Holly Prince
14. Mike Cooper
17. Reese Harrison
20. Cole Stoneman
21. Griffin SanMiguel
22. Emerson Gulick

August Anniversaries

August 15, 2009-
Bob and Jan Edgar

August 21, 1971-
Dave and Loretta Briggs

Aug. 24, 1991-
Sebastion and Carin SanMiguel

Congratulations go out to Wade and Angela SanMiguel on the birth of their baby girl, Sierra. Wade is the son of Sebastion and Carin SanMiguel and the grandson of Beverly Bott. We wish many blessings to the entire family.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



Monday, August 5—Sweet Adelines every Monday @ 6:30pm

Tuesday, August 6—BHMW Food Pantry 10 am—1 pm

United Leadership Team meeting at 6:30 pm

Wednesday, August 7-Wednesday Sept. 4—Pastor on Vacation

Thursday, August 8—Gratiot County Personal Needs Pantry @ SLFUMC 12-3

YAHA luncheon 12 noon

Thursday, August 22—Outreach meeting 2pm

Tuesday, August 27—Free Community Supper @ SLFUMC—4:30pm



Fully Rely On God
Rally Day

All Children, Youth and Families are Welcome to Attend.
Let's celebrate the end of summer and restart of fall activities in our community and churches!

During the morning worship service kids will learn more about our month-long theme to rely on God. Kids will have an opportunity to choose a frog item to take home with them each week. Kids will participate in worship for the first part of worship, which includes a special kids message, then K-5 grd. will go to Kid's Church for a lesson and younger ones may attend Nursery. A small snack will be served. Youth may attend the rest of worship or go to Kids Church

Sunday, September 8, 2024 9:30AM

125 3rd St. Breckenridge, MI. 48615
Breckenridge United Methodist Church

"You, God, are my fortress, my God on whom I can rely" Psalm 59: 9-10