

A JOYFUL NOISE!

June 2013

Three years ago, I had the pleasure and honor of being elected a delegate of the Michigan Conference to General Synod, our biannual national gathering of the United Church of Christ. There are about 25 delegates from the Michigan Conference, half elected every two years so that each trip to Synod includes half of the delegation that attended the previous Synod. There are an equal number of lay and clergy delegates as well as men and women both lay and clergy to get as diverse a sample of our Michigan Conference as possible. This means that there is not representation from every church in the Conference, just four or so from each Association.

Two years ago, I had the pleasure of travelling to Tampa, Florida for Synod. Over 3,000 people attended. Worship was powerful and dynamic. We discussed topical matters and voted to take action on many. We heard great speakers and preachers and attended fascinating workshops. It is always a joy to attend Synod, and on a smaller level Conference meetings, and also Association meetings because it reminds us that we are not alone. We are not an isolated church on the frontier trying to re-invent the wheel all the time, but rather we are United with scores of other churches in our region, state, nation, and world.

This year, I again have the pleasure of attending General Synod for my second and final trip as a delegate for the Michigan Conference, this year held in Long Beach, California. This is work and not vacation. Our daily meetings begin at 6:30am and conclude around 9pm. This year, the Michigan Conference delegates nominated and elected me to be their leader, a humbling position. I will be working with the Conference Minister staff to help coordinate our meetings and delegation on the trip.

I will be leaving on June 25 and then at the conclusion of General Synod, I will be taking a week of vacation to meet friends and explore out West. I will return to the church office on July 11. Please pray for the safe travel of all our delegates. Pray for the United Church of Christ as we continue to discern who we are as a progressive denomination in God's world. And pray for our church as well as the churches with whom we are United in our region as we continue to find new ways to serve as disciples.

Pastor Dan



Great time of year – especially for our graduates and their families. We have six students graduating from Benzie Central. TIME TO CELEBRATE!! On June 2nd, we will be honoring our graduates during the service and at the Coffee Hour.

Two of the graduates are very familiar faces. We love seeing Anna Butts almost every Sunday with her son Aiden. The second is Mercedes Smith. Mercedes has been very active in the Sunday School and Youth programs and has served on the Board of Deacons.

Our other graduates are: Kelsey Neveau, Jordon Nye, Cory Weaver, and Jack Evans. We will learn more about them and their dreams at the June 2nd service. All are outstanding young adults and we are so proud them. Congratulations to them and their families.

Board of Trustees' Wish List

Over the past year or more, the Board of Trustees has had an ongoing discussion about things that need to be done in and around the church. We have started a WISH LIST covering all areas of the church and grounds.

When you stop and think about it – this church was built back in the 1960s. That's over 50 years of wear and tear. Work has been done along the way – but the time has come to take action. Women's Fellowship got things started by getting the kitchen in good working order, new chairs, tablecloths etc for the Fellowship Hall. Then last year, the four south windows of the Sanctuary were replaced. During our winter months, a couple of work bees were held to continue interior painting where needed.

At the May meeting, the Board approved getting the outside of the front Sanctuary window repaired. Badly needed repair. Some of the wood pieces holding the individual glass pieces in place have rotted and caulking is gone. This will involve a few days work.

Items on this WISH LIST that need to be done this year include windows on the north side of the Sanctuary, painting the outside of the rest of the windows, some landscaping, sound system improvement, parking lot improvement.

We are going to need everyone's help in getting this done. Some of this work can be done with volunteer work – but let's face it – there are things that our "older" bodies tell us we should not attempt. For our younger folks with work and families – time is an issue. Plus, most of the work we will be doing now needs to be done by professionals.

Shortly, the Board will be sending out a letter with details of the WISH LIST – asking for your support with Fund Raising. We also will be asking for your input and ideas. This is a beautiful church with a wonderful congregation – we have always worked together to improve our church home. Thank you to everyone for all that you have already done.

Women's Fellowship News

The Mother-Daughter Banquet was another success. We thank all the ladies that helped with a special thanks to Chris Stone and Carol Dye. The men did a great job of serving and clean-up. The program was extra special, given by Kay Fischer, Maria and Christy, and June Deering.

The CLASSIC JUNK SALE is coming up soon. Dates are Friday, June 28th from 8 am to 3 pm and Saturday June 29th from 9 am to 1 pm. We invite you to donate treasures that you are no longer using. Antiques and collectibles were very popular items last year. Other great items include kitchen items, bedding, towels, tools, gently used household items, toys, landscaping stuff – almost anything you can think of. However – no clothing or electronic items such as old computers, printers etc.



Please put your donated items in the Sunday School room right next to the south parking lot. Then plan to attend this sale – EVERYONE LIKES TO FIND A BARGAIN OR TWO.

We will be needing help setting up and on the days of the sale. If you can help, call Barb Brian at 352-4929 or email her at The_Brians@charter.net.

Women's Fellowship uses funds from this sale to support their programs.

What's New in the Library

Falling Upward: a Spirituality for the two Halves of Life: This is the book used in the recent Lenten discussions. Author Richard Rohr explores the idea that we grow spiritually much more by doing wrong than by doing right. He explains why the second half of life can and should be full of spiritual richness.

The Brides of the West: This is a collection of three of stories by Lori Copeland. The imaginative plots in these stories revolve around mail order brides in the 1800's. Each sister overcomes seemingly impossible setbacks and experiences adventure and romance along the way.

Treasury of God's Virtues: Divided into fourteen virtues, each is described, explained, with numerous short writings taken from various sources, poetry and the Bible among them. Faith, humility, integrity, wisdom are some of the virtues included.

All three books were donations and we thank the donors.

Two other donations come from Sarah Circle as memorial books:

Praying for Strangers is given in memory of Gloria Dedloff.

If Grace is True is given in memory of Betty Henry.

Praying for Strangers: In this memoir, the author recounts stories of a year in which she decided to pray for a complete stranger every day. The results were extraordinary. Some feel the book becomes repetitive, with no contest or depth given these strangers. However the idea of intercessory prayer is admirable, and a reader may find inspiration to follow this path.

If Grace is True: In this controversial best seller, authors Gulley and Mulholland, both Quaker ministers, expand upon their belief in eternal salvation for all through God's perfect grace. Very thought provoking. It is a book that will make every Christian stop and think about what he/she had been taught all his/her life.



Church Library Book Sale

Books on the cart in the hall outside the library have been removed from the library shelves. They are yours for a donation of \$.50 per book. There is a manila envelope on the cart for the money. Books will be available until mid-June. Enjoy shopping!

Antique Appraisal

Do you have things that you don't know what they are or what they are worth? Do you have Roland Roycraft original paintings or old glassware, pottery, jewelry, or china?

Don Bukovich, a nationally known antique appraiser will be here at the church on Saturday, June 15, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. to appraise your treasures. The cost is \$8 per item. Call Marilyn Sheets for an appointment at 882-4358. Lunch will be served. All proceeds will go to Women's Fellowship.

Betsie River Clean-up

On Saturday, June 22, there will be a pancake breakfast from 8:30-9:30 here at the church.

After breakfast, the clean-up crews will go out to their assigned river section via shuttle vehicles and float down their section while picking up trash along the way.

For more information, contact Mike Jones at 882-4391.

UCC Sister Church of the Month

As part of our continuing efforts to work together as community of faith, in worship we pray for UCC churches in our United Northern Association. You are invited in June to pray for the ongoing mission and ministries of Trinity UCC, in Northport.

Living with Loss

In April, a group gathered with Pastor Dan in the church Library after worship to discuss how we process grief. Some were dealing with recent loss and others from many years before. All of us carry and process the burden of grief from time to time in life. This group is now meeting monthly on the last Sunday of the month. If you or someone you know could benefit from being with others on this journey, please join us on the last Sunday of the month in the Library after worship.

Flowers

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for altar flowers. If you are interested in supplying flowers, please sign up for a certain date (or if you are unable to be in worship call the church office to make arrangements). You may then bring in your own flowers or donate \$25 to the church to make the arrangements with a local florist. If you would like the bulletin to reflect your donation, please let the church office know who the flowers honor or memorialize.

Memorial Garden

On the north side of our church property is a beautiful memorial garden for members and friends of the church who would like their cremated ashes interred on our sacred grounds. For \$400, you may reserve a one-square foot plot that covers future opening and closing as well as a memorial plaque to be placed on the stone located along the walkway. Please speak with Pastor Dan for more information. Donations for perpetual care are also welcomed.

GoodSearch.com

Remember that if you use the Internet, you can earn money for the church using www.goodsearch.com. One penny per search, or more for internet shopping, is donated directly from the website to our church. Designate us by entering our church name as the charity of your choice.

Children's Book Deposit

At the entryway from the parking lot, just inside the doors on the left, is a wooden cabinet labeled "Children's Book Deposit." The Christian World Service Board is working to enhance a new relationship between our church and Crystal Lake Elementary School. One way we can do so is to collect and donate new children's books for their library or to be given directly to the students. Please bring books you would like to donate and use the new cabinet at the church.

Who Meet's in our Church Building Anyway?

From time to time we are asked about the various groups that meet in our buildings. So for the next several months we will share with you information about the various community groups that use our building. Over time you will see that the time spent here is less about the electric and heat used and more about the ministry we provide for the members of our community.

Every Monday and Thursday morning a group from Central Wellness uses the Barn to offer support and life skills training to people with special needs.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to the following members of the church family!

- 1 Brady Cole
- 5 Doug Joy, Sr.
- 8 Harold Case
- 9 Alan Appelhof
- 10 Virginia Kilburn
- 11 Barbara Nason
- 13 Leonard Case
- 14 Buck Hall
- 15 Bob Ward
- 16 Mercedes Smith
- 18 Roger Vance
- 21 Mitchell Webb
- 21 Kathy Neveu
- 25 Ethan Webb
- 26 Penelope Olson
- 27 Dorothy Lyons
- 28 Chris Stone
- 29 Victoria Joy

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Doc and Mary Ellen Wagner
- 8 Lee and Chris Stone
- 10 Leonard and Brenda Case
- 14 Mark and Mary Thompson
- 22 Roger and Phoebe Vance

Church Family Update

You are invited to remember in your prayers some of our members who are home-bound, in assisted-living, or are facing health concerns: Marylou Patee, June Trost, Norm Stewart, John Robson, Marjorie Call, Buck Hall, Barb Nason, Mona McElderry, Bruce Jenema, Helen Pickard, Mary Hopkins, Susan Lutes, Betty Heckman, Brenda Case, Ruth Blacklock, Rosemary Miller, Guy Titsworth, Donna Ballard, and Jay Pettitt.

Helen Pickard has moved. Her new address is Orchard Creek Assisted Living, 9715 East Cherry Bend Road, Traverse City, MI 49684. Her phone is 231-883-7130.

If you, a loved one, or a church member you know is in the hospital, please let the church office know so that Pastor Dan may visit. Due to privacy laws, hospitals no longer contact the churches to let them know church members are hospitalized.

THANK YOU to Mickey Austin, Jean Bowers, Ruth Catton and Jean Edwards for all their work folding and labeling and stamping the May issue of The Joyful Noise.

Anniversary Sunday

Since our grand and glorious celebration three years ago for our 150th anniversary, we have begun celebrating our church anniversary every year on the last Sunday of June. Pastor Dan will be away on that Sunday and so this year we will bump up our annual celebration to Sunday, June 23. On that Sunday, we will again recognize all who have been members of our church for fifty years or more. Hopefully you will be able to attend.

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR JUNE VOLUNTEERS -

	<u>COFFEE HOUR</u>	<u>NURSERY</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>
June 2	Deacons	Chris Jones	Andrea Polhamus
June 9	Sunday School	Chris Gehring	Pat and Earl Schopp
June 16	Chris Gehring	Mary Rodriguez	Chris Stone
June 23	Barb Brian	Linda Jenema	Jean Bowers
June 30	Christy Case	Barb Brian	Geri Thornell

Head Usher: Mike Jones

JUNE 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
						1
2 GRADUATION 10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship	3 10 Central Wellnss - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 7:00 AA - Barn	4 10:00 Yoga-Barn 5:00 Music Committee 6:30 - Kiwanis 7:00 WAA - Barn	5 12 Noon - AA 6:00 Bible Study	6 10 Central Wellness - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 5:30 NA - Barn 7:30 Choir Practice	7 12 Noon LOWV	8
9 YOUTH SUNDAY 10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship	10 10 Central Wellnss - Barn 11:00 Commodities Distribution 12-5 Bridge Club 7:00 AA - Barn	11 10:00 Yoga -Barn 7:00 Council 7:00 WAA - Barn	12 12 Noon - AA 2:30 Knitting - Barn 3:00 Deacons 6:00 Bible Study	13 10 Central Wellness - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 5:30 NA - Barn 7:30 Choir Practice	14 12 Noon-LOWV	15 10am-3pm Antique Appraisal
16 10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship	17 10 Central Wellnss - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 5:00 Trustees 7:00 AA - Barn	18 10:00 Yoga -Barn 6:30 Christian Ed 6:30 Kiwanis 7:00 WAA - Barn	19 12 Noon - AA 2:30 Knitting - Barn	20 10 Central Wellness - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 5:30 NA - Barn 7:30 Choir Practice	21 12 Noon LOWV	22 8:30 a.m. BCD Volunteer Breakfast
23 ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY 10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship	24 10 Central Wellnss - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 7:00 AA - Barn	25 10:00 Yoga -Barn 7 WAA - Barn	26 12 Noon - AA 2:30 Knitting - Barn	27 10 Central Wellness - Barn 12-5 Bridge Club 5:30 NA - Barn 7:30 Choir Practice	28 CLASSIC JUNQUE SALE	29 CLASSIC JUNQUE SALE
30 10:15 Church School 10:30 Worship 12:00 Living with Loss						

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Chris Stone Treasurer
Mary Rodriguez.. Financial Secretary
James Sheets..... Church Moderator
Rosemary Miller Choir Director
Jean Edwards..... Newsletter Editor
Carolina Jones & Katrina Smith..... Christian Ed Coordinators
Hope Kochis Custodian
Nancy Eggleston Secretary

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