

THE PETOSKEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

BELLTOWER

Volume 12 Number 9

October 2007



Dear Friends,

The leaves are changing. The evenings, nights, and early mornings are cooler. As the seasons change, may God bring about His kind of changes in our lives. During these days, I invite you to spend time with God in prayer and reading your Bible to understand what “God changes” might be on your horizon.

Over this past week, I’ve often thought about a quote from a book I read on a plane to South Africa, “Americans have watches and no time. Africans have no watches and have time.” There is so much truth in that for so many of us. From rising between 5 and 6 AM for exercise, lunches to be made, children to ferry hither and thither, work, meetings (you can fill in the blanks for your life).....most of us have “watches but no time.”

Herein lies the rub for people who desire to mature in their Christian walk and relationship with God—maturing takes time. Not just the living of years, but the task of spending time in actions that lead to spiritual growth. The writer of Hebrews tells us to spend time in gatherings for worship, prayer, study, and fellowship (Hebrew 10:25). The apostle Paul was forever using phrases like, “at just the right time.” (Romans 5:6 for example) Referring to “chronos” moments in our lives. Moments that God means to reshape and define what is or should be happening in our lives.

The writer of Ecclesiastes tells us that there is a time for everything under Heaven (chapter 3) and the writer goes on to tell us that “God has set eternity in our hearts.” What time are we giving to allow God to develop that eternity in our hearts? Are we people with watches and no time?

May God help us to recognize the “chronos” moments of our lives.

Pastor James

Our Mission: We exist to seek and nurture lifelong followers and servants of Jesus Christ.

Dr. James Mitchum, Pastor
Deborah Cole, Ministries Director
Sue Perry, Office Manager
LeaAnne Montel, Children’s Ministries
Michelle Mitchum,
Early Service Music Director
Gertrude Fairbairn, Organist
Charles Murray, Custodian
Joan Kahgee,
and Megan Mainland, Nursery

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Sunday Services are held at 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. The second service is broadcast live on WJML, 1110 AM .
Communion is offered on the first Sunday of each month. Sunday School for children, youth and adults is at 10:00 a.m.

Experienced childcare is available throughout the morning for children ages 0-3. Parents are given pagers as they drop off their children for added peace of mind and safety.



**Confirmation Sunday - October 7
One Service at 10:00 AM**

Sunday, October 7, we will celebrate Confirmation Sunday with ONE Worship Service at 10:00 AM. On this morning nine of our young people will make a commitment to our church family, and you, in return, will make a commitment back to them. Please come to celebrate this very important day in the life of our church and of these wonderful young people.

Put these dates on your calendar:

Sunday, Nov. 18, 2 PM: Bob Mayo, District Superintendent, meets with Staff Parish Relations Committee.

**Sunday, Nov. 18, 3 PM:
D.S. holds our Annual Church Conference
Please plan to attend!**

**Order Your 2008 Upper Room
Yearly Discipline Book!**

Please place your order by November 15 on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. The cost is \$10.20 each if the church places an order for ten copies; \$12 each otherwise.

Statistically Speaking

August 05: One Service: 254
August 12: Tent Service: 325
August 19: One Service: 229
August 26: One Service: 246

Total Attendance for the month of August: 1054

YTD General Operating Fund Income: \$290,941
(With 310 giving units, this averages \$117.32 per month per person/family given to the Gen. Op. Fund.)
Year-to-date Expenses: \$274,139
Year-to-date **Income** or Loss as of August 31, 2007:
\$16,802
Mortgage Balance as of August 31, 2007:
\$872,627

Thanks to your generosity in the month of August, the following projects have felt the touch of God's people:

World Hunger/UMCOR: \$120
UMCOR Globes: \$95
Manna: \$33
Rural Life Sunday: \$5
Habitat for Humanity/Church Hammers: \$45

2007 Budgets:

General Operating Fund

Projected Income: \$442,930
Projected Expenses: \$441,822
Projected Difference: \$1108

Church/Parsonage Building Maintenance Fund

Projected Income: \$44,010
Projected Expense: \$29,000
Projected Difference: \$15,010

*Respectfully submitted,
Sue Herrington, Finance Officer*

Cooperative Ministries

Our UMCOR Globes will be at both sanctuary doors on October 14 for your donations. With current hurricanes, tornados and earthquakes, 100% of every dollar that we send to the United Methodist Committee on Relief is put to good use. These dollars assist in these disasters wherever there is a need.

The Great Gospel Sing-Out of the North also takes place on October 14, at 3:00 p.m. in our church. Churches of the Cooperative Ministries Group of Little Traverse Bay are Alanson, Harbor Springs, Horton Bay, Greensky, Petoskey and Indian River.

This once-a-year benefit for UMCOR has been held for eight years and has raised \$82,328! The Ministries Group Churches will be joined by other Grand Traverse District Churches for an afternoon of song, musical groups performances and hymn singing by the audience.

We hope you can join us and bring a friend!

Meredith Richter
Petoskey Representative



UMW

We are working to build a supportive community among women; to be an advocate for the oppressed and dispossessed with special attention to the needs of women and children; and to engage in activities that foster growth in the Christian faith, mission education, and Christian social involvement. All women of the church are encouraged to attend.

Wednesday, October 17
at 11 a.m.....bring a sack lunch

Make plans NOW.....Save your Blood for our Drive – Just in time for Halloween!

Anyone 18 years and older can donate blood!

Date: Monday, October 15
Time: 12:30 – 6:30 PM
Where: Petoskey Red Cross Building

PUMC is sponsoring this drive and we need your help – Sign up on the narthex bulletin board, or at the table outside the sanctuary. Please contact Emily Calhoon for more information.

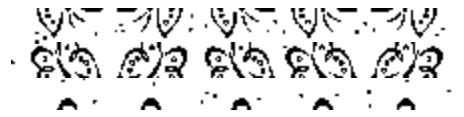
Trustees Report...

The Trustees are working on several projects including the new fence barrier near the garage and the storm drainage in the back parking area. Tim Brubaker lead a crew of volunteers over several days to correct problems there. Volunteers included: Dan Cole, Eugene Juday, Ginger & Richard Downey, Fred Fry, Ron VandenBrink. Thanks to all who have helped.

New insulation is in the East wall of the sanctuary. More insulation will be added to other sections of church walls. This should improve heat retention this winter and lower our bills. Brook Barney is finishing the walls.

Our next trustees meeting is October 9th at 6:00 room 11.

Jan Serra
Chair, Trustees



Celebration Garden

A wise saying of Barbara Damrosch states, “Good gardening is very simple, really. You just have to thank like a plant.” Over the summer, our committee got a little closer to understanding the above statement. The Celebration Garden met many of our expectations, but we learned some things also!

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 10, at 2:00 p.m. in the Celebration Garden. This is a Fall workbee, so please come and join us. The plan is that final trimming, weeding, deadheading and bulb planting will be done. In the event of rain, we have scheduled October 24, at 2:00 p.m. as an alternate date.

Please pick up a brochure and packet that explains what our Celebration Garden is all about. You will find these on the Welcome Table at the east entrance of the church.

If you should have any questions or concerns, please contact me.
Meredith Richter (347-9717)
Chair, Celebration Garden

Help Stock the Manna Pantry!

October: Thanksgiving collection for turkeys; and boxed mashed potatoes, stuffing and gravy.

November: Spaghetti sauce and noodles.

December: Potluck - bring in any nonperishable.

Tuna, baby food and cereal are always welcome. Remember, if you do not have time to shop, leave a donation in the can in the narthex and the Manna Team will shop for you.

Emmaus

UMW Fall Rummage Sale—October 12 & 13:

The Walk to Emmaus gets its name from the story in Luke 24:13-35, which provides the central image for the three-day experience and follow-up. It helps the local church to strengthen members through the further development of Christian disciples and leaders. It's a wonderful short course in Christianity where you are bathed in the love of Jesus Christ. If you would like to attend, there are applications and brochures on the welcome center or you can call Bob/Judy Brummeler (347-8995) or Susan/Bob Wirgau (347-5463) or Pastor James or Deb Cole for additional information. The walks are rapidly approaching, but there is still room for more people to attend. Men: October 18-21 Women: October 25-28. If you attend, you will be glad you did! (Partial or full scholarships are available.)

What is needed? Helpers, food, buyers and rummage! If you can help out all the time, one day, an hour or two, or any amount of time would be helpful!!!

- o Tuesday, October 9, 8:30 a.m. until noon (Set-Up)
- o Wednesday, October 10, 8:30 a.m. until noon (Set-Up)
- o Thursday, October 11, 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. (Set-Up)
- o Friday, October 12, 7:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. (The Sale!!!)
- o Saturday, October 13, 7:30 a.m. until noon (The Sale!!!)
- o Saturday, October 13, 11:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. (Clean up & Break Down)

Sign up in the narthex or let Susan Wirgau or MJ Dick know of your plans. We also need to have food donated to keep up the strength of the hungry, busy workers. If you can't assist by being at the sale, please consider donating food. The food list can also be found on the sign-up board in the narthex or you can ask Susan Wirgau to e-mail you a copy of what is still needed. (Note: people who help with set up also can make arrangements to buy things—getting the cream of the crop!!!)

Of course we also need your GOOD & CLEAN rummage donated. Please put your donated items in the garage until October 7. October 7 until noon on October 11, bring your rummage to the Fellowship Hall. No rummage can be received after noon on Thursday, October 11. We are also in need of paper grocery sacks for the bag sale on Saturday. (Please, NO plastic bags—we are still over-run with plastic bags from the spring sale!!)

The UMW spends their funds on local projects, outfitting our church kitchen with special equipment, and state/national/international projects that aid women and children. All of the above are needed to make the rummage sale successful so the UMW can have funds to help with these worthwhile projects.

You may contact Susan Wirgau at 347-5463 or 838-5986 or onthebay@chartermi.net or MJ Dick at 347-6438 or mjlogcabin2@aol.com

~ Adult Sunday School Classes ~

The Question of God

Room 9 - 12 weeks - Led by Doug Mantha

Explores two diametrically opposed views of human existence through the lives of Sigmund Freud and CS Lewis. Both wrote passionately on the subject of God's existence, rigorously and relentlessly pursuing truth, and both displayed courage of conviction in the ways they lived their lives. Their intellectual work strives to answer not only what we should believe, but also how we should live.

The Old Testament from the Backside

Room 10 - 6 weeks - Led by Bob Brummeler

Learn and study Old Testament stories in a different light.

Having a "Mary" Heart in a "Martha" World

Room 11 - 12 weeks - Led by Martha Radcliffe

An invitation for everyone who's ever felt they are not godly enough, are not loving enough, and are not doing enough.

Sharing Jesus Without Fear

Room 10 - 4 weeks - begins October 28 - Led by Sue Herrington

Have you had the opportunity to share your faith, but didn't? This study will show you how to be free from failure when witnessing.....and will change your life!

Do you.....

have a knack for making a joyful noise unto the Lord? Check out the music opportunities in the Classes & Events Brochure or contact June Zoerhof, Michelle Mitchum, or Jane Andrews.

Do you use *Facebook*? Join the Petoskey United Methodist Church Group!



Wednesday Night Potlucks

You are invited to join the church family potluck on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. This is

the way it works: The kitchen crew will prepare the meat and potatoes and those coming will bring items to complete the meal. We provide the dishes so there is no need to bring yours from home. This is a 'pay for itself' meal and so we ask persons attending to donate at least \$1. For those who can afford it, please plan to pay \$1.50 per person or \$5 a family. Costs for meat have risen and so our costs have gone up. Help is needed to clean up after: Clearing off and cleaning the tables and washing and drying the dishes. When many hands help, we can be done by 7:00 p.m. Please plan to join in! For more information, please call Bill or Jo Snedden (347-0748).

There will be no family potluck on October 3, as the Petoskey Lions' Club will be putting on a Pancake Supper. You may purchase your tickets from Hubert Hayes or Betty Doherty.

Staff Appreciation

We are around to the autumn again and it is time to remember our church staff and share a word of appreciation with them. As we have for several years, your Staff Parrish Relations committee encourages you to take the opportunity of Pastor Appreciation month, during October, and extend that recognition to all of our church staff.

It is a time to share a thought, a card, a testimony or hey, even a lunch, with your favorite staff member. They provide services to the congregation, often behind the scenes, that make our church life and Sunday worship the smooth operation that we savor week to week. Please take this opportunity to express your appreciation. Members of our paid staff are:

James Mitchum, Pastor
Deb Cole, Director of Ministries
LeaAnne Montel, Childrens' Ministry Coordinator
Emily Calhoon, Ministries Secretary
Chuck Murray, Custodian
Sue Perry, Secretary
Susan Wirgau, Finance Secretary
Sue Herrington, Finance Officer
Michelle Mitchum, Early Service Music Coordinator
June Zoerhof, Second Service Music Coordinator
Gertrude Fairbairn, Organist
Joan Kahgee and Megan Mainland, Nursery Staff

Share your smile, a thank you and a compliment! A little appreciation goes a long way!!

*Blessings,
Chuck Smith, Chair
Staff Parrish Relations*

Small Groups

Men's Growth Group

Every Tuesday at 7:00 a.m. - Pastor's Office - Led by Pastor James
Exploring biblical themes and life application each week

Women's Bible Study

Too Busy Not to Pray

Thursdays, 9:00-11:00 a.m. - Youth Room

Led by Emily Calhoon

Parents' Growth Group

Personality Plus for Parents by Florence Littauer

Every second and fourth Wednesday - 6:30-8:00 p.m. (8 sessions)

Led by Matt & Laurie Taylor

This class is held in conjunction with Kids' Adventure Club.

Adult Helpers Needed

(Must be safety certified or willing to become certified)

We have twelve youth signed up and now we need you; two adults to work with a Youth Drama Team. If this is something you are called to, please contact Deb Cole for information.

We also need a person to work with Emily for the Liturgical Dance Team. No experience required. One hour per week. Contact Emily at emily.calhoon@petoskeyumc.org

Spoken Groove

October 7th – 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Come join us for an evening of FFF!!!
(That is: Fun, Fellowship, and Food)

We have booked Peter and Paul to perform at PUMC. “*Spoken Groove is more than just rock n’ roll, funky white boy dancing, guitar wizardry & incredible words; it’s a world where creativity is deep enough to be read, but playful and innocent enough to be fed to children. Here we trade adventure stories by flashlight under cover, and the pictures of our faces remind us of the friends we love.*” Stay after and meet them in the fellowship hall, get an autograph, and enjoy some refreshments. Check out their website at www.spokengroove.com. A freewill offering will be received during the program.



October Birthdays



02	Louis Rasmussen Julie Larson Ann Farr-Armstrong	11	Samuel Bailey	20	Kevin Starkey Margo Hodder Ron VandenBrink
05	Genevieve Buckstiegel Amanda Tibble	12	Beckie Rensel Emerson Meyer Douglas Hoffman Jean Elder	22	Joanne Snedden Dick Garman
06	Beth Rynbrandt Jared Goodrich	13	Amy Hotchkiss Laura Meyer	23	Vicky Bester Meghan Mitchum
07	Charles Smith	14	Robert Smith Ronald Hausler	25	Mary Brubacher Martha Palmateer
08	Karen Starkey Bud Shanley Pat Scott Marin Hoffman	15	Lexie Brummeler	26	Patricia Peek
09	Dana DeGroot Eric Raynal Jennifer Jones	16	Ruth Evashevski Barbara Fannin	27	Grant Kennedy
10	William Snedden III	17	John McFall	30	Hank Kuehl
		18	Kylea Montel		
		19	Scott Rynbrandt		