

THE PETOSKEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

BELLTOWER

Volume 12 Number 8

September 2007

Dear Friends:

May God's love, wisdom and care be part of your life today.

Last night I had barn duty at the Emmet-Charlevoix County Fair. Barn duty is when you take a shift (this year it was Thursday night from 3 AM to 7 AM) (Who signed me up for that?). On your shift you wander through the animal barns and make sure that none of the animals are in distress. It's part of what a parent does if their son or daughter has a horse or other animal at the fair. There was a 4-H fair where I grew up, but being a town kid, I visited the horse and cattle barns as a "visitor". As I wandered through the barns this morning, I wondered, "How did my life come to this?" OK, I'm totally losing the point here.

In the early 1900's, youth agricultural clubs in America joined forces under the name "4-H Club." The name itself came from a high school educator who suggested that to help young people reach their full potential, their teachers had to engage, "the head, the heart, and the hands," to which a fourth "H" was later added... "health".

I have no idea if this teacher was a believer in God. Yet the idea is really Biblical—Old Testament and New Testament. God through Moses, and later, Jesus, commanded God's people to love the Lord with all their heart, mind, soul, and strength. God was addressing the whole person. Beginning September 9, you will have the opportunity to participate in classes and small groups for all ages that will engage your head, heart, hands, and health here at Petoskey United Methodist Church. I invite you to come, find a new opportunity to learn, and grow in Christ and in love with our believers.

God bless,

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.

The Trustees Report.....

We had our annual parsonage walk-through in August. Several repairs need to be done on the parsonage, including replacement of the lower-level windows and adding support to the window wall. This will prevent further sagging of that wall as well as minimizing the winter heat loss. The west family room wall will be repaired, now that the rainwater has been diverted from the home's foundation, and the entire room will be painted after the window replacement is completed. The hallway carpeting, which is stained due to a water leak, will be replaced with ceramic tile. Volunteers wanting to help should contact George Winn.

Thank you so much to Larry & Marilyn Mann who repainted part of the church hallways!

Steve Fink will be doing Sunday School room repairs as well as the installation of cork strips in the Sunday School classrooms.

The new gravel and small bushes in the parking lot look great, thanks to Dan Cole.

Soon you'll notice a wind-break at the portico entrance. This will protect our new doors from wind damage. Don Weber is the man to contact if you wish to help with this building project.

All of the above repairs are possible only because of generous donations to the church maintenance fund.

Jan Serra
Trustees Chairperson

Habitat Team - The Church Hammers!

**Annual Swiss Steak Dinner
at PUMC
to benefit Habitat for Humanity
Wednesday, September 12
4:30-7:00 PM**

The Boy Scouts will be cooking! Get your tickets now from the Church Hammers' Team, Betty Doherty and in the PUMC office. (\$8 adult, \$4 Child). No tickets will be sold at the door.

We need desserts (preferably pies). Contact Barb Smith if you can help. Youth who can work at the dinner...contact Deb Cole. Thank you for supporting this mission of PUMC and six other local churches to help families in Emmet County.

Statistically Speaking

July 01: One Service: 217

July 08: One Service: 179

July 15: One Service: 236

July 22: One Service: 227

July 29: One Service: 231

Total Attendance for the month of July: 1090

YTD General Operating Fund Income: \$262,270
(With 310 giving units, this averages \$120.87 per month per person/family given to the Gen. Op. Fund.)

Year-to-date Expenses: \$240,173

Year-to-date **Income** or Loss as of July 31, 2007:
\$22,097

Mortgage Balance as of July 31, 2007:
\$877,318

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

World Hunger/UMCOR: \$135

Great Gospel Singout Globes: \$73

Kids Hope: \$500

Manna: \$36

Handyman Fund: \$125

Habitat for Humanity/Church Hammers: \$40

South Africa Medical Exp.: \$10,105

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

Financial Peace University

John Wesley said, "Earn all you can. Save all you can. Give all you can." Those can all be tough to do, but taking the Financial Peace University (FPU) class helps you get to a point where you can do all of these things! Are you in debt and can't see any way out? Do you think it's okay to make the minimum payment each month on your credit card? Do you have too much money at the end of the month? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you need to take FPU. We have had several sessions now, and everyone involved has said it was worth far more to them than the price of taking the class. Cost is \$100 for the materials. Full and partial scholarships are available. Classes begin Tuesday, September 25 at 6:45 p.m. and meet for 13 weeks. Attending one orientation session is required and those will be held Tuesdays at 6:45 p.m. on September 4 and 11 and also during the Sunday School hour on Sunday, September 16. Contact the leaders, Bob & Susan Wirgau, for additional information (347-5463 or onthebay@chartermi.net).



UMW Fall Rummage Sale to be Held October 12 & 13

Come one! Come all! There's a part for everyone! It's the United Methodist Women's Fall Rummage Sale and we need partners from the church to do many things:

Workers: Sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex—many hands make light work. You can work one shift, one whole day or every day. Lots of choices in the time slots you can work.

Food: The workers need to be fed!

Rummage: Clean those closets, the garage, the shed, the attic, the cabinet above the refrigerator. Haven't used it in more than a year? Then donate it! You may bring in your rummage to the garage starting Sept. 27.

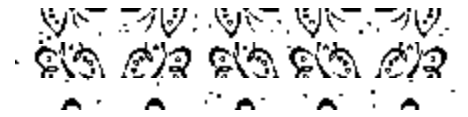
United Methodist Women Meet This Month



The next UMW meeting is Wednesday, September 26, at 11:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. ALL women are invited. (Note: This is not the usual date for UMW meetings.) This will be a potluck; please bring a dish to pass. Bring your ideas for future events and programs to revitalize our UMW group for the coming year!

Emmaus

Have you ever wondered about the Emmaus Walks we hold at the church? If so, plan to come to our Introduction to Emmaus Event on Wednesday, September 19, at 7:00 p.m., hosted by Judy & Bob Brummeler. If you cannot make it that night, then contact Judy or Bob or Susan or Bob Wirgau to arrange an alternate time. Both of the walks are at our church; the men's walk is October 18-21, and the women's walk is October 25-28. Brochures and applications are on the Welcome Center table in the narthex. The application is also available online at www.straitsareaemmaus.com.



Mother Nature's class is always in session. We have learned over the summer, and look forward to the lessons we are to learn this fall.

Our September meeting will be held at the church on Wednesday, the 19th, at 4:00 p.m. We will be discussing further plans for fall and for putting the garden to rest for the winter.

Our Celebration Garden is more than a place to enjoy the flowers and the Reflection Fountain. Its purpose is to provide a place on church property, for the interment of the ashes of members and friends of Petoskey United Methodist Church. In this way, it is a mission of our church. We appreciate your donations to the garden, as they are the sole source of income in the ongoing upkeep of this special place.

Check out the details of the Celebration Garden in our brochure and packet that can be found on the Welcome Center table in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Meredith Richter (347-9717)
Chair, Celebration Garden

Cooperative Ministries

John Wesley said, "Do all the good you can, in all the places you can, to all the people you can."

In following this statement, the Cooperative Ministries Group of Northern Michigan chose the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) as the means to assist those in greatest need, at times of disaster.

Our church gives contributions to UMCOR through the monthly Globes. September 9 is your opportunity to make a donation. Make out your checks to PUMC, with UMCOR Globes on the memo line. Every dollar counts!

Petoskey will be one of several UM churches who will join together at the Great Gospel Sing-Out of the North on October 14. Mark your calendar! Monies collected during the year and on that day, will be tallied. All these funds will go to UMCOR.

Meredith Richter (347-9717)

Petoskey Representative

Cooperative Ministries Group

Member Care/Evangelism

New sign-up sheets are out for Greeters. Please sign up for a turn at greeting people, especially visitors. It is fun and only costs you a smile and a handshake!

Open House: Our annual fall kick-off Open House is scheduled for Sunday, September 9. Sunday School starts then also. Please consider inviting **F**riends, **R**elatives, **A**ssociates, and **N**eighbors who do not already attend a church. We have lots of opportunities for them to check out. There are Sunday School Classes, Missions, Small Groups, and other Ministries. There is something of interest for everyone! Sign-up in the narthex!