



July 19, 2017

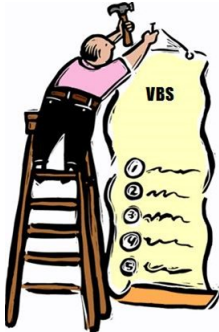
The Mission of Sparta United Methodist Church:
Helping each other follow Jesus' way (John 14:6)
The Vision: That through Him all might be saved (John 3:17)



A weekly newsletter of the Sparta United Methodist Church

Volunteers of Vacation Bible School
Meeting July 19 @ 6 PM

Please meet in Wesley Hall at church. Contact Heather Westra if you have any questions.



Help is needed right after morning worship service to July 23 set up for Vacation Bible School. No experience is necessary—just your willingness to assist.

We will also need help on VBS Sunday July 30, after morning worship, removing the decorations. Your assistance that day, too, is very much appreciated.

Food Donations Needed for VBS

Please drop off the following food donations at church ASAP: string cheese, popped popcorn, carrots, ranch dressing, pretzel sticks, mini chocolate chips, mini marshmallows, and graham cracker cereal. All kinds of fruit are needed. Please text or call Heather Westra (322.3267) with what you're bringing and when so that it will be fresh.

Pancake Breakfast



Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser July 22
7:30 - 9:30 AM
Sparta Civic Center

Enjoy a delicious breakfast and support our United Methodist Men's missions. (The Free Community Breakfast held the fourth Saturday of the month at Sparta UMC will not take place in July.)

Rural Life Special Offering July 23

In conjunction with Sparta's Town & Country Days, a special offering for Rural Life Sunday will celebrate the rural heritage of The United Methodist Church.

Highlights: Church Council Meeting July 11

Appointments approved: Kay Chase—Memorials; Ruby Skibinski—Health Coordinator; Mindy Tilli—Missions.

The General Fund is balanced; Ministry Shares are paid to date (50% of the yearly expense). Celebrate!

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Schedules

Sundays

10:10 AM ..... Morning Worship Celebration
..... Sunday School for Pre-K – Grade 5 during morning worship service

Tuesdays

9:30 AM ..... Girl Talk Study Group

10:10 AM Worship Attendant Volunteers July 23

Soundboard ..... Chad & Shelly Murdock
Head Usher ..... Justin Westra
Nursery Assistant ..... Elizabeth Hartman
Greeters ..... Tom & Nancy Christopher
Intercessory Prayer ..... Joyce Osbeck
Scripture Reader ..... Julie Barnum
Welcome Table ..... Bonnie Wilkinson
Fellowship Time ..... Hal & Linda Lindsay
Jack & Jeanne Rhymer

Save the Date

July 19 6 PM ..... VBS Volunteers meeting
7 PM ..... Parade Safety meeting @ Sparta Civic Center
July 19-22 ..... Sparta Town & Country Days
July 22 7:30 AM .... Pancake Fundraiser @ Civic Center sponsored by Sparta UM Men
10:30 AM ..UMW water distribution
Noon ..... Town & Country Days Parade
July 23 ..... Rural Life Special Offering
..... Set up for Vacation Bible School immediately after worship service
July 24-27 9-NOON .. Vacation Bible School
July 25 6 PM ..... GriefShare get-together
July 30 ..... VBS Sunday
..... Removal of VBS decoration please stay after service to help
..... Golden Cross Special Offering
July 31 7 PM ..... SPRC meeting
August 1 6:30 PM .. Church Council
August 8 4:30 PM .. Feeding America Food Truck
6 PM ..... Finance committee meeting
August 9 2 PM ..... Mary/Martha Circle Tea Party
August 10 6:30 PM .. Trustees meeting
August 11 5:30 PM .. Sanctuary in use

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Income is 48% projection to date; expenses are 46%.

Sparta's Annual Church Charge Conference is 7 PM Monday, Nov. 20.

Pastor Phil would like people to call him directly anytime (cell 799.4281). His home visits happening now are very important; they are going very well.

Light fixtures and a dishwasher have been obtained for the parsonage. The downstairs needs work yet. Gypsy moths are a problem right now for the trees—some damage. Windows for church basement have been ordered. Stained-glass window in the sanctuary is being taken care of. Pastor reported that the Trustees and volunteers are phenomenal.

Sparta Rotary is moving its meeting location to the Sparta High School effective this fall. The Sparta United Methodist Women will no longer provide meals.

Upcoming Worship & Events Schedule: Vacation Bible School July 24–27 (Mon.–Thurs.) 9 AM–noon. Back-to-School Kickoff August 29 6–8 PM.

A connection has been made with a contemporary praise band, Carpenter's Cross. Check out their web-site:

<https://sites.google.com/site/carpenterscrossband/>. They are interested in worshipping with Sparta UMC. Brandon Ingersoll is willing to coordinate a worship team.

Hold fast to the Bible as the [main] anchor of your liberties; write its precepts on your hearts and practice them in your lives. To the influence of this book we are indebted for all the progress made in true civilization, and to this we must look as our guide in the future.

—Ulysses S. Grant



Joanne Dake—now at Metron of Cedar Springs, Rm 44

Ken Losey—Debra Wilson's dad, having severe back pain

Vic Bassett—hospitalized

Jim Kane Family—Jim passed away July 6

Gail Brophy—recovering from back surgery

Rusty Ritsema—Julie Bowden's brother-in-law recovering from cancer surgery

Emmy Scott—in Spain for a few weeks

All military and public service personnel



## Hero Central VBS Registration Form

Student's Name Age & Last School Grade Completed

\_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian & Emergency Contact Information

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Best phone number to contact \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies/Medical Information/Other \_\_\_\_\_

Dismissal Information: Person(s) who may pick up child from VBS: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ (initial) By this child's participation in this church activity, I agree that photographs video, audio and any other audio/visual material of my child recorded during this program may be reproduced/used by Sparta United Methodist Church. I release Sparta UMC from any claim against them as a result of injury or illness incurred during the course of participation in VBS activities.



Contact the office with updates and additions.

23 Jeanne Drier  
Ted Eary

7/24/93  
Chad & Shelly Murdock

24 Mary Eggleston

26 Heather Braspeninx

7/25/53  
Roger & Joyce Osbeck

28 Keith DeGlopper

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WEBSITE • [www.spartaumc.com](http://www.spartaumc.com)

OFFICE HOURS • Monday – Thursday, 9 AM – 1 PM

WORSHIP TIME • Sunday 10:10 AM

We are a connected ministry. Check out

[Michigan Area United Methodist Church](#)  
[United Methodist, Grand Rapids District](#)  
[United Methodist News Service Daily Digest](#)



Articles for next week's *News Flash* are due on Tuesday.