



July 26, 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



Having a Great Time at This Summer's Vacation Bible School

Over 70 children, helpers and adults shared in the many ways Christ works in their lives. Hero Central at Sparta UMC was inspirational and fun! Here all about it and enjoy the music as the children explain the importance of being a hero for Christ.



How to Obtain a DVD and/or CD of Our Church Services

Complete a "Request for Copy of Service on DVD and/or CD" form found on the soundboard in the sanctuary. The form may be left in the blue basket with your Communication Card or with the sound technicians. The recording will be available for pick up after 10 AM the following day in the church office and during the week during church office hours (Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 1 PM).

There is no charge for this service.

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 30

Soundboard Doug Shupe & Kathy Reed
Head Usher Alan Hartman
Nursery Assistants Barb & Andrea Taylor
Greeters Steve & Julie Barnum
Intercessory Prayer Bonnie Shupe
Scripture Reader Joyce Osbeck
Welcome Table Tudy Middleton
Fellowship Time Steve, Terri & Leighann Miling

Save the Date

July 30 Vacation Bible School 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
August 12 Ostman/Siegel Wedding
August 15 6 PM..... GriefShare Potluck
August 25 Sanctuary in use
August 26 Jackson/Mavima Wedding



The Sparta UM Women are collecting the following items to give away to needy children. Please help by donating **backpacks** and winter outerwear (**coats, hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, and headbands**).

Check your closets, garage sales, clearance and mark-downs for these items. Items can be given to Margaret Collins or any UMW member, or can be left in the assigned bin in Wesley Hall. Thank you for your help in this wonderful community mission.



Alan & Mary Hartman & Family—the death's of Alan's uncle, Mary's sister-in-law, and Alan's friend's dad Kelly—Karen Marohn's cousin, July 24 bariatric surgery for weight loss

Pat Marvin—Diane Jensen's friend, health issues
Lyndsey Reisma's father-in-law—poor health
All military and public service personnel

Golden Cross Sunday Blesses

Special Offering July 30

Golden Cross Sunday provides an offering opportunity to support:

- camperships for summer camp
- children who have been abused or neglected, and
- seniors who have outlived their savings.

Three organizations benefit from Golden Cross Sunday: United Methodist Outdoor and Retreat Ministries, Methodist Children's Home Society, and United Methodist Retirement Communities (UMRC) Foundation. Thank you very much for your support of these ministries and the vulnerable populations they serve.

SAMARITAN FUND



Sparta United Methodist Church established a Samaritan Fund in 2011 which enables us to help immediately and to receive and distribute money to people in need. The Fund is a source of charitable funding to benefit those who are not mem-

bers or regular attendees of our congregation, giving priority to people made known to the church through the web of relationships of our congregation. The Fund is authorized by the pastor and two lay leaders and is funded by gifts designed for the Samaritan Fund and gifts from general mission giving as allowed by the Missions Committee.

The Fund balance is low and needs your help. Please make a gift to Sparta UMC, noting "Samaritan Fund" on your envelope or memo. Your donation helps those God sends to us in at-risk situations of rent and utility shut off.



Bring Your Family Fare / Econofoods Receipts to Church

Thanks to the many families and friends who have donated their Family Fare receipts to the church. Since last month, another \$10,000+ has been received in Director Your Dollars, for a total of \$56,287 to date! When we have collected \$150,000 in receipts, Missions will receive \$1,000. Leave *entire* receipts in the blue basket at worship, the white mail box in Wesley Hall, or the church office.

(FYI: some purchases do not apply, like gasoline)

Receipts that qualify can come from any of the 160 Spartan-Nash-owned retail stores or fuel centers in nine states.



Upcoming Anniversaries & Birthdays

Contact the office with updates and additions.

July 30	JoEllen Pinckney	7/31/70	Paul & Pat Spangenberg
August 2	Mark Reed	8/1	Ted & Athena Eary
August 3	Mary Ellen Kimble	8/1/09	John & Salina Eggers
		8/2/57	Clare & Tudy Middleton
		8/4/51	John & Doris Snyder

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WEBSITE • 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.