



August 29, 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



We Need Your Pictures

Don't forget to forward your pictures of the August 29 Back-to-School Kickoff to the church office for our newsletter (spartaumc.spartaumc.com).



A piece of carpeting has been donated to the church office that will fit nicely in the breezeway. Padding is needed as well as volunteers who can do the job.

Please contact Trustee Chairperson Jeanne Drier if you can help.



Coming Soon

2017 Stewardship Trip Presence



Bishop David Alan Bard calls for prayers for those in the path of Hurricane Harvey and offers ways we can all help.

Response to Hurricane Harvey

A message from Bishop David Alan Bard Michigan Area of The United Methodist Church

Greetings in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the peace and power of the Holy Spirit.

Like many of you, I have been watching the news of the devastating impact of Hurricane Harvey on the Texas coast. Our hearts go out to every person whose home, livelihood and life have been affected by this powerful storm. I have been praying for the safety and well-being of all people in the affected areas, including friends I've made through the years in The Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, Louisiana Conference of The United Methodist Church, Rio Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church and Central Texas Conference. I also pray for those offering assistance like the first responders and UMCOR - United Methodist Committee On Relief. I know you join me in prayer, and I also know that Michigan United Methodists want to offer help.

(Continued on next page)

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 September 3

- Soundboard Brandon Ingersoll & Kerry Emelander
Head Usher Justin Westra
Acolytes Abby & Dylan
Nursery Assistant Amy Brillinger
Greeters Wendell & Debra Wilson
Intercessory Prayer Bonnie Wilkinson
Scripture Reader Kerry Emelander
Welcome Table Jackie Brewer
Fellowship Time Paul & Barb Bettes Bill & Barb Taylor

Save the Date

- Sept. 3 Loren Mote, guest preacher
Sept. 4 Labor Day (offices closed)
Sept. 6 7 PM Adult Choir practice
Sept. 7 6:30 PM Church Council
Sept. 10 Noah & Liz Kamper visit
Mission Peru presentation at Fellowship Time
Sept. 11 6:30 PM Staff-Parish Relations Committee
Sept. 12 6:30 PM GriefShare
Sept. 13 9:30 AM Mary/Martha Circle
Sept. 14 Noon-7 Community Blood Drive
6:30 PM Trustees
Sept. 17 Christian Education Special Offering

Sunday School Kickoff!
Wear your favorite football team t-shirt or jersey.



- Blessing of Teachers
11:15-1:15 Flu Shot Clinic

Here are a few ways you can do so:

- Assemble relief kits <http://www.umcor.org/.../Relief-S.../Relief-Supply-Kits/Cleaning>
- Give to UMCOR's relief and recovery efforts with gifts to U.S. Disaster Response Advance #901670 (make check payable to "Sparta UMC", noting "UMC— Harvey" on the memo line.)
- Donate only those items requested by UMCOR.
- Please prepare, but wait for an invitation to volunteer from UMCOR in the regions affected. We need to let first responders complete their mission before we arrive.

Please follow our web page news.michiganumc.org for the latest information on our efforts to help those affected by Hurricane Harvey. Thank you for your prayers and concern.

Grace and Peace,

David A Bard

David Alan Bard
Michigan Area



The Missions Team is looking for a chairperson for this year's Sparta Area CROP Walk taking place

Oct. 8. Please contact Missions Chair Paul Schulz for more details.



Please keep Pastor Phil in your prayers as he will be sharing the Word on Sept. 3 with the Christian community of Lake Louise
Vic Bassett—declining health
Students returning to school

Ken Losey—Debra Wilson's father, bad back, losing arms and leg sensation, no appetite, MRI scheduled
The Family of Joanne Dake—Joanne passed away 8/18
People of Texas—in the path of Hurricane Harvey
Deloris Bidenger—friend of Diane Jensen, broken hip



(above) Winter 1998. Removable altar railings made in 1996 from oak. Some of the bottom rails are from the old church altar.



August 2017. Railings renovated to accommodate new altar layout.



Thank you Dave & Joanna Huizenga for restructuring the altar railings to accommodate the new altar layout. Your craftsmanship and dedication to a beautiful worship center is sincerely appreciated.



3	Jean Brand-Lee	9/4/81 Jim & Jane Bosserd
8	Adele Jones Jim Bosserd	
9	Diane Hartman Tena Stuhan	

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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.