



Discover our church website and all of the stories linked to our newsletter at www.spartaumc.com.



Sparta UMC's Town & Country Days Parade Volunteers

What a great time had by all at the parade. Volunteers passed out wristbands for VBS. Thank you Heather Westra and your crew for organizing the church's participation in this community event!

Teresa (Moore) Holmgren—
Sparta grad/retired missionary, battling cancer
Jonathan Rotar—severely injured in an automobile accident, in intensive care



The Celtic Festival in Sparta is August 10 & 11, 2018. Sparta UMC has been given a unique opportunity to be a food vendor on Saturday the 11th (a date just around the corner), selling *bangers and mash* at the Civic Center. We will need several men and women to help fill 2–3 hour shifts of preparing and serving food between 10:30 AM and 7:30 PM. More details to follow, but *please* plan to help.

Please Continue to Bring Your FamilyFare & Econofoods Receipts to Church

Support the missions of Sparta UMC. Bring your receipts to church, leaving the *entire* grocery receipt in the blue basket distributed at the conclusion of the worship service, or leave in the white mail box in Wesley Hall, or in the church office. To date, we have received \$122,516 in Direct Your Dollars receipts!

The Direct Your Dollars amount is noted at the bottom of your cash register receipt. When we have collected \$150,000 in Direct Your Dollar receipts, Missions will receive \$1,000. (FYI: some purchases do not apply, like gasoline, prescriptions, and gift cards from FamilyFare)



Sparta UMC is still in the need of a food coordinator for the Hand2Hand program, which kicks off in September. Our co-chairs, Brenda McCracken and Mary Ellen Kimble, have been trained in the program and will provide step-by-step instructions for the position. Please contact Brenda or Mary Ellen right away.



2018	June	Year to Date
General Operating Income	\$19,699.15	\$114,517.12
Operating Expense	\$16,058.36	\$106,944.35
Difference	\$3,640.79	\$7,572.77
General Fund Balance	\$16,048.61	
2018 Ministry Shares apportioned to Sparta UMC (payable through the General Fund): \$33,867		
Paid to Date: \$0		

Special Gifts & Offerings Received in June

Adult Choir	\$640	Memorials	\$120
Community Breakfast	\$201	Missions.....	\$20
Facility Fund	\$118	Rent	\$340
Hunger	\$35	Samaritan Fund	\$75
Kids Kans	\$262.62		
& 334 food items		Stained Glass Repair	\$200
		Youth Ministries.....	\$1,658.33

Dear Corners of Your Field Church Partner,

WE ARE DELIGHTED to supply (two) "Corners of Your Field" \$10 Cards credited to your church during the most recent calendar-year quarter!

Corners of Your Field \$10 Cash Cards are issued based on a portion of donations given by individuals associated with your church and are fully redeemable at our Jenison and Sparta store locations. They are ideal for benevolence needs . . .

. . . Opportunities to specifically share the "Corners of Your Field" story with your congregation are encouraged as it will almost certainly increase the number of \$10 Cash Cards that we are able to supply to you quarterly. (Go to bottom link of www.mtmthrift.com for more information.)

. . . I look forward to the opportunity to supplying additional COYF Cash Cards to you in the coming months and years.

In His service,
—Jim Kregel

Partner Engagement Advisor
Mel Trotter Ministries Thrift Store



Corners of Your Field is a partnership between the church and Mel Trotter Thrift Stores. The program encourages attenders to be intentional about selecting gently-used household items for donation to Mel Trotter Thrift Stores. This enables Mel Trotter to provide gift cards to the church based on a portion of the value of donations received to be used by those in their care.

Donations to Mel Trotter Thrift Stores may be made at the Jenison, Sparta or any one of many donation boxes located throughout West Michigan. **Including your name, phone number, email address, and the Sparta United Methodist Church name** will permit return of a receipt, a 25% store coupon, and credit toward the church for \$10 Cash Cards used to support those in need.



July 29: Decorate for VBS after church

August 12: Cook & Serve @ the Celtic Festival *Bangers & Mash* food sale, Sparta Civic Center. Festival organizers are expecting that we will serve over 2000 dinners. Please contact Dale or Cindy Young if you have questions, and be sure to let them know you will help!

Schedules

- Tuesdays
 - 9:30 AMGirl Talk Study Group
- Wednesdays
 - 6 PM.....Worship Design Team
- 4th Thursday of the Month
 - 6 PMVision Team
- Sundays
 - 10:10 AMMorning Worship Celebration
 - 10:30 AMPre-K – 5th Grade Sunday School

10:10 AM Worship Attendant Volunteers July 29

- SoundboardChad & Shelly Murdock
- Head UsherAlan Hartman
- Nursery AssistantsBarb/Andrea Taylor
- Welcome TableNaomi Collins
- Intercessory PrayerPaul Schulz
- Scripture ReaderJoanna Huizenga

Save the Date

- July 28 8–10 AMFree Community Breakfast
- July 29–Aug 2Vacation Bible School (5–8 PM)
- July 31GriefShare Potluck CANCELED
- Aug. 5Missionaries Lester & Deborah Dornon
visiting at morning worship service
- Aug. 7 5:45 PMFinance & Stewardship
6:30 PMChurch Council
- Aug. 8 NoonMary/Martha Luncheon
6:30 PMTrustees
- Aug. 11.....Celtic Festival Food Sale @ Civic Center
- Aug. 12Guest Preacher Ray Townsend

This Upcoming Week's



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

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

SPARTA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • 54 EAST DIVISION STREET • SPARTA MI 49345

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)

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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. Contact the church office with updates and additions.