

July 4, 2018



A weekly newsletter of The Sparta United Methodist Church



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



A prayer for the 4th

Lord Jesus, thou who art the way, the truth and the life; hear us as we pray for the truth that shall make all free. Teach us that liberty is not only to be loved but also to be lived. Liberty is too precious a thing to be buried in books. It costs too much to be hoarded. Help us see that our liberty is not the right to do as we please, but the opportunity to please do what is right.

—Peter Marshall, before the U.S. Senate

Sparta UMC's Food Locker is Empty

Many people are in need of food right now. Sparta UMC is helping at least six families. Please be a blessing to those in need by donating non-perishable items to the church. Items needed include food for children, paper products, and laundry soap.



Sunday School / Nursery Renovation Project

Thank you to the many volunteers who have been working diligently in the renovation project at church. We are so excited about the update and much-needed attention to this area of ministry.

To date \$5,390 has been received toward the \$9,000 portion of the work. By donating to this project, you will inspire parents and their children to come closer to God. You will be a blessing to many children's spiritual growth in years to come. Your gift can be made payable to "Sparta UMC", noting "remodel" in the memo area. Thank you.

Discover the Denomination's Story



The United Methodist Handbook is a free resource filled with comprehensive information about the denomination and the ways we live out our global mission. It's helpful for visitors, church leaders and members. The handbook is available in English, Portuguese, French and Russian. Handbooks in Spanish and Korean are coming soon.

[Explore the handbook](#)

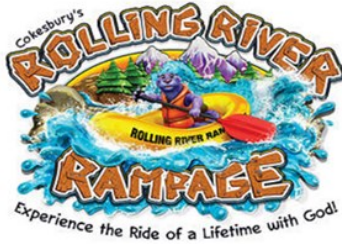
Summer Ushers (on call)

Please sign up here (Instructions provided – contact the office or a Head Usher with questions.)

During the summer, a lot of people's Sunday plans are more relaxed and flexible. It's sometimes hard to commit to "serving" in church on a Sunday that is weeks away. So instead of asking for ushers to sign up in advance, the Usher Coordinators are creating an "on-call" list. **This "on-call" list will enable our Head Ushers to find helpers each Sunday.** So if you are willing to be an usher when asked on Sunday morning during the summer, please sign up on the list in the parlor.

Summer is also an important time for visitors. Your service to make Sparta UMC a welcoming church, any day and every day, is greatly appreciated.

—Kathy Reed & Margaret Collins
Usher Coordinators



Rolling River Rampage VBS Registration Form

July 29 – August 2, 2018
5 – 8 PM (includes dinner)

Vacation Bible School is for
children age 3 through those
completing Grade 5.

Student's Name _____ Age & Last School Grade Completed _____

_____ Age: _____

_____ Age: _____

_____ Age: _____

_____ Age: _____

Parent or Guardian & Emergency Contact Information _____

Address _____

E-mail Address _____

Phone number to contact _____

Allergies/Medical Information/Other _____

Dismissal Information: Name(s) of person(s) who may pick up 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 repro-
duced/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.

Please submit this form at your earliest convenience to Sparta UMC
as it helps the leadership of the event prepare in advance!

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 8

SoundboardChad & Shelly Murdock

Head UsherAlan Hartman

Nursery AssistantsCaelin & Camryn Murdock

Welcome TableJackie Brewer

Intercessory PrayerDave Huizenga

Scripture ReaderMary Eggleston

Fellowship TimeTena Stuhan

Save the Date

July 12 12–7 PM....Community Blood Drive

July 14 8 AMMen's Mealtime Rally

July 21Breakfast Fundraiser @ Sparta UMC

12 PM.....Town & County Parade

Contact Heather Westra to join in Sparta UMC's parade entry

July 22Rural Life Special Offering

July 28 8–10 AM ...Free Community Breakfast

July 29–Aug 2Vacation Bible School (5–8 PM)



July 10 Susan Eadie

7/13/12

Dillon & Nicole Gross

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.