

August 1, 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.



Coming August 5 to Sparta UMC

Missionaries serving at Tansen Hospital in Nepal

Drs. Deborah & Lester Dornon



There are over 60 children and many volunteers at this year's Rolling River Rampage Vacation Bible School! Celebrate the fun at Vacation Bible School Sunday Aug. 5 when the children help lead the worship service.



hand2hand

Hand2Hand co-chairs welcome Tena Stuhan on board as the program's food coordinator. We sincerely thank Tena, Michelle Morris, and all of the other volunteers for their help in this church mission.

FamilyFare is having its "Buy 2, Get 3 Free Sale" until August 4. See their ad and use your "YES" card for items needed for the Hand2Hand lunches, such as fruit snacks, Tuna Helper, Our Family Quart Size Freezer or Storage Bags, and McCormick Taco Seasoning Mix. Remember to bring your FamilyFare receipts to church to apply towards Direct Your Dollars we are collecting for Missions.

Denny's Hike Presentation Followed by All-Church Potluck August 19

Beginning Aug. 5, you will have an opportunity to signup for the Potluck. Categories of items to bring (homemade or store bought) are a hot dish, cold dish, meat dish (hot or cold), and dessert. Everyone is invited. Deliver food to the downstairs kitchen before church Aug. 19 so your food can remain chilled or heated during the service. Coffee, punch, plates, napkins, and flatware provided.

Family Camp Aug. 31 – Sept. 3 Lakeview UM Camp (45 min. north of Sparta)



Need a little relaxation in a peaceful place filled with fun times with your family and church friends? Experience God's beautiful creation, fun activities, fireside fellowship (and singing), and yummy food. Join us for Family Camp and create memories by building authentic relationships together.

Lakeview Family Campground is an RV, trailer and tent camping area on Townline Lake, with electric, water, restrooms, newly renovated bathhouse, free Wi-Fi, camp store, beach swimming, and more (see Aug. 5 bulletin insert). We'll share Saturday potluck as a church family, and the rest of the church is invited Sunday afternoon for an even larger family potluck. Camping sites are \$90 (payable to Sparta UMC; see Pastor Phil for scholarship information), and includes all three nights, water/electric hookups, and camp amenities.

To register, provide your name, email address, and mobile and home phone numbers to Family Camp Coordinator Gail Friedrich, or place this information in the offering plate on Sunday.

Kurt Knappen—Denny's son, spleen removal surgery after serious motorcycle accident July 29
Gordon Helsel—home recovering from successful surgery on July 30



New 2018 annual conference reports posted

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMNS) — United Methodist News Service is posting annual conference reports. New this week are California-Pacific, Eastern Pennsylvania and Tanzania. [Read reports](#), including the Michigan Annual Conference and others from around the world.

Tales from the Trails

Michigan United Methodist Camping shares some "God Moments" from the 2018 camping season. [Read more](#)



Dear Sparta United Methodist Church,

We want to send a sincere thank you for your donation for the concert on July 6, 2018, at Sparta Baptist Church. Tribute Quartet was awesome! It was a fun evening and many hearts were blessed. Because of your donation, along with many others, this paid for Tribute Quartet to come, which made the concert free to all. We are happy to say 290 people came—an awesome crowd for a holiday weekend! A freewill offering was taken, and \$1,270.00 was received for North Kent Connect!

Here is a word from Claire Guisfredi, Executive Director of North Kent Connect:

"Dear Sponsors,

The concert was beautiful, and we are very grateful to be the recipient of the freewill offering. Your generosity inspired others to give, enabling us to continue to help people in northern Kent County with basic needs and empowerment programs. Many thanks and God bless you!"

Once again, thank you for your contribution that made this event possible, and thank you to all who came!

Sincerely,
Peggy Odren and Larry Carter

Wesley brothers report church history



A new video from United Methodist Communications uses an animated John and Charles Wesley to share United Methodist history in an innovative way. [Read more](#)

Back to Church Kickoff Begins in September

Adult Bible Studies with Tim Shangle, 8:45 AM Sundays:

God's World and God's People Exploring Genesis
Sept. 2 – Nov. 25

Disciple Fast Track—12 Weeks in the Old Testament beginning the week of Sept. 9 (followed by 12 Weeks in the New Testament)

All-Church, Small-Group Fall Study *Real Life — Real Faith*
40 Days of Getting It Together beginning the week of Sept. 23

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 August 5

- SoundboardChad & Shelly Murdock
- Head UsherDale Young
- Nursery AssistantElizabeth Hartman
- Nursery LeaderNaomi Collins
- Welcome TableJoyce Marohn
- Communion Assistants...VBS participants
- Intercessory PrayerBonnie Wilkinson
- Scripture ReaderJoanna Huizenga
- Fellowship TimeKathy Reed & Mary Scott

Save the Date

- Aug. 5Missionaries Lester & Deborah Dornon
visiting at morning worship service
- Aug. 7 5:45 PM Finance & Stewardship
6:30 PMChurch Council
- Aug. 8 Noon Mary/Martha Luncheon
6:30 PM Trustees
- Aug. 11.....Celtic Festival Food Sale @ Civic Center
.....Wedding @ Sparta UMC
- Aug. 12Guest Preacher Ray Townsend

This Upcoming Week's



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- | | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | | 8/10/90 |
| Aug. 7 | Ruby Skibinski
Jamie McKay | Bill & Barb Taylor |
| Aug. 9 | Michelle Hollomon | 8/10/96
Kevin & Cheryl Pinckney |
| Aug. 11 | Abigail Hollomon | |

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)

CHURCH OFFICE p 616.887.8255 • Pastor Phil Friedrick c 616.799.4281 • FAX 616.887.8256 • 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. Contact the church office with updates and additions.