

October 17, 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.



Welcome United Methodist Pastor Dick Riley to Sparta UMC October 21! Hear and be blessed by God's message shared by Pastor Dick.

Dessert/Coffee Gatherings

Signup in the church sanctuary

- Wed., Oct. 24, 7 PM De & Denny Knappen
12133 D Mar Dr., Greenville
- Thurs., Oct. 25, 7 PM Kurt & Amy Burmeister
11530 Cedar Lane, Sparta
- Fri., Oct. 26, 7 PM Mike & Tena Stuhan
349 Fair Lane, Sparta
- Sat., Oct. 27, 7 PM Jim & Jane Bosserd
3631 13 Mile Rd., NW, Sparta
- Sun., Oct. 28, 6 PM Chad & Shelly Murdock
1355 Murdock Dr., Sparta

Changing Lives

Deeper Commitment... Greater Pledge... Stronger Resolve

We want to know that you're coming Nov. 4 to New Consecration Sunday All-Church Pig Roast! Remember to bring to church your 2019 Estimate of Giving card that you received in the mail, if you haven't already turned it in by then. Signup in church Oct. 21 to choose a Potluck category that you're bringing: hot or cold side dish, or dessert.

Reminder to Ministry Leaders and Staff: Your 2018 Reports for Church Conference and your 2019 Budgets are due soon.



This Upcoming Week's
BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARY

- Oct. 21 Kara McKinley
- Oct. 23 Helen Lang
10/24/87
- Oct. 26 Jordyn Marks
Justin Westra
Caleb Miller
Steve & Amy Brillinger



Please register your Trunk or Treat participation with Margaret Blaauw (887.0773) **no later than Oct. 21**. There is a door-decorating contest at Sparta Baptist. Decorate your room door 12:30-5 PM Oct. 28, 9 AM-2 PM Oct. 29, 9 AM-1 PM Oct. 30, or all day on Oct. 31. Participants are also welcome to be in costume. Needed: **Donated candy** to be handed out Oct. 31 from 5 to 8 PM. Please leave your donation in the church office.



"The pastor shall report annually the names and contact information for professing and baptized members attending colleges and universities to the District Superintendent, the Chairperson of the Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry by one month before the start of the school term and to the Charge Conference. The Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry has the responsibility to share the information with the appropriate UM related campus ministries. (§1232 in the 2016 Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church)" **Parents of Students:** Please call (887.8255) or email (spartaumc@spartaumc.com) this information to the church office by October 31, 2018. Thank you.



We Are So Close!
Please Continue to Bring Family Fare & Econofoods Receipts to Church

Thank you for your continued support to the missions of Sparta UMC. Bring your receipts to church, leaving the entire grocery receipts from Family Fare and Econofoods 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. We're almost there: our total to date is \$146,475 toward the \$150,000 goal! Then Sparta UMC Missions will receive \$1,000.

The Direct Your Dollars amount is noted at the bottom of your cash register receipt. (FYI: some purchases do not apply, like gasoline, prescriptions, jumbo donuts, and gift cards from Family Fare)



Attention Spouses, Parents & Family Members of Active Military: The Sparta United Methodist Women are preparing a gift for active military personnel. Please contact the church office (spartaumc@spartaumc.com or 887.8255) right away with the name and current mailing address of your family member. God bless you.

Tudy Middleton expresses her gratitude and thanks to everyone for their prayers for her brother Don, who passed away Oct. 14.

Prayer Concern: Prayers for Evelyn Jacobson, health problems.



Thank you for all of the generous Hand2Hand donations received over the past several weeks. The congregation's response to this mission has been amazing! Our **first food packing will be Oct. 28** in Wesley Hall after the worship service, and anyone is welcome to help. If you can donate food that will be delivered later in November, we would appreciate the donations by Oct. 28. That will give us time to organize them and purchase the remaining needed items. We will be **packing food for Thanksgiving week on November 11**. Specific dinner menu items needed: **taco shells, taco seasoning packets, canned chicken, stuffing mix, instant mashed potatoes packets, gravy packets, Jiffy biscuit mix, canned sweet potatoes, canned corn, and canned fruit.**

Fall Cleanup at Sparta UMC Saturday, October 27, 2018, 9 AM Please bring the necessary tools to help make the job easier. Enjoy the Free Community Breakfast before starting at 9 AM if you wish.

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee would like to let the congregation know that we are in the process of Pastor Phil's Annual Assessment for our upcoming Annual Conference. We would like to have input from the congregation and welcome it throughout the year. Please contact any SPRC member:

- Jane Bosserd jbosserd@gmail.com
- Brad Greeno bsgreeno@gmail.com
- Jim Bosserd bosserdjim@gmail.com
- Dale Young dlyjudas@icloud.com
- Brandon Ingersoll brandon.ingersoll@gmail.com
- Jane Wyckoff-Kingshott ms_wyckoff@yahoo.com
- Ron Drier rondrier@hotmail.com
- Camryn Murdock camryn.murdock@yahoo.com

Schedules

- Tuesdays
 - 9:30 AM Girl Talk Study Group
 - 6 PM GriefShare (Sept. 11–Dec. 4)
- Wednesdays
 - 6 PM Worship Design Team
 - 7–8 PM Adult Choir practice
- 4th Thursday of the Month
 - 6 PM Vision Team
- Sunday mornings
 - 8:45–11:45 Nursery (ages 0–4 years)
 - 8:30–9:45 DISCIPLE Bible Study
 - 9:00 Adult Bible Study
 - 9:00 Middle & Senior High Sunday School
 - 9:00 (Pre-K – 5th) Craft & Prayer Time, and Chime Bar Practice
 - 9:30 Children’s Choir Practice (Pre-K – 5th)
Parents: pick up your child at 10 AM from practice
 - 9:50 Adult Choir pre-service rehearsal
 - 10:10 Morning Worship Celebration
 - 10:30 Pre-K – 5th Grade Sunday School

10:10 AM Worship Attendant Volunteers October 21

- Soundboard Brandon Ingersoll & Isaiah Marks
- Head Usher Alan Hartman
- Nursery Assistant Kathy Reed
- Welcome Table Earl Babcock
- Intercessory Prayer Bonnie Shupe
- Scripture Reader Rev. Dick Riley
- Fellowship Time Mary/Martha Circle

Save the Date

- Oct. 21 Guest Preacher Rev. Dick Riley
..... Deadline to register with Margaret Blaauw for Oct. 31 Trunk or Treat candy distribution
- Oct. 25 6 PM UMW Executive Board
- Oct. 27 8–10 AM Free Community Breakfast
- Oct. 28 11:45 AM ... Hand2Hand food packing
- Oct. 31 5–8 PM Trunk or Treat @ Sparta Baptist
- Nov. 1 5:30 PM Exodus Place Annual Dinner
- Nov. 3 last day of Daylight Saving Time
- Nov. 4 New Consecration Sunday
with All-Church Pig Roast Dinner



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.