

October 24, 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.

*Life isn't always so clear-cut,
but the more we practice discernment,
the better we will recognize and follow God's will.*



If you are willing to answer the church phone a couple times a month during office hours (9 AM to 1 PM Monday through Thursday), please let us know on Sunday's Next Step Card, or by calling (887.8255)

or emailing (spartaumc@spartaumc.com) the church office.

'Long road' for recovery from Hurricane Michael

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UMNS) — The recovery from Hurricane Michael in Georgia and Florida will likely take years, said officials and pastors from The United Methodist Church on Monday. "It will be a long road," said Bishop Lawson Bryan, of the South Georgia Episcopal Area. Jim Patterson has the story. [Read story](#)

United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is there to help. You may make your gift toward UMCOR's relief efforts payable to "Sparta UMC" noting "Hurricane" on the memo line.

UMCOR to assist Indonesia: UMCOR is in dialogue with Methodists in Korea and Indonesia, planning disaster response for the recent earthquake. Prayers and dollars needed at the present time. [Read more](#) You may make your gift payable to "Sparta UMC" noting "Earthquake" on the memo line.



This Upcoming Week's

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARY

- Oct. 29 Adam Schulz
Margaret Collins
- Oct. 30 Kristin Johnsen
- Nov. 3 Janice Workman
Patti Bloomstrom

11/1/03
Mark & Jane Kingshott



Kids church celebrate our study of Jonah with a movie and popcorn party!

Marie Uzarski's parents Barb & Al Mekkes are both dealing with cancer at the moment.



Ron & Jeanne Drier's nephew Chris and cousin Mandy are having health problems.



Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018, 9 AM

Please bring the necessary tools to help make the jobs of raking, weeding, grass cutting etc., 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



2018 Adult Choir Retreat at Wesley Woods

Attention Women of All Ages: A new, casual, laid-back Bible study starts Friday mornings (kids invited, too). “Does something deep inside your heart long to break free from the status quo? Are you hungry for an authentic faith that addresses the problems of our world with tangible, even radical, solutions? God is calling you to a passionate love relationship with Himself.” Contact Heather Westra if you would like to join the Bible study beginning Oct. 26 at 10 AM. You will need *“Crazy Love: Overwhelmed by a Relentless God”* (by Francis Chan) and *“Living Crazy Love: An Interactive Workbook for Individual or Small Group Study”*.

Decisions won't stop with General Conference — The One Church Plan, recommended by the Council of Bishops, would let a local church host a same-sex wedding, but only if the congregation votes in favor of having such weddings. All three Way Forward plans set to be considered by the special General Conference hold the prospect of tough votes by United Methodist churches and conferences. Sam Hodges reports. [Read story](#)

Court asked to rule on validity of plans
 ZURICH (UMNS) — The United Methodist Church's top court was urged during an oral hearing to rule in advance on the constitutionality of proposed legislation that will come before the special General Conference in February. Linda Bloom, Kathy L. Gilbert and Sam Hodges report. [Read story](#)
[Read previous UMNS story](#) [Read UMNS story about briefs](#)

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 Craft & Prayer Time (Pre-K – 5th)
 - 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 28

- SoundboardChad & Shelly Murdock
- Head UsherDale Young
- Nursery AssistantDeb DeGlopper
- Welcome TableMary VanGessel
- Intercessory PrayerJane Bosserd
- Scripture ReaderMary Hartman
- Fellowship TimeBill & Cheryl Meyer
 Paul & Pat Spangenberg

Save the Date

- 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
 Needed: **Donated candy** for Trunk or Treat to be handed out Oct. 31 from 5 to 8 PM. Please leave your donation in the church office.
- 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)

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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.