

November 14, 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](http://www.spartaumc.com).

Order **poinsettias** through the church office for display on the altar Dec. 23 through Dec. 30 and designate for publication in the bulletins in memory or honor of a loved one. Order forms can be found in the parlor and also in next week's News Flash.

### Attention Parents of Sunday School Children: Chime Bar Choir

The Chime Bar Choir will be performing its second song this Sunday, Nov. 18, in worship service. We will practice at 9 AM to prepare. Children are to meet with Mary Ellen Kimble in the lower Sunday school area to practice at 9 AM.

### Michigan receives \$204,000 UMCOR grant

A two-year grant from The United Methodist Committee on Relief will enable the Michigan Conference to hire a Coordinator of Disaster Recovery Ministries. [Read more](#)

Continued prayers for Gordon & Sharon Helsel's daughter, Mary  
Prayers for deer hunters  
Doris Eadie is at Sanctuary of St. Mary's  
Janet Bassett is at Marywood

Lyle Empie's 3-year-old granddaughter Genesis—surgery to reduce thickness of her tongue to help with speech  
Casey VanderJagt passed away Oct. 31. The family is struggling with their loss. His granddaughter, Alissa's 19-month-old son Kent Woolston was born with an illness and weights 17 lbs. Prayers that he continues to thrive.



### Attention All Ladies of the Church

You are invited to the Annual United Methodist Women's Christmas Breakfast on Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2018, at 9:30 AM in the church dining room. The program will once again be the Coopersville Old Kids Choir, under the direction of Faith Crandell. The group is so inspiring, we have featured them for several years. Their program changes a bit each year, so please come and enjoy their Christmas celebration in song!

Let others know: **The Old Kids Choir performance is free, open to the public, and begins at 10:15 AM in the church sanctuary.**



From Exodus Place to Sparta UMC congregation: Thank you for your continued support of the important mission of Exodus Place. The Annual Dinner and Fundraiser Banquet was a big success.

### Church Council Highlights from November 6, 2018

Devotions: Perfect Prayer Partner- Jesus. He already knows our every need.

2020 Vision One-page Plan: still gathering information from the campaign.

Appointments approved for 2019 Leadership Directory: Dale Young (Trustee), Hal Lindsay (Acolyte Coordinator), Earl Babcock (Member Care), Jim Bosserd (Finance & Stewardship Chair), Diane Young (Remitting Treasurer), and Mary VanGessel (Financial Secretary).

### Church Charge Conference Dec. 9 Cedar Springs UMC: Reports are due to the church office by November 25.

Paying a percentage of the ministry shares was presented and approved: 12.5 % in November and after a review of month-end figures for November, 12.5% in December if appropriate.

Trustees received a letter from the Church's Insurance carrier recommending additional security measures.

Carpet is being cleaned in the parlor and entry upstairs to elevator.

Nov.18: 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Talent Auction: Heather Westra discussed kid's items table and rewards program for youth. They can earn Faith money to buy things from the table next year.

Announcement was made that Toni Potes has tendered her retirement notice as of the end of the year.

Save the date for next year's Pig Roast – send a reminder early.

Family Camp – working on policy and have two more families that would like to attend.

(follow the Schedules itemization in the News Flash to see upcoming events)

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee is in the process of Pastor Phil's Annual Assessment for our 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](mailto:jbosserd@gmail.com), Brad Greeno, [bsgreeno@gmail.com](mailto:bsgreeno@gmail.com), Jim Bosserd [bosserdjim@gmail.com](mailto:bosserdjim@gmail.com), Dale Young [dlyjudas@icloud.com](mailto:dlyjudas@icloud.com), Brandon Ingersoll [brandon.ingersoll@gmail.com](mailto:brandon.ingersoll@gmail.com), Jane Wyckoff-Kingshott [ms\\_wyckoff@yahoo.com](mailto:ms_wyckoff@yahoo.com), Ron Drier [rondrier@hotmail.com](mailto:rondrier@hotmail.com), Camryn Murdock [camryn.murdock@yahoo.com](mailto:camryn.murdock@yahoo.com)

In our five-week Advent study *The Journey*, we will follow the footsteps of Mary, Joseph and others, gaining insight into our own journey with Christ. **There are two opportunities to join a small group at the Offices & Ministry Building: beginning Dec. 6 at 6:30 PM with De and Denny Knappen, and beginning Jan. 8 at 9:30 AM with Girl Talk Study Group.** Books will be in soon. Please pick up your book(s) and pay at the church office.

2018	October	Year to Date
General Operating Income	\$18,042.25	\$190,734.73
Operating Expense	\$21,302.88	\$183,436.08
Difference	(\$3,260.63)	\$7,298.65
General Fund Balance	\$15,874.49	
2018 Ministry Shares apportioned to Sparta UMC (payable through the General Fund): \$33,867 Paid to Date: \$0		

### Special Gifts & Offerings Received in October

Adult Choir .....	\$470	Kids Kans .....	\$223.35
Children's Choir .....	\$100	Missions .....	\$45
Community Breakfast.....	\$303	Rent.....	\$169
Facility Fund .....	\$10	Stained Glass.....	\$150
Haiti Hot Lunch.....	\$10	Sunday School.....	\$8
Hand2Hand.....	\$702.77	UMCOR .....	\$300
Hunger.....	\$20	Youth Ministries..	\$561
World Communion Sunday.	\$20		



November 11 Praise Night  
Praise Night was well attended and fun.

**Anniversary Party:** The family of Richard and Eva Cone warmly invite you to join in celebrating the 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary of their parents. Please come for a meal and fellowship on **Sunday, Nov. 25, 4 to 6:30 PM** in the dining room. No gifts please, but your presence is appreciated.

### 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 November 18

Soundboard .....	Doug Shupe & Kerry Emelander
Head Usher .....	Dale Young
Greeter .....	Tena Stuhan
Nursery Assistant.....	Carol Schulz
Welcome Table .....	Jackie Brewer
Intercessory Prayer....	Carla VanAsselt
Scripture Reader .....	Thom Babcock
Fellowship Time .....	Light Lunch Fundraiser hosted by Dorcas Circle, followed by the 26th Annual Talent Auction

### Save the Date

Nov. 15	6 PM .....	Vision Team
Nov. 18	.....	26th Annual Talent Auction
	6 PM .....	Community Thanksgiving Service at Holy Family Catholic Church
Nov. 20	6:30 PM ...	Trustees
Nov. 22	.....	Thanksgiving Day (Offices Closed)
	10–4 .....	Church Dining Room in use
Nov. 24	8–10 AM ..	Free Community Breakfast
Nov. 25	.....	UM Student Day Special Offering
	4–6:30 PM ...	Cone Anniversary Party
Nov. 29	6 PM .....	UMW Executive Board

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.