

September 4, 2019



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).

# GRIEF SHARE®

The GriefShare support group will begin Tuesday, Sept 11, and every Tuesday thereafter, concluding Dec 3, 2019. This support group is for anyone (ages 13 to adult) who has lost a loved one including...accident, illness, suicide, or cancer. It is a 13-week course with each meeting consisting of watching a 40-minute DVD on different grief topics/situations. We spend another 30-to-60 minutes sharing whatever is on the hearts of those attending.

A participant can come to all or any of the meetings. Mary Ellen Kimble, Julie Levandoski, Bonnie Shupe and Nancy Berger are the facilitators of this support group. It is an informal gathering offering coffee, tea, snacks before the meeting, and caring friendships. We have lost loved ones, have attended a GriefShare in the past, and found GriefShare very helpful. We want to offer the hope and healing that we received to those in the Sparta area.

The meetings begin at 6:00pm and end at approximately 8:00pm. The meetings are held in the Offices & Ministry Building living room of Sparta UMC. If you have any questions, please talk with Mary Ellen, Julie, Bonnie or Nancy.



## #WeAreHand2Hand

Hand2Hand packing Sunday, September 22nd at 11:30am (immediately following church service) in Wesley Hall.

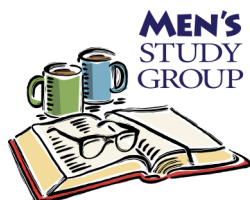
### JOURNEY PROGRAM

Journey Program starting Thursday evenings in October from 6-7:30PM!  
(Journey dates: Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 5, 12, 19)



### NEW MEN'S STUDY GROUP

New men's study group starting Tuesday's at 9:30am with Pastor Phil. Location: Ministry Building in the Pastor's Study. For more information, please see Pastor Phil.



### NEW ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS



(Beginning Sunday, September 15, 9:00-9:45am) Do you want to Go Deeper in your knowledge of the Bible? Please join us for an in-depth study of the book of Romans for 13 weeks. We

will look at meanings of some of the words used, background of the passages, why was it most likely written, the people mentioned, and cultural factors. We will also discuss the meaning of the passages for our lives and what response it requires of us as Christians. Please let Julie Barnum (616-881-6204) know so enough books can be ordered.

Thank you so much!  
~Julie

### REMINDER

Third graders will receive Bibles on Sunday, September 15th. Please text Heather Westra at 616-298-6849 with your child's name so they can receive their Bible (we prefer 3rd graders to be present on the 15th to receive their Bibles in person). Thank you and God bless!



### MOVIE OVERCOMER



Youth (4th grade through college) are invited to see the movie OVERCOME on Sunday, September 15th in the afternoon. Tickets will be covered! We are car pooling from the church and might need a couple volunteers to join us and possibly help with transportation. We will need a head count, so please let Heather Westra know if you plan to join ahead of time. For more details please feel free to text Heather at 616-298-6849.

### PRAYERS NEEDED

**Diane Jensen**— Continued prayers for Karen Becker as she recovers from back surgery.



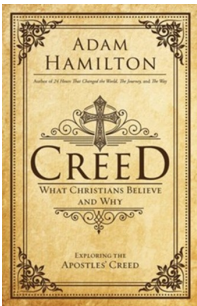
**GIRL TALK**



Planning to start “Creed” (small group) on Tuesday, September 24th at 9:30am in the Church Office & Ministry Building.

On Tuesday, September 17th, Girl Talk will be going to Mamrelund Lutheran Church to work on pillowcase dresses for little girls in Africa.

**ALL-CHURCH 7-WEEK STUDY**



All-Church 7-Week Study of the Apostles’ Creed Beginning Sunday, September 22  
 Three Components: (1) Sunday Sermons, (2) Book, (3) Small Groups  
 Do you have questions about foundational Christian beliefs? Adam Hamilton examines the historic Apostles’ Creed to explore what Christians believe and why it matters. Consider any of the three components, or do all three. The books will be available (\$12) beginning Sunday, September 8th, and you can sign up for one of our small groups on Sundays as well.

**WEEKLY TOPICS:**

(1) God, (2) Jesus Christ, (3) The Holy Spirit, (4) The Church and the Communion of Saints, (5) The Forgiveness of Sins, (6) The Resurrection of the Body.

**SMALL GROUPS:**

(beginning the week of September 22nd)  
 De & Denny: Monday at 6:30pm Ministry Building  
 Girl Talk: Tuesday at 9:30am Ministry Building

**FALL KICKOFF & TAILGATE**

Sunday, September 15th Tailgate Party of food and fun right after worship service. Make sure to wear your favorite football team jersey (or favorite sports jersey).



**UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**



Sept. 6	Jenna Purcell	9/4/81
Sept. 8	Adele Jones	Jim & Jane Bosserd
	Jim Bosserd	
Sept. 9	Diane Hartman	9/10/16
	Tena Stuhan	Jacob & Camille Hohisel

**Schedules**

**Mondays**

7 pm .....Boy Scouts Church Wesley Hall

**Tuesdays**

9:30 am .....Girl Talk Study Group  
 6-7:30 pm.....GriefShare (Sept. 24—Dec. 3)

**1st Tuesday of each Month**

5:45 pm.....Finance Meeting  
 6:30 pm.....Ad Council Meeting

**2nd Tuesday of each Month**

6:30 pm.....Trustees Meeting

**Wednesdays**

6 pm .....Worship Design Team  
 7-8 pm.....Adult Choir Practice

**4th Thursday of each Month**

6 pm .....Vision Team

**2nd Saturday of each Month**

8 am.....Men’s Mealtime Rally

**Sunday mornings**

8:45-11:45.....Nursery (ages 0–4 years)  
 9:00-9:45.....Adult Bible Study  
 9:00.....Middle & Senior High Sunday School  
 9:00.....Craft & Prayer Time (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  
 September 8, 2019**

Soundboard & PowerPoint....Brandon Ingersoll & Isaiah Marks  
 Head Usher.....Justin Westra  
 Nursery Assistant .....Deb DeGlopper  
 Nursery Leader.....Amy Hume  
 Welcome Table .....Eva Cone  
 Intercessory Prayer....Paul Schulz  
 Scripture Reader.....Tena Stuhan  
 Fellowship Time.....Tena Stuhan  
 Greeters.....TBD  
 Altar Flowers.....Tena Stuhan

**Office Volunteers Scheduled Week of  
 September 9, 2019**

Monday.....Mary Eggleston  
 Tuesday.....Jackie Williams  
 Wednesday.....Jackie Williams  
 Thursday.....Jackie Williams  
 Friday.....TBD

If you would like to assist in the Church Office during the week, please contact the office at (616) 887-8255.

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 – Friday, 9 AM – 3 PM • WORSHIP TIME Sunday 10:10 AM

We are a connected ministry. Check out: