

Sanford United Methodist Church

Messenger

FEBRUARY 2019



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
The people of the United Methodist Church

Call to Prayer

The United Methodist Church delegates are in need of prayer. No matter our position on the issues concerning our Special Called General Conference, our delegates need prayer. 864 worldwide United Methodist Church delegates will come together Feb. 23-26, 2019 in St Louis to help our church make a way forward on LGBTQ concerns.

There will be one question only that the delegates will have to discuss, debate and discern a way forward for United Methodists all over the world. "What do we do about issues related to LGBTQ concerns?" Our United Methodist Book of Discipline, paragraph 161 G states, "The United Methodist Church does not condone the practice of homosexuality and considers this practice incompatible with Christian teaching." We do not allow self-avowed homosexuals to be clergy, same sex marriages can't be held in our churches and clergy cannot officiate at same sex marriages. Three plans have been available for all to read, discuss and digest. They are the One Church Plan, the Traditional Plan and the Connectional Conference Plan as we have spoken about in our last three sermons.

Please pray for our Bishop of the Michigan area, Bishop David Bard. The Council of Bishops has been asked to lead and guide our church forward. He has written a letter to all Michigan churches. In it he says, "In the midst of the unknown, the uncertain, the fearful, in the midst of the noise and discomfort, I invite us all to find some different places where we know grace, the grace of God in Jesus Christ."

Bishop Bard says, "Go to a place called humility. Humility is not feeling bad about yourself. It is about knowing yourself, your gifts, your skills, your beauty, your strengths, your weaknesses, your blind spots, your stubborn places. Humility also knows that we can always learn more about the wonder and mystery of life and the love and grace of God."

He goes on to say, "Go to a place called hope. God is not done with God's church yet. The United Methodist Church may go through a hard time but the mission we have identified of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, that is, bringing people into relationship with Jesus Christ so that their lives can be different and the world can be different, that mission continues. God still calls each of us to that work. God empowers each of us for that work. Forms and structures may change, but God's love and our ability to know that love, show that love and grow in that love, does not change." We thank Bishop Bard for his calming thoughts as we move toward this momentous conference.

Let us pray for our delegates: Jackie Euper, Ruth Sutton's cousin's wife, who was interviewed for MI Connect, our Michigan magazine, said, "Our churches still need to be in mission. The church still will be here after this General Conference session. Fear not." The Rev. Kennetha Bigham-Tsai, Chief Connectional Officer of the Connectional Table, Nichea Ver Veer Guy, member of Grand Rapids Trinity UMC and chair of the Michigan Conference Commission, the Rev. Charles Boayue, DS for Greater Detroit, Wayne Bank, member of Lexington UMC, Diane Brown, member of Chelsea:First UMC and Annual Conference Legislative coordinator, the Rev. Joy Barrett, Senior Pastor of Chelsea: First UMC and Conference Secretary and Rev. Melanie Carey, Senior Pastor of Nardin Park UMC.

Prayer opens our hearts and minds to hear and experience God. Pray for the work of this conference and our delegates who go to serve us well. I pray for peace and patience as this Special Called General Conference of the United Methodist Church draws near.

Rev. Lisa Cook

OUTREACH

The outreach loose change offering for February will go to Affordable Legal Care in Midland. This is a nonprofit law firm started by Angela Cole. The attorneys at this firm seek to fulfill the needs of people who don't qualify for free legal assistance but who earn too little to be able to afford the full price of an attorney. Their fees are based on the client's ability to pay. They can assist clients with estate planning, family law, criminal law and civil infractions.

Thank you!
Vicki Sharpe

More Ways to Recycle Plastic Bags

Most of us know that plastic bags and plastic film packaging are not allowed in curbside recycle bins because they jam up the machinery at recycling plants. So where CAN you recycle them? In addition to taking these items directly to the Midland Recycling Center on Ashman, there is a new option at our local Meijer's store. In their entryway, Meijer's now has two bins for plastic recycling. They now accept many kinds of plastic bags such as newspaper sleeves, bread bags, food storage bags, ice bags, pellet bags, produce bags, dry cleaning bags, salt bags, and of course, grocery bags. They also accept LDPE/HDPE films such as toilet paper wrapping and water bottle wrapping. Another item they will now accept is cereal and cracker box liners. There is a picture of some examples of these items on the side of the recycling bin at Meijer's, and it is posted on the bulletin board in our upstairs meeting room. Of course all items must be clean, dry, and empty. Take advantage of this new service at Meijer's and your plastic will be put to good use making lawn furniture.

**Worship Christ The Lord
10:30 A.M. Sunday
Marvelous Mondays
7:00 P.M.**

USHERS & GREETERS

If you are looking for a mission, we are looking for you. We need ushers & greeters for Sunday Worship. If you are currently serving as usher/greeter, it is not necessary to contact Sue for 2019 list. For more information please call Sue Dexter, 989-600-8029.

FRIENDS & FELLOWSHIP

Friday, February 15, 6:00 p.m. Bingo. Bring a snack to share.



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Attendance & Giving

Jan. 6	54	\$5,073.00
Jan. 13	67	\$2,349.00
Jan. 20	48	\$984.00
Jan. 27	43	\$1,582.00

MARVELOUS MONDAYS

Attendance & Giving

Jan. 7	24	\$117.00
Jan. 14	27	\$64.00
Jan. 21	17	\$88.00
Jan. 28	Canceled because of bad weather	

PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS AND OTHERS

Carmen Adams Washington Woods, 821 S. Cambridge, #375, Midland, MI 48642

Luella Glesner Meridian Acres, 2905 N. Meridian Rd. MC01, Sanford, MI 48657

Verna Gould Independence Village, 4775 Village Dr. #39, Grand Ledge, MI

Sandy Houtman Meridian Acres, 2905 N. Meridian Rd. #17, Sanford, MI 48657

Carol McCallum 2517 Iowa Ave., Saginaw, MI 48601

Mildred Reinhart Nottingham Place, 5800 Jefferson St., #4 Midland, MI 48642

Sanford United Methodist Church
 2560 N. West River Road
 Sanford, Michigan 48657
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Church Office: (989) 687-5353

E-mail: sanumc@tds.net
 Website: Sanfordumc.com

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November 2018 Food Pantry Report

People Served	23
Children under 18	5
Households	11
Gift Certificates given	20
Items In:	1,280
Items Out:	1,192



Items Donated:

Sanford UMC	\$+131
Our Lady of Grace Catholic	302
St. Paul Lutheran Church	28
Community of Christ	\$
Old Oak Trails Booster Club	\$+9
Meridian Junior High School	\$+ 156

Current Needs: Pasta, Boxed Jell-O & Pudding
 Thank you for your continued support of the Sanford Food Pantry. In the winter months the need for food may be higher as families stretch their dollars. As usual, we will continue to provide assistance as necessary to those in need. Pantry utilization continues steady and we are grateful for your donations. For those who prefer to let us do the shopping, checks can be made out to the Sanford Food Pantry. Our checking account is part of the MCEFPN account, so your donation is tax-deductible.

Your donations and support throughout the year are greatly appreciated. Thank you for keeping our volunteers and the clients they serve in your prayers.

Kathy Nogaski
 989-245-2610

FREE
 FAMILY BINGO



Friday, February 15th
 Time 6:00 p.m.
 Church Fellowship Hall

Bingo, Prizes and Bring a snack to share

Please let us know if you plan to attend.
 Sign-up sheets at both entrances of the church.

Hope you can join in the fun!

Mary Morgan

Serving the Lord

	Liturgist	Ushers	Greeters	Coffee Hour
Feb. 3	W.C. Paetz	Sue Dexter, Rick Foley, Frank Morgan, Becky Bastuk	Mary Morgan	SPRC
Feb. 10	Pat Gruber	Curt & Beth Moe	Dorothy Francis	Trustee-
Feb. 17	Judy Gorthy	Mike & Judy Gorthy Janet Sayranian, Phyllis Seloom	Cheryl Johnson	UMM
Feb. 24	Rick Foley	Mitch & Ronda Bowen Adam Sian	Jeanne Sturm	Youth Education

COMMUNION STEWARDS FEBRUARY

Brenda Boots, Chris Thompson, W.C. Paetz
Ruth Ann Wrona

TRUSTEES FOR FEBRUARY

Adam Sian (Curt Moe)



CALENDAR DATES

Cub Scouts are on Sunday afternoon, 4 p.m.
and Girls Scouts are on Monday evening, 6 p.m.



FEBRUARY CALENDAR DATES

- Tues. Feb. 5, Lisa meets with Clergy & Bishop
- Sun. Feb. 10, 10:30 a.m. Scout Sunday
- Mon. Feb. 11, 1:30 p.m. Meridian Acres Worship
- Tues. Feb. 12, 9:30 a.m. UMW, Lanny's
- Tues. Feb. 12, 6:30 p.m. Trustees
- Wed. Feb. 13, 10:30 Clergy DZone, Lisa
- Fri. Feb. 15, 6:00 p.m. Bingo, Fellowship Hall
- Sat. Feb. 16, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Boy Scouts Fund Raiser, Fellowship Hall

Friends & Fellowship

- Fri. Feb 15 Family Bingo, Fellowship Hall
- Fri. March 15 Legos & Euchre, nachos
- Sunday April 21 Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt
- Sat. May 18 Cornhole, Music
- Sun. June 23 Outdoor Church
- Fri. July 12 Euchre
- Sun. Aug. 11 Picnic in park, after church camping
- Fri. Sept. 13 6:00 p.m. Wild Game Dinner
- Fri. Oct. 4 7:00 p.m. Australia night
- Sun. Nov. 24 Hanging of the Greens, Potluck
- Sun. Dec. 8 4:00 p.m. Christmas Caroling

Youth Leader

Sanford United Methodist Church is seeking an 8 hours a week part time youth leader to create and grow an elementary aged youth program. Pay based on experience.

Applicants Must:

Love Jesus, have a love for, and for working with, youth to help them grow in faith, live a prayerful Christian life to serve as an example to those they will lead, have a basic understanding of United Methodist theology and church structure, be highly organized, be experienced in the use of Social Media.

Responsibilities:

Plan and organize youth program activities including but not limited to mission projects and weekly gatherings, work with church leadership to recruit new members to the youth program through use of social media, mailers, face to face contact, etc., assume a leadership role in the Marvelous Monday worship service at SUMC. Leadership role will involve speaking commitments or leading/planning of praise music, recruit adult volunteers as necessary or required for youth activities, informing parents and youth of planned activities, trips, etc. as required.

Please send application to, Sanford United Methodist Church, SPRC, 2560 N. West River Rd., Sanford, MI 48657

Meridian Acres

Monday, February 11, 2019, we will be having our 1:30 p.m. Worship at Meridian Acres. Please join us for a wonderful experience in worshiping and fellowship with the group.