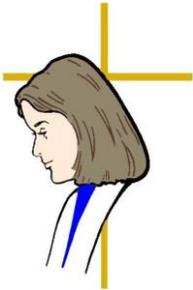


# THE PARISH POST

Volume 45 - Issue 11

11:00 a.m. Worship Service  
*Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.*

November 2017



*There is no  
Pastor Susan's Corner  
this month.*



*"When one member suffers, we all suffer and when one member is honored, we all rejoice."*

*1 Corinthians 12:26*



## Special Remembrance

On November 5 our congregation will observe "All Saints Sunday." On this day we remember those who have gone before us into God's heavenly kingdom, especially those who have died in the past year. Our worship service will include the celebration of Holy Communion as we gather around the Lord's table with the "great cloud of witnesses." We hope you will join us for this special service.

## **Those who serve as missionaries, especially:**

Kate & Peter Walugembe in Jinja, Uganda;  
Del & Sandy Groves in Zambia;  
Dr. Elma Jocson in the Philippines.

## **Those who are in the military, including:**

Christopher Blackwell, Gabrielle (Gabby) Crumley,  
Ricky Zeiger, and Ethan Zeiger.

## **Those who are in care facilities:**

Buchanan Meadows – Sabra Lambert;  
Miller's Health & Rehab (LaPorte) – Elsie Zabel  
Pine Ridge – Esther Thomas;  
Woodland Terrace – Shirley Hoadley

## **Those who are homebound:**

Dorothy Brayboy, Helen Heward, Doris Krossovitch,  
Betty Martin, and Ken Williams.

## **Those with health problems:**

David Baker, Dick Best, Ruth Boothby,  
Dorothy Brayboy, Alyssa Budzik, Helen Dunkel,  
Bob Dunn, Bob Flick, Andrew Hamilton,  
Bryce Hamilton, Dawn Hayes, Priscilla Hellenga,  
Joyce Herring, Darrell Hinman, Jim Ireland,  
Steve Kiburis, Karen King, Jim Lalone,  
Betty Martin, Maria Povlock Lewis, Linda Methany,  
Eileen Osmond, Steven Patzer, Alexis Renbarger,  
Sue Rubeck, Jerry Schaffer, Gert Schlieter,  
Dorothy Schoff, Rick Schroeter, Ken Seifert,  
Julie Sittig, Bob & Charlene Sprick,  
Frances Stanage, Kevin Strauss, Bill Swanson,  
Crystal Thompson, Kat Turner,  
Brenda Hellenga Warman, Elsie Zabel.

## **Other:**

Ben Bartelmay as he serves in the Peace Corps.  
Victims of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria.  
Victims of the shooting in Las Vegas.  
Peace throughout our world.

*Please note: Names will be deleted from the above list after one month unless an updated request is received.*



## Worship News

"It's the most wonderful time of the year...."

"Hanging of the Greens" will be on Saturday, December 2, at 9:00 a.m. It is time to hang the greens and prepare our sanctuary and hearts

to welcome our Lord into our midst. Please join the Worship Committee in decorating our place of worship. Let's open our arms to receive Baby Jesus!

"Joy to the World!"

*Joan Davidson,*  
Worship Chairperson



**Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 5. Be sure to "Fall Back" and set your clocks back one hour!**

## Bible Trivia



Since Thanksgiving is this month, the following verses all have the word thank in some form in them. Fill in the missing word in the verses.

1. Let us become before Him with thanksgiving and extol Him with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Psalms 95:2

2. Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love \_\_\_\_\_ forever.

Psalms 107:1

3. Thanks be to God for His \_\_\_\_\_ gift.

2 Corinthians 9:15

4. Do not be anxious about anything but in everything by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ with thanksgiving present your requests to God. Philippians 4:6

5. So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in Him, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught and overflowing with thankfulness. 2 Colossians 2:6-7

6. Give thanks in all \_\_\_\_\_ for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:18

*Answers on page three*

## From the Bookshelf

by Rhonda Hinman



This month's featured book is "The Silent Gift," by Michael Landon Jr. and Cindy Kelley.

This is a story both bittersweet and heartwarming of a mother and her son...and of his unusual gift.

The decade of the thirties was a time of enormous uncertainty for the world, for America, and in particular for one lonely, struggling mother and her disabled son. Their story is one of unyielding love and incredible sacrifices in the face of circumstances beyond belief.

But then The Gift appears. Where has it come from and why? How can a young boy who cannot communicate provide comfort and direction to seekers who learn of his special ability? Whatever the source, its presence brings a single shaft of light and hope to Mary and her beloved son, Jack. Will it be enough?



## Special Offering

On Sunday, November 26, we will celebrate United Methodist Student Day. Our college students are invited to participate in this service on Thanksgiving weekend.

Across the country, the people of The United Methodist Church are serving the people God loves in Jesus' name. We're doing it at home, but so often we'd like to do more.

- We want to serve those in other places who are suffering.
- We want to offer spiritual words of hope and life.
- And we want to be well-equipped to do both!

But the reality for most of us is that our responsibilities—home, family, work—don't allow us to engage with every need we'd like to meet.

Right now there are UMC young people—who might not have had the resources to attend a school of their choice, or, for some, any school at all—who've been sent by you into the world God loves because of your giving to United Methodist Student Day. When you give generously you are supporting these students as they prepare for a life that unites faith with knowledge. What no one person or congregation can do alone, we're doing together.

The son of two addicted parents, Ricky Blue had grown up without much hope for a future. But when Ricky's church family—Louisiana's Luling UMC—raised \$4,000 for Ricky to begin college, hope was born. Then, the Gift of Hope Scholarship, made possible only by your generous giving to United Methodist Student Day, allowed Ricky to continue. Today Ricky is a certified candidate for ministry in the Illinois-Great Rivers Annual Conference.

When you support United Methodist Student Day, you make it possible for more students like Ricky to serve the world God loves. So although you can't meet every need you'd like to, your giving allows members of Christ's body, people like Ricky, to do it in Jesus' name.

We will receive a special offering on this day that provides scholarships and loans to those attending UM colleges and universities. Ten percent of this offering stays in our annual conference to provide merit scholarships for students chosen by our West Michigan Board of Higher Education and Ministry. There will be a special offering envelope in your worship bulletin.



A big THANK YOU to those who helped make the Music and Readings Service on October 8.

Liturgist: *David Ball* (He had a LOT of reading to do.)  
Children's Message: *Nancy Caid*  
Prayer: *Alex Renbarger*  
Music: *Martha Spychalski*

And to the congregation who requested songs and sang songs and listened to the scriptures, poems and other writings.

I couldn't have prepared all of the music and writings without all of you and your support.

*Priscilla Hellenga*



### Agape Update

We experienced a new way to worship on October 8 by holding an Agape Love Feast during worship time. A light brunch was served to 55 attendees while we praised God through song, Scripture and a message. If anyone has feelings they'd like to share on this experience, please get in touch with Pastor Susan.

God's Blessings,

*Joan Davidson*  
Worship Chairperson



We are looking for volunteers to provide refreshments after our worship services. Sign up in the narthex.



### Choir News

The choir will practice on Sunday, November 5 and Sunday, November 19, at 10:00 a.m. New voices are always welcome!

Answers from page two:

1. Music and Song
2. Endures
3. Indescribable
4. Prayer and Petition
5. Rooted and Built up
6. Circumstances



### 2017 Gala

Child & Family Services of Southwestern Michigan, Inc. invite you to the 2017 Gala Festival of Lights at the Box Factory for the Arts (1101 Broad Street

St., Saint Joseph), Friday, November 3, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. This fun evening will include: live music, cash bar, great food, open artist studios, silent auction, and raffles. All net proceeds will benefit people in need in southwestern Michigan through domestic violence shelter and services, adult day and homecare services, and guardianship advocacy. Tickets are \$50 per person and may be purchased online at: <http://www.cfsswmi.org>.



### Soup's On!

Looking for special holiday gifts and lunch all benefiting a great cause? Look no further! Visit

"Soup's On" Wednesday, November 29 – Friday, December 1, 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. daily.

Join this annual event at the Krasl Art Center (707 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph) featuring delicious, locally-made soup, homemade desserts and beverages by Biggby; all for just \$10.00 per guest. Shop featured artist made gifts and one of a kind cards in The Shop and support the Clay Artist Guild by purchasing (\$10) a handmade bowl created in the Krasl Art Center's own ceramic studio. Proceeds will help purchase a new kiln to benefit hundreds of students. Bring your friends along for lunch and shop early for the best selection.

For more information visit: [www.krasl.org](http://www.krasl.org).



### Movin' Against Hunger 2017

Thank you to everyone who walked, or supported a walker, in the Movin' Against

Hunger Walk on October 8. Through your efforts \$3,385.08 was raised for the Harbor Country Emergency Food Pantry.



## Who's Who at TOUMC?

Did you know that it was Ed who gave Elna her nickname Ellie?

*Elna Rogers* was born and raised in Three Oaks. Her parents were Milford and Mary Adams. Her Dad was born and raised in Three Oaks. Her Mom was born in Ohio, then moved to Alabama. After college she came to Three Oaks to live with an aunt and uncle. Elna is the third of four children. Her oldest brother, Jim, was killed in a car accident in 1953 at the age of 20. Her older sister, Ethel Laurice, lives in Branch, Michigan. Her younger brother, Calvin, lives in Pompano Beach, Florida.

Elna graduated from Three Oaks High School. She was in two plays her junior and senior years. She then went on to Western Michigan University where she received a Bachelor's Degree in Business Education. She was a member of a sorority. While at WMU, she met Ed Rogers. Ed was from Michigan City so Elna caught a ride home with him. They later began dating. They were married on August 28, 1960. Ed had graduated. Elna had a year left before graduating. After she graduated, they moved to Galien where Elna taught secretarial classes. She taught there for three years. She then taught at the last graduating class at Three Oaks High School. Then taught at River Valley High School for 27 years, retiring in 1992. Elna also taught night classes at Commonwealth Business School and Lake Michigan College. Ed taught math at New Troy High School then River Valley High School. He also taught government classes at Lake Michigan College. And he taught drivers' education classes.

Elna has two sons and one granddaughter. Rick and his daughter, Paige live in Georgia where they have been for ten years after Rick took a job there. Craig lives in Three Oaks.

Ed and Elna did some traveling when the boys were growing up. They have a cottage on Gravel Lake in Lawton, Michigan where they spent a lot of time. When Paige was young, they took her on vacations with them. For ten years, they spent a couple of months in Florida in the winter until Elna lost Ed in December of 2014.

After retirement, Elna helped her son, Craig, in his photography studio that he had at the time. She also spent a lot of time in Grand Rapids visiting her granddaughter, Paige who was born in 1993. She was a care giver to her mom, mother-in-law and an aunt. She likes to sew and read. She likes redecorating. She likes to go places and travel whenever she can. Elna volunteered at River Valley Senior Center for fifteen years working with a travel agency to organize

trips. She is currently on the board there. She served on the board at Three Oaks Public Library for eight years. She still gets together with members of Ed's fraternity every two years. She also gets together with teacher friends.

Elna was a caregiver to her aunt, Doris Adams, who was a member of TOUMC. While caring for Doris, she first met Bill Payne who was our interim pastor at the time and then Sherri Swanson when she came to be our pastor. She spent time with Sherri when she visited Doris and really liked her. When it came time for Elna to find a new church, she chose TOUMC. She became a member in 2005. She has served and continues to serve on many different committees. She is also a part of the Sisters in Faith group. We enjoy Elna and are blessed to have her as a member of our church family.



## Save the Date

Our annual Church Conference with Kalamazoo District Superintendent, Rev. Dwayne Bagley, will be held on Sunday, December 3. The Staff-Parish Relations Committee will meet at 10:15 a.m., worship will be at 11:00 a.m. and the full Conference will convene at 12:00 p.m. All church members have a vote and are encouraged to attend.

Committee chairpersons are asked to submit an annual report on activities to the church office by November 5. These will be combined in a booklet for members who attend the conference.

## 2017 Chicken Dinner



Thank you to all of you who helped prepare and dish out this fabulous dinner. It was, again, a success! Bottom line profit is \$1,350.00. On top of that, many church members bought ten extra tickets that were donated to fire victims. Ten people came and got carry out dinners. They were very grateful to have these dinners.

We look forward to next year's Chicken Dinner.

*Faye Sittig, Sharon Phillips, & Priscilla Hellenga*



### Dave Ramsey's Smart Money

Watch a FREE Live Stream of Dave Ramsey's Smart Money Event on

Tuesday, November 7 at 8:00pm at St. Paul's UMC in Lawton. Dave and Rachel Cruze will take the stage in Phoenix, and we will stream the event in real time. Smart Money will give you Dave Ramsey's seven-step proven plan for dumping debt and building wealth. You'll leave with a clear vision for your family's financial future. Seating is limited so sign up today!

Register online:

[https://www.daveramsey.com/events/sml-livestream/signup?church\\_name=St.%20Paul%27s%20United%20Methodist%20Church&address=63855%20M-40,%20Lawton,%20MI&postal\\_code=49065&cd17=b2cLE\\_smart-money-simulcast\\_host\\_170811](https://www.daveramsey.com/events/sml-livestream/signup?church_name=St.%20Paul%27s%20United%20Methodist%20Church&address=63855%20M-40,%20Lawton,%20MI&postal_code=49065&cd17=b2cLE_smart-money-simulcast_host_170811) to get event materials by email and be entered to win great prizes.



### Meet me at the GATE

Water's Edge UMC in New Buffalo is pleased to support G.A.T.E. (Gathering At he Edge) ministry,

which features lunches prepared for older adults of the church and the Harbor Country Community every Wednesday.

Healthy, delicious lunches are available at a nominal cost of \$4.00 a person. Buffet style choices include soup, salad, sandwich and dessert. The comfortable, relaxed setting provides opportunity for conversation and friendship. Programs, ranging from entertainment to educational, are offered.

The program begins at 11:00 am and the meal is served from 11:30 am to 12:00 pm EST every Wednesday in The Commons at Water's Edge. No pre-registration is necessary.



### Homecoming Royalty

Congratulations to *Hannah Korbel* who was crowned Homecoming Queen at River Valley High School on October 13. Hannah is the granddaughter of *Matt and Nancy Caid*.



### Lay Servant Classes

Two advanced Lay Servant classes will be offered at Vicksburg UMC in November 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. "Leading Worship" will be taught November 4 and 11. "Living Our United Methodist Beliefs (UM Heritage)" will be taught November 4 and 18. Both of these classes are required for Certified Lay Speaker status (pulpit supply). You may register online at: <http://forms.michiganumc.org/kalamazoo-district-late-fall-2017-lay-servant-classes/> by October 28.

The Lansing District Lay Servant Class "Discover Your Spiritual Gifts" will be November 9, 11, 18, 30, and December 2 at Mulliken UMC. Saturday classes are 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. and Thursday classes are 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.. Purchase your own book, "Each One A Minister" by William Carter, ISBN 9780881773750. The cost of the class is \$15. You must attend all five classes (10 hours) for class credit. To register, please call Christine Pease at (517)983-3557.



about \$300.00.

In November, you will find your 2018 envelopes. Yes, they are different. Your envelope number will remain the same. We are using a different company. These envelopes cost about half the price of the old ones. We will be saving



### Missions

We will be taking part in Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. The project is run by Franklin Graham, president. It involves a Christmas wrapped shoe box, of average size, top and bottom wrapped separately, or a plastic shoe box filled with age-appropriate items for a boy or girl. There are suggestion sheets on the table in the narthex. As in the past the funds given for the globe offering will be used to cover the cost of the \$7.00 shipping. The boxes are shipped around the world to children who would otherwise not have any presents to open. These need to be turned in by November 12. There are wrapped boxes in the narthex for those who might need one.

*Sharon Flick*, Missions Chairperson

## Church Leader Training



Church Leader Training will be held on Saturday, November 11 at Portage Chapel Hill UMC (7028 Oakland Dr) 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. [Register](#) by Nov. 6. Learn more about your role as a church leader at one of these free workshops:

- DACA, Immigration, and Hispanic Ministry
- Implementing Mission, Vision and Values for Vital Ministry
- Like and Share Jesus: How do you get your social media off the ground in your local church?
- Ministry of Laity: Lay Leader, Lay Servant, Lay Member to Annual Conference
- The Mission of Ministry Shares
- Radical Hospitality
- Using MissionInsite to Reach the People Within Your Reach

You may register online by November 6 at <http://forms.michiganumc.org/kalamazoo-district-2017-church-leader-training/>. Contact the District Office if you have any questions: 269-372-7525, or email at [mandana@kalamazoodistrict.org](mailto:mandana@kalamazoodistrict.org).



### Shop AmazonSmile!

Now through AmazonSmile you can help earn money for Thee Oaks UMC each time you purchase something from Amazon! Next time you shop, go to [www.Smile.Amazon.com](http://www.Smile.Amazon.com) and select Three Oaks United Methodist Church as your charity. Each time you shop at [www.Smile.Amazon.com](http://www.Smile.Amazon.com), up to 0.5% of every purchase will be given back to our church. It's that easy!

You will find the exact same Amazon low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience – with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to our church. There is no cap on the total donation amount.

If you are reading this electronically you can click on the Amazon link above and start shopping. The link can also be found on our website ([www.toumc.org](http://www.toumc.org)) and our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Three-Oaks-United-Methodist-Church-214472765236584/>).

## Holiday Treasures



The Stevensville United Methodist Women are busy making preparations for the 35<sup>th</sup> annual Holiday Treasures Arts and Crafts Bazaar. It will take place on Saturday, November 4, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Stevensville UMC (5506 Ridge Rd., Stevensville). The event will showcase a variety of handmade items created by local artisans. There will be a Cookie Walk and Bake Sale featuring a wide variety of scrumptious home-baked cookies and treats. The Luncheon Café offers a menu that includes hot turkey sandwiches with mashed potatoes and gravy, Sloppy Joes, salads, homemade pies, and desserts. For more information, call 269-429-5911

## Harvest Dinner



The Harvest Dinner will be held on Sunday November 19 immediately following service. The Fellowship Committee will furnish meat, mashed potatoes and rolls. Please bring a side dish or a dessert to pass. Sign-up sheets will be found in the Narthex.



## Sisters in Faith

Our next regular meeting will be Wednesday, November 15, at 7:00 p.m. at the church. *Rhonda Petro* will share refreshments. All women of the church are invited. The ladies voted to send in a donation of \$500 to UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) as well as \$500 to our church's general fund.

*Elna Rogers and Faye Sittig* will do Blessings in a Backpack on Thursday, November 16 at 3:00.

## Free Advent Materials

There will soon be many free Advent materials available on the table in the narthex including devotionals on several themes. Please help yourself.



**It's time for a new directory!**

**Lifetouch Photographers will be here taking photos for our new**

**directory Monday, November 13 and Tuesday, November 14 from 2:00 – 9:00 p.m. both days. We hope everyone will have their photo taken for the directory. Sign-up sheets for appointments are in the narthex. If you would rather submit a photo, please have it to the church office by Tuesday, November 14.**

# November 2017



**Please Note**

**Please turn in all submissions for next month's Parish Post newsletter by November 19.**



- November 5 All Saints Sunday**
- November 12 Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost**
- November 19 Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
Harvest Dinner immediately after worship**
- November 26 Christ the King Sunday  
United Methodist Student Sunday**

**If we could deliver your next Parish Post by e-mail, please inform the church office. It would be faster, easier, and cheaper.**

**Thanks for your help!**

**Three Oaks  
United Methodist Church Staff:  
Pastor: *Rev. Susan Martin*  
Cell phone: *574-370-5121***

**Secretary: *Cheryl Kersey*  
Pianist/Organist: *Martha Spychalski*  
Custodian: *Mary Weers***