

# WUMC Community Pathway

Williamsburg United Methodist Church

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## FROM PASTOR NATE'S DESK ...

### The Times They Are A-Changin'

I know you probably weren't expecting your pastor to start the 2017 New Year's Newsletter with a Bob Dylan quote, but believe me, neither was I! As I've pondered the message I wanted to share with you in this season, I have gone back and forth more times than I can count between a standard New Year's "Peace-Hope-and-Joy-to-you-and-yours" type of message to the opposite end of the spectrum's "Prepareth Ye, for the Lord He Cometh Nigh". And, as I bounce between these seemingly conflicting messages, all I hear are Bob Dylan's words, on repeat, in my head, "the times they are a changin'". This is probably due to my excitement for him recently being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for Literature, as I have long been a fan of his work. But I am starting to see there is more to it. Whether *you* are a fan, or

not, you are likely familiar with some part of his work. And whether or not you like his particular style of music, you can't deny the depth and power of the message he shares with the world. I don't know Bob personally, so I don't know his religious beliefs, but his lyrics are sprinkled with scripture-like references and prophetic calls for peace and freedom. "... how many times must the cannon balls fly, Before they're forever banned?" "... how many years can a mountain exist Before it's washed to the sea? Yes, and how many years can some people exist Before they're allowed to be free? Yes, and how many times can a man turn his head And pretend that he just doesn't see? The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind" (Now, go listen to that song knowing the wind to be the Holy Spirit!) Or, "The slowest now, Will

later be fast, As the present now, Will later be past, The order is rapidly fading, And the first one now will later be last, Cause the times they are a-changing" (Is this Dylan's paraphrase of Matthew 20:16?...and yes, I'm going to make you look it up!) Dylan's words resonate with me because they exist in the same place I find myself today, somewhere between Peace and Prophecy! I do wish you a Blessed New Year, and I hope and pray that you, and the nations of the world, find True Peace and Joy. God wants the same thing! For you, and for the World! God is at work in the world, now, to bring about these great blessings! But with these great blessings must also come great change, for heaven on earth looks far different than what we see around us now. God's Greatest Blessings, Pastor Nate Starkey

- THE BEST WAY TO CHEER YOURSELF UP IS TO CHEER SOMEONE ELSE UP
- MARK TWAIN SAID IT.

DEAR CHURCH FAMILY,  
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFTS—SO VERY SWEET AND APPRECIATED.  
THANK YOU!  
LOVE,  
BETH AND DOUG

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## JANUARY NOISY OFFERING



The January Noisy Offering will support Northwest Michigan

Community Action Agency (nmcaa.net) This agency was created in 1974 to strengthen communities through helping individuals and families achieve greater self-sufficiency. Programs include Meals on Wheels, Emergency Services, (assist with heating & utilities), Homeless

Assistance, Financial Fitness Workshops, Head Start and many more. Emergency assistance is provided to low-income individuals and families for housing/shelter, heat, utilities, household contents, medication etc., as funds are available. Thank you!

**A C T I V I T I E S**

**Quilting!** The Quilters are meeting on Thurs., January 19<sup>th</sup> from 1PM to 4PM. Holly will be teaching a new pattern for this date! All supplies will be provided. Everyone is welcome! No experience is necessary!



Thank you for your HUGE generosity, filling the **ACTS Christmas Laundry Baskets** filled to the brim! 12 families were served! Lots of everyday sundry items that are not available at the food pantry or through the family's Bridge card were provided, plus much more! Big thanks to you all!!!



We are gathering **mittens, gloves, scarves, hats** (infant through adult sizes); hand-made, purchased, or gently used for organizations such as the Baby Pantry, TC Alternative High School, ACTS, Women's Resource Center, and more. This is an ongoing mission through March. Thank you so much for all that you've made and given!

**Women's Fellowship Will be meeting after brunch on Sunday, January 29th!**

This is the "planning session" so bring any ideas you might have for future projects!

All women are welcome!



**C H U R C H   W O M E N   U N I T E D**

Church Women United invites the Grand Traverse area women to their January meeting. We will enjoy a program by Skip Brown of Freedom Builders (<http://www.fbmissions.org/>).

The meeting will be held at the Cottage Café, 472 Munson Ave., Traverse City. Call Jan Manor, 231.938.2864 for

reservations by January 9. We will learn about the mission of Freedom Builders. They work with local churches to demonstrate the love of Christ. Clients are a small step away from being homeless, being displaced from their homes because of unsafe housing conditions. Freedom Builders have served our area for ten years, growing from forty

projects a year to over one hundred fifty a year. Church Women United requests your involvement. We are a racially, culturally, theologically inclusive Christian women's movement, celebrating unity in diversity and working for a world of peace and justice.



**H U M A N   R E L A T I O N S   D A Y - J A N U A R Y   1 5 ,   2 0 1 7**

Turn on the news or drive around the outskirts of your town and you will find what Jesus called "the least of these." Those living in the margins of society, struggling to survive. People like: An immigrant teenager

in Texas' poorest county, being recruited by a local gang  
A father struggling for sobriety in Little Rock, Arkansas  
An Oklahoma woman recently released from incarceration

looking for work  
Over and over Jesus served people like this, embracing them. And that's what we want to model as the people of The United Methodist Church. To continue the ministry of Jesus we established Human

Relations Day as a Special Sunday that calls all of our churches to participate in helping all God's children to realize their potential.



# January 2017 \*denotes more info in newsletter

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Communion 10am Worship Svc. 	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Dwain Provins BD	<b>4</b> Sue Burrows' BD 3pm Worship Svc at Samaritas	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Jim Brinks' BD Bob Bassett's BD Kaylen Starkey's BD	<b>7</b> FYI only-Bridal shower for Katie Johns  Clara Hasenick's BD
<b>8</b> 10am Worship Svc.  Potluck Sue Morrison's BD	<b>9</b> Carol Walter's BD	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 3pm Worship Svc at Samaritas	<b>12</b> *11am CWU Mike Slopsema's BD	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Marcy Block's BD
<b>15</b> 10am Worship Svc. Ad Council meet- ing after church 	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 3pm Worship Svc at Samaritas	<b>19</b> *1-4pm Quilting 	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 10am Worship Svc.	<b>23</b> Doris Stites' BD	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Barb Orchard's BD 3pm Worship Svc at Samaritas	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Don Hasenick's BD
<b>29</b> 10am Worship Svc. & Brunch Women's Fellow- ship Meeting after Brunch Marge Surowitz's BD Jim Wright's BD	<b>30</b> Hunter Lake's BD Anthony Braden's BD	<b>31</b> Sue Mull BD		<b>AA SCHEDULE</b>  <b>MONDAY</b> <b>WEDNESDAY</b> <b>SATURDAY</b>  <b>8PM</b> <b>7PM WOMEN ONLY</b> <b>10AM MEN ONLY;</b> <b>7PM ALL</b>		

WATCH YOUR **THOUGHTS**,  
FOR THEY BECOME **WORDS**.  
WATCH YOUR **WORDS**,  
FOR THEY BECOME **ACTIONS**.  
WATCH YOUR **ACTIONS**,  
FOR THEY BECOME **HABITS**.  
WATCH YOUR **HABITS**,  
FOR THEY BECOME **CHARACTER**.  
WATCH YOUR **CHARACTER**,  
FOR IT BECOMES YOUR **DESTINY**.



**YOUR LIFE  
IS YOUR  
MESSAGE  
TO THE  
WORLD.  
MAKE SURE  
IT'S  
INSPIRING.**

<http://www.allinspirationalfacts.blogspot.com/>

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