

Williamsburg United Methodist Church

January/February 2016

From Pastor Nate's desk...

Special points of interest:

- Knit or crochet? Your talents are needed!
- Puns
- Quilting—no experience needed!

Inside this issue:

Pastor Nate	1
January Calendar	2
February Calendar	3
Hats, scarves & mittens	4
Special Sunday	4
Quilting	4
Valentines	5
Dave Ramsey FPU Class	5

Happy 2016! As 2015 comes to a close, we give thanks to our Great and Almighty God for the many blessings we have seen this year; for the people that have been drawn back in to our Shepherd's fold; for lives Christ has impacted; for the continuing process of readying Christ's bride (the church) for that great wedding day! And as 2016 enters in, may we all do our part to usher in this New Year. May we see this time of year as an opportunity to commit, and re-commit, our lives to Christ! May we enter 2016 with a rejuvenated spirit of compassion for our neighbors near and far, and an uplifted spirit of worship and praise for our Creator and Father God. God certainly seems to have some amazing things in store for his greater church in this New Year, and for Williamsburg United Methodist. Would you take some time, now and every day, to pray over some these upcoming events and new ministries that are emerging out of WUMC.

The Youth! We seem to have the stirrings of the initial stages of forming a Youth Group, for the first time in many years. Will you pray for this? Pray for our teenagers; that they be drawn to seek a deeper relationship with God and with their peers. Pray for leaders to emerge from our congregation with the will and commitment to guide and grow this group.

The Children! We have been invited to provide mentorship to children at Mill Creek Elementary. Will you consider your part in this? Will you pray about it? Pray for these children, who so desperately need to know they are loved, to know they are loved. Pray for people to emerge from our congregation to serve the children of this community in godly manner.

Stewardship! Will you pray for the continued and growing care and stewardship of the gifts we receive? We are so blessed! But, we must stay attuned to how we handle all we are given, that we might be the greatest possible blessing to others. Pray that!

Lay Ministry! Will you pray for the next generation of church leadership to emerge from this community? Pray that we might build a structure of ministry within our church that meets the spiritual needs of the community. Pray that we might offer Christ to the world in a manner that speaks directly to the hearts of every person with whom we engage. Pray for the complete ministry of our church.

Your Pastor! Will you pray for me? For Spirit, for growth, for fire, for repentance, for willingness and courage, for knowledge, for submission to Christ, for boldness, for Sabbath, for holiness. I am so blessed! What an amazing family, church, and journey I have been given, and I covet your continuous prayer for God's continuous presence to be evident in my life and ministry.

You! Will you pray for you! I will! Pray that God's will and love be shown, to you and through you, in all you do in 2016, and forevermore! God Bless You All!

Pastor Nate

Starkey

January 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Happy New Year!	2
3 10am Service— Communion L-Jean R. Dwain Provins' BD	4 Sue Burrows' BD	5	6 Jim Brinks' BD Bob Bassett's BD Kaylen Starkey's BD	7 *11a-1:30pm CWU Clara Hasenick's BD	8 Sue Morrison's BD	9 Carol Walter's BD
10 10am Service L-Rich H. 2pm (fyi only) 4-H Group *5pm Dave Ramsey FPU Class	11	12 Mike Slopsema's BD	13	14 Marcy Block's BD	15	16 Pastor Nate in Haiti through 25th
17 10am Service Human Relations Day Guest Speaker Tom Clemens L-Kim K. *5pm Dave Ramsey FPU Class	18 MLK Jr's Birthday Observance	19	20	21 *1-4:30 Quilting	22	23 Doris Stites' BD
24 10am Service Guest Speaker Tom Clemens L-Rod K. *5pm Dave Ramsey FPU Class	25 Barb Orchard's BD Pastor Nate home from Haiti	26	27	28 10am Bible Study 7pm Bible Study Don Hasenick's BD	29 Marge Surowitz's BD Jim Wright's BD	30 Hunter Lake's BD Anthony Braden's BD
31 10am Service L-Darlene R. Brunch Women's Fellowship Sue Mull's BD *5pm Dave Ramsey FPU Class					AA Schedule: Mon. 8pm everyone welcome Wed. 7pm Women only Sat. 10am Men only, 7pm everyone welcome	

February 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 <i>Vonnie Everts' BD</i>	3 <i>Rich Hargreaves' BD</i>	4 <i>*11:30-1pm CWU</i> <i>David Huver's BD</i> <i>Jim & Evie Huver's Anniv!</i> <i>Pete & Evie Huver's Anniv!</i>	5	6
7 10am Service Guest Lay Speaker Tom Clemens <i>L-Holly B.</i> *5pm Dave Ramsey FPU Class	8 <i>Dorothy Karker's BD</i> <i>Jackie Axtell's BD</i>	9 <i>Shawn Clone's BD</i>	10 Ash Wednesday 3pm Ash Wed. Svc. @ Hope Village 7pm Ash Wednesday Service at WUMC	11	12	13
14 10am Service <i>L-Laura R.</i> Valentine's Day Boy Scout Sunday <i>Ad Council Meeting</i> *5pm Dave Ramsey FPU Class	15 President's Day	16	17	18 <i>*1-4:30 Quilting</i>	19 <i>Bill Morrison's BD</i> <i>Hayden Thomas' BD</i>	20
21 10am Service <i>L-Carol H.</i> *5pm Dave Ramsey FPU Class	22	23 <i>Grace Reinhold's BD</i>	24 <i>Jason Hamstra's BD</i>	25 <i>Jerri Bloxsom's BD</i>	26	27
28 10am Service <i>L-Larry E.</i> Potluck Lunch Women's Fellowship Meeting *5pm Dave Ramsey FPU Class	29			AA Schedule: Mon. 8pm everyone welcome Wed. 7pm Women only Sat. 10am Men only, 7pm everyone welcome		

Keeping Warm!

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!

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!*

THANK YOU! From Marcia Clone: "Thank you, to all that have contributed to our hat, scarf and mitten/glove tree. I've passed out 22 complete sets for children and adults, plus many infant hats so far. Please continue to knit, make or buy items for our tree. Cold weather will continue and so will the need. Again, thanks for all your support." Look at the beautiful hats mittens and scarves on the tree" at the far end of the narthex!



Human Relation Day January 17, 2016

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.

As a member of The United Methodist Church, your gift, on this day, allows the work of folks like Bruce and Becky Ballou to build relationships

with those teens in Texas. Your gift allows Montey Payne to lead recovering addicts towards healing. And your gift helps Rev. Steve Burr find work for ex-offenders.

This work, and hundreds of other ministries, are possible because you give.

"What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness."
John Steinbeck

Quilting and Generous Hearts

Prayer Quilters meeting!

Prayers & Squares will be meeting on Thursday, January 21 from 1-4:30pm AND Thursday, February 18th in Fellowship Hall. No experience necessary and everyone is welcome! Prayers & Squares is an inter-faith outreach organization that combines the gift of prayer with the gift of a hand-tied quilt. The purpose of Prayers & Squares is to promote prayer through the use of quilts. Our motto is: "It's not about the quilt; it's all about the prayers."

Thank you for your HUGE generosity for the **ACTS Christmas Laundry Baskets** filled to the brim!

14 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.

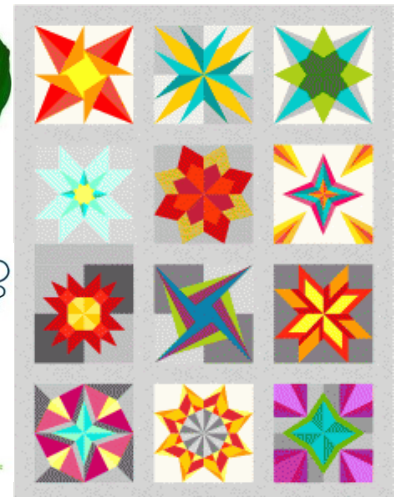


I do believe,



I am in a little pickle

WHAT DID THE BUFFALO SAY TO HIS SON WHEN HE LEFT FOR COLLEGE?



February's Noisy Offering

Babyfold at Old Mutare Fairfield Children's Home- Zimbabwe, Africa

- To respond to Jesus' call to care for the orphans and needy children.
- To expand the poultry project currently at 100 to about 1,000 birds to provide meat for the children and income through selling.
- To organize refresher courses for house parents.
- To install two tower lights at both ends of the home.
- To plant winter crops such as wheat and harvest the winter crops.

- To repair broken windows at the home and all the fittings/ceilings.
- To scout for career opportunities for our children in colleges or doing apprenticeship programs.
- To have clean water flowing into the homes 24 hours a day; currently we only have water 2 hours in the morning and 2 hours in the evening.
- To prepare hostel accommodation for children over 18 years still in need of care; this will allow them to complete skills training.
- To place our first college graduates into employment

- and career paths.
- To monitor and evaluate the success and challenges of running a children's home following our present patterns and systems of residential family homes system.
- To evaluate challenges and successes and recommendations on a way forward and the improvement of systems and approach to achieve maximum benefit to needy children.



A sweet story...

Valentines for area senior citizens! Please purchase a box of Valentine cards and sign them, **"Williamsburg United Methodist Church"**, and bring them back to church by Sunday, Feb. 7th and they will be distributed to area retirement/assisted living/nursing homes!



Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University

Dave Ramsey's financial plan includes 7 steps:

1. \$1,000 to start an Emergency Fund
2. Pay off all debt using the Debt Snowball
3. Three to six months of expenses in savings
4. Invest 15 percent of household income into Roth IRAs and pre-tax retirement
5. College funding for children

6. Pay off home early
7. Build wealth and give!

But I found something additional on-line. Something that is pretty important :
Baby Step 0: The Unlisted Step
 "I have seen different variations of Baby Step 0, but I think everyone agrees that the most important thing that one must do before embarking on the journey that encompasses the Baby Steps is to **make a com-**

mitment to change."

Some people get into financial trouble due to bad luck, but most get there because they make not great financial decisions and engage in bad money habits. We all could use Step 0! Make a commitment to turn things around.

January 10 2016 5pm at WUMC
TO SIGN UP:
www.daveramsey.com/fpu/

"This isn't some stuffy economics class!

You'll laugh as you learn money skills from Dave and participate in entertaining class activities."



