



WUMC Community Pathway

Williamsburg United Methodist Church

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Pastor's Corner

February 2019

See, I **am** doing a **new** thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I **am making** a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. Isaiah. 43:19 **New Living Translation**

He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." Revelation. 21:5 New International Version

Happy New Year, friends!

As we begin this new year, I cling to the promises contained in these two passages above, one from the Old Testament prophet Isaiah, reporting the words of God, and the second from the New Testament Book of Revelation, doing the same.

You know, New Year's Eve is kind of a bitter-sweet holiday. We look back at what has happened, often what might have been, and we look forward with more wish than hope that the coming year—which, after all, is simply a date on a calendar—will somehow be better. The truth is that some parts of the new year will, indeed, be better, and some parts will, unfortunately, not be better. But God's words to us are this: "I am making a new thing," "I am making everything new." Sometimes, the things we first see as being bad are, instead, things in which God's grace abounds to us and we are filled with the gift of His grace. My suggestion: When things look bleak, watch for the grace!

I look forward to seeing what direction God will take us in this coming year. We are, even after a year-and-a-half, still working to figure this whole new parish structure out. As with any two-year old, we are going through some growing pains, but those are necessary for us to grow bigger and stronger and more gift giving.

There are some special things happening in our Northern Waters District in the next couple of months and one very important thing for our denomination—a thing that will almost certainly change the face of the United Methodist Church.

We are, beginning **January 1**, no longer the West Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church. We have completed a four-year process of establishing a completely **new conference** that encompasses the whole state of Michigan, hence the **Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church**. Bishop David Bard will continue as our bishop.

A few months ago, we changed from the Grand Traverse District to the Northern Waters District, encompassing most of the northern half of the Lower Peninsula. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Anita Hahn has led us ably and graciously through this change process. Anita, though, has been D.S. for eight years, the maximum allowable under the *Book of Discipline*. That means that we will, soon, be appointed a **new District Superintendent**. The District Committee on Superintendency, of which I am honored to be a part, has been providing recommendations about skills, experience, and gifts—even a few names—to Bishop Bard for his consideration in naming our next superintendent. In the next few weeks, we will meet with the bishop and his new appointee. After that, the selection will be officially announced. (Please don't ask me until the announcement happens. I am bound by rules of confidentiality in this.) After that announcement, **you will hear of opportunities to not only celebrate Anita's time with us as we bid her farewell, but to meet and celebrate our new superintendent**. When I have the dates and locations for those events, I will let you know.

With the advent of our new conference, some administrative procedures and practices are changing. This is especially true in our financial reporting and practices. **On Sunday, January 27, 2019, the district will sponsor "Super Sunday" at Cadillac UMC from 2:30-5:00 pm.** Last year's Super Sunday event was excellent and very well attended. If you are new to a leadership position, or simply want to learn more about opportunities to grow in your service within our church or beyond, I encourage you to come to this. **Super Sunday is free and will include workshops on finance, trustees, Staff-Parish Relations Committee, Ad Council to Simple Governance, Laity Ministry, Spiritual Disciplines, and Hospitality.** Come and learn best practices or even to share some of the ways we may be doing things that may have value to others.

To register for Super Sunday, go to www.northernwaters.michigan.umc.org.

Please be in prayer over the **Special General Conference, which will be held February 23-26, in St. Louis, MI.** This conference will debate and, presumably, decide among several different pieces of legislation related to the denominations stand on human sexuality and clergy qualifications. We will have more conversation about this in the coming weeks.

May the New Year bring you joy, prosperity, and love, in Jesus' name.

Pastor Jack

ACTIVITIES

We need your help! There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex to be with the kiddos in the Sunshine Room on Sunday mornings!! Thank You!

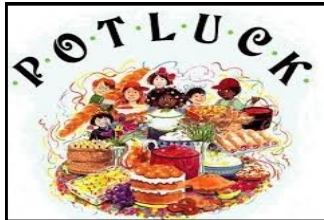


If you are a Nurse, Nurse Aide, Paramedic, Medical Assistant, etc. and would like to be on the Parish Nursing Team, I would love to have you on this new team that's just getting started.

Contact Sherry Boucher, RN, BSN if interested 231-633-1082 or email : boucher@torchlake.com attn. Parish Nursing



Stay Tuned for Potluck Themes! Check the dates on the Calendar!



Community Movie Night!
Sunday, Feb 10th @ 4pm
Williamsburg United Methodist Church!
"War Room"
Kids Movie and Games downstairs!

Thursday, February 14th!



Our February Noisy Offering will support Keys To Freedom Ministry Thank you for supporting this!



Join us for Brunch! Last Sunday of the month!
Thank you Rod Kuncaitis



February 2019

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

* more info in newsletter

AA SCHEDULE

Monday, 7:30pm Wed. Women Only, 7pm
Saturday, Men Only 10am;
Saturday, everyone, 7pm

1

2

3 10:15 Wor-
ship/Communion
Svc/Coffee

4

5

6
3pm All Faith Svc. @
Samaritas

7

8

9

10
10:15 Worship
Svc. Followed by
POTLUCK!
Valentine's Day
Theme!
Movie Night 4pm

11

12

13
3pm All Faith Svc. @
Samaritas

14
Valentine's Day

15

16



17
10:15 Worship
Svc./Coffee

18

19
*AD Council Mtg
6pm @ WUMC

20
3pm All Faith Svc.
@ Samaritas

21

22

23

24
10:15 Worship
Svc.
BRUNCH

25

26

27
3pm All Faith Svc. @
Samaritas

28

FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS!

FEBRUARY

2nd Vonnie Everts
 2nd Gavin Hamilton
 3rd Rich Hargreaves
 4th Jim & Evie Huver's Anniv.
 4th David Huver
 8th Dorothy Karker
 8th Jackie Axtell

19th Hayden Thomas
 22nd Jerri Hubbell
 24th Jason Hamstra
 25th Jerri Bloxsom



F N Q M L H N Z H T T D R Q P X W H W S
 E C U R O C O S R A V Z M R M D I G C S I I
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 S T P Y G N M E C N A M O R A E N M K I B X

Be My
 Valentine

ARROW
 CANDY
 CARD
 CUPID
 FEBRUARY
 FLOWERS
 FRIENDSHIP
 GIFT
 HAPPY
 HEART
 HONEY

LACE
 LOVE
 MOONLIGHT
 MUSIC
 PINK
 RED
 ROMANCE
 ROSES
 SWEETHEART
 SWEETS
 VALENTINE

Happy
Valentine's
Day

FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

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