

WUMC Community Pathway

May 2018



Williamsburg United Methodist Church

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New Living Translation: "And the one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new!" And then he said to me "Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true." Rev. 21:5

New King James Version: "Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness." Lam. 3:22-24

What a busy and productive month April has been!

We began, of course, with **Easter Sunday** on April 1st. We celebrated the "old, old story" that is, even so always "new every morning." God—the Creator of everything that is, offered His own life so that we can have eternal life through and in Him. May that old, old story always be new and renewing to us—every single day.

The **very next weekend**, eighteen leaders from our four churches met for a Friday night-Saturday afternoon retreat at beautiful **Lake Louise Retreat Center** near Boyne Falls. We spent time playing together, doing team building activities, discussing some opportunities for joint activities and also something pretty special: We all know that we are busy still, working out the details of our "new thing," four churches learning to work together—each in our separate communities, to grow the kingdom of God and to reach out to the lost, lonely and broken among us. We also came to the retreat with an understanding that our parish name, Williamsburg, Fife Lake, East Boardman and South Boardman United Methodist Churches is pretty unwieldy. Our task was to determine, if possible, a new identification in which each church would retain their name but as a combined unit we could find a new identification that would define who and what we are, who and what we hope to be. We had a lot of great ideas and spent a LOT of time discussing and debating before settling on what I happen to think is the perfect name: one that describes what we hope to accomplish and one that offers us a vision for the future. The unanimous new name for our parish was selected as:

"Unified Parish"

The Parish Council, which is comprised of leaders from all four churches will discuss and, hopefully approve the new name, which we will then forward to the district and conference for future use. Our District Superintendent Anita Hahn came on Saturday and shared her joy at the progress she has witnessed in our work together. Assuming that the Parish Council will approve our new name, we will then, officially be, the **"Unified Parish of Williamsburg, Fife Lake, East Boardman and South Boardman United Methodist Church,"** short version **"Unified Parish."**

Just this past week we had the opportunity to celebrate the music ministry of Kyle and Kayla Hershberger's cousins, Matt and Josie Minikus. About thirty folks from Williamsburg and Fife Lake Church came on Wednesday night for a great concert, where the Holy Spirit truly blessed us all.

On **Sunday, April 22**, a special and new gathering happened. On **July 1st** our old **"Grand Traverse District"** will be **no more**. The current 13 districts in the State of Michigan are being reduced to 9. This coincides with preparations for our **two Michigan conferences to become one on January 1, 2019**. At that time we will become the **Michigan Area Conference of the United Methodist Church**. First, though, a lot of work has been done at the district level. Our current district is being expanded eastward to the Lake Huron shoreline, encompassing most of the current "Grand Traverse District" and most of the northern part of the "Saginaw Bay District" of the Detroit Conference. We met (there were seven of us the "Unified Parish," bringing water samples from each parish church) who attended along with over 200 people from other new district churches at Gaylord First United Methodist Church. We worshipped together and celebrated our new district name:



Pastor Jack's Corner Continued.....

“The Northern Waters District”

and we elected officers to help lead the new district. As I mentioned earlier, the new district does not officially come into existence until July 1 but we are celebrating this new thing, this new life together.

(Our parish got some unique recognition by our D.S. at that new district conference. Each church was asked to bring some water to the event and, during the worship part of the conference, each parish's (including the name of each of the churches in those parishes) names were called and the folks of those churches came forward and poured their water into common containers—which were later used for a remembrance of baptism and communion. **Our parish was alphabetically last on the list of churches (Williamsburg being first named of our four churches). After we came forward, Anita explained to the rest of the gathering about our “new thing” together, and told everyone that we are “rocking it!”**)

As we enter into the month of May (Is winter finally over?) we are preparing for this year's **Annual Conference**, which is meeting again at Grand Traverse Resort, May 31-June 3. The Unified Parish has an opportunity to show radical hospitality to those who will be visiting our community from across the State of Michigan. Churches in our ministry cluster are staffing the **“Grace Patrol” Hospitality Team**. The purpose is to provide friendly faces and active help in assisting folks to get to where they need to be. On Friday, June 1, our parish will provide two teams of 6-8 people to help, one team from 8 am until 1:30 pm and the other from 1:30 pm until 6:30 pm. **Darlene Renzema is gathering volunteer names from Williamsburg**. Those who volunteer need to be able to stand for much of the time they are “on shift” to greet conference attendees who require assistance. Conference and district staff members will be available to assist.

Friends, “resurrection” *means* new life! We have, this month, experienced once again resurrection to new life in Christ, but also resurrection through music, through retreat and through holy conferencing. It is my daily prayer that God will continue to guide us, to help us become truly “unified” in our ministry with all four churches and help us to celebrate as we venture into a new district in the next couple of months.

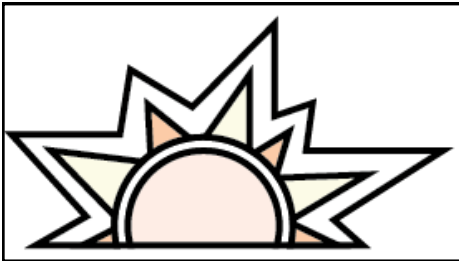
May God richly bless you and give you new life—every morning! Love in Christ! Pastor Jack





**THE AMERICAN LEGION INVITES
YOU TO LUNCH IN THE
FELLOWSHIP HALL ON
MEMORIAL DAY AFTER THE
WILLIAMSBURG PARADE!!!!**

**May Noisy Offering:
Camp New Day!**

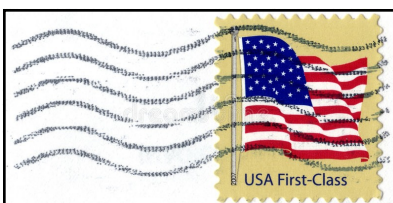


**Mother-Daughter-
Sister-Friend-
Banquet
Friday, May 11 @
5pm**



**COLLECTING YOUR USED
GREETING CARDS & YOUR
POSTMARKED STAMPS!**

Church Women United are collect-
ing these items! On the postage
stamps, please cut the envelope at
a diagonal to make sure there's
plenty of paper around the stamp.
THANK YOU!

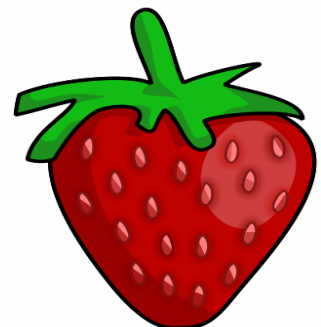


ACTS

(Acme Christian Thrift Store)
Needs Volunteers!!
Contact Carol Hockin
@ 231.492.6952



SAVE THE DATE!
SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 2018 FOR
THE STRAWBERRY
SOCIAL!
4:00-8:00
Please Volunteer!!!



May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 All Faiths Worship Service 3pm @ Samaritas VBS Work Bee	3 Church Women United Pot- luck @Northport Indian 11am	4	5 Yuba Historic Mother Daughter Luncheon 12pm
6 Ad Council Mtg after Service	7 Pastor Jack on vacation (thru May 13)	8	9 All Faiths Worship Service 3pm @ Samaritas	10	11 Mother- Daughter- Sister-Friend Banquet @5pm	12
13 Mother's Day! 	14	15	16 All Faiths Worship Service 3pm @ Samaritas	17	18	19
20 Women's Fellowship Meeting after Cof- fee	21	22	23 All Faiths Worship Service 3pm @ Samaritas V.C.I Group Meet- ing 7pm	24	25	26
27	28 Memorial Day 	29	30 All Faiths Worship Service 3pm @ Samaritas	31 Annual Con- ference at Resort Thru June 3	AA SCHEDULE Monday, 7:30pm NEW TIME!!! Wed. Women Only, 7pm Saturday, Men Only 10am; Saturday, everyone, 7pm	

May Celebrations & Reminders

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2nd Jack Braden
3rd Wanda Provins
5th Pete Morrison
6th Nick Lloyd
7th Chelle Lints
7th Hannah Reinhold
7th Brandon Gualtiere

7th Nate Graham
8th Pam Hamstra
9th Amy Starkey
14th Scott Graham
15th Jan Bassett
17th Nicole Buchan
21st Erin Gogolin
24th Rod & Kim Kuncaitis' 15th Anniversary
30th Connor Rouse



MORE INFORMATION ABOUT MAY' S NOISY OFFERING: CAMP NEW DAY:

The Mission: To provide a fun filled Christian summer camping experience for children ages 9-14 who have a parent or family member who is incarcerated.

To create and maintain an atmosphere reflecting God' s acceptance, love and hope. To foster self-respect and respect for others. To promote positive life skills and to help develop an appreciation of outdoor activities and nature.

Camp New Day is a place for healing, a place for growth; a place where children are safe. There is freedom in helping children understand the deep love of Jesus Christ.



Williamsburg United Methodist Church

Save The Date for VBS!

August 13-16 5:30pm – 8:00pm

Registration Now Open

WWW.vbspro.events/p/wumcvbs18



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