

WUMC Community Pathway

Williamsburg United Methodist Church

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Pastor Jack's Corner

May 2019

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: A time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build. Ecclesiastes 3:1-3

It may have seemed that spring would never come, but it has, and it is lifting our spirits after a long, cold winter. This is truly a time of new birth after the time of rest, and a time to uproot the old and plant the new. That is not just true for our lives and our gardening, although some of that has been done as you will see a bit later, but it is also true of our faith and our understanding of God and His purposes for us. I think that is, at least mostly, what the Teacher, (the name given to the one who wrote the Book of Ecclesiastes, whom most scholars believe was King Solomon, himself) is trying to get across in this famous passage. I have begun in this way to accomplish a few special things:

TEAR DOWN AND REBUILD: As you know, as result of a very generous donation to our church, work has been completed on a new ramp at the front of the building. Frankly, the old ramp was crumbling beneath our feet. The new ramp is wider and will, we hope, better meet the needs of our limited mobility members and guests. So, the old was torn down and the new has been built. Because of that work, the old landscaping in the front of the church had to go, too. It may not be fully visible yet, because they have not yet budded and blossomed, but new shrubbery and other plants have replaced those that were there. New life is coming, friends. **Special thanks to Sherry Boucher, who headed up the landscaping process, and to all her helper-elves!**

A TIME TO PLANT: We have not had a Bible study in a while but it is time to bring a new one to life in our faith community. I have been reading and studying a new study series that is specifically designed to help grow our understanding of the Bible, itself. The *Exploring the Bible: The Dickinson Series*, is a group of three six-week studies that focus on our Holy Scriptures, helping us to understand from whence they have come and what they really say (as best we can figure it out.) Part I, *What is the Bible?* Is a wonderful overview of the whole Bible: how it came to be, who wrote it, what is says (and does not say!), and why it is set up the way it is. Part II, *Introducing the Old Testament*, tells the sweeping story of God and His works among the first people, and our spiritual ancestors, the Jews. The Old Testament also, in many places, points us to the Messiah, the Christ, Himself. Part III: *Introducing the New Testament* explores the life and ministry of Jesus as well as the earliest struggles and triumphs of the followers of Jesus and how those persons and events impact our lives today.

I invite you, whether a Bible-scholar or a Bible-"babe," to join us in this series. I have read through the first volume; it is easy to follow and even humorous in spots. The total series, all three texts, are \$40.00 but can be purchased separately, all from Amazon.com.

As with previous studies, I plan to have a morning session at one church and an evening ses-

sion at another, to give as many folks as possible the chance to join in. If we begin on the first week of June, we will finish up at the final week of September (assuming once per week without breaks). This will allow our "snowbirds" to be a part of the fun. I will ask that you order your books through Amazon or, if you prefer, we can bulk order through Janet Goss, the parish administrative assistant. Please let Janet know, by Friday, May 17 which group you will join with and which books, if any, you would like her to order.

The book and their prices are as follows: Volume I: *What is the Bible* is \$11. Volume II: *Introduction to the Old Testament* is \$14. Volume III: *Introduction to the New Testament* is \$15. (If there is enough interest among young parents, we will seek to arrange child activities during the sessions.) AS IS ALWAYS THE CASE, OF YOU WANT TO PARTICIPATE BUT CANNOT AFFORD THE BOOKS, PLEASE LET ME KNOW AND WE WILL MAKE SURE YOU GET THEM!

This is open for discussion, but my thoughts right now are to offer a morning session at Fife Lake—probably on Tuesday (beginning June 4), and an evening session at Williamsburg—probably on Wednesday (beginning June 5).

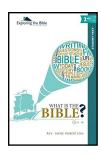
A TIME TO WEEP AND A TIME TO LAUGH: If you haven't heard, there will be a **special celebration of our District Superintendent, Anita Hahn's eight years with us. It will be held on Saturday, May 11 at Lake Ann UMC Community Center from 1-6 pm.** There will be many different music groups performing, food for everyone, and worship with Anita and our Bishop David Bard. Please let Janet know if you are going and if you need a ride.

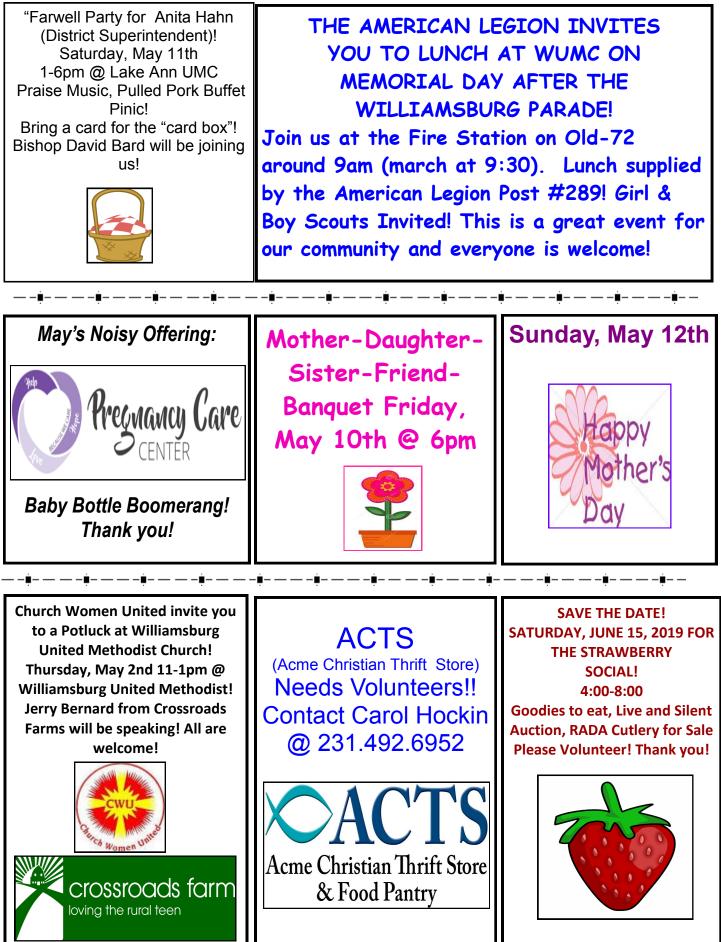
One more thing! If you are a music fan, please set aside the **first Tuesday evening of June, July and August at 7 pm for a concert on the lawn series at Fife Lake UMC**. While these will not necessarily be Christian music concerts, they will be family-friendly. Refreshments and a free-will offering will be available. Bring a blanket, or lawn chair, and come as you are.

"There is a time for everything and a season for every activity..." Hope you will join us for these and for the many other special events you will find listed in this newsletter.

Peace and blessings, beloved of God!

Pastor Jack





May 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
AA SCHEDULE Monday, 7:30pm Wed. Women Only, 7pm Saturday, Men Only 10am; Saturday, everyone, 7pm			1 All Faiths Worship Service 3pm @ Samaritas	2 Church Women United Pot- luck @WUMC 11am	3 Last day to register for Annual Conference @ GTR & Spa!	4 Yuba His- toric Mother Daughter Luncheon 12pm
5 10:15 worship service	6	7	8 All Faiths Worship Service 3pm @ Samaritas	9	10 Mother- Daughter- Sister-Friend Banquet @6pm	11 Anita's Farwell 1-6pm @ Lake Ann UMC
12 10:15 worship service Mother's Day!	13	14	15 All Faiths Worship Service 3pm @ Samaritas	16	17	18
19 Women's Fellowship (9am) 10:15 svc. Ben's Sexton's Farwell Pot- luck! (1pm)	20	21	22 All Faiths Worship Service 3pm @ Samaritas	23	24	25
26 10:15 worship service	27 Memorial Day! Thank you Veterans!	28	29 All Faiths Worship Service 3pm @ Samaritas	30 UM Annual Conference @ GTR& Spa (5/30-6/2) Register by 5/3!	31 Annual Conference Grand Traverse Resort	

May Celebrations & Reminders

- 2nd Jack Braden
 3rd Wanda Provins
 5th Pete Morrison
 6th Nick Lloyd
 7th Chelle Lints
 7th Brandon Gualtiere
 7th Nate Graham
- 8th Pam Hamstra
- 9th Amy Starkey

14th Scott Graham17th Nicole Buchan21st Erin Gogolin24th Rod & Kim Kuncaitis' Anniv!





ONE CALL/TELL ALL:

Our new church communication system is up and running. This will make communicating with our congregation much easier when it comes to getting important information out to everyone at the same time, especially since not everyone has access to E-mail. This system will be used for announcements, church events, reminders, prayer requests, cancellations, etc. You may have already gotten a message through this system. The number that will show up on your caller ID will be (231)267-5792, which is the number of the Williamsburg United Methodist Church. If you have information that needs to relayed to the congregation, or if you have questions regarding this communication system, please contact Janet in the office, or Darlene Renzema or Pastor Jack. Please let us know if your phone number needs updated. Thank you!





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