

WUMC Community Pathway



Williamsburg United Methodist Church

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Greetings, beloved friends!

It always seems to happen this way...Christmas is upon us before we know it, with all of the busyness, buying, celebrating, singing, decorating, eating, eating, eating, eating...! May I, first and most of all, on behalf of Pattie and me, wish each one of you an exceedingly joyous Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

As my gift to you, you will find an Advent/Christmas Scripture and Prayer guide enclosed in this newsletter. I pray that it will be a blessing for you, guiding you to, as we are told of Mary in Luke 2:19, "Treasure up all these things and ponder them in [your] heart."

This has been a wonderful and adventuresome journey these past few months as Pattie and I have come to love a new home and four new church families. You have welcomed us with love and with joy, you have prayed for us diligently and passionately, you have embraced Ben, Corey, Josh, Evie, Haley and baby Ben as your own. It hasn't always been smooth sailing, because no one has ever tried this sort of thing before, but you have all shown wonderful grace and abundant patience as we have worked to sort things out. There will be many more challenges and many more blessings to come!

My prayer is that this Christmas time will be a time when peace and love will truly descend upon each heart, that your homes and families will be filled with joy, and that, as Tiny Tim so famously said in Charles Dickens, *A Christmas Carol*, "God bless us every one!"

None of us knows what the coming year will bring. As with any other year there will certainly be many unexpected joys and many expected sorrows within our church family, but of one thing I am certain: We worship a God in Christ who is Healer, Savior, Redeemer, King, and Friend. Let us all seek to keep Him first in our thoughts, thereby putting everything else in its proper place in our lives.

From the Conklin family to yours: May God's blessings abound. May your Christmas be filled with joy and your New Year filled with hope in Christ.

In Christ's love,

Pastor Jack, 2017



DECEMBER / JANUARY CELEBRATIONS!

| | | | | | |
|------|-------------------------------------|----------------|--|------|-----------------------------|
| 1st | Bruce & Gail Gualtiere's 5th Anniv. | 21st | Deedee Reece | 12th | Mike Slopsema |
| 5th | Anne Lovell | 23rd | Barb Drummond | 13th | Sherry Boucher |
| 5th | Greg & Laurie Gogolin's Anniv. | 30th | Dennis Aurand & Cara Bagley- Aurand's Anniv. | 14th | Marcy Block |
| 6th | Merle & Pearl Morgan's 70th Anniv. | ***** | | 18th | Pam & John Hamstra's Anniv. |
| 8th | Gail Gualtiere | January | | 23rd | Doris Stites |
| 9th | Jim Huver | 3rd | Dwain Provins | 24th | Zach Reece |
| 11th | Ian Graham | 4th | Sue Burrows | 25th | Barb Orchard |
| 14th | Ron & Laura Reinhold's 43rd Anniv. | 6th | Kaylen Starkey | 29th | Marge Surowitz |
| 17th | Finnegan Shane Lloyd | 7th | Clara Hasenick | 29th | Jim Wright |
| 18th | John Hamstra | 8th | Sue Morrison | 30th | Hunter Lake |
| 20th | John Boucher | 8th | Donn Hubbell | 30th | Anthony Braden |
| | | 9th | Carol Walter | 31st | Sue Mull |
| | | 11th | Jan & Steve Donker's Anniv. | | |

ACTIVITIES

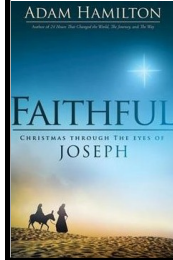
Santa at Grand Traverse Resort

Sat, Nov 25, 6-8pm Lobby
 Sat, Dec 2, 8a-12p Breakfast with Santa
 6-8pm Lobby
 Sat, Dec 9, 6-8 Lobby
 Sat, Dec 16, 8a-12p Breakfast with Santa
 6-8pm Lobby
 Sat, Dec 23, 6-8pm Lobby

Advent Bible Study
 "Faithful: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph"
 by Adam Hamilton

5-week series, beginning
 11/28/17

Tuesdays, 10a, at
 E Boardman UMC
 or
 Wednesdays, 6pm
 at
 Williamsburg UMC



The Lions are hosting a free
 Community Dinner
 at Cherryland Middle School
 and you are invited!

Saturday, Dec 2nd, 2017
 4-7pm
 Cherryland Middle School is
 located at
 707 E. 3rd St., Elk Rapids

Bring Non-Perishables for the
 ER Food Pantry!

More Santa Time!

Tues., Dec. 5th 6-7pm at
 "Hi" Pray Park in W'burg!

Yellow ribbons will
 be placed on the Christmas tree
 in memory/honor of our military
 folks.

Fri, Dec. 15, 6-8pm at
 Masonic Lodge in Acme.

Come tell Santa all
 about your list!



Christmas Cantata
 East Boardman UMC
 Sunday, Dec. 10, 2017
 6pm

2080 Boardman Rd. SW,
 South Boardman
 All Are Welcome!



Elk Lake Choir presents a
 Christmas Cantata on
 Saturday, December 16, 2017
 4pm
 at Elk Rapids 1st Presbyterian
 Church

An Offering taken
 will help
 support local
 Charities.



Christmas Baskets for ACTS! Take an
 "ornament" from the Christmas tree in
 the narthex! Purchase items for the fam-
 ily that they cannot get at ACTS. Please
 purchase everything that is listed on the
 back in the designated sizes please. Put
 the items in a bag or box and place by the
 tree in the narthex. No wrapping needed!
 Please be sure the Christmas "ornament"
 is attached. Items should be under the
 tree by Sunday, December 10th. Or you
 can place cash/check (made out to
 WUMC) in an envelope and place it in the
 offering plate. Want to buy extra? That's
 fine—it will go directly to ACTS for them
 to distribute as needed. Thank you so
 much! God Bless you this holiday season!

December's Noisy Offering:
 Kewadin Indian Mission Church,
 Lane 5 (Racial Ethnic Local
Churches) of the West MI
 Conference. Monies collected for
 this Mission are used to support
 their worship, Bible Study, youth
 ministry, work camps and camp
 meetings. Thank you for your
 support!

January's Noisy Offering will
 support NMCAA Heating
 Assistance!

MITTEN TREE TIME!

We are gathering mit-
 tens, gloves, scarves,
 hats (infant through
 adult sizes);
 hand-made, OR
 purchased, OR gently
 used for organizations
 such as the
 Baby Pantry,

TC Alternative High School,
 ACTS, Women's Resource Cen-
 ter, and more. This is an ongoing
 mission through March.
 Thank you so much!



December 2017

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

*** more info in newsletter**

Church Women United Gathering/Potluck-Central UMC, 222 Cass St., TC- Program: "Readers Theater- THREE WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM". Ingathering for Central's Outreach: women's hygiene products and disposable razors. Bring a dish to share and your table service. *The whole community is invited!*

1 World Aids Day
2 *Santa at Grand Traverse Resort! See schedule!
***4-7pm Lions Int'l Free Community Dinner**

10:15 Worship/ Communion Svc./ Coffee
4

5 *10am Bible Study at EBUMC
***6-7pm Santa @ Hi-Pray Park in W'burg**

6
3pm All Faith Svc. @ Samaritas
***6pm Bible Study at WUMC**

7 *11am-1pm CWU @ TC Central UMC

8
9 *Santa at Grand Traverse Resort! See schedule!

10 10:15 Worship Svc./Coffee
***6pm Christmas Cantata @ E. Boardman UMC**
ACTS items back by today

12 *10am Bible Study at EBUMC

13
3pm All Faith Svc. @ Samaritas
***6pm Bible Study at WUMC**

14
15 *6pm Santa @ Acme Masonic Lodge!

16 *Santa at Grand Traverse Resort! See schedule!
***4pm Christmas Cantata @ Elk Rapids 1st Presbyterian Church**

17 10:15 Worship Svc./Coffee
No AD COUNCIL MEETING
Pack Cheer Baskets after coffee! (no potluck)

19 *10am Bible Study at EBUMC

20 *10am Bible Study at EBUMC
3pm All Faith Svc. @ Samaritas
***6pm Bible Study at WUMC**

21
22

23*Santa at Grand Traverse Resort! See schedule!

24
10:15 Worship Svc./Coffee
5pm Christmas Candlelight Svc.



26 *10am Bible Study at EBUMC

27 *10am Bible Study at EBUMC
3pm All Faith Svc. @ Samaritas
***6pm Bible Study at WUMC**

28
29

30 *Santa at Grand Traverse Resort! See schedule!

31
10:15 Worship Svc./Coffee



AA SCHEDULE
Monday, 7:30pm NEW TIME!!!
Wed. Women Only, 7pm
Saturday, Men Only 10am;
Saturday, everyone, 7pm

▶ January 2018

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|-----|---|--|-----|---|
| | 1  | 2 | 3 3pm All Faith Svc. @ Samaritas 7PM AA Women Only | 4 | 5 | 6 10am AA Men Only; 7pm everyone |
| 7 10:15 Wor- ship/Communion Svc./Coffee | 8 7:30PM AA | 9 | 10 3pm All Faith Svc. @ Samaritas 7PM AA Women Only | 11 Human Traffick- ing Awareness Day | 12 | 13 10am AA Men Only; 7pm everyone |
| 14 10:15 Worship Svc./Coffee | 15 MLK, Jr.'s Birthday Observance 7:30PM AA | 16 | 17 3pm All Faith Svc. @ Samaritas 7PM AA Women Only | 18 | 19 | 20 FYI Only- Fellowship Hall being used; Morning AA moved upstairs. 10am AA Men Only; 7pm everyone |
| 21 10:15 Worship Svc./Coffee AD Council Meet- ing | 22 7:30PM AA | 23 | 24 3pm All Faith Svc. @ Samaritas 6:30pm SPRC 7:30 Ad Council meeting at Fife Lake UMC 7PM AA Women Only | 25 | 26 | 27 10am AA Men Only; 7pm everyone |
| 28 10:15 Worship Svc./Coffee Women's Fellow- ship Meeting | 29 7:30PM AA | 30 | 31 3pm All Faith Svc. @ Samaritas 7PM AA Women Only | | | |

**2017 Advent Scripture and Prayer Guide
Williamsburg, Fife Lake & Boardmans United Methodist Churches**

| Day/Date | Scripture Reading | To Meditate Upon (based on the NIV Bible) | Prayer Focus | Special Information |
|-----------------|--------------------------|---|---|---|
| Sun., Dec. 3 | Isaiah 64: 1-9 | “all our righteous acts are like filthy rags” (v. 6b) | Our time of Advent preparation for our Lord | 1 st Sunday in Advent; Communion at Wmsbg & Fife Lake |
| Mon., Dec. 4 | Psalms 80: 1-7 | “make your face shine upon us” (v. 7b) | Having a right heart toward my neighbors | |
| Tues., Dec. 5 | Psalms 80: 17-19 | “revive us [O Lord]” (v. 18b) | Reawaken my first love for You, O God | |
| Wed., Dec. 6 | 1 Corinthians 1: 4-7 | What is MY spiritual gift? (v. 7) | Our community | |
| Thu., Dec. 7 | 1 Corinthians 1: 8-9 | “You will be blameless” (13b) | My family | Church Women United Gathering/Potluck at Central UMC, Traverse City. Final Christmas Cantata rehearsal, 7 pm at East Boardman UMC. |
| Fri., Dec. 8 | Mark 13:20-26 | “the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory” (26b) | That all would hear the Good News of Jesus Christ. | |
| Sat., Dec. 9 | Mark 13: 32-37 | “Watch!” | For tomorrow’s worship services | |
| Sun., Dec. 10 | Is. 40: 1-2 | “[my] sin has been paid for” (v. 2b) | For my church family | 2 nd Sunday in Advent; Communion at Boardmans; 6 PM Cantata at East Boardman, “Go Sing It On The Mountain” |
| Mon., Dec. 11 | Isaiah 40: 3-11 | “He tends His flock like a shepherd” (11a) | For East Boardman United Methodist Church | |
| Tue., Dec. 12 | Psalms 85: 1-3 | “You...covered all their sins” (2) | For Fife Lake United Methodist Church | |
| Wed., Dec. 13 | Psalms 85: 13 | “But I cry to You for help, O Lord, in the morning my prayer comes before You.” (13) | For South Boardman United Methodist Church | Christmas Party at Samaritas Senior Living Center, Mt. Hope Road, Acme. Come join us at 3 pm. |
| Thu., Dec. 14 | 2 Peter 3: 8-9 | “With the Lord a day is like a thousand years and a thousand years is like a day” (8) | For Williamsburg United Methodist Church | Fife Lake UMC Care & Share Food Pantry Christmas Meal boxes packed and sent beginning at 9 am. |
| Fri., Dec. 15 | 2 Peter 3: 10-12 | “You ought to live holy and godly lives” (11b) | For the Grand Traverse District Superintendent, Anita Hahn and her family | |
| Sat., Dec. 16 | Mark 1: 2-3 | “Prepare the way for the Lord” | For Grand Traverse District churches | 4 pm, Elk Lake Community Choir Cantata at 1 st Presbyterian Church, Elk Rapids, “Hope Is Born, Emmanuel” |

| | | | | | |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|---|--|---|
| Sun, Dec. 17 | Isaiah 61:1 | Isaiah 61:1 | Isaiah 61:1 | For the West Michigan Conference, UMC | 3 rd Sunday in Advent |
| Mon, Dec. 18 | Isaiah 61: 8-11 | Isaiah 61: 8-11 | “I delight greatly in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God” (10a) | For our Bishop David Bard and his family and leadership | |
| Tue, Dec. 19 | Psalms 126: 1-3 | Psalms 126: 1-3 | “The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy” (3) | All first responders | |
| Wed., Dec. 20 | Psalms 126: 5-6 | Psalms 126: 5-6 | “Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy” (3) | All those who are suffering | |
| Thu., Dec. 21 | 1 Thess. 5: 16-22 | 1 Thess. 5: 16-22 | “Be joyful always. Pray continually” (16-17) | What are you thankful for today? | |
| Fri., Dec. 22 | 1 Thess. 5: 23-24 | 1 Thess. 5: 23-24 | “The One who calls you is faithful” (24b) | For those who will be alone or homeless this Christmas | |
| Sat., Dec. 23 | John 1: 1-5 | John 1: 1-5 | “The light shines in the darkness” (5a) | For our military members, especially those in war zones | |
| Sun, Dec. 24 | Luke 2: 1-20 | Luke 2: 1-20 | “The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God” (20a) | Peace on Earth and goodwill toward all people | Fourth Sunday in Advent; CHRISTMAS EVE: 5 pm, Candlelight Service at Williamsburg UMC; 7 pm, Candlelight Service at Fife Lake UMC. |
| Mon, Dec. 25 | Isaiah 9: 2-7 | Isaiah 9: 2-7 | “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (7) | For all people to come to Jesus as Lord and Savior | CHRISTMAS DAY |
| Tue, Dec. 26 | Psalms 96 | Psalms 96 | “For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise” (4a) | For God’s blessing, healing, and peace within our families | |
| Wed., Dec. 27 | Luke 1: 26-38 | Luke 1: 26-38 | “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you!” | For our nation. | |
| Thu, Dec. 28 | 2 Samuel 7: 10-13 | 2 Samuel 7: 10-13 | Of whom was the Lord speaking, David’s earthly son Solomon or his earthly descendant Jesus? | For our President and leaders. | |
| Fri, Dec. 29 | Hebrews 1: 1-4 | Hebrews 1: 1-4 | Hebrews 1: 1-4 | For prosperity in the coming year | |
| Sat., Dec. 30 | Titus 2: 11-13 | Titus 2: 11-13 | “while we wait for... the glorious appearing of our God and Savior Jesus Christ” (13) | For clarity in what God wants from me this coming year | |
| Sun., Dec. 31 | Rev. 12: 1-6 | Rev. 12: 1-6 | Rev. 12: 1-6 | For peace and love to reign in 2018 | NEW YEAR’S EVE |



THANK YOU!!!

We were able to send out 18 (!!!) CARE Packages this year!

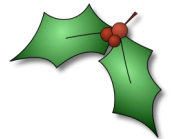
Many thanks go out to all who donated items, provided recipient names and packed the boxes. Here are the recipients:

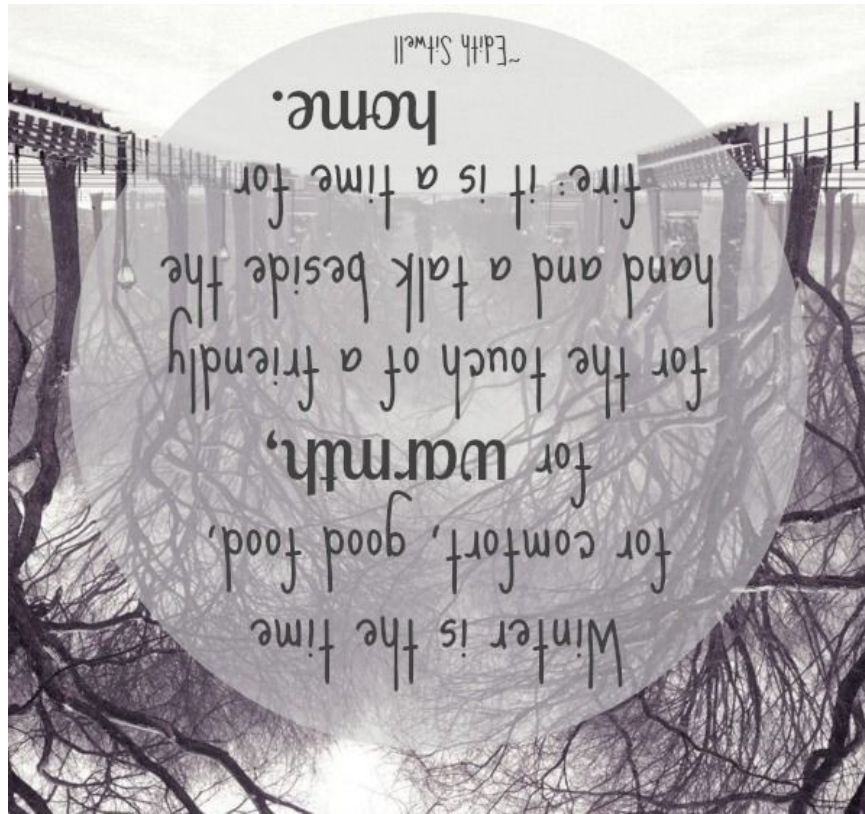
Sami Aisthorpe
 Anthony Aranda
 Madison Aranda
 Katelyn Belcher
 Lauren Bradfield SA

Aubrey Chartier
 Nicole Cummings
 Erin Gogolin
 Isaac Gogolin
 Julie Hoffacker

Brandon and Katie John
 Nick, Chelsea & Finn
 Lloyd
 Dana and Connor Rouse
 Shawn Stinson

Avery Springer
 Emma Springer
 Isaac Springer
 Carly Wood





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