



# Williamsburg UMC Newsletter

December 2016

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## From the Pastor's Desk

### **John 3:16 A Grammatical and Effectual Breakdown by Pastor Nate Starkey**

**For** (because, or due to the fact that; indicates the phrase that follows will reveal the purpose for which any subsequent actions were taken)

**God** (the main subject of our passage; the being, above and before all other beings, who created and rules over the entirety of the universe, revealed unto mankind as the triune manifestation of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit)

**so** (greatly, deeply, very much)

**loved** (cared for, had strong affectionate feelings toward the ensuing subject)

**the world** (the earth and all of humankind, and here, the recipient of said love)

**that** (indicates that, due to the situation previously explained, the main subject was compelled to take the action which follows)

**he** (God; see above; ha get it? Look up!)

**gave** (the action taken by the main subject; produced, offered, parted with, handed over, delivered. For this Christmas season, I recommend 'delivered', as in 'gave birth to')

**his one and only Son**, (the thing with which he parted, unique to him, unique to the world, produced by him, from him, of his origin, his child)

**that** (for the purpose of bringing into reality the effect that follows)

**whoever** (any one person, all people)

**believes** (has faith in, accepts the truth of, the subject, in this case: him; the only qualifying action for "whoever" to gain the effect God desires)

**in him** (a grammar teacher's nightmare; Does this masculine pronoun refer us back to the original masculine main subject, God, or to the recently introduced secondary masculine subject, the Son? Is this Him in whom we are to believe Jesus? Or God? For the purposes this work, and for the purposes for which God took the actions spelled out here, the answer is simply, "Yes!")

**shall not perish** (will not die, not decay, not rot away)

**but** (shall instead; will rather; converse to the preceding phrase)

**have** (possess, keep, hold, claim as one's own)

**eternal** (without end, forever, no longer finite, non-perishable)

**life**. (the state of being alive, animated, to exist, having energy in body and spirit!)

*The gift of Christmas is a precious reminder that we are loved!*

*Pastor Nate*

You are more than....

your past  
your financial situation  
your job  
your personality  
your triumphs  
your failures

You are a child of God.

John 1:12

A Merry  
HEART

DOES GOOD

LIKE

MEDICINE

PROVERBS 17:22



## Special Missions and Offerings

**December "Noisy Offering" will help support ACTS (Acme Christian Thrift Store & Food Pantry)** Assistance to the poor, hungry and homeless is given as it is possible.

•The Pantry is supported by Thrift Store Sales, United Way of Northwest Michigan, financial and food support from many service organizations, churches, businesses and individuals.

### **Acme Christian Thrift Store & Food Pantry**

8925 M72 East  
Williamsburg, Michigan 49690  
231-938-2990

• *Volunteers needed, particularly in the afternoon from 1 to 5 pm Tues-Friday, and Saturday 110am-3pm.* [actsstorepantry@gmail.com](mailto:actsstorepantry@gmail.com)

ACTS is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization.



**November 27th we begin our Christmas Baskets for ACTS!**

There is a tree in the narthex covered with "ornaments". We are purchasing items for the family that they cannot get at ACTS.

When you take one of the ornaments, 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 11th. If you'd rather not shop, place cash or check (made out to WUMC) in the 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!



## Women's Fellowship



**Quilters will not be meeting until January. Remember, everyone is welcome! No quilting experience necessary!**

### **Cheer Baskets**

Packages will be packed Dec. 18th after church!  
If you'd like, please bring 2 dozen cookies.



Also may need help delivering the baskets.

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!



## December Events



**Tues., Dec. 6th 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. 16, 6-8pm** at Masonic Lodge in Acme. Come tell Santa all about your list!

More Santa appearances will come in your e mail!



The Men's Group will meet on Sunday, December 4th at 6 PM. The meeting will be at Jim Hockin's house.

8990 Old M-72  
Williamsburg  
All men are welcome!



The Adult Social Group will be meeting on Tuesday, December 13 at 10 AM.

There will be light refreshments and great fellowship. Please join us!

Contact Rich Hargreaves or Marcy Block for more information.

# December 2016

Pastor Nate: (586) 229-5767  
Church Office: (231) 267-5792

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
AA Schedule: Mon. 8pm everyone welcome Wed. 7pm Women only Sat. 10am Men only 7pm everyone welcome				1 10am, 7pm Bible Study	2	3
4 10am Wor- ship Service- Communion 2nd Sunday of Advent *6pm Men's Group	5	6 6-7pm Santa at Hi- Pray Park	7	8 10am, 7pm Bible Study	9	10
11 10am Worship Svc. 3rd Sunday of Advent *ACTS items to church by today. Potluck	12	13	14	15 10am, 7pm Bible Study	16 6pm Santa @ Masonic Temple in Acme	17
18 10am Wor- ship Service 4th Sunday of Ad- vent *pack Cheer Bas- kets *2pm & 4pm Christmas Cantata	19	20	21	22 10am, 7pm Bible Study	23	24 7pm Christmas Eve Service
25 Christmas Day 10am Worship Service 	26	27	28	29 Bible Study will not meet today	30	31 New Year's Eve

\* more info in newsletter





Elk Lake Community Choir presents  
their Annual Christmas Cantata

# *"Peace on Earth"*

at Elk Rapids 1st Presbyterian Church

on

Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 2pm AND  
4:00 PM.

Director is Cheryl Knight,  
Accompanist Melody Stoll



For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder. And his name shall be called

***Wonderful***, Counselor,  
The Mighty God,  
The Everlasting Father,  
***The Prince of Peace***.

*Isaiah 9:6*

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



Saturday, December 3rd, 2016  
4-7pm  
Cherryland Middle School is located at  
707 E. 3rd St., Elk Rapids

*Bring Canned goods /non-perishables for the  
Community Cupboard Food Pantry!*



# Food Collection



Williamsburg United Methodist Church  
PO Box 40  
5750 Williamsburg Rd  
Williamsburg, MI 49690