



United Methodist Church of Ludington

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Facebook.com/UMCLudingtonKids - - - - www.ludingtonumc.org

DECEMBER 17, 2017 ANNOUNCEMENTS



Today, December 17 Third Sunday of Advent

- 8:30 am Judy's Adult Bible Studies
- 9:30 am Children's and Adult Sunday School
- 10:30 am Children's Christmas Program
- 11:30 am Birthday Party for Jesus
- 11:30 am Brief Administrative Board meeting
- 4 - 6 pm Legacy Christmas Caroling

Monday, December 18

- 10:00 am Flower Ministry
- 4:00 pm Traumatic Loss Group
- 6:00 pm Becky's Piano/Vocal Recital

Tuesday, December 19

- 9:30 am Intercessory Prayer
- 2:00 pm Office Volunteer Appreciation Tea
- 4:30-6:00 pm We serve Community Table at Community Church
- 5:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 20

- 9:00 am Rug Ladies
- 11:00 am Worship Committee
- 6:00 pm Catered Meal
- 7:05 pm Pastor's Bible Study

Thursday, December 21

- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 8:00 pm Praise Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 22: Office closed

Sunday, December 24 Christmas Eve

- 8:30 am Judy's Adult Bible Study
- 10:00 am Lessons & Carols, Krystal Bells, Children's Message
- 7:30 and 11:00 pm Worship with Communion And Candlelight

Monday, December 25: Merry Christmas Office Closed

NURSING/ADULT CARE

- Eldred Chavalia (*Karlyn Bray's dad*)
- Dick Davis (*at Oceana Medical Care Facility in Hart*)
- Nancy Dust
- Myra Easton
- Phil Hunt
- Nancy Kelley
- Betty Lunde
- Mary Macklam
- Tom McCumber
- Dolores Pahoski
- Onabelle Pehrson
- Dorothy Smogoleski
- Laura Walker
- Matthew Wilson, Oklahoma

HAITI:

**Baudin School,
Baudin Methodist Church,
Ranquette Methodist Church
and Pastor Odeles Du Rosier**

ZAMBIA:

**Soweto-Kapisha UMC,
Pastor Bernard & Betty Lumene
& Lord's Mountain Orphanage,
Bwafwano Care Project and
Minerva Phiri**

HENDERSON SETTLEMENT

IN NEED OF PRAYER

- Bill Alexander
- Dan Bernson
- Michael Burtch
- Terry Carpenter (*brother of Judy Penrod*)
- Svea Clayton
- Shirley Dust
- Anne Estle
- Tanya Gasaway
- Art Isham
- Erv Johnson
- Sherry Johnson
- Sara Jones
- Sally LaFrance
- Dan Laliberte
- Maralee McCumber
- Kay Neal

- Sean Nelson
- Bob Rasch
- Janet Raspotnik
- Connie Robertson
- Stephanie Rozell
- Ken Stroebel
- Nancy Stuart
- Brian Tibbot
- Pat Trowbridge
- Dawna Wilson
- Jason & Linda Wolven
- Wolvens' Uncle Carlon

Note: After three months' time we will need an update for your name to remain on our ongoing prayer list. Thank you.

IN THE MILITARY

Coordinator: Sheila McCallum
SrA Joseph Archer, NV
SSG Daniel J. Cook, NC
Kevin D. Coyne, TX
CSSA Emily Gibson, CA
Matthew Heard, TX
Greg Heimall III, NC
Melody Houk, Gt. Lakes Naval
Staff Sgt. Jacob Hunt, TN
Catherine McNaughton, MS
Capt. Jane McNaughton
PV2 Christopher Myer, KY
Paul Nickelson, MI
Sgt. Joshua John Reed, TN

COLLEGE STUDENTS

Coordinator: Penny Quillan
Alex Bachus - U of M
Alexis Bushard - GVSU
Timmy Bushard - Western
Noa Gohn - GVSU
Rachel Gohn - Cornerstone U.
Kayla Gottwald - GVSU
Rachel Ives - U of M
Skylar Korendyke - GVSU
Kate Penrod - U of M
Sam Penrod - Western
Jordyn Sanders - U of M
Alyssa Scribner - Ferris
Tristan Scribner - Ferris
Mallory Shinn - Hope College
Meredith Sparks - Central
Emma Taranko - GVSU

Local visitors interested in learning about our church and its programs are encouraged to stop at the Welcome Center in the narthex to pick up a visitor bag.

The Story of Christmas is presented today at 10:30 am. Following the service, all are invited into Fellowship Hall for a "Birthday Party for Jesus."

Everyone is invited to the Legacy **Caroling** today from 4:00 to 6:00 pm! We will be visiting three to four elder care facilities. Come lend your voice!

Also, Legacy will host another **Soup Lunch** Sunday, January 14, from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm. Mark your calendars. There will be a free will donation. *(This is a correction from last week's bulletin announcement).*

The 2018 offering envelope boxes are in the narthex. If you had envelopes this year I assigned a box for you this year. There are some extra boxes, so if you would like envelopes please contact me or leave a note in my box.

Dennis Genson, Financial Secretary

From United Methodist Women President Karen Genson

Our last **Ladies Lunch Date** of the year! We will meet at 1:00 pm on Monday, December 18 at El Rancho Restaurant at 4743 W US Highway 10. Please sign up in the church office so we know approximately how many to make reservations for, but if you forget to reserve, don't stay home! Come and join us, and bring a friend!

From Joan Schwass, United Methodist Women

This is a long-overdue report on one of our major mission projects. Each summer the UMW members meet to put together cherry pies. Costs of our supplies come out of the UMW treasury. However, the main ingredient, the cherries, are donated by Hackert Farms. Roy and David compliment us about the quality, flavor, and presentation of our pies. Our hope is to continue to make pies as a project. It has been an excellent fundraiser, helped immensely by this donation. They say they are the best church pies they have had. They think it's the cherries. I think it is the preparation. Together we are a success.

The following items are from Allan Carlson, Evangelism Committee Chairperson.

- **Advent** began December 3. Advent devotional booklets entitled *Jesus, God's Promise* by Henri Nouwen are available on the Literature Table in the hallway to Fellowship Hall. We encourage you and your family to use these devotions during the Advent season.
- We will conduct **nursing home worship services today**. We will be at Tendercare at 2:15 pm, Ludington Woods at 3:00, and Oakview at 3:45. Please join us if you can, to visit with the residents and help with the singing.
- We will serve **Community Table** from 4:30 to 6:00 pm at Community Church on Tuesday, December 19. If you'd like to help prepare or serve this meal, please contact Jennifer MacDonald at 690-8944, Donna Possehn at 690-1647, or Allan Carlson at 843-7071. Thanks in advance for your willingness to help with this important service to the community.

What are you doing for **Christmas Dinner**? Why not join Pastor Dennis and other folks of our church for a potluck at 12:30 pm on Christmas Day? Sign up in the church office.

Beautiful **men's watch found in church**. See or call Judy Downing.

Due to staff vacation, there will not be a January Footprints. We will publish a January-February edition in the middle of next month. You can pick up a copy of the January birthday calendar from the church office or the Welcome Desk beginning December 31.

The Fifth Annual "Christmas Praise Concert" was a great success, thanks to the generous help of several people who assisted with the event.

First: I want to call out a special thank you to the UMC women and the praise band members who supplied all the home baked cookies for the reception. The variety was fantastic and they were very well received by all. Also, thanks to Mary Russell for the setup of the reception.

Second: Thanks to the church youth team "Legacy." You came through with flying colors: Serving cookies and punch, busing tables, and taking up the free will offering. Thank you for your youth energy and smiles. You represented the church in excellent style.

Third: Thank you, Dennis Tabor, for stepping in at the last minute to run the projection/sound board for the videos and caroling lyrics.

Fourth: Thank you, Becky Sopha, for playing the piano for the audience caroling, which was a great wrap-up to our program.

Fifth: A special heartfelt thank you to the UMC Puppet Praise Team for joining us this year. Their story, "Shining Bright," was the perfect message for the evening.

Sixth: Big thanks go out to IOS Entertainment "sound engineers" for providing the equipment and services that made us sound great.

Seventh: Thank you to the Praise Team from St. Simon's Church for joining us for the third year.

Eighth: I wish to say thank you to our own UMC Praise Band "Water's Edge," for your willingness to give your time, talents and dedication to provide our church with, "a joyful noise" and very fitting Christmas praise music.

Most of all, I would be remiss if I didn't thank all those who took the time out of their busy holiday schedules to attend our concert. You are truly what made the program a success...because, without an audience a concert is just a rehearsal.

I look forward to our sixth annual Christmas Praise Concert & Program.

Merry **C**hristmas to all.

Sincerely

Jac Russell - Director
United Methodist Church
Praise Band "Water's Edge"

ADVENT

Ad - vent (noun)

Advents (plural noun)

- 1. the arrival of a notable person, thing or event**
- 2. The first season of the Christian church year, leading up to Christmas and including the four preceding Sundays**
- 3. Christian theology of the second coming of Christ**

Here I am standing on my carpet square dressed in just about every piece of winter clothing that I own. I am adorned with my red apron, front pockets filled with candy canes for the little ones and Kleenex for me. I have my brass bell in the apron which we are to ring. However, being the instigator I am, a cow bell is more my style. I am just here to make them smile.

The weather's not bad. Wind is a little stiff but not too cold. The crowds are sporadic, feast or famine, but I try to address every person that passes by in their coming and going. The life of a volunteer bell ringer for the Salvation Army.

I enjoy the volunteering here, ringing the bell and greeting people I would probably never see at any other place or time. Some are friendly. "Have a Merry Christmas," they say. Others are more stoic and look the other way. I still greet them with a "Have a nice day" or "Have a Merry Christmas" as they go on their way.

I love the little ones busting with energy, running around, picking on sister or brother until mother reminds them about Christmas. Then suddenly angels appear, pushing mom's cart to the car (riding down the hill on the back of the cart of course)!

I have been wondering as I stand here, waiting for the next coin to drop in the bucket or paper bill to be pushed in, what do we give Christ as he waits for us to recognize him, standing next to us, through thick and thin? Do we give him the left-over change of our time or the dollars that we have left behind after paying our bills and buying our toys? Or are we like the little girls and boys who give all of themselves to their mother and dad, knowing they are loved without reservation? Just as the Lord loves us?

I think if we listen we might hear Jesus ringing the bell for us. Wanting us to know him. Wanting us to give our most important possession—our lives. So that even as we wait this advent season, we can be filled with joy and anticipation knowing that he is coming again!

MATTHEW 18:3

And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

ROMANS 13:11-12

Do this, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now, salvation is nearer to us than when we believed. The night is almost gone, and the day is near. Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.

By Kirk Myers