



Newaygo United Methodist Church News

We are a caring and supportive community where all are welcome. We are God's Dreamseekers who seek to make disciples in ways that show love, respect and service to our community.

An Amazing Year

One of the best things about this past year is being at Newaygo United Methodist Church doing what God has called me to do. It has been a year of change for all of us. I think we have found our sea legs and are off to a good start together working for the kingdom of God. Together we have experienced how to work together well (kayak races, pancake breakfasts, potlucks, Shack worship, etc.), we have experienced loss, we have worshipped well with great music and Spirit, we have learned the limits of our technology (lol), and we have cared for one another in amazing ways. It has been an amazing year.

Now we are looking forward to another year of experience as the body of Christ. We will explore ways to grow in Christ and ways to grow in each other. We are beginning another year of Sunday School, both for adults and children. I will be leading the adult class (most of the time), Jen Larsen will work with the older children (I will be doing confirmation once a month for them), Ron and Kay Pardonnet will be teaching the younger children, and Ann Henning will be teaching the very young children. We will also be holding a membership class in September (date to be determined) for those who might be interested in at least considering this important step in being a part of this segment of the body of Christ. Pancake breakfasts will be an ongoing thing, and we will continue to strive for our best in the art of worship.

Church cannot be church without the ongoing input of all its members, from the most trivial seeming suggestion to more important seeming matters, we are called to work together to offer the gospel message to others. From maintaining our church building to dreaming about elevators and more handicap accessibility, to engaging ourselves in mission and ministry, we are called to offer our best for and in the name of Christ.

So let's make this an amazing year as well. Together we can do more than any one individual can do. And with God's Spirit so strongly among us we will share the gospel in astounding ways. Thank you all for your faith, for your presence, for your gifts, for your time in building up the kingdom of God in this corner of God's good creation!!!

Pastor Kathy



Mark your calendars for September 9!

Sunday School will be starting with an all church potluck in the church and games outside for the children after dinner.

We look forward to seeing you all there. We plan on a fun filled day and year.

Patti Venneman
Director of Religious Education

We are looking for a helper for the 7th-12th grade class and also persons to sign up to provide a snack for the children each Sunday. If you are interested in helping, please see Patti Venneman as soon as possible.

We have many fun family oriented activities planned throughout the year also so please keep your eyes open for more information as the activities get closer. This fall we will have another hay ride! So get your sweatshirts ready for some fun!



Prayer Shawls

Knitters and crocheters wanted – knit at home or join us at Vera’s House on Wednesday’s at 8:30am. Some yarn has been donated for our shawls. See Dolores Cook, Jackie Pederson or Millie Stine.

The prayer shawls are given to persons who are struggling with something in their life. They provide a bit of comfort to let them know someone cares and is praying for them.



Are you considering becoming a member of Newaygo United Methodist Church? Do you just want to find out more information about what it means to be a United Methodist Church member? Please join Pastor Kathy on September 24th at 7:00pm. Let Pastor Kathy if you are interested.

2012 Mission Giving

Benevolence	\$ 855.00
Dresses for Africa	\$ 525.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$ 124.00
Haiti School Kits	\$ 264.00
Haiti School Kits- shipping	\$ 50.00
Hoovers	\$ 71.50
Human Relations	\$ 87.50
LOVE - food pantry	\$ 541.97
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 191.15
Peace with Justice	\$ 56.55
Native American Ministry	\$ 93.50
UMCOR- tornado relief	\$ 102.51
UMC Camps	\$ 89.78
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	\$3,052.46

“Give and it will be given to you. ... For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”
Luke 6:38

Love INC.

This month our congregation gave a total of \$89.00 in cash to LOVE INC., which will be matched by the Fremont Foundation to allow LOVE to purchase double the amount of toiletries. **Thank you** for your generosity and concern for others.

Haiti School Kits

We are now collecting the supplies for the Haiti school kits. If you signed up to bring one of the items, please purchase it now and bring it into the tub in the fellowship hall. As soon as we have everything, we will be packing them for shipment. If you didn't get a chance to sign up and want to help out, we are in need of money for shipping. Please give it to Jan Fisher. Thank you everyone for reaching out to others in the world.

God Loves a Cheerful Giver!

World Communion Sunday

The September noisy offering will go to the Conference for World Communion Sunday. Did you know that one definition of Communion means we all are one group and share together? As Christians, we are a community. (Notice how much communion and community sound alike.) We are in communion with other Christians, not just in our own church community here but with people in churches all over the world. Your offering prepares persons to serve God in life-changing ministries by providing scholarships for their educations.

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Sept. 9-Love Collection

Sept. 23- Noisy offering-World Communion

Oct. 7- CROP walk

Mission Opportunities



Remember to gather your items for the Community House! They will be given as prizes in their Bingo games. Seniors gather to play Bingo for fellowship and socialization. Any small item will do. Prizes are for men and women. There is a tub in the fellowship room for your donations. Please just drop them in at your convenience. Thank you..

July/August/ September Anniversaries

7/11 Paul & Sharon Wright
7/15 Keith & Irene Johnson
7/22 Matthew & Crystal Brooks

8/2 John & Mary Jane Cook
8/3 Tim & Cindy Ryan
8/8 Ron & Kay Pardonnet
8/13 Andy & Kathy Belew
8/26 Wayne & Jean Bumstead
8/26 Al & Karen Winchel
Erik & Jen Larsen

9/4 John & Joyce Dryer
9/5 Bert & Susanne Geerdink
9/19 Kenneth & Joan Faulkner



September Birthdays

9/1 Jessica Bainbridge
9/2 Laura Kiper
9/6 Mercedes Venneman
9/8 Darline Jones
9/9 Don Pederson
9/17 Jean Reynhout
9/18 Wayne Bumstead
9/21 Rick Stacey
9/25 Enid Schuitman
9/26 Sharon Wright



July/August Birthdays

7/1 Karen Winchel
7/2 Ruth Merritt
7/4 Chelsea Webb
7/8 Shelby Hesse
7/13 Kay Pardonnet
7/14 Bill VanDyke
7/16 Dianna Weaver
7/16 Harriet Kiper
7/17 Nancy Clark
7/18 Dale Weaver
7/18 Bert Geerdink
7/20 Donald Preston
7/20 Hannah Kiper
7/21 Dick Mouthaan
7/22 Rory Webb
7/25 Gordon Schuitman
7/27 Katelyn Wright
7/29 Susanne Geerdink
7/30 Jon Bumstead

8/1 Vern Wright
8/1 Kathryn Pope
8/2 Robert Pope
8/4 Melissa Webb
8/5 Jean Bumstead
8/7 Carline Knoll
8/8 Sally Mouthaan
8/8 Freda Corrigan
8/8 John Cook
8/10 Mark Wright
8/11 Sherry Graham
8/12 William Corrigan
8/14 Ardis Tanis
8/16 Rachel Larsen
8/17 Lois Henning
8/19 Carolyn Boose
8/25 Kenneth Faulkner

**HAPPY BELATED
BIRTHDAY**

Worship Helpers for September

September 2

Liturgist: Carline Knoll
Acolyte: Elizabeth Brooks
Inside Ushers: Steve Liz Moore
Outside Ushers: LeeAnn Hesse & Jane Fowler
Projector: Need Volunteer
Sound: Need Volunteer

September 9

Liturgist: Nancy Clark
Acolyte: Taylor Prins
Inside Ushers: Ron & Kay Pardonnet
Outside Ushers: Vern & Carolyn
Projector: Deb Prins
Sound: Deb Prins

September 16

Liturgist: Susanne Geerdink
Acolyte: Elizabeth Brooks
Inside Ushers: Jean Reynhout & Ardie Tanis
Outside Ushers: Barb Dietz & Ruth Merritt
Projector: Taylor Prins
Sound: Ardis Tanis

September 23

Liturgist: Joe Groff
Acolyte: Colby Brooks
Inside Ushers: Millie Stine & Janet Fisher
Outside Ushers: Joan Faulkner & Dolores
Projector: Elijah Brooks
Sound: Deb Prins

September 30

Liturgist: Kay Pardonnet
Acolyte: Elizabeth Brooks
Inside Ushers: Lee Anne Hesse & Jane Fowler
Outside Ushers: Vern & Carolyn Boose
Projector: Elijah Brooks
Sound: Deb Prins

~~Ladies Night Out~~ – Church Night Out

Tuesday September 11
6:30pm

The Whole Church is invited!!!!

Speaker – Jennifer Bulk will speak about their organization TEAM KEGAN that helps provide baskets to children who are undergoing treatments for cancer. The baskets include items that each child can use to keep them entertained during times of hospitalization and or treatments.



Fourth Saturday Pancake Breakfast

September 22
Serving 8am-11am
All You Can Eat!



Pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, biscuits & gravy, fruit & drink

Free Will Offering
Open to the public

Invite your friends & neighbors

If you can help cook or serve at the pancake breakfast please contact Jean Reynhout at 231-652-3110 or leave a message at the church office at 231-652-6581.

Church Staff

Pastor: Kathy Groff

Pastor Kathy is in the church office on Monday and Wednesday Mornings and other times by appointment.

Phone: 231-652-6581

Email: kthlngriff@gmail.com

Administrative: Deb Prins

Deb is in the office Monday –Thursday from 9am to 2:15pm

Phone: 231-652-6581

Email: debprins@sbcglobal.net

Kids Hope Director: LeeAnn Hesse

Phone: 231-652-7435

Email: l.hesse@sbcglobal.net

Organist: Lois VanDyke

Phone: 231-924-2329

Email: loisvandyke@hotmail.com

Choir Director: Cathy Badge

Phone: 231-652-1478

Email: bbadge@riverview.net

Custodian: Karen Winchel

Phone: 231-689-0677

Email: sahoka_farms@yahoo.com



Crop Walk Sunday, October 7th, 2012

Ending Hunger One Step At A Time

WHAT'S THE POINT OF WALKING? Hungry people in developing countries typically walk as many as six miles a day to get food, water and fuel, and to take their goods to market. We walk to be in solidarity with their struggle for existence. We walk because we want to end hunger – one step at a time. 25% of the money raised by CROP Hunger Walks benefit the community where they take place by supporting local food banks, pantries,

Community Events

First Sunday Dinner Sunday, September 2, 2012 Serving noon till gone

At VFW Post 4249

9075 Mason Drive, Newaygo

Featuring our Famous BBQ Chicken
\$8.00 1/2 chicken, baked beans, potato salad, roll
and butter.

ST. Marks Community Pig Roast Musical Celebration for Peace Sunday, September 16

Noon – 3pm

Adults \$8.00

Children \$4.00

Hospice of Michigan Fly and Remember Memorial Service

September 15

9am-12pm

Veterans Memorial Park, Fremont

Personalize and fly a kite in honor of your loved
one. Hospice of Michigan will provide all the
materials needed.

To register call Tangela Zielinski at 231-527-0913

Refreshments and a light breakfast will be
provided.

community gardens and other hunger-fighting
initiatives.

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE? \$75 can
enable three women to attend a literacy class for a
year and change their lives forever. \$110 can
provide emergency food supplies for a family of
five's needs for a month. \$140 can give a
struggling farm family a new source of income: a
pair of pigs. A piglet from each litter is then given
to another family in need: \$350 can enable the
eldest in a child-headed household of AIDS
orphans to receive vocational training, so they can
support their siblings and themselves: \$1,050 can
support community-based health, hygiene, and
sanitation training for an entire community.



Wayne Barrett, CFP gave a presentation to the Ad Board recently on the Thoughtful Christian's Guide to Investing Church Funds. The Board asked a question, "Are we being good stewards of our reserve funds?" They asked if I would take the lead in looking into some investments and present some alternatives. With our financial status looking a little better, there are opportunities available. But, we must also keep the concept of Christian stewardship and exhibit the highest possible fiduciary standards when looking at church investments. I also know that risk and return are related. How much risk are we willing to take with church funds? I recently had to open a savings account for my mother and could not believe that the interest rate was only .15%. This does not cover inflation let alone fees. Our funds are not making much better than this. When asked to do something, the first thing we do is establish a committee. So, that is what I am doing. Kathy Pope and Dorothy Besemer have agreed to help research alternatives. We are asking the congregation to pray about this and let us know what your thoughts are. We hope to have alternatives back to the board before the Annual Conference.

God bless,
Joe Groff



Kids Hope USA

School Starts Tuesday, September 4, 2012

Kids need people to look up to! Is God calling you to be a friend to a child today? Do you have an hour a week that you can give to just be a friend. Is God calling you to become a prayer partner for a child and their mentor? Please contact LeeAnn Hess if you are interested in becoming a Kids Hope Mentor or Prayer Partner.

Current Metors and Prayer Partners – continue to pray for your child and their family and watch for more information about when we will be able to start mentoring.





Newaygo United Methodist Church
101 State Street
P.O. Box 366
Newaygo, MI 49337

September 2012 Newsletter

Join us for worship on Sunday
morning at 9:30 am with
fellowship following.

Newaygo United Methodist Church

*Newaygo United Methodist Church
Newsletter*

*Deadline for articles is 4:00PM on the 20th day
of each month in the church office.*

The Editor reserves the right to edit for
content and space.



SEEKING
God's Will

STRIVING
To Make
Disciples

SERVING
Our Community
With Love