

**MICHIGAN**  
**2018**  
**ANNUAL**  
**CONFERENCE**

May 31-June 3, 2018

**Grand Traverse**  
**Resort & Spa**



**ENGAGE**  
**with**  
MINISTRY & MISSION



**Michigan Conference**  
The United Methodist Church





**Greetings** in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the peace and power of the Holy Spirit.

One picture we have of the earliest followers of Jesus is provided in the second chapter of Acts. "Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone." (Acts 2:46-47a, CEB)

We gather together again in 2018 in an historic time for United Methodism. For Michigan United Methodists who have long shared a resident bishop but have lived in two conferences, this is the final meeting as separate entities. We begin living into the new Michigan Conference July 1, with nine districts with new boundaries and with staff to help local congregations strengthen their ministries.

Fifty years ago, the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church came together to form The United Methodist Church. As we turn 50, we might do well to recall words from a sermon the United Methodist theologian Albert Outler preached at the Uniting Conference. "This, then, is our birthday - a day to celebrate, a day to remember, a day for high hopes and renewed commitments." The United Methodist Church came together in great hope, and one element of that hope was that its creation eliminated the segregated Central Jurisdiction.

We gather, aware of the potential impact of the special session of the General Conference in 2019. We walk with the hope of the risen Christ and the shared vision to be the Church. By the grace of God and in the power of God's Spirit we are creating something new in Michigan. A new conference drawn toward a vision of Christ-centered mission and ministry, vibrant congregations, and bold and effective leaders.

May our engagement with Jesus, with each other, and with the world to which Christ calls us demonstrate God's goodness to everyone. May we share our time together with glad and generous hearts.

**"Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone."**  
- Acts 2:46-47a, CEB

Bishop David Bard





We are pleased to welcome you back to beautiful Traverse City! Thank you for holding the 2018 Michigan Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church in our community. While you are here, we hope that you will enjoy the relaxed hospitality and kindness that has made this one of Michigan's favorite meeting destinations..



**Jim Carruthers, Mayor  
City of Traverse City**

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Welcome back! We are truly honored that you chose Traverse City for your 2018 Michigan Annual Conference. If you attended last year's conference, you already know how appreciative Traverse City is to have you as our guest and how special your time here will be. It's a place where things just come together. Where a visit in spring allows you to grow and connect like never before. Where all the colors of life remind you that you're in a pretty great place. Enjoy your time in Traverse City!

Sincerely,  
**Trevor Tkach, President/CEO  
Traverse City Tourism**







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*\*As a courtesy, please silence all electronic devices and refrain from using flash photography. Thank you!*

Additional information and updated information can be found at [2018.MichiganUMC.org](http://2018.MichiganUMC.org)

**FOLLOW US!** Watch Annual Conference Plenary Sessions Live on our website: [2018.MichiganUMC.org](http://2018.MichiganUMC.org)

 #MIUMC18  [Facebook.com/MichiganUMC](https://www.facebook.com/MichiganUMC)  MIUMC  MIUMC [Periscope: MIUMC](#)

**WIRELESS INTERNET:** Free WiFi is available in the meeting spaces. **WiFi password:** UMC18



# Grace Patrol

## Welcome to Acme!

The Grace Patrol and the staff of the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa are delighted you are here.

We are working over the next four days to make sure that you have a wonderful stay.

No matter what your question or concern may be, the trained and knowledgeable Grace Patrol and Grand Traverse staff are here to assist you.

When you need help, just look for anyone wearing a bright red Grace Patrol vest or wearing an official Grand Traverse Resort and Spa badge. Our 50+ Grace Team members are providing almost 3000 hours of volunteer service this week, ready to help you make this a great week.

## Enjoy your stay!



## Connect with us!



#MIUMC18



facebook.com/MichiganUMC



MIUMC



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# Maps and Guides

to Grand Traverse Resort and Spa

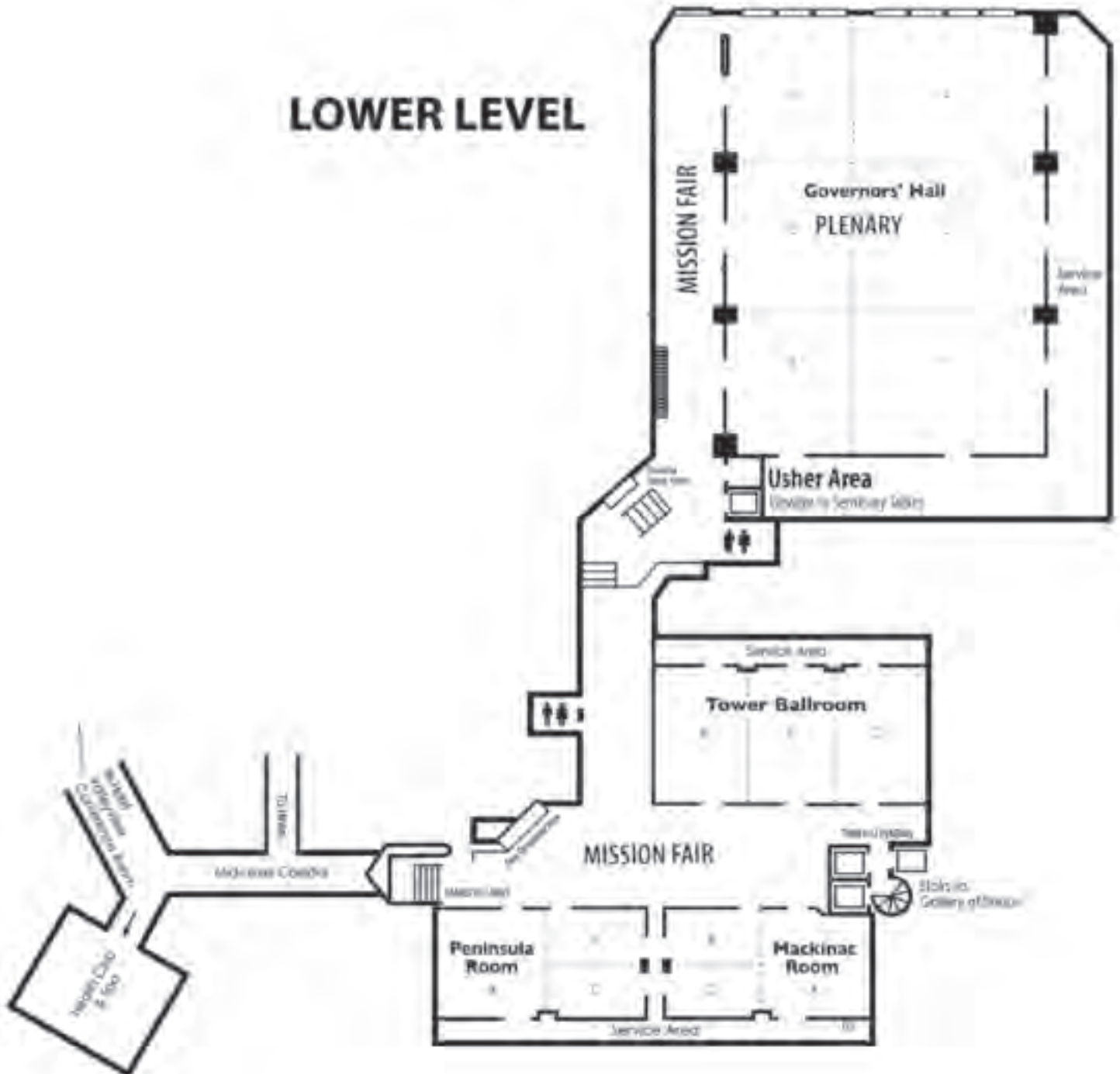








# LOWER LEVEL





# Frequently Asked Questions

## Welcome to Annual Conference!

We hope your time at Annual Conference is pleasant and want to make your visit to the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa as enjoyable as possible. If you find yourself in need of assistance or additional information there are many people waiting to serve you:

- **The Grace Patrol** – look for hospitality assistants in red vests. They are prepared to assist with directions, answer general questions and offer you grace.
- **Annual Conference Registration Staff** – for help with materials, your registration or other conference needs. Located in the lobby adjacent to the hotel check in.
- **Bell Staff** – for assistance with parking and luggage. Any of the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa staff will be happy to assist you.

### ASSISTANCE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

ASL Interpreters are available for all plenary sessions and upon request. Please see the Conference Facilitator to request services. There is special seating for the deaf and hard of hearing.

The Grand Traverse Resort and Spa is ADA compliant. Three wheel chairs are available from the bell stand. If you have need of any special assistance while at Annual Conference please visit the hotel registration desk. Seating areas are available for those using wheelchairs.

### COKESBURY BOOKSTORE

Cokesbury Bookstore, a Christian bookstore with United Methodist resources, is located in the Council Room on the lobby level in the gallery of shops behind the candy store.

### CONFERENCE FACILITATOR

Sue Buxton is your Conference Facilitator. Her job is to help anyone who needs assistance in understanding and using the procedures and resources of the Conference in session. You will find her seated at a table near the stage.

### CONFERENCE MATERIALS

All conference materials are available online at [2018.michiganumc.org](http://2018.michiganumc.org). Daily News, a summary and preview of upcoming events, is emailed each evening to all members of Annual Conference. Printed copies are available each morning.

### COST

Now that annual conferences of the Michigan Area are meeting together, there are only a handful of venues in the state that can accommodate an event of our size. Annual conferences in the North Central Jurisdiction hold their events in similar conference venues. The Michigan Area is in-line with costs of other annual conferences. This year the Commission on the Annual Conference Session negotiated lower hotel room rates and reduced dinner rates by over 40%.





## EMERGENCY

In case of any emergency, messages will be announced and you will be directed where to head for safety. In the event of an emergency you can use a house phone to dial 0 for immediate assistance or dial 911.

## HEALTH SCREENINGS

The Health Clinic is located in the hotel hospitality room 218 on the Lobby Level. Detroit and West Michigan Conference subscribers and dependents age 18+ (active plan only) enrolled in the conference group health insurance plan are eligible to receive the health screening at no charge. Retirees and others may receive the screening at a cost of \$150 payable to Personal Health Partners at the time of the screening. Results are completely confidential and are mailed directly to participants in an easy to understand format with explanation of significant findings. Fasting prior to the screening is recommended, but not required.

## LOST AND FOUND

Found items can be brought to the Conference Registration Desk located in the main lobby. You may also wish to consult with hotel security.

## MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Emergency Medical Technicians are available on-site. Please use a house phone to dial 0 for immediate assistance or dial 911.

## MISSION FAIR

The 2018 Annual Conference Mission Fair is a time to showcase the connection to the "world beyond home." Table displays throughout the facility will be available to view during the conference.

## PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

To keep plenary time moving smoothly, requests for 'personal privilege' (speaking about an item of personal interest, making a special introduction or another matter that interrupts scheduled business) will be referred to the Commission on the Annual Conference Session for consideration. Please give personal privilege requests to Sue Buxton, Conference Facilitator who will forward your request.

## PRAYER ROOM

Take the time during Annual Conference to spend quiet moments with God in prayer. Intercede for the Bishop, your District Superintendent, pastor and church family. The Prayer Room is located on the 17th Floor of the Tower, with a stunning view

of the surrounding area. The Prayer Room is open 24 hours a day.

## REGISTRATION DESK

Information on locations for meals, messages, lost and found items, and other updated information can be found at the Conference Registration Desk located in the lobby.

## REFRESHMENTS AND SNACKS

The Snack Station is operated by Michigan Area Camps, Retreats and Campgrounds. Proceeds from this tent provide scholarships for children to attend summer camp. The snack station is located outside of Governor's Hall.

## RULES OF ORDER

Judy Coffey (WM) and Todd Price (DAC) are your Rules of Order representatives. They are located in the second row from the center of the stage. Please visit them with questions regarding the Standing Rules of the Annual Conference.

## SMOKING

There is no smoking inside the conference property. Smoking is permitted 25 feet from entrances and exits of building.

## TIPPING AND GRATUITY

The Commission on the Annual Conference Session has already included a 20% gratuity for pre-registered meals. We encourage you to tip housekeepers \$2 per night, bell staff \$1 per bag and restaurant servers 20%-25%. In today's world, tipping and gratuities are no longer considered a bonus, but part of the income for these hard-working employees.

## TRIBAL AFFILIATION

The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians own two major businesses which are marketed under the tradename Grand Traverse Resort and Casinos.

The gaming business is owned and operated by the GTB Economic Development Corporation, a federally chartered corporation. The GTB-EDC operations include Turtle Creek Casino and Hotel, the Leelanau Sands Casino and Lodge and the Eagle Town Market.

Its hotel and resort business is owned and operated by the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa LLC, a Michigan limited liability company. GTRS LLC has its own Board of Directors and its' management operations and financials are separate from the GTB-EDC.



# TOM Talks

Members will experience 9 unique and practical presentations called, "TOM Talks." TOM stands for Transformational Outreach and Ministry. Each talk will demonstrate how to engage youth, schools, the poor, neighbors and even your church in mission during these education sessions on Friday and Saturday.

## ENGAGE WITH\* THE POOR



### **Rev. Julie Liske - [jliske@circlesgr.org](mailto:jliske@circlesgr.org)**

Rev. Julie Liske is a United Methodist Deacon with over 20 years of leadership experience in congregations, chaplaincies, and social justice ministry. Julie currently serves gratefully as the Chapter Director of Circles Grand Rapids, a national strategy that ends – not just manages – poverty. By building long-term relationships across the socioeconomic divide, Circles assists highly motivated low-income individuals to lift themselves permanently out of poverty, increases the "poverty IQ" of middle- and upper-income allies, and increases the motivation and capacity of the wider community to dismantle systemic barriers to self-sufficiency.

## ENGAGE WITH\* YOUR COMMUNITY



### **Rev. Paul Perez - [pperez@michiganumc.org](mailto:pperez@michiganumc.org)**

The Rev. Paul Perez is an ordained Deacon and serves as the Associate Director for Mission and Ministry for the Michigan Conference. Previously, Paul was the founding director of Justice for Our Neighbors Southeastern Michigan, a United Methodist related immigration legal aid organization with locations in Detroit, Dearborn, and Ypsilanti. He also served as Director of Program Development at Newburg UMC in Livonia, Michigan. He lives in Livonia, Michigan with his wife Anne, a high school English teacher, and his three children, Joshua, Sofia, and Charles.



### **Matthew Witkowski - [m.witkowski@grtumc.org](mailto:m.witkowski@grtumc.org)**

Matthew Witkowski grew up in Northern Michigan and attended Aquinas College, Grand Rapids. After graduating college Matthew volunteered with the Christian Appalachian Project (CAP) in Eastern Kentucky. He worked at the Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore as Director of Programming and then joined Grand Rapids Trinity UMC as Director of the Community Ministries Program in 2015. By building community partnerships the church is now being used by local community groups that align with the church's goals of giving back and engaging with the community. Matt is married and has a 6 year-old son and 15 year-old dog.

## ENGAGE WITH\* YOUR NEIGHBORS



### **Raquel Owens - [r.owens@jfonwestmichigan.org](mailto:r.owens@jfonwestmichigan.org)**

After traveling to Thailand in 2011 to volunteer on the Thai/Burma border Raquel returned stateside with a passion to work with refugees and immigrants. She began volunteering with a nonprofit called Thrive: A Refugee Support Program where she became the Executive Director. Raquel is now a Site Director at Justice For Our Neighbors-MI, a nonprofit that provides free immigration law services to low-income refugees, asylum seekers and immigrants. Raquel graduated from Davenport University with a bachelor degree in Business Administration. Advocating, educating and bringing communities together to support immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers is a driving force for the work she does.

## ENGAGE WITH\* THE PEOPLE/Con la gente



### **Rev. Patricia Gandarilla-Becerra. - [carpagabe@gmail.com](mailto:carpagabe@gmail.com)**

Rev. Patricia Gandarilla-Becerra is pastor at Detroit: Centro Familiar Cristiano which is comprised of eight nationalities coming from: South America, Central America, Mexico, and second and third generation Hispanic/Latino Americans. Pastor Gandarilla-Becerra, was raised in a family of six girls. Her seminary school started when she was fifteen years of age and was appointed by her church when she was eighteen. She planted three churches in Mexico, and taught Adult Basic Education at a Plaza Comunitaria "Community Center" in México. Rev. Gandarilla-Becerra, arrived in the United States in 1999, she developed a Hispanic ministry in the South West District of the Nebraska Annual Conference. She was commissioned as a missionary in the 10-10-10 Missionary program. She was a facilitator and consultant for the National Plan Hispanic Ministry, and served as Associate Pastor at the First United Methodist Church in Imperial, Nebraska. She was a the Director Hispanic Ministry for the Missouri River District, Nebraska Annual Conference. During this position she developed a community center and a children summer programs, and afterschool programs related to ESL, and adult basic education, in partnership with the Mexican Consulate. She served as Vice President of MARCHA Association, Directors and Coordinators for Annual Conference of the Hispanic Ministries around the United States. Rev. Gandarilla-Becerra's passion is bringing together Anglo and Hispanic congregations for trans-cultural worship and understanding.



### **Sonya Luna - [sluna@michiganumc.org](mailto:sluna@michiganumc.org)**

Sonya Luna is a missionary with the Board of Global Ministries serving through the National Plan for Hispanic/Latino Ministries in the Michigan Conference as the Coordinator of Hispanic/Latino Ministries. She has been serving in Michigan with Hispanic/Latino ministries for the last nine years. Her role is to guide local churches in ministry with their Hispanic/Latino neighbors. She works to bring a greater awareness to the need for Hispanic/Latino ministries, as well as, to help create a structure that supports those ministries. Sonya is of Mexican and Polish heritage and she grew up in Ypsilanti as a United Methodist.



**Ellen Zienert - ekzienert@gmail.com**

Ellen is the pastor of First UMC in St Johns. She has been there since 2012. Before that she was the pastor of Williamston Crossroads and East Lansing Chapel Hill. She is retiring this July and plans to live in Lansing near Emma and Mario, her daughter and son-in-law, and in Charlevoix. She is looking forward to traveling and serving on various conference committees. She was a Spanish and German major at Albion College – a major which finally came in handy nearly 40 years after graduation when she was appointed to St Johns First, which had a vibrant ministry with Spanish-speaking immigrants from Mexico.

**Sari Brown -sarilynnbrown@gmail.com**

Sari Brown is a Provisional elder who is currently serving as the pastor of Harbor Beach and Port Hope United Methodist Churches, and prior to that she served as Associate Pastor at Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church. She has a background as a singer/songwriter and recording artist with Earthwork Music Collective, and has lived and worked in Colombia, Bolivia, Peru and Brazil. In Bolivia she carried out anthropological research and worked as a missionary with the Bolivian Evangelical Methodist Church, and in Brazil she studied at the Methodist University. She received her Master of Divinity from Candler School of Theology (Emory University - Atlanta) and her B.A. in Anthropology and Religion from Marlboro College (Vermont). She is married to Ricardo Angarita Oviedo, who is currently the director of Blue Water District Ministry Center, and has three stepchildren.

**ENGAGE WITH\* THE WORLD****Rob Cook - rob.cook@mounthopeumc.org**

Rob Cook is a pastor serving at Mount Hope UMC a church that welcomes people from all over the world. He is developing cultural competency the best way, by experiencing it firsthand. Long a racially homogeneous church, Mount Hope is growing younger and more diverse. Also a member of the Michigan Area Multiethnic Team for New Church Development, Rob has learned that this movement transcends churches, denominations, and even theological persuasions.

**Rev. Dr. Darryl E. Totty - ENTJ2@aol.com**

Darryl is the Pastor of Second Grace United Methodist Church. He is an Ordained Elder with an undergraduate degree in Business Administration. He holds the Master of Divinity from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (Evanston, Illinois) and the Doctor of Divinity from the Graduate Theological Foundation (Oxford, England). His doctoral project, "The Mission of Missions: A Strategic Response To The Great Commission" (February 2005) is the implementation of a strategy for Mission Ministry. He is married to Anita with two adult children DeJesus and Krizia. Darryl enjoys technology (gadgets), reading, golfing, and spending time with his grandsons Rodrekus and Matteo.

**Eric Mulanda Nduwa - reveric79@gmail.com**

I am Eric Mulanda Nduwa, from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), a country that was formerly known as Zaire. I am the second-born child in a family of eleven. My wife is Corinne Sonyi Mafo who is also a Congolese and she is a nurse by profession. We have our first baby boy name Blessed Sonyi Mulanda. I am a graduate with two degrees (Agriculture and Divinity) from Africa University in Zimbabwe. I am also carrying a Master of Divinity degree from Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary. I resigned from my administrative job at AAC Mining Company in Congo to serve Jesus Christ.

I am an ordained Pastor in the South West Katanga Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church in Congo. Currently, I am a full member of the West Michigan Conference and serving as an associate pastor at Mount Hope United Methodist Church in the Lansing District. I am God's servant who is driven through this scripture from the book of Acts 1:8 "to go and be witnesses ...to the end of the Earth. So, I am still going and witnessing the love of Jesus Christ. I have been serving as an evangelist Pastor reaching people in the community and beyond the community for Jesus Christ in different countries such as Congo-Kinshasa, Zimbabwe, Germany and the United States. "A good person is not measured by what he/she has, but what he/she gives"—Rev. Eric Mulanda.

**ENGAGE WITH\* YOUTH****Sarah Alexander - info@motownmission.org**

Sarah Alexander is a Provisional Deacon, appointed as the director of Motown Mission, - a missional destination in the city of Detroit. She has a passion for pairing youth and adults with places to serve that enrich both their understanding of mission, and their relationship with Jesus Christ. Motown Mission strives to be both a mission trip destination, and a cross-cultural experience for volunteers to encounter neighbors and build relationships, rather than simply "serving alongside." Sarah and her spouse Matt live in Livonia with their baby and beagle.

**Rhonda Goode - goodechef18@yahoo.com**

Rhonda has served in youth ministry for six and a half years with her husband Bob. Together, they lead both the middle school and high school youth programs at Indian River United Methodist Church. They share a passion for teaching the Gospel message, empowering students to share their faith through conversation with their peers. They consider youth ministry a mission field and through "seed-planting" believe that students can impact their school and community for Christ. G.L.O.W. (God's Light in Our World) is an exciting addition to her ministry. G.L.O.W. was born as the result of a vision to provide students an after school, safe-gathering place. Unconditional love is the basis for all the ministry we do, whether the student knows Christ or not, we want them to feel accepted and loved.



**Rev. Kathy Pittenger - [kpittenger@michiganumc.org](mailto:kpittenger@michiganumc.org)**

Rev. Kathy Pittenger is an Ordained Deacon and serves at Waterford: Central United Methodist Church as the Pastor of Lifelong Faith Formation. She earned a Master of Divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary and a BA in Educational Ministries from Malone University. Her passion lies in the areas of children's ministry, literacy awareness, discipleship pathways, and walking with people on their spiritual journey. Rev. Kathy has been involved with local school partnerships for over six years. She is married to Rich and they have two sons, Elijah and Micah.



**Christy Miller-Black - [pastorchristym.b@gmail.com](mailto:pastorchristym.b@gmail.com)**

Christy Miller-Black is a Provisional Deacon and the Associate Minister of Christian Education at Court Street United Methodist Church, Flint, MI, and the Director of Discipleship Formation for the Crossroads District of the United Methodist Church. She has a MA in Theology and a BA in Christian Education and Church Music from Southern Nazarene University and completed her Basic Graduate Theological Studies at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. Christy has over 20 years of experience working with youth, children, and adults in a variety of ministries. She loves young people, music, books, and caffeine; not always in that order. Christy is amazed that she gets to share her life with two remarkable children, Christopher (14) and Maelyn (8). Christy will be ordained a Deacon at this Annual Conference!



**Alejandro Fernandez - [alex@cornerstonemi.org](mailto:alex@cornerstonemi.org)**

Alex is a graduate of Central Michigan University with a Bachelor's in Business Administration and Sociology. He is a licensed local pastor and his theological education came through the Methodist Theological School of Ohio. In 2013, Alex planted Cornerstone Church's first multi-site campus in Downtown Grand Rapids. The Cornerstone - Heritage Hill Campus is where he serves to this day. Starting with a launch team of 80 people from Cornerstone, Alex has led the growth of Cornerstone Heritage Hill to nearly 500 adult and children weekly attendance in just a few years. His commitment to making an impact in the local community has led to relationships with area elementary schools, where transformative programs for character building, tutoring, mentoring, weekend hunger, and other basic student needs are being met. Prior to planting Cornerstone Heritage Hill, Alex was employed for Herman Miller, Inc. for 16 years where he served as a Director of Manufacturing, then also Director of Diversity and Inclusion. Alex is fluent in Spanish. He and his wife Bethann have two children, Grant and Maya.



**Rev. Shawn Lewis-Lakin - [ewlakfam@gmail.com](mailto:ewlakfam@gmail.com)**

The Rev. Shawn Lewis-Lakin ministry settings have included both local churches and public schools. He has served four local church appointments. Shawn's work in public education included a variety of teaching and administrative roles. He was Superintendent of Schools for the Manchester Community Schools from 2007-2011 and served as Superintendent of Schools for Royal Oak Schools from 2011-2016. Shawn has degrees from Michigan State University, Yale Divinity School, and Wayne State University. Shawn is currently serving as the Senior Associate Pastor at Birmingham First UMC. He and his spouse, the Rev. Dr. Barbara Lewis-Lakin, have three children and one grandchild.



**Randy Hildebrant - [rhildebrant@umcmision.org](mailto:rhildebrant@umcmision.org)**

Randy Hildebrant is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church assigned as a Church and Community Worker at God's Country Cooperative Parish, based in Newberry, Michigan. The parish consists of seven churches. Randy works with them in community development, leadership development, special projects, and in hosting Volunteer-in-Mission teams. He travels among, and speaks often, in the churches. God's Country Cooperative Parish has been a transforming community for 30 years. Randy was formerly with the Rural Revitalization Project of the Elkhorn Valley District of the Nebraska Annual Conference. The Elkhorn project was both spiritual and programmatic, seeking to engage an outward-directed sense of ministry among the laity.

Prior to his service in the Nebraska Conference in June 2011, Randy was assigned for 10 years to the Jubilee Project, an Appalachian ministry based in Sneedville, Tennessee in the Holston Annual Conference. He has a strong commitment to rural ministry. Earlier in his work, he was assistant pastor of the Franklin United Methodist Church in Franklin, North Carolina. Randy was born in Oklahoma and studied sports administration at East Central University in Ada. He is married to Aletha Hildebrant and the couple has two teenaged children, Grace and Adam.

**ENGAGE WITH\* THOSE STRUGGLING****Greg Timmons - [flintwater@miareaumc.org](mailto:flintwater@miareaumc.org)**

A seasoned lay worker for Christ. Greg loves his family of three; Rev. Faith Timmons – wife, 11 year old son Greg Timmons II and Olivia Timmons his 6 year old daughter. He loves the Word and his church family (global). Greg has had multiple roles in the church including a current role as an Executive Director – Flint Recovery; VCI Lead Consultant and Coach. He currently sits on the Conference Leadership Team and is excited about teaching Sunday School. Timmons is currently in the process of becoming a local pastor. A key strength for Greg is his work experience that allows him to effectively engage many organizational challenges, both in the church and secular organizations. He graduated from Florida A&M University with a B.S. in Business, and has a Master's degree in Communication from the University of Denver. He currently resides in Flint Michigan and attends Bethel UMC, where Rev. Faith Timmons is the pastor.

**ENGAGE WITH\* OUR CHURCHES****Naomi García - [ngarcia@michiganumc.org](mailto:ngarcia@michiganumc.org)**

Naomi García, Associate Director for Congregational Vibrancy describes herself as mesmerized, reminded and centered by shores of the Gulf of Mexico, lakes called Rathbun, Great, Clear, Townline, Thumb; the rivers named Rio Grande, San Gabriel, Colorado, Grand River, Cumberland, Lake, Grand, Dowagiac, Hersey. Aspiring disciple rarely satisfied with the latest take on how The Holy One calls, moves, shapes, beckons, equips, comforts and companions; shuttling between the discipline of mind and the art of soul. Facilitator intrigued and longing for inclusive inclusion. Consultant negotiating the wide spaces between meddling and staying home. Mediator stirred by the courage of truth-telling and re-discovering the edges of compassion. Coach channeling Curious George and Hiccup.



# Annual Conference Offerings

There are many opportunities during Annual Conference to offer our gifts with the world.



## Haiti/Liberia/Puerto Rico

### Taken Thursday, May 31 during Opening Worship

The Opening Worship offering will benefit our covenant partners. The Methodist Church of Haiti and The Liberia Annual Conference will receive 90% of the offering for the Haiti Hot Lunch program and the Bishop Judith Craig Children's Village in Liberia. In lieu of providing materials to be shipped to these locations, we ask you to consider sending additional funds for immediate relief.

New this year a 10% tithe of the opening worship offering received will be given to emerging needs as identified by the Commission on the Annual Conference Session in consultation with Bishop David Bard. A tithe of our offering will be sent to the Methodist Church of Puerto Rico.



## Ministerial Education Fund (MEF)

### Sunday, June 3 during the Service of Recognition, Commissioning and Ordination

Sunday's offering will benefit the Ministerial Education Fund, which is used to develop Bold and Effective Leaders. Seminary grants benefit candidates, and continuing education funds for clergy are among some of the uses for these funds.

Blue envelopes will be used to receive funds for the Detroit Annual Conference, and Orange envelopes for the West Michigan Conference. Please make your check payable to either "Detroit Annual Conference" or "West Michigan Conference" noting "AC Offering" or "MEF" in the memo line. Collection envelopes will be distributed by the ushers during the service.



## Midwest Mission Distribution Center

A truck will be at Grand Traverse Resort in the Water Tower parking lot on May 31 and June 1 to receive Personal Dignity Kits assembled by local churches. The Michigan Deacons along with Julie Bard are excited to promote awareness about and action for childhood literacy. Deacons around Michigan are working with organizations that need books and/or can distribute books for free to the children in their communities. We are teaming up with Scholastic Literacy Partnerships and Cokesbury so churches can purchase age appropriate books at a lower cost.

Churches can complete the Scholastic order form and include a check made out to Michigan Conference Treasurer (NOT Scholastic) and write on the Memo Line: Deacon Book Collection. Please turn in the form and check during Annual Conference to the table outside the Michigan Ballroom. You may also purchase books from the Cokesbury store during Conference to donate to the literacy project. Our goal is to collect 1,000 books which will be distributed all around the state of Michigan.



# Worship Preachers



## Rev. Benjamin Bower

Friday, June 1

Rev. Ben Bower is Lead Pastor of Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Redford, MI. He has a heart for justice, reconciliation, and building bridges in our communities that testify to the inclusive nature of God, the subversive teachings of Jesus, and the radical transformation of the Holy Spirit. For the past seven years he has led a variety of mission-oriented projects and activities. Pastor Ben feels that "This life of faith is not one we journey on our own, but in connection. This connection is made up of people of all types because the Kingdom of God is a reflection of God's own creativity and love." Journey. Communities. Inclusive. Radical Transformation. Life of faith. Connection. The Kingdom of God. God's creativity and love.



## Rev. Kennetha Bigham-Tsai

Saturday, June 2

Rev. Kennetha Bigham-Tsai is the Chief Connectional Ministries Officer of The United Methodist Connectional Table. The Connectional Table discerns and articulates the vision for The United Methodist Church, stewarding the mission, ministries, and resources as determined by General Conference and in consultation with the Council of Bishops. Kennetha assumed the leadership position in February 2018. She served the past five years as the Lansing District Superintendent of The West Michigan Conference of The United Methodist Church and pastored churches in Kalamazoo, East Lansing and Grand Rapids. She is married to Kee Tsai and has two children, Keeton and Kamden.



# Commission on the Annual Conference Session

## EXECUTIVE TEAM



**Bishop David Bard**  
*Bishop*  
bishop@michiganumc.org



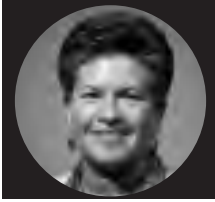
**Mark Doyal**  
*Director of Communications*  
mdoyal@michiganumc.org



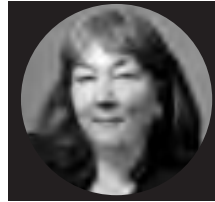
**John Boley**  
*Clergy Assistant to the Bishop*  
jboley@michiganumc.org



**Joy Barrett**  
*Conference Secretary*  
secretary@michiganumc.org



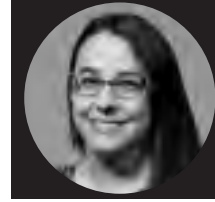
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**Benton Heisler**  
*Director of Connectional Ministries*  
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**John Hice**  
*Cabinet Representative*  
Jhice@michiganumc.org



## FULL COMMITTEE AND KEY LEADERSHIP TEAM



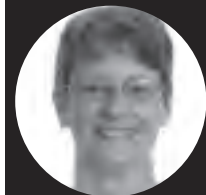
**Diane Brown**  
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dianebr@umich.edu



**Chris Lane**  
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*Head Usher*  
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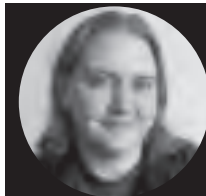
**Judy Coffey**  
*Rules of Order*  
jcoffeyumc@yahoo.com



**Denny Olin**  
*Grace Patrol*  
dennyolin@gmail.com



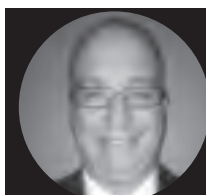
**Annette Erbes**  
*Ordination Co-Coordinator*  
merbes@earthlink.net



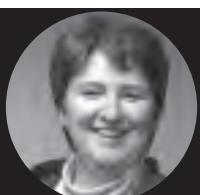
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**Todd Price**  
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**Leslee Fritz**  
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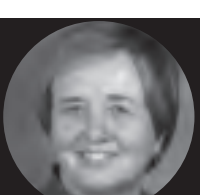
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*Conference Co-Lay Leader*  
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**Anita Hahn**  
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# Conference Staff

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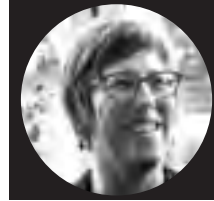


**Jennifer Weaver**  
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jweaver@michiganumc.org

## OFFICE OF CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES



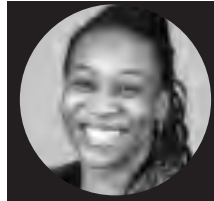
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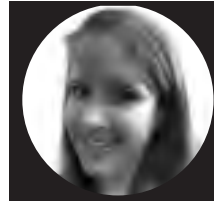
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## OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS



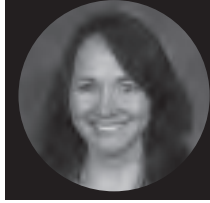
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delliott@michiganumc.org



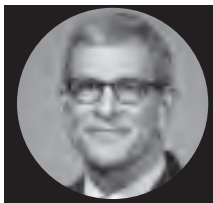
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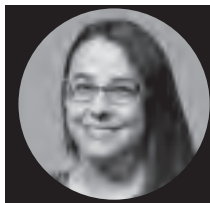
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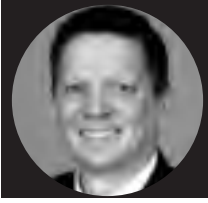


**Laura Witkowski**  
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lwitkowski@michiganumc.org

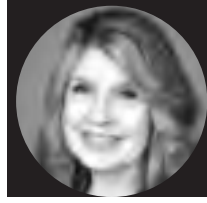




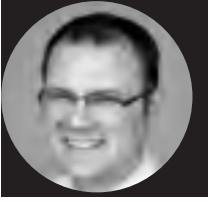
## OFFICE OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

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*Director of Administrative Services and Treasurer*  
ddobbs@michiganumc.org

**Becky Emmert**

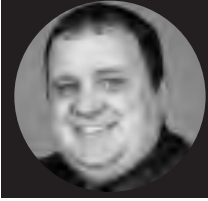
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**Nancy Wyllys**

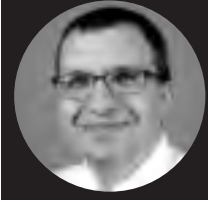
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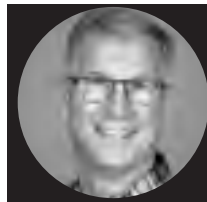
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**Don Emmert**

*Director of Benefits and Human Resources*  
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**John Kosten**

*Benefits Coordinator & Payroll*  
jkosten@michiganumc.org





# Conference Leadership Council

The Conference Leadership Council is the basic governing council of the annual conference. Their duties include implementing the vision and direction of the annual conference and ensure agencies amenable to it are fulfilling their responsibilities as outlined in The Book of Discipline of The UMC, the Plan Of Organization and direction of the annual conference. The following persons are nominated to serve this year.



## **CHAIRPERSON**

Amy Mayo-Moyle, Clergy  
amayomoyle@yahoo.com

## **LAITY REPRESENTATIVES**

Valerie Maidens  
Sung Yu  
Alex Plum  
Carmen Zeigler  
Nick Arnold

## **CLERGY REPRESENTATIVES**

Darryl Totty  
Eric Mulanda  
Jodie Flessner

## **EX OFFICIO/VOICE WITH VOTE**

Anne Soles, Lay Leader  
John Wharton, Lay Leader  
TBA/President Council on Finance and Administration  
TBA/Chair Division on Religion and Race of the Board of Justice  
John Boley, Clergy Assistant to the Bishop,

## **EX OFFICIO/VOICE NO VOTE**

Bishop David Bard  
John Boley, Clergy Assistant to the Bishop,  
Jennifer Browne, Director of Clergy Excellence  
David Dobbs, Director of Administrative Services and Conference Treasurer  
Benton Heisler, Director of Connectional Ministries  
Mark Doyal, Director of Communications  
Charles Boayue, Dean of the Appointive Cabinet  
Don Emmert, Director of Pension & Benefits  
Dirk Elliott, Director of Congregational Vibrancy

Jerome DeVine & Kennetha Bigham-Tsai, Members of the Connectional Table residing within the bounds of the Annual Conference -



# Thank You!

## CONFERENCE MUSICIANS

- Jantz Black, Music Director
- Jeff Cobb (Traverse City Central UMC) – conference choir director
- Tom Bara (Traverse City Central UMC) – conference organist
- Rev. Anna Moon (Troy Hope Ministry) – worship leader
- David Vaughn (Ann Arbor First / Green Wood) – worship leader / pianist
- Rev. Bill Chu (Wesley Foundation, Michigan State) – worship band
- Kristie Stevenson (Wesley Foundation, Michigan State) – worship band
- Claire Beutler (Wesley Foundation, Michigan State) – worship band
- Terry and Darlene Wildman (Northport Indian Mission) – special music

## WORSHIP TEAM

- Sarah Alexander
- Tish Bowman
- Patti Glass
- Jennifer Lane
- Amy Mayo-Moyle
- Megan Walther

## GRACE PATROL

- Denny Olin
- Neil Haney
- And their generous and grace filled team!

## REGISTRATION

- John Kosten
- Wendy Clark

## COMMUNICATIONS

- The entire GNTV Team
- Aaron Greer
- Andrew Stange
- Hannah Hazen
- John Woodring

## GRAND TRAVERSE RESORT

- Duke Rosendahl
- Steve Baehr
- Hillary Caskie
- Jessica Anderson
- And the entire staff of the resort

## TRAVERSE CITY TOURISM

- Tori Piersante
- Sarah Barnhard

# Helping Faithful People Live Generous Lives

The United Methodist Foundation of Michigan provides a continuum of financial stewardship, asset management, and donor-directed services for Michigan Area United Methodist constituents. Whether you are a pastor, lay person, or church leader, we look forward to partnering with you as you seek to fulfill your vision and mission.

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- Donor Advised Funds
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**(888)451-1929**

*Contact us today to learn more about how we can help you with your financial and stewardship planning needs.*



# Northern Skies - District 1

Northern Lower Peninsula and the Upper Peninsula

Northern Skies District encompasses **53** United Methodist churches and **13** multi-point charges.

## **NORTHERN SKIES OFFICE:**

927 W. Fair, Marquette, MI 49855

(906) 228-4644



**Scott Harmon**

District Superintendent  
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**Pamela Quayle**

Executive Assistant  
pquayle@michiganumc.org



**John Preston**

District Lay Leader  
johncarterpreston@up.net





## CHURCHES AND CHARGES

- Bark River, Hermansville: First
- Bergland, Ewen, Wakefield
- Cheboygan: St. Paul's
- Crystal Falls: Christ, Amasa: Grace
- Escanaba: Central
- Escanaba: First
- Gladstone: Memorial
- God's Country Cooperative Parish: Grand Marais, Germfask, McMillan, Newberry, Engadine, Paradise, Hulbert: Tahquamenon
- Gwinn
- Hancock: First
- Houghton: Grace
- Iron Mountain: First, Quinnesec
- Iron Mountain: Trinity
- Ironwood: Wesley, White Pine
- Ishpeming: Wesley
- Keweenaw Parish: Calumet, Mohawk-Ahmeek, Lake Linden
- L'Anse, Sidnaw, Zeba
- Mackinaw City: Church Of The Straits
- Manistique: First
- Marquette: Hope
- Menominee: First
- Munising, Trenary
- Negaunee: Mitchell
- New Hope of Emmett County
- Norway: Grace, Faithorn
- Ontonagon, Greenland, Rockland: St. Paul
- Painesdale: A. Paine Memorial
- Pickford
- Republic, Woodland
- St. Ignace
- Sault Ste. Marie: Central, Algonquin
- Stephenson



# Northern Waters - District 2

Northern Lower Peninsula

Northern Waters District encompasses **77** United Methodist churches and **16** multi-point charges.

## **NORTHERN WATERS OFFICE:**

1249 Three Mile Rd., S., Traverse City, MI 49696,  
(231) 947-5281



**Anita Hahn**

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**Dennis Olin**

District Lay Leader  
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**Kathy Maynard**

Associate Lay Leader  
k2maynard@frontier.com



## CHURCHES AND CHARGES

- Alden, Central Lake
- Alpena: First
- Avondale
- Baldwin: Covenant Community, Chase-Barton
- Barnard, East Jordan
- Bear Lake, Arcadia
- Bellaire Community
- Boyne City, Boyne Falls, Epsilon
- Brooks Corners
- Cadillac
- Charlevoix
- Charlevoix: Greensky Hill
- Empire
- Ewart, Sears
- Frankfort, Elberta
- Free Soil – Fountain
- Gaylord: First
- Grawn, Grant
- Grayling: Michelson Memorial
- Harbor Springs, Alanson
- Hersey
- Hillman
- Horton Bay
- Houghton Lake
- Indian River
- Kalkaska
- Keswick
- Kewadin
- Kewadin Indian Mission
- Kingsley
- Lake Ann
- Lake City
- Leland
- Ludington: St. Paul
- Ludington: United
- Mancelona, Alba
- Manistee
- Manton
- Marion, Cadillac South Community
- Mesick, Harrietta, Brethren: Epworth
- Norwood
- North East Missaukee Parish: Merritt-Butterfield, Moorestown-Stittsville
- Northport Indian Mission
- Old Mission Peninsula
- Onaway, Millersburg
- Ossineke
- Petoskey
- Pine River Parish: LeRoy, Ashton, Luther
- Reed City
- Roscommon: Good Shepherd of the North
- Scottville
- Spratt
- Traverse Bay
- Traverse City: Central
- Traverse City: Mosaic
- Williamsburg, Fife Lake Boardman Parish (Fife Lake, East Boardman, South Boardman)



# Central Bay - District 3

Northeast and Central Lower Peninsula

Central Bay District encompasses **88** United Methodist churches and **16** multi-point charges.

## CENTRAL BAY OFFICE:

3617 Mackinaw, Suite 1, Saginaw, MI 48602

(989) 793-8838



**David Kim**

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dkim@michiganumc.org



**Teri Rice**

Executive Assistant  
trice@michiganumc.org





## CHURCHES AND CHARGES

- Arbelá
- Arenac County: Christ UMC
- Auburn
- Bay City: Grace
- Bay Port, Hayes
- Beaverton: First
- Bentley
- Birch Run
- Burt
- Caro
- Caseville
- Cass City
- Churchill
- Clare
- Coleman: Faith
- Coomer, Winn
- Elkton
- Essexville: St. Luke's
- Fairgrove
- Farwell
- Frankenmuth
- Freeland
- Gladwin: First
- Glennie
- Gordonville, Homer
- Hale: First
- Harrison: The Gathering
- Harrisville, Lincoln
- Hemlock, Nelson
- Hope, Edenville, Dale
- Kilmanagh, Owendale
- Kingston
- Mayville
- Midland: Aldersgate
- Midland: First
- Millington
- Mio
- Mt Pleasant: Chippewa Indian
- Mt Pleasant: First
- Mt Pleasant: Trinity, Countryside, Leaton
- Oscoda, Oscoda Indian Mission Church
- Pigeon: First
- Pigeon: Salem
- Pinconning, Garfield
- Port Austin UPC, Pinnebog
- Poseyville
- Reese
- Rose City: Trinity, Whittemore
- Rosebush
- Saginaw: Ames
- Saginaw: First
- Saginaw: Kochville, Mapleton
- Saginaw: New Heart
- Saginaw: State Street
- Saginaw: Swan Valley, LaPorte
- St. Charles
- Sanford
- Sebewaing: Trinity
- Shepherd, Blanchard-Pine River
- Sterling, Alger, Standish: Community
- Sutton-Sunshine
- Tawas
- Vassar: First
- Wagarville
- Watrousville
- Weidman
- West Branch: First
- Wilber
- Wisner



# Midwest - District 4

Western and Central Lower Peninsula

Midwest District encompasses **91** United Methodist churches and **11** multi-point charges.

## MIDWEST OFFICE:

207 Fulton St. E., Suite 6, Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
(616) 459-4503



**Margie Crawford**

District Superintendent  
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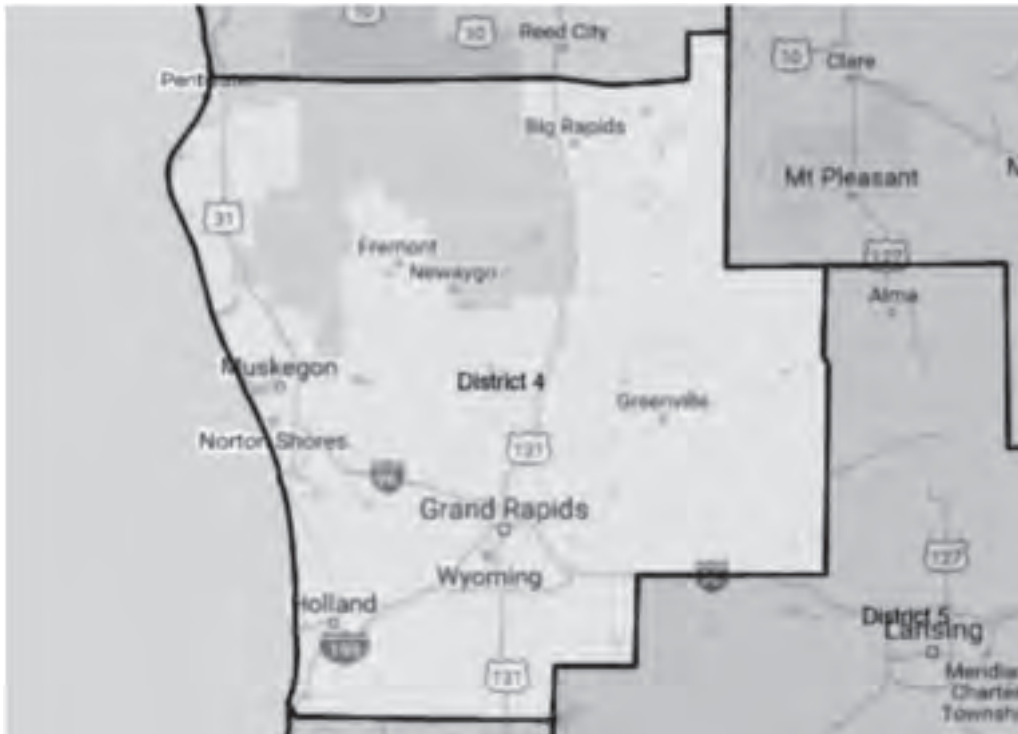
**Liz Bode**

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**Suzanne Hewitt**

District Lay Leader  
suzmckhew@att.net



## CHURCHES AND CHARGES

- Allendale: Valley
- Alto, Bowne Center
- Amble
- Barryton: Faith
- Big Rapids: First
- Big Rapids: Third Avenue, Paris, Rodney
- Byron Center
- Caledonia
- Carlisle
- Cedar Springs
- Claybanks
- Coopersville
- Courtland-Oakfield, Wyoming Park
- Crystal Valley, Walkerville
- Dorr: CrossWind Community
- East Nelson
- Edmore: Faith
- Fenwick, Palo, Vickeryville
- Flat River Cooperative Parish: Greenville, Turk Lake, Belding
- Fremont
- Georgetown
- Grand Haven: Church of the Dunes
- Grand Rapids: Aldersgate
- Grand Rapids: Cornerstone
- Grand Rapids: Faith
- Grand Rapids: First
- Grand Rapids: Genesis
- Grand Rapids: La Nueva Esperanza
- Grand Rapids: Northlawn
- Grand Rapids: Restoration Community
- Grand Rapids: St. Paul's
- Grand Rapids: South
- Grand Rapids: Trinity
- Grand Rapids: Vietnamese
- Grandville
- Grant Center
- Hart
- Hesperia, Ferry
- Holland: First
- Holton
- Ionia: Easton
- Ionia: First, Lyons-Muir
- Ionia Parish: LeValley, Berlin Center
- Ionia: Zion
- Kent City: Chapel Hill
- Lakeview: New Life
- Leighton
- Lowell
- Lowell: Vergennes
- Marne
- Mears
- Mecosta: New Hope
- Middleville
- Montague
- Muskegon: Central
- Muskegon: Crestwood
- Muskegon: Lake Harbor
- Muskegon: Unity
- Muskegon Heights: Temple
- Newaygo
- North Muskegon Community
- Parmelee
- Pentwater: Centenary
- Pierson: Heritage
- Ravenna
- Rockford
- Salem Indian Mission, Bradley Indian Mission
- Sand Lake, South Ensley
- Shelby
- Sitka
- Sparta
- Stanwood: Northland
- Twin Lake
- Wayland
- White Cloud
- Wolf Lake
- Wyoming: Wesley Park



# Mid-Michigan - District 5

Central Lower Peninsula

Mid-Michigan District encompasses **86** United Methodist churches and **16** multi-point charges.

## MID-MICHIGAN OFFICE:

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**Jerry DeVine**

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**Sarah Gillette**

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**Nona Spackman**

District Lay Leader  
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## CHURCHES AND CHARGES

- Alma
- Ashley, Bannister, Pompeii
- Barry County: Woodland
- Bath, Gunnisonville
- Breckenridge
- Brookfield Eaton
- Carland
- Carson City
- Charlotte: Lawrence Avenue
- Chesaning: Trinity
- Corunna
- Corunna: Northwest Venice
- Delta Mills
- DeWitt: Redeemer
- Dimondale
- East Lansing: Peoples Church
- East Lansing: University
- Eaton Rapids: First
- Elsie
- Fowlerville: First
- Fowlerville: Plainfield, Trinity
- Freeport, Nashville: Peace, Hastings:
- Welcome Corners
- Grand Ledge: First
- Gresham, Sunfield
- Grovenburg
- Hastings: First
- Hastings: Hope
- Henderson, Chapin, Owosso: Burton
- Holt
- Ithaca, Beebe
- Juddville
- Kalamo, Quimby
- Laingsburg
- Lake Odessa: Central
- Lake Odessa: Lakewood
- Lansing: Asbury
- Lansing: Central
- Lansing: First
- Lansing: Grace
- Lansing: Mt Hope
- Lansing: Sycamore Creek
- Leslie, Felt Plains
- Maple River Parish: Maple Rapids, Lowe
- Mason: First
- Millville, Wheatfield
- Morrice, Bancroft
- Mulliken
- Munith, Stockbridge
- Nashville
- New Lothrop: First
- Okemos Community Church
- Ovid United, Middlebury
- Owosso: First
- Owosso: Trinity
- Perry, Shaftsbury
- Pittsburg
- Portland
- Riverdale: Lincoln Road
- Robbins
- St. Johns: First
- St. Johns: Pilgrim
- St. Louis: First
- Shepardsville
- Vernon
- Wacousta Community
- Webberville, Williamston: Crossroads
- Williamston





# East Winds - District 6

Central/Eastern Lower Peninsula

East Winds District encompasses **96** United Methodist churches and **18** multi-point charges.

## **EAST WINDS OFFICE:**

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## CHURCHES AND CHARGES

- Applegate, Buel, Croswell: First
- Armada, West Berlin
- Atherton, Grand Blanc: Phoenix
- Attica
- Bad Axe: First
- Brown City
- Burton: Christ
- Byron: First, Gaines
- Capac
- Central Lakeport
- Clarkston
- Clio: Bethany
- Cole, Melvin
- Columbiaville
- Davisburg
- Davison
- Deckerville
- Dryden, Leonard
- Durand: First
- Fenton
- Flint: Asbury
- Flint: Bethel
- Flint: Bristol
- Flint: Calvary
- Flint: Charity
- Flint: Court Street
- Flint: Faith
- Flint: Hope
- Flushing
- Forester, Port Sanilac
- Genesee, Thetford Center
- Goodrich
- Grand Blanc
- Halsey, South Mundy
- Harbor Beach, Port Hope
- Holly: Calvary
- Holly: Mt. Bethel
- Imlay City
- Jeddo, Avoca
- Lake Fenton
- Lake Orion
- Lapeer: Trinity
- Lennon, Duffield
- Lexington
- Linden
- Marlette: First
- Marysville
- McGregor, Carsonville
- Memphis: First, Lamb
- Minden City, Shabbona
- Montrose
- Mt. Morris: First
- North Branch: First, Silverwood
- North Street
- Omard
- Oregon, Elba
- Ortonville
- Otisville, Fostoria, West Deerfield
- Oxford
- Port Huron: First
- Port Huron: Gratiot Park, Washington Avenue
- Richfield
- Richmond: First
- Romeo
- Saint Clair: First
- Sandusky: First
- Seymour Lake
- Snover: Heritage
- Swartz Creek
- Thomas
- Ubly
- West Forest
- West Vienna
- Worth Township: Bethel
- Yale



# Greater Southwest - District 7

South West Lower Peninsula

Greater Southwest District encompasses **104** United Methodist churches and **19** multi-point charges.

## GREATER SOUTHWEST OFFICE:

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## CHURCHES AND CHARGES

- Allegan
- Alma
- Arden
- Augusta Fellowship
- Bangor: Simpson
- Battle Creek: Baseline, Bellevue
- Battle Creek: Birchwood, Trinity
- Battle Creek: Chapel Hill
- Battle Creek: Christ, Washington Heights
- Battle Creek: Convis Union
- Battle Creek: First
- Battle Creek: Maple
- Battle Creek: Newton
- Berrien County: Lakeside
- Bloomingdale
- Bronson: First, Colon
- Buchanan: Faith
- Buchanan: First
- Burnips, Monterey Center
- Burr Oak
- Casco
- Cassopolis
- Center Park
- Centreville
- Climax, Scotts
- Coldwater
- Coloma
- Constantine, White Pigeon
- Delton: Faith
- Dowagiac: First
- Dowling: Country Chapel
- Edwardsburg: Hope
- Fennville, Pearl
- Galesburg
- Galien, Olive Branch
- Ganges
- Girard
- Glenn
- Gobles, Kendall
- Gull Lake
- Hartford
- Hopkins, South Monterey
- Kalamazoo: First
- Kalamazoo: Milwood
- Kalamazoo: Northwest
- Kalamazoo: Sunnyside
- Kalamazoo: Westwood
- Lacota
- Lawrence, Lawton: St Paul's
- Lee Center
- Marcellus, Wakelee
- Martin, Shelbyville
- Mendon
- New Buffalo: Waters Edge
- Niles Wesley, Morris Chapel, Niles Grace
- Nottawa
- Oshtemo
- Oshtemo: LifeSpring
- Otsego
- Otsego: Trowbridge
- Parchment
- Paw Paw
- Plainwell: First
- Pokagon, Berrien Springs, Hinchman
- Portage: Chapel Hill
- Portage: Pathfinder
- Portage Prairie
- Riverside
- Saugatuck
- St. Joseph: First
- Schoolcraft, Pleasant Valley
- Scottdale, Bridgman Faith
- Silver Creek
- Sodus: Chapel Hill
- South Haven: First
- Stevensville
- Sturgis
- Three Oaks
- Three Rivers: First
- Three Rivers: Ninth Street
- Townline
- Union City, Athens
- Vicksburg



# Heritage - District 8

South Central Lower Peninsula

Heritage District encompasses **100** United Methodist churches and **17** multi-point charges.

## HERITAGE OFFICE:

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## CHURCHES AND CHARGES

- Adrian: First
- Albion: First
- Allen
- Ann Arbor: Calvary
- Ann Arbor: First
- Ann Arbor: Korean
- Ann Arbor: West Side
- Azalia, London
- Belleville: First
- Blissfield: Emmanuel
- Blissfield: First
- Brighton: First
- Britton: Grace
- Camden, Montgomery, Stokes Chapel
- Canton: Cherry Hill, Ypsilanti: St. Matthew's
- Canton: Friendship
- Carleton
- Chelsea: First
- Clayton, Rollin Center
- Clinton
- Commerce
- Concord
- Deerfield, Wellsville
- Denton: Faith
- Dexter
- Dixboro
- Dundee
- Erie
- Frontier
- Grass Lake
- Griffith, Pope
- Hardy
- Hartland
- Highland
- Hillsdale: First
- Hillsdale, Somerset Center
- Homer/Lyon Lake
- Howell: First
- Hudson: First
- Ida, Samaria: Grace
- Jackson: Brookside, Trinity
- Jackson: Calvary
- Jackson: First
- Jackson: Zion
- Lambertville
- LaSalle: Zion, Petersburg
- Lee Center
- Litchfield, Jonesville
- Lulu
- Macon
- Manchester: First
- Manchester: Sharon
- Marshall
- Milan: Marble Memorial
- Milford
- Monroe: Calvary, South Rockwood
- Monroe: First, Heritage
- Monroe: St. Paul's
- Morenci, Weston
- Napoleon
- New Hudson
- North Adams, Jerome
- North Lake
- North Parma, Springport
- Northville: First
- Novi
- Oak Grove
- Pinckney: Arise
- Pleasant Lake
- Plymouth: First
- Quincy
- Reading
- Salem Grove, Waterloo Village
- Saline: First
- South Lyon: First
- Springville
- Stony Creek
- Tecumseh
- Walled Lake
- Willow
- Ypsilanti: First
- Ypsilanti: Lincoln Community



# Greater Detroit - District 9

Southeast Lower Peninsula

Greater Detroit encompasses **78** United Methodist churches and **5** multi-point charges.

## GREATER DETROIT OFFICE:

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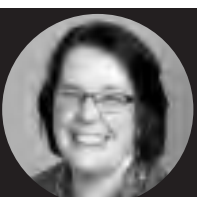
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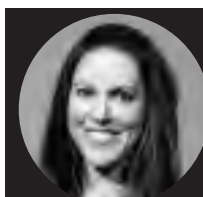
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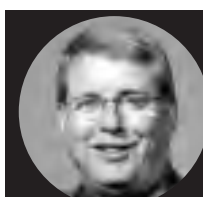
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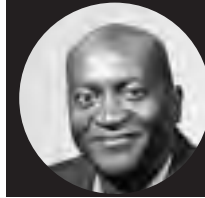
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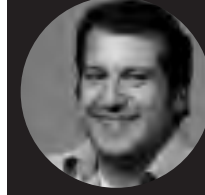
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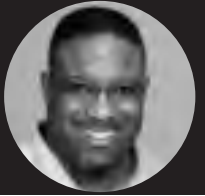
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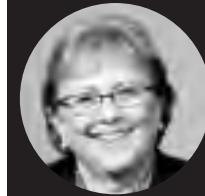
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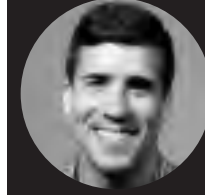
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# Day 1 - Thursday, May 31

6:30 – 8:00 AM

## BREAKFAST

*Michigan Ballroom*

8 AM – 8:00 PM

## CHECK-IN / REGISTRATION / INFO DESK OPEN

*Lobby*

8:00 AM

## CASS COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES STORE OPEN

*Tower Ballroom Registration Desk*

8:00 – 9:00 AM

## CHOIR REHEARSAL

*Michigan Ballroom*

10 AM – Noon

**OPENING WORSHIP / MEMORIAL SERVICE:** Bishop David Bard, Preaching  
*Governors' Hall*

Noon – 1:30 PM

## LUNCH

### Buffet Lines are in several locations:

*Lobby (near Michigan Ballroom), Tower Prefunction, Pavilion (Yellow Tent), Level 17 & Director's Room. Lobby and Tower Prefunction will have dietary restriction lines.*

**General Seating** – Michigan ABCD Ballroom, Pavilion (Yellow Tent),  
Director's Room

**Liberia Task Force** – Tower C

**Local Church Representative for Native American Ministries** – Michigan E

**Memorial Service Families** – Level 17

**Order of Deacons** – Michigan FGH

**Reach New People I: IdeaMart** – Mackinac

**Retired Clergy** – Peninsula

**Wesleyan Covenant Association** – Tower AB

1:30 – 4:00 PM

## CLERGY SESSION

*Michigan Ballroom*

1:30 – 4:00 PM

## LAITY SESSION

*Governors' Hall*

4:00 – 4:30 PM

## BREAK

4:30 – 6:00 PM

## PLENARY SESSION

*Governors' Hall*

Includes: Welcome, Organization of Conference, Reports

6:00 – 7:30 PM

## DINNER

### Buffet Lines are in several locations:

*Lobby (near Michigan Ballroom), Tower Prefunction, Pavilion (Yellow Tent), Level 17 & Director's Room. Lobby and Tower Prefunction will have dietary restriction lines.*

**General Seating** – Michigan Ballroom A, C, EFGH, Tower A,B & C, Peninsula,  
Director's Room, Pavilion (Yellow Tent)

**Board of Global Ministries** – Mackinac

**Committee on Asian-American Ministries** – Michigan D

**Hispanic / Latino Ministries** – Michigan B

7:30 – 9:00 PM

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES**

- 1 – *Governors' Hall*
- 2 – *Tower Ballroom A*
- 3 – *Tower Ballroom B*
- 4 – *Tower Ballroom C*
- 5 – *Mackinac Room*
- 6 – *Peninsula Room*
- 7 – *Michigan Ballroom A*
- 8 – *Michigan Ballroom B*
- 9 – *Michigan Ballroom C*
- 10 – *Michigan Ballroom D*
- 11 – *Michigan Ballroom EFGH*
- 12 – *Director's Room*

9:00 PM

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 50TH ANNIVERSARY CAKE RECEPTION**

*Tower Prefunction, Michigan Prefunction*

9:30 PM

**WORSHIP REHEARSAL**

*Governors' Hall*



## What do all the name tag colors mean?

- WHITE** – Clergy with full voice and vote
- GREEN** – Clergy with full voice and vote on all matters except Constitutional Amendments
- ORANGE** – Have voice but no vote, may be present in the voting bar
- BLUE** – Clergy with no voice or vote, may not be present in the voting bar
- YELLOW** – Laity with full voice and vote
- PINK** – All others with no voice and no vote, may not be present in the voting bar



# Opening Worship

10:00 a.m., Thursday, May 31, 2018

Preacher: Bishop David Bard

Liturgists: Rev. Jinny Song, Judy Coffey

Scripture: Luke 10: 25-37

Theme: "What Must I Do to Inherit Eternal Life?"

## GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING MUSIC

MONTAGE OF MEMORIES

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

By different roads we have found our way to this place...the journey long for some, and brief for others.

We come here to greet one another...those who are friends, some still strangers, and all of us neighbors...still adjusting...still grieving the familiar of what we once knew...

Yet eager to be in this place...eager to continue the adventure of becoming something new...

and confident that the God who has been present thus far along the way, will continue with us in all that is yet to come.

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

\*OPENING HYMN

"And Are We Yet Alive"

## And Are We Yet Alive

1. And are we yet a - live, and see each oth - er's face? Glo -  
 2. Pre - served by power di - vine, to full sal - va - tion here, a -  
 3. What trou - bles have we seen, what might - y con - flicts past, fight -  
 4. Yet out of all the Lord hath brought us by his love; and  
 5. Then let us make our boast of his re - deem - ing power, which  
 6. Let us take up the cross till we the crown ob - tain, and

ry and thanks to Je - sus give for his al - might - y grace!  
 gain in Je - sus' praise we join, and in his sight ap - pear.  
 ings with - out, and fears with - in, since we as - sem - bled last!  
 still he doth his help af - ford, and hides our life a - bove.  
 saves us to the ut - ter - most, till we can sin no more.  
 glad - ly reck - on all things loss so we may Je - sus gain.

### A TIME OF MEMORIAL AND REMEMBRANCE

#### SACRED TIME OF REMEMBERING

*We who are gathered here are "yet alive," and are experiencing the joy of seeing each other's face. Since last we gathered, beloved ones have gone on to rest in the eternal and everlasting arms of God. Yet they live on in our memories, and we celebrate the gift of their lives among us. We remember them, even as we towel away our tears, for they have heard the voice of God, "Well done, good and faithful servant," and now join the great neighborhood of all the saints of heaven.*

*AS EACH NAME IS READ, WE ASK ANY FAMILY MEMBERS TO STAND SO THAT A GIFT OF REMEMBRANCE CAN BE PRESENTED TO YOU. WE ASK THE REST OF THE CONFERENCE TO REMAIN SEATED AS WE HONOR AND NAME THE CLOUD OF WITNESSES.*

#### SCRIPTURE FOCUS

LUKE 10: 25-28

#### ANTHEM

"Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me"  
 Conference Choir

arr. Thomas Grassi

#### NAMING OF OUR BELOVED

Rev. Erin Fitzgerald  
 Greg Timmons

#### \*HYMN

"For All the Saints"

#711, vs. 1, 2, 4, 6

## For All the Saints

1. For all the saints, who from their la - bors rest, who  
 2. Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might; thou  
 4. O blest com - mun - ion, fel - low - ship di - vine!  
 6. From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through



thee \_\_\_\_\_ by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy  
 Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ their cap - tain in the well - fought fight; \_\_\_\_\_  
 We fee - bly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; yet  
 gates \_\_\_\_\_ of pearl streams in the count - less host, \_\_\_\_\_

name, O \_\_\_\_\_ Je - sus, be for - ev - er \_\_\_\_\_ blest. Al -  
 thou in the dark - ness dread, their one true light. Al -  
 all are \_\_\_\_\_ one in thee, for all are thine. Al -  
 sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly \_\_\_\_\_ Ghost: Al -

- le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

### LISTENING FOR THE WORD

#### PRAYER FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

*(sing verse #1 and chorus of Jesu, Jesu)*

God of love, give us a deep love for you,  
 so that we can see the world as you see it,  
 feel the compassion you feel,  
 and be a people whose lives mediate your love to others.

Grant us the insight to see the need in others,  
 the wisdom to know what to do, and the will to do it.

*(chorus)*

And so we pray for all those, who in many and various ways,  
 have been stripped, beaten and left for dead.

We pray for children who must grow up  
 in the most awful of circumstances,  
 especially those who are starved for love, for food, for shelter or security.

*(chorus)*

We pray for those we cross the road to avoid.  
 Who have been excluded socially because of their race,  
 their orientation, their status, their ability, or their history.

We pray for those whose need we would rather not acknowledge,  
 because it requires action of us,  
 for those who suffer atrocities because of war, unjust trade rules,  
 or oppressive governments.

*(chorus)*

Open our eyes, that we might not cross the road from human need.





Give us a deep love for you,  
that we might see your love at work in this world,  
and that we might go and do likewise.

*(sing verse #3 and chorus of Jesu, Jesu)*

## SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 10: 25-37

## MESSAGE

"A Classic"

Bishop David Bard

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

## SOLO

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Rev. Anna Moon

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right to give thanks to you, Lord, creator of all things.

You made the mountains and the oceans and the dust of the road.

You made fish and birds and animals of all kinds.

You made humankind in your image,

and breathed into us the breath of life.

We differ in language and custom.

We claim a rich variety of ages, nations, and races.

We do not share the same path in life.

We share one Creator. One Savior. One Spirit.

We join our voices now

with all your people on earth and in heaven,

singing a shared hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

Jesus preached good news to the poor

and proclaimed freedom for those in prison.

He challenged us to love our enemies

and taught us how to live.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

He suffered, died, and rose again.

Through Jesus Christ,

God delivered us from slavery to sin and death,

gave birth to the church,

and offered us a new covenant with a new commandment.

On the night before his death,



Jesus gave thanks to you, Lord, over bread.  
He broke the bread and shared it with his closest followers, saying:  
"This is my body, given for you.  
Eat this in remembrance of me."

After the meal,  
Jesus gave thanks to you, Lord, over a cup.  
He shared the cup with his followers, saying:  
"This is my blood, poured out for you.  
Drink this in remembrance of me."

Lord, we remember your mighty acts in Jesus Christ.  
We offer ourselves now, and we claim this mystery as truth:

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on these gifts,  
that they may be for us Christ's body and blood.  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us,  
that we may be the body of Christ in the world,  
Redeemed by Christ's blood.

Unite us with Christ.  
Unite us with one another.  
Unite us in ministry.

**Amen.**

#### **PRAYING IN ONE VOICE**

*(Contemporary English Version)*

And now as children of God living in one divine neighborhood, we pray together...

**Our Father in heaven, help us to honor your name.  
Come and set up your kingdom, so that everyone on earth  
will obey you, as you are obeyed in heaven.  
Give us our food for today.  
Forgive us for doing wrong, as we forgive others.  
Keep us from being tempted and protect us from evil.  
For to you belongs the kingdom and all power and glory,  
today and forever. Amen.**

#### **OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES**

As you come forward for communion, please bring your covenant offerings for  
Haiti and Liberia and also for Puerto Rico.

#### **RECEIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP**

*(those serving today are our ordinands and retirees from both conferences)*

#### **SONGS DURING COMMUNION**

Who is my Mother, Who is my Brother?	#2225
Table of Plenty	#3173
What Feast of Love	#3170
Let Us Be Bread	#2260
Christ, We Are Blest	#3174

# Who Is My Mother, Who Is My Brother 2225



1. Who is my moth - er, who is my broth - er?
2. Dif - ferent - ly a - bled, dif - ferent - ly la - beled
3. Love will re - late us — col - or or sta - tus
4. Bound by one vi - sion, met for one mis - sion



all those who gath - er round Je - sus Christ:  
 wid - en the cir - cle round Je - sus Christ:  
 can't seg - re - gate us, round Je - sus Christ:  
 we claim each oth - er, round Je - sus Christ:



Spir - it - blown peo - ple, born from the Gos - pel  
 Crutch - es and stig - mas, cul - tures' e - nig - mas  
 Fam - i - ly fail - ings, hu - man de - rail - ings —  
 Here is my moth - er, here is my broth - er,

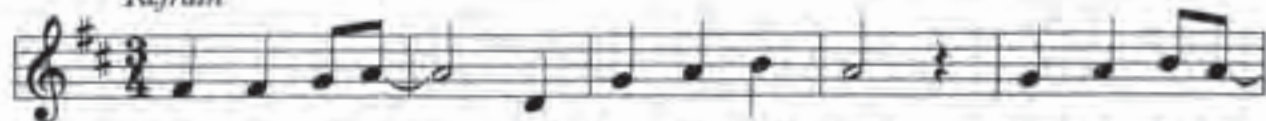


sit at the ta - ble, round Je - sus Christ.  
 all come to - geth - er round Je - sus Christ.  
 all are ac - cept - ed, round Je - sus Christ.  
 kin - dred in Spir - it, through Je - sus Christ.



## 3173

## Table of Plenty

*Refrain*

Come to the feast of heav-en and earth! Come to the ta -



ble of plen - ty! God will pro-vide for



all that we need here at the ta - ble of plen -



ty. \_\_\_\_\_ ty. \_\_\_\_\_



1. O come and sit at my ta - ble \_\_\_\_\_ where
2. O come and eat with-out mon - ey; \_\_\_\_\_
3. My bread will ev - er sus - tain you \_\_\_\_\_ through
4. Your fields will flow - er in full - ness; \_\_\_\_\_ your



saints and sin - ners are friends. \_\_\_\_\_ I wait to  
 come to drink with-out price. \_\_\_\_\_ My feast of  
 days of sor - row and woe, \_\_\_\_\_ My wine will  
 homes will flour - ish in peace. \_\_\_\_\_ For I, the



wel - come the lost and lone - ly to share the  
 glad - ness will feed your spir - it with faith and  
 flow like a sea of glad - ness to flood 'the  
 giv - er of home and har - vest, will send my



cup of my love. \_\_\_\_\_  
 full - ness of life. \_\_\_\_\_  
 depths of your soul. \_\_\_\_\_  
 rain on the soil. \_\_\_\_\_

3170

## What Feast of Love



1. What feast of love is of-fered here, what ban-quet come from heav-en?
2. What light of truth is of-fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav-en?
3. What wine of love is of-fered here, what crim-son drink from heav-en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?  
 What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en?  
 What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.  
 This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.  
 This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE





Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!  
 Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!  
 Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

## Let Us Be Bread

2260

Let us be bread, blessed by the Lord, bro - ken and  
 shared, life for the world. Let us be wine,  
 love free - ly poured. Let us be one in the Lord.

## Christ, We Are Blest

3174

1. Christ, we are blest as we gath - er to dine,  
 2. You laid your life down like sow - ing a seed;  
 3. Christ, you are ris - en, but not far a - bove;  
 4. Je - sus, you feed us, then bid us to leave,  
 strength - ened for love by the bread and the wine.  
 once dead and bur - ied, from death you are freed,  
 you live a - mong us in each act of love,  
 shar - ing with oth - ers the love we re - ceive.





This is your bod - y, now en - ter - ing ours,  
 ris - ing like wheat in the warmth of the sun!  
 in ev - ery deed of com - pas - sion you rise,  
 We are your bod - y, sent by your com - mand,



strong with your lov - ing, mi - rac - u - lous powers.  
 Christ, you are ris - en! New life has be - gun!  
 liv - ing in flesh we can see with our eyes.  
 mak - ing love real as the bread in our hands.

## \*AFFIRMATION OF THANKS

Taylor Burton-Edwards

Thank you, Jesus  
 for hearing us when we cried for mercy!  
 Thank you, Jesus  
 for feeding us when our hands were unclean!  
 Thank you, Jesus  
 for welcoming us when we were foreigners!  
 Thank you, Jesus  
 for healing us when we were wounded!  
 Thank you, Jesus  
 for sending us now to do the same.  
 Thank you, Jesus.  
 Amen.

## \*CLOSING HYMN

"As a Fire Is Meant for Burning"

#2237

## As a Fire Is Meant for Burning 2237

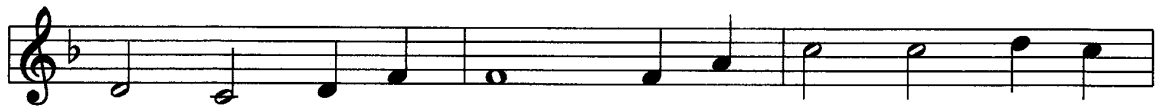


1. As a fire is meant for burn - ing with a bright and warm-ing  
 2. We are learn - ers; we are teach - ers; we are pil - grims on the  
 3. As a green bud in the spring-time is a sign of life re -



flame, so the church is meant for mis - sion, giv - ing  
 way. We are seek - ers; we are giv - ers; we are  
 newed, so may we be signs of one - ness 'mid earth's

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



glo - ry to God's name. Not to preach our creeds or  
ves - sels made of clay. By our gen - tle, lov - ing  
peo - ples, man - y hued. As a rain - bow lights the



cus - toms, but to build a bridge of care, we join  
ac - tions we would show that Christ is light. In a  
heav - ens when a storm is past and gone, may our



hands a - cross the na - tions, find - ing neigh - bors ev - ery - where.  
hum - ble, lis - tening Spir - it we would live to God's de - light.  
lives re - flect the ra - diance of God's new and glo - rious dawn.

\*SENDING FORTH

Bishop Bard

\*SONG OF COMMISSIONING

"Rule of Life"

#3117

3117

## Rule of Life



Do all the good you can, \_\_\_\_\_ by all the



means you can, \_\_\_\_\_ in all the ways you can, \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_ in all the plac - es you can, \_\_\_\_\_ at all the



POSTLUDE

Allegro, Chorale, and Fugue  
Tom Bara, organist

F. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

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 Connie Perrine, Office Manager..... ext 252  
 Audrey Mangum, Administrative Assistant .. ext 253



# Day 2 - Friday, June 1

6:30 – 8:00 AM

## BREAKFAST

- General Seating** – Michigan Ballroom
- District 1 Northern Skies Breakfast** – Level 17
- District 2 Northern Waters Breakfast** – Tower C
- District 3 Central Bay Breakfast** - Mackinac
- District 4 Midwest Breakfast** – Tower AB
- District 5 Mid-Michigan Breakfast** - Peninsula

8:00 AM

## DISTRIBUTION OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS AND CONSENT CALENDAR

*Entrance to Governors' Hall*

8:30 – 9:30 AM

## WORSHIP: Rev. Benjamin Bower, Preaching

*Governors' Hall*

9:30 – 10:00 AM

## BREAK

10:00 AM – Noon

## PLENARY SESSION

*Governors' Hall*

Includes: Design Team Report, Corporate Sessions, Reports  
Engage with your community: Paul Perez and Matthew Witkowski  
Engage with the poor: Julie Liske of CirclesGR

Noon – 2:00 PM

## LUNCH

### **Buffet Lines are in several locations:**

*Lobby (near Michigan Ballroom), Tower Prefunction, Pavilion (Yellow Tent), Level 17 & Director's Room. Lobby and Tower Prefunction will have dietary restriction lines.*

- General Seating** – Michigan Ballroom ABCDGH, Director's Room, Pavilion
- Bishop's Lunch w/ Those Appointed to Extension Min** – Level 17
- Commission on African American Ministries** – Michigan EF
- Methodist Federation for Social Action & Reconciling Ministries** – Tower AB
- MI Area Haiti Task Force** – Peninsula A
- Mission Intern Program** – Peninsula C
- Racial/Ethnic Local Church** – Peninsula B
- Reach New People II: Make a Plan** – Mackinac
- Town and Country Ministry** – Tower C

2:00 – 4:00 PM

## PLENARY SESSION

*Governors' Hall*

Includes: Consent Calendar, Legislation  
Engage with your neighbors: Raquel Owens of Justice for Our Neighbors  
Engage with the people (con la gente): Sonya Luna, Ellen Zienert,  
Patricia Gandarilla, Sari Brown

4:00 – 4:30 PM

## BREAK

4:30 – 6:00 PM

**PLENARY SESSION**

*Governors' Hall*

Includes: Nominations, Commission on a Way Forward  
Engage with the world: Darryl Totty, Rob Cook, Eric Mulanda

6:00 PM

**RECESS FOR EVENING**

6:15 PM

**ORDINATION REHEARSAL**

*Governors' Hall*

6:15 PM

**DOWNTOWN SHUTTLES AVAILABLE UNTIL 10 PM**

6:30 PM

**KEWADIN & NORTHPORT INDIAN MISSIONS DINNER & FESTIVITIES**

*Kewadin Indian Mission*

7:00 PM

**GREENSKY HILL INDIAN MISSION DINNER / SHARING TRADITIONS**

*Greensky Hill Indian Mission*

7:00 PM

**BIBLE JOURNALING**

*Tower A*

9:00 PM

**WORSHIP REHEARSAL**

*Governors' Hall*

**BENEPRO**

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# Friday Worship

8:00 a.m., Friday, June 1, 2018

Preacher: Rev. Ben Bower

Liturgists: Rev. Maurice Horne, Rev. Mary Ivanov

Scripture: Luke 10: 25-37

Theme: Who is my Neighbor?

## GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING MUSIC

OPENING TO CELEBRATE NEIGHBORS

Mister Jantz

WORDS TO LIVE BY

\*OPENING SONG

"Together We Serve"

#2175

## 2175 Together We Serve



1. To - geth - er we serve, u - nit - ed by love, in -  
 2. We seek to be - come a bea - con of hope, a  
 3. We wel - come the scarred, the wealth - y, the poor, the  
 4. To - geth - er, by grace, we wit - ness and work, re -



vit - ing God's world to the glo - ri - ous feast. We  
 lamp for the heart and a light for the feet. We  
 bus - y, the lone - ly, and all who need care. We  
 mem - ber - ing Je - sus, in whom we grow strong. To -



work and we pray through sor - row and joy, ex -  
 learn, year by year, to let love shine through un -  
 of - fer a home to those who will come, our  
 geth - er we serve in Spir - it and truth, re -



tend - ing your love to the last and the least.  
 til we see Christ in each per - son we meet.  
 hands quick to help, our hearts read - y to dare.  
 mem - ber - ing love is the strength of our song.



## THROUGH THE EYES OF CHILDREN

### SCRIPTURE AND REFLECTIVE PRAYER

Luke 10: 25-37

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus.[j] “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

**Holy God - I strive to follow you in all I do and say. But I know I often come up short. Each day I set out to love my neighbor. But I'm often too busy, or too distracted, or too worn out with my own problems to really reach out. Each day, O God, I try to do what is required of me... to love you and love your people. Continue to guide me as I fumble, continue to lead me as I fear, and continue to forgive me as I fall short.**

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity.

**Creator God - we see ourselves in this gospel message. We have neighbors in our community that we would rather simply pass by. We have been the priest, crossing the street to avoid a fearful situation. We have been the Levite, avoiding confrontation and conflict in order to maintain our comfort or ignorant bliss. Help us, O God, to be the Samaritan you teach about. Help us to create places of community where no one turns their face away, or avoids the path of another. Make for us places of peace and sanctuaries in the streets.**

He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii,[k] gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?”

In our world, O God, which of these three are we? In our Global church, O God, which of these three are we? When we hear of people without access to clean water, or little girls without access to education, or global diseases with cures but no access to healing, we feel stuck. You call us to radical hospitality, yet we continually wonder what the bare minimum is that we can get away with. You call us to care for the whole person, yet we pick and choose which causes to champion or vote for. You call us to love, yet we try to make that love about us. Forgive us, when our global reach is only far enough to pat ourselves on the back.

He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

### SPECIAL MUSIC

“My Hands”

### SERMON

“Who is My Neighbor?”

Rev. Ben Bower



## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

SPECIAL MUSIC

"By Our Love"

by Christy Nockels

THROUGH THE EYES OF CHILDREN

\*CLOSING SONG

"Have I Done Any Good Today?"

## Have I Done Any Good?

1. Have I done an - y good in the world to - day? Have I  
2. There are chanc - es for work all a - round just now, op - por -

3  
helped an - y - one in need? Have I cheered up the sad and made  
tun - ni - ties right in our way. Do not let them pass by, say - ing,

6  
some - one feel glad? If not, I have failed in - deed. Has  
"some-time I'll try," but go and do some-thing to - day. 'Tis

9  
an - y - one's bur - den been light - er to - day be -  
no - ble of Christ - ians to work and to give; Love's

11  
cause I was will - ing to share? Have the sick and the wea - ry been  
la - bor has mer - it a - lone. On - ly he who does some - thing helps

14  
helped on their way? When they need - ed my help was I there? Then  
oth - ers to live. To God each good work will be known.

17 *Refrain*  
wake up and do some - thing more than dream of your man - sion a - bove. Do - ing

21  
good is a plea - sure, a joy be - yond mea - sure, a bless - ing of du - ty and love.



# 3117

# Rule of Life



Do all the good you can, \_\_\_\_\_ by all the



means you can, \_\_\_\_\_ in all the ways you can, \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_ in all the plac - es you can, \_\_\_\_\_ at all the



times you can, \_\_\_\_\_ to all the peo-ple you can, \_\_\_\_\_ as long as



ev - er \_\_\_\_\_ you can. \_\_\_\_\_



## Day 3 - Saturday, June 2

6:30 – 8:00 AM

### BREAKFAST

**General Seating** – Michigan Ballroom CDEFGH  
**District 6 East Winds Breakfast** – Peninsula  
**District 7 Greater Southwest Breakfast** – Tower AB  
**District 8 Heritage Breakfast** – Mackinac  
**District 9 Greater Detroit Breakfast** – Michigan AB

8:30 – 9:30 AM

**WORSHIP:** Kennetha Bigham-Tsai, Preaching  
*Governors' Hall*

9:30 – 10:00 AM

### BREAK

10:00 AM – Noon

### PLENARY SESSION

*Governors' Hall*

Includes: Legislation

Engage with youth: Sarah Alexander, Rhonda Goode  
Engage with schools: Alex Fernandez, Randy Hildebrant,  
Christy Miller-Black, Kathy Pittenger, Shawn Lewis-Lakin

Noon – 2:00 PM

### LUNCH

**Buffet Lines are in several locations:**

*Lobby (near Michigan Ballroom), Tower Prefunction, Pavilion (Yellow Tent), Director's Room. Lobby and Tower Prefunction will have dietary restriction lines.*

**General Seating** – Michigan Ballroom ABCD, Tower C, Director's Room, Pavilion

**Asbury Theological Seminary** – Peninsula BC

**Boston University School of Theology** – Michigan E

**Fellowship of Local Pastors & Associate Members** – Tower A

**Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary** – Tower B

**Lay Servant Directors of the MI Conference** – Michigan F

**Methodist Theological School in Ohio Alumni & Friends** – Peninsula A

**United Methodist Women** – Mackinac

**United Theological Seminary** – Michigan GH

2:00 – 3:45 PM

### CELEBRATING THE JOURNEY OF MINISTRY

*Governors' Hall*

3:45 – 4:15 PM

### BREAK

4:15 – 5:30 PM

### PLENARY SESSION

*Governors' Hall*

Includes: Legislation

Engage with those struggling: Greg Timmons  
Engage within our churches: Naomi García

5:30 – 7:00 PM

**Buffet Lines are in several locations:**

*Lobby (near Michigan Ballroom), Tower Prefunction, Pavilion (Yellow Tent), Director's Room. Lobby and Tower Prefunction will have dietary restriction lines.*

**General Seating** – Michigan, Tower C, Peninsula A, Director's Room

**Bishop's Dinner w/ Those to Be Commissioned**

**& Ordained** – Mackinac BC

**Board of Justice** – Tower B

**Michigan Pastor Spouse Association** – Peninsula BC

**Newly Retired Clergy Celebration & Speeches** – Tower A

**UM Camping Ministries** – Mackinac A

7:00 – 10:00 PM

**PLENARY SESSION**

*Governors' Hall*

Includes: ENGAGE Program Presentation, Legislation

10:00 PM

**Q & A WITH BISHOP BARD** - Regarding Commission on a Way Forward

*Peninsula Room*

10:30 PM

**MUSICIAN / WORSHIP REHEARSAL**

*Governors' Hall*



# Saturday Worship

8:00 a.m., Saturday, June 2, 2018

Preacher: Rev. Kennetha Bigham-Tsai  
Liturgists: Kelsey Burns, Rev. Mark Thompson  
Scripture: Luke 10: 25-37  
Theme: Go and Do Likewise

## GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

### GATHERING MUSIC

#### CENTERING PRAYER

Kathy Keay, England

Give us big hearts, dear God;  
big enough to embrace all our brothers and sisters,  
especially those in trouble,  
whether of their own making  
or because of wrongs done to them.

Give us big hearts, dear God;  
big enough to acknowledge our own weakness  
before pointing the finger at others;  
big enough to be humble when blessed with your good gifts,  
denied to so many.  
Give us big hearts, dear God;  
to reach out again and again  
to those who cannot help themselves  
until hope is restored to them,  
and we, thorn-beaten and bloodied  
allow our loving to become more like yours.

#### ANTHEM

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"  
Conference Choir

arr. A. Pote

## LISTENING FOR THE WORD

#### SCRIPTURE

Luke 10: 25-37

#### SERMON

Kennetha Bigham-Tsai

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

#### SONG

\*"Go Make of All Disciples"

#571



# Go, Make of All Disciples



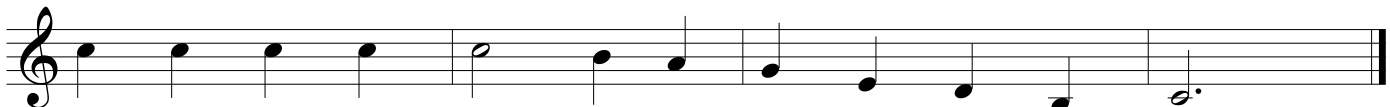
1. "Go, make of all dis - ci - ples." We hear the call, O Lord, that  
 2. "Go, make of all dis - ci - ples," bap - tiz - ing in the name of  
 3. "Go, make of all dis - ci - ples." We at thy feet would stay un -  
 4. "Go, make of all dis - ci - ples." We wel - come thy com - mand. "Lo,



comes from thee, our Fa - ther, in thy e - ter - nal Word. In -  
 Fa - ther Son, and Spir - it, from age to age the same. We  
 til each life's vo - ca - tion ac - cents thy ho - ly way. We  
 I am with you al - ways." We take thy guid - ing hand. The



spire our ways of learn - ing through ear - nest, fer - vent prayer, — and  
 call each new dis - ci - ple to fol - low thee, O Lord, — re -  
 cul - ti - vate the na - ture God plants in eve - ry heart, — re -  
 task looms large be - fore — us; we fol - low with - out fear; — in



let our dai - ly liv - ing re - veal thee eve - ry - where.  
 deem - ing soul and bod - y by wa - ter and the Word.  
 veal - ing in our wit - ness the mas - ter teach - er's art.  
 heaven and earth thy pow - er shall bring God's king - dom here.

## LITANY OF THANKS

After each statement of thanks is offered, the congregation will respond with:

**All: Go and do likewise!**

## ACT OF COMMISSIONING

Instructions will be given

### \*AFFIRMATION OF COMMITMENT

Christ has no body now but ours,  
**no hands, no feet on earth but ours,**  
 ours are the eyes through which God looks out  
 with compassion on the world.  
**Ours are the feet with which Christ goes about  
 doing good;**  
 ours are the hands with which God blesses all the world.  
**Ours are the hands, ours are the feet,**  
 ours are the eyes, we are his body.  
**Christ has no body now on earth but you and me.**



\*SENDING FORTH

Rev. Bigham-Tsai

\*COMMISSIONING SONG

"Rule of Life"

# 3117

# Rule of Life



Do all the good you can, \_\_\_\_\_ by all the



means you can, \_\_\_\_\_ in all the ways you can, \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_ in all the plac - es you can, \_\_\_\_\_ at all the



times you can, \_\_\_\_\_ to all the peo-ple you can, \_\_\_\_\_ as long as



ev - er \_\_\_\_\_ you can. \_\_\_\_\_

WORDS: 18th cent. aphorism, attr. to John Wesley  
MUSIC: Edward Bonnemere

RULE OF LIFE  
Irr.



# Celebrating the Journey of Ministry

2:00 p.m., Saturday, June 2, 2018



## CALL TO WORSHIP

**Leader:** God's call comes in many ways. When Jeremiah was a youth, God called him to speak God's word to the nations.

**Response:** **God, your call can lead us beyond where we think our gifts can take us.**

**Leader:** When he was middle-aged, Moses was confronted by God.

**Response:** **God, whether it is in the crackle of a burning bush, the thunder of the skies, or the voice of a dear friend, we hear your call.**

**Leader:** When they were senior adults, God called Abram and Sarai to leave the familiar behind.

**Response:** **God, your call often sends us forth into the world so that we can become a blessing to others.**

**Leader:** In a later time, God called Lydia to the ministry of hospitality to those who needed rest and refuge.

**Response:** **No matter when, no matter where, no matter what – we know that you are speaking to us, God, and so we rise to sing as those who have come and followed when you called our names.**

## \*HYMN

"The Summons" (verse 1)

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

**REPORT** from the Detroit and West Michigan Conference Chairs of the Board of Ordained Ministry

**RECOGNITION** of those in extension ministries and appointments beyond the local church called to connection and beyond the church walls

In the spirit of John Wesley, who ministered beyond the local church and declared 'the world is my parish,' we recognize and celebrate the ministry of Deacons in Appointments beyond the Local Church and Elders serving in Extension Ministries.

These ministers have responded to Christ's call within the Connection and beyond the walls of the Church to offer signs of God's presence, love, and grace to people in transition who are searching for hope and meaning, awaiting signs of God's Kingdom here on earth.

A litany of thanks for Elders in Extension Ministries and Deacons in Appointments Beyond the Local Church

**Leader:** For the gift of chaplains, who bring Your presence to those serving in the military, and those in prison, to the sick in hospitals, and those dying in hospices, to the challenged in workplaces, and elders in retirement communities. And the needs these chaplains meet while bringing Your presence, love, and grace.

**People:** **We give You thanks.**



**Leader:** For the gift of administrators, professors, communicators, camping directors, and campus and youth ministers, who lead and guide, teach and inspire, nourish and inform; and provide opportunities for us to be and become, to learn and grow, with wisdom and understanding.

**People: We give You thanks.**

**Leader:** For the gift of pastoral counselors and life coaches, who share special understanding of relationships, mend social and spiritual fabrics, offer release from things holding us captive, and who see hidden greatness and create new awareness, and empower us to serve You with all our hearts, soul, and strength.

**People: We give You thanks.**

**Leader:** For the gift of missionaries, who enact Your Commission; for the gift of justice-makers and peace-makers, who engage our local communities to advocate for the oppressed and the excluded, encouraging us to see Jesus among them and our call to be the Church for all people in the world.

**People: We give You thanks.**

**Leader:** For the gift of District Superintendents, who keep the Connection, and share the Church's vision while tending to workers in Your Vineyard, and disciples in the making.

**People: We give You thanks.**

**All: God, we give You thanks, for the power of the Holy Spirit, who uses these gifts of those called to Connection, and beyond the Church walls, to proclaim Your favor; transforming ANY setting in the world into fertile holy ground. Amen.**

#### RECOGNITION OF :

- Those completing Certification in Specialized Ministry
- Local Pastors who have completed licensing school
- Local Pastors who are in their first appointment in Michigan
- Local Pastors who have completed Course of Study School

#### \*HYMN

#### "The Summons" (verse 2)

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

#### RECOGNITION OF:

- Holders of the Conference Canes
- Those serving among us from another Annual Conference
- Transfers
- Chaplains

#### \*HYMN

#### "The Summons" (verse 4)

Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

#### INTRODUCTION OF:

- Those to be Commissioned
- Those to be elected to Associate Membership
- Those to be Ordained

**Litany of celebration for those being commissioned, elected in associate membership, and ordained**

**After all have been introduced:**

**Leader:** In the lives of all who are called, there comes a time to step upon new paths of ministry, new ways of following Jesus Christ as ones set apart for ministry.

**Response:** We rejoice that you have heard God's call to this journey of ministry. We give thanks that you have responded to your call and have offered yourselves for the sake of Jesus Christ.

**LITANY OF CELEBRATION FOR RETIREES****After all retirees have been recognized:**

**Leader:** In the lives of all who are called, there comes a time to step into new ministries called and shaped by God. In gratitude we say to you: Well done, good and faithful servants of Jesus Christ.

**Response:** We rejoice that God continues to work through us and we surrender ourselves to God's always-evolving claim on our lives.

**PASSING THE MANTLE****Bishop Bard:**

In 1 Kings the elder prophet Elijah takes his mantle and throws it over the shoulders of Elisha, symbolizing the spirit and ministry that would henceforth rest upon the younger prophet.

**Retirees:**

We transfer this mantle from our generation to the next, signifying thereby that the responsibility of those of us who are leaving will be caught up and carried on by those who are coming. The spirit of today's Elijahs will rest upon today's Elishas.

**Ordinands:** We who come after you take up this mantle which falls upon us. May we, like Elisha, inherit a double share of your spirit.

**SCHOOL OF PASTORAL MINISTRY VIDEO****CELEBRATING THE CALL OF MINISTRY IN MICHIGAN**

Invitation for laity, local pastors, deacons, associate members, and elders to stand and be recognized.

Ministry is the work of God, done by the people of God and given to each Christian as vocation. Through baptism all Christians are made part of the priesthood of all believers, the Church made visible in the world. God in Christ through the Holy Spirit empowers us to live as witnesses of God's grace and love. We are to bear witness in and through the life of the Church and to be faithful in our daily lives.

Therefore in celebration of our common ministry, I call upon all God's people gathered here: Remember your baptism and be thankful. Please reply: **"Thanks be to God!"**

In the midst of our common ministry, we hear the voice of God calling us to serve within, through, and beyond the Church. It is in this community of the faithful where the calls to ministry are discerned, encouraged, and celebrated. This day we recognize and give thanks for you, who each are called into ministry in all the various and wonderful ways that Christ bids us to follow.

At this time I ask that all the laity please stand in recognition of your calls to ministry...

I ask that all local pastors please join the laity in recognition of your calls to ministry...

I ask that all deacons, provisional and ordained, please join the laity and local pastors in recognition of your calls to ministry...

I ask that all associate members please join the laity, local pastors, and deacons in recognition of your calls to ministry...

I ask that all elders, provisional and ordained, please join the laity, local pastors, deacons, and associate members in recognition of your calls to ministry...



Together we represent the vibrant call of God throughout Michigan. Together we are the Church. Together we are committed to making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Look around you, and be encouraged... God is with us!

**\*HYMN****"The Summons" (verse 5)**

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go, where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

**BLESSING**

**Leader:** Those who toil in God's vineyard are happy.

**Response:** **Though the work is hard, the reward is great.**

**Leader:** For God calls God's children,

**Response:** **And those who hear God's summons respond.**

**Leader:** We live in the joy of God's call. Go forth in peace, in joy, and in love.

**Response:** **We serve God forever, in the joy of the love of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**LEADERSHIP FOR THIS SERVICE:**

Detroit and West Michigan Conference Boards of Ordained Ministry

**LITANY OF THANKS (ADAPTED) WRITTEN BY**

Rev. Kathy Steen, Chaplain, Munson Medical Center, Traverse City, MI

Rev. Margaret Zee Jones, former member of the WMC Board of Ordained Ministry, East Lansing, MI

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# Retirees

## DAVID AMSTUTZ



My Dad, Rev. Paul Amstutz, told me when I was ordained, "Dave, a pastor has to be able to Preach, Pray or Die on The Spot. Hope not the die part too soon."

Preach –Share the Good news of Jesus' love: Preached to 3 folks on a snowy morning. A Catholic congregation of well over a thousand. Funerals with hundreds in attendance or like the one with funeral director, the vault guy, and the deceased. Preached a Valentine's day wedding with 600,000 viewers on TV, and shared Jesus with a tiny one with four in attendance. Preaching has been the most humbling and blessed experiences.

Pray-From thousands of prayers during the regular church events, to lifting Lord's name blessings boats, classic cars, houses, and bicycles. Graduations, band concerts and softball games, and bowling alleys, township halls, jail and prison. ERs, delivery rooms, morgue, gravesides even of the neighbor kid's pets. Prayers with the suicidal, the seeking and the lost. There were prayers answered by miracles of God (to my amazement), medical healings, water from a well, even held off rain ten minutes once!

Now for the die-on-the-spot part. The unexpected DS worship visit and I can't pronounce Habakkuk to save me. There was the moment I realized the communion steward had us serve moldy green grape juice. Or the morning—observing I have preached for ten minutes with my shirt tail out my fly. Then there was the wedding where I used the bride's sister name instead of hers, twice. Cardiac arrest when I forgot the briefcase with all the VIM team passports and trip money in the Haitian tap-tap. Oh yes, the Christmas Eve service, when my six-year-old son stormed the platform with his new turquoise out of tune guitar, that had a giant cartoon platypus on it. Determined to accompany the congregation singing "O little Town of Bethlehem" while playing the guitar over his head like an 80's rock star.

"It has been an honor to Preach, Pray, and Die on the Spot for Christ!"



## PEGGY BAKER



I've often felt that just as the Apostle Paul is evidence that God can save anyone (1 Timothy 1:16) my life and ministry are evidence that God can use anyone. My husband, Forrest, is further evidence of the grace of God. In an act of kindness, God called us both to serve at a Lay Witness Mission in Wabash Indiana, where we met and decided to get married all in one weekend. We were married six months later, and we have been serving Jesus together ever since. He's been my hero in many ways, a gift to me as well as to the churches we have served and a source of strength and support throughout my ministry.

We were blessed to be nurtured and sent out by two loving home churches, Concord UMC and Baseline UMC. Over the last twenty years, Forrest and I have had the joy of serving four wonderful churches. The people of Comstock will always be close to our hearts. They were so willing to think outside the box as we reached out to the community around us, even leaving their church building behind to worship in a restaurant! Their willingness to go where God was leading was a one of a kind experience that helped prepare me for the call to plant a new church.

And what can I say about the people who boldly stepped up to help us plant a church in Harper Creek? We had an awesome, dedicated core group who made great sacrifices to create a new worshipping community. They touched the lives of a diverse group of people. We treasure their friendship. It was a joy to serve with them.

The Baseline and Bellevue appointment has been a great fit for us. We've felt loved and appreciated. God has been at work in amazing ways. We pray for God's best for both of these churches as God continues to bring about fruitful ministry.

Our family has been patient with missed ball games, band concerts, robotics competitions and vacations cut short so I could officiate at funerals. We look forward to retirement and having more time to spend with them.

To God be the glory for His call to ministry and His great love shown in so many ways!

## NANCY BITTERLING

I thank God for calling me to serve in pastoral ministry. Many years ago I was blessed by the Holy Spirit as I heard Romans 8: 37 – 39 read. I am so grateful for the Apostle Paul's words to know that "nothing can separate me from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." I also recognize the faithfulness of those who walked with me on this journey: my husband, Curt, our families, friends and members of the churches for the love and grace we shared in Jesus Christ. As I think about the mission and ministry we experienced together I can remember a lot of blessings and challenges. I began as a half-time student pastor at Grace UMC in Niles in 2000. My first day I got to work visiting shut-ins and working on Sunday worship. The second week Cindy, the secretary, was on vacation as a phone call came in. The voice at the other end of the phone asked for Cindy. When I told her she was on vacation she said, "I've fallen and I can't get up. Could you send some help?" I had not met this member and didn't know where she lived but I knew where the parsonage was about a mile away and that some of the trustees were there working. I closed the office and the church and headed for the parsonage. Some trustees and I went to Viola's home. Once we got in her house we found she had fallen and broken her hip. We called an ambulance, collected information from Viola about her medications and I followed the ambulance to the South Haven hospital. Having never been there before I wasn't sure how to get home to Richland in the dark but eventually found my way. I realized this would be no ordinary job God had called me to. I realize that all five churches went through a new roof project during my time appointed there. After a time of Sabbath I pray for God's guidance for the next chapter in my life.

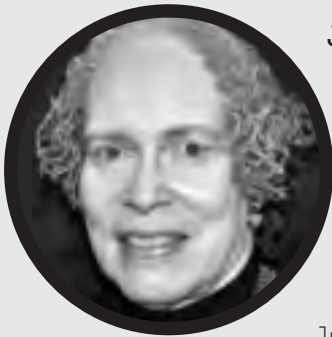


## PATRICIA BROOK

Throughout life's journey, I have come to recognize God's claim and call on my life through the presence of others, whether it is in a comfortable silence, through words being received and spoken, or through the shared experiences of life.

In reflection, I now recognize God's presence on every path of my journey – while walking down the road with my mother, brother and sister to Millett Methodist Church in the 1950s; through a pastor who recognized and drew out gifts long hidden; in shared experiences in college – as a church camp staffer one summer, as a student in religion and humanities classes, and during late night conversations; and in the ordinary and delightful privilege of raising children. Recognized in the moment or not, God was surely present then. And today I know and depend on God to be present in hospital room conversations, at death bed vigils, during pastoral conversations, through the rituals of the Sacraments and worship, during sermon preparation and reflection, in Bible study sharings and silences, and in the ordinary and delightful privilege of simply being grandma.

In these moments of reflection, I have begun to understand God's call to me to be one of being present to God and to others in the moment, embracing the example and teaching of Jesus Christ. It is a call that began to be realized long before I recognized it as a call to ordained ministry and it is a call that will continue to be realized in retirement.



## JAN J. BROWN

I've been in church all of my life but answered God's call later in life. God prepared me for being a pastor in the most interesting ways. I was in the field of law as a legal secretary, legal assistant, and legal administrator getting the appropriate degrees and credentials for the positions while serving for over 25 years. I also served on several committees and boards that dealt with community, justice, and advocacy. That's probably what piqued my interest in the Book of Discipline and community work.

Just when I thought I was going to be a lawyer, instead of going to law school, I found myself in the College of Education at Wayne State University getting a Master's in Education degree as an Instructional Technologist. I worked in that field at Ford Motor Credit as a Senior Instructional Designer for over 12 years and as a professor at Henry Ford Community College and University of Michigan Graduate School for a combined 10 years. That may have heavily influenced my love for Christian Education.

Finally, I answered my calling and went off to seminary at Ashland Theological Seminary and Methodist Theological School in Ohio, where I earned my Master of Divinity. I became an ordained elder in The United Methodist Church. My passion for education, particularly Christian Education has helped me to learn so much about God's love and plans for us.

I have enjoyed serving The United Methodist Church in various capacities in the district and conference because they allowed me to use all of the gifts, graces, and education that God gave me. I love helping people be clear about God's purpose in their lives and how they can serve God right where they are, being who God called them to be. I get excited when I see people grow in God's love. I have witnessed people change over time into being their best selves, so they can properly serve the Lord.

I thank God for allowing me to serve at Hope United Methodist Church as I prepared to become an elder. I thank the people of Trinity Faith United Methodist Church for allowing me to serve as their pastor for the past 11 years. Because of these churches, I feel stronger and ready to go wherever God sends me to continue "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." I may retire, but my responsibilities are never done. I will continue to express my love for God, to serve God in new ways, and to witness and care for God's people, so they may love and serve.



## DONALD DERBY

Eighteen years may not sound like a long time to some of those who are retiring this year but after thirty-two years in industry previously, I think that I'm ready – at least from a full-time appointment.

It has been such a privilege and blessing to serve churches in Whittemore, St. Clair Shores, Hillman & Spratt, and lastly Snover: Heritage. We have loved and been loved by so many Christian people. We are thankful that God chose to use us in such wonderful ways. Weddings, funerals, baptisms, the Lord's Supper, and welcoming and nurturing new members over the years have been the landmarks that we will always be able to look back on in wonder.

My wife, Carol, has been my rock helping me to remain grounded in the faith and helping me to exercise patience when it was needed. How often she said to me that we would go where God called us when I questioned a new appointment; except if it involved a U. P. appointment. If we were called to serve in the U.P. she said that I was going alone and she was going to live with her mother in Marysville. Thank you bishops and DS's for keeping my marriage intact!

Now, as we prepare for retirement, we are in the process of purchasing her mother's condo (where she threatened to move) in Marysville, MI.

We are looking forward to seeing how God plans to use us in the next phase of our lives. I'm sure that it involves proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ's love in some way, shape, or form.

May God bless the ministry of The United Methodist Church.



## MONA J. DYE

Life is a journey and my journey has been incredible. I married Bill Dye, my high school sweetheart, and the last 50 years have been filled with joys and sorrows; triumphs and defeats; laughter and tears; but in everything God has been with us. We raised four sons, Bart, Joshua, Joel and Matthew; gained four daughters, Melissa, Jeanetta, Erin, and Stephanie; and been blessed with 12 grandchildren, Jesse, Elise, Molly, Sam, Morgan, Lucas, Jordan, Jackson, Maci, Gavin, and Case (just remembering their names is an incredible feat!)

After spending the first forty years of our lives as dedicated church laity, and growing into God's call on our lives, we both began the process of becoming Local Pastors in The United Methodist Church. I thank God for the people He has placed in our lives who nurtured and encouraged us and actually made us believe that we could indeed say yes to pastoral ministry.

I have been privileged to serve churches in small villages in rural Michigan whose numbers have been small but whose faith and love for Christ has been huge. Fountain, Freesoil, Ashley, Bannister, Greenbush and Pompeii United Methodist Churches welcomed me and loved me beyond measure. I have never met people more loving, sacrificial and generous. Adapting to our mission plan of Faith, Fun, Food and Fellowship they fed the hungry, clothed the needy, welcomed the stranger, provided a safe place to nurture the children and reached out to enlarge the circle. I cherish the time we spent together in ministry.

I will always be grateful to The United Methodist Church for providing me with the opportunity to live out the call that God has placed on my life. In 1 Corinthians chapter 3, Paul talks about how some plant the seed and some water the seed but the growth belongs to God. I am so thankful that I have spent the past 10 years planting and watering seeds in God's fields and the most incredible part of it all is I was allowed to witness God's miracle in the lives of the people He put in my path. Thanks be to God.



## MURPHY EHLERS

Life is full of so many mountain tops and valleys! Through it all, God is good all the time and thankfully I know that God is with each of us every second of every day. As I write this I am grieving. Grieving the loss of my 41-year-old daughter who was killed by her husband. Now their 8 and 9-year-old children live with me. I am so thankful to God and Clawson United Methodist Church for helping me raise the children in the Christian faith. They know that their mom lives with God in heaven.

They know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Alyvia, the 9-year-old, does not want to use the word dead or death, she wants everyone to know that her mom has passed from an earthly life to a heavenly life.

I am thankful to God that I love being with children and have a zest and energy for life that is equipping me to raise another generation of Christians. You know that my retirement is not what I planned, but God is strengthening me and surrounding me with love. I know the support of friends, family and many loving congregations. I know that prayer is sustaining the children and me. I am so grateful.

I have served many churches; each congregation was filled with wonderful people. I hope that each congregation learned more about our shared Biblical story and grew in the love of Jesus Christ, our Lord through my ministry. I hope people were inspired to love one another and serve in mission because they loved the Lord. I pray that churches will grow through relationship building and especially through intergenerational relationship building. We are one family of God.

In another week, we will have my daughter's memorial service and Celebration of Life and Love. Cory Ann Ehlers was nurtured and loved by Troy First and then Ferndale United Methodist Churches. Cory knew the love of God and so many people. She shared love, kindness and peace with everyone.

I already know that there is no way that I can be at Annual Conference this year. But, I do know God will be with us all as we travel forward into the future. God is rejoicing with the new Michigan Conference. I hope to continue working and serving the Conference Protection Team. Protecting children, youth and vulnerable persons is an important ministry for every single one of us. I ask that you pray for peace and that you share love with everyone.

## G. PATRICK ENGLAND

I am thankful! I'm thankful for God's love and grace (which I believe is much greater than we've yet imagined)! I'm thankful that Jesus is my Lord and gave his very life that I and others could live beyond the power of sin. I'm thankful that he is risen and opens the door to hope and heaven! I'm just plain thankful for God's claim upon my life!

I'm thankful for my family! For my parents and grandparents who nurtured my faith and supported me! For my wife, Lisa, who has shared the journey of life and ministry every step of the way! For our children -- Katie, Ashley, and Andy, whom we love and in whom we take so much pride! We've been blessed, and we know it!

I'm thankful for the congregations I've been privileged to serve and learn from and for the countless people who made life serving the church a blessing! I'm thankful for Northwest UMC (seminary days) in Columbus, Ohio! I'm thankful for my first appointment to Redford UMC in Detroit and the privilege of serving with Rev. Ted Halsted. I'm thankful for the amazing Madrigal Dinners, the softball teams, and even for getting my glasses broken 3 times! I'm thankful for the Otisville and West Forest UMC's where I learned and grew, celebrated centennials and beyond, helped a beautiful church addition take shape, and enjoyed a whole bunch of "Buffalo Barbecues"! I'm grateful for Hale UMC and a community where our family felt at home as much as we probably ever will! I'm grateful that our three children all graduated from high school there and made friends that will last a lifetime! I'm grateful for a congregation that stood with our family in the face of illness! I'm grateful for the way churches and people of good will built a helping organization, FISH, in that community! I'm grateful for our shared worship as Roman MethoCostals! I'm grateful for Grand Blanc UMC and its many excellent ministries and for being a proud United Methodist Church! I'm grateful for the people there, who worked hard and created well and became excellent friends! I'm grateful for Lambertville UMC and its many loving people and, though our stay was short there, my prayers are for a blessed and fruitful future for its life and ministry! And, I am thankful for the wonderful musicians and music leaders and I am extremely grateful for the wonderful church secretaries/administrative assistants I worked with through the years and I think of you with great affection! I am thankful! God's love is sure and God is surely good!







## DIANE GORDON

It has been a joy (mostly) to serve God as a United Methodist pastor these past 15 years. My first career as a violinist, teacher and conductor taught me many things that have been useful in this second career. God knew what I would need later on. At Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary I learned a whole new vocabulary that I have spent the rest of my career trying to translate to the churches I've served. My hope is that they better understand what God's grace means for them. Serving churches also taught me another vocabulary related to building maintenance and renovations. Who would have imagined how important tuck-pointing really is? I've come to associate its care to the means of grace and maintenance of our souls. You can't ignore the practices for long before the spiritual apathy starts to leak in and do damage. Truly loving one another is harder than it seems, especially if we don't have good role models. Mirroring the love of Christ is the answer and I won't give up trying. It's time to return to Giovanni and fiddling around. And no, my husband has nothing to worry about. God bless you all in this time of transition. I'll be making beautiful music on the lake shore with Jesus.

## ANNELISSA GRAY-LION

Like our Spring this year, I came late to formal faith in God. The expressions of Christianity I encountered as a child and young adult didn't jibe with my tender, wondrous, early experiences of 'that something greater'. Lacking any formal religious training or vocabulary to recognize God's loving, gracious presence swirling all around me, I spent many years 'in the wilderness' that is life-by-faith-in-self-and-hard-work. That changed when in the midst of a life crisis, I 'fell into a nest of Christians' in my local church who patiently, lovingly accepted my quirks and questions. They gently helped me integrate my experiences, questions, intuitions, and knowledge with the vibrant, vital, life-saving/life-giving religious tradition we know as Christianity. I am forever grateful for them.

Purely on whim (i.e., the Holy Spirit's thump up the side of my head) I joined a three-year Covenant Community for Spiritual Formation, where I began to feel called toward ordained ministry. A bit reluctantly (I was after all in mid-life and working full time), I headed off to seminary at Garrett in Evanston, IL and quickly realized the call to Ordained Deacon was both real and deeply fulfilling.

Not surprisingly I was drawn toward helping others, both within and outside the church, recognize the life-giving reality of God's presence in their lives through experiential retreats, classes, and workshops. I find great joy in helping others bridge and integrate the rational and experiential aspects of our lives. Increasingly I find my ministry moving toward inclusion, social justice, and reconciliation. I look forward to continuing being in ministry in retirement. In fact, 'God willing and the creek don't rise', I anticipate not finding 'retirement' much different than 'non-retirement'. I'm grateful for the opportunity to continue to serve God and transform our lives and our world with my lay and clergy colleagues.

I was ordained in 2013, and have served as Consultant on Spiritual Guidance and Faith Formation for the former Ann Arbor District Office as my primary appointment and at Chelsea First UMC as my missional appointment. In addition I served on the Board of Ordained Ministry in the Detroit Annual Conference and will continue that role in our new Conference, as well as leading the second year of the three year Residency in Ministry program. I eagerly await seeing what ministry opportunities God will offer in our newly configured conference!





## WILLIAM HAGGARD

As I look back over thirty-eight years as an ordained clergy person there are so many wonderful and rich memories. I have loved serving the local church and every one of my appointments has brought joy and meaning to my life. Not every day! But most. I've had the privilege of serving alongside awesome leaders and walking with people at every stage of the journey from baptism to the grave as "Pastor." It has been an incredible honor that I will always cherish.

During the last six years I've had the opportunity to serve with two amazingly gifted and gracious Bishops and colleagues on the Cabinet, whose wisdom and insight, grace and passion have humbled me daily. I will miss the community we share and the rich gift they have been to me.

Along the way, all along the way, my wife Robin has shared the journey. We met when we were sixteen and have walked together since in love and in mission. We have faced the challenges and the celebrations together and I definitely, without a doubt, could not have done it without her.

Now as we move into this place of retired status, we will look for new places to serve. I am very aware that the Bishop and Cabinet are always looking for folks to continue to offer leadership to congregations even after retirement from itinerant ministry and I look forward to doing that as needed for the next few years. At some point we'll end up at the lake!

I look forward to staying active and involved. I look forward to continuing to try to make a difference in the world. I look forward to continuing to offer the grace and love of God to every person and every situation I encounter.



## PAUL HANE

It is all Red Miller's fault. Twenty-five years ago, I was happily unaffiliated with church and thought life might just work out. Then I became engaged to a lovely lady and she wanted this guy Red Miller to sing at the wedding. He was in the choir at Wayne United Methodist Church where our wedding was to take place and did special music in the summer. My wife to be invited me to hear Red sing. After the service we went to coffee hour so I could meet Red. Darn if we didn't hit it off and he invited me back again and again.

I joined the choir, started to become involved in the church. Red suggested I become a Lay Speaker, because of our involvement with the youth and my being asked to speak from time to time. Then he invited me in 1997 to do an Emmaus Walk. Red had been leading me to a relationship with Christ and this put me over the top. I went back to the church and became involved in a more spiritual aspect; prayer, scripture reading, studying, all the things the Walk calls for.

In 2000 I became Lay Leader at Wayne replacing Red, who told me I could do this just as well as he had. In the spring of 2002 we had an event. Terry Teykl, a prayer evangelist did a seminar and afterward told me it was time I became a pastor. I presented all the reasons I could not possibly do this, including my wife who had stated, "You can be a preacher, but I will never be a preacher's wife". She used this on Terry who chuckled and told her it is not our decision but what God was calling us to do.

Needless to say I answered the call to ministry at the 2002 Detroit Annual Conference and less than six months later I was being introduced to the PPRC at the North Adams and Jerome UMCs. For a city boy this was a big change, but the loving people soon became loving friends and we shared many happy and fulfilling times together. Another move brought us to the Hesperia and Ferry UMCs and another group of loving people.

In my time in pastoral ministry I have endeavored to love and have been loved in return. God has blessed me with kind and generous people and a man, who I now call dad, Red Miller.





## DUANE M. HARRIS

“Don’t go into it unless you can’t stay out of it,” my pastor and mentor told me. At the time I didn’t fully appreciate Dalton’s wisdom as he listened and reflected throughout the discernment process. After 34 years of serving churches, however, it’s so very clear to me now what he was trying to convey (I can be a slow learner).

Serving the church is not for the faint of heart. In challenging moments, the Spirit reminded me of Jesus’ rock-bottom conviction: “Love God. Love neighbor. Do this and you will live.” Simple but not always easy. Reflecting on over three decades as a parish pastor, I find myself feeling grateful for the power of God’s unconditional love. I won’t forget traveling with youth and adults around the country and Mexico on

mission trips that were visible expressions of unconditional love. Never will the images leave my memory of youth tipping their canoe—all our kitchen gear sinking to the bottom of that beautiful, God-created waterway—requiring young disciples to wrestle with the challenge of loving neighbor through hardship. Never will I forget those moments in which loved people suffered painful losses: a call to a home after a father & husband took his own life; another home where a faithful elderly man died in his bed and being asked to help carry him down the stairs from his second floor apartment; visiting with those who found themselves incarcerated and needing to know God still loves them; listening to couples who have grown angry and irreparably distant. Never will I forget the KKK coming to Midland and clergy successfully encouraging people to stay away from their rally of divisive hatred. Instead we invited people to attend an ecumenical service celebrating God’s gift of diversity the very next day. Midland FUMC was filled and we raised some \$8,000 for the “Burned Churches Fund”. Never will I forget the generosity of congregations who supported trips to Israel and Greece where my own faith experience was more deeply informed and shaped through exposure to the geography, cultures and rich history of those places that served as crucibles for the evolving Christian faith. Never will I forget the privilege of presiding in wedding ceremonies and then baptizing the babies of those couples. Never will I forget breaking the bread and offering the cup to any and all who chose to come. Never will I forget this most challenging and exhilarating journey.

“Love God. Love your neighbor. Do this and you will live” and “Don’t go into it unless you can’t stay out of it” entered my thoughts repeatedly over 34 years. Thanks be to God and to all of you United Methodists with whom this journey has been shared.

## CAROLINE HART

When this journey began, I felt that God was guiding me towards ministry in urban settings. All through seminary, I followed this leading, serving an internship at St. Timothy UMC with Rev. Phylemon Titus and Rev. Sharon Scott in a setting rich in diversity of culture, thought, and ideology. My CPE training was done at Grace Hospital in Detroit; extending my understanding of the blessings and challenges in an urban hospital dedicated to serving its neighbors. All additional study and trainings were urban focused, seeking ways to reach the least, the last, and the lost.

And God laughed at “my” plans!

My first appointment was at Warren: First UMC, a suburban church in a predominantly upper-middle-class economic setting. First church was one of the first involved in developing the rotating shelter for Macomb County (MCREST), which taught us far more than we could have imagined about the homeless population. Here I served with Revs. David and Terry Gladstone, Murphy Ehlers, and Judy May – all dear friends and mentors.

My second appointment was in Coleman. Not only was it not an urban setting, but a beautiful rural setting in the middle of farm country! During our time there, we built a church primarily with volunteer labor from the church, VIM teams, NOMADS, and a great deal of folks from the community – that just showed up, seeking to return to Faith UMC a portion of their decades-long commitment to the community.



My final appointment took us further north to Gladstone in the U.P.! God's Country! Another community dedicated to missions – locally, through establishing Hope At The Inn, through many meals provided throughout the community, support for Back-Pack Buddies, and local food pantries, the Venison Project that has provided venison for local counties and several thousands of pounds over the course of 26 years to Cass Community Services.

Each "call" I received from a D.S., took me further from where I thought God was initially leading me, and yet, each place I served had the same struggles and nearly the same statistics for food, educational, economic, housing and job insecurities that I would have encountered in a larger, urban setting. Each place God and the Cabinet called me to, offered the same needs, hopes, and ministry opportunities that I would have encountered anywhere . . . affirming that people are people wherever there are people . . . the least, the last, and the lost are in every place . . . and everywhere I have served, God was needed in tangible, loving and abundant ways.

I thank God for the opportunities I have had throughout ministry, the people I have served alongside, the lessons I have learned along the way, and my support system that has been unflinching!



### FRED HATFIELD

I was raised in the Lutheran Church. Growing up I felt drawn toward the church. During this time one of the most comfortable places for me was in the church serving in some fashion.

In high school I felt a nudge towards ministry, however I fell in love with my high school sweetheart, we were married and as many husbands do I transferred to my wife's church, West Side United Methodist Church. Then life got in the way, so I got a job with the City of Ann Arbor Utilities where I worked for the next 30 years. At that time, the City of Ann Arbor started down sizing and I was offered a buyout and took it.

We took trips to Egypt in 2001 and 2002. These trips opened my eyes to the great poverty in the world. After seeing this, I could no longer resist Christ's call on my life. Over time I became more involved and excited about serving the church and I liked the way The United Methodist Church seemed to reach out in many directions as the 'larger church'.

Rev. Dr. Huffman asked if I would attend Annual Conference as one of the West Side United Methodist Church delegates. When Bishop Keaton invited any who felt a call to ministry to come forward, I responded. I felt as if this was the time to respond, there was no choice, I had to go forward and offer myself completely to God and I went forward responding to God's call on my heart to serve Him, His children and the world through His Church.

My first church was a District Superintendent Appointment to Cherry Hill UMC. I felt privileged to serve the folks of Chery Hill UMC, where I found lifelong friends.

My next appointment was to Whitmore Lake Wesley UMC, where I've served for the past 8½ years. This church has been such a blessing to both my wife Diane and myself. Wesley UMC has been a joy to pastor. Through all the joys and sorrows, the people of Wesley have lifted and supported each other and the community. Diane and I thank you for your love and friendship.

What does the future look like? I don't know, but it will be centered around Christ and His mission of bringing others to the Father.

**HARRIS HOEKWATER**

My call to ministry came on a beautiful starry evening as I walked along the edge of the meadow at Lake Louise. I sensed God calling me into pastoral ministry, and I was just crazy enough to say, "Yes!" While attending Albion College, I served on the permanent staff at Lake Louise for three summers. Before entering seminary at G-ETS, I explored other career options but the draw of God was strong and I found myself solidly on the ministry track. Over the ensuing years, I have served eight churches (1 DSA, 5 appointments) all of them have been a gift from God. "Thank You" to each person and every family I have been graciously allowed to serve!

For as great a blessing as the ministry has been, I have found even greater joy serving God as a husband, a father and a grandfather. The summer between my first and second years of seminary found me serving as the waterfront director at Northwoods Boy Scout Camp near Lupton, MI. Thinking I was in for a manly summer "with the boys," I was caught off guard by the camp nurse, Jane Brockett, who quickly became the center of my attention, and soon thereafter, my life. We were married the following summer in Detroit, and a year later brought home our eldest daughter, Deanne. Sister, Sarah, and brother, Kenneth, each followed about two years apart. Together, we have traveled and camped and vacationed and explored and built a log home. Now, they have all struck off on their own. Deanne married David Barry (son of Gordie and Susan), and they have given us Felix, Eleanor, and Atticus – probably the three greatest grandkids in the world! The adventures continue!

As we prepare to retire, we are moving into our log home on top of Spirit Mountain – within earshot of that place where I first heard my call into ministry... And yes, I was just up there, and the skies are every bit as starry now as they were on that evening almost 50 years ago... And the voice of God seems just as audible as it did then. I suspect that "retirement" is just a term that we use when we do not fully understand the next phase that God may be calling us into. Whatever that may be, I am sure that it will be just as challenging, just as growth-producing, just as grace-filled as the last 50 years have been.

**KAREN Y. NOEL**

Ministry has been a journey towards God. Orchestrated by the appointment process, no matter where I found myself there are key things along this journey that I have learned. I have learned that God is present, God is faithful, God provides and that God loves. So as God has brought me this far He has prepared me to continue my journey towards Him. To God be the Glory!

**BRUCE KINTIGH**

I remember thinking when I was ordained in 1979 that the thought of retirement after 40 years of serving in ministry seemed absolutely impossible. After 39 years of serving local churches I decided a one-year compromise acceptable.

I find that what it means to serve as a pastor has changed drastically since that first appointment. We have learned so much over the last three decades about what it means to be the church tasked with the responsibility to make disciples for Christ. I have found that movement has been so very renewing for my spirit and yet it was often difficult for the churches with which I served. I am ever so thankful for the kind people that have journeyed with me. Together we experienced the love and grace of God in the midst of struggle. Together we learned what it meant to be a people of faith in the transition.

The constant tug of technology on how ministry is done has been intriguing to say the least, and yet it feels increasingly difficult to keep up. I so admire our pastors who grew up with social media as a platform for making the word of God an everyday reality. I am confident The United Methodist Church can prosper and grow well into the future. I am very thankful for the opportunity to be a part of the VCI staff. The lessons learned and the opportunities granted have been an incredible influence on how I have lived into my ministry within the last 7 years. It is my prayer that as we move into one conference for the state of Michigan God's blessings will be upon you all in the journey.



**CALVIN LONG**

Growing up in an active Evangelical United Brethren church in Coleman, Michigan I experienced a wonderful Christian community. My first solo ministry opportunity, however, came when I was a student at Delta College in the turbulent years of 1970-73. From that experience I was led to attend Vennard Bible College in Oskaloosa, Iowa, where as a student I was called into fulltime Christian service. Thereafter I spent two years serving churches in Hurst and Keller, Texas, before moving to Wilmore, Kentucky to attend Asbury Theological Seminary, where in 1980 I received a Master in Art and Religion degree in music and Christian Education. I took a four-church circuit in the Louisville Conference for one year and began my Master of Divinity degree, also at ATS, at which time I met my beautiful wife, Beth. Graduating together in 1983, I began ministry at Ames UMC in Saginaw, where Beth joined me after our marriage in 1984. Our ministry team grew with the additions of our children, Kristen and Jake, whose gifts and graces have greatly enriched the ministry we've had over the years.



We have had the honor of serving six churches during the 35 years we have been in ministry in the Detroit Annual Conference. We have made many lifelong friends over the years throughout Michigan as we served the United Methodist congregations of Ames (Saginaw), Swan Valley, Frenchtown (Monroe), Salem (Pigeon), Houghton Lake, and Owosso First. Our family will forever be honored and grateful for the privilege of sharing life and faith with those with whom we've served.

Early on, teaching the Bible became my passion and has continued throughout my ministry, the emphasis being to increase my congregations' confidence in biblical knowledge and witness. I've utilized computer technology in my efforts to enhance the message. Any good we have done for the Kingdom has come through Christ, who receives all the praise and glory.

The future is certainly bright as Beth and I embark on this new adventure of retirement. Expecting our first grandchild in August, much joy awaits! We step eagerly forward in prayerful anticipation for the next opportunities to present themselves, knowing that blessings will be abundant as we continue in faithfulness to God.

**DAVID MULDER**

This re-worked poem is a favorite used at the beginning of a wedding and is shared here in reflection:

When Christ at Cana's feast with power divine  
Turned the clear water into sparkling wine  
"Look!" said the servants, as the red drink gushed  
"The water has seen its maker and blushed."

This is to say that when I consider God's mighty acts of salvation, ministry fulfilled and missions accomplished, "I still blush."

Reflection on hundreds of weddings, hundreds of funerals, thousands of visits, souls saved, lives delivered, baptisms, confirmations, revivals, work missions and thousands of worship services...It overwhelms me. It drives me to my knees in humble thanksgiving.

From the high mountains of glorious worship and ministry successes to the lowest valleys of my dismal failures, I thank God for his provenance and sustenance in my life, the life of my family and the churches I have served. Praise be to God!

This third verse to the beloved hymn *How Great Thou Art* says it so well:

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing  
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died, to take away my sin.  
Then sings my soul...

Thanks to God's lavished grace, my soul still sings; my heart still loves; and, I still blush. My wife Patricia and I will continue to serve the Lord all of our days. With all my heart I will continue to proclaim God's Word and praise God with trumpet sound!

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3:17



**CINDY PARSONS**

Every once in a while someone asks the question, "What do you most enjoy doing in your ministry?" and I answer, "youth work". And then they ask, "What do you find most challenging in your ministry?" and I answer, "youth work". Take, for example, Ricky and Gerry – two boys from a low-income family in Missaukee County. They lived in a broken-down house heated with a wood stove that leaked smoke so badly, their dining room walls were black. When it came time for them to go to Lake Louise Camp, Gerry brought his clothes over to the parsonage to wash since there wasn't a laundromat in town. When Ricky was about to turn 16, I suggested to the UMW that they might like to join the Youth Group in giving him a birthday party. The church ladies made him a quilt for his bed. When he opened it at the party, he pulled it over his head to hide his tears. That is still my favorite moment in ministry, after nearly 30 years. OK, I also liked eating tater tots with the Youth Group at Casco and putting some in our pockets to save for later. Taking kids to ICHTHUS and on mission trips to Marquette, Honduras, and Red Bird were powerful memories too.



What defines me as a person and a pastor is Christian camping. Studies by the American Camping Association and the Barna Group show that most Christians make their commitment to Christ before age 18 and those who attend a Christian summer camp are more likely as an adult to attend church, participate in Bible study, prayer, and mission opportunities. Churches accomplish great things: feeding the hungry, visiting the sick, providing a funeral in a time of tragedy; I have enjoyed all of those. But the legacy I leave comes through Christian camping and youth ministry. Carry on, next generation!

**J. DOUGLAS PATERSON**

Of all the things one has the opportunity to do as a pastor, writing this retirement blurb will rank among my least favorite. I fear that anything that might be profound or witty has escaped me. While I look forward to more leeway in my calendar for the things that Karla and I wish to prioritize, the structure and rhythm of being part of this grand organization called Church will be missed.

I would like to extend kudos to the itinerate ministry. I know at times it is filled with heartache and it hasn't worked perfectly for everyone, but it has taken Karla and me to places, churches, and opportunities we would never have thought of or chosen on our own. When we were first asked to serve in the Marquette District (currently District 1, and forever will be in my heart), we both cried and then packed our bags to go. The place and the people grabbed our hearts, our daughters were born there, and some of our best friends still live there. When asked to return as the superintendent, it was without hesitation that we went. And now we return to Marquette because it is the place we choose to live out our retirement – something we could not have imagined through our tears when first asked to serve there.

Karla and I feel fortunate that ministry has allowed us to live in the two best cities in Michigan – Ann Arbor and Marquette. I know some of you will challenge our assessment, but it works for us. And in the end it really is about the people, isn't it? We have been blessed with good people in our lives everywhere we served, from Seymour Lake, to Marquette Grace and Skandia, to Grayling and Ann Arbor. We have been received with loving hearts, gentle encouragement, bands of grace, and acts of mercy. The painful moments are easily forgotten when surrounded by such good people.

Our prayer is that the Church will find a graceful way to move into the future; that the love of Christ will take priority in all things ecclesiastical; and those to whom love is a stranger will find each of us to be generous friends.

**ROBERT H. ROTH, JR.**

"The son of the man' is the expression Jesus almost exclusively used to describe himself. In Hebrew the phrase simply means 'a human being'... Apparently he saw his task as helping people become more truly human." - Walter Wink, The Human Being

I have served as a pastor because of the ways God worked through my parents, my grandparents, and my great-grandmother—as well as my high school pastor, the





Rev. Robert H. Bough. What kind of pastor I have been has had everything to do with my early mentors: Bob Bough, the Rev. Jon Powers, and the Rev. Diane Deutsch; and later mentors: the Rev. Russell McReynolds and Bishop Jesse DeWitt.

Most of my dearest friends through these years of ministry have been clergy colleagues. Not sure how to limit such a list, so for now I will thank just two people by name:

The Rev. Tom Pier-Fitzgerald

The Rev. Lynn Pier-Fitzgerald

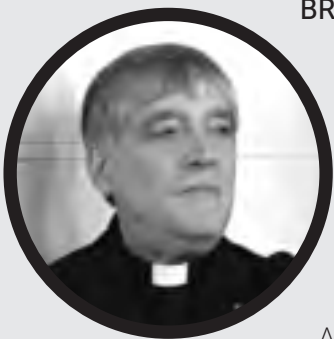
Tom and Lynn have loved, supported, and encouraged me through thick and thin (both personally and professionally) from my return to Michigan from seminary to the present day. They have constantly role-modeled what integrity, compassion, and faithfulness look like in the life of ministry. I cannot thank them enough, though I think they know how much I love and admire them.

For four decades, I have been on "the learning curve," and I have so much yet to learn as I head into retirement from active pastoral ministry. Though I learned many important things in each appointment, here are some highlights:

- Lansing Central UMC taught me to welcome all, to love the poor, and to work for peace.
- Otsego UMC taught me how those with theologies and politics greatly different than mine could be my sisters and brothers in Christ and in shared ministry.
- Albion College students & faculty taught me how to keep a fresh perspective and how to take a stand even when it is a risky business.
- Center Eaton and Brookfield UMC's taught me to find God in the little things.
- Grand Ledge UMC taught me that I can learn from children, youth and young adults throughout life and ministry.
- Williamston UMC taught me the urgent importance of becoming an ally to my LGBTQ sisters and brothers in the church and in the world.
- Ann Arbor FUMC taught me the value of being a life-long learner and the necessity for continued risk taking.
- The Wesley Foundation at U of M students taught me that I had more to learn from young adults and that gender and racial justice are urgent Biblical callings in our time.

In the years ahead, may God help me become more truly human, more like Jesus.

### BRUCE R. STEINBERG



I am living proof that God is patient. I grew up in southern Minnesota, the middle child in a family of four boys; one set of twins. We attended a Missouri Synod Lutheran Church every Sunday. My parents instilled in us the pride of putting on our Sunday best, praying before and after each meal, and praying at night.

When I graduated from high school, I felt a strong call to the ministry. Instead, in 1967, I entered the U.S. Navy where I remained for the next 20 years. As soon as I retired from the Navy, I began teaching Electronics and Web Page Design at the Dickinson-Iron Intermediate School District in the Upper Peninsula, where I remained for 20 years.

Along the way, I met my wife, Patti, who loved her United Methodist Church so I

"converted". My daughter, Suzanne, wanted to take a Lay Speaking course and asked me to attend with her. As a result that class caused me to explore my calling, which I had put on hold 40 years earlier.

I became a Local Pastor in 2010 and have served in the Ontonagon Circuit, which includes three churches located in Ontonagon, Rockland, and Greenland. All beautifully located on the southern shore of Lake Superior in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

I never would have guessed that I would grow to love each church for their differences. Each has such a different "flavor", but when we all gather together for our "5th Sunday of the month" at one of the three churches. Even for more social events such as our Circuit's 4-wheeler and side-by-side outings through the area's many rustic trails; the churches flavors compliment each other.

I am humbled that God would use this lump of clay to preach His Word and to encourage those in my flock to be the hands, feet, and wallet of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

I end each service with, "Our Worship is Over, Now our Service Begins." God's not done with me yet! My service to Him is just beginning in a new, yet unknown capacity.



## HERB VANDERBILT

I am grateful for the leadership and training that I have received from the West Michigan conference staff. My call began at the close of a 35 year career as a Research Scientist with Amway Corporation. As I began the process of becoming a Licensed Local Pastor I also worked as a Chemist for Bissell Homecare Inc. During the years that it took to complete the Course of Study I was appointed by the Bishop to East Nelson United Methodist Church which became my first and last appointment before retirement. The 12 years that I served East Nelson were a blessing to me and my family. I will always be grateful for the kindness and generosity of this vital congregation. In retirement we plan to travel, continue our hobbies, and enjoy our grandchildren.



## IRENE VITTOZ

I have had many jobs over my 70 years: soda jerk, store clerk, nurse's aide, house maid, baby sitter, clarinet teacher, factory worker, paper grader, college English instructor, computer programmer, website creator, technical writer, database shepherd, and I enjoyed them all. However, the one that gave me by far the most satisfaction was that of Pastor.

When I was called to ministry, I told the District Committee on Ministry that I felt like I'd jumped onto Mr. Toad's Wild Ride. My fourteen years at Brookfield Eaton UMC have been the most exciting and fulfilling of my life. It is very hard to leave such loving and supportive people. They supported my straddling two districts to spend a couple years each with Pope Church and Lee Center as I also pastored them. They gave me leave to spend significant time to lead the Lay Speaking (now Lay Servant) program. Then there was the Certified Lay Ministry program, training up four wonderful Christians and mentoring them as they pastor several small churches who would have closed for want of a minister.

When we came to Brookfield, the congregation let my husband spend the rainy day fund on a new sound system. They let us put up a repaired AV screen to the right of the altar. (It had been retrieved from a school dumpster.) They let us use my husband's small projector up front, so that we could shorten sermons with pictures that said thousands of words without speech. They let us pay for CCLI licensing so we could sing praise songs and watch video clips from movies. They even enjoy our vacation slides behind the words of the praise songs – finally, a use for all those photos! They even took to my four-foot orangutan puppet Sammy, who serves as our children's minister.

As new faces appeared in the congregation and financial struggles eased, they began fixing up the church building. We painted the fellowship hall downstairs, and put up window curtains and photos of the history of Brookfield. The church has been having monthly pancake breakfasts for decades to help pay the bills. It also got the neighbors together, keeping the community spirit alive. Now we are able to support food banks in the area with the money raised by the breakfasts. What a deal! It is hard to leave such joy-filled, generous folks who truly feel the love and power of the Lord. I have been blessed, and am looking with great curiosity and a little trepidation of what God has instore for us all. I'm expecting something great!

## DEBBIE LINE YENCER

As a second career minister of the gospel of Christ, I just say wow! It seems to be a second ago that I packed my belongings to head to Asbury University to begin my education. Six years later I joined the family at Seymour Lake UMC and shepherded for 10 years. We had such adventures together! Moving to two services, building a building, growing and becoming deep disciples of Christ together. What a whirlwind! Next, I served Davison UMC and moved to reaching out to families, learning to minister in new ways, grow in God's love, and yes – do a new roof, new kitchen, updated parlor and entrance way. Together we became family as you watched your pastor fall in love and marry Ron. That was something I was not expecting! My current appointment came 5 years later as Ron and I moved to Flushing UMC. In 4 years we have been through a lot of changes together. Our family has grieved many who have gone on to eternity. We faced challenges in understanding who we are in this tumultuous world we live in. Yet, we grew in God's grace and depth of knowing what being Christ-like is really about. I have loved serving the Emmaus and Chrysalis communities and watch people transform before my eyes. Serving on the Board of Discipleship and experiencing the Hearts Strangely Warmed Conferences, brought inspiration to many. Speaking at various churches, Bayshore Camp, District UMW gatherings and serving on the District and Conference Board of Ministry challenged me but grew me in my trust in God. I want to thank everyone who helped me in the journey. There are way too many names to list – but Trinity UMC in Lapeer supported me in many ways to becoming the pastor I am. Thank you to all who loved me, helped me in crises, befriended me, and advised me. Thank you to my husband Ron who's the best pastor spouse one could be. Thank you to my children David and Heather and their families who gave so much in all the crazy transitions of life. Thank you to my sister Nancy who did more than a sister should ever have to do, but did it with such grace - the adventure has been blessed. My only hope and prayer is that as I move on to the next phase (and only God knows what that will entail) I have made a difference for the Lord that I love. Jesus Christ is the answer for all we face. His love needs to be carried in us. Carry on brothers and sisters and be filled with the Holy Spirit!



## ELLEN ZIENERT

What a remarkable godsend to have been called into the ministry at the age of 50! I have only served 3 churches, but it has been an honor and a joy to serve them – East Lansing Chapel Hill, Williamston Crossroads and St. Johns First UMC. The members of each congregation were welcoming and kind to me and my family.

I have been blessed with wonderful mentors, Revs. Kathy Steen and Betty Smith, who helped me to discern my call and launch me into ministry. So many more clergy and laity have been God's hands, feet, and words to me during my ministry. I celebrate and thank each one. My family, my late husband, Mark, and my daughter, Emma, have always been abundantly supportive and approving.

I plan to live in Lansing and Charlevoix in my retirement, and continue to serve in ministry as God calls me to do so.

I celebrate the joining together of our two conferences and pray for the new Michigan Conference. "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." Jeremiah 29:11



ARE YOU  
CALLED TO  
SERVE?

explore calling  
SUNDAY JUNE 3

Explore Calling Luncheon

12:00pm – 1:30 pm

Grand Traverse Resort and Spa ~ Director's Room

Join with other Michigan United Methodists who are asking the question:  
“Am I Called?”

Meet representatives from United Methodist Seminaries, and Boards of Ordained Ministry. If you are attending Annual Conference, pre-register for this meal using the online registration at [2018.michiganumc.org](http://2018.michiganumc.org). A limited number of walk-in tickets will be available. Please invite those from your home church asking the question “Am I Called?” to attend! Cost is \$15.

**Service of Recognition, Commissioning and Ordination**  
Sunday, June 3 at 2:00pm

**Grand Traverse Resort and Spa ~ Governor's Hall**

Always a highpoint of Annual Conference, this worship service features the commissioning of candidates and the ordination of Elders and Deacons from both the Detroit and West Michigan Conferences. Come and be inspired by beautiful music, a message from Michigan Area Bishop David Bard, and the moment when women and men commit to life-long service to God through the ministry of The United Methodist Church.

**Reception immediately following the Service of Recognition,  
Commissioning and Ordination in the Michigan Ballroom**  
All are welcome!

Questions? Contact Rev. Paul Perez 810.347.6363 or  
[pperez@michiganumc.org](mailto:pperez@michiganumc.org)



# Day 4 - Sunday, June 3



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7:00 – 8:30 AM	<b>BREAKFAST</b> General Seating – Michigan Ballroom Council on Finance & Administration (Invite Only) – Director’s Room
8:30 AM	<b>CLERGY ROBE ROOM AVAILABLE (ORDINATION)</b> <i>Tower Room, Mackinac Room</i>
9:00 AM – Noon	<b>PLENARY SESSION</b> <i>Governors’ Hall</i> Includes: Budget Vote, Cabinet / Dean’s Report, Historic Questions Break Appointments, New Church Starts, Announcements, Motion to Adjourn
Noon – 2:00 PM	<b>LUNCH</b> <b>Buffet Lines are in several locations:</b> <i>Lobby (near Michigan Ballroom), Pavilion (Yellow Tent)</i> <i>Lobby will have dietary restriction lines.</i> General Seating (Buffet) – Michigan Ballroom, Pavilion Bag Lunch to Go Explore Calling (Plated Lunch) – Director’s Room
1:30 PM	<b>CLERGY GATHER FOR ORDINATION AND COMMISSIONING SERVICE</b> <i>Tower Room</i>
2:00 – 4:00 PM	<b>ORDINATION AND COMMISSIONING SERVICE</b> <i>Governors’ Hall</i>
4:00 – 5:00 PM	<b>RECEPTION</b> <i>Michigan Ballroom</i>
5:00 PM	<b>CONFERENCE CONCLUDES (BUSES DEPART)</b>

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# Sunday Worship

9:00 a.m., Sunday, June 3, 2018

## GATHERING SONGS

The Well Band

## CFA FINAL REPORT & BUDGET VOTE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. John Hice

**Leader:** With steadfast love, God calls our names!

**People:** **We come seeking to know God even as we are fully known.**

**Leader:** Feast on the abundance of God's grace. Come and drink abundantly from the fountain of Life!

**People:** **We are ready to hear the Word of God. We are eager to be guided by the light of Hope.**

**Leader:** Reach out to claim the gifts God pours out on us. The Spirit is eager to inspire and to empower each one!

**All:** **When God calls us, we cannot remain silent. We sing the Lord's song with joy-filled praise!**

## SONG OF PRAISE

The Well Band

## OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Dale Miller

Holy and blessed God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, we come as your Church, rejoicing in your call upon our lives. Deepen our faith. Strengthen our connection. And, revive our witness to the world, so that we live into the Word that you have set before us. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE

Rev. Mark Spaw

Jeremiah 32:1-10 (NRSV)

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD in the tenth year of King Zedekiah of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar. At that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and the prophet Jeremiah was confined in the court of the guard that was in the palace of the king of Judah, where King Zedekiah of Judah had confined him. Zedekiah had said, 'Why do you prophesy and say: Thus says the LORD: I am going to give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall take it; King Zedekiah of Judah shall not escape out of the hands of the Chaldeans, but shall surely be given into the hands of the king of Babylon, and shall speak with him face to face and see him eye to eye; and he shall take Zedekiah to Babylon, and there he shall remain until I attend to him, says the LORD; though you fight against the Chaldeans, you shall not succeed?'

Jeremiah said, The word of the LORD came to me: Hanamel son of your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, 'Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours.' Then my cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the LORD, and said to me, 'Buy my field that is





at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself.' Then I knew that this was the word of the LORD. And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel, and weighed out the money to him, seventeen shekels of silver. I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the money on scales.

### DEAN'S REPORT

Rev. William Haggard

Grand Rapids District and 1/5 Heartland District Superintendent  
African Diaspora New Start: Charles Boayue  
International Students: Rob Cook & Eric Mulanda

### SPECIAL MUSIC

"To God Be the Glory"

Rev. Dr. Dale Miller and Rev. David Kim

### WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Rev. Sherri Swanson and Rev. Laura Speiran

### THE HISTORICAL QUESTIONS

### WE CELEBRATE

Rev. John Boley

### WE SAY GOOD-BYE:

Bishop David Bard

Rev. Mark Spaw (Ann Arbor District Superintendent, 8 years)  
Rev. William Haggard (Grand Rapids Superintendent, 6 years)  
Rev. Dale Miller (Albion District Superintendent, 1 year)  
Rev. Kennetha Bigham-Tsai (Lansing District Superintendent 4 ½ years)

### BREAK - (15 min. break)

### SONG OF CELEBRATION

The Well Band

### INSTALLATION

#### REV. DR. MARGIE CRAWFORD

##### Midwest District

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.  
ACTS 2:1

#### REV. DR. JEROME DEVINE

##### Mid-Michigan District

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized Jesus, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed. Mark 6:53-56 (NRSV)



REV. SCOTT HARMON TO NORTHERN SKIES DISTRICT  
REV. ANITA HAHN TO NORTHERN WATERS DISTRICT  
REV. DAVID KIM TO CENTRAL BAY DISTRICT  
REV. DR. MARGIE CRAWFORD TO MIDWEST DISTRICT  
REV. DR. JEROME DEVINE TO MID-MICHIGAN DISTRICT  
REV. JOHN HICE TO EAST WINDS DISTRICT  
REV. DWAYNE BAGLEY TO GREATER SOUTHWEST DISTRICT  
REV. ELIZABETH HILL TO HERITAGE DISTRICT  
REV. DR. CHARLES BOAYUE TO GREATER DETROIT DISTRICT

## THE COVENANT SERVICE

Bishop David Bard

**Leader to people:** Brothers and sisters in Christ, as a people committed to participate in the ministries of the Church by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service and your witness, will you support and uphold Name in these ministries?

**People:** We will support and uphold these persons now before us through our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

## PRESENTATION OF SIGNS OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENCY

Conference Lay Leaders: Ann Soles and John Wharton

**Response by new DS's:** We accept these gift, as we are appointed to the new Districts of the Michigan Annual Conference.

**ALL:** Let the race, begin!

## SETTING OF APPOINTMENTS

Bishop David Bard

## PRAYER FOR NEW CHURCH STARTS

Rev. Dirk Elliott

## PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Charles Boayue  
Michigan Conference Dean, 2018

## CLOSING SONG

The Well Band

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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# Sunday Worship Music

9:00 a.m., Sunday, June 3, 2018



## The WELL Band - Central United Methodist Church, Traverse City

Music Director: Jeffrey Cobb

Guitar: Phil Tarczon

Bass: Andy Evans

Drums: Dave Goodwin

The Mighty WELL Horns: Dave Hester, Bob Hicks, Elijah Cobb, Pete Deneen, Ryan Critchfield, Mike Hunter

## GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN - traditional, arranged by Jeffrey Cobb

### SWEETER

Every day with You Lord  
Is sweeter than the day before  
Every day with You Lord  
Is sweeter than the day before  
Every morning I will worship  
Every evening I'll adore  
'Cause every day with You is sweeter  
Sweeter (than the day before)

Every day with You Lord  
Is sweeter than the day before  
Every day with You Lord  
Is sweeter than the day before  
Every morning I will worship  
Every evening I'll adore  
'Cause every day with You is sweeter  
Sweeter (than the day before)

What a privilege to know You  
Like I know You  
To be loved like You love me  
What an honor to worship truly  
worship  
From this heart that You have freed  
From the rising of the sun  
To the setting of the same

Every day with You Lord  
Is sweeter than the day before  
Every day with You Lord

Is sweeter than the day before  
Every morning I will worship  
Every evening I'll adore  
'Cause every day with You is sweeter  
Sweeter (than the day before)

What a wonder to live life  
Really live life  
Overcoming anything  
What a reason to lift up  
Freely lift up  
Every day my everything  
From the rising of the sun  
To the setting of the same

Every day with You Lord  
Is sweeter than the day before  
Every day with You Lord  
Is sweeter than the day before  
Every morning I will worship  
Every evening I'll adore  
'Cause every day with You is sweeter  
Sweeter (than the day before)

Every day every day with You Lord  
(Every day every day with You Lord)  
Every day sweeter than the day  
before  
(Every day sweeter than the day  
before)  
Every day every day with You Lord  
(Every day every day with You Lord)

Every day sweeter than the day  
before  
(Every day is sweeter)

Every day with You Lord  
Is sweeter than the day before  
Every day with You Lord  
Is sweeter than the day before  
Every morning I will worship  
Every evening I'll adore  
'Cause every day with You is sweeter  
Sweeter (than the day before)

CCLI Song # 4194347

Cindy Cruse Ratcliff | Israel Houghton |  
Meleasa Houghton

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**CHAIN BREAKER**

If you've been walking the same  
old road  
For miles and miles  
If you've been hearing the same  
old voice  
Tell the same old lies  
If you're trying to fill the same  
old holes inside  
There's a better life  
There's a better life

If you've got pain He's a pain  
taker  
If you feel lost He's a way maker  
If you need freedom or saving  
He's a prison shaking Savior  
If you got chains He's a chain  
breaker

We've all searched for the light  
of day  
In the dead of night  
We've all found ourselves worn  
out  
From the same old fight

We've all run to things we know  
just ain't right  
When there's a better life  
There's a better life

If you've got pain He's a pain  
taker  
If you feel lost He's a way maker  
If you need freedom or saving  
He's a prison shaking Savior  
If you got chains He's a chain  
breaker

If you believe it  
If you receive it  
If you can feel it  
Somebody testify  
If you believe it  
If you receive it  
If you can feel it  
Somebody testify

If you've got pain He's a pain  
taker  
If you feel lost He's a way maker  
If you need freedom or saving  
He's a prison shaking Savior  
If you got chains He's a chain

breaker  
Oh if you need freedom or  
saving  
He's a prison shaking Savior  
If you got chains well He's a  
chain breaker

CCLI Song # 7060031  
Jonathan Smith | Mia Fieldes | Zach  
Williams

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**ALL THE PEOPLE  
SAID AMEN**

You are not alone if you are lonely  
When you feel afraid you're not  
the only  
We are all the same in need of  
mercy  
To be forgiven and be free  
It's all you got to lean on  
But thank God it's all you need

And all the people said amen  
And all the people said amen  
Give thanks to the Lord for His  
love never ends  
And all the people said amen

If you're rich or poor well it don't  
matter  
Weak or strong you know love is  
what we're after  
We're all broken but we're all in  
this together  
God knows we stumble and fall

And He so loved the world  
He sent His son to save us all

And all the people said amen  
And all the people said amen  
Give thanks to the Lord for His  
love never ends  
And all the people said amen

Blessed are the poor in spirit who  
are torn apart  
Blessed are the persecuted and  
the pure in heart

Blessed are the people hungry for  
another start  
For theirs is the kingdom the  
kingdom of God

And all the people said amen  
And all the people said amen  
Give thanks to the Lord for His  
love never ends  
And all the people said amen

And all the people said amen  
And all the people said amen

Give thanks to the Lord for His  
love never ends  
And all the people said amen  
And all the people said amen

CCLI Song # 6518275  
Matt Maher | Paul Moak | Trevor  
Morgan

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**MY LIGHTHOUSE**

In my wrestling and in my doubts  
 In my failures You won't walk out  
 Your great love will lead me  
 through  
 You are the peace in my troubled  
 sea  
 You are the peace in my troubled  
 sea

In the silence You won't let go  
 In the questions Your truth will  
 hold  
 Your great love will lead me  
 through  
 You are the peace in my troubled  
 sea  
 You are the peace in my troubled  
 sea

My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse  
 Shining in the darkness  
 I will follow You  
 My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse  
 I will trust the promise

You will carry me safe to shore  
 Safe to shore, safe to shore, safe  
 to shore

I won't fear what tomorrow  
 brings  
 With each morning I'll rise and  
 sing  
 My God's love will lead me  
 through  
 You are the peace in my troubled  
 sea whoa oh  
 You are the peace in my troubled  
 sea

My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse  
 Shining in the darkness  
 I will follow You  
 My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse  
 I will trust the promise  
 You will carry me safe to shore  
 Safe to shore, safe to shore, safe  
 to shore

Fire before us  
 You're the brightest  
 You will lead us

Through the storms  
 Fire before us  
 You're the brightest  
 You will lead us  
 Through the storms

My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse  
 Shining in the darkness  
 I will follow You  
 My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse  
 I will trust the promise  
 You will carry me safe to shore  
 Safe to shore, safe to shore, safe  
 to shore

CCLI Song # 7002032

Rend Collective

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**YOU ARE GOOD**

Lord You are good  
 And Your mercy endureth forever  
 Lord You are good  
 And Your mercy endureth forever  
 People from every nation and  
 tongue  
 From generation to generation

We worship You  
 Hallelujah, hallelujah  
 We worship You, for who You are  
 We worship You  
 Hallelujah, hallelujah  
 We worship You, for who You are  
 And You are good

Lord You are good  
 And Your mercy endureth forever  
 Lord You are good  
 And Your mercy endureth forever  
 People from every nation and  
 tongue  
 From generation to generation

We worship You  
 Hallelujah, hallelujah  
 We worship You, for who You are  
 We worship You  
 Hallelujah, hallelujah  
 We worship You, for who You are  
 And You are good

Yes You are, yes You are, yes You  
 are  
 So good so good  
 Yes You are, yes You are, yes You  
 are  
 You are good, all the time  
 All the time, You are good  
 You are good, all the time  
 All the time, You are good

Lord You are good  
 And Your mercy endureth forever  
 Lord You are good  
 And Your mercy endureth forever  
 People from every nation and  
 tongue  
 From generation to generation  
 We worship You

Hallelujah, hallelujah  
 We worship You, for who You are  
 We worship You  
 Hallelujah, hallelujah  
 We worship You, for who You are  
 For who You are, for who You  
 are  
 And You are good!

CCLI Song # 3383788

Israel Houghton

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# 2018 SUMMER FUN GUIDE

## TRADITIONAL 3-DAY CAMPS

### TEDDY BEAR CAMPS

(parent & child attend together)

TEDDY BEAR 1	TEDDY BEAR 2
<b>JULY 15-17</b>	<b>JULY 18-20</b>
<b>GRADES 1-2</b>	<b>GRADES 1-2</b>

PRIMARY  
**JULY 5-7**  
**GRADES 3-4**

## TRADITIONAL WEEK-LONG CAMPS

FOR TEENS & ALMOST TEENS

PRIMARY PLUS	JUNIOR HIGH
<b>JULY 15-20</b>	<b>JUNE 17-22</b>
<b>GRADES 3-4</b>	<b>GRADES 7-8</b>
JUNIOR	SENIOR HIGH
<b>JULY 22-27</b>	<b>JULY 8-13</b>
<b>GRADES 5-6</b>	<b>GRADES 9-13</b>
JR. MUSIC	WORSHIP ARTS
<b>JULY 1-6</b>	<b>AUGUST 5-10</b>
<b>GRADES 3-8</b>	<b>GRADES 8-13</b>

## SPORTS CAMPS

BASKETBALL	BASEBALL
<b>JUNE 24-29</b>	<b>AUGUST 5-10</b>
<b>GRADES 6-11</b>	<b>GRADES 6-10</b>
SOCCER	SOFTBALL
<b>JUNE 24-29</b>	<b>AUGUST 5-10</b>
<b>GRADES 4-12</b>	<b>GRADES 6-10</b>
FISHING	
<b>JUNE 17-22</b>	
<b>GRADES 7-10</b>	



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# Liturgy for Adjourning Annual Conference 2018

**Bishop:** As we adjourn these sessions of Annual Conference, we are doing more than ending a meeting.

**All:** We are saying goodbye to the old and familiar and welcoming the new.

**Detroit:** No more will the Detroit Annual Conference gather.

**West Michigan:** No more will the West Michigan Annual Conference gather.

**Bishop:** The two shall become one.

**All:** As we are already one with Christ, we become one with each other and one in ministry to our state and world.

**Bishop:** As with a unity candle, two lights join together.

**All:** Yet the glow from their separate flames continues to burn.

**Bishop:** In friendships made, in ministry shared, the good done through the power of God's grace in Jesus Christ continues to radiate.

**All:** And as two become one, we will work and pray so that the light of God's love shines even more brightly.

**Bishop:** We adjourn following the Service of Recognition, Commissioning and Ordination. Amen.



# **YIKES!**

## **WE DON'T HAVE YOUR CLERGY PORTRAIT!**



**If you didn't have your photo  
taken last year at Annual  
Conference, we can't  
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Michigan Conference Clergy  
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