

The Open Door

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
We believe in God and in each other.
The People of The United Methodist Church

March 2020 | Volume 13 Issue 3

Greetings PUMC!

Jesus was once asked an important question (Matt. 22:36-40) to which he gave a two part answer:

Q: Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?

A¹: 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment.

A²: And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'

At another time, Jesus was asked a follow up question to the 'love your neighbor' part:

Q: Who is my neighbor?

A: Anyone in need of help in this life - i.e. EVERYONE! (See Luke 10:25-37 for the traditional translation of Jesus' answer.)



Pastor Reverend Letisha Bowman 517 994-8545
Ministers All Who Serve Christ
Worship Leader Shery Miller 517 647-7030
Director of Youth Ministry Beth Feldpausch
Children's Ministry Assistant Mary Bresnahan 526-7571
Office Administrator/ Treasurer Open
Hand Bells Open
Custodian Donna Starks
Administrative Council Chair Jen Thomas 517 803-8080
Staff Parish Relations Dan Goeckel
Finance Chair Beth Bengel 616 755-2689
Lay Leader Carol McLane—1st Service
Missions Chair Open
Trustee Co-Chairs TBD
Nursery Mary Bresnahan 526-7571

The Discipleship Launch Team (DLT) has been asking itself this same neighbor question. Who is our neighbor – specifically here in Portland? To find answers we have begun with a couple of tools:

- 1) MissionInsite: a demographics tool that has statistical and social information on our community
- 2) Neighborhood prayer walks: teams of 2 people walking in assigned neighborhoods to observe and pray

Using the MissionInsite tool we discovered that there are roughly 7,100 people within a 2.5 mile radius of our church. Our coach, Cathy Townley, has told us that in any given population there are about 50% who would attend a church, but cannot find one they like. That means that today there are approximately 3,550 people within 2.5 miles of our church that would like to go to church, but can't find one that they would feel comfortable attending – one that shares the gospel in a way that 'speaks their language.' That's great news! People are ready to hear about, and follow, Jesus! We just need to find a way to connect with them. Who is our neighbor? What kind of church would make them feel welcome and comfortable? Would our neighbors respond to country music and a rustic setting? A family dinner church and discussion (with kid-focused activities)? A blend of ancient and modern practices? We are beginning the process of finding out!

Continued on Page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pastoral Pondering	1
Worship Schedule	2
Prayer Requests	3
SONIC	4
UMW / Financial Report	5
Tag You're It	6
Calendar	7



Portland United Methodist Church
310 E. Bridge Street, Portland, MI 48875
www.portlandumc.org
[Facebook.com/pumcmi](https://www.facebook.com/pumcmi)
(517) 647-4649

MARCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Traditions Service - **9:00 am**
Praise Team Service - **11:00 am**

Building Bridges...Connecting People to Christ in Portland

March 1: **Building the Bridge to The Kingdom**

Matt.28:16-20 & Philippians 2:9-11

March 8: **Building the Bridge to Relationship**

Acts 1:8, Romans 15:7-13, & Acts 16:13-15

March 15: **Building the Bridge to Culture**

Acts 15:4-5, Romans 12:1-2 & Romans 15:7
NIV

March 29: Guest Preacher

Continued from Page 1

Now, while we won't be the right church for all 3,550, we can be for some of them and that's what the second tool, prayer walks, helps us to begin to discover.

Our team has broken into pairs to walk/drive the streets of our city observing and praying. We are attempting to look with fresh eyes. Are there neighborhoods with children? Are they seniors? Are there homes in need of repair? With gardens? With pets? And as we notice, we are offering prayers for the people who live there.

What we have discovered is that this observing has drawn us beyond the 'who is my neighbor' question and into the loving God and neighbor answer. As we notice, we begin to wonder about God's love for these people. As we pray we open ourselves to the love God has for our neighbors and it begins to be our love for them as well. I love how God works!

Love God, love neighbor, find out what your neighbor needs and help – help them discover the love, mercy, grace, healing of God and the beauty of being part of the body of Christ. That's what we are working on and are inviting you to pray about (there's a prayer on page 3 to help you do just that!).

If you have any questions, or want to join us in this process, please let us know. Your DLT includes: Me, Jen Thomas, Beth Feldpausch, Beth Bengel, Dan Goeckel, Janet Gamble, Mel Daman, Brian Bowman, Betsy Myers, Mary Arleth, and Garret Feldpausch.

See you on Sunday! Pastor Tish.

Portland Community food bank

PUMC continues to set aside the first Sunday of each month to collect our donations for the Portland Community Food Bank. The reported Food Bank needs for this month are: mashed potatoes, spaghetti, oatmeal (single serve), syrup, crackers, granola bars, diced tomatoes, beans (any kind), and cake mixes.

Thank you for all you do for your community! — Beth

Attendance for January

Date	Traditions & Praise Services	Sunday School & Groups
2/2/2020	87	19
2/9/2020	85	37
2/16/2020	71	48
2/23/2020	81	38

Prayer Requests



If you have a concern to be addressed by our prayer chain, please contact Wendy Mallek at 647-6366 or by E-mail at: mallekw803@yahoo.com or contact the church.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Amanda's Family | Laura Beth Rich |
| Joshua Buker | Eileen Rose |
| Kristin (Mosser) Connelly | Jody Schnetzler |
| Lori Diné | Jim Selden |
| Bruce Daman | Scott Shay |
| Fran Daman's family | David Showerman |
| Louis Fulkerson | Scott & Kristen Smith |
| Gary Hutson | Diana Spangler |
| Toni Ivey | Wilma Thompson |
| Pat Johnson | Dalilah Tubergen |
| Samantha Johnson | Robert and Ella Tyler |
| Rev. Keith Laidler | John West |
| Sharon (Hill) Longstreth | Brian Wohlscheid |
| Damon Mallek | Lizzie Whitaker |
| Joe Milhomens | Anne Zimmer |
| Doug & Marsha Miller | |
| Sam Mitchell | |
| Vicki Moulton | |
| Del Ortwine | |
| Kathy Riley | |
| Kathleen Robertson | |
| Darrel & Shelia Rich | |

Please pray for our Service Men & Women:

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Elisabeth Bullen | |
| Scott Lumbert | Rob Marvin |
| Luke May | Marcus Olger |
| Marc Robertson | Matthew Shaltry |
| Jonathan Steele | Luke Terpstra |
| Michael Tiemann | Justin Clark |



Please pray for our Homebound

- Brian Ainslie**
201 Mall Drive South, Apt #37
Lansing, MI 48917-2558
- Jean Almy**
6876 Reeder Road
Lyons, MI 48851
- Doris Babbit**
223 Charlotte Highway
Portland, MI 48875
- Margaret Clements**
4775 Village Drive, Apt. #36
Grand Ledge, MI 48837
- Bruce Daman**
4000 North Michigan Road
Dimondale, MI 48821
- Mary Alice Lawless**
4775 Village Drive, Apt. 49
Grand Ledge, MI 48837
- Robert Mervau**
1200 Wright Avenue
Alma, MI 48802
- Bud Moyer**
4775 Village Dr.—Apt. #227
Grand Ledge 48837
- Gerald Peabody**
204 Blossom Drive
Portland, MI 48875
- John West**
223 Charlotte Hwy
Portland, MI 48875

A PRAYER FOR OUR DLT



Loving God, we pray for the members of our DLT. We pray for Your guidance as they observe our neighborhood, that they may be good stewards of Your love. We pray that You help us learn from our community, that we may become a place where our neighbors feel welcome.



For the family and friends of
Josh Hoskins
who passed on January 21, 2020.

SONiC News



Happy (almost) spring SONiC-ers! I hope you have been enjoying our Sunday morning relate series. This month we will wrap up our series by discussing how to have Godly relationships with our siblings. (Don't groan.) For the rest of the month, we will be attempting to break any mental health stigmas that still exist for Christians.

Our evening series, Meals with Jesus, will also wrap up this month with dinner at my house. Dinner will be on March 8th at 5:30 pm. I am also still working on getting a group together to volunteer with Portland Backpacks for Bellies on March 30th. We will help pack backpacks for spring break meals. If you plan to attend, please RSVP on the flocknote, or you can text or email me.

One last thing, I would like to give a shout out to our regular volunteers. Jen Thomas, Beth Bengel, Megan Martin and Garret Feldpausch. This ministry would not be possible without you. Also, a special thank you to Garret and Megan who stepped in to run the super bowl party while I was sick.

Until Every Teen Hears,

Beth Feldpausch

(989)640-5250

bethbeckett@gmail.com



Weather alerts will be on Wood TV 8, Facebook or texted to you via Flocknote



The Board of Trustees would like to remind everyone of our Building Use Policy Form, which can be found on our website. We do require a \$50 refundable deposit, to be turned in at the request of date and form. The deposit will be returned if the building is left in good, clean conditions.



You are invited to a special meeting of the United Methodist Women at our regular meeting date of Thursday, March 5, at 9:30 a.m. in the Esther Room. Portland Westwood Elementary School is seeking mentors to work one-on-one with students who have a need for another caring adult in their lives. Westwood Principal Chris Kenroy will come to our March 5th meeting to explain the ways in which we may help the children by playing games, making crafts and other social interactions for a short period of time during the school day.

Everyone is invited to this meeting (men, too!). Mr. Kenroy will bring background check forms for those who are interested. This is a great opportunity to work with others in our community, and especially the children who are in need of a person who will take an interest in them. How often we come to the school, and the number of hours per day, will be up to the mentors. Please attend our meeting if you would like to hear what this much needed program is all about. Children at Westwood are in third, fourth, and fifth grades.

The mission of United Methodist Women worldwide is to help better the lives of women and children in our own communities and around the globe. Hope to see you at the meeting.

Year-To-Date as of February 19, 2020

Income

Offering	\$27,815.00
Misc. Income	\$ 1,919.07

Expenses

Pastoral Support	\$12,984.71
Lay Support	\$ 3,521.17
Ministry Shares	\$ 5,689.90*
Administration & Building	\$ 9,843.73
Ministry & Mission	\$ 572.69
Total Expenses	\$32,612.20

Difference -\$2,878.13

*Represents two Ministry Share offerings so far this year!

EASTER FLOWERS

We invite you to purchase Easter Flowers to grace our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. These plants can be "In Honor of" and/or "In Memory of" someone. The cost for each is **\$12 each**.

Or you may buy your own potted plant. **We just need to have them at the church by Saturday morning, April 11th, so that we can have them ready for Easter Sunday.** After Easter services you may take them home to enjoy!

If you are ordering a flower, your order should be turned in with your money NO LATER than Noon on March 22nd, 2020. You may leave your order at the church office. (Checks should be made payable to: Portland United Methodist Church and marked "Easter Flowers".)

_____ I would like to order a lily (**\$10 each**)

_____ I will buy my own potted plant

I want to place an Easter Flower: _____ **In Honor of:** _____

_____ **In Memory of:** _____

Placed by: _____

Phone #: (_____) _____

Hello to our church family.

Ethan and I are happy to be part of the United Methodist Church. After "church" searching, I knew in my heart it was meant to be that we come back here.

I was born and raised in Portland. My grandmother Marge Baker was a member of PUMC for many years, until the death of my grandfather. She has lived in Arizona since.

My husband Otto and I have 10 children all together. We are down to two left in the house. Between working at the Portland Middle School and raising my family, and running around to sporting events for our youngest daughter we keep very busy. We go north in the spring and summer quite often and enjoy spending weekends with our children and grandchildren.

Ethan is a 10th grader at St. Patrick's school, he loves taking guitar lessons and hopes to go to the old blues music places in New Orleans when he is older. He has a wonderful keen sense of appreciating older music. Our youngest daughter, Jayden will be in 6th grade next year. The older kids are spread out all over doing well.

We are happy to be back to searching and seeking our Lord, and connecting with our church family.

The Kiter-Dunkel family



Garret and Beth Feldpausch Family



Coming Soon
Day of Music

March 21, 2020
9:00 am—4:00 pm



Portland High School
1100 Ionia Rd
Portland, MI

March 2020

March 2020							April 2020						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28	29	30		
29	30	31					28	29	30				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mar 1 9:00am Traditions 9:15am Children & 11:00am Praise Service 11:15am Children & 6:00pm SONIC: Meals	2 9:00am Portland Community - Food Bank 7:00pm Monday Night Bible Study	3 7:00pm Finance Meeting	4 6:30pm The Gospel of Luke (Esther Room) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Praise Team Practice	5 9:30am UM Women 4:00pm Portland Community - Food Bank	6	7
8 9:00am Traditions 9:15am Children & 11:00am Praise Service 11:15am Children & 5:30pm SONIC: Meals	9 9:00am Portland Community - Food Bank 7:00pm Monday Night Bible Study	10 7:00pm Ad Council Meeting	11 6:30pm The Gospel of Luke (Esther Room) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Praise Team Practice	12 4:00pm Portland Community - Food Bank 5:00pm 2nd Thursday Family Dinner	13	14
15 9:00am Traditions Service 9:15am Children & 11:00am Praise Service 11:15am Children &	16 9:00am Portland Community - Food 4:00pm Community Meal 7:00pm Monday Night	17 7:00pm Trustee Meeting	18 6:30pm The Gospel of Luke (Esther Room) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Praise Team Practice	19 4:00pm Portland Community - Food Bank	20	21
22 9:00am Traditions Service 9:15am Children & 11:00am Praise Service 11:15am Children &	23 9:00am Portland Community - Food Bank	24 7:00pm SPRC Meeting	25 1:00pm Holy Folder 6:30pm The Gospel of Luke (Esther Room) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Praise Team	26 4:00pm Portland Community - Food Bank 6:00pm Staff Meeting	27	28
29 9:00am Traditions Service 9:15am Children & 11:00am Praise Service 11:15am Children &	30 9:00am Portland Community - Food Bank	31 7:00pm SONIC helps Backpack to Bellies	Apr 1	2	3	4



Portland United Methodist Church
310 E. Bridge Street, Portland, MI
48875

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Organization
Portland MI
48875
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Address Service Requested

Church Phone: 517-647-4649
Church E-mail: portlandmiumc@gmail.com
Rev. Letisha Bowman—Pastor
Cell Phone: 517-994-8545
E-mail: pastortish@gmail.com

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PUMC NEWSLETTER

2020

Worship, Education, Family, and Youth Events

Sundays		9:00 AM—Traditional Worship Celebration 9:15 AM—Children and Youth Ministries 11:00 AM—Praise Team Worship Celebration 11:15 AM—Children and Youth Ministries
Tuesdays	(1st Tues.) (2nd Tues.) (3rd Tues.) (4th Tues.)	7:00 PM—Finance Mtg. (Esther Room) 7:00 PM—Ad Council Mtg. (Esther Room) 7:00 PM—Trustee Mtg. (Esther Room) 7:00 PM—SPRC Mtg. (Esther Room)
Wednesdays		7:00 PM—Choir Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall) 7:30 PM—Praise Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)