

Pastor: Rev. Kristen Parks

Church Administrator: Heather Marks

Office Phone: 517-486-4040

Pastor's Phone: 517-486-3805

Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Fully Handicapped Accessible



BE NOT AFRAID

Recently while attending a continuing education/spiritual renewal event I had the privilege of being introduced to Renee Bondi. Renee is a quadriplegic who was blessed after her accident to have God restore her singing voice. Renee has the voice of an angel. There is a song that Renee always opens with. It is a Catholic hymn entitled "Be Not Afraid," and the chorus goes like this: "Be not afraid, I go before you always. Come, follow me and I will give you rest." I don't know about any of you, but that is exactly what I needed to hear at this moment in my life.

Things have gotten stressful. The camping board that I chair is in high gear with crucial decisions being made right and left, we are wrapping up charge conference paperwork, I am inundated with requirements for the ordination process, there is a community youth endeavor that is attempting to get off the ground, and the list goes on and on. It seems like there is never enough time to give each requirement the attention it needs and I was finding myself very easily overwhelmed. Then I heard those words from Renee reminding me that in whatever endeavors I find myself I don't need to worry because God has already gone ahead of me. We have so many trials that we face. There are things that demand our time and responsibilities that we sometimes feel we

neglect. It is easy to become overwhelmed by the requirements placed on us.

The truth is that even when we don't realize it God goes before us. He will never leave us on our own if we are following his calling. At the current moment I truly believe that everything vying for my time is something God has asked me to take on, but that is not always the case. Sometimes we have to discern what is of God and what is of our desire. When we follow God's guidance he will make a time and place for us to rest. If we fill that time with other things, that is on us.

God spoke to me that day through Renee's words reminding me that I don't need to become overwhelmed and frustrated because even when things aren't going the way I want he still goes before me. When we trust in God and his calling we can hand over our fear. When we focus on what God is calling us to do we can be guaranteed of a time for rest. "Be not afraid, I go before you always. Come, follow me and I will give you rest!"

~Pastor Kristen

Our Giving for September 27- October 25

	Env. & Loose	Other	Received	For
9/27/2015	\$2,935.96	15.00	\$10,973.14	Envelopes
10/4/2015	2,646.00	4.00	55.01	Loose
10/11/2015	1,376.01	1.00	20.00	World Comm.
10/18/2015	3,164.18	1,109.30	1,000.00	Apportionments
10/25/2015	906.00		109.30	Paint Donation

Budget income this 5 weeks was \$12,157.45. This is a weekly average of \$2,431.49. We require \$2,336.00 per week to meet budget.

November Meetings

- 12 Worship Committee 5:45 p.m.
- 18 Out to Lunch Bunch 12 p.m.
- 25 Trustees 7p.m.

Please sign up on the
back table if you
would like your child
to be in this year's
Christmas program.

Choir!
Choir rehearsals
November 5th & 12th at 7 pm!



November Birthdays

- 2 Jonathan Fisher
- 5 Brian Gorski,
- 6 Lauren DeLzeitn, Taylor Plotter-Anderson, Skye Wilkie
- 8 Caron Flores, Lindsey Lake, Jessica Fisher
- 10 Blake Southward
- 13 Nolan Smith
- 14 Sharon Sauter
- 15 Greg Betz
- 18 Karis Hlavka
- 21 Hilda Knoblauch, Jennifer Grimes
- 29 Barb Dittman
- 30 Leilani VanLoocke

November Anniversaries

- 5 Bill and Beth Borchardt

**Deadline for the December
Newsletter is November
27th. Thank you!!**

Ministries on Sunday

Mornings in November:

Ushers:

- 1 Andrew Borchardt
- 8 Jason Fisher
- 15 Ken Lake
- 22 Eric Mapstone

Greeters in Front Entrance:

- 1 The Borchardt Family
- 8 The Jason Fisher Family
- 15 Ken and Debbie Lake
- 22 The Eric Mapstone Family

Greeters in West Entry:

- 1 The Reed Family
- 8 John and Lori Faulkner
- 15 The Marks Family
- 22 Bonnie Emerson
- 29 Jayne, Becca and Brian Gorski

Acolytes:

- 1 Hailie Medley
- 8 Natalie Fisher
- 15 Alexa Mapstone
- 22 Amanda Fisher
- 29 Jessica Fisher

AV Room:

- 1 Chris Gorski
- 8 Becca Gorski
- 15 Diana Medley
- 22 Dave Kerekgyarto
- 29 Chris Gorski

Lay Readers:

- 1 Janet Flores
- 8 Mike Frederick
- 15 Bonnie Emerson
- 22 Sharon Sauter
- 29 Lisa Barrus

OCTOBER PRAYER LIST

The prayer chain was used several times over the last month. Please let the church office know when it may be appropriate for us to remove a prayer request from our list, otherwise it will be removed within a reasonable amount of time. You may also place your prayers in the prayer basket located at the back of the church. Please include name and (optional) reason for prayer.

The following were prayed for during

October: ...For all the global conflicts and our troops, the economy, Carl Anderson, Myla Novak, Darlene and Bob Spotts, Bertha Grimes, Kevin and family, Ellen Smith, Kevin Wilson, Emily Hepker, Larry Greenwald, Robin Raines, Kaden Elizardo, Debbie Lake, Emily Alley, Connie Cox, Mary Gooze, Carolyn Goetz, Emily Nowak and her son Iziah, Gordon McClain, Brian Betz, Carol Sheldon, Melanie and Eric, Annaliese Marks, Emma Phenicie, Laura Fisher, Dave Handy.

We have also been praying long term for: Elizabeth Stutzman, David Anderson, Lori Spotts, Edie Holmes, Susie DeSue, Al VanLoocke.

If you have prayer concerns or joys to add, or know of names that could be removed, please contact the church office at 486-4040 or blissfumc@gmail.com. You are invited to visit, call, or send notes of encouragement to our shut-ins:

Hilda Knoblauch Bob and Darlene Spotts

650 W. Adrian St. 9953 Treadwell

Blissfield, MI 49228 Blissfield, MI 49228

517-486-2442 517-443-5834

Elizabeth Stutzman Barb Dittman

1244 West Southern Ave 2057 N Wellsville Hwy

Muskegon, MI 49441 Britton, MI 49229

517-423-2248





Remember our local food pantry! They are asking for the following:
 Cream of Chicken Soup, Jell-O/Pudding, Canned Condensed Tomato Soup.

Youth News

- November 1st will be our annual Rake N' Run event. If you know someone who is in need of help this year, please contact the church office or Kelly Jo Gilmore.



pub theology

Beer, Conversation, and God.

This group gathers on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 8 p.m. Meetings are held at The Main Street Stable here in Blissfield. Everyone is welcome! If you would like more info, please contact Emmanuel United Methodist.



- November 22nd the group will have their annual Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner From 5p.m. to 7 p.m. Anyone wanting to donate, please contact Kelly Jo Gilmore.

Blissfield MOPS

- The next meeting will be November 10th at 9:30 a.m. The meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of the month and are from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. We are also looking for volunteers to watch the children during the meeting. Please contact the church office if you are able to help.
- The MOPS group will also have a play date at Lenawee Heart and Soul on November 2nd. Cost will be \$5 per child. Meet there at 9:30 a.m. to join in the fun!



We will be delivering meals to the community until November 13th. Please sign up if you can help.