

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



Failed Missions



As I sit writing this I am on St. Simons Island, off the south eastern tip of Georgia, at a place called Epworth by the Sea. This is a United Methodist camp located in a very special United Methodist place. St. Simons Island, is the very spot where John and Charles Wesley landed with the Moravians when they came to America. What you can't tell by my picture is that the bells are currently playing the beloved hymn, A Mighty Fortress is our God. For me, sitting here in the sunshine, this is a holy moment. In the midst of God's creation, I am reminded of this important event in our Church history. Coming to America was a life changing event for John Wesley. His intention was to bring religion to the Natives, he was on a mission to save some souls. However after a long and difficult journey across the sea,

Wesley arrived to discover that his evangelistic hopes were anything but realistic. In short, Wesley failed at his mission. If this story were to end with this less than encouraging evangelistic endeavor it would be insignificant to the history of our church. The arrival on St. Simons Island is important not because of what John Wesley did, but because of what God did in him. Wesley's experience was a pivotal moment in his faith and led to some of the beliefs we cherish today. I tell you this because I want you to understand that God is about doing something incredible even (perhaps especially) when our endeavors fail. God's plan is always better than ours.

~Pastor Kristen

Our Giving for January 4- January 25, 2015

	Env. & Loose	Other	Received	For
1/4/2015	\$2,263.00	12.00	7,967.61	Envelopes
1/11/2015	1,500.00	19.00	34.00	Loose
1/18/2015	1,224.00	159.00	40.00	Building Use
1/25/2015	3,040.61	5,010.00	48.00	Initial Offering
			50.00	A.A. Gift
			5,000.00	Building Fund
			78.00	Poinsettias
			5.00	Human Reltns.
			5.00	Lily
			1,515.00	Memorials

Budget income this month was \$13,099.61, a weekly average of \$3,274.90. \$5,000.00 of this was borrowed from the building fund in order to pay bills. Without this \$5,000.00 our weekly average was \$2,024.90. Our 2015 budget is \$121,450.00 We require \$2,336.00 weekly to meet this budget. Your gifts are appreciated and needed.

Endowments

Our Scholarship Endowment has increased in value steadily this year. January is the month we announce the availability of a scholarship.

We are able to offer two (2) \$500 scholarships in 2015. Guideline/requirements are as follows:

Applicant must be a high school graduate or have a G.E.D., and a grade point average of 2.5 or higher, and must be a member of Blissfield First Untied Methodist Church.

Scholarships may be used for tuition, fees or expenses while attending a college, university, or trade school.

Scholarships will be given on an annual basis, providing funds are available. Recipients may not be eligible to receive a second scholarship. Decision is at the discretion of the Endowment Committee and their decision is final. Endowment Committee will make scholarship offer known each year in January, in Church Newsletter and by other announcements (bulletin, worship).

Deadline for submission of application is May 1 of each year. Should a member of the Endowment Committee disqualify him/herself from judging the applications, assistance may be requested from member(s) of the Administrative Council.

Applications are available in the church office, and again must be submitted by May 1, 2015.



February Birthdays

3	Becca Gorski, John Faulkner
5	Ryan Terry
6	Laura Fisher
11	Will Faulkner
14	Rich Medley
16	Linda Teachnor, Bill Reed
17	Erin Sinclair
18	Jason Fisher, Wilson Sheldon
20	Jay Gilmore
21	John Saxton
24	Jeremy Villegas
25	Cashlynn Reed
27	Kathy Sheldon

February Anniversaries

24	Mike and Kathy Sheldon
25	John and Lori Faulkner

**Deadline for the March
Newsletter is February
25th. Thank you!!**

February Meetings

- 4th - Ad Council 7 p.m.
- 15th - Out to Lunch Bunch Lena's 12p.m.
- 28th - Trustees Committee 7 p.m.
- 26th - Worship Committee - 6 p.m.

Ministries on Sunday Mornings in February:

Ushers:

- 1 Mike Sheldon
- 8 Jerry Villegas
- 15 JR Iffland
- 22 Mike Frederick

Greeters in Front Entrance:

- 1 Mike and Kathy Sheldon
- 8 Jerry and Sandy Villegas
- 15 The Iffland Family
- 22 Mike and Cindy Frederick

Greeters in West Entry:

- 1 John and Lori Faulkner
- 8 The Jason Fisher Family
- 15 Bonnie Emerson
- 22 Janet Flores

Acolytes:

- 1 Natalie Fisher
- 8 Alexa Mapstone
- 15 Amanda Fisher
- 22 Jessica Fisher

AV Room:

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

Lay Readers:

- 1 Lori Faulkner
- 8 Janet Flores
- 15 Mike Frederick
- 22 Mike Sheldon

Choir:

Practice February 5, 12, 26
Sing February 1, 8, 15

JANUARY 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

January: ...all the global conflicts, persons in the military, the economy, Jack Sinclair, Carl Anderson, Virgil Klump, Myla Novak, Darlene and Bob Spotts, Bertha Grimes, Ann Lemley, Kevin and family, Ellen Smith, Kevin Wilson, Kathy, Emily Hepker, Larry Greenwald, Robin Raines, Sandy Villegas, Kaden Elizardo, Debbie Lake, Emily Alley, Connie Cox, Greg Sell, Mary Gooze, Carolyn Goetz, Emily Nowak and her son Izhah, Cindy Frederick, Gordon McClain, Mike Williams, Brian Betz.

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

Condolences to: The family and friends of Bud Bohs and Jack Sinclair.

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

650 W. Adrian St.
Blissfield, MI 49228
517-486-2442

Elizabeth Stutzman

3195 Edgewater Street
Muskegon, MI 49441





Remember our local food pantry! They are asking for the following: Toilet Paper, Bar Soap, Tissues and Tooth Paste.

Youth News

•T-shirts!! Please support our youth. We still have shirts! Please contact the office if you are interested in purchasing one. Each shirt sold helps the youth program. The price starts at \$11 and goes up \$1 for every size over XL.

•Anyone in Youth Group that would like to attend winterJam 2015 is asked to sign-up on the back table. The concert is scheduled for February 21st and tickets are \$10. If you would like more information, please contact Kelly Jo Gilmore.



Easter Lilies

Please sign up if you would like to purchase a lily in

honor or in memory of someone. The are \$5 each.

Blissfield MOPS

•We are currently looking for help with childcare during our meetings. Our meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of the month and are from 9:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Please contact the church office if you are able to help. We need one or two more for the February 10th meeting.

•February 20th The group will have a playdate here at the church. They will be decorating cookies, eating pizza and watching a movie. The fun starts at 3:30 p.m.

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 Emanuel United Methodist Church.

Reminder we have a prayer group that meets every Sunday morning at 9:15 a.m. All are welcome to join.



Our church will be delivering meals February 9th - 20th. Sign up sheets are posted on the back table in the sanctuary.