

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



## MOTIVATION

Many of you know that a few months ago I started a pretty aggressive weight loss journey. I altered my eating habits, gave up pop, and started exercising at least an hour a day six days a week. I even had some luck with this way of life and lost some weight. It was good for a time. It was good until I got frustrated. I was frustrated that I was not getting the results I wanted in the time I wanted it to happen. I was frustrated that there seemed to be no reward for the sacrifices I had been making (there was a lot of getting up way before I wanted to), and I was frustrated that even though others could see a change I could not. I decided to give myself a week off to lament. A week off should not have been a big deal. I should have been able to rest up, get my junk food fix, and then get my behind back in gear. But of course this is not what happened. One week turned into two, two into three, and now it's been two months since I've had my morning workout at the gym. By this point my body is back out of shape and going to exercise is going to be more work. There are several nights that I plan on getting up to exercise the next morning and even set my alarm, only to reset it when it goes off in the morning. It is so easy to give in to the call of my "oh so comfortable" bed. Why do I make this choice? I choose to sacrifice better health because I can't remember how good the sacrifice felt. I can't remember the empowerment of overcoming my laziness and I definitely can't remember the joy

in feeling so good that I would choose to do not one, but two hours at a time. I can't remember the reality of being more productive with a physical start to my day. My workouts did many great things for me, but in my slump I can't seem to remember them. This reality however, is not just for workouts. This also applies to attending church. We get busy, we get out of our routine, we get stressed and other things become our priorities. When this happens we tend to choose, as my friends would say, to "worship at saint mattress". We choose to use Sunday morning to go grocery shopping or to get out to the lake an hour earlier. We forget all the benefits that Sunday morning in the church offers us. We forget what it's like to hand our burdens over to God, to grow in our faith knowledge, to be uplifted by friends, and to have other people pray for us. It's not always easy to get up on Sunday mornings and I will admit that even as your pastor, there are Sunday mornings that I entertain the thought of "Do they really need me?" Now it's obvious that I am needed, but the truth is so are you. We notice when you are not here. We miss you and we worry about you. So this Sunday fight the urge to skip church, fight that obligatory feeling and come anyway. We will be blessed and so will you. I promise you won't regret it!! ~Pastor Kristen

## Our Giving for June 28- July 19

	Env. & Loose	Other	Received	For
6/28/2015	\$1941.00	0.00	7,223.22	Envelopes
7/5/2015	1,815.25	0.00	115.25	Loose
7/12/2015	1,962.22	4.25	4.25	Mud Hens Tips
7/19/2015	1,620.00	125.00	125.00	Lounge Reno.

Budget income this 4 weeks was \$7,345.72. This is a weekly average of \$1,836.43. We require \$2,336.00 weekly to meet budget.

## Sunday School Snacks

Our Sunday School classes are in need of snacks. Please sign up on the back table or if you would like, you can place an offering and we can purchase them for you. Just make sure your donation is labeled for snacks. Any help is greatly appreciated.

### August Meetings

12	AD Board 7pm
13	Worship Committee 7pm
20	Out to Lunch Bunch 12 pm
26	Trustees 7pm

Deadline for the  
September Newsletter is  
August 26<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!!

## New Address:

**Al & Diane VanLoocke**  
**10437 Samuel Way Dr.**  
**Huntersville, NC 28078**



## August Birthdays

3	Hannah Gust
5	Dorothy Handy, Phyllis Mallory
7	Brady Southward, Lauren Swiggum
10	Ryan Mapstone
11	Dave Bailey
14	Katie Crist
15	Sandy Crist, Ashlee Proffitt
16	Ken Lake
18	Garrett Iffland
20	Will Delzeit
21	Lane Smith-Emerson
22	Levi Marks
24	Ron Crist
25	Carolyn Klump
29	Cindy Frederick, Katy Gust

## August Anniversaries

6	Dale & Deb Grimes
9	Ryan & Julie Mapstone
10	Mike & Cindy Frederick
16	Ron & Janet Crist
21	Claron & Amanda Swiggum
23	Dwight & Carolyn Klump
26	Al & Diane VanLoocke
27	John & Judy Mershon
28	Ed & Judy Wilkie
	Martin & Sharon Sauter

# Ministries on Sunday Mornings in August:

## Ushers:

- 2 Brian Gorski
- 9 Mike Frederick
- 16 Jason Fisher
- 23 Dave Kerekgyarto

## Greeters in Front Entrance:

- 2 Ken & Debbie Lake
- 9 Mike & Cindy Frederick
- 16 The Jason Fisher Family
- 23 Marshall & Linda Shirley
- 30 Joann Saxton

## Greeters in West Entry:

- 2 Judy Mershon
- 9 John & Lori Faulkner
- 16 Bonnie Emerson
- 23 Jerry & Sandy Villegas
- 30

## Acolytes:

- 2 Abby Gilmore
- 9 Hailie Medley
- 16 Natalie Fisher
- 23 Alexa Mapstone
- 30 Amanda Fisher

## AV Room:

- 2 Dave Kerekgyarto
- 9 Chris Gorski
- 16 Becca Gorski
- 23 Diana Medley
- 30 Dave Kerekgyarto

## Lay Readers:

- 2 Lori Faulkner
- 9 Sharon Sauter
- 16 Mike Frederick
- 23 Janet Flores
- 30 Vicky Oliver

# JULY 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 May:

...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 Izhah, 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.

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](mailto:blissfumc@gmail.com). You are invited to visit, call, or send notes of encouragement to our shut-ins:

<u>Hilda Knoblauch</u>	<u>Bob and Darlene Spotts</u>
650 W. Adrian St.	9953 Treadwell
Blissfield, MI 49228	Blissfield, MI 49228
517-486-2442	517-443-5834
<u>Elizabeth Stutzman</u>	<u>Barb Dittman</u>
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:

Canned Spaghetti - O's, Baked Beans, Kidney/Chili Beans

## 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.**



Mark your Calendars  
VBS 2015  
August 3-7th 6-8pm

with a light dinner beginning at 5:30pm. If you are willing to help in any capacity please contact Diana Medley or Becca Gorski.

Please join us in wishing Sandy Crist a happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup> from 12 to 2 p.m.

## Youth News

- The Youth will kick off the year with their first meeting on Sunday September 6<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.
- The youth will also be meeting September 20<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm. They will be going over their study guides as well as begin renovations on the new youth room!

## MUDHENS FUNDRAISING 2015 SCHEDULE

### Date Report Time

Saturday August 15th 4:30 p.m.

Saturday August 29th 4:30 p.m.

Thursday September 3rd 4:30 p.m.

All volunteers are asked to meet the following requirements:

1. Khaki pants, capris, or shorts
2. Non-slip, closed toe shoes with socks
3. White shirt with sleeves
4. Hats can be worn; must be a MudHens hat.

There will be a sign up board in the back of the sanctuary for you to pick the dates that are best for you. Thank you for volunteering to help raise money for our church.

## Blissfield MOPS

- We are ready to gear up for the new MOPS year! Our next meeting will be September 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am. After that, our meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month and are from 9:15 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.