

The Web News

of West Bloomfield UMC

November 2017

From Pastor Brian

A couple weeks ago I shared the “Parable of the Key Lime Pie” in a sermon. It’s semi-biographical, semi-fictitious, but it makes a good point nonetheless!

I’ve always loved Thanksgiving and I’ve always loved pie, so the combination of the two is one of the highlights of the year for me! Years ago, everybody in our family liked apple pie, so we prepared 10 apple pies for Thanksgiving dinner and enjoyed every single one. Then a few years passed and new people married into the family. While the new family members didn’t dislike apple pie, they preferred pumpkin pie, so we started preparing 8 apple pies and 2 pumpkin pies. More years passed and kids were born into the family. The kids wanted pecan pie, so we started making a couple pecan pies for Thanksgiving. Then Clark married into the family. Clark likes key lime pie, so we started making one just for him. These days, Thanksgiving dinner doesn’t feature 10 apple pies like it used to. Now it’s a few apple pies, a couple pecan pies, a couple pumpkin pies, a chocolate cream pie, a key lime pie, and sugar-free jello because grandma is diabetic.

A couple questions that arise from the parable. One is whether Thanksgiving dinner has changed? The answer is yes... and no... Yes, we’re serving different pies than we used to, so yes, that’s a change. At the same time, was Thanksgiving dinner really about the kind of pie? Not really! It’s about spending time as a family. It’s about being thankful for the blessings God has given us. It’s about enjoying the faces of loved ones as we eat our meal and converse about the joys and the challenges of life. Those essential aspects of Thanksgiving remain exactly the same, regardless of which types of pie we serve.

The second question is about how I choose to respond to the pies I don’t care for. Sorry, Clark, but I really don’t like key lime pie. It’s nothing personal! But I really appreciate having key lime pie on our Thanksgiving table. I appreciate it because I know Clark really likes it. I like Clark, so if key lime pie makes him happy, it makes me happy, and we’re all better off as a family. The second reason is a little more selfish. I know if Clark eats the key lime pie, then there’s more pecan pie left for me!! I can let the key lime pie pass by, knowing something I personally enjoy will be coming soon.

There’s a parallel to this parable in Christian worship. Worship has changed over the years, and worship has been adapted to a thousand different cultures and a thousand different languages. Which means we’re faced with the same questions as the parable of the key lime pie. We recognize which aspects of our worship are essential and which are simply cultural expressions or our own personal preferences. For me, the essentials of worship are straightforward – 1) worship lifts us up so that we feel strengthened, spiritually fed, encouraged, hopeful, and motivated by the end of our time together, 2) worship is deeply

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West Bloomfield United Methodist Church seeks to show the love of God through worship, prayer, discipleship, and commitment.

meaningful and reveals to us the significant Biblical truths of the Creator of us all, not merely a little tidbit of wisdom we could have gotten from Dr. Phil, 3) worship is relevant to our lives, our workplaces, our schools, our families, our society, our nation, and our world. **HOW** we do those three things can be adapted. Certainly, I've got my preferences on how I like to do those three things and you have yours, yet we also recognize that other people have different preferences.

And it's on this last point that we gain the other main insight from the parable of the key lime pie. What do we do with the expressions of worship that don't match our own personal preferences? I think it's the same as my attitude about the key lime pie. Even if a particular aspect of worship isn't your favorite, consider who is being blessed by it. Years ago, I showed a video clip during the sermon and after the service, I overheard a 16-year old girl calling her boyfriend and telling him, "You should have been at church today!" I'd gladly watch a video in worship if that video results in a teenager excitedly inviting other teens to our church! Wouldn't you?

And like the key lime pie, Clark can enjoy it, and I know the pecan pie is still coming. When there's a particular song in worship that doesn't quite hit the mark for me, I know there's a really good chance that the **next** song will be touch my heart in a special way. It's like our potluck dinners – nobody is required to like every single item on the buffet table, but everybody is guaranteed to find enough to enjoy that they'll leave full and satisfied! Nobody will find every single element of worship to be their favorite, but **everybody** will find elements that will leave us all spiritually nourished and empowered for ministry!

Peace in Christ,

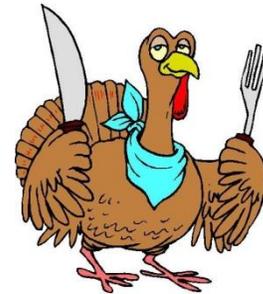
Pastor Brian

Monday Night Women's Bible Study

The women's evening Bible study group will be meeting on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm at Jackie Beach's home.

impact youth ministry

- November 5** Harvest Dinner
November 19, 9:30 Class with Barb Johnson
November 26 Put up Christmas Trees



HARVEST DINNER

The youth will be sponsoring the Harvest Dinner on Sunday, November 5th. The dinner will be held immediately after church. Everyone and guests are invited! Turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy will be supplied. If you would like to bring a dish to pass, it can be either a vegetable dish or a dessert. This dinner is one of the youth fund raisers for their mission trip next summer.

Calling All Musicians

Cheri Whalen is starting rehearsals for Bell and voice Choirs in November. Anyone who is interested in sharing their time and talent with the congregation is encouraged to join. Rehearsals for bell choir (The Joyful Noise) will be held after church on the 1st and 3rd of each month and voice choir after church on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. Please know that musical perfection is not required; but a desire to worship and praise God through music is a necessity. Please plan on joining the choirs in the month of November.

Women of West Bloomfield Career Dress Luncheon

The Women of WBUMC had a very successful CareerDress drive last month. Career Dress is a non-profit organization that helps women who are actively seeking employment and are in need of appropriate attire to wear to a job interview. The boutique is self-funded and assists clients that are referred from 40 different agencies including State of Michigan Welfare to Work program, Michigan Rehabilitation Services, Department of Human Services, Homeless, Domestic Abuse and Drug Abuse and Rehabilitation programs. Currently the program serves about 30 women each month.

Gently used professional clothing, jewelry, accessories and new toiletries were collected. They are still in need of winter coats. If you wish to donate, please bring the items to church and Margaret Cantrell will deliver them to the CareerDress office. Thank you all for your support of this great project.

FINANCE REPORT

West Bloomfield United Methodist Church
January 1 to September 30,
2017 Financial Information

Offering Received \$110,346
Other Income (Northville Insurance
Reimbursement, AA Rent, Kroger) \$5,909
Total Income \$116,255
Total Expenses \$121,378
Net Income (Deficit) (\$5123)

*Note- Current expenses are below budget

Our 2018 pledge campaign will be in November. Look for additional information soon.

CALLING ALL WBUMC COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Here is your opportunity to start a new Coffee Hour Host team or join an existing one for the upcoming year. We have a couple of existing teams that could use a new member. Teams can

be made up of one person, family or several people. We would like to add at least two new teams to our list for 2018 and beyond!! Twelve teams would mean the teams would only have to do four (4), possibly five (5), Sundays a year. There may be a Sunday when we have a special event, so your team would be off the hook for that week. I will set up the list of teams with new team numbers and make up a schedule for the year, as well as provide Guidelines to help you know how it all works!! Please join us in hosting Coffee Hour. If you have a change to your existing team, please let me know.

Thank you!! Dorinda McMullen Phone: 248-363-8030 or Email: fdbmc@aol.com



NOVEMBER

- 5 Jackie Beach
- 6 Rev. Monica William
- 7 Jeff Herdman
- 7 Kara Mulligan
- 9 Brent Webster
- 10 Mary Webster
- 10 Bethany Johnson
- 13 Patrick Mulligan
- 21 Kelly Hoffman
- 24 Nathan Wayne
- 26 Grace Mazurek
- 28 Shannon Kammerzell



NOVEMBER

ANNIVERSARIES

- 10 Fritz & Dorinda McMullen
- 20 Bill & Jackie Beach
- 20 Sean & Molly Hughes
- 28 Pat & Gary Langner

Missions

In November, the Thanksgiving Offering is designated for the **NOAH project** in Detroit, which this church has supported for several years. *The mission of the NOAH Project is to empower low income and homeless Detroiters to achieve stability by serving as the first step on the journey to self sufficiency.*

The NOAH Project operates a Community Center in downtown Detroit (23 E. Adams) for people living on the streets. Offering lunch four days a week, one-on-one social services, physical health counseling, empowerment-based programming, and emergency needs, they work to build a family support system for those who go there.

In 1976, members of Central United Methodist Church saw that people in their community needed food. Responding to this basic need, church members began offering a Bag Lunch to anyone who came to their door twice per week, on Mondays and Thursdays. This program, now nearly 40 years old, remains the cornerstone of the NOAH Project.

In 1999, realizing that people needed more than just a lunch, Central partnered with Family Service, Inc. and created the NOAH Project (Networking, Organizing, and Advocating for the Homeless). NOAH began offering social services and physical health care and counseling.

In 2003, NOAH was transferred to the Central United Methodist Church of Detroit Community Development Corporation, our 501(c) 3. In 2014, responding to the coldest and snowiest winter in Detroit's history, NOAH opened wide its doors and created the NOAH Community Center. We extended our hours and are now open to people from 9:00am to 2:00pm Monday through Thursday. NOAH also expanded its Bag Lunch Program to serve lunch on all four days. This growth has spurred the creation of the Community Center.

NOAH believes that change comes through positive, trusting relationships. At NOAH, individuals are supported by developing trusting relationships founded upon acceptance —

acceptance of who that person is. When acceptance is combined with compassion and honesty, it builds trust. By creating an environment founded on trusting relationships, a family is developed for people so they have the support necessary to change and grow.

The program's services are all built upon the following mission and core values:

1. Welcome all people with hospitality, recognize their dignity, and practice acceptance;
2. Build long-term trusting relationships
3. Provide patient, holistic care
4. Support personal growth through empowerment.

WBUMC has provided sandwiches for the bag lunch program for many years, usually twice in a year. Many members of the congregation have also gone to NOAH to help serve the lunches and to meet the clients.

We have supported and will continue to support the US 2 staff members assigned to NOAH for several years. They serve as our urban missionaries through the UMC.

On November 12th, Isaac..., our Missionary for 2018, will be visiting us during the Sunday service and will briefly discuss his work at the NOAH project.

Please give generously to the Thanksgiving Offering so the programs at the NOAH project can continue to serve the citizens of Detroit.

The Christmas Offering will be divided between the Joy-Southfield Community Health project and clinic and the Methodist Children's Home.

The Missions Committee wishes to thank everyone for your generosity, commitment and support for the programs we select to sponsor. If you would like to help with our work, you are more than welcome to make suggestions or to join us on our committee. We currently meet once every other month on the 4th Thursday at the church. The next meeting of the missions committee will be on Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 6 pm. Hope to see you there.

Operation Christmas Child

October 22nd was the kick-off day of "Operation Christmas Child." We fill Christmas-wrapped shoeboxes with items for children in America and all over the world. These children have never received Christmas gifts. Booklets that tell them about the love of Jesus are also included. This year, our education department is purchasing pre-printed decorative shoeboxes from Operation Christmas Child. The cost is low for 100 shoeboxes (minimal order). This will eliminate the hassle of wrapping boxes with Christmas paper. We have these boxes available on the table in the narthex so that you will have a longer period of time to shop. You may still use your own shoeboxes or plastic boxes if you prefer. The last day to bring your shoeboxes to church is **November 19th**. An information table is set up in the narthex.

Dorothy Maman, Ed. Chair

Bingo

Don't forget to sign up to help with Bingo at the West Bloomfield Nursing and Convalescent Home. The fun resumes on Monday, November 6, 2017 at 2 PM. The residents really enjoy the interaction with visitors from our church.

Haiti Mission Trip

Our church will embark on a medical mission trip to Jeremie, Haiti, January 17-24th, 2018. For 3 days, we'll offer medical care at two locations - a clinic near Jeremie and a second mobile clinic.

The church will have several opportunities to contribute medications and medical supplies which will enable us to do effective work. The e-giving link on the westbloomfieldumc.org website now has a "Quick Give" option, allowing anyone to simply select "Haiti Mission Trip" from the drop down menu without requiring them to create an account.

We are asking that all groups start collecting their empty pill bottles right now so we can take as many as possible with the team.

November 19th will be designated "Tums Sunday" when the congregation will be asked to bring as many bottles of Tums as possible.

December 17th will be "Tylenol Sunday" when people can bring infant, children's, adult, and extra-strength Tylenol (Generic acetaminophen is acceptable). Please make sure the Tylenol is new, not expired, and unopened. There is a real need for infant, liquid Tylenol.

Then there will be a board in the Narthex that will have yellow sticky notes with items that are still needed such as: "10 tubes of XYZ ointment", "3 bottles of ABC medication", "5 rolls of ACE wraps", etc. You will be invited to take the yellow sticky note of your choice to provide the items listed on the notes. The items should be brought back to the church the next Sunday.

And whether you're going or not, please be praying that God will work through this effort!

Amazon Smile

West Bloomfield United Methodist Church is now an approved charity for Amazon Smile thanks to Jo Anna registering us. Amazon Smile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features (including Prime) as Amazon. The difference is that when you shop on Amazon Smile, .5 % of the purchase price of eligible products will be donated to our church. You have the same Account and Login information for Amazon Smile as you do for Amazon. The website is very user friendly. Once you go to the website, smile.amazon.com, you will be asked to pick a charity. Just type in West Bloomfield United Methodist Church and make it your charity. You are only required to select the charity the first time and Amazon Smile will remember it, but you always need to purchase through Amazon Smile in order for the donation to be sent to WBUMC. You will also be able to see how much your purchases have contributed and how much the Church has received. Every little bit helps. Please sign up as soon as possible and tell your friends (including social media friends) and family about it.

A handout will be given out at church. Thank you for supporting the church.



Attention Everyone!
SATURDAY December 9th COOKIE WALK!

In our Fellowship Hall, we will set up tables that will be stacked high with homemade holiday cookies, jams, and candies. The doors are open from 10am –11:30am for all to pick out and buy their selections.

This is one of our **HUGE** fundraisers, and we need you to make this a success!

Please sign up to:

- ☉ SET UP – Friday, 12/8 -set up tables 4-6pm
- ☉ CLEAN UP – Take down and put away
- ☉ FANOUT – Call Church Members to see what each is baking
- ☉ PUBLICITY – Advertising
- ☉ SHOPPING – Buy supplies (with church money)
- ☉ WORKSHOPS at the Church –
 - Buckeye workshop –TBD (Kay Reese)
 - Cookie workshops - Monday, 12/4 and Friday, 12/8 (Glenda White)
- ☉ Cookie Take in--accept cookies at the church the night before, Friday 12/8, from 4-7pm
- ☉ CASHIERS – Weigh cookies and cash out customers
- ☉ SALE DAY – Work the day of the sale
- ☉ BAKE COOKIES – bake, bake, bake and drop off your goods by 8am, 12/9
- ☉ DONATE – Not a baker, just donate money towards baking supplies-See Pam Kimura

Grab a pen and sign up for one of the above items. The sign up sheet will be located on the bulletin board (adjacent to the front door of the Church).

Got Questions? Contact Jennifer Joseph at 248 538-7132





Liturgists

November 5 Shaun Hoffman
November 12 Marty Bopp
November 19 Harry Ducu
November 26 Mary Webster

Greeters

November 5 Barb & Dave Carlson
November 12 Kathy Chewing & Naomi Morgan
November 19 Ivy Nuamah
November 26 Di Ahmed

Trustee on Duty

November 5 Ann Sutschek
November 12 Fritz McMullen
November 19 Kay Reese
November 26 Mark Borns

Counters

November 5 Joe Sutschek & Ralph Worley
November 12 Mark Borns & Sulaiman Kamara
November 19 Tim McCabe & Gary Langner
November 26 Vicki Hernandez & Dan Langford

Administrative Meetings

November 12 9:00 am Trustees Meeting
November 21 7:00 pm Finance Meeting
7:45 pm Church Council

Ushers

November 5 Ralph Worley & Mark Borns
Melodie Langford & Joe Sutschek
November 12 Brent Webster & Wisam Jirjis
Barbara & Vance Shoger
November 19 Dora & Darwin Wayne
Butch Johnson & Gary Langner
November 26 Vicki Hernandez & Marty Bopp
Fritz & Dorinda McMullen

Coffee Hour Hosts

November 5 Becky & Jerome Meldrum
Mary & Brent Webster
Glenda & Jim White
November 12 Wendy & Simon Kissonergis
Jennifer Joseph
Jackie & Bill Beach
November 19 Dorinda & Fritz McMullen
Pam Melton
Dora & Darwin Wayne
November 26 Barb Carlson & Libby Beck
Butch & Barb Johnson

Ways to Connect

Office hours:

Tuesday, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Wednesday, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Friday, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Pastor's office hours:

Tuesday, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM
Wednesday, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM
Or call any time with emergencies or to schedule an appointment.

Church contact info:

Telephone: 248.851.2330
Email: church@westbloomfieldumc.org
Website: westbloomfieldumc.org
Newsletter submissions:
newsletter@westbloomfieldumc.org

Pastor Brian contact info:

Home Telephone: 248.851.0149
Cell Phone: 248.672.7481
Email: pastor@westbloomfieldumc.org

Staff:

Rev. Brian William, Pastor
David Carlson, Custodian
Warren Johnson, Youth Director
Jo Anna Risk, Administrative Secretary
Cheri Whalen, Music Director

Broader Church Connections:

Bishop David Bard, Michigan Area
Rev. Charles Boayue, Detroit Renaissance
District Superintendent

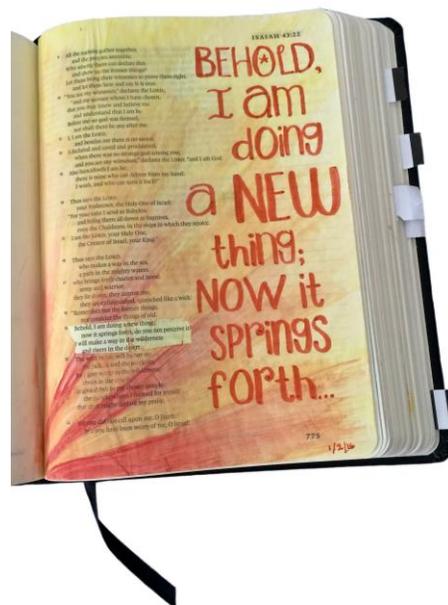
"Celebrating Who We Are" Gathering

Saturday, Nov. 11th 9 AM - 12 Noon

We'll gather as a church for several purposes:

- * We will celebrate how God has worked in amazing ways in our church in recent years
- * We will recognize the spiritual journey our church is on right now
- * We will listen to God's voice of guidance and empowerment
- * We will embrace the path we sense God leading us on
- * We will identify concrete steps forward to begin living into this God-given path

Childcare will be provided!



West Bloomfield UMC

November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Hats, Mittens, Scarves Drive ends 10:30 am Worship 10:40 am G3 Kids & Sprout classes	30 10:00 am NOAH Sandwich Making 7:30 pm Al Anon Meeting 8:30 pm AA Meeting	31 9:00 am NOAH Sandwich Delivery 9:00 am Office Hours	1 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Office Hours 9:30 am Prayer Team 10:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm Men's Exercise Group	2	3 9:00 am Office Hours 8:30 pm AA Meeting	4
5 10:30 am Worship 10:40 am G3 Kids & Sprout classes 12:00 pm Harvest Dinner	6 7:30 pm Al Anon Meeting 8:30 pm AA Meeting	7 9:00 am Office Hours	8 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Office Hours 9:30 am Prayer Team 10:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm Men's Exercise Group	9	10 9:00 am Office Hours 7:00 pm Bridge 8:30 pm AA Meeting	11 9:00 am "Celebrating Who We Are" Gathering
12 8:30 am Trustees 10:30 am Worship 10:40 am G3 Kids & Sprout classes	13 7:30 pm Al Anon Meeting 8:30 pm AA Meeting	14 9:00 am Office Hours 7:00 pm Finance Meeting 7:45 pm Church Council	15 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Office Hours 9:30 am Prayer Team 10:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm Men's Exercise Group	16	17 9:00 am Office Hours 8:30 pm AA Meeting	18
19 Operation Christmas Child ends 9:30 am Impact Youth Ministry 10:30 am Worship 10:40 am G3 Kids & Sprout classes 7:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Service	20 7:30 pm Al Anon Meeting 8:30 pm AA Meeting	21 9:00 am Office Hours	22 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Office Hours 9:30 am Prayer Team 10:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm Men's Exercise Group	23	24 9:00 am Office Hours 8:30 pm AA Meeting	25
26 10:30 am Worship 10:40 am G3 Kids & Sprout classes 12:00 pm Women of West Bloomfield	27 7:30 pm Al Anon Meeting 8:30 pm AA Meeting	28 9:00 am Office Hours	29 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Office Hours 9:30 am Prayer Team 10:00 am Bible Study 7:00 pm Men's Exercise Group	30 6:00 pm Missions Meeting	1 9:00 am Office Hours 8:30 pm AA Meeting	2



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