

The Web News

of West Bloomfield UMC

From Pastor Brian

January 2018

As we move into 2018, we are beginning a great celebration of our 50th year of ministry as a congregation! In the mid-60's, a small group of devoted Christians recognized the population growth that was taking place in West Bloomfield and began making plans for a Methodist church in the area. By spring of 1968, the first worship services were held and a new church had begun.

On Saturday, May 5th and Sunday, May 6th, we will have an opportunity to give thanks to God for 50 years of faithful ministry. We anticipate having all the living former pastors of the church participate. We will welcome current members and will welcome home many former members who have moved to other communities. We will invite civic leaders and clergy from other faith communities in West Bloomfield. And to the best of our knowledge, this is the first time in our history when the United Methodist Bishop for the state of Michigan will preach at our church. It will be a tremendous celebration!

The 50th Anniversary celebration comes at such a perfect time for our church, too. We've just recently had a very powerful spiritual gathering where we determined we hope multi-ethnic ministry will be a key component of our church's identity as we move forward. We saw how caring for our community and loving our neighbors in West Bloomfield has been a top priority for our church since we began in 1968. And we see how the ethnic and demographic make-up of West Bloomfield has changed since 1968. Yet we realized the priority of caring for our community and loving our neighbors – that doesn't change at all! It's simply the way that we care for our community and the way that we love our neighbors is adapting to be culturally relevant and to best meet the needs of an ethnically diverse community. What a perfect way to celebrate our 50th by recognizing the continuity of ministry between our past, our present, and our future.

Also, it's perfect to be celebrating our 50th at a time when we're both caring for the people already within our congregation **and** finding new ways to impact the world around us. Just in the last year, we've seen new connections with families in need in our community, with the Baldwin Center and the NOAH Project, with nursing homes and schools, with the Heifer Project and Operation Christmas Child, and many more. Plus, we're preparing for the first ever international mission trip from our church. Seven of us will be leaving for Haiti on January 17th to treat approximately 1,000 patients, working alongside Haitian medical staff and church leaders to make a real difference in the lives of people in need. What a fantastic way to celebrate our 50th!

All in all, 2018 looks to be a very exciting year for our church. I can't tell you how thrilled I am to have the great privilege of being your pastor. And I can't even imagine what tremendous blessings God will have in store for us this year.

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

Haiti Mission Trip

I am so excited about the mission team heading to Haiti on January 17th. The talent and expertise of the team members is undeniable, but even more impressive is the **spirit** they bring to the service they're providing. I will be leading the group, which really means I'll make sure we arrive where we're supposed to when we're supposed to, but the team members will get all the credit for the actual work that is done!

I know people here at the church will be praying for us during our trip, so here is a broad overview of the work we'll be doing:

- On January 17th and 18th, we'll be travelling from Detroit to Port-au-Prince, Haiti, then from there out to a medium-sized fishing town called Jeremie in the west of Haiti.
- On Friday, Saturday, and Monday, our team will be split between a permanent Methodist-run clinic and a temporary mobile clinic that will operate from a school or a church building in a more remote area of Haiti.
- On Sunday, we'll worship at a Methodist church in the morning, then visit a nursing home and provide medical care for elderly residents in the afternoon.
- On Tuesday, we'll return to Port-au-Prince to learn more about the Haitian culture and history, before returning home to Michigan on Wednesday, January 24th.

The team members and I have been working for months to make preparations for the trip, to collect funds and medical supplies for the work we'll be doing, and to prepare ourselves spiritually and emotionally for the trip itself. But when it all comes down to it, it's about expressing the universal language: **love**. It's about taking a sick child by the hand or looking a sick adult in the eye and helping them know just how much we love them and how much God loves them. The medical care we'll offer is an expression of that love, to be sure, and we'll show our love by the way we serve. That's why I'm so excited about this trip, because I see the spirit of love that each of the team members offer.



50th Anniversary Celebration

**West Bloomfield United Methodist Church
Saturday, May 5th and Sunday, May 6th, 2018**

Please join us
as we celebrate 50 years of Christian service,
renew old friendships, and worship together.

Questions: contact Joe Sutschek at
jsutschek63@yahoo.com
or call 248-681-6115

Women of West Bloomfield

The next regular meeting of the Women of WBUMC will be held on Sunday, January 28 at Noon. All women are cordially invited to join.

Bingo/Monday Night Bible Study

Bingo at West Bloomfield Nursing and Convalescent Center on Maple Road will begin again on Monday, February, 2018. Look for the 2018 schedule on the bulletin board soon.

The Women's Bible Study group will be making decisions soon about when the sessions will begin again and the topic for the next study. Information will be available in the up-coming church bulletins and on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Exercise Class

The men's exercise group will meet at 7:00 PM on Wednesday nights at the church. Bill Beach leads the men's group.

What My Church Means to Me

This church has been part of my life, and has molded how I see and act in this world. I have learned to cherish the small things that bring joy to our lives. Like Mr. Sutschek singing “five gold rings” every Christmas. Or Mrs. Johnson’s homemade brownies and Amish bread and chocolate chip cookies and the plethora of other indulgences that she spoils us with every year. This church has taught me the satisfaction of a job well done, whether it be the Christmas plays artfully crafted by Mr. Johnson. Or church clean-ups headed by the ever-working Mr. McMullen. I have been taught to listen and to offer hope when not directly asked. And I have learned to pray when nothing else I can offer will suffice.

To come to church here at West Bloomfield United Methodist Church is to be part of a congregation, and a step further, a family. We here in the sanctuary are a collective – one being, bound by a love for worship, charity, and each other. When one is in pain, it pains us all. As well as when one is emblazoned with some new yearning or joyous offering, we feel this too.

It is this interconnectedness which I believe allows us to draw special understanding from 16th Century philosopher, John Donne:

The church is universal, so are all her actions. All that she does belongs to all. When she baptizes a child, that action concerns me. For that child is thereby connected to that body which is my head too, and ingrafted into that body whereof I am a member. No person is an island, entire of itself. Every person is a piece of the continent, a part of the main.

I am a part of this church, just as all of you are. To me, this church is home, and I hope it is for you as well. Thank you.

Kevin Mulligan



| | |
|----|---------------------|
| 2 | Joanne Herbst |
| 5 | Rob Mulligan |
| 6 | Meg Grossnickle |
| 6 | George Herbst |
| 6 | Rachel Kammerzell |
| 9 | Lukas Mazurek |
| 12 | Danielle William |
| 12 | Molly Hughes |
| 13 | David Herbst |
| 16 | Analeigh Hack |
| 19 | Riley Croft |
| 20 | Laura Louise Hughes |
| 21 | Howard Herbst II |
| 23 | Eric Worley |
| 28 | Steve Miles |
| 31 | Steve Cantrell |

Missions Committee

This month, the Mission Committee will begin its New Year by meeting on Wednesday, January 31 at 6 PM in the Penzien Parlor. New members are always welcome. We are pleased to announce that Kent Adams recently joined and has already made excellent suggestions and contributions for the coming year. A report of the 2017 missions contributions will be available to the congregation in the February Newsletter. At the November meeting the committee planned the programs to support to continue to be a Spotlight Church in 2018. Thank you so much for your generosity and prayerful support.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

January

Liturgists

January 7 Kent Adams
 January 14 Melodie Langford
 January 21 Vicki Hernandez
 January 28 Jennifer Joseph

Greeters

January 7 Margaret Cantrell
 January 14 Pam Melton
 January 21 Kay Reese
 January 28 Vicki Hernandez

Trustee on Duty

January 7 Mark Borns
 January 14 Mark Borns
 January 21 Kay Reese
 January 28 Ann Sutschek

Counters

January 7 Joe Sutschek & Ralph Worley
 January 14 Mark Borns & Sulaima
 Kamara
 January 21 Tim McCabe & Ga
 January 28 Vicki Hernandez &
 Langford

Administrative Meetings

January 8 6:30 pm Board of Trustees
 January 9 7:00 PM Finance Meeting
 January 9 7:45 PM Church Council

Ushers

January 7 Ralph Worley
 Mark Borns
 Melodie Langford
 Joe Sutschek

January 14 Brent Webster
 John Hoover
 Barbara Shoger
 Vance Shoger

January 21 Darwin Wayne
 Gary Langner
 Butch Johnson
 Dora Wayne

January 28 Vicki Hernandez
 Marty Bopp
 Dorinda McMullen
 Fritz McMullen

Coffee Hour Hosts

January 7 Levada Geisey & Ilene
 Herdman
 Bernie Westfall

January 14 Barb & Vance Shoger
 Dorothy & Bill Maman
 Gary Langner
 Karen Mitchell

January 21 Di Ahmed
 Diane White

January 28 Becky & Jerome Meldrum
 Mary & Brent Webster
 Glenda & Jim White

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:

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Email: pastor@westbloomfieldumc.org

Staff:

Rev. Brian William, Pastor

Jo Anna Risk, Administrative Secretary

Warren Johnson, Youth Director

Cheri Whalen, Music Director

David Carlson, Custodian

Broader Church Connections:

Bishop David Bard, Michigan Area Bishop

Rev. Charles Boayue, Detroit Renaissance District Superintendent

West Bloomfield UMC

January 2018

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 31 10:30 am Worship | 1 7:30 pm Al Anon Meeting 8:30 pm AA Meeting | 2 9:00 am Office Hours | 3 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 | 4 | 5 9:00 am Office Hours 8:30 pm AA Meeting | 6 1:00 pm Haiti Packing Party |
| 7 9:00 am Trustees Meeting 10:30 am Worship 10:40 am G3 Kids & Sprout classes 12:00 pm Bell Choir Practice | 8 7:30 pm Al Anon Meeting 8:30 pm AA Meeting | 9 9:00 am Office Hours 7:00 pm Finance Meeting 7:45 pm Church Council | 10 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 | 11 | 12 9:00 am Office Hours 7:00 pm Bridge AA Meeting | 13 |
| 14 8:30 am Trustees 10:30 am Worship 10:40 am G3 Kids & Sprout classes 12:00 pm Choir practice | 15 7:30 pm Al Anon Meeting 8:30 pm AA Meeting | 16 9:00 am Office Hours | 17 Haiti Mission Trip 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 | 18 Haiti Mission Trip | 19 Haiti Mission Trip 9:00 am Office Hours 8:30 pm AA Meeting | 20 Haiti Mission Trip |
| 21 Haiti Mission Trip 10:30 am Worship – Pastor Chris White preaching 10:40 am G3 Kids & Sprout classes 12:00 pm Bell choir practice | 22 Haiti Mission Trip 7:30 pm Al Anon Meeting 8:30 pm AA Meeting | 23 Haiti Mission Trip 9:00 am Office Hours | 24 Haiti Mission Trip 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 | 25 6:00 pm Missions Meeting | 26 9:00 am Office Hours 8:30 pm AA Meeting | 27 |
| 28 10:30 am Worship 10:40 am G3 Kids & Sprout classes 12:00 pm Choir practice 12:00 pm Women of West Bloomfield | 29 7:30 pm Al Anon Meeting 8:30 pm AA Meeting | 30 9:00 am Office Hours | 31 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 | 1 | 2 9:00 am Office Hours 8:30 pm AA Meeting | 3 |

JANUARY



phillipmartin.info

MARTIN

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