



# The Beacon

Volume 8 No.

JUNE 2019

## The Pastor's Page

### **MOMENTUM**

When I was sixteen, I wanted to get my driver's license. In fact, everyone my age wanted to be able to drive a car. This was freedom and another step toward being grown up and being at large in the world. My Dad began to teach me to drive and gave me his speech. It went something like this: "When you are driving a car, you are pushing 4000 pounds of metal down a highway, and when you take your foot off the gas, it's not going to stop. So, you had better be thinking ahead, because if you hit something it is going to do a lot of damage." The talk was probably longer, but what my Dad was concerned with was momentum.

In physics Momentum is equal to Mass times Velocity --  $P = M(V)$ . That is 4000 lbs. traveling 60 miles/hour equals 351,885 lb-ft/sec. The unit conversions cause the result not to be a straightforward multiplication problem, but it tells us that momentum can be a lot of something; whether we are talking about the momentum of a car or church. In a car you can take your foot off the gas, but the car will keep going whether you are driving on a road or driving through a corn field. (Driving through a corn field doesn't work well --ask my daughter)

Sometimes the question isn't how we are going, but where are we going. I think we must watch out for momentum. The young people of today are wonderful, but they are different than the people of a generation or two back. There are a lot of younger people who don't care to learn to drive. Many live at home longer and put off moving out into the world. They grew up with technology that older people either must learn or sometimes shun. They are internet ready and even dependent. They are multimedia and satellite programmed. I grew up with a small black and white tv set and four or five channels if it was a good day. The younger generation has Imax, hundreds of channels,

internet streaming, and social media that connects them with the world and people they don't even really know. They can join an online game and talk to friends in other states while playing. I would also say they spirit toward people who are different and perhaps even a greater sense of justice for others. This doesn't mean the world is essentially better or that there are not negative consequences in the use of technology, but I do think that our children are what we have led them to be. That are who they are because we were their parents and grandparents.

The question that comes from this: Is the church intentionally driving in a direction to meet and greet the generations that are moving into the world, or are we letting our momentum simply carry us along to our own happy places. Are we content to be content, or should we be painfully aware of how much the message of Christ is still needed in the lives of young people today, and actively trying to find ways to accommodate and speak to this wonderfully higher tech, internet savvy, socially aware, full on CGI generation of today?

I think we need to watch out for momentum. The church isn't a church unless we are giving it away. What we keep we will lose and what we lose shall be kept. Jesus simply said take up your cross and follow me. Perhaps Jesus' way is the opposite of simple momentum. Jesus gave away everything in faith that God would breathe life into our world through even his death. I wonder what this should mean to us.

*Blessings,*

*Pastor Russell Logston*



## June 9 Farwell Luncheon for Pastor Russell



Saying goodbye to someone is never easy, especially when it's someone that has had an influence on your life. Pastor Russell will be leaving for his next appointment at Lake City United Methodist Church, effective July 1. In the United Methodist Church, pastors are appointed annually to serve a church. It's the nature of being a pastor in the United Methodist Church; you're subject to possibly move at any given moment.

June 9 will be Pastor Russell's last Sunday with the Empire United Methodist Church family and a luncheon is planned after worship. Come share the fellowship.

Thank you, Pastor Russell for your counsel and guidance, for your untiring service, for your faithfulness to God these past five years. We are grateful for your leadership, guidance and love. Your next church is getting a kind, caring and considerate pastor, and we can't wait to see what God has planned for you, your family, and your new church family. We pray that you find peace in this move and God's blessing on you and your family during this transition.

*Sandy Mallory, Administrative Council chair*

## PENTECOST – JUNE 9

**Pentecost** is an important Sunday for the Church. It reminds us that God has big, loud, brilliant, dramatic plans for us as Christians. Make this day a reminder of what God did for us on that day — God came from heaven and gave us the precious gift of the Holy Spirit!

*Polly House is a freelance writer and editor based in Nashville, Tennessee, USA*

In the United States, Christians share their perspective about the meaning of Pentecost as well as how the diversity of languages and cultures can enhance their worship and fellowship with each another. Christians see Pentecost as an expansion of God's favor and care from Judaism to all peoples.

As recorded in the New Testament of the Bible, it was on the 50th day after Easter that the apostles were praying together, and the Holy Spirit descended on them. They received the "gift of tongues" — the ability to speak in other languages — and immediately began to preach about Jesus Christ to Jewish people from all over the world who flocked to Jerusalem for the Feast of Shavuot.

Christian Pentecost became not only a commemoration of the Holy Spirit's visit but also marks the birth of the Christian Church. Although it is not certain when Pentecost began to be observed by Christians, it may have been early as the first century. According to church tradition, Pentecost is always about seven weeks after Easter Sunday, or 50 days after Easter, including Easter Day.

The symbols of Pentecost are those of the Holy Spirit and include flames, wind, and a dove. Wear **RED** to church on June 9.

### A Prayer for Pentecost

Gracious God, we are reminded again on this Pentecost Sunday, when the first believers in Jesus were given the courage to tell others about Him.

We believe you give us that same courage to tell others about Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit.

You know, O God, that sometimes we are fearful, and we feel alone.

But just like that Pentecost long ago, we, too, are surrounded by your love and presence.

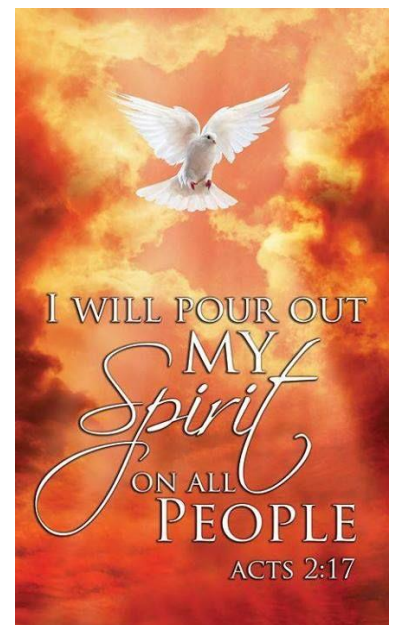
Help us live in such a way that others see in us a reflection of your love.

Help us have the courage to tell others about the difference it makes in our lives to trust in your love and care.

Help us see those around who want to be in the fellowship of Christians.

Help us to witness to one another so that we grow in faith.

Through the power of your Holy Spirit and the witness of your Son, Jesus the Christ, we pray today. AMEN.





Loud  
Offering  
this  
Month

## UMCOR

The United Methodist Committee on Relief is a ministry of The United Methodist Church through the General Board of Global Ministries and is dedicated to alleviating human suffering around the globe. Its goal is to assist the most vulnerable persons affected by crisis or chronic need without regard to race, religion, gender, or sexual orientation, for all people have God-given worth and dignity. UMCOR's work includes programs and projects in disaster response, health, sustainable agriculture, food security, relief supplies, and more.

UMCOR spends 100 percent of designated donations on the projects donors specify. When UMCOR donors give their time, money and supplies, they join UMCOR as the hands and feet of Christ. Be giving on June 30!

**THANK YOU!!!**



## Celebration of Giving

May 26 was a celebration of giving at EUMC. Carole Merillat, Finance Chair, gave the following message before the offering that Sunday:

"We are thankful for each and every one of you. Thank you for your faithful participation in the ministries of this church by your **prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness**. Because of each of you, in 2018 we met our projected budget and fulfilled our obligation of ministry shares to the United Methodist Michigan Conference. In the remaining months of 2019, the finance committee

would like to emphasize that stewardship is an all year concern, not just at pledge time once a year.

Giving is a joyful response to God's generosity. Stewardship is our opportunity to give back to God what he has entrusted to us. We give not out of obligation but out of a desire to do His will. In the coming month there will be opportunities to share what giving means to each of us. The next two weeks, Kay Wilcox and Roy Pentilla, both members of the finance team will be reading the cards that you will fill out that are in your bulletins. After cards are filled out, they are to be placed in the offering plates, handed to pastor, or placed in the box on the table in the narthex. You do not need to put your name on the card unless you desire. Another way you can share your thoughts is by sending an e-mail to the church. The E-mail address is [www.empiremiumc.org](http://www.empiremiumc.org). I would like to share one of the cards that was handed in: Giving means arriving some place with open arms bringing love, grace, peace, and commitment in the name of Jesus Christ." Also, we would welcome stories of giving that any of you might have.

Lastly, I would like to read the words of the song that the choir sang for the anthem: (Take My Life, and Let It Be by Havergal & Herold - Hymn #399)

Take my life and let it be consecrated Lord, to thee. Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise. Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love. Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee. Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King. Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee. Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold. Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose. Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne. Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store. Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee."

## The history of Father's Day



The American Father's Day was introduced at the start of the 20th century, following the successful promotion of Mother's Day by Anna Jarvis.

It was reputedly first marked on July 5, 1908 in West Virginia – also the birthplace of Mother's Day – by Grace Clayton, who had recently lost her father in a mining accident.

Two years later, a more widespread Father's Day commemoration took place across churches in Spokane, Washington organized by Sonora Dodd, who had been inspired by attending a Mother's Day service the previous year.

# AREA CONFERENCE

## 2019 FOCUSES ON LEADERSHIP



*The theme of the 2019 Michigan Annual Conference is Bold and Effective Leadership. Four women will preach, teach, and witness to bring the theme to life.*

The Michigan Conference Vision Statement speaks to the value of bold and effective leadership. The 2019 Michigan Annual Conference will showcase that portion of the Vision Statement as members gather in Acme, MI May 30 – June 2.

What does it take to be a bold and effective leader these days? When you experience bold and effective leadership, what do you notice? When you're trying to be a bold and effective leader, what do you try to "stir up" from within? We think it takes wisdom ... and heart ... and courage to be the leaders God calls us to be as we strive to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Two teachers and two preachers will share during the session. Here's a brief introduction.

### Worship | Saturday, June 1 | 8:30 am

*Rev. Dr. Jennifer Browne*



The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Browne is currently Director of Clergy Excellence for the Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church. She began her vocation as an ordained minister in 1984, at the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, in Battle Creek Michigan. She then served United Methodist congregations in Jenison, East Lansing, Grand Rapids, Brighton, Climax/Scotts and Reed City, as well as extension ministries at Albion College, the Episcopal Campus Ministry at the University of Chicago, and the Presbytery of Lake Michigan. Jennie holds a Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York City, and a Doctor of Ministry from The Divinity School of the University of Chicago. Her dissertation, "Gracious Acts: Ritual and Protestant Worship," focused on the importance of ritual and the manner in which it conveys meaning to and through the worshipping congregation. Jennie is married to Eric Strand, Director of Music and the Arts at First United Methodist Church in Grand Rapids. Between them they have five children, ranging in age from 30 to 16. She is a yoga practitioner, quilter, mystery reader and lover of many kinds of music.

### Teaching Session | Saturday, June 1 | 10:00 am

*Kristen Grauer*



Kristen Grauer is a Foreign Service Officer in the U.S. Department of State. However, she will be speaking simply in her capacity as a Kid of a Michigan Preacher. She has served abroad 14 out of the last 17 years, completing tours in Benin, Russia, Liberia, Iraq, France, and Cote d'Ivoire. She has worked on everything from truth and reconciliation commissions in post conflict countries, to maritime pollution, to visa and refugee processing, to helping U.S. businesses expand abroad. She is most proud of her work on small scale development projects like schools, wells, and orphanages in Africa that made an immediate difference in communities. Beginning in summer 2020, Kristen will assume the role of Consul General in Marseille, where she will be responsible for U.S. interests in the south of France. Through it all, she is honored to represent the best of the United States to the rest of the world and strives to make a difference wherever she is stationed. Kristen is the daughter of the late Rev. Charles D. Grauer. [Read more.](#)

Conference members will learn more about their own God-given gifts and opportunities to express them by listening to the stories of these bold disciples of Jesus Christ.





**SAVE THE DATE: June 11 at 11 AM**

*The Empire unit of United Methodist Women will meet on Tuesday, May 14.* All women of the church are invited to attend. The purpose of the United Methodist Women "shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the Global ministries of the church."

**We will be making pasties.**



Join Us  
this Summer

**AT ST. PHILIP NERI  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
9:00 AM - 12 NOON  
JUNE 24 - 28**

**EUMC VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Laurie Taghon, EUMC Representative

**Monday Morning Men's Group @ 9:00 AM**

THE LECTIONARY study with Pastor Russell

**Thursday Bible Study @ 2:30 PM**

Pastor Tom Petersen, leader

*Everyone welcome!!!*



**Jubilee House Homeless Shelter Collection  
("SOX BOX")**

The monthly *Beacon* info for Jubilee House varies little, but the need remains great for the Friends who use the shelter during its open time of 10 AM to 2 PM and then walk the streets until an area church opens to provide supper. **Hard-soled shoes and tennis shoes for the summer and fall along with jeans, jackets, sweatshirts, underwear** and, as always, **sox** (five pairs a day are given to clients) are needed. **Backpacks or sturdy big bags** in which to carry their belongings are blessings. Items can be placed in the SOX BOX (in the Fellowship Hall) at any time. Monetary donations are also welcome for shelter staples. Ron Meade continues to deliver the items to Jubilee House.

**THANK YOU for sharing.**



**Saturday, June 8**

**8:30 AM**

*2nd Saturday of each month*

**Fellowship Hall**

*Scrambled Eggs with Morel Mushrooms on the Menu!*



# ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

May 19, 2019

**Present :** Pastor Russell, Sandy Mallory - Chair, Roy Pentilla, Rod Meade, Kay Wilcox, Bill Lyon, Jan Lyon, Aggie Wilson, Laurie Taghon, Sue Palmer, Tim Egeler, Jean Petersen, Jim Sorbie, Gerri Sorbie, Jim Fowler, Barb Fowler, Roger Noonan, Marcella Bodoh, Pat Smith, and Candy Hasselbeck

The Administrative Council Meeting was held on Sunday, May 19, 2019 after worship services. Pastor Russell opened the meeting with a prayer. Minutes of the last meeting were read; approved.

## CURRENT BUSINESS:

1. **Arts & Crafts Show** – May 18. – L. Taghon Laurie reported that turnout was good for the arts & crafts fair. There was some difficulty finding vendors and tables. We have added to our vendor list for next year. Gift baskets produced better income than vendor samples. Gross income to date: \$1,626.50
2. **Benefit Dinner for Sandi Flack** – S. Mallory The Pulled Pork Dinner (with Cole slaw, baked beans, dessert & beverage) will be held **Friday, May 31, 5:00 to 7:00 PM**. Please sign up on the sheet in fellowship hall.
3. **Farwell/Welcome for Pastors** Farwell Dinner for Pastor Russell and family will be June 9, after worship. Please plan to attend; Welcome reception for Pastor Melody – to be determined.
4. **Parsonage Work** – Trustees – S. Palmer Roger and Sue did a walk-thru of the parsonage. Work will begin on June 19; Sue will prepare a spreadsheet with work assignments to be filled, along with work materials needed and email to everyone. Major work includes tearing out all carpet in the house and installing new flooring; updating bathrooms, painting rooms, etc. Please volunteer – we need your help. Pastor Melody moves in on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Sue talked with a representative from Floor Covering Brokers and the luxury vinyl flooring will cost approximately \$11,913 (materials & labor). Money for parsonage repairs will come out of the Endowment fund. A \$200 donation for work expenses was given today.
5. **Parsonage Yard Clean-up** – R. Noonan is in charge of clean-up on **Wednesday, May 22 at 6:30 PM**. Please bring your own tools and gloves. Church grounds to be done at a later date.

## COMING EVENTS:

- **Vacation Bible School June 24 – 28 (9:00 AM-12 Noon) at St. Philips Catholic Church.** L. Taghon will be recruiting volunteers from EUMC
- **Glen & Ella Noonan Summer Speaker Series** – K. Coombs All speakers have been confirmed; housing arranged; advertising to go out the first week of June. She will need help distributing flyers. She also stated that she feels there should be no quilt show this year.

## LEADERSHIP:

- **Annual Conference Lay Representative** – Roy Pentilla is attending and will represent EUMC at the annual conference on May 30-June 2 at Grand Traverse Resort, Acme.
- **Staff Pastor Parish Relations** – Roger Noonan reported there have been two responses so far for the secretary's position. He and Jan Lyon will set up interviews with the applicants and that Pastor Melody would like to be there too.
- **Trustees** - Tim Egeler has been hired to do lawn service at the church and parsonage at \$175/month.
- **Financial** – Carole Merillat, chair (by phone) reported that the finance team is working on a 5-year plan and the stewardship campaign. Treasurer's Report: Roy discussed the finances (per handout). Roger Noonan stated that funds for parsonage expenses be taken from the Endowment earnings; that's what it is intended for. Consensus.
- **Education** – Pat Smith. Pat was happy to report that Candy Hasselbeck is back to head the Sunday school program; we are averaging 2-7 children on Sundays; teaching Bible stories; and plan to organize storage closet. The Sunday school will work on a float for Anchor Days in July.
- **Missions Commission** – Rod Meade. We decided to do local "Shoebboxes" and make them available to the Native American Churches in our district. We discussed holding a Dave Ramsey Financial Course early this fall which will be open to church members and people in the area. Tom Petersen will teach. More details to follow.
- **Memorial** – Aggie Wilson. Nothing to report.
- **UMW** – Jean Petersen. We will make pasties at the June 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Volunteers needed.
- **Other:** The road clean up was completed. Thanks to Jim Fowler and crew. Being no other business to discuss, Kay Coombs made a motion to adjourn. Adjourned at 12:29 PM. Next meeting to be tentatively scheduled for June 23.

Respectfully submitted,  
Beth Noonan, recording secretary



# MONTHLY CALENDAR



**1<sup>ST</sup> Sunday of every month:**

**Holy Communion served** – *“Take communion as often as you can. It’s food for the journey.”*  
**All are welcome.**

- **Leelanau Area Food Pantry Collection**

*Donations of canned goods and packaged food are collected for the Leelanau Area Food Pantry. The pantry is always in need of volunteers. Please contact Pastor Russell or Elaine Pentilla for more information.*

- **Men’s Breakfast** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month at 8:30 AM
- **United Methodist Women meet** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 11:00 AM
- **ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL** – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after worship - *Your participation and service is appreciated!*

**Last Sunday of every Month: Loud Offering** (*save your change*) – to help a wide variety of ministries and the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund (for local families in need).

***Our Vision Statement:***  
***Be a Companion in Faith to All, That Jesus Christ May Live in All.***



<u>DATE</u>	<u>COUNTERS</u>	<u>HOSTS</u>	<u>READERS</u>	<u>USHERS</u>
6/02	B Lyon; S Mallory	L Taghon	J Petersen	J Fowler; L Taghon
6/09	J Lyon; Beth Noonan	S Palmer	M Goodrick	T Egeler; D Giddis
6/16	T Petersen; G Sorbie	J Lyon	J Lyon	J Dorsey; J Lyon
6/23	K Coombs; R Merillat	S Mallory	K Coombs	D Davis; P Mallory
6/30	R Meade; K Wilcox	L Taghon	R Meade	P Mallory; L Taghon



## **Glen & Ella Noonan Summer Speakers Series**

**July & August  
Worship Service at 9:30 AM**

## Serving as the Hands & Feet of Christ 135 Years in Empire 1884 – 2019

*The Beacon* is published monthly by The EMPIRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. Our mailing address is: PO Box 261 – 10050 Michigan Street, Empire, MI 49630. We can be reached at 231.326.5510 or [www.empireumc@centurytel.net](mailto:www.empireumc@centurytel.net). Information and items for publication must be received at the church office by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.



## ***EUMC Mission Statement***

*"To live out a faith in Jesus Christ through our efforts to hear others, share in God's truths, join in worship, and celebrate in the Joy of God's grace."*

### **SUNDAYS**

10:30 AM      Worship Service  
Sunday School after Children's Moment  
8:00 PM      AA Group

### **MONDAYS**

**9:00-1:00**      Church Office open  
9:00 AM      Men's Bible Study - Pastor Russell Logston  
10:00 AM      Worship Team

### **WEDNESDAYS**

**9:00-1:00**      Church Office open  
8:00 PM      NA Group

### **THURSDAYS**

**9:00-1:00**      Church Office open  
10:00 AM      Worship Team  
2:30 PM      Bible Study – Rev. Tom Petersen  
4:00 PM      Choir Rehearsal



**EMPIRE  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
PO Box 261 - 10050 Michigan Street  
Empire MI 49630

**TO:**

Rev. Russell K. Logston, Pastor  
(231) 326-5510  
[empireumc@centurytel.net](mailto:empireumc@centurytel.net)  
[pastor\\_empireumc@centurytel.net](mailto:pastor_empireumc@centurytel.net)  
Facebook.Com/Empire United Methodist Church  
Website: [www.empireumc.org](http://www.empireumc.org)