



A Note From Pastor Julie

Recently, I attended Clergy Camp at Lake Michigan Camp and Retreat Center in Pentwater with other clergy and their families from the Albion and Grand Rapids Districts of the West Michigan Conference. Through this retreat I spent three days away from the usual rhythms of life to hang out with other clergy and their families and to reflect on where God is very much at work all around. We took time to dig into scripture, pray, and listen for how a particular scripture passage is touching our lives. I came away from this retreat feeling refreshed, yet challenged to find ways to pause for reflection each day.

It is all too easy to get caught up in our life rhythms and neglect to set aside intentional time for prayer and reflection. Even in the week-to-week activities of serving as pastor of both Quincy and Litchfield United Methodist Churches, as well as in my roles as wife and mother, opportunities for daily reflection can easily get squeezed out. Being intentional about setting aside time is important and sometimes takes a bit of organizing just to make this time and space possible. Some days my quiet time with God comes when I am feeding my baby or washing dishes.

When we think that we can handle everything on our own and do not have time to reflect, we must be reminded that Jesus took time away from his rhythms. Even Jesus, who is God in the flesh, needed to take time apart to pray and reflect. He needed a break from his work of teaching, preaching, healing, performing other miracles, and saving the world. He needed that time with God the creator to prepare himself for the next step in his ministry. In Matthew 14:23 and Luke 6:12, we read that Jesus went up a mountain to pray. In Luke 22:41-44, Jesus prayed at the Mount of Olives right before he was arrested. If Jesus needed time for prayer, so do we.

One of my favorite ways to reflect and pray is through a spiritual discipline called Lectio Divina. This practice can take 15-30 minutes or even longer, depending on the length of the passage and how much time you set aside to read and reflect. Over the course of the time, you read the passage four times. First, you read it with no agenda, just read/listen. The second time, you search for the word or phrase that leaps out at you. The third time, you reflect deeper on that word or phrase and pray that God would speak to you through this passage. The fourth time, you read or listen to this passage with fresh ears. If you are participating in Lectio Divina for the first time, I would recommend reading/listening to 3-4 verses of scripture.

If you would like to learn more or try Lectio Divina, I would be happy to visit with you and tell you more about it. If you have a computer, you can check it out online at <http://alivenow.upperroom.org/audio-lectio/>. May God bless you in your time of reflection and prayer.

Rev. Julie Yoder Elmore

JULY EVENTS

- ◆ **Free Summer Lunch Program** in conjunction with the District Library and their Summer Reading and Fun Program continues through July 30. Each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, volunteers are preparing and serving hot and wholesome meals for any child up to age 17 who comes. Summer reading begins at 11:00 a.m. There are many areas where help is needed. See Lois Miller and Laura Cierpilowski for more information. You may also call the church office at 542-3366.

Please Note: Lunch will be served at the Congregational Church on Wednesday, July 9.



- ◆ **Red Cross Blood Drive** - Wednesday, July 9, Noon-5:45 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
- ◆ **Second Annual Ice Cream Social @ Quincy UMC** Quincy United Methodist Church will be hosting its second annual Ice Cream Social on Saturday, July 19, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. There will be ice cream (obviously), games, face painting, balloon animals, and prizes. People of all ages are welcome to attend this community event!
- ◆ **“Bring your Grandchildren to Church” Sunday** - July 20, 11:00 a.m. Have you been trying to find the right opportunity to bring your grandchildren to church with you? Have we got an opportunity for you! July 20 is “Bring Your Grandchildren to Church” Sunday! The first part of the service will be more tailored to the children and then they will attend Junior Church after Children’s Time. Don’t have any grandchildren nearby? Don’t have any grandchildren at all? Adopt one or many for the day and bring them to church! Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” Let’s bring on the kids! The more the merrier!

YOU ARE INVITED

All are invited to

The Baptisms of Thomas Jones and Kaycee Jones

Sunday, July 27 at 11:00 am
at Litchfield United Methodist Church

Come witness to God’s mighty work in Thomas and Kaycee!!

Members and friends of
Concord UMC, Quincy UMC, and Litchfield UMC
are invited to

The Baptism of Oliver Yoder Elmore

Sunday, July 27 at 2:00 pm
at Litchfield United Methodist Church

Come witness to God’s mighty work in Oliver!



Did You Know?

You can tell the temperature by listening to a cricket chirp. For the temperature in degrees Fahrenheit count the number of chirps in 15 seconds and then add 37. I have a lot of great memories from the swamp. I remember when I was little, we'd all just sit out on our lily pads for hours and hours, rocking gently on the water and listening to the soft sweet sound of chirping crickets... Then, of course, we'd eat the crickets, but that's another story. Kermit the Frog.

A two-inch square of Velcro is strong enough to hold a 175-pound man from the ceiling.

"But those who wait on the Lord will find new strength." Isaiah 40:31

Leonardo da Vinci invented and used an alarm clock in which water flowed in a thin stream from one receptacle to another. When the second receptacle was full, a system of gears raised his feet into the air. I wonder if that's why my Mom would say, "time to get up"!



A ten-gallon hat only holds about three-quarters of a gallon of liquid.

Is humid air causing heat rash (or prickly heat) for you? Rub a slice of raw potato over the affected area. The potato's juices reduce irritation and skin inflammation.

The word 'salary' comes from the Latin solarium, meaning 'payment in salt.' Roman soldiers were paid partially in salt, a highly, valuable commodity at the time.

"While we live, we live to please the Lord." Romans 14:8

The very first polka party may have been a wedding, a fine occasion for music and dance. It's absolutely necessary that everybody have a good time!

There are more Subway sandwich shops in Manhattan (176) than there are actual subway stations (147).

"Fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge." Proverbs 1:7

Sesquipedalophobia—is the term for fear of long words! No wonder! That word is just scary to even try to say!

*"God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble."
So we will not fear... Psalm 46:1-2*



To see a rainbow, you must have your back to the sun with the rains in the distance.

"Then I realized that this pleasure is from the hand of God. For who can eat or enjoy anything apart from him? God gives wisdom, knowledge, and joy to those who please him." Ecclesiastes 2:24b-26

Summer Fun!
Ron Giacobassi

Sources: *Farmers Almanac-Thomas; It's Not Easy Being Green!-Jim Henson; That's a Fact Jack!-Bright and Anser; Polish-American Ways-Nowakowski; The Bible-God-through various interpreters in writing.*

175th ANNIVERSARY

The Litchfield Congregational Church
wishes to invite you to attend our

175th Anniversary Celebration

on July 12 & July 13, 2014



Saturday: 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Live Gospel Music

Ice Cream Social and Guest Speaker

Sunday: Worship Service at

10:30 a.m. followed by a

Potluck Dinner & Entertainment

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR

As Flower Chairman, I am requesting people to sign-up for Altar Flowers on the monthly sign-up sheet posted on the clipboard in the Narthex.

Now that summer has finally arrived, perhaps some of you have fresh flowers from your own garden.

Thank you, Janice Teller

DID YOU KNOW?

The City Wide Yard Sales sold \$355.00 for the Church, -\$25.00 was for the Food Pantry - and \$330.00 for the Free Summer Lunch Program and VBS, to be split.

A HUGE THANK YOU to Mark & Kathy Blonde for hosting this sale and those who helped in any way. May God bless you abundantly!

LITCHFIELD GIRL SCOUTS

I, Mary McDonald, started as a leader 3 years ago with only 3 girls as Daisies. Now 3 years later, I have 15 girls (5 Daisies and 10 Brownies). Angela Forant has been the Junior leader for 5 years and started Daisies with 3 girls; she now has 5.

This year we have done 3 lock-ins, 2 of which we earned badges and 1 just for fun. The girls have had a blast this year. Juniors have earned 5 badges and 1 journey. The Daisies have earned 5 petals and the center and 1 journey. The Brownies have earned 6 badges and 1 journey.

- ⇒ June 27-28, 2014, we will be going to the Toledo Zoo as an overnight trip and they will earn another badge.
- ⇒ July 13-15, 2014, we will be going to Girl Scout Camp in Linden, Michigan.

In October we collected canned goods for the pantry as a community service project. We donated 20 boxes of cookies to the pantry. The juniors donated 12 boxes to the Litchfield Fire/Police Department.

We did our Bridging Ceremony, on June 1, 2014, with 51 people in attendance. I had 2 go into Brownies, and 2 into Juniors and 3 into Cadettes. I have 13 girls coming back next year and Angela has 5.



FINANCIAL SYNOPSIS

LITCHFIELD UMC FINANCIAL SYNOPSIS – MAY 2014

	<u>May 2014</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income Toward Budget	\$ 16,622.24	\$ 48,822.48	\$ 100,500.00
Budgeted Expenses	<u>\$ 7,720.32</u>	<u>\$ 44,863.74</u>	<u>\$ 95,900.00</u>
Difference	\$ 8,901.92	\$ 3,958.74	\$ 4,600.00
Needed Monthly	\$ 8,375.00		
Designated Giving	\$ 992.75	\$ 7,034.07	
Ministry Shares Paid	\$ 659.00	\$ 5,477.25	\$ 11,114.00

MONTHLY SCHEDULES

REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE

<i>July 6</i>	<i>July 13</i>	<i>July 20</i>	<i>July 27</i>	<i>August 3</i>
Mike & Carol Ireland	Marcia Ferry Lois Miller	Janice Hamilton Barbara Miller	Betty Peiffer Janice Teller	Laura Cierpilowski Sheila Gary

Plan to stay after our worship service every Sunday
and join in for some good food and fellowship.
Special thanks to those listed above who will be serving.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

<i>July 6</i>	<i>July 13</i>	<i>July 20</i>	<i>July 27</i>	<i>August 3</i>
Tim Chilson	Zach Hiser	Frank Hiser	Cheryl Sykes	Valery Roberts

Special thanks to those listed above who are willing
to assist the pastor in Gathering Words and reading Scripture.
You are appreciated.

“Angels With Wheels”

We're looking for angels...."Angels With Wheels" that is! If you would like to provide support to church family members and friends who are unable to drive themselves to appointments, worship services, etc., this is the perfect opportunity for you. Be an "angel" and consider offering a little bit of your time to someone who needs a ride. If you are willing to be a driver, or one who is needing an "Angel With Wheels," please contact Marcia Ferry (542-3992) or the church office (542-3366).



Litchfield UMC Youth Pool-Pizza-Ice Cream Party!!



The Litchfield United Methodist Church is hosting a Youth Pool-Pizza-Ice Cream Party on Sunday, July 6 at 4:00 pm at the home of Marcia Ferry (9411 W. Litchfield Road). All youth going into 7th through 12th grades are invited. Please bring a swimsuit, towel, and ideas for future youth event possibilities. The Youth Pool-Pizza-Ice Cream Party is a kick-off event for more bi-monthly youth activities to come. To RSVP for this event, please call or text Zach Hiser at 517-212-5925.

RACE NIGHT

SATURDAY, July 12, 2014, BUTLER RACE NIGHT! Zach Hiser and Quentin Blonde will both be racing. And Zach has painted the church name on his race car. Fireworks will follow the race. Gate opens at 2:00 p.m. Race begins at 7:30 p.m. Adults: \$15 Kids, ages 6-12 years: \$7



Zach would like to urge people to show up around 6:00 to ensure good seating arrangements, – perhaps earlier depending upon the size of the group that is going. Fireworks night is a night when the stands are literally packed. A reminder that this will be a dirty event, and that ear plugs may be needed. Fireworks should begin somewhere between 9 and 10 p.m. with races ending around midnight. If there are any other questions, you may email Zach at hiserracing1313@gmail.com.



Zach Hiser



Quentin Blonde

CROP Walk



This year on May 4, our church had seven walkers: Laura Cierpilowski, Cheryl Sykes, Debra Barrington, Glenn Hackworth, Tamara Williams (our District Superintendent), Pastor Julie and little Oliver. They collected a total of \$787.00.

I wish to thank them, not only for walking, but also for their time and effort collecting pledges. I also thank all of those who gave so generously to support the walkers. There were 59 walkers for the county and a total of \$6510.70 collected that day. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the total stays in Hillsdale County, with \$400.00+ coming back to our local food pantry.

Janice Teller

United Methodist Women

Wednesday, July 23, at noon, will be the day for our **UMW Potluck**. All members of your family or a friend are invited for this lunch. Bring a dish to pass and join the fun. Table service and beverage will be provided. Also, there will be a White Elephant Sale. Bring a wrapped white elephant item. Pantry item for this month is deodorant.

Remember Litchfield UMW will be hosting **Mission U Drive-In Day**, August 22, 2014. Information and registration form is below.

Everyone is welcome to our meetings.

REGISTRATION

ALBION DISTRICT UMW MISSION U DAY, August 22, 2014

Litchfield United Methodist Church, 160 Marshall St., Litchfield, MI 49252

Please join us for an uplifting, informative day provided to bring the information from Mission U to all who could not attend the three-day event. Please know that a one-day event can't bring the depth of information presented at Mission U, but you will hear about the social issues facing people with disabilities, have a spiritual growth moment to find—*How Is It with Your Soul?* Of course, there will also be great food prepared by the UMW group from Litchfield, books and cards to purchase, and a time for fellowship with other members. Please reply by August 18, 2014. Cost is \$10.

Name: _____

Address : _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Email address if available: _____

Please return to: **Linda Luce, 104 N. Fiske Rd., Coldwater, MI 49036 or call her at: (517) 278-8443**

Imagine No Malaria

Every minute, malaria claims another victim. As United Methodists, we can help stop this preventable, treatable, and beatable disease from destroying Africa. The West Michigan and Detroit Annual Conferences have made a commitment to raise \$1.5 million for Imagine No Malaria, our denomination's fundraising effort to stamp out malaria. As of June 12, 2014, the amount raised is \$802,704.

At Sweet Corn Days, Litchfield United Methodist Church will be doing its part. All proceeds from our bake sale will go toward Imagine No Malaria. This is an opportunity not only to raise funds, but also to share with our community the facts about this disease. Let us bake in abundance, tell our friends and acquaintances to buy our scrumptious goodies, and raise lots of money to stamp out this preventable, treatable, and beatable disease!!



Tables and Chairs Borrowing Policy

Several months back, the United Methodist Women ordered new plastic tables and padded chairs to be used by the church with the stipulation that these plastic tables and padded chairs not leave the church building. The tables that may be borrowed and used for activities outside the church building are the older, heavier tables. When borrowing church tables and chairs, please bring them back immediately following the event for which they were borrowed. If you would like to borrow the tables and chairs for an off-site event, please contact Carol in the church office at 542-3366.



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Vacation Bible School Coming Soon



Gangway to Galilee

August 3-7, 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Vacation Bible School will be here before we know it. A fun, five-day program, “Gangway to Galilee: Amazing Grace Adventures,” is being organized. Beginning on Sunday evening, August 3, and running through Thursday, August 7, children age 3 through Grade 8 will meet together at the Litchfield United Methodist Church. Zach Hiser is leading a Young Teen group for students going into Grades 6-8, a great addition to this year’s program.

Evening activities include Seashore Stories about Jesus by the Sea of Galilee, Splash-tacular Crafts, Sunrise Snacks, Big Catch Bible Challenge, and Sink or Swim Games. Continuing the water theme, the boys and girls will be invited to bring offerings to support a water purification project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in south-central Africa. This project is sponsored by the United Methodist Church. Once again, a high-spirited competition to raise the most money is expected between the boys and girls. Someone is going to get “water logged.” Who will it be?

It’s not too early to start inviting children to VBS and praying for all the wonderful workers who will help the Guppies, Starfish, Pelicans, and Seagulls enjoy learning about Jesus and his work by the Sea.



Do you have items that we could borrow for decorating? We are looking for small boats, paddles, anchors, life jackets and preservers, blue tarps, lighthouses, sea shells, fish nets, paint (blue, tan, brown, and white). Most likely, any item associated with water and fishing could help us create the Sea of Galilee and its shoreline. We can also use modern-day nautical items. Please let Becca Roberts or Sharon Thompson know if you have something to share. We would be grateful.

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR...

In nursing homes and assisted living: Elnora Beckner, Geri Bennett, Roscoe Corey, Willie Hinkle, Lorene Ladd, Hazel Rice, Edith Southworth, and Wes Sutton.

Marge Beckner	Frank Hiser
Chris Braxholm	Patty Johnson
Stacy Butchholtz	Garland Chapman
Rita Chilson	Dick Kaleida
Becky Cooper	Debbie Kurtz
Jason Hill	Bambi Lambright
Mary McMillen	Debbie Noakes

Heather Pitts
Pat Smith
Kaitlyn Snyend
Jean Sykes

Pray for Paul Webster, our mission in Africa.
Pray for campers who have and will attend our
U.M. Camps
Pray for those who work outside in the heat.



UNITED METHODIST AT COMERICA PARK

What better than a summer night at a Detroit Tiger game, fellowship with United Methodists of the area, *fireworks* after the game, plus extras. Sign up and be a part of the first **Detroit Renaissance District -Renaissance in the D** at Comerica, sponsored by the Detroit Renaissance District.

Summer weekend games are expected to be sellout crowds. Order AND prepay now, this is critical and required because of the high upfront deposit, need to secure larger block of seats, new Tiger dynamic pricing policy. We will work to expand for additional seats based on demand.

GAME DATE: FRIDAY, Aug 1, Game 7:08 PM (Tigers v Colorado Rockies) – Come Early

- Be present for a Imagine No Malaria and Hands 4 Detroit pre-game recognition
- Post-game Fireworks will follow, weather permitting.
- Expect other special events to be announced

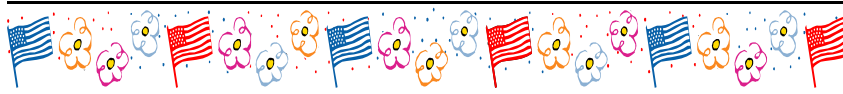
SEAT LOCATION/ COST: Upper Deck, Sections 330 & 331 **behind Home Plate –Ticket Cost is \$38.00** Subject to change based on demand.

RESERVATIONS/CONTACT: Checks payable to Detroit Renaissance District UMC. Please send to Don Archambeau, 28270 Elmira St, Livonia, MI 48150, (734) 422-2227



JULY 2014

L-Litchfield Q-Quincy



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Please check the weekly bulletins for changes & updates		1 10 am L Bible Study 11 am L-FCE in F. Hall	2 9:30 am Q Bible Study Noon L Kids Lunch	3 1:30 pm Q Quilters 3:30 pm Q Prayer 6:30 pm Q Game	4 Noon L Kids Lunch	5
6 9 am Q Worship 10:30 am Q. S.S. 9:45 L Adult S.S. 11 am L Worship	7 6 am L Prayer Time Noon L Kids Lunch 3 pm L- Knit & Craft 5:30 pm L Boy Scouts 7 pm L Bible Study	8 10 am L Bible Study 7 pm L Outreach 6 pm L Trustees	9 9:30 am Q Bible Study Noon L Kids Lunch @ Congregational Noon L Blood Drive 6 pm L Nurture	10 1:30 pm Q Quilters 3:30 pm Q Prayer	11 Noon L Kids Lunch	12 3-6 p.m. 175th Anniversary At Litchfield Congregational Church
13 9 am Q Worship 10:30 am Q. S.S. 9:45 L Adult S.S. 11 am L Worship	14 6 am L Prayer Time Noon L Kids Lunch 3 pm L Knit & Craft 5:30 pm L Boy Scouts	15 10 am L Bible Study 7 pm Q Trustees 7:30 pm Q Ad. Council	16 9:30 am Q Bible Study Noon L Kids Lunch 6 pm L Finance 7 pm L Ad. Council	17 1:30 pm Q Quilters 3:30 pm Q Prayer	18 Noon L Kids Lunch	19 1-3 p.m. Ice Cream Social at Quincy UMC
20 9 am Q Worship 10:30 am Q. S.S. 9:45 L Adult S.S. 11 am L Worship	21 6 am L Prayer Time 3 pm L Knit & Craft Noon L Kids Lunch 5:30 pm L Boy Scouts	22 10 am L Bible Study	23 9:30 am Q Bible Study Noon L Kids Lunch 1 pm L UMW Potluck	24 1:30 pm Q Quilters 3:30 pm Q Prayer	25 Noon L Kids Lunch	26 2-6 p.m. F. Hall reserved for Crater family.
27 9 am Q Worship 10:30 am Q. S.S. 9:45 L Adult S.S. 11 am L Worship -Baptism 2 pm L Baptism 7 pm HARCC @ Montgomery UMC	28 6 am L Prayer Time 3 pm L Knit & Craft Noon L Kids Lunch 5:30 pm L Boy Scouts 7 pm L Bible Study	29	30 9:30 am Q Bible Study Noon L kids Lunch Ending	31	If your birthday or anniversary is missing, please call the church office with your information.	

July Birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1-Mary McMillen | 11-Robert Sykes |
| 3-Michael Ireland | 13-Cheryl Sykes |
| 3-Eleanor Wildt | 15-Sue Houchen |
| 3-Janice Hamilton | 20-Geri Bennett |
| 8-Linda Finegan | 20-Lois Miller |
| 9-Pastor Julie | 29-Annie Wolfe |

Anniversaries

- | |
|----------------------------|
| 5-Richard & Dealia Bigelow |
| 31-David & Sue Houchen |



LITCHFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**160 Marshall St
P O Box 472
Litchfield, MI 49252**

517-542-3366

E-mail: umclitchfield@gmail.com

Website: umclitchfield.org

Find us on Facebook: facebook.com/litchfieldumc

Pastor: Julie Yoder Elmore

E-Mail: jyelmore@gmail.com

Cell Number: (517)607-6977 (Text and Call Friendly)

517-542-3775 (Parsonage)

Office Hours

M-W-TH 9:00-3:00

Food Pantry Hours

M and TH 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

JULY NEWSLETTER

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Worship 11:00 a.m.

