

"The STEEPLE"

A Newsletter of Commerce United Methodist Church - JULY 2021

1155 N. Commerce Rd, Commerce Twp, MI 48382

Sunday Worship: In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary

Traditional Style 9 am & Contemporary 11 am

(NOT necessary to Face Mask if Fully Covid-Vaccinated)

You can listen to Pastor Andy's Sunday messages

LIVE STREAMING at 9 am on our YouTube channel

at: <https://www.youtube.com/> and if you miss it live,

later on our Facebook at: www.facebook.com/commerceumc



A Message from Pastor Andy **"Those Lazy-Hazy-Crazy Days of Summer "**

Most nights before dinner, my wife and I allow our three-year-old to watch Sesame Street on HBO Max. Our daughter has easily watched over 300 hundred episodes and during that time, I have noticed her ability to identify numbers and letters has improved significantly. The show definitely has some educational value which I am grateful for, but I can already see my daughter's interest begin to fade.

There was a time when Elmo was the star that shined brightly in her life. She wore her Elmo slippers around the house despite being two sizes too big, she plastered Elmo stickers on nearly every wall, and for bedtime, she refused to sleep without her Elmo doll. While she still clutches the Elmo doll at night, everything else is stuffed away in one of her toy boxes.

Before my daughter totally loses interest, I want to take her to the Sesame Street amusement park near Philadelphia. If everything goes according to plan, then my first real vacation in over a year will take place at a facility specifically target for young children. Still, I'm excited. Strangely enough, even the idea of driving almost 10 hours puts a smile on my face. I'm ready to hit the road and make memories.

What do you have going on for the summer?

Every summer people are on the move, and that's especially the case this year. Gas prices are up. Car rental prices are no different. People are making up for lost time. I expect it's no different for those at Commerce UMC. Go, have fun! Enjoy the warm weather, see the sights, and visit loved ones you haven't seen in ages. In doing so, I pray you will experience God in a slightly different way and return home feeling light, free, and rejuvenated.

I do have one request though. *Bring me back a souvenir!* For the weeks you are not traveling or on vacation, for the weeks you are at home, please come to in-person worship at church on Sunday. Obviously, if you are not well or not physically able, then by all means stay home and worship online. However, if you are able to participate in-person, I strongly encourage you to be present.

As part of our membership vows, United Methodists seek to faithfully participate in the life and ministries of our congregation through prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. These vows don't have any real power over you. It's not like you're going to receive a ticket in the mail neither will your credit score take a hit if you don't uphold these membership vows. The point I'm making is that we're not the same without you. Your physical presence matters. You are missed. So again, if you happen to be around and you can make it, we'd love to worship with you shoulder to shoulder.

Over the course of the next few weeks and months, I'm going to keep banging this drum. Join me in banging this drum too. Invite your church friends that have been missing in action. Tell them we need them and love them. While you're at it, be sure to invite folks who have never attended our church too. Invite your mom, your dad, your son, your daughter, your cousin, your neighbor, your mailman, your grocery store clerk, the guy who changes your oil... I could keep going but you get the idea.

See you there.
Pastor Andy



UPDATE Dear Church Family & Friends,
Commerce UMC continues In-person services. As a reminder, our services are approx. 30 minutes, and still without singing together, but plans are being made to add that back SOON. We are also making plans to SOON bring back our two styles of services; Traditional at 9 a.m. &

Contemporary with our Praise Band at 11 a.m.

Face Masks are no longer required if you have been fully Covid-Vaccinated. We ask, for the protection of those who are not or can not get vaccinated, unvaccinated should continue to Masks Up. Thank you for your understanding as we make strides to transition back to some normalcy.

Our Commerce UMC Small Group Gatherings along with Pickelball are now back on the calendar. Please check the Website at <http://www.commerceumc.org/events/> for their schedule.

If your activity/event, small group or committee would like to begin regular meeting times again or hold a special event and are not on the calendar yet, please contact the church office to proceed with scheduling it. Our LIVE STREAM 9 am Sunday Worship Service each week can be viewed on our YouTube Channel at; <https://www.youtube.com/>

We are happy to announce that
Mila Wren Thomas (daughter of Brandi Thomas)
was baptized on Sunday June 27th.
Please pray for the spiritual growth of
Mila and her Family.



**United Methodist Women Unit Gathering
Salad Luncheon on Saturday July 17th at 12 Noon
in the Fellowship Hall.**

Who's Invited ... All Ladies of the church, as well as the surrounding community - plus all members of the CUMC Congregation! The UMW CIRCLE MEMBERS will be providing the meal. If you plan to attend, please sign the sheet on the bulletin board so we have an approximate count for food preparation. But last minute attendees are certainly welcome too. This is a Social Event and our 1st gathering since most COVID restrictions have lifted. Let's Celebrate TOGETHER!

Planned also is a "Mystery Bag" auction. If you would like to contribute to this please bring a small gift item either new or slightly used like new, in a gift bag to donate. Bids will be taken on each bag for what you will be given hints about that is inside. Profits from the auction are used for the UMW mission work.

We hope to see you there for a fun time together.

The "Garden of Eden" is growing great and ALL ARE WELCOME to help!



For information on how to help maintain the garden, please contact
Bonnie Dunneback

at her email; bonniedunneback@sbcglobal.net.

We pray it will grow multiple pickings of beautiful healthy produce for our congregation,
the community and the local food pantry.



a Big "Thanks" to Russ Courville for giving the picnic tables at the church a nice freshening up! They certainly did need it and are now a pleasure to sit on and enjoy the sunshine.

Thank You for the little note with a giant message that was dropped anonymously on my desk.

It warmed my heart. Roberta



BE HAPPY

**"Happiness is not in our circumstance, but in ourselves.
It is not something we see, like a rainbow, or feel, like the heat of a fire.
Happiness is something we are!" (John B. Sheerin)**

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

~ as a reminder; we collect items year-round for Samaritan Purse Shoe Box Ministry ~
In **January**, we focus on gloves/mittens/hats for both boys and girls up through age 14, **February**; accessories (sunglasses, hair bands, barrettes, hair ties, etc), **March**; quality crafts (no paint) and toothbrushes, **April**; SMALL stuffed animals (think beanie baby sized) and deodorant, **May**; hygiene items (washclothes, chapstick, deodorant, toothbrushes and combs/brushes), **June**; small toys, washcloths and hygiene items, and for **JULY we will be collecting CLOTHING ITEMS; especially SOCKS along with COMBS & BRUSHES)**



If you are out and about and see a good deal on these items anytime throughout the year, please keep this Ministry in mind. Our Packing date is always in November. Thank you for being a part of this mission work! Donations may be placed in the marked container in the rear of the Fellowship Hall.

Mystery Island Vacation Bible School



"Thank YOU" to everyone who helped with VBS this year!

We averaged 76 kids and 54 helpers each day without any catastrophes.

You are ALL Super-Duper Amazing People. A GIANT THANK YOU to Tracy Kramer for putting everything in place before she moved, and to Kati Brush, Dana Wenz and Tammie Fenn for picking up the loose ends and bringing it all home! We could not have done a VBS without our Fantastic Teachers and Teen Helpers - AV Team - Song Leaders - Craft &

Recreation Organizers - Kitchen Workers - Store Attendants - Camera Man Robert and our Registration & Security Team. YOU are ALL appreciated over and above as the BACKBONE of the Entire Program! You can check out the Fantastic Video of the week on the website - "Thank YOU Robert Bergner" for capturing all the FUN!



a Special Thank You ... Thank You for this and the past 14 yrs for having me as the Song Leader at VBS each year! I appreciate each of you and your dedication to the kids. I continue to feel the Love at Commerce UMC as my home away from home. Sincerely, Terri Bean



Continue to Pray for

Ryan Jenner & Family Tara Dupp Marty Bean Ann Krandall

The Family of Dave Jones The Family of Jerry Henderson

Joe Griggs The Family of Pastor James Smith

The Christian Ed Position to be filled with just the right person

God wants at Commerce UMC. Our YOUTH MISSION Trip to Cass Community Center.



Thank YOU for ALL YOU DO to Serve the Lord at Commerce UMC!

If you would like information about helping with a committee or mission of the church please contact Pastor Andy at the church office or by email.

Avocado & Tomato Salad

Ingredients

1/4 c. extra-virgin olive oil Kosher salt
Juice of 1 lemon Freshly ground black pepper
1/4 tsp. cumin or oregano
3 avocados, cubed and 1 pt. cherry tomatoes, halved
1 small cucumber or zucchini, sliced into half moons
1/3 c. corn &/or chopped grilled asparagus
2 tbsp. chopped cilantro
1 jalapeño or bell pepper minced (optional)



In a small bowl, whisk together oil, lime juice, and cumin. Season dressing with salt and pepper.

In a large serving bowl, combine avocados, tomatoes, cucumber, corn, jalapeño, and cilantro. Gently toss with dressing and serve immediately.

If you have extra veggies in the fridge that need to be used, you can totally switch up this salad. Replace the cucumber with some sautéed zucchini or add in some chopped grilled asparagus. Replace the jalapeño with bell peppers for a milder, sweeter crunch or give it more of a Mediterranean vibe with oregano instead of cumin and some feta!

FUN BIBLE JOKES

Who was the shortest man in the Bible?

Nehemiah (knee-high-miah).

What time of day was Adam created?

A little before Eve.

Medicine first talked about in the Bible?

When God gave Moses 2 tablets.

What kind of car did the disciples drive?

A Honda...they were all in one accord.

Meat first mentioned in the Bible?

When Noah took Ham into the ark.

The greatest comedian in the Bible?

Samson, he brought the house down.

When did they play tennis in the Bible?

When Joseph served in Pharaoh's court.

How does Paul make his coffee?

Hebrews it.

Who was the smartest man in the Bible?

Abraham. He knew a Lot.

What animal could Noah not trust?

Cheetah.

What kind of lights did Noah have on the ark?

Floodlights.

Why did Noah have to punish the chickens on the Ark?

Because they were using "fowl" language.

Who was the 1st surfer in the Bible?

Paul, in Acts, he "came ashore on a board"

Why didn't they play cards on the Ark?

Because Noah was standing on the deck.

JULY BIRTHDAY'S

1	Bill Hendrickson	Gary Fenn	
2	Paul Armstrong		
3	Wendy Brassell		
4	Lori Kornatowski		
6	Bob Bozyk	Steve Lemon	Ajay Mercer
7	Andrea Beagle	Paula Gulf	
8	Kendra Kornatowski	Ben Abdallah	June Stevenson
9	Alex Stefanou	Pat LeVasseur	Emmett Freilach
11	Kevin Leon		
12	Bonnie Blaufuss	Lori Hunt	Gary Pipkin
13	Alec LeVasseur		
14	Lynn Delaney	Elizabeth Thiry	
15	Alaina Lie	Lauren Watkins	
16	Bonnie Dunneback	Dana Simons-Wenz	
16	Grant LeVasseur	Eliana Robinson	
17	Carter Vrnak		
18	Alissa Pellett	Kim Bommarito	
19	Kyle Caswell		
20	Jeni Fletcher		
21	Marilyn Hannon	Pat Young	
22	Melissa Kramer	Ajay Ralston	
25	Sunny Brassell	Ethan Stefanou	
26	Polly Keller	John Gora	
29	Azlynn Pohl	Nicole Marcelli	

JULY ANNIVERSARY'S

9	Terry & Lila Crossett
9	Marty & Sue Willis
11	Bill & Jill Hendrickson
15	Lee & Susan Schulz
17	Jeremy & Ann Ralston
20	Jerry & Sherrill Sundberg
21	Charles & Mickey Nelson
25	Rich & Tammy Hager

Job Opportunity at Commerce UMC ...

Christian Education Director Part-Time Position

The Commerce United Methodist Church seeks an energetic Director of Christian Education to lead, enhance and develop programs for all age groups. Christian Education plays a key role in the mission of Commerce United Methodist Church. The Director will report directly to the pastor, but also work in coordination with the other staff and committees toward an integrated effort to fulfill the mission of CUMC.

Responsibilities will Include:

- Implement and manage all areas of Children's' ministry including but not limited to Sunday School, Children's Church, Wednesday Evening activities and Vacation Bible School.
- Expand Christian Education ministry to include programs for all ages by implementing and managing new programs, and by integrating efforts with other committees to enhance the educational component of new or existing programs.
- Work cooperatively with the pastor on Children's Messages and with youth minister on confirmation class instruction.
- Empower parents to be involved with the faith development of their children.

Qualifications:

- A strong Christian faith and ability to communicate that to others.
- Supportive of the United Methodist Discipline and Wesleyan Theology
- Believe in the authority of scripture.
- Approachable and easy to work with
- Previous work with youth/young adult ministries. (Minimum volunteer experience, previous paid experience preferred.)
- Minimum bachelor's degree required.
- Bible College/Seminary degree or experience preferred.
- Clear background check required.

CUMC is offering a salary for the position as well as a matching church pension program after one year of service and paid vacation time. A detailed Job Description is available upon request.

All qualified candidates interested in applying for the position should send a resume and cover letter to Pastor Andy Lee at, leeandr5@gmail.com or Paul Landry, chair of the Staff Parrish Relations Committee, at plandry98@gmail.com or mail their information to the church office at:

Commerce United Methodist Church
Attn: Christian Education Dir Position
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