

## "The STEEPLE"

A Newsletter of Commerce UMC - August 2022

1155 N. Commerce Rd, Commerce Twp, MI 48382

Phone: 248-363-3935

Sunday Worship: In-Person Worship 10:00 AM

Our Worship Services LIVE STREAM our YouTube channel, <https://www.youtube.com/> and also linked through our Facebook page at: [www.facebook.com/commerceumc](http://www.facebook.com/commerceumc)



## Welcome and Hospitality

Looking out from the pulpit, I see a lot of faces. Most times, those face are in the same exact spot as they were the week before. While we don't have assigned seats, we sit in the same pews as creature of habit. As I write this article for the newsletter, I am placing people in my mind's eye: To my right and in the front, I see... the Wenz family and the Leons. To my left, in the middle back, I spot the Sundbergs. I could go on, but you get the idea.

Because folks generally sit in the same spot, when new people come to worship, I can identify them easily. Even though our sanctuary is quite large and can hold over 300 people, I am still able to identify a new face out of the crowd. After worship concludes, I do my best to catch our visitors. I'm nosey so I'll ask a few questions about where they live and what brought them to church. If the conversation seems to be going well, and they're not in a hurry to leave, I'll ask even more questions and invite them to coffee hour.

Unfortunately, I don't always catch every visitor. Pastor responsibilities are inescapable. Right after worship concludes, I might get pulled aside for prayer requests, questions about the bible, or concerns about the future of the denomination. Meanwhile, the new family with half a dozen kids slips out to the parking lot without me noticing.

It has come to my attention we need to work on a strategy that goes beyond my one-person welcoming plan. I'm excited to see what the leadership team and I can create, but there are a couple of things everyone can do right now.

First, let's get in the habit of wearing our nametags. When we see someone we don't recognize, take the time to say hello and introduce yourself. Who knows where this could lead? It's possible your interaction serves as an anchor for the newcomer. They will go home knowing at least one person. Maybe that makes a difference for when they decide whether to attend a week later.

Second, pray for our visitors. When you pray for visitors, put yourself in their shoes. What's it like to enter a place where you don't know anyone? How can we help others feel welcome? If you invite someone to coffee hour, it's probably not enough just to point at the donuts and say, "help yourself!" In order to create an even more welcoming experience, perhaps it makes sense to invite them to join you at the table and meet some friends.

I mention all this because our church continues to attract new people. God is sending them here so that they can be loved, discipled, and sent into to the world for God's redemptive purposes. We're glad to be a part of such a process, but it begins with a few small steps like saying hi, introducing oneself, and being a wonderful host. Let's continue to be the most welcoming and hospitable version of Commerce UMC.

Thank you and God bless!

Pastor Andy



***Kids Klub & Dinner and Fun  
August 24, 2022 @ 6PM - 7:30PM***

**August 2022 Christian Education News...**

**Mark your calendars:**

**August 10th 6:30pm Movie Knight**

**August 24th 6-7:30pm Kids Klub+**

**VBS 2022**

VBS was an awe inspiring week of faith and friendship. CUMC welcomed roughly 100 kids, 50 volunteers, and 30 teen helpers each day as we celebrated and used our talents to bring glory to God. With it being my first year as director, I was humbled by the generosity of time and talent shown by our volunteers. Thank you, thank you, thank you! Mark your calendars for next year... June 19th-23rd!

**Kids Klub+**

The fourth Wednesday of every month Kids Klub offers an opportunity for families to share a dinner, and then let the kids have some fun while the parents run errands, or just sit and chat. We have loved adding new families from the community to this monthly outreach. On August 24th we will become SuperHeros!

**Movie Knight**

We are starting something new around here, monthly movie nights! Our first Movie Knight event was a smashing success with over forty people in attendance! Families came together and enjoyed fresh popcorn, fellowship, and a movie. We are currently in the process of voting for next month's movie, so be sure to check out the table in the Narthex and vote for your favorite!

**3rd Grade Bibles**

Do you have an incoming third grader? If so, we would love to present them with their own bible in September. This year we are also including children that may have missed out on this tradition due to Covid. Please contact Kristine to have your child added to the list.

Kristine Van Dussen- Christian Education Director

Kristine.CUMC@gmail.com 248.363.3935 est. 304

## Samaritan's Purse Christmas Child Shoeboxes

We continue all year collecting for our next Samaritan's Purse Christmas Child Shoeboxes that will be filled and shipped in November. Each month we will list a specific item needed. The tote for your donation is in the back of the Fellowship Hall. Each Months items



can be dropped off at any time, not just the month listed.

**For August... SCHOOL SUPPLIES: Pencils, pens, pencil cases, Crayola crayons 24PK, Markers, colored pencils, big erasers, pencil top erasers, scissors, glue sticks, solar calculators, spiral one-subject notebooks, large pencil hand**

**Past Months always include Deodorant & Bar Ivory Soap plus:**

Jan - Hats & Gloves

Feb. - Accessories- hair ties-sunglasses-headbands

March - Quality Crafts (that will fit in the shoebox) & Toothbrushes

April - Stuffed Toys (like Beanie Babies, small to fit in the shoeboxes)

May - Washcloths, Chapstick, Comb & Brush, Toothbrush, Bar Soap, Deodorant.

JUNE... TOYS: Matchbox cars, play-doh, jump ropes, balls (small & inflatable) and also Washcloths.

July... Clothing Items: Socks for ages 5-14 boys and girls Hygiene: combs and brushes.



**A BIG Thank You!**

**Did you give ketchup & mustard, or bake cookies, or chop onions? Did you make a donation so a boy could join us at Treetoppers? Did you come to Treetoppers or the picnic and encourage those boys?**

**Our Schools End Event with the boys at the Methodist Home was a big success. We heard back that the boys were still talking about it days later.**

**Many Hands make Light Work.**

**Thank You Church Family!**

## Sock-It-To-Me

### Collection

Missions Committee will be having the annual collection of socks again this year.

This year we will be collecting Men's and Women's socks for Anchored Hope.

Beginning on August 7<sup>th</sup> through September 15<sup>th</sup> bring your donation of new socks to church. There will be a big box in the Narthex for the collection.

In past years we have collected hundreds of socks – let's do it again this Fall!



## Anchored Hope Outreach

**SIGN UP NOW!**  
SAT. SEPT. 24TH  
27th Annual JULIE RUN



## Open Door's Julie RUN TO END HUNGER

Link to sign up for Julie Run or Donate to Julie Run: <https://runsignup.com/julieruntoendhunger>

The Julie Run To End Hunger is to raise vital funds for Open Door Pantry at the lowest time of donations for us. It's a one-mile fun walk/run & 5K.

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and the race begins at 9:00 a.m. on the Highland Lake campus of Oakland Community College at 7350 Cooley Lake Road in Waterford MI 48327.

All proceeds go to feeding the hungry and helping those in need in our community. Open Door Outreach is a 501C3 tax-deductible nonprofit organization.



# **COMMERCE YOUTH GROUP SECOND- ANNUAL FALL KICK(BALL)OFF!**

**AUGUST 21, 2022      2 – 4 PM**

**Where: Hickory Glen Park 400 Glengary Rd, Commerce Twp., MI 48390 Fields are first-come, first-served w/ no reservations, so in the unlikely event that all fields are full, we will us Clara Miller Park as a backup option.**

**Who: All current and incoming youth Youth group alumni, siblings, parents, and families are also welcome. We need people to come cheer us on and support us, so the congregation at-large is welcome. You can even get in on the game action if you want! Bring your dogs too, as long as they are on a leash the whole time! Snacks will be provided to all kickball participants.**



**ASAP**  
*Always say a prayer!* **Continue to Pray for**

**Clayton LaTurneau  
Nadeau**

**Betty Barry  
Kendra**

**Aza Catau  
Sally Courville**

**Susan**



**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.**

### **AUGUST BIRTHDAY'S**

1	Christine Pellett	Glen Milligan		
2	Kathy Vitullo			
5	Rich Kornatowski			
6	Brian Nadeau	Ryan Dunneback	Margaret Kwiatkowski	
8	Augustine Osagie	Leroy Stoddard		
9	Rachel Fagan	Quinn Pohl		
10	Austin Edgington	Debbie Whitson	Kim Landry	John Beard
11	Tammy Hager			
13	Meghan Caswell-Pohl	Olivia Brush		
14	Janet Doty			
16	Ann Ralston	Diane Senk		
18	Kaelynn Heximer	Robert Bergner	Caitlin Pellett	Mila Thomas
19	Charles Nelson			
20	Linda Kumm			
22	Lyla Laming			
25	Alex Marcelli	Rachel Marcelli		
27	Terri Bean			
28	Jackie Smiertka			
29	Terri Stefanou	Scott Robinson		
30	Ranny MacArthur			

### **AUGUST ANNIVERSARY'S**

1	Bruce & Rebecca Flores	
2	David & Krista Brassell	Eric & Terri Bean
3	Mike & Vicki Kennedy	
7	Brett & Gina Rendeiro	
14	Scott & Becky Lund	
15	Pastor Andy Lee & Grace Baek	
16	Paul & Kim Landry	
19	Don & Robin Fletcher	
19	Bill & Debbie Whitson	
20	Chris & Lynne Huisman	
24	Joe & Beth Fournier	
30	Jay & Denise Pistana	
31	Gary & Tammie Fenn	

