

"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



Welcome and Hospitality

I watched My Little Pony the Movie. Technically, my daughters watched the movie as I sat nearby doing my best to drown out the noise as I tended to church work on my laptop. You see, on August 29th, a storm swept through the area. The lights in the parsonage flickered two or three times and then they shut off for good. My wife and I went to sleep at 9PM that night. The next day we still had no power.

The same was true for our neighbors, the church, and the daycare we send our kids. This meant I had to drive over to my parents' home in Farmington Hills with the kids in tow. As young children do, they screamed and cried out of boredom. In shameful surrender, I inserted the movie into the Blu-ray player. It was a rough day.

Any time the power goes out, we are reminded just how much we depend on it for everyday living. Without electricity, there's no light meaning there's no visibility. Without electricity, the food in our refrigerator is at risk of spoiling. Without electricity, few can effectively work: my computer won't run, and the Wi-Fi can't do whatever the Wi-Fi does so I can use the internet. The dominoes continue to fall. If the daycare has no electricity, then they cannot watch my children which means I must watch my children as my wife gleefully escapes to work at the hospital. In short, I need electricity in my life. I can do so little without it.

September marks the end of summer and a seismic shift goes into motion: widespread traveling comes to a screeching halt, kids are sent back to school, and extracurriculars resume. The life of the church also follows this same pattern. One can expect an increase in attendance and participation. With that, staff and ministry leaders hope to ride the wave. We set goals, dream big, and put programs into motion.

As a church, we want to increase the size and scope of our impact to make disciples and transform the world. However, considering the recent storm, I am reminded of an ever present power that is often taken for granted and I am not referring to electricity. God holds the universe in the palm of God's hand. The sun comes up each morning because God sustains the cosmos. God is the very breath every creature breathes.

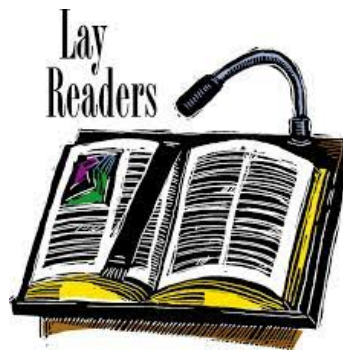
So, as we kick off a new season of ministries, let us recall all the ways we depend on God's power. When we decide to invite a friend to join us in worship, call to mind how the spirit has been working in and through this person's life long before we arrived. When we host community events, let us give thanks for the generosity that God instilled in the saints who took on a larger building project in 2008. And, when we work alongside our ministry partners to dismantle evil and oppressive systems let us lean upon the one who gives us the authority to cast out demons in his name.

May you come to know God's power this day and always!

Pastor Andy



Volunteer Opportunities



Acolyte

Liturgist



Please contact Jessica in the office by
email commerceumc@sbcglobal.net or by phone 248-363-
3935 to volunteer

We will be doing Acolyte training on September 11th at 11:30 am
in the Sanctuary. Please come and learn or refresh the Acolyte
duties. Looking forward to seeing new faces!

Team Jesus Kids Klub +

COMMERCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH 6:00-7:30PM
SHARE A COMMUNITY MEAL, THEN FUN FOR
THE KIDS AND A BREAK FOR THE PARENTS!





September 2022 Christian Education News...

Mark your calendars:

September 11th Third Grade Bibles handed out

September 14th Royal Movie Knight

September 28th Kids Klub +

Sunday School

We had such an incredible summer learning about the Fruits of the Spirit.

Beginning in September, we will start a year long focus on studying the books of the bible. Thanks to the blessing of many children, we need more Sunday School teachers! Please contact Kristine if this is something that God is leading you towards.

Kids Klub+

The fourth Wednesday of every month, Kids Klub + is an opportunity to share a community meal, and then send the kids upstairs for an hour of fun! We have loved watching this grow from just a handful of kiddos each month, to a few dozen friends. Get ready for TEAM JESUS in September, Olympic style games and crafts. "Run in such a way as to get the prize...Do it to get a crown that will last forever." 2 Corinthians 9:24,25

College Ministry

Commerce UMC College Ministry is preparing to kick-off the 2022-2023 school year! We would love to include all college aged youth in this outreach, be sure to sign up with Kristine today!

Movie Knight

We heard how much you loved Movie Knight, so we decided to make it a monthly event. On the second Wednesday of each month enjoy an early dinner at home (or happy meals in the car), then come to CUMC for Movie Knight. We will have unlimited popcorn and water, with candy available for purchase. Vote at the table in the Narthex for your September movie choice!

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 Month's items can be dropped off at any time, not just the month listed.

For SEPT. - GAMES: travel games, puzzles, card games, hand held games Hygiene: Chapstick

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.

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



Our missions trip to Cass Community Social

Services was a big success. You sent 6 teens (& 1 awesome youth director) down to Detroit for a week to serve alongside 5 other teens from within the Heritage District. Friendships were made, walls

were painted, sites were cleaned up, and we all stayed safe, besides a pair of glasses having a casualty. Thank you so much for your support, whether you stopped by our car wash, joined us for our coffee hour, sponsored kids to go, or even said a quick prayer for us. We truly felt the support to reach those in need. We are considering an out of state missions trip next year, and would love to have some adult chaperones to come along with us! Please reach out to me if you are interested, and we'll keep you in the loop.

Our fall was kicked off this past Sunday with our Kickball Event. We pushed it off a week due to a lot of rain and a potentially muddy field, and that was the right call! We had absolutely perfect weather, and 13 youth joined us. Thank you to all of you who showed up to cheer us on! Our fall schedule is underway, with Youth Group starting on 9/11 (Sundays at 6-8p). Before summer break, we were topping out at 16 youth some weeks. We'd love an extra adult or two to come & hang out with me & my wife, Elisabeth. 16 teenagers can be a lot for just the two of us

sometimes! We plan to have a few fall outings, and would love to have you join us!

Please email me at youthgroupandrew@gmail.com if you'd like to be added to our weekly email list & to be kept in the loop on upcoming events.

Andrew Ruhlen
Youth Director
Commerce United Methodist Church
1155 N. Commerce Rd.
Commerce Twp, MI 48382
(248) 363-3935 x305

UMW BAKE SALE: On Sunday, Sept. 11th-11am-5pm, the UMW will be participating in the White Lake Twp, Fisk Farm Fall Festival. They will be selling homemade baked goods at the farm. If you would like to help, any donation would be greatly appreciated. Popular items are cookies, pies, jams and breads. You may drop them off on Sunday morning by 10am. They will be transporting them shortly after 10 as they need to be ready at the farm by 11am. If Sunday is not a good drop off time, you may drop them off on Saturday Sept 10 between 2pm-4pm at the Kitchen door. Thank you for your participation in this project. All funds will go toward purchasing new chairs for the Fellowship Hall.



Collection

Sock-It-To-Me

Anchored Hope Outreach



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 7th through September 15th 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!

Rummage & Bake Sale



It's time for our Fall Rummage & Bake Sale.

When: October 6 thru October 8, 2022

Oct 6th, Thursday 9 am to 4 pm

Oct. 7th, Friday 9 am to 4 pm

Oct. 8th, Saturday 9 am to noon

Rummage Sale- Clean out your closets, basement, garage, etc. and bring your clean used items to the church on Sunday Oct. 2nd after church during the coffee hour around 11 am. The church will be open on Monday and Tuesday 9 am to 7 pm for drop off. Also on Wednesday from 9 am to 3 pm. Wednesday evening the pre-sale will be from 6 pm to 8pm for church members only. Volunteer workers are needed for set up, sorting, cashiers (sale days) and clean up. A sign up sheet will be posted on the narthex bulletin board, Please consider working some time during the sale.

Bake sale- bake goods would be greatly appreciated they may be dropped off at the church wed from 9-8 or during the sale. the bake sales starts Thursday morning. Best sellers are cookies, brownies, pies, muffin, breads, jams, and jellies. Bake your favorite!

Our sincere thanks to all who can participate in anyway to make this a successful fundraiser.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)

Wesley Woods Camp & Retreat Center



Spiritual Scrapbooking Retreat Oct. 7-9

Enjoy time for scrapbooking or crafting in Wesley Woods' spacious Upper Room in the Main Lodge. Each participant will get their own table space to spread out for the entire event.

Included in retreat:

- Use of Cricut on site
- Optional craft project
- Four Meals, coffee and tea
- Two-night lodging in the newly remodeled Retreat Center (private rooms with bathroom shared with one other guest)
- Optional activities: Hiking, Kayaking, Campfires, visit local scrapbooking stores

[Register Online](#)

[Download Flyer](#)





On your mark, Get set, GO! Get ready to walk/run/hike through the amazing trails at Camp Greenwood! This is your chance to join us in supporting Camp Greenwood and see the wonderful Fall colors here at Camp!

Come and join our 3rd Annual Greenwood Gator Shuffle 5k Run/Walk/Hike through the picturesque trails, down Cabin Row and up to North Pointe. Race Check-in starts at 8:30 am on September 24, 2022 and the Race Start is at 9:00 am.

Click the button below to sign up today!

T-shirts are included, register early so we can order your size!

[Register for the 3rd Annual Gator Shuffle 5k Today!](#)



[Click Here to Make a Donation Today!](#)

Clayton LaTurneau
Family Kendra

Continue to Pray for
Betty Barry
Sally Courville
secretary)

Aza Catau
Roberta Crepeau (former
Susan Nadeau's



Carnilla Lewis's Family Robert Fournier
Joy Dobson Susan Nadeau's Family Mary & Eli
Pizarek

**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.**



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY'S

1 Sherrill Sundberg
4 Earl Stoddard John Linegar Ava Stoddard
5 Isabelle Rendeiro
7 Amanda Leonard Stephanie Leonard
8 Audrey Hunt
9 Norma Gilbert Caitlyn Oliver Judy Rohr
10 Don Fletcher
11 Andrew Leon
12 Krista Brassell Lucas Thomas
13 Jerry Sundberg
14 Scott Crandall Everly MacCarreall
16 Bruce Kargol
19 Julie Schave Dave Smiertka Sr.
20 Julia Keller Alexis Hughes
21 Tom Contesti Adrien Woodland
22 Maggi Harfoot Andrew Pistana
24 Max Edgington Shirley Grupido
25 Jeffrey Topper
29 Glayds Schneider Trevor Wenz

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARY'S

2 Robert & Diane Senk
6 Lyle & Debbie Curry
9 Robert & Paula Gulf
11 Ray & Colleen Topper
15 Steve & Becky Lemon
17 Jason & Rachel MacCarreall
19 Andrew & Elisabeth Ruhlen
19 Tom & Mackenzie Contesti
20 Eric & Rachael Laming
20 Bob & Janet Doty
21 Joe & Michelle Wichowski
26 Scott & Michelle Robinson
29 Dan & Tracy Kramer