

**"The STEEPLE"**  
**A Newsletter of Commerce UMC - SEPTEMBER**  
**2023**

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](https://www.facebook.com/commerceumc)



***Commerce UMC Youth group spent a week down in Cincinnati for a mission trip. Cincinnati is over 4 hours away so you might be wondering why that location. Well, for one, there's a fellow United Methodist Church down there that already hosts groups for this exact reason for what's called "Summer Impact." However, the connections go deeper than that. My best friend from seminary, Kate Smith, is the pastor of Mission and outreach meaning she leads "Summer Impact."***

***With that introduction out of the way, I can now get into my story. Not too long ago, Kate vacationed in the northern part of Michigan. Apparently, one of her congregants owns land up there and offered it to her to use free of charge. (For those who own land up north, I also would gladly accept that offer!) On the way back down to Cincinnati, I told her to make a pit-stop in Commerce. After some convincing, she did.***

***When she arrived, it was about an hour and a half too early for dinner, but I pitched the idea that she should stay for a meal. Yeah, stay a while! I demand it! Stay a while! Initially, she was hesitant. I could understand that. She might be eager to complete her journey home. Slowly but surely, we eased into a comfortable groove like old friends do: retelling stories, complaining about former professors, and catching up on each other's lives. Just as an hour had passed, I heard her stomach grumbling. Or maybe it was my stomach. Fortunately, my wife had snuck out about 15 minutes earlier and was on the way back with an order from our favorite taco place. Kate stayed for dinner, and our time together continued.***

***Since we graduated seminary, Kate and I see each other maybe once a year if we're lucky. I'm thankful for the quality time we had and her decision to stay a while on that summer afternoon. I share all this to say I want you to stay a while. When you come to church, I want you to make yourself at home, linger, eat some snacks and chat about what's going on in your life.***

***There are folks that I see nearly every single week at church but barely have time to engage in conversation. I love the gift of your presence, but you know me, I'm greedy. I want more. I want you to stay a while. I want quality time so that I and others can know you and be known by you. I want the relationships that we have here to go deeper and to be stronger.***

***I understand this might be a challenge for some. There's a million things to do. The groceries aren't about to purchase themselves. The lawn needs mowing. Work somehow always bleeds into the weekends. I get it. Still, I ask and challenge you, won't you stay a while? This fall I pray that we would be more intentional about fostering the relationships with our siblings in Christ. Let's make it a prior and I promise you the God's love will fill the atmosphere every time we meet.***

***May it be so.***

***Pastor Andy***

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## **UWF BAKE SALE**

**On Sunday, Sept. 10th-12noon-5pm, the UWF 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, candies, pies, jams, jellies, pickles and breads. You may drop them off on Sunday morning by 11am. Thank you for supporting UWF. All proceeds will go to Anchored**

**Hope.**

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**United  
Women  
in Faith**

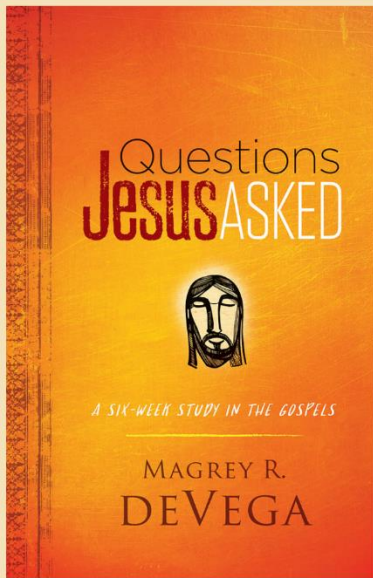
**UWF Unit Gathering Pot Luck: Tuesday September 26<sup>th</sup> at 6PM. There will be a sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Program – Anchored Hope**

**UWF Fall Rummage & Bake Sale: October 5 thru October 7, 2023. Sign up and more information will be available on the Narthex bulletin board.**

**CHRISTMAS MARKETPLACE: Saturday December 2, 2023 at 9AM - 4PM. It's that time of year, time to plan for the Christmas Marketplace! Crafters-- the cost of a table this year is \$30.00. Your craft has to be homemade not manufactured. By October 1<sup>st</sup> we contact previous crafters. If you are interested in renting a table, contact Kyle Caswell (248) 622-1465 ASAP.**

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## Fall Book Study.

- 7PM, Wednesdays
- Begins Sept 13
- \$10/book available in the office



September 2023 Christian Education News...

Mark your calendars:

September 10th Third Grade Bibles

September 27th 6-7:30pm Kids Klub+

October 21st 6-7:30pm Trunk or Treat

### Mid- Week Mom Moments

Thank you for making Wednesdays awesome this summer! Interested in continuing Mom Moments during the school year? We would love to hear you feedback on this new ministry.

### 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. This month we are having a Book Bonanza. Kids will decorate book

**bags, plan games, and even create their own stories! Children are encouraged to bring 10 books to swap/share with friends.**

### **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.**

### **Trunk or Treat**

**The time is here once again to welcome the community to our church for this wonderfully fun event; last year we welcome over 400 children! Sign up in the narthex to host a trunk, or drop off bags of candy so that we can make this event possible. Trunk set-up will begin at 5pm, with the fun starting at 6pm on October 21st.**

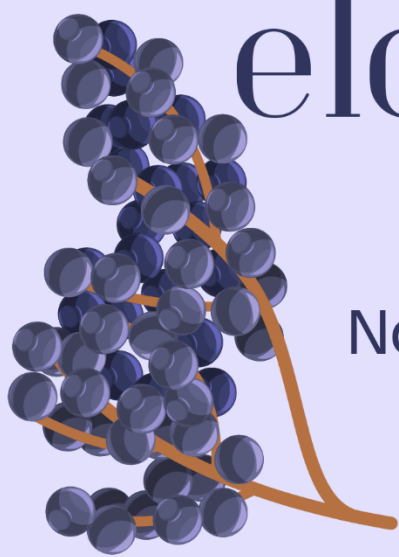
### **College Ministry**

**Commerce UMC College Ministry is preparing to kick-off the 2023-2024 school year! We would love to include all college aged youth in this outreach, be sure to sign up with Kristine today!**

**Kristine Van Dussen- Christian Education Director  
Kristine.CUMC@gmail.com 248.363.3935 ext. 304**

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# elderberries

Every Third Thursday  
Noon in the Fellowship Hall

Check CUMC website calendar to  
confirm meeting information

**ELDERBERRIES: WHITE ELEPHANT BIRTHDAY PARTY-Bring your favorite thing you no longer need, wrapped beautifully and be prepared for laughter. Pot Luck Sept. 21, 2023 at Noon in the Fellowship Hall. Any Questions contact: Dorothy Saari (248)-669-4858 Or Wendy Brassell (248)444-7588**

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# *Women's Book Study*

WEDNESDAYS AT 5:30PM

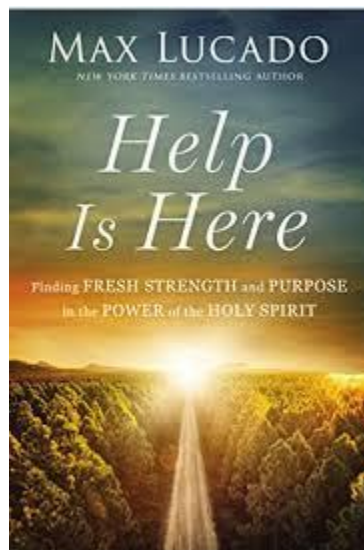
JOIN US IN THE WESLEY ROOM



\*CHECK CUMC WEBSITE CALENDAR TO  
CONFIRM MEETING INFORMATION\*



**NEW BOOK WILL BE STARTING SEPTEMBER 6,  
2023**



**“Now more than ever, we're all weary from the loads we carry and the challenges we face. We have questions we cannot answer and problems we cannot solve. We'd hoped that life would be an invigorating adventure or an inspiring journey. We never expected to grow so tired so quickly. But Max**



teaches us that we can find fresh strength and purpose in the power of the Holy Spirit.

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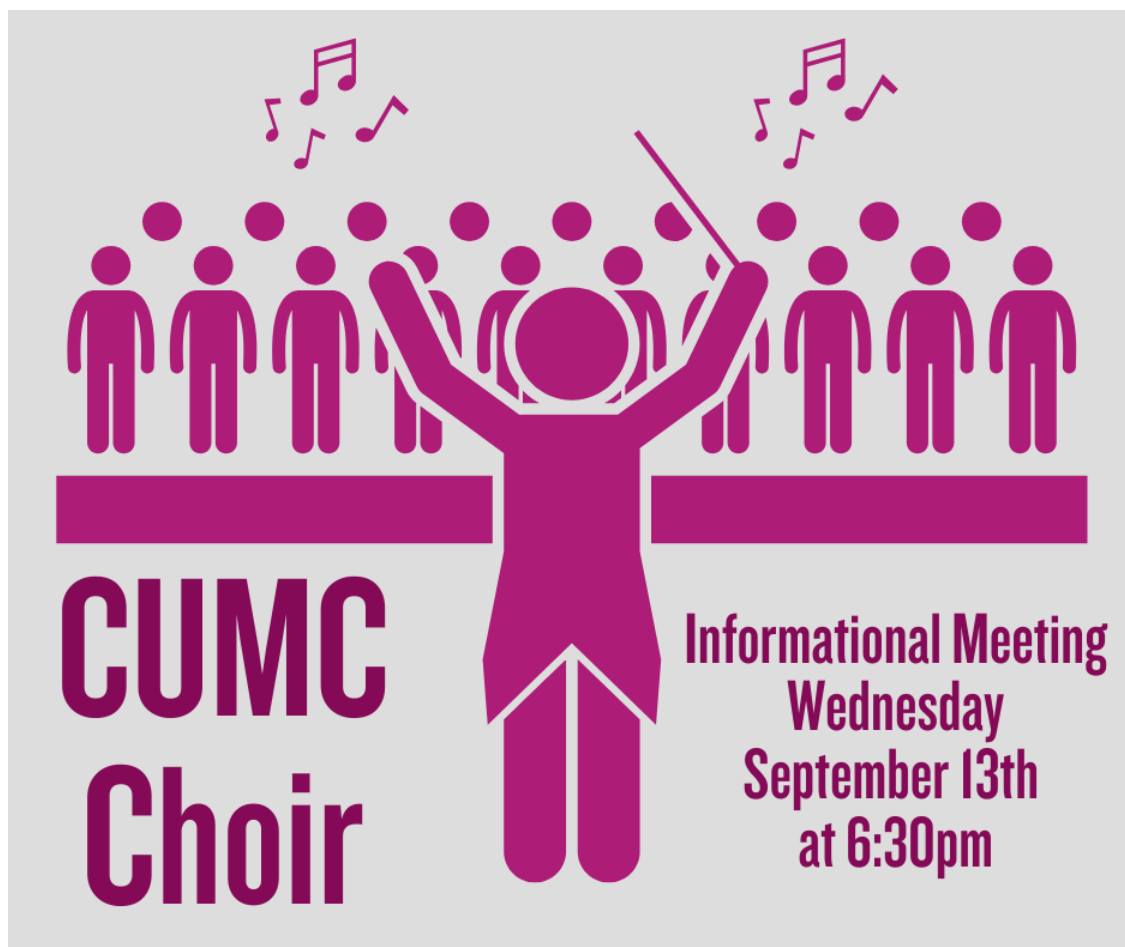
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# **BELL CHOIR**

**INFORMATIONAL MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH, 6:00PM**



# FUN ZONE

LAST MONTH'S ANSWERS AND NEW ACTIVITIES

## Parable of the Fig Tree Luke 13.1-9

### Word Search Puzzle

P	J	V	I	N	E	Y	A	R	D	P
A	G	E	T	O	W	E	R	O	P	E
R	A	P	R	L	A	E	W	F	I	R
A	L	S	N	U	N	Y	D	F	L	I
B	I	P	F	E	S	F	I	E	A	S
L	L	A	D	R	Y	A	G	N	T	H
E	E	R	K	D	U	I	L	D	E	M
S	A	C	R	I	F	I	C	E	S	T
G	N	R	E	P	E	N	T	R	M	R
V	S	I	N	N	E	R	S	S	R	E
S	I	L	O	A	M	A	N	U	R	E

Galileans	Pilate	sacrifices
sinners	repent	perish
tower	Siloam	offenders
Jerusalem	parable	fig
tree	vineyard	fruit
gardener	dig	manure

# Just for fun

## Brainteasers

Can you solve these visual word puzzles?



## Word scramble

Unscramble the letters to find words that relate to summer.

- |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. ROCILTAP<br>Tropical     | 5. DMNOELAE<br>Lemonade     |
| 2. PIRERKNSL<br>Sprinkler   | 6. LESREIEEF<br>Fireflies   |
| 3. ARXEL<br>Relax           | 7. CNIGAPM<br>Camping       |
| 4. PUALNYGDRO<br>Playground | 8. SLSASNEUSG<br>Sunglasses |

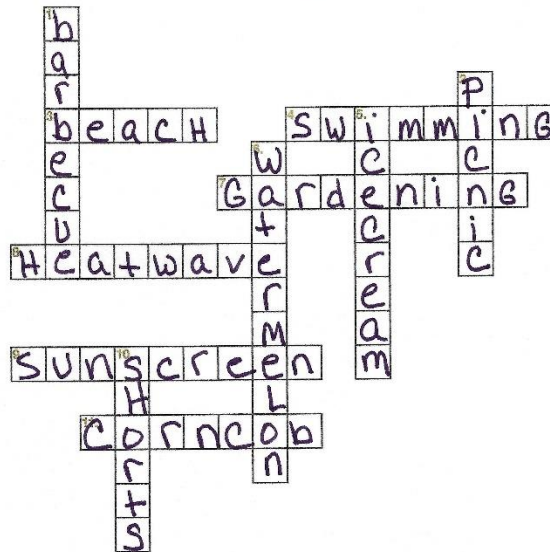
## Crossword puzzle

### Across

3. Vacation destination
4. Activity to cool off
7. Tending flowers
8. Hot summer weather
9. Worn to protect skin from the sun
11. Popular summer vegetable

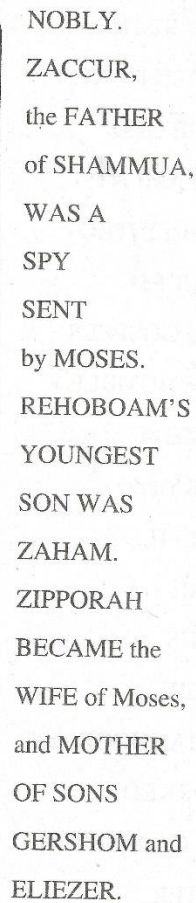
### Down

1. Meal cooked on the grill
2. Meal in the grass
5. Sweet summer treat
6. Summer fruit cut into slices
10. Worn to stay cool in the summer



**Answers:**  
**Brainteasers:** 1. Apple pie, 2. Somewhere over the rainbow, 3. Trip around the world, 4. One in a million  
**Word scramble:** 1. Tropical, 2. Sprinkler, 3. Relax, 4. Playground, 5. Lemonade, 6. Fireflies, 7. Camping, 8. Sunglasses  
**Crossword puzzle:** 1. Barbecue, 2. Picnic, 3. Beach, 4. Swimming, 5. Ice cream, 6. Watermelon, 7. Gardening, 8. Heatwave, 9. Sunscreen, 10. Shorts, 11. Corn cob

## Puzzle 53

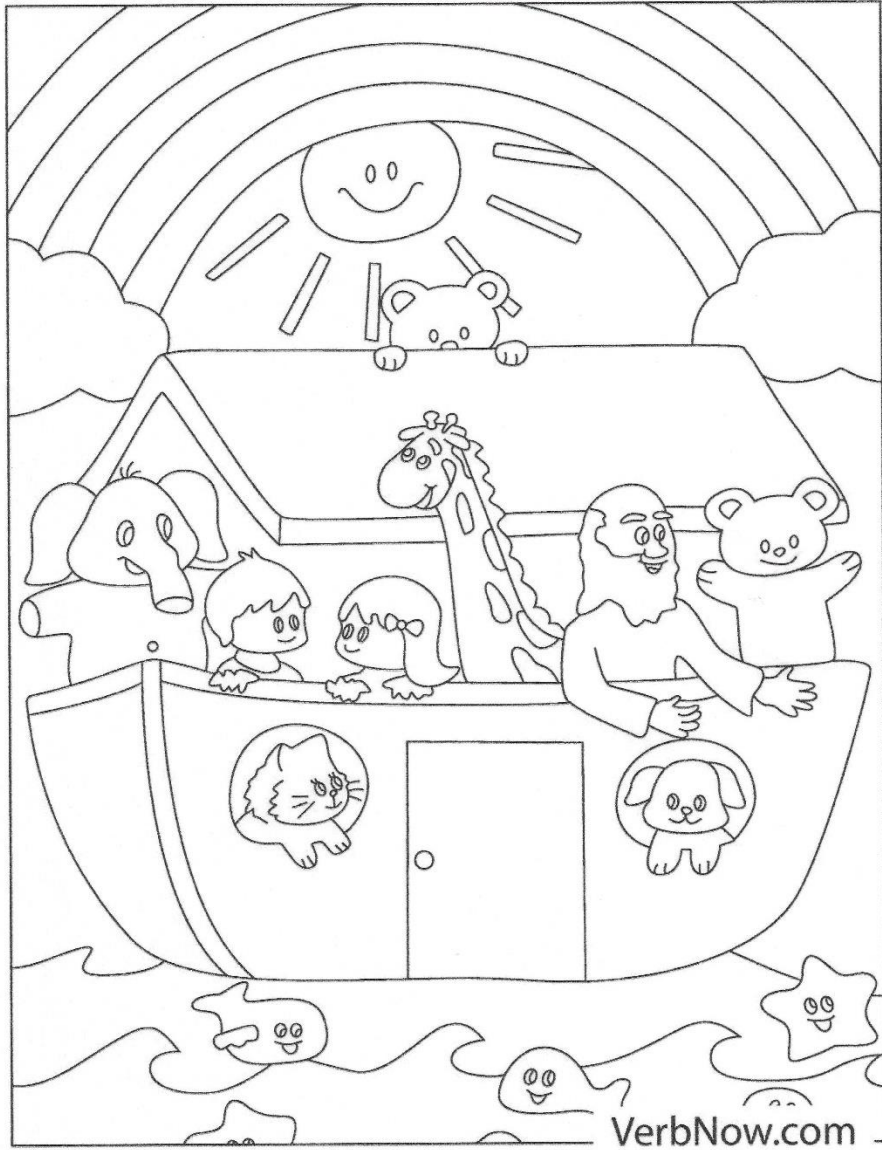


A PLOT  
AGAINST  
MORDECAI with  
her HUSBAND  
HAMAN.  
The AMMONITE  
ZELEK  
SERVED  
KING  
DAVID



HAVE FUN COLORING!







*Homemade*  
GIFTS MADE EASY



BLOOM WITH

*Kindness*

*Homemade*  
GIFTS MADE EASY

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CLICK HERE TO [Sign up for Julie Run/Walk](#)





TO SIGN UP:  
RUNSIGNUP.COM/  
JulieRunToEndHunger

OR SCAN:



**TO END HUNGER**

**Saturday September 23, 2023**  
**OCC Highland Lakes Campus**  
**in Waterford**

CLICK HERE TO [Donate to Open Door Outreach/Julie Run-Walk](#)

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**Reserve your tickets now for our Annual Tea & Luncheon Fundraiser!**

**This year's event will be better than ever! Guests will enjoy shopping local vendor booths, homemade tea and scones, a catered lunch, a 50/50 Raffle, Live auction, a Special guest speaker and much more! Reserve your tickets in person at our Open Door Thrift Store located at 7140 Cooley Lake Rd. in Waterford or, click the "reserve" button below to purchase on-line.**

[Reserve your Tea tickets here](#)



Net proceeds from our Annual Tea & Luncheon provide food, clothing, emergency services, and referrals to those in need in our community. Open Door Outreach is a 501c-3 non-profit. Learn more by clicking [here](#) or visit [opendooroutreachcenter.com](http://opendooroutreachcenter.com) and, stay up to date on the latest news follow us on Facebook: [Open Door Outreach Facebook](#) and [Open Door Thrift Store Facebook](#).





**STARTING OCTOBER 5, 2023**

**Thursday's 7:00 p.m. & Saturday's 10:00 a.m.  
Upstairs in the Activity Hall.**

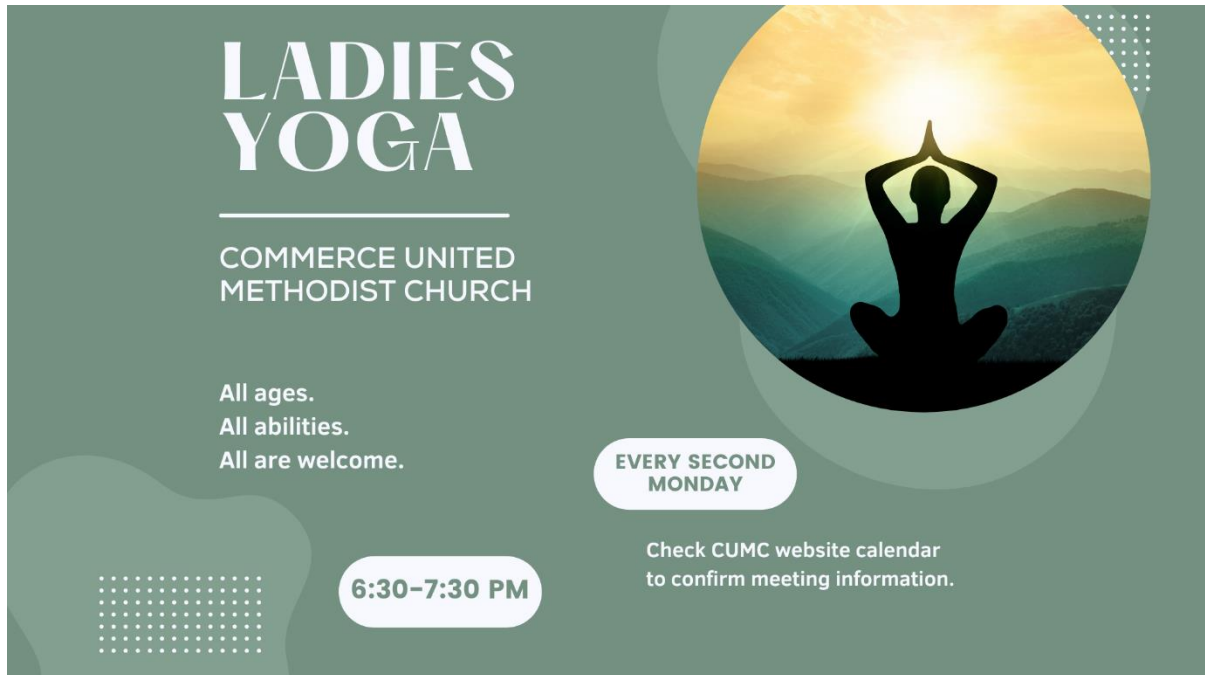
**Fun Exciting Game of a combination of  
Tennis – Badminton & Ping Pong!**

**Adults welcome to join in!**

**Any questions; call Joe @ 248-761-7000**

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**LADIES  
YOGA**

COMMERCE UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

All ages.  
All abilities.  
All are welcome.

**6:30-7:30 PM**

**EVERY SECOND  
MONDAY**

Check CUMC website calendar  
to confirm meeting information.

**Yoga in the sanctuary led by Rachel MacCarreall, church member and yoga instructor, who teaches at places like Lifetime Fitness, will be starting back this fall on September 11, 2023.**

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**Continue to Pray for**

**Logan Helgemo, Grandma Brandt, Heather Antoon, Aza  
Catau, Sharon Hernande, Kendra, Al Young  
Richard Kornatowski, Leo & Bea Maki, Judy Rose,  
Mary Lesiak, Pat Elliot, Joyce Mikey Faust, Joy Dobson,  
Sally Courville, Bruce Flores, Linda & Gary Schultz, Larry  
Petersen, Gloria Jones, Rick Mead, Sandy Richardson, Dave**

**Smiertka, Krull Family, Betty Barry's Family, Randy  
Pellett, Brenda Oliver's Family, Rebecca Flores, Joann  
Crook, Craig Smith, Dareld Putnam, Tim Lewandowski, Bonnie  
Larrabee**

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**Thank YOU for ALL YOU DO to Serve 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.**

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### **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, Luca Thomas

- 13 Jerry Sundberg
- 14 Scott Crandall, Everly MacCarreall
- 16 Bruce Kargol
- 19 Julie Schave, Dave Smiertka Sr
- 20 Julia Keller, Alexis Huges
- 21 Tom Contesti, Adrien Woodland
- 22 Maggi Harfoot, Andrew Pistana
- 24 Max Edgington, Shirley Grupido
- 25 Jeffrey Topper
- 29 Gladys 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