"The STEEPLE" A Newsletter of Commerce UMC - SEPTEMBER 2024 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, <u>https://www.youtube.com/</u> and also linked through our Facebook page at: <u>www.facebook.com/commerceumc</u>



As we step into the vibrant month of September, I am reminded of the beauty of new beginnings. The weather begins to cool, children have returned to school, and we all seem to settle back into our routines. This presents us with a unique opportunity and challenge to be intentional about the kind of people we want to be amid those routines. So, let us resolve to be purposeful in all that we do.

As a church, we are embarking on several exciting initiatives that I believe will guide us to live our lives with definitive purpose. Our upcoming sermon series, "On Purpose," will focus on overcoming barriers, discernment, as well as being true to the purpose that God has called for us this season and beyond. Following these sermons, I plan to lead a discussion group on Wednesday evenings at 7PM. No reading or studying required. Simply drop in when you are available.

I also want to remind you of the programs that are resuming in September. Our music program will once again be at full strength. The choir will lead our congregational singing for the hymns during service. We can expect the bell choir to share their gifts more regularly. For those who have missed building connections through yoga, basketball, and pickleball, the wait is now over.

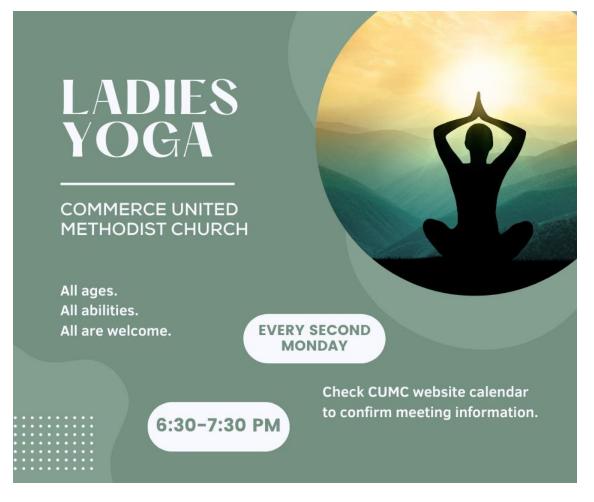
Finally, September also concludes our summer initiative of plugging more church folks into the life-changing ministry of street outreach with Anchored Hope. If you recall, we had over 10 new people commit to fighting human trafficking through the relationship building that comes with street outreach. While that initiative ends, the work does not. The invitation to help change lives is ongoing. Perhaps, God might be calling you to be used in this way for the fall.

As we move forward, let us recognize all the ways God has been at work. We are a growing church. Our children's ministry continues to reach new heights. Paul Elliott, our new Youth Director, is also tasked with leading a youth ministry that also boasts tremendous growth. A recent Youth Group meet-and-greet reminded us we are in for a big, big year. The ability of the music program to lead meaningful ministry as well as its size and participation is also in great place.

All this to say, God has been extremely gracious to us. We have been blessed, but blessed for a purpose. I am excited to see how God will continue to move in our midst and in our individual lives. May you be open to the purpose God calls you this season. Let us walk together, supporting one another as we grow in faith and love.

Peace,

Pastor Andy



Rachel MacCarreall will be starting on September 9th, Come and Join Us!



September 2024 Christian Education News...

Mark your calendars: September 8th Bible Buddies Presented September 8th Kids On a Mission September 22nd Children's Bell Choir Meeting September 25th Kids Klub + September 29th Third Grade Bible Presentation

Bible Buddies

ALL children preschool thru fifth grade are invited to pick-up their own Storybook Bible and Bible Buddy on September 8th! This will be the beginning of an amazing ten-week project!

Kids Klub+

Kids Klub + is an opportunity to share a community meal, and then send the kids upstairs for an hour of fun! In September we will be having loads of Fantastic Farm Fun. Themed games, sensory bins, and crafts are always a hit for all ages.

Children's Bell Choir

Something new is in the works! Beginning in October, all kids age 6-12 will have an opportunity to join us for eight weeks to learn the children's bells. Join us on September 22nd at 11:30 for an informational meeting if your child(ren) are interested.

3rd Grade Bibles

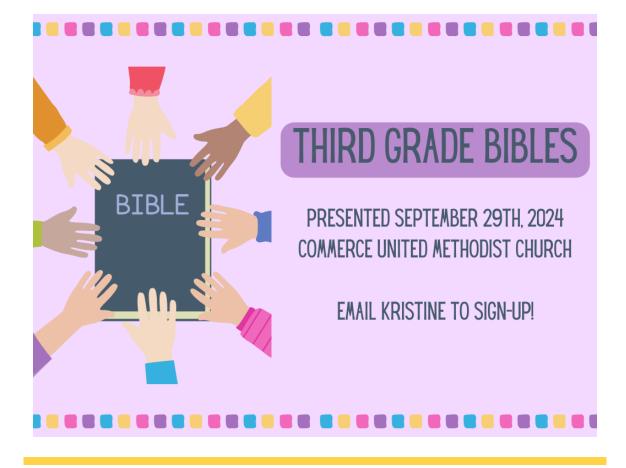
Do you have a third grader? If so, we would love to present them with their own bible on September 29th. Please reach out to Kristine if you have a child to add to our list.

Kids On a Mission

On September 8th, Sunday School children will be working on a mission's project for the dedicated staff and volunteers at MCHS. You can support KOM by purchasing from our Amazon Wish List:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/15C9JPW75AQVH?ref_=wl_share

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





Have

you been thinking about getting involved with the Music Ministry at CUMC? Choir and Bell Choir rehearsals will resume on September 4, and the band continues to welcome new musicians and singers. We're also excited to announce that we are offering a youth bell choir and working toward a teen worship band! If you're interested in learning more, email kgnagey@gmail.com.



THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING JOIN US IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL COFFFEE

Please sign up in the Narthex to host a Sunday

COFFEE HOUR provides not only great food and drinks, but a wonderful time to fellowship with people after service. Thank you to those who have signed up in the past and have served in this capacity. If you are feeling led to host a coffee hour with a few of your friends or with your committee/organization, please sign up either in the Narthex or click the link below. We are specifically **looking for hosts for September 29th**. If you've never hosted before, we will provide you with everything you need to know and will be there to help! <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0E4BACAE2BA57-46927626-commerce</u> Thank you for hosting a coffee hour! Kati Brush and Dana Wenz

SOCKS AND UNDERWEAR DRIVE

Collecting for Anchored Hope from August 10th - September 15th Men's and Women's socks and Women's underwear (size small-large)



MISSION COMMITTEE MEETS 2ND SUNDAY AT 11:15 AM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM

MISSION COMMITTEE IS NEEDING SOMEONE TO LEAD THEM PLEASE CONSIDER THIS OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE BACK IF YOUR INTERESTED PLEASE SEE PASTOR ANDY









Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2

Thanks to all of you for your support and prayers, Anchored Hope carried our sisters' and brothers' burdens in the following during July 2024:

ways

- 258 meals were served/1372 YTD
- 58 hygiene kits were distributed /263 YTD
- 13 evenings of outreach
- 83 individuals were served
- Blankets, flip flops, and feminine necessities were distributed

Thank you to our new Outreach members!

We had 8 new outreach team members from CUMC join us in July. In total, we had 22 outreach members serve throughout the month. Thank you!!!

Just in case you missed it...

We purchased a van on July 5th! So many of you prayed for this and helped to

gather funds to make it possible. This is an important step in the growth of our ministry. We look forward to using this resource to expand our impact in the area we serve. We are overcome with gratitude for your support throughout this process; we couldn't have managed it without you. Thank you!!!

We have much to be grateful for this month. Here are few of them:

- All meals and sandwiches were sponsored!
 - We are looking for meal or sandwich makers for September 18th and 19th. Please sign up on our Meal Sign-Up if you are interested or email us if you have any questions. (link and email below)
- We were able to provide two women with well-fitting shoes. Now they can walk comfortably!
- Connected with a Survivor who we haven't heard from in two years. She's doing really well, has a job, is living on her own, and was thankful we texted back when she reached out.

Your prayers make a difference!

You can see that women are feeling the hand of God move in their lives. Please consider adding the following prayer requests to your daily prayers:

- Good health for the women themselves and their families
- Healing of the many sores and abscessed those on the streets suffer
- Safety for all, whether on the streets or moving into recovery, and those who serve on outreach

You, your prayers, and your contributions make all of the above possible! Thank you!

Connect with us! Social Media, Meal Sign-Up, Website, and much more! https://linktr.ee/anchoredhopeoutreach info@anchoredhopeoutreach.org



United Women in Faith

As summer ends and we return to our fall activities so does our UWF. You are invited to attend any meetings of our three circles:

Crosby circle - Third Tuesday of the month at 10:00am at church. Reed circle - Third Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm Thomas circle - Contact Rachael Laming as to dates for their meetings.



Sunday, September 8th will be a Bake Sale at Fisk Farm in White Lake from 10am to 5pm. Donations of cookies, breads, pies, jellies etc. are greatly appreciated. Please drop off at the church on Saturday from 1pm to 3pm or bring to church by 10am on Sunday.



Suncheon Unit Gathering Potluck Dinner will be on Tuesday September 24th at 6:00pm. We will have a speaker from Anchored Hope. All are welcome to attend. A sign-up sheet will be posted shortly on the bulletin board in the Narthex.



4pm.Also on the12th from 9am to 12pm.

Set up will be Sunday October 6th after coffee hour. You may drop donations off starting October 6th and Monday to Wednesday (Oct. 7th-9th)

9am to 6pm. Church members only will be able to shop prior to the sale on Wednesday Oct. 9th 6p to 8pm.



Christmas Marketplace will be December 7th 9am to 3pm. If you are interested in renting a table, contact Kyle Caswell (248-622-1465). Space is offered to church members in September. After October 1st, the spaces are offered to past crafters and new crafters. Space fills quickly so don't wait, we only have a certain amount of tables and space. We also sell Christmas cookies, Christmas Greens and arrangements. We serve lunch and have a raffle for special donated items.

Women's Book Group

If you enjoy books and conversation you are welcome to join us for lively discussions, encouragement, and friendship. Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

Questions? Call Diane Senk 248-770-0711









BETTY SPEHAR'S FAMILY, DEBBIE & BILL WHITSON'S GRANDDAUGHTER MERCEDES WHITSON, SCOTT & ANN LEONARD'S FIRST GRANDDAUGHTER SAMANTHA RAE BATES, AL & PAT YOUNG'S NIECE LAURA AND HER HUSBAND BILL HESSERT, TIM & JULIE LEWANDOWSKI



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: commerceumc@sbcglobal.net

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY'S

- **1** Sherrill Sundberg, Jared Stoddard
- 4 Earl Stoddard , John Linegar, Ava Stoddard
- 5 Isabelle Rendeiro
- 7 Amanda Leonard, Stephanie Leonard8 Audrey Hunt
- 9 Norma Gilbert, Caitlyn Oliver, Judy Rohr
- **10** Don Fletcher
- 11 Andrew Leon
- 12 Krista Brassell, Luca Thomas
- **13 Jerry Sundberg**
- Scott Crandall, Emily Goosey, Everly MacCarreall
 Bruce Kargol
 Julie Schave, Dave Smiertka Sr
 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 Tom & Mackenzie Contesti
- 20 Eric & Rachael Laming
- 20 Bob & Janet Doty 21 Joe & Michelle Wichowski
- 23 Brent & Amy Snyder
- 26 Scott & Michelle Robinson
- 27 Steve & Tracey Thode
- 29 Dan & Tracy Kramer