

## **"The STEEPLE"**

**A Newsletter of Commerce UMC - JUNE 2025**

**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)**



### **Well, Look Who It Is**

Some time ago, my family and I visited the Impression 5 Science Center in Lansing, Michigan. My 7-year-old spent the bulk of her time at the bubble exhibit. Basically, the science center had various tubs of soapy water for bubble-making. I thought creating large bubbles with her hands would keep my daughter's attention for a short time- maybe 5 minutes- but I was mistaken. I must have spent a solid 30 minutes watching her create bigger and bigger bubbles.

Like any good parent, I began to zone out. Standing next to my child, I stared off into the distance hoping to move on to the next exhibit soon. Eventually, a man accompanied by his wife and their son stood in front of me and he extended his hand for a handshake. Did I extend my hand to shake his? No. Well, at least not immediately. It did not occur to me this hand was being extended to me. I did not recognize the gentleman at first, but the individual standing before me was a fellow UMC pastor from Detroit. We worked together years ago on a Martin Luther King Jr Celebration. It all clicked when he greeted me, "Hi Andy!"

I was not expecting to see any familiar faces at this children's museum a good distance from home. It was a pleasant surprise, and I noted that by explaining my slow-reaction time, "Sorry. Hi! I was not expecting to see you here!" We chatted briefly. My colleague explained he had an older son attending Michigan State University and so his family was killing time at Impression 5. I shared my complaint about being stuck at the exhibit for the last half-hour, we laughed, we connected, and then we exchanged our goodbyes. It was quite nice.

Summer is here. While I don't know your plans, I know someone you love from church will be accompanying you wherever you go. And no, I'm not talking about me- your pastor. I'm referring to our all-powerful and ever-present God. Yes, whether you go to a science museum, a cabin up north, a national park, or whether you stay at home and simply rest in a hammock in your backyard, God will be there. With that, I urge you to

stay connected with, and to be mindful of, God.

The rhythm of summer is often different from the rest of the year. There is more daylight, more opportunities to make memories, and a whole lot more plans and busyness. So, don't be surprised or caught off-guard to see God in unexpected places. Rather, I invite you to continue to engage in daily prayer, meditate on God's word, and worship with fellow believers whether that's in-person or online. Remember, through online worship, you can worship from *anywhere*!

I pray this summer will be a season of much needed rest and renewal for you. May your days be filled with joy, peace, and the fullness of life. May your awareness of our good and loving God increase, and with it, may you and our church experience growth in the spirit. May God bless your summer so that we may be a blessing wherever we are and wherever we go.

Pastor Andy

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We are so proud of the foster children at MCHS completing another school year. Help us send all 18 boys and their helpers to Urban Air Trampoline Park. \$35 covers a student's cost but any donation is welcome. Mark your giving for "MCHS" and submit it by June 8th.

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# **YOUTH GROUP CARWASH!**

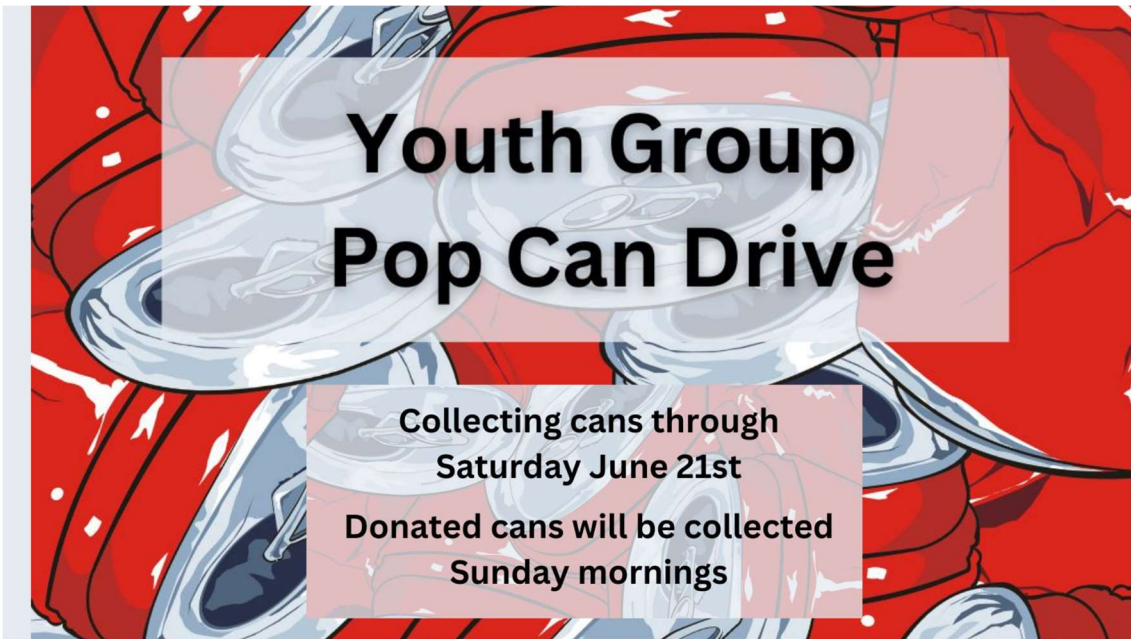
JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup> AT NOON



## **Youth Group Pop Can Drive**

Collecting cans through  
Saturday June 21st

Donated cans will be collected  
Sunday mornings



# FAITH BUILDERS



**JULY 13–19, 2025**

Faith Builders blends summer camp and a youth missions trip. Located in Boyne Falls, MI at Lake Louise Camp!

Contact Youth Director Paul Elliott if you have an interested youth.

[CAMP FLYER](#)





## **June 2025 Christian Education News...**

### **Mark you calendars**

**June 11<sup>th</sup> Movie Knight**

**June 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> VBS 2025!**

**June 22<sup>nd</sup> Celebration Sunday**

### **Movie Knight**

Movie Knight is returning for it's third summer in a row! Join us at on June 11<sup>th</sup> for a pizza dinner, and 6:00pm showing of Moana 2. (This is a FREE event, donations welcome).

### **VBS month has arrived!**

The time is quickly approaching for us to open our doors to community kiddos and their families. How can you make this year's VBS a smashing success?

-You can still sign up to volunteer! Email Kristine if you are interested and we will get you set!

-Purchase items from our Amazon Wish

List: [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3IGF03BF77ROE?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3IGF03BF77ROE?ref_=wl_share)

-You can donate gift cards to Meijer or Kroger to be used to purchase snacks.

-Be on the lookout for Summer Celebration sign-ups.

-Pray. Pray for our volunteers. Pray for the teens. Pray for the VBS kiddos. Pray for their families.

### **Sunday School**

Sunday School for elementary aged children takes weekly during service. Children start the service with their parents and are then dismissed upstairs after to sing songs of worship and learn through hands-on Sunday school lessons. We are currently looking to add to our roster of Sunday School Teachers, please reach out to Kristine if you are interested in learning more.

### **Kids Klub+**

Kids Klub + is taking the month of June off for VBS.

**Kristine Van Dussen- Christian Education Director**

**Kristine.CUMC@gmail.com 248.363.3935 ext. 304**

# GROOVE AND GALA

**Dinner and Praise Band Music  
from the 60's, 70's, 80's, and 90's**



**Event held in the fellowship hall  
Babysitting and nursery provided  
More info forthcoming**

# GROOVE AND GALA

**Commerce UMC**

**September 13th 6:00-7:30pm**

**Adults \$20, Children \$10**



That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing.

**1 Thessalonians 4:12**



JUNE 2025

# ANCHORED HOPE

Stats

Outreach

Events

Thank You

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING

As a major central hub, Detroit is especially susceptible to human trafficking.

- In 2023 Michigan had 254 cases identified. 506 victims were involved in these cases. Cases can involve multiple victims.
- The Hotline receives tips about situations involving sex trafficking, labor trafficking, sex & labor trafficking, as well as situations where the type of trafficking may be unknown or not specified.
- Sex Trafficking reported 167
- Labor Trafficking reported 31
- Labor and Sex Trafficking reported 27 (Source *Polaris*)

## NEEDS

lick on our linktree link for our Top 5 needs.

For example:

- women's flip flops sizes 6-10
- women's slippers sizes 6-10
- bras sizes A-D, especially B
- travel size hand sanitizer
- women's underwear sizes 5-7
- travel size umbrella
- travel bug spray

## APRIL STATS

191/709 YTD meals served  
56/111 YTD hygiene kits given  
41 women served  
13 evenings of outreach

## THANK YOU!

We are so grateful for all of your contributions. You give us your time, prayers, and resources. These make a tangible difference in the lives of those we serve. They are seen and valued and encouraged to find a new way of living.

## EVENTS

### CHANGE OF DATE

Our next Packing Event is June 23rd at 6:00 pm. We will pack meals, summer clothes bags, recovery bags, and much more.

Please click the link to sign up! We hope to see you there!

We go on Outreach around 13 times a month. We are in need of driver's for these evenings. Please, prayerfully consider if this is something that you would be able to do. Please email us to find out how to join in!

## OUTREACH REPORT

We are thrilled to report that "T" went into recovery in April. We have visited her a few times and she is doing very well. She is looking healthy and has been doing well in her classes. Please pray with us for "T" as she grows healthy and strong, not only physically, but emotionally and mentally as well.

A number of other women have entered recovery as well.

We gave out two more Bible Studies. One woman is in the second chapter of John and another starts the first chapter of John.

A woman received a bag of clothes (two shirts and a pair of pants) and she said, "It's like Christmas except I'm getting something!"

Connect with us!

[info@anchoredhopeoutreach.org](mailto:info@anchoredhopeoutreach.org)

<https://linktr.ee/anchoredhopeoutreach>



**~ HIGH SCHOOL ~**

**Olivia Brush**

Olivia is a High School graduate. She will be attending Grand Valley University studying Kinesiology with an emphasis on Athletic Training.

**~ COLLEGE ~**

**Alissa Ann Pellett**

Alissa graduated from Central Michigan University with her Masters Degree in Speech Language Pathology. Alissa plans to work in pediatrics either in a school or private practice setting.

**Katey Spring**

Katey graduated from University of Michigan with her Masters Degree in Physician Assistant Studies. Katey will be pursuing a career in Internal Medicine.

**Kevin Leon**

Kevin graduated from Purdue University with his Bachelors Degree of Science in Mechanical Engineering. He will be pursuing employment in the Engineering field.

## **Pastor Andy Lee**

Pastor Andy graduated from Dakota Wesleyan University with his Masters of Business Administration. Pastor Andy will continue employment at Commerce United Methodist Church.

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**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 need some volunteers to sign up for May 11th. If you've never hosted before, we will provide you with everything you need to know and will be there to help!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0E4BACAE2BA57-46927626-commerce>

**Thank you for hosting a coffee hour! Kati Brush and Dana Wenz**

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**Come Celebrate SPRING with us at our annual SALAD LUNCHEON**

**Hosted by the UWF (United Women in Faith)**

**Wednesday**

**June 11 @ Noon**

**Fellowship Hall**

**Free – No Charge**

**ALL are Invited, Women - Men - Children**

**Please sign up on the board to help us with food prep.**

**(Please indicate on the signup sheet if you need childcare)**

**We will also have a Mystery Bag Auction.**

**Drop a note in your gift bag with a clue of what you have donated.**

**The highest bid will win your treasure.**

**Can be anything from a new item, a sentimental item you are ready to pass on, a special handmade gift, or a product you like or can no longer use.**



**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**

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## 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





## **BIRTHDAY'S**

- 1 Grace Baek-Lee, Lexie Pipkin
- 4 Sarah Casenhiser, Becky Lemon, Jane Sampson
- 6 Amina Osagie, Matt Abdallah
- 7 Bob Senk
- 8 Linda Bollinger, Andrew Masch, Abby Brush, Maddy Hager
- 9 Teresa Holloway
- 11 Jim Elliot, Ann Leonard
- 12 Linda Schultz,,Todd Fletcher
- 17 Conner Beard, Abby Reich
- 18 John Stoddard, Ada Stevenson
- 19 Veronica Wichowski
- 21 Harry Bruss, Samantha Wichowski
- 22 Alyssa Buchmann
- 24 John Antonelli
- 26 Meredith Keesling, Luke LeVasseur, Owen Baldwin
- 27 Ell Pizarek
- 28 Bill Whitson, Robbie Long, Michael Stiltner
- 29 Joanne Crandall, Kathy Stiltner
- 30 Kristen Thiry, Saoirse Urbiel

## **ANNIVERSARY'S**

- 6 Ell & Mary Pizarek
- 7 Scott & Michelle Lyon
- 15 Graham & Nancy Bennett
- 16 Bob & Donna Morris
- 17 Tim & Kati Brush
- 21 Chris & Holly Bailey
- 22 Russ & Sally Courville
- 24 Jeff & Heather Fagan
- 24 Frank & Bonnie Larrabee
- 26 Jack & Kyle Caswell
- 27 Gavin & Meghan (Caswell) Pohl
- 28 Jim & Pat Elliot
- 29 Don & Norma Gilbert

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Please Pray for



**ASAP**  
*Always say a prayer!*

Bea Maki's Family, Richard Perry and Family, Betty Ann Kathy Walters' Sister, Sara Albert, Bonnie Blaufuss, Pat Young's Family, John Himes-Linda Kornatowski's and Laura Contesti's Brother



**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](mailto:commerceumc@sbcglobal.net)**

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