

"The STEEPLE"

A Newsletter of Commerce UMC-OCT. 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



Giving and Growing

In November, we will hold our annual generosity campaign which consists of a sermon series and concludes with a submission of financial pledges for the next year. The purpose of such a campaign is primarily to assist each member to grow in their generosity. God calls God's people to live generous lives. Generosity is a core spiritual discipline, and so, it takes practice, maturing, and intentional stretching.

I am hopeful and excited to see our whole church make a significant leap forward in generosity. God has been so good to us. In the last year, we have received over 2 dozen members, welcomed 6 newborns, and new visitors regularly come to our church nearly every Sunday. Furthermore, we have been blessed by retired pastor Tonya Arnesen who freely shares her gifts to equip our church with deeper knowledge of God's word. Indeed, God has been exceedingly good to us at Commerce UMC!

In that way, I believe God's people are ready to respond in celebration. To give just as we have received. In the last several years our projected costs have been covered by the income we have received resulting in finances that breakeven at the end of December. However, while our giving remains nearly the same year after year, the expense side of the equation has risen dramatically. You may have experienced this at the grocery store or when reviewing the maintenance costs at home. Unfortunately, the church has become burdened with the same challenges. This has led to deficit spending which is not a sustainable way to participate in God's work.

With that, I want to share goals that I hope we can achieve together through our generosity campaign. First, let us set the expectation for 100% participation for pledging. Let us do our very best to get every person who gives -and those that would like to give for the first time -to fill out a pledge card. This is the first step toward generosity.

No one becomes more generous by accident. By filling out a pledge card and making a commitment to both God and God's church, you have participated in a key win. Studies

show those that pledge are more committed, more generous, and more involved. If you have never pledged or never given at all, I invite you to take a step even if it means pledging whatever amount you can. Yes, a \$20/month pledge is a starting point. Please begin the journey.

Second, beyond reaching for 100% participation for pledging, let us increase the total amount we want to set for God's work going forward. Our church has learned to do much with little, but with the reality of rising costs, it is time to increase giving. Dream with me. While our annual budgets used to work fine and breakeven at around \$450,000, let us resolve to reach an annual budget of \$500,000 so that we can continue to sustain the good work of reaching the lost, transforming lives, and making an impact upon the world. For some, you may have capacity to add a little more to your giving. For others, you are in the position to double, triple, or quadruple your giving. This is the season to do so. The time is now.

Please take the time to pray upon our goals related to generosity. As you do, let us give thanks to God for all God has done. Indeed, the last several years have been fruitful and with the addition of Pastor Tonya and the offering of her gifts for free, I know God has so, so much more in store.

I am excited to be in ministry with you. May God bless you to be a blessing.
Pastor Andy





Calling caregivers!

Are you living with someone who is suffering with Dementia or Alzheimer's?

Have you thought your loved one might be in the early stages of Dementia or Alzheimer's?

Have you lost a loved one from Dementia or Alzheimer's?

There is a small group of us that are dealing with the above. We meet once a month according to everyone's busy lives. We would love to have you join us. We laugh, cry, and try our best to make everyone feel good. We are not professional grief counselors, we are just caregivers trying to do what's best for our loved one.

If interested in join us please contact:

Kyle Caswell @ 248-622-1465

or

Marilynn Bruss @ 248-408-4869

Welcome



**United
Women
in Faith**

**Back – we hope summer was
refreshing and fun for you and your family!**

Commerce UM Church activities are getting back into the swing of a new year and that includes the UWF (United Women-in-Faith) too.

We have a busy, exciting and fun line up of activities and events planned for ALL Women of both our church family local community to be included in doing

mission work together.

The Commerce UWF Circles meet monthly (Sept – June) and all women are invited to attend. Dates and times are:

Crosby ... 2nd Tuesday – 10 am at the church
(?'s, contact Linda @ 248-505-3191)
Reed ... 2nd Tuesday – 7 pm various locations
(?'s contact Kyle @ 248-622-1465)
Thomas ... Various Dates – Internet & In-Person
(?'s contact Rachael @ 248-500-6166)

Already on the calendar and ready for your help are:

Oct 9th – 10th & 11th – Fall Rummage & Bake Sale
(Info coming soon)

Dec 6th – Christmas Marketplace w-Cookie Sale.
Crafters and Goodies galore!

The Commerce UWF (formally known as Commerce UMW) are thankful for our long-lasting history and dedication to serving a multiple of both local and global organizations. We are blessed by the support of our church family as we continue to do God's work alongside them.

For details about Commerce UWF within the Greater Detroit District of the Michigan Conference please go

to: <https://uwfaithmichigan.org/> <https://uwfaithmichigan.org/districts/greater-detroit/>



Fall Rummage Sale will be October 9th & 10th from 9am to 4pm. Also on the 11th from 9am to 12pm.

Set up will be Sunday October 5th after coffee hour. You may drop donations off starting October 6th and Monday to Wednesday (Oct. 6th-8th) 9am to 6pm. Church members only will be able to shop prior to the sale on Wednesday Oct. 8th 6p to 8pm.



Christmas Marketplace will be December 6th 9am to 3pm. If you are interested in renting a table, your craft has to be hand made and you need to contact Kyle Caswell (248-622-1465). Space is offered to church members in September. There are usually 30-35 tables altogether. After October 31st, 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.



October 2025 Christian Education News...

Mark your calendars:

October 12th Children Sing "Big House" during service

October 18th Trunk or Treat

October 22nd Kids Klub +

Treat Trail

The time is here once again to welcome the community to our church for this wonderfully fun event; last year we welcomed hundreds of children! Sign up in the narthex to host a trunk, or sponsor candy so that we can make this event possible. This event is INDOORS!

Table set-up will begin at 5pm, with the fun starting at 6pm on October 18th.

3rd Grade Bibles

Throughout the three years that I have been the Christian Education Director here at CUMC, I have had the honor of watching children's ministry continue to grow. Handing out third-grade bibles to numerous children really puts God's amazing work front and center. These children are such a blessing to our church and community.

Kids Klub+

Kids Klub + is an opportunity to share a community meal, and then send the kids upstairs for an hour of fun! This month we will go bananas with Curious George. Themed games, sensory bins, and crafts are always a hit for all ages.

Kristine Van Dussen- Christian Education Director

KVanDussen@commerceuce.org 248.363.3935 ext. 304

SOUP SUNDAY
OCTOBER 19TH



COMMERCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
PRESENTS...

Treat Trail



"An Indoor Trunk or Treat Experience"

Saturday, October 18th

6:00-7:30pm

John answered, "Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same."

Luke 3:11



OCTOBER 2025

ANCHORED HOPE

Stats

Outreach

Events

Thank You

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who donated socks and underwear. Socks and underwear are two of the most requested items from the people we serve during outreach. Thank you for helping replenish our stock for the months to come. We are so grateful!



AUGUST STATS

Meals: 165
Hygiene: 20
Outreaches: 9

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

If you are looking for some quick, easy, and free social media training, please check out Social Media Safety 101: Recognizing and Fighting Online Sex Trafficking.

<https://youthonline.sharedhope.org/>

PRAISE

Survivor: When we first met this woman, we had to help her stand up and walk with her because she was so weak she couldn't. She collapsed on the sidewalk and stayed until someone helped her. She ate from our hands. She was 89 pounds when we took her to recovery. Now, she is cooking in her own kitchen. She gained a healthy amount of weight. She is living in her own place. She still goes to therapy. She's been clean for a year. She said her mental health really makes the difference. Praise God for healing from the inside out!

PRAYER REQUESTS

- For a lost woman who was relieved when we found her, "Thank you for coming and finding me." There is deep sadness in her circumstances and we pray she sees God coming for her through us.
- For the ability to leave a chaotic situation.
- For a woman who completed a recovery program to find a job. Also, to block the temptations that she is facing.
- For strength to move out of a toxic relationship
- For comfort and healing. To transform brokenness into wholeness.
- For a new woman we are now seeing on a regular basis, keeping her and our team safe as the people she lives with are curious about us and what we do and they allow us to continue to stop by.

PACKING EVENT!

Thank you to all who came in August to help pack! Our next event is October 13 at 6 pm in fellowship hall. We will be packing meal bags, snack packs, clothes kits, and other projects. Everyone is welcome and we appreciate all hands to help us get ready for outreach. Sign up below to come and put God's word and your love into action!

Connect with us! info@anchoredhopeoutreach.org <https://linktr.ee/anchoredhopeoutreach>



THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING

JOIN US IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

COFFEE HOUR

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 need some volunteers to sign up for **October 19th**. 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



**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**

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





OCTOBER

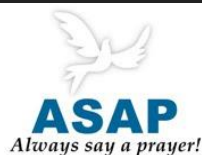
BIRTHDAY'S

- 1 Steve Bollinger
- 2 Clara Lee
- 3 Chris Bailey, Joey Long
- 5 Jace Lambert, Jesse Goosey, Milo Chun
- 6 Chase Curry, Steve Rohr, Ella Vrnak, Rich Hager, Aurora Hendry, Rob Long
- 7 Ann Smith
- 8 Ari Gnagey, Isaac Snyder
- 9 Paul Landry
- 11 Colleen Topper
- 12 Sulaeman Kamara, Mila Woodland
- 14 Mickey Nelson, Kylie Carmarda
- 15 Brett Rendeiro, Penny Masch
- 16 Al Young, Rachel MacCarreall
- 19 Debbie Duffina, Sydney Urbaniak
- 20 Tracy Kramer, Xavier Hernandez
- 21 Gina Rendeiro
- 23 Nicholas Thiry, Teddy Urbiel
- 24 Rob Gulf, Lily Cooper
- 25 Catherine Topper, Bruce Flores, Andy Van Dussen, Julianna DiMaggio
- 27 Morgan Wenz, Kati Brush
- 28 John Edgington
- 29 Brittany Leonard, Cathy Linegar
- 30 Don Gilbert Alice Flannery

ANNIVERSARY'S

2 Frank & Linda Casenhiser
8 John & Julie Antonelli
13 Ken & Maggi Harfoot
15 Glen & Eve Milligan
16 Tim & Julie Lewandowski
17 John & Cathy Linegar
20 Mark & Sarah Grever
23 Rich & Linda Kornatowski
26 Len & Linda Kumm
27 Steve & Linda Bollinger

Please Pray for



Vicki Kennedy's family for the loss of her mother, Mary Holt, Ray Topper's Family for the loss of his dad, Robert Topper Sr., Ken Harfoot's brother, Bill Harfoot



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**