

Sanford United Methodist Church

Messenger

JULY 2012



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
The people of the United Methodist Church

Which Way America?

"This is what the Lord says: "Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, and ask where the good way is, and walk in it. You will find rest for your soul."

Jeremiah 6:16.

In these days we observe the birth of our nation and celebrate the glorious gift of freedom. Our hearts are filled with thanksgiving for all that we enjoy and the ways that God has blessed us. However, this July fourth finds us with much concern for this great nation. Across the political spectrum, from sea to shining sea, a majority of Americans do not feel good about the direction of our nation.

We have experienced wars, financial recessions, political scandals, and radical movements but there was always a sense of hope. We came together after the September 11, 2001 attack. Today we are divided and seem less confident about the future. For the first time in our history, people are saying that the next generation of Americans would not fair as well as previous generations. Certainly we did not arrive here overnight. We have been heading in this direction for the past 70 years or so.

At the root of our concern is the feeling that we are becoming a nation quite different from what the founding fathers intended. These men believed that governments were instituted to protect the rights of the governed, not limit them. James Madison was clear that government should not "overleap the great Barrier which defends the rights of the people.... The Rulers who are guilty of such an encroachment, exceed the commission from which they derive their authority, and are Tyrants. The people who submit to it are governed by laws made neither by themselves nor by an authority derived from them, and are slaves."



The more our government tell us what we may or may not do, what is good for us and what is not; the more we incur a debt that we cannot repay - the more enslaved we become. When the values of the political class do not reflect those of the founding fathers, who put their lives and their fortunes on the line so that we may live in freedom, the more removed we are from our foundational values. You are not alone, nor are you confused, if you feel that you are loosing control over your own life and your destiny.

We are not the first nation to drift from its foundational values. The prophet Jeremiah urged a nation that was standing at the crossroads of life to ask for the ancient paths, and ask where the good way is, and walk in it. We may learn from his words.

There is a better way for us. This does not mean that we are to build a bridge to the past. This is not about nostalgia, this is not a call for the old way, but for the good way, the right way, and the way that leads to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. This is God's promise to us as a nation: when we take the good way, we would find rest for our souls. Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance (Psalm 33:12). God bless America.

**Worship Christ
The Lord
10:30 A.M.**

A TIME OF DISCERNMENT

CHURCH
Leadership



We are beginning to put together a leadership team for the various ministries of the church for 2013. Chairpersons and committee members are needed. Please pray for our

Lay Leadership team as they undertake this responsibility. Remain open to the Lord and ask his assistance when you are called to serve.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Our annual Ice Cream Social is on July 26th. On July 25th workers will gather to make ice cream and complete all the necessary preparations for this event. **Your hands are**

needed. Bring friends and family to enjoy this wonderful time of getting together. Proceeds will go to Missions.



Ice Cream Social

STAY UP TO DATE

OUR CHURCH'S
FINANCIAL
HEALTH

Thanks for your financial support. At this mid point of the year we are on target. This is a good time to examine your contribution against your commitment so that you may not fall behind. We depend on your faithful financial support.

RALLY DAY

September 9th at 10:30 a.m. is **RALLY DAY**-an event to launch a new ministry for children and youth. Please support us with your prayers as we put this ministry together. Much more information will be coming your way



Faith in Action

STEWARDSHIP

June 2012

Date	Attendance	Offering
June 3	80	\$3,830.00
June 10	70	\$2,566.00
June 17	77	\$1,265.00
June 24	66	\$2,805.00



We express our sincere sympathy to the family and friends of Jason Krenzke, son of Dennis & Darlene Krenzke.

We congratulate Adam Sian & Shayna Hulse, who were joined in matrimony Sat. June 16, 2012 at Sanford United Methodist Church. The Rev. Dr. Anthony N. Cutting officiated.



PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS AND OTHERS

- Jean Emery** P.O. Box 65, Sanford, MI 48657
- Keith Francis** Nottingham Place, 5800 Jefferson Ave., Midland, MI 48640
- Pauline Fink** 3606 Sadler Dr., Sanford, MI 48657
- Stratford Village
Dorothy Joynt 2121 Rockwell, Midland, MI 48642
- Shirley Renwick** 2121 Rockwell, Rm. 252, Midland, MI 48642
- Aletha Maticka** Marshall Manor, 1119 Holyrood, Midland, MI 48640
- Bruce Milligan** 5822 N. Lake, Sanford, MI 48657
- Helen Robshaw** Stone Crest, 255 N. Main St., Freeland, MI 48623
- Arvella Rogers** Tendercare, 4900 Hedgewood Dr. Rm. 2, Midland, MI 48640
- Ann Weir** 216 Diane Dr., Flushing, MI 48433

SANFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2560 N. West River Road

Sanford, Michigan 48657

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Anthony N. Cutting, Pastor
Church Office: (989) 687-5353
Home Phone: (989) 684-5596
Worship: 10:30 A.M.
Sunday School: 9:00 A.M.

PERMIT NO. 4

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE

SANFORD MI 48657



May 2012 Food Pantry Report

People served	49
Households	16
Gift Certificates given:	29
Items in:	1,648
Items out:	1,746



Items and money donated:

Sanford UMC-money and 8 items
St. Agnes Catholic-209 items
St. Paul Lutheran-money and 35 items
Food Bank of Eastern Michigan-152 items
Community of Christ-money
Old Oak Trails-32 items
Sanford Postal Food Drive-1,055
Individual Donation-66

Current needs: laundry detergent, canned or day potatoes, chili.

May brings the annual Postal Carrier's Food Drive, which helps us provide food during the summer months when children are home from school.

Thank you for your gifts of food and funds; we welcome both. Checks can be made out to the Sanford Food Pantry.

Please keep our volunteers and the clients they serve in your prayers.

Peace!

Earl and Kay Crawford

June UMW

We had our mystery trip to the Willow Tree restaurant in West Branch for lunch and went on up to Mio to visit Nancy Crane, a friend of Ruth Sutton's. Nancy had a beautiful doll collection. There were over 2000 dolls. We had a great day and were back home by 4:30 p.m. Our rummage sale made \$844.47. See you at our next meeting July 17th at 1:00 p.m.



Judy Gorthy

WANT PINE WOOD? There is pine wood out back for the taking. You will have to cut it and haul it away. Call Gary Boots, 687-5830.

Serving the Lord

SOLD OUT

Big Day at the Ball Park
Saginaw Bay District of The UMC
Date: August 22, 2012
Buffet dinner 6:00 P.M.
Game: 7:05 P.M.

MIDLAND COUNTY HABITAT

Habitat for Humanity is looking for good 16 ounce plastic containers for their Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative. If you have some they may be dropped off at the church office during working hours or on Sunday. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please call Deborah Cain at 989-496-0900. Thank you.

July Events

- July 8 6:00 p.m. UMM Mike Gorthy's
- July 9 6:30 p.m. Trustees
- July 10 1:00 p.m. Lay Leadership
- July 11 5:00 p.m. Christian Education
- July 13 Adult Social
- July 15 10:00 Shirt Sleeve Choir
- July 17 1:00 p.m. UMW
- July 24 5:30 Finance
- July 24 6:30 p.m. Ad Council
- July 25 5:00 p.m. Crank Ice Cream
- July 26 5 to 7 Ice Cream Social



Happenings



Looking Ahead

Bible Talk Back every Tues. at 10:30 a.m.

Sept. 6 7:30 p.m. Church Conference
6:30 p.m. SPRC



LAWN MOWING

- June 25-July 1 Ron Vandenberg
- July 2-8 *
- July 9-15 *
- July 16-22 *
- July 23-29 *

* Would you please give us your support by being a volunteer.

LITURGISTS

- July 1 Carol Becks
- July 8 Judy Gorthy
- July 15 George Farner
- July 22 Roger Sharpe
- July 29 Jeanne Sturm

USHERS

- July 1 Bud & Gayle Swanson, Sue Dexter & Sandy Houtman
- July 8 Ron Vandenberg, Leonard McJames, Earl Crawford & Don Decker
- July 15 Keith & Alecia Bauerle, Jack & Karen Abbe
- July 22 Bill Lackie & Bill Merillat
Dave & Dustin Sutton
- July 29 Gary & Brenda Boots
Dorothy Francis & Phyllis Seloom

GREETERS

- July 1 Verna Gould & Dorothy Francis
- July 8 Jay & Bev Morgan
- July 15 Becky Bastuk & Jan Biggs
- July 22 Phyllis Seloom & Carolyn Maynard
- July 29 Mitch & Ronda Bowen

COUNTERS

- July 1 Sharon Arvidson, Verna Gould, Ruth Ann Wrona
- July 8 Bob & Sharon Raymond, Curt & Beth Moe
- July 15 Gary & Brenda Boots, Bob & Sharon Raymond
- July 22 Leonard & Lois McJames, Ruth Sutton
- July 29

ALTAR FLOWERS

- July 1 Jim & Jeanne Sturm
- July 8 Sandy Houtman
- July 15 Carmen Adams
- July 22 Carolyn Maynard
- July 29 Leonard & Lois McJames

TRUSTEE FOR THE MONTH OF JULY

Leonard McJames (back-up Dave Sutton)

COMMUNION STEWARDS

Sue Dexter & Jeanne Sturm

COFFEE HOUR

- July 1 *
- July 8 Ruth Sutton
- July 15 Visitation
- July 22 *
- July 29 *