



# The Messenger

## July 2023

### From the Pastor's Desk . . .

## Contact Us

Pastor Tim Dibble

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248-622-9514

**Pastor's Email:**  
[revtcd@yahoo.com](mailto:revtcd@yahoo.com)

## Office Administrator

Fiona Dibble

**Church Office Phone:**  
(231) 894-5789

**Church Email:**  
[whitelakeunitedmethodist@gmail.com](mailto:whitelakeunitedmethodist@gmail.com)

**Website:**  
[www.whitelakeumc.com](http://www.whitelakeumc.com)

**Address:**  
White Lake UMC  
Montague Campus  
8555 Cook Street  
Montague, MI 49437

Praise Center  
of White Lake UMC  
117 S. Division Street  
Whitehall, MI 49461

## "Am I my brother's keeper?"

*Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Genesis 4)*

There is reluctance on the part of many people today to become involved in the affairs of their neighbors, particularly their local neighbors. Perhaps this stems from a foundational attribute of our American society that makes us seek isolation within our secular families and mind our own business. Whatever the reason, however, we have a responsibility to associate together and help each other accordance with Christ's teaching and our Baptismal Vows. As the Apostle Paul wrote to the people at Ephesus, "speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows, and builds itself up in love as each part does its work."

This takes communication. It's not good enough to sit back and say we don't know of anyone who has a problem or need. We must proactively check on one another and see to it that no one is being overlooked, and we must tell our brothers and sisters when we need their help. ***We are our brother's keeper***, and if we wriggle out of that responsibility, then God will one day confront us and ask, "Where is your brother?"

Jesus once shared that on the Day of Judgment all will be asked where you were when your neighbor, your brother or sister, needed you. Where were you when they were hungry or thirsty? Where were you when they felt like a stranger, needed clothes, or were sick or in prison? Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me." (Matthew 25)

There are many means of which we may avail ourselves as individual disciples and as a church community to unobtrusively reach out to our neighbors, get involved in their lives, and in true Christian fellowship become "our brother's keeper".

# Vision Statement

Worship God  
Follow Jesus  
Love and Serve All

## Sunday Morning Services

**9:00 am**

Traditional Service  
White Lake UMC  
Montague Campus  
8555 Cook Street  
Montague

**11:00 am**

Praise Band Service  
Praise Center  
Of White Lake UMC  
117 S. Division Street  
Whitehall, MI 49461

## Church Office Hours

Mon 10am – 3.30pm  
Tues 12noon – 3.30pm  
Wed 10am – 3.30pm  
Thurs 10am – 3.30pm  
Fri 10am – 3.30pm

White Lake UMC  
Montague Campus

Obviously, you can get involved in one of our local church/community mission projects, like the Free Store or The Gathering at The Praise Center, Relay for Life, Prayer Shawl making, United Women in Faith Yard Sale, or the work groups volunteering to maintain our lovely habitat in our parking area! You can get involved in our local schools through PTA's and Booster organizations or perhaps volunteer to help a child with reading difficulties. You could join or support one of our many wonderful service and/or community organizations like the Rotary and White Lake Area Libraries throughout the year. Perhaps you could plant a Victory Garden in our Community Garden at the Montague Campus and donate your surplus produce to one of our local food pantries! And, of course, you could commit to the core values and missions of White Lake UMC and volunteer to sit on, or chair, a team or task group, volunteer to be a Sunday school teacher, Wednesday Night Dinner supporter, Bible Study leader, join our new Worship Planning Team, join a new small group being formed this year, join the choir, or a host of other positions, tasks, and groups all of whom are both dedicated to discipleship in loving service to others and to the building of God's Kingdom right here at White Lake UMC!

Working together with each other's best interest at the heart of our sharing can build a church and a community of which we may not only be proud but also one which is a blessing to others and brings glory to God! Summer is here! It is time to get outside the four walls of our blessed church building and share the good news with others wherever they are emotionally, spiritually, financially, and physically. The weather is warm and so are our hearts. The time is here....Time to live....Time to blossom....Time to feed....Time to grow!

God bless!



## *A Note from the Office*

Deadline for August Newsletter items -  
Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

# PRAYER

**Prayer Request Card** – are available on our Welcome Desk in the Welcome Center at both campuses. Fill it out and hand to Pastor Tim on Sunday mornings.

- **Instant Messenger on church Facebook page** (<https://www.facebook.com/WhiteLakeUnitedMethodist>).
- This is a private message service that Pastor Tim monitors. Pastor Tim also tries to monitor postings/updates that many share on the church Facebook page.
- **NEW Church Website will** have a Prayer Request page that folks can send a message through that will be monitored and picked up by the pastor.
- **Weekly Printed Announcements** – It is our plan to continue to publish our Prayer List here each week. Feel free to take a copy home to use as a guide for your prayers during the week!
- **Monthly Newsletter** – We will publish our existing Prayer List each month.
- **Contact the Pastor/Church Office** – phone or email the Church Office to make a specific prayer request of Pastor Tim.
- **For prayer requests to our Prayer Chain** please contact Martha Tanis at 231-894-8525 or Laura Kiel at 231-894-9253. They are responsible for starting the Prayer Chain.
- **To be added to the Prayer Chain**
- **e-mail list to receive notifications of new prayer requests**, please e-mail Jan Dyer at [jareyd@aol.com](mailto:jareyd@aol.com). We can never have too many folks praying!



## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- **Sandra Bylsma as she continues to recover from major foot surgery. She welcomes cards and phone calls, and of course our prayers.**
- **Wanda Lee Suits needs our prayers as she begins further treatment for cancer.**
- **June Schmeizer has fallen and broken her hip. She has had it operated on and has moved to rehab.**
- **Karen Richardson (Jan Dyer's sister) has had complete shoulder replacement surgery this week. Please pray for a good recovery.**
- **Pat Klotz would like prayer for her niece Lisa Smith who has breast cancer and had surgery recently. Please pray for healing for her.**

## Prayer Chain

White Lake United Methodist church has a prayer chain that people can contact with prayer requests. There is part of the prayer chain where the prayer requests are passed along by phone and part that is sent out by email. If you would like to join either, you can contact Martha Tanis 231 894-8525 or 231 215-8325 or Jan Dyer- [jareyd@aol.com](mailto:jareyd@aol.com). This is a wonderful way to take part in supporting your brothers and sisters in Christ, when they need it the most.

*2023 Michigan Conference  
Special Sunday Offerings*

January 16<sup>th</sup>

Human Relations Day

March 19th

UMCOR Sunday

April 23rd

Native American Sunday

May 14th

Golden Cross Sunday

June 11th

Peace with Justice Sunday

August 20th

Christian Education Sunday

September 10th

Rural Life Sunday

October 1st

World Communion Sunday

October 15th

Disability Awareness Sunday



Thank you to my church Family for the beautiful cards, best wishes, hugs, and prayers I received for reaching my 100<sup>th</sup> year.

What a great bunch you are!

Love from Betty Nafe



Here is the special music you can look forward to in July.

July 9 – Denny Atchison

June 16 – Rachel Fekken

July 23 – Tim Todd/Gwenneth Bean

July 30 – Carl Black

### Many Thanks and Happy Travels

Long time member Barb Sheren is going on an adventure. She will be residing with her youngest daughter Susan in the city of Hanahan, South Carolina. Susan's husband Captain Eric Heath is stationed in Egypt with the Palmetto State National Guard. During the year, she will be getting to know her grandchildren, Mason, 15 and Caroline 10.

Her phone and email will remain the same. Al and she are in the process of uncoupling. Hoping to improve her golf game, appreciate local food and explore the rich history of Charleston, she also will be exploring being "Good Enough". Thank you WLUMC members for being supportive.

Hoping to return in June 2024. She is just a Zoom away.



# Faith Formation



## CHURCH FAMILY CAMPOUT

Lake Michigan Camp & Retreat, Pentwater MI



YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR FUN,  
FOOD AND WORSHIP BY THE CAMPFIRE

July 29th from 3—9 pm

R.S.V.P. to (231) 894 5789



## UNITY CHRISTIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL

AUGUST 9—12 at Heritage Landing, Muskegon

Great line-up of artists

Look out for information at the Welcome Center (both campuses)

Or contact Ruth Tuttle on (517) 902 6112

Discounts on tickets when booked through church



White Lake UMC & Friends

## Women's Retreat

Oct 17-19, 2023

Theme— 'Be Still and Know'

Guest Speaker—Pastor Anne Riegler

St Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt, MI

Cost \$155 - Booking forms available in Welcome Center

Contact Ruth Tuttle (517) 902 6112 to save your space



# Health Ministries

Age Well Services events coming up soon: -

## PROJECT FRESH

If you are a low-income senior citizen over the age of 60 and live in Muskegon or Oceana County, this program is for you! You will receive \$25 worth of coupons to spend on fresh Michigan grown produce at your local Muskegon Farmer's Market. Tips on nutrition are also included.

Appointments are required and will be accepted beginning in May; coupon distribution will begin in June. To make an appointment or for more information, please call Renee @ [231-733-8641](tel:231-733-8641).

## The City of Montague approves allocation of Senior Millage Funds.

The city's Health Initiatives program will provide fresh fruits and vegetables to seniors and access to fitness facilities for physical activity.

- Both programs will be administered by city hall through a monthly voucher system.
- Senior city residents can register at the beginning of each month.

Stop by Montague City Hall on Ferry St. to sign up, and call City Hall at 231.893.1155 with questions.

## WATER DISPENSERS

We are happy to announce another opportunity to be kind to the Earth! In a further attempt to be more eco-friendly, and through the generosity of the memorial in honor of Diane Kroll, we have provided water dispensers at each of our buildings. They will dispense cold, filtered water. You just need to bring a receptacle to put it in! We will also have a box of sterile, reusable bottles for anyone who doesn't already own one. Feel free to keep it but bring it back for your own future use. We will no longer be providing single use plastic bottles of water.



# Worship News

## *Bequiled by Beauty - June/July Worship Series*

June 11th: Beauty, Contemplation, and Radical Compassion  
Scripture: Ezekiel 31: 3-7

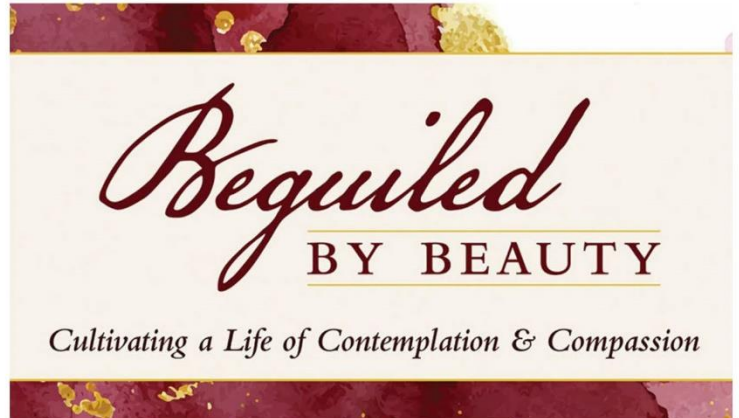
June 18th: We Are Made for the Beloved  
Scripture: Psalm 16: 7-11

June 25th: Awakening to Beauty, Falling in  
Love with the World  
Scripture: Psalm 147: 1-11

July 2nd: Abyss, Mystery, and Wonder  
Scripture: Psalm 135: 1-3; 13-21

July 9th: The Beauty of a World Without a “Why”  
Scripture: Song of Songs 4: 1-7

July 16th: From Beauty to Compassion and Justice  
Scripture: Isaiah 52: 7-10



## CANOPY PROJECT UPDATE

The Welcome Center ceiling has been removed with the old can lights and the wiring for the new 2 ft. square LED lights started. We will start on the new ceiling grid rails and wiring during the month of July. We plan the following:

- Complete the Welcome Center ceiling.
- Remove Inner air lock doors.
- Raise air lock ceiling.
- Put in four foundation cement pads.

We are still looking for more matching donation funds.

Canopy Team Leader: John Lloyd

# The Gathering

We now have our own Facebook page!

Come and check it out.

'Like' us, so you can get all the latest news, information, and menu details



## *The Gathering Free Meals & Good Company*

Thursdays  
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
&  
Saturdays  
12:00 – 1:00 pm

Meals take place at  
The Praise Center  
of White Lake  
UMC  
117 S. Division St.  
Whitehall, MI  
49461

If you are  
interested in  
volunteering to  
help with meals,  
please contact the  
church office at  
231-894-5789.



## White Lake Community Free Store

The Free Store is in need of Summer  
Children's clothing, birth to teen



For more details call the  
Church office at (231) 894-5789



### Health Ministry Team

We are looking for volunteer  
drivers to give OCCASIONAL RIDES  
for appointments, or pick up  
shopping or prescriptions. Please  
add your name to the list if you

Call Sherry Kiel (231) 750-3540  
Email [sherry.kiel@gmail.com](mailto:sherry.kiel@gmail.com)



**N** urture  
**O** utreach  
**W** itness



## Picnic with the Pastor

Beginning May 5th 2023

Friday 12noon—1pm Montague Campus

(Fellowship Hall or Picnic area depending on the weather)

Pack your own lunch and join Pastor Tim  
for an hour of friendly chat, and discussion.

Everyone is welcome! Bring a friend!

## REMINDER

Fellowship time after service wouldn't be the same without a cup of coffee/juice, and a snack. Our thanks to those who have faithfully been providing these treats. Please consider signing up to help keep things going. Many hands make light work! If you are unable to manage a Sunday morning, perhaps you could donate packs of cookies to be kept for times when no one has signed up? Thank you all,

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR DOLLAR DINNER NEWS SOON!



## Church Family Picnic

Bring a dish to pass

Sunday July 16th at 4.30pm



The Praise Center

Contact office for info on 231 894 5789



Next regular/planning meeting: - August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
At the Montague Campus

DURING JULY WE ARE COLLECTING PERSONAL HYGENE ITEMS, SOAPS, AND BABYWIPES FOR THE FREE STORE! PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN. ITEMS CAN BE LEFT AT THE OFFICE AT THE MONTAGUE CAMPUS OR TAKEN TO THE PRAISE CENTER.

We will still be collecting donated items in the rooms on the back hallway of the Montague campus up to the day we open. Please call the church office or speak to Laura Kiel for additional information or questions. Most items (except clothing) will be gratefully received. Come and support our yard sale, as we raise funds for our many and varied missions.

A yellow banner for a yard sale. On the left is the United Women in Faith logo. In the center, the words "YARD SALE" are written in large, bold, orange, sans-serif capital letters with a thin orange underline. On the right is the circular logo of White Lake Methodist Church, which features a lighthouse and the text "UNITED White Lake METHODIST CHURCH". Below the banner are two white boxes with black borders. The left box contains the dates and times: "Friday July 7<sup>th</sup> & Saturday July 8<sup>th</sup> 9am - 2.30pm". The right box contains the location and contact information: "8555 Cook Street Montague, MI 49437 (231) 894 5789".

United Women in Faith

**YARD SALE**

UNITED White Lake METHODIST CHURCH

Friday July 7<sup>th</sup> &  
Saturday July 8<sup>th</sup>  
9am – 2.30pm

8555 Cook Street  
Montague, MI 49437  
(231) 894 5789

### CHRISTMAS BAZAAR CRAFTING WORKSHOPS

From Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, we will be meeting at the Montague campus, 9am till noon, to make craft items for sale at our Winter Bazaar. Please come along and join in the fun. Check the bulletin or call the office for the latest details.

## TAKING CARE OF GOD'S SWEET EARTH



Help is urgently needed with our gardens. Claire Schlaff has posted a signup sheet for those who wish to be a part of this incredible Environmental Ministry.

As Claire has written, “My hope that individuals or small groups of people will sign up to take responsibility for some of the garden areas during the growing season. I have available a summary of work that needs to be done to try to make this native landscape easier to maintain. I am also making available “Native Landscape Projects for 2023” special projects that I am hoping to accomplish in 2023 with the goal of reducing the work required to maintain these areas. Our listing can be viewed on the HOMEGROWN NATIONAL PARK MAP. As of July 2021, we are part of the HOMEGROWN NATIONAL PARKS.

Please take the time to review this wonderful ministry that Claire has provided our congregation and community over the many years that she, mostly alone, has worked on this project. A HUGE thanks to Claire for not only her time to cultivate, plant, dig up and change, weed and water these areas, but also the help she has enlisted from professionals, to create this beautiful environment.

It is time for others to take on some of the labor and responsibilities. Even if you can only take on one small task, it would contribute to the overall picture. Please prayerfully consider where you can help. Speak to Claire if you would like to know more.

## SEQUOIA TREES



As you may have seen on our Facebook page, we have two new babies over at the Montague campus. Although sequoia is not native to Michigan, there are good ecological benefits to introducing them to our landscape. They are 4 times more efficient at making oxygen – which is obviously beneficial to us! Come and look at the little sequoia trees sometime. Thanks to Dave Fredrick, Claire Schlaff, and all who helped plant them. A special thanks to Malakai and Flynn Hayden, and Jakob Dibble.



## TRUSTEES REPORT

As always, we have lots going on with our buildings.

Praise Center:

- We have started the restoration of the roof area in the sanctuary. Still no leaks!!!!
- Review of building for solar panel placement is complete. We await the results.
- A new camera for the sanctuary is installed to improve live streaming.
- Some new processes are in place to help with drainage issues in the kitchen.

Thank you all for your continued efforts to support this building and its incredible ministries.

Montague Campus:

- Alex Hayden, of our Tech Team, has built the computer for the Admin Office. Fiona is very happy. A new computer for the finance office is planned.
- The structural review of our Montague Campus is complete. We await the results and timeline for Solar Panel installation.
- New Sprinkler Pump. We needed to install a new pump at a cost of \$4,838.
- Karen Stembol has secured new carpet for the Sisters and Brides rooms as well as the admin office. We have removed the carpet from both classrooms (thanks Carla, Karen and Suzanne) and are waiting for new carpets to be installed.
- Our Canopy Project is underway. Prep work in Welcome Center and some electrical work is being done. Thanks to Ken, Dan, Denny, John and Bob. The new ceiling will be going in with the help of Dan Parsons and Denny Atchison. If we can save enough money on the canopy project, we may be able to replace the stained carpet in the Welcome Center. Stay tuned for this one.

Thanks for all the efforts to maintain and improve our facilities. Great stuff happening.

Parsonage:

- Structural review of the parsonage is complete, and we look forward to the results and then moving forward with the Solar Panel Project.
- Glen Naghtin is helping us with his tractor and brush hog to clear the paths and fallen trees. We will be cleaning up behind the parsonage of underbrush to improve the view and appearance.
- A bridge will be placed over the Stewart Drain to have access to the back section of our property.

We will continue to improve our facilities to enhance our missions to all. Although more is needed, a huge THANK YOU for the financial and personal commitments made.

Dick Baerman

**IN THE SPOTLIGHT** Over the coming months, we are going to find out a bit more about our leadership team. Watch this space to see who will be in the spotlight next!

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT – Fiona Dibble Office Administrator



Originally from England, I am the mom of 6 kids (mostly grown up) and 5 grandchildren. Over the years I have been a pre-school teacher, foster parent, and youth worker. My hobbies include playing guitar/singing, photography, and watching movies.

### **What are your earliest memories of church?**

My earliest memories of Church revolve around my grandmother. I used to go to her church on occasion and enjoyed listening to her in the choir. At age 11, I began attending church regularly and quickly found myself very much at home there. I became very active in youth work, representing our district at a national level. Youth events and summer camp are where my faith was formed.

### **When do you feel closest to God?**

I feel closest to God when making music. There is something about singing that lifts me out of the moment and closer to the Devine.

### **What brought you to this church?**

I came to the United Methodist denomination when I married Pastor Tim. He was appointed to this church in July 2022. In truth though, I believe I was called here through the movement of the Holy Spirit.

### **Which areas of the church's work are you most involved with?**

Currently, I am the Office Administrator, Communications Director, and Membership Secretary. In addition, I am very involved in the music ministries through choir, bell choir and the praise band. Our family also provides a team at 'The Gathering'. I see my work here as providing administrative support and enthusiasm to all the ministries of the church.

### **What dreams and visions do you have for our church?**

My vision for White Lake UMC is that it will grow, not simply in numbers, but in purpose. I hope to see its outreach and caring ministries blossom, so that this community will come to know Christ through us. I dream that we will be a safe, loving place for ALL people to gather and worship God in unity. I pray that this church will be known for its passion and integrity.

# July Events at a Glance:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Communion Sunday
- 4<sup>th</sup> Office closed in observance of Independence Day.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Stewardship Team meeting 11.30 am at Montague Campus
- 7<sup>th</sup> United Women in Faith Yard Sale 9am – 2.30pm at Montague Campus  
Picnic with the Pastor – 12 noon at Montague Campus
- 8<sup>th</sup> United Women in Faith Yard Sale 9am – 2.30pm at Montague Campus
- 13<sup>th</sup> Stewardship Team meeting 11.30 am at Montague Campus
- 14<sup>th</sup> Picnic with the Pastor 12 noon at Montague Campus
- 16<sup>th</sup> All Church Family Picnic 4.30 – 6.30 pm at The Praise Center
- 20<sup>th</sup> Stewardship Team meeting 11.30 am at Montague Campus
- 21<sup>st</sup> Picnic with the Pastor 12 noon at Montague Campus
- 27<sup>th</sup> Stewardship Team meeting 11.30 am at Montague Campus
- 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> FAMILY CAMPOUT

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES, SMALL GROUPS, BIBLE STUDIES AND MORE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9AM WORSHIP (MONTAGUE)	10AM TO 3.30PM OFFICE HOURS	12 TO 3.30PM OFFICE HOURS	10AM TO 3.30PM OFFICE HOURS	10AM TO 3.30PM OFFICE HOURS	10AM TO 3.30PM OFFICE HOURS	11AM—2PM FREESTORE (PRAISE CENTER)
11AM WORSHIP (PRAISE CENTER)	1ST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH	7PM AL-ANON (MONTAGUE)	7PM NA MEETING (PRAISE CENTER)	10AM  9am STITCHING GROUP (MONTAGUE)	6.30PM NA MEETING (PRAISE CENTER)	12-1PM THE GATHERING FREE MEAL (PRAISE CENTER)
4-6PM YOUTH GROUP (PRAISE CENTER)	6.30PM NA MEETING (PRAISE CENTER)			5-8PM FREESTORE (PRAISE CENTER)		
				6-7PM THE GATHERING FREE MEAL (PRAISE CENTER)		