



# The Messenger

## August 2025

### Contact Us

#### Pastor Tim Dibble

Pastor's phone

248-622-9514

Pastor's email

revtcd@yahoo.com

#### Office Administrator

##### Fiona Dibble

Church Office Phone

231-894-5789

Church email

whitelakeunitedmethodist

@gmail.com

##### Address:

White Lake UMC

8555 Cook Street

Montague, MI 49437

Website:

[www.whitelakeumc.org](http://www.whitelakeumc.org)

### From the Pastor's Desk

It is not about the winning, it is about the struggle.

It is not about the winning, it is about the struggle. Recently, as I settled in to just relax and enjoy a bit of the wonder which is track and field competition, I was greeted by this phrase spoken over and over again by numerous athletes in the opening credits of the television coverage. The words etched themselves in my mind as the events unfolded before me. The stories of young men and women from around the world who have pushed themselves physically, emotionally and spiritually to bring themselves to this paramount level of competition and to represent their countries and the world with honor and dignity were magnified on the screen. The competition was fierce. The medal winners overjoyed. And yet those opening words came back to me again and again. It is not about the winning, it is about the struggle. These words harkened me back to my Bible and these words shared by another man, the Apostle Paul, who was running another kind of race:

"I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize?

Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore, I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize." (1 Corinthians 9:23-27)

We too are part of a great race . . . the human race. We too struggle to be prepared for the race of life we are running. We too struggle through obstacles in our path, physical, emotion and spiritual.

And yet, unlike the athletes in those opening television credits, we know that in our race we can all be winners! The words, “It is not about the winning, it is about the struggle”, ring with eternal truth. The sacrifice of Christ on the Cross and the glory of the resurrection on Easter morning have assured all of us who struggle on in faith of final victory. Whatever life situations, illnesses, financial stresses, political intrigues, and/or persecutions we will face we have the blessed assurance that God loves us all and calls us to our finish line with open arms. If we can but focus on the real prize, the blessing of an eternal life with God, we can not only compete in and persevere through life’s struggles but also have purpose and know victory in our hearts.

It is our struggle with life in faith which is the witness that most effectively shares the gospel truth with others. When we care less about “winning” for ourselves and more for “struggling” to share the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ then truly victory is ours. When we recognize and accept that the Spirit of God fills our lives with the gifts and graces that we need to successfully offer the good news of God’s love to and for all then our purpose, our place, our reason for living is clear and a source of joy. We are now celebrating the true essence of the athletic spirit. When we learn to celebrate the Holy Spirit with the same conviction then victory will spread like wildfire, and all will have the opportunity to stand on the winner’s platform and receive the reward that God has planned. It is truly not about the winning; it is about the struggle. Victory is already ours!

God bless!



### Our Vision Statement

Worship God

Follow Jesus

Love and Serve All

OFFICE  
NOTES



#### Church Office Hours

Mon	10am—3.30pm
Tues	12pm—3.30pm
Wed	10am—3.30pm
Thurs	10am—3.30pm
Fri	10am—3.30pm

The Church office is located at

8555 Cook Street, Montague, MI 49437

Phone # 231-894-5789

**Deadline for the September newsletter**  
**Monday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Please note – Pastor Tim and Fiona will be on annual leave from Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup> to Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Church office will be closed during this time.

“As followers of Jesus, we the people of the White Lake United Methodist Church are committed to welcoming and loving everyone, without regard to age, ability, race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, family make-up or faith tradition. We embrace the principles of love over hate, inclusion over bias, respect over prejudice, equality over bigotry and caring for all. We are committed to living out unconditional love in our lives, worship, study, and service.”

## COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS!

VOLUNTEER FOR THE MONTHS OF AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER:

**First Sundays** Sue Thumser (231) 893 0565 and Donna Flannery  
**Second Sundays** Carol Hanna (213) 894 8317 and Delores DeHoff  
**Third Sundays** Melissa Lorenz Email—lorenzmelissa115@yahoo.com  
**Fourth Sundays** Carolann Schalk (847) 337 6828

Fifth Sunday in August will be Ruth Grenell and Martha Sadony

If you have a conflict later, you may switch Sundays.

Do you want to do just one birthday or anniversary special? Contact the scheduled person and make arrangements!

Further information or assistance can be obtained from the church office 894-5789 or Barb Lloyd, 894-2543.



## Message of Thanks

The family of Judy and Joe Clark wish to express their appreciation for the tremendous effort demonstrated for Judy's memorial service. The cooperation of so many to accommodate the number of people who came to express their love and compassion was admirable.

To all who were involved with the preparation of all phases of the service and providing and serving of the food, we will be forever grateful.

Sincerely, the family of Judy Clark



## NEW MEMBERS' LUNCH

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>

1PM – 3PM – AT THE PARSONAGE

5181 HANCOCK STREET, MONTAGUE

Join us at the parsonage for an informal lunch where you can hear about what membership of the UMC looks like, how our church is structured, and what we believe. Hear about the missions we are part of, and how we care for our church family together.



The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ, who empowered by the Holy Spirit, **love boldly, serve joyfully,** and **lead courageously** in local communities and worldwide connections.




**Prayer Request Cards** – are available on our Welcome Desk in the Welcome Center. 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** has 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:

- Linda Allen's niece's husband, Mike Harper, has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer that has spread to his liver and has a mass in his stomach. Please pray for him and his family and for the doctors to know how best to treat him.
- Please keep praying for Bill Raffail's sister, as she continues treatment for cancer.
- Laura Kiel was diagnosed with endometrial cancer. Continued prayers for her as she recovers from surgery.
- Please pray for Ray, friend of Joe and Martha Sadony, who fell 40 ft and is looking at a long, hard recovery.
- Winnie Peter's granddaughter, Desiree, has stage 2 Hodgkin lymphoma cancer. She had a port put in two days ago and will start chemo in about 2 weeks. This is my son, Marvin's daughter. She is 31 years old.
- Kris Hinken requests prayer for her mother. She has experienced a rapid mental decline, and they are in the hospital trying to figure out what is going on. Praying for answers and peace.



WHITE LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



# PRAYER VIGIL

**Because He bends down to listen, I will pray as long as I have breath! Psalm 116:2**

**Tuesdays at 5.30pm**  
**1315 Benston Road**  
**Whitehall, MI**

Join us for an informal time of prayer in the splendor of God's creation

We will be outside, so dress for the weather and bring a chair if you need one.

**Call 231 750 8002 for info**

# Worship Ministries



## Sunday Morning

### Services

9:00am

Traditional style

10:00am

Fellowship Time

11:00am

Praise Band Service

Including Kids' Church

Hallelujah Kids' Chorus &  
the Youth Class

Beginning July 27<sup>th</sup> ...  
**SIX STONE JARS**  
The Economy of Jesus  
*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor." – Luke 4:18*

A miscalculation has occurred. The wedding guests have drunk all the wine before the party is over. At times, life can feel like we're "running out" of so much, and scarcity is shutting down the party. In these moments, we are invited to turn to the currency and economy of Jesus. In his economy, the true measure of abundance is fullness for the whole community, not just for some. Let us build the Kin-dom of God by drawing from jars of Hope, Purpose, Healing, Meaning, Vision, and Grace for all people.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who came to our 25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Celebration. It was lovely to share the occasion with so many friends.

Also, thank you so much for the gifts. It was an unexpected and lovely surprise.

Pastor Tim & Fiona



# Music Ministry



## SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC

August 3 - Communion

August 10 - Bob Tuttle

August 17 - Denny Atchison

August 24 - Rachel Fekken & Carl Webb

August 31 - Fiona Dibble

Sept. 7 - Communion

Sept. 14 - Ruth Carson

Sept. 21 – Praise Ringers

Sept. 28 – Larry Lindquist

## Liturgist/Readers

If you would like to volunteer as a liturgist or reader for worship, please contact Gwenneth Bean. Also, we are fast approaching the time for choir and handbells to begin rehearsals. Please contact Gwen for more information.



*You're Invited!*  
to our wedding  
*Michelle Vallier and Joe Cohee*  
**August 30, 2025**  
**2:00 pm**  
**Cedar Springs UMC**

**Gift Registry:**  
**Immigration Law and Justice**  
**Network**  
**[iljnetwork.org](http://iljnetwork.org)**  
**Giving options through the church**

## Michelle Vallier and Joe Cohee Wedding

The happy couple are requesting "no gifts" of a material nature but have selected Immigration Law and Justice Network as a celebratory mission opportunity.

White Lake UMC friends may write a check to the church here with 'Michelle/Joe wedding gift' in the memo line. You can drop the gift into the office, or the offertory plate. We will give a list of the givers to Michelle and Joe, along with the check for their chosen mission.

You could also go online to the website and give direct if you prefer.



Did you know that ALL women and girls in the United Methodist Church are members of the United Women in Faith? All pastors are members too!  
Next meeting is on Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at 10am.

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**ANNUAL UWF**  
**YARD SALE**

A big thank you to everyone who helped with the yard sale in any way at all. Many people donated items for sale, and we had a great team to set up the sale on Thursday evening. Special thanks to our youth, who showed up to help. A total of \$1,161.10 was raised so far for the mission of the United Women in Faith here at White Lake UMC. Thanks, and Blessings to all.

A yellow flyer 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 letters. Below this, there are two white boxes with black text. The first box contains the dates "Friday July 11<sup>th</sup> & Saturday July 12<sup>th</sup>" and the time "9am - 2.30pm". The second box contains the address "8555 Cook Street Montague, MI 49437" and the phone number "(231) 894 5789". On the right side of the flyer is a circular logo for White Lake UMC.

Our 'Back to Church' Sunday will be on September 7<sup>th</sup>. There will be displays and information about all the fun activities happening here at WLUMC. Come along to see all the small group studies, activities, and mission projects that are coming up this Fall. There's something for everyone!

**DATE FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

**Women's Retreat – September 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> at St Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt, MI**

**Speaker Rev. Kim Bos**

**Speak to Ruth Tuttle for more information**

Join us for a time of renewal designed to nurture your soul,  
ignite your passions and surround you with a sisterhood of strength and support.



# Health & Wellness Ministries

Anyone is welcome to join us for gentle chair yoga exercises. No experience necessary.

Join us for  
**CHAIR YOGA**  
 A fun and relaxing way to get ready for summer!



**Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays**  
**3:30 to 4:30 pm**  
**WLUMC Fellowship Hall**

**All are welcome, all 3 days or any day.**  
 More information call WLUMC office, 231-894-5789  
 Your WLUMC Health & Wellness Team look forward to seeing you!


Our second blood drive is coming up on August 20<sup>th</sup>. If you donated blood or were registered but were unable to donate and did NOT receive your e-gift card, please contact Sherry Kiel.

Time to sign up for our next life-saving opportunity. Call in at the office if you need help signing up.



**Wednesday**  
**August**  
**20**  
 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM



**RUSH INTO DONATE!**



**Helpful tip:**  
 Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.

**For eligibility questions please call 866-642-5663**

**\*Walk-ins welcome, as schedule allows!**  
 As a thank you, all attempting donors with a valid email and Code SUMMER in their appointment notes will receive a \$20 e-gift card.

**White Lake United Methodist Church Community Blood Drive**  
**LOCATION**  
 White Lake United Methodist Church - Conf. Rm. 7  
 8555 Cook St  
 Montague, MI 49437

**APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED**  
 -Call 866-642-5663  
 -Visit [versiti.org/mi](http://versiti.org/mi)  
 -Or scan the QR code below

# ENDOWMENT UPDATE



## WLUMC Endowment Report for June 2025

Begin. Market Value (05/31/2025)	193,039.74
Additions.	0.00
Income	
Dividends.	581.91
Change in Market Value.	6,509.61
Ending Market Value. (06/30/2025)	200,131.26

This is from the United Methodist Foundation website:

“Value-aligned, socially responsible investment of church funds has been a central focus of the Foundation for decades. We are the primary investor of long-term local church assets such as endowment funds, memorial funds, building and capital accounts, and numerous other designated accounts. Most importantly, we offer the best in fiduciary responsibility, social accountability, and quality investments within the parameters established by the church itself.”

With that, I am pleased to report that this month, our endowment fund made a nice gain. Thank you for your interest and gifts.

In Christ, Tim Todd.

Endowment Fund Team Leader

You are invited to attend the celebration

Ruth Grenell's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party

August 16<sup>th</sup> 4 – 7pm

The Grenell Home

6335 Sheltering Way

Whitehall

RSVP to Jen on 231 557 3661



Nurture Outreach Witness



## NURTURE

*Caring for and encouraging growth or development*

## OUTREACH

*Showing kindness, compassion, and support to those in need.*

## WITNESS

*Openly professing one's faith through words and actions*

***Greetings to all of our brothers and sisters in Christ.***

**GOD LOVES EVERYONE AND SO DO WE!** That's what the WLUMC 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade float told our community, and we received lots of "Love you, too!" comments from the viewers in return. **THANK YOU to our intrepid parade walkers and drivers!** Next parade opportunity is the White Lake Holiday Parade the first Saturday of December.

**Please join us on AUGUST 24 for the WLUMC Summer Splash**, a fun-filled last hurrah before school starts. NOW will provide hot dogs & other picnic goodies. The bounce house, splash seat and lawn games will be operating. We've had over 100 people interested in attending so here's a great opportunity to sit a spell and chat with our neighbors. I will designate a 'no splash' area for those of us who do not want to get wet! Contact me, Sue Lloyd, on 231-894-5292 if you have any questions or want to help.

**White Lake UMC**  
8555 Cook Street, Montague, MI 49437

## SUMMER SPLASH PARTY

### FUN AND GAMES FOR ALL AGES

Bounce house, games  
ducking stool  
relax in the sun  
and enjoy the company  
of friends old and new

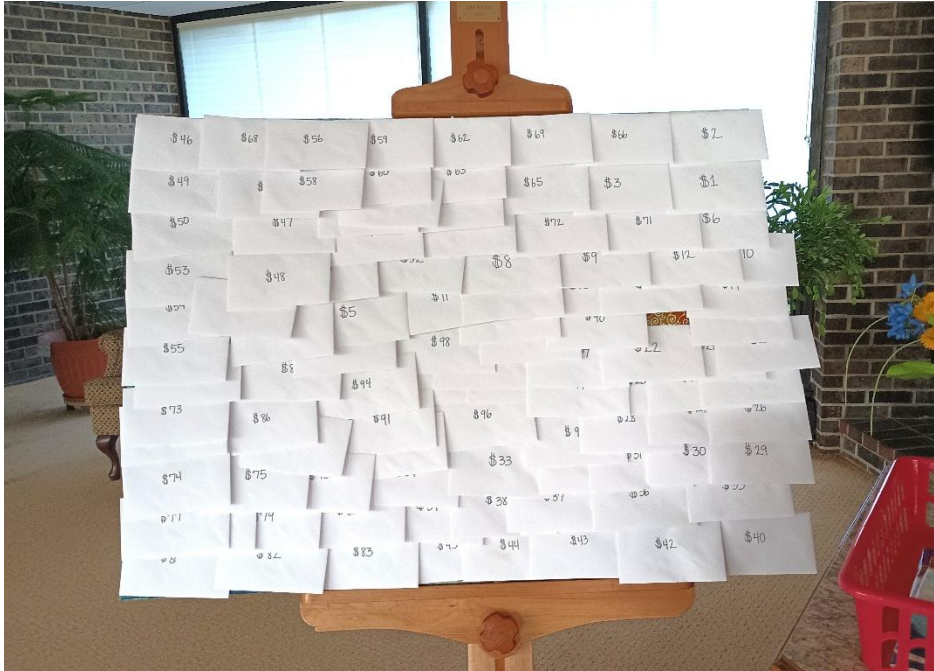
**SUNDAY**  
**24 August 2025**   
**04.00PM TO 06.00PM** 

Every one is welcome  
Free hotdog roast  
chips, cookies  
& marshmallows  
Bring a lawn chair





# MISSION OPPORTUNITIES



## **MISSION SUPPORT**

As many of you have already heard, we have a large mission team heading to Augusta, Georgia this October to assist in long term rebuilding efforts after recent storms.

A mission trip is a team effort, and those of us remaining at home can take part through our prayers, and our financial support.

Here is our first opportunity!

Rachel has created a beautiful painting. It's covered with envelopes, each with a monetary value written on it. Please select the value you are going to give in support – take the envelope off the painting, put your name on it. Then place your cash or check inside the envelope and put it in the offering (or hand it in at the office). Together we can reveal the painting which will be auctioned on a future date. Let's all pitch in to bring aid and comfort to our brothers and sisters in Georgia. We can all be part of the team!

## **Job Opportunity**

We need a few people interested in being trained to run the Audio/Video Equipment at our Church. The lovely Corina Monet is spreading her wings and flying off to university in the UK! (Thank you for all the faithful service you have given Coco).

Please contact Either Bob Tuttle: (517) 902-6115 [rctuttle@mac.com](mailto:rctuttle@mac.com) or Bob Suits (231) 557-4498 [rpsuits@gmail.com](mailto:rpsuits@gmail.com) or Fred Nichols (231) 894-4716 [Fredn@Bellsouth.net](mailto:Fredn@Bellsouth.net).

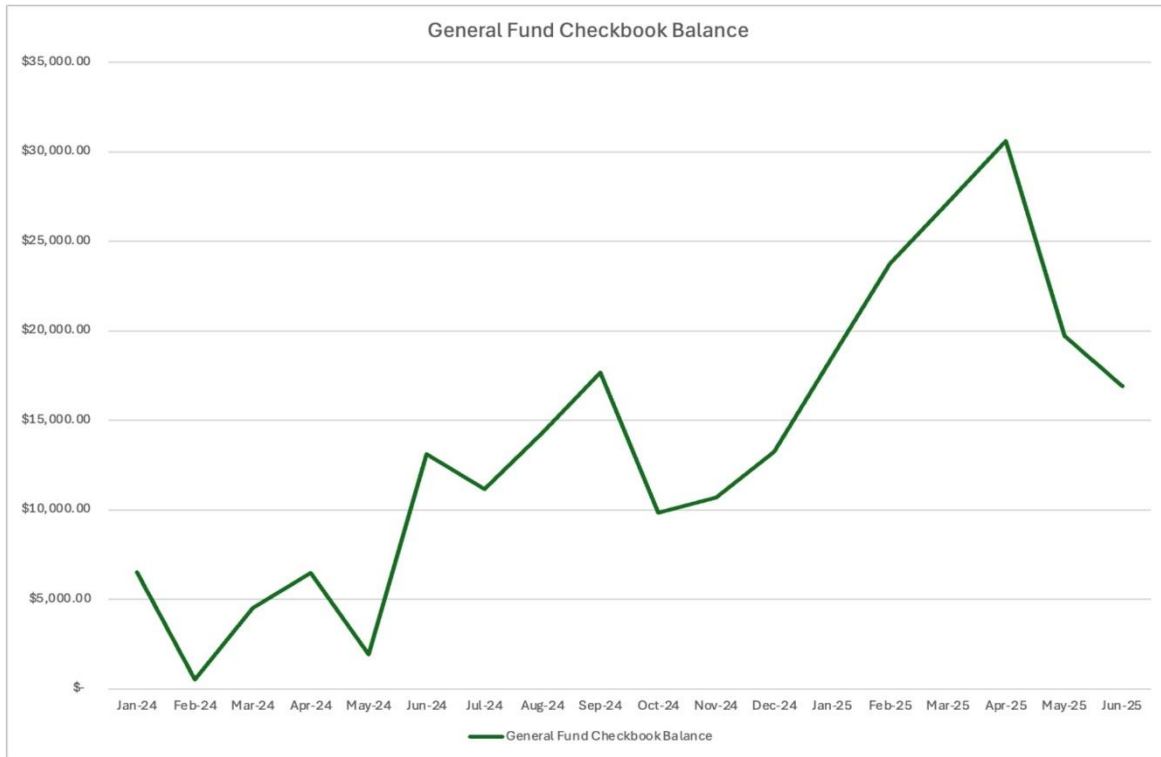


## Finance Report

June 2025 Finance Report (as of June 30, 2025)						
	June	June	% June	YTD	YTD	% YTD
	Actual	Budget	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
General Fund Income	\$ 19,891	\$ 27,816	72%	\$ 152,188	\$ 167,911	91%
General Fund Expenses	\$ 23,244	\$ 29,093	80%	\$ 150,119	\$ 170,765	88%
Net General Fund Surplus	\$ (3,353)			\$ 2,068.34		
General Fund Checkbook Balance	\$ 16,893					

The finance report through the end of June shows that the general fund giving was not adequate to cover expenses with a \$3,353 deficit. Giving for the year so far has met expenses with a surplus of just \$2,068. Our general fund checkbook balance as of the end of June was \$16,893 which is nearly enough to cover 1 month's expenses. The church is up-to-date on its Ministry Shares obligations.

The graph below shows the trend in the WLUMC checkbook balance for the general fund. Since early in 2024 the church has greatly improved its financial situation.



***"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7***

# August Events at a Glance

- 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Church Family Camp at Lake Michigan Camp and Retreat
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Worship at 9am and 11am Holy Communion at both services
- 4<sup>th</sup> UWF meeting 10am
- 5<sup>th</sup> Prayer Vigil at 1315 Benston Rd, Whitehall 5.30pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> Prayer Vigil at 1315 Benston Rd, Whitehall 5.30pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Education Sunday – special offering  
Blood Pressure checks available after each service
- 19<sup>th</sup> Prayer Vigil at 1315 Benston Rd, Whitehall 5.30pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> Blood Drive 2 – 7pm
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Men's Breakfast 8-10am
- 24<sup>th</sup> NOW Summer Splash 4 – 6pm
- 26<sup>th</sup> Leadership Team Meeting 1pm  
Prayer Vigil at 1315 Benston Rd, Whitehall 5.30pm
- 30<sup>th</sup> Rev Michelle Vallier Wedding at Cedar Springs
- 1<sup>st</sup> Labor Day Holiday – Church office Closed

Please note – Pastor Tim and Fiona will be on annual leave from Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup> to Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Church office will be closed during this time.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**82<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
Strawberry Social**



Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup>  
5:00 – 7:00 PM

Shortcake - Ice Cream - Bake Sale

**Claybanks United Methodist Church  
Montague**

Directions

Meinert Park Rd. to Indian Bay Rd. Turn right to church.

Or

Webster Rd. West to 56<sup>th</sup> Ave. Turn left to church.

Sponsored by Claybanks Women of Faith

Lebanon Lutheran & **thrivent** &  Montague Foods  
present our annual

*Back to School*  
**BACKPACK  
GIVEAWAY**

FREE  
Backpacks  
&  
Water  
Bottles

FREE  
Hot Dog  
Dinners

**Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>**  
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
at  
**Lebanon Lutheran Church**  
1101 S. Mears Ave. Whitehall, MI 49461  
Additional Parking at Shoreline Elementary

STUDENTS MUST BE PRESENT & WITH THEIR PARENT/GUARDIAN.  
FIRST COME FIRST SERVED, WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

QUESTIONS? CALL (231) 893-5745



**WEEKLY SCHEDULE AT WHITE LAKE UMC, 8555 COOK STREET, MONTAGUE  
CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT (231) 894 5789 FOR MORE DETAILS**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9am <b>TRADITIONAL WORSHIP</b> 11am <b>PRAISE BAND</b> <b>WORSHIP</b> Including Kids Church  <b>YOUTH GROUP</b> 4-6pm	Office open 10am to 3.30pm  UWF 10am (first Monday of the month)  Chair Yoga 3.30pm  <b>THE GATHERING</b> <b>FREE MEAL 6-7pm</b>  <b>NA MEETING</b> 6.30pm	Office open 12 to 3.30pm    AL-ANON 7pm	Office open 10am to 3.30pm   Chair Yoga 3.30pm  Faith Group 7pm <b>NA MEETING 7pm</b>	Office open 10am to 3.30pm  Stitches group 9.30am onwards  <b>FREESTORE 5-8pm</b>  <b>THE GATHERING</b> <b>FREE MEAL 6-7pm</b>	Office open 10am to 3.30pm   Chair Yoga 3.30pm  <b>NA MEETING</b> 6.30pm	Men's Breakfast 8am  (4th Saturday of the month)  <b>FREESTORE</b> 11am—2pm