



The Messenger

September 2024

Contact Us

Pastor Tim Dibble

Pastor's phone

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Pastor's email

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Office Administrator

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Church Office Phone

231-894-5789

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Address:

White Lake UMC

Montague Campus

8555 Cook Street

Montague, MI 49437

The Praise Center

of White Lake UMC

117 S. Division Street

Whitehall, MI 49461

From the Pastor's Desk

DO YOU EVER FEEL LIKE YOU ARE DROWNING?

As I listen to the political pundits on the news and the speeches being delivered by those leading and seeking to lead us, I am struck by a couple things. First, that the systems and institutions of our world have failed to provide for the common security and sanctity of life which I believe we are all entitled. Second that the answer to the shortcomings of these worldly plans is the same now as it has been throughout history whenever people have faced difficult times. There has been something in the way that so many of our fellow citizens have stood up to peacefully make their feelings known. Unfortunately, it is the negative minority that gets all the attention and publicity. And yet, I do not sense that people have truly given up hope. Whenever the waters of chaos seem to be threatening to breach the levees of protection with which we seek to surround our lives and the lives of those we love, our leaders and the people they serve have found something . . . someone to rescue them.

Do you ever feel like you are drowning? Are you afraid? Do you ever feel like no matter what you do, how you prepare or plan, or how hard you try you just can't seem to find the simple peace and security you need? Are you living in fear of health issues? Are you afraid that you are about to lose your job? Are you afraid of losing your home to foreclosure? Are you feeling overwhelmed by the emotional plights of relatives, friends, and/or neighbors who are struggling to make ends meet? Are you grieving? Are you hungry? Are you depressed? Are you concerned for how your kids and grandkids are going to get the education they need to make their own way in the world? Are you angry with the public officials you have elected who seem apparently helpless to stem the tide of the current crisis? What is the answer tugging at your heart? What revelation is God seeking to share with you and me? Do you feel like you are drowning right now? Be honest with yourself; are you afraid?

There is hope for you and me, as there has always been . . . faith in God. As Christians we are drowning. Drowning in the waters of our Baptism – dying in Christ to the world which seeks to define our lives on its terms – and being born again as not just children of God but the very sons and daughters of the Most High! We can be born again in these same Baptismal waters of God's loving womb. This is the real challenge that frightens so many away from a

deeper relationship with God. This is the real challenge to us as individuals and as a nation. Isn't it about time that we once again embrace those fateful and faithful words on our currency – In God We Trust!

Isn't it about time that we again trust in the God who has led our faith-family out of captivity again and again? A captivity at times physical and at times emotional and spiritual. A captivity at times individual and at other times collective. Please, don't misconstrue my words here. I have no expectation that God is going to rid the world of all its troubles suddenly and miraculously. I believe, however that God does want us to have what we need to live fruitful and productive lives of meaning, sharing and love. I believe that God does not intend to leave us in the Valley of the Shadows but provides a light of hope, and rod of guidance, and a vision of peace that can and will lead us into lives filled with possibilities for happiness. This does not mean that our lives will be without challenges and trials, but it does mean that we need not be afraid!

I invite you to join me in a drowning, a drowning of despair, restlessness, loneliness, doubt, and false expectations in the healing waters of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. I invite you to join me and those of like mind and spirit in facing the challenges we all face without fear. I invite you to take your cares and concerns and place them at the very throne of God. I invite you to know Jesus Christ and experience the assurance that God wills for your life. I invite you to allow the Holy Spirit to work in and through your life to lead you and your loved ones along God's intended path.

Time to jump into the deep end in faith and place our trust fully upon Christ!

God bless!



The Church office is located at
8555 Cook Street, Montague, MI 49437
Phone # 231-894-5789

Church Office Hours

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

Our Vision Statement

Worship God

Follow Jesus

Love and Serve All

Deadline for the October newsletter

Wednesday, September 25th, 2024

"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."

PRAYER

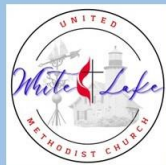
Prayer Request Card – are available on our Welcome Desk in the Welcome Center at both campuses. Fill it out and hand to Pastor Tim on Sunday mornings.

- **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. We can never have too many folks praying!



PRAY FOR:

- Prayers for Bob and Lee Suits.
- Continued prayers for Pat Klotz nephew, Matthew as he continues treatment for cancer. Please pray for him and the whole family.
- Please pray for Karen and Steve Welter's Gt Gt Granddaughter, Nova who was born prematurely, weighing just 1lb 15oz. She is in the NICU at Butterworth Hospital, G.R. Prayers for baby and for Mom, Alaiya.
- Please pray for Lois Rozdilsky's HS friend Diane who had complex ankle surgery & tendon repair. She cannot put weight on that leg for 6 weeks (or more).
- Prayers for Lois's sister Gail who is having heart issues yet to be fully diagnosed.
- Many of you long-time members will remember Dorothy Hennig. She was a lovely lady with great faith. She moved up north many years ago and now her daughter let us know that she has passed away. Please keep her family in your prayers



New Member Lunch at the Parsonage

Join us for an informal lunch,
find out more about the UMC,
and explore what membership means for you.

No strings attached—just lunch and a chat!

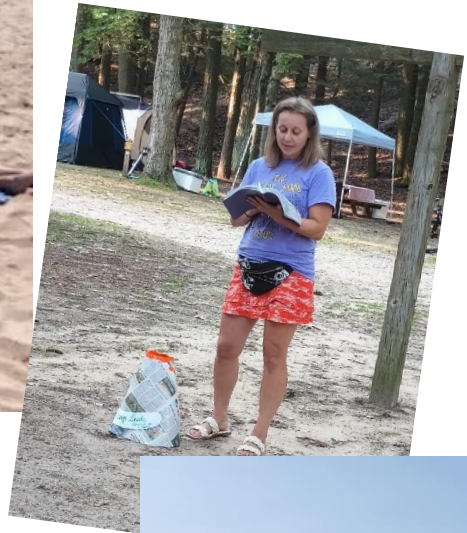
Sunday, September 22nd or Sunday, October 6th from 1pm—3pm

Call the church office on 231 894 5789 to reserve your place

Oh, What Fun We Had!

WLUMC Family Campout

At the beginning of August, an intrepid group of us spent the weekend (or more) at Lake Michigan Camp and Retreat Center, Pentwater. We enjoyed varied activities, lots of fun, and times of peace and tranquility. Lake Michigan, the beach, and the woodland site made a perfect backdrop for this time of family renewal. Thanks to Ruth & Bob Tuttle, Sue Lloyd, and all who attended!



Worship Ministries



Come to the Table Worship Series

Sunday, September 8th – The Table of Hospitality – Romans 12:9-21 and Matthew 16:24-25

Sunday, September 15th – Back to Church Sunday – Summer Splash – The Table of Love – Romans 13:8-14 and Matthew 18:15-20

Sunday, September 22nd – The Table of Peace – Romans 14: 1-12 and Matthew 18: 21-35

September 29th 2024 – The Table of Grace – Philippians 1: 21-30 and Matthew 20: 1-16

October 6th 2024 – Week Five – World Communion Sunday – The Table of Joy – Philippians 2: 1-13 and Matthew 21: 23-32

BACK TO
CHURCH
Sunday

**Sunday,
September
15th, 2024**

**Reach out and
Invite
Someone**



To Church

Come to the Table...



www.worshipdesignstudio.com/table



DISTRICT FALL
LAY SERVANT RETREAT

September 27-28, 2024

Cedar Springs UMC

Registration: Friday 4:30 p.m.

Send-off: Saturday 4:00 p.m.

Registration Cost: \$30

(includes two meals and snacks)

Registration Deadline: September 13, 2024

Introduction to Lay Ministry – The Basic Course - Sarah Zachow, instructor.

Advanced Course: Life Together in the United Methodist Connection (UM Polity)
Pastor Jeff Swainston and Jody Pratt, instructor.

Advanced Course: Aging and Ministry in the 21st Century
Retired Pastor Terri Cummins, instructor.

For more information call the church office on 231 894 5789



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!

Join us for our next meeting as we welcome Western
Waters District UWF Chair – Jean Sherman

Jean will be speaking to us about the future and direction of UWF and answering any questions you may have. Coffee and cookies will be served.



United
Women
in Faith

**All Women
Welcome!**

We seek to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

First Fall Meeting
September 9th
10:00 a.m.
Montague Campus

MUSIC News



Join us as we sing praises to God. All singers welcome – no experience required.

Come make a joyful noise to the Lord!



White Lake UMC'S
Choral Joy

Beginning on Wednesday, September 11th at 6:00 p.m.

At the Montague campus

Practices Wednesday night from September through May.

Always looking for new members.

No previous experience necessary.

Contact Gwenneth Bean on 616 430 2393



Praise Ringers Gearing Up For Another Season



Beginning on Wednesday, August 28th at 7:00 p.m.

At the Montague campus

Practices Wednesday night from September through May.

Performances are usually the third Sunday of the month
(although the first time playing in worship this year will be September, the 22nd.)

Always looking for new members Why not give it a try?

Contact Charlene Lindquist, at 893-5025 or 726-8364 today!

Speak to Gwen if you would like to share some special music this Fall.

Speak to Charlene if you would like to learn to play bells or join our Praise Ringers.

Grade school kids are all welcome to join the Hallelujah Kids Chorus. Rehearsals are part of Kids Church, and the Chorus shares music during services, especially during the Holidays.

The Hallelujah Kids Chorus



Rehearsals during Kids Church



Health & Wellness Ministries

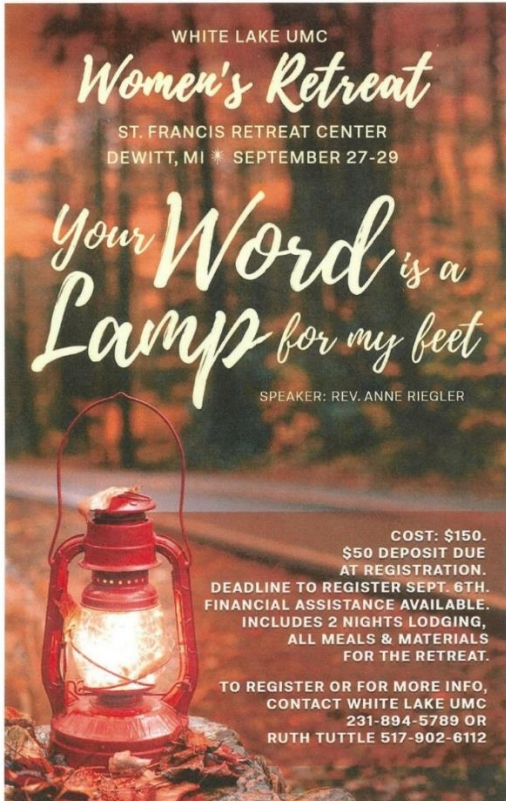
Next Blood Pressure Checks

Sunday, September 15th, 2024 (both services)

Get your blood pressure checked free of charge after church.

Know Your Numbers!

Faith Formation



Women's Retreat

September 27th – 29th.

Ladies, it's time to sign up for our Annual Women's Retreat. Save your place now with a \$50 deposit. Please book by September 1st, after which we will be advertising to the district and local community.

I'm sure those of you who attended last year remember what a blessed, relaxed, and fun time we shared. For more details or information please contact Ruth Tuttle or call in at the church office.

Something new for the guys

Men and boys of all ages YOU are invited to

THE MEN'S BREAKFAST

Please come to enjoy fellowship with your friends, and share your needs, ideas, and thoughts. We'll have a light breakfast followed by conversation.



4th Saturday of each month

Time: 8-10 am

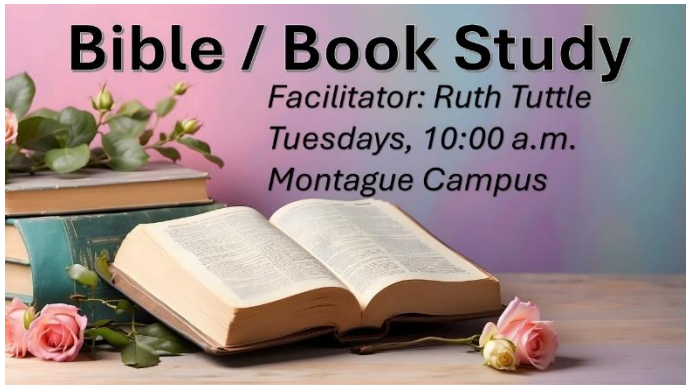
Location: Montague Campus

Please RSVP with the office or Tom Hinken (call or text 231-730-0075)

If you are able to bring fruit, donuts, etc. please let Tom know

FAITH GROUPS – HERE’S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

CALL RUTH TUTTLE TO FIND THE BEST FIT FOR YOU!



Tuesday Faith Group

10 - 11:30 AM:

Facilitator: Ruth Tuttle

Begins September 17, Room 3
Studying Season 2 of THE CHOSEN

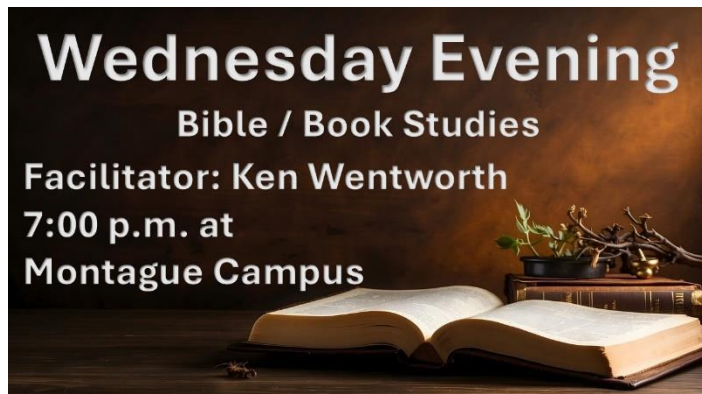
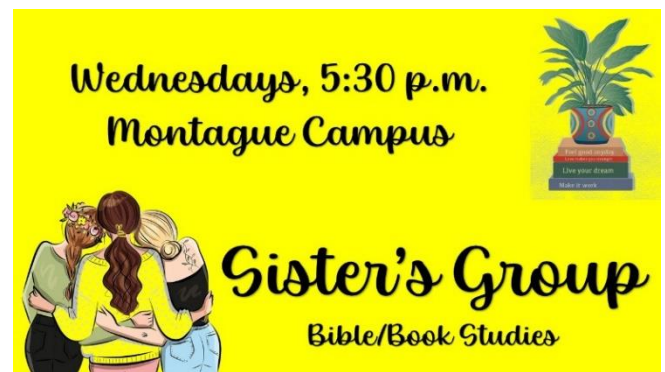
Wednesday Faith Groups

Sisters.... all women welcome

5:30 - 7:00 PM Room 11

Begins September 18th with the study of
“Love Wins” by Rob Bell

Love Wins is a book about heaven, hell and
the fate of every person who ever lived.



Wednesday Evening Faith Group

Facilitator: Ken Wentworth

7:00 - 8:30 PM in Room 3

1 Kings 1 – 11, Proverbs & Ecclesiastes

Understanding and wisdom, both free from God for the asking, will come alive to all God’s children with learning and discussion of what the Bible means to each of us. This book and study are a great beginning to that quest of our hearts.

Thursday Faith Groups

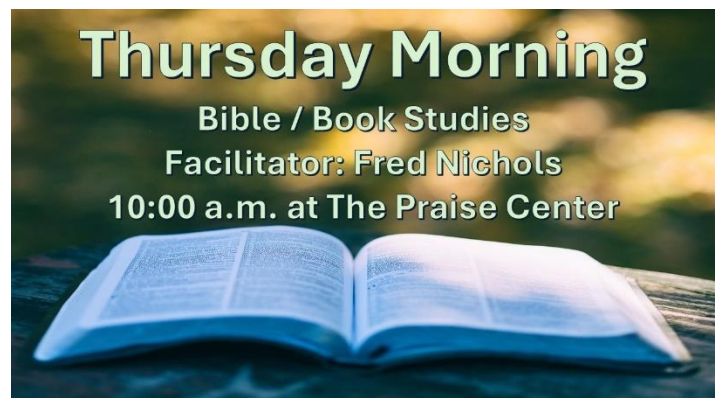
Thursday morning group

Facilitator: Fred Nichols

10:00 - 11:30 AM

Praise Center Conference Room

Begins September 19 with the study of “God
Never Gives Up on You,” by Max Lucado





SUMMER SPLASH!

This event is for the whole family. Bring your kids, grandkids, neighbor's kids, and your granny!

Bring a picnic dish to pass, and a non-perishable food item to donate to the Dollar Dinner pantry. Celebrate harvest and the changing of the seasons with a splash!



Say goodbye to Summer and hello to Fall with us

Summer Splash!

Sunday, September 15th 2024

3– 6pm at the Montague Campus (8555 Cook Street, Montague)

Please donate non-perishable food items for our Dollar Dinner's program—thank you

Fun for all ages

Potluck picnic & hotdog roast, Camp fire, Hay rides, photo ops, Bounce House Games and Activities. Something for Everyone!



Please share this event with your family, neighbors, and friends!

LOOKING AHEAD

Church Family/All Age **Halloween party** – Friday October 25th, 6 – 8pm


Trunk or Treat – Thursday, October 31st, 5 – 7pm

We are now collecting donations of candy for the Trunk or Treat. Please help us with this outreach to our community. Until the boxes appear, please leave candy at the office.

We also need folks to decorate their trunks and hand out candy. Please sign up asap in the church office if you can help!



DOLLAR DINNERS START ON SEPTEMBER 11TH, SO IT'S TIME TO SIGN UP. PLEASE CONSIDER PREPARING A MEAL OR HELPING WITH SET-UP/CLEAN-UP. (SIGN UP SHEETS AT THE WELCOME DESK) CONTACT MARTHA SADONY FOR MORE INFO.



Nurture
Outreach
Witness

WEDNESDAY DOLLAR DINNERS

White Lake UMC Montague Campus
8555 Cook Street, Montague
For info call #231 894 5789

Everyone is welcome to join us for dinner at 5pm each Wednesday, at our Montague Campus, from Sept 11th 2024

ENDOWMENT UPDATE



WLUMC ENDOWMENT MONTHLY REPORT JULY 2024

Beginning Balance (7/1/2024)	\$192,441.49
Dividend Income	+357.00
Disbursements	-400.00
Change in Market Value	+2,603.23
Ending Value (7/31/2024)	\$195,002.23

I cautiously report another wonderful gain in the fund for the month of July. It registered a growth of \$2,960.74. We disbursed one of this year's grants for \$400, ending with another new record value of \$195,002.23 for the fund.

Although I am extremely happy and excited about this continued upward trend of the fund, I am a bit anxious about what awaits us in the future. So far this month (August) has been a daily mixture of large gains and losses in the market. Hopefully in the short term it will stabilize and continue to grow.

I guess I should follow my own words in previous reports to just trust the United Methodist Foundation of Michigan to continue to run the fund as they have so successfully in the past, and of course continue to pray, to thank our Lord for all he's done for us. Yes, that's what we need to do, and I know our fund will be just fine.

In Christ. Jeff Petersen (Endowment Fund Team Leader)



TRUSTEES NEWS

REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER

Praise Center:

- Working on some bathroom issues, toilets mainly. Getting ready for the cooler weather too. Heating systems review(s) and repairs as necessary.
- Window issues in fellowship hall are raising their heads. Will get busy on those repairs as well.

Thank you so much for the continued efforts to maintain our incredible facility and the many missions it supports.

Montague Campus:

- Work is done regarding the lightning strike on our interior repairs. The Internet seems good, and the sound and video systems are performing as intended.
- We are still working on the bell tower roof. We have removed the spire and trim from the bell tower roof area. Waiting for the right equipment to remove the entire roof.
- Plans are underway to change the bell tower into and higher more visible cross. More to come on this issue. With the addition on the canopy visibility of the bells were limited at best. Also, we have no plans to use the bell tower as a carillon. So, hence the plans to use that space to better reflect the values we share.
- Claire Schlaff is preparing to deal with our invasive species in our wonderful habitat areas. It seems that areas of our grounds in and around the retention area are filling with some unwanted intruders. Claire is working with the Muskegon Conservation District to assist us with these issues. Garlic mustard is still being dealt with in our wooded area as well. Thanks to Claire we are being good stewards of our natural surroundings.
- Some sprinkler work may be necessary for our raised garden area. Lois Rozdilsky has found serious dry areas where the sprinkler system is unable to reach. In review of the issue, it seems the plantings have grown to a point sheltering areas of that garden from the sprinklers. More to come on this.

Thanks for all the efforts of all those helping to maintain and improve our facilities. What an incredible group.

Parsonage:

- Mike Drazba made repairs under the deck. Thank you, Mike. We will have a bit more to do but nothing urgent at this point.
- The pesky split rail fence at the front entrance will need some work as well. Glen Naghtin provided some much-needed fence sections, and we will get them placed to fix the problem.

What a great combination of facilities and people to improve the lives of so many through our ministries and outreach to our communities.

Great to be a part of a community and congregation that makes such a huge difference.

Dick Baerman, Trustee



MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Ted Boyden's Annual Jam Fundraiser



All proceeds from the sale of fruit products will be donated to the church to support the twice monthly meals prepared and delivered to the Muskegon rescue Mission Women's Shelter

**Fundraiser runs from
10/1/24—10/31/24
Half pint jars—\$5.00**

Order forms can be dropped off at the White Lake UMC: Montague Campus and at the Praise Center in Whitehall. Ted is happy to address any questions that you may have. Contact him on Sundays, by phone, or at his home.

Phone # 231 670 4374

Address 9719 Lamos Road, Montague
(half way between Fruitvale and Eilers)



White Lake Community Free Store

Located at 117 S. Division St.
Whitehall, MI 49461
(Inside the Praise Center)



Every item is free!
Open Thursdays
5-8pm
Open Saturdays
11am-2pm

Donations can be dropped off at the Praise Center

Or at our Montague site
8555 Cook Street, Montague
Mon to Fri 10am—3.30pm



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.



July 2024 Finance Report

The July 2024 Finance Report below shows that collections continue to lag behind both budget and expenses. Fortunately, expenses were also low due to lower than historic maintenance costs. The insurance settlement for the lightning strike on the bell tower has been received. The treasurer has opened a designated account to collect contributions for long term maintenance, such as a replacement roof for the Montague campus. The District and Other Apportionments were both paid in July. So far this year we have been able to pay 5 of 7 months of District Apportionments and 4 months of Other Apportionments.

July 2024 Finance Report		
	July 2024	Percentage of July Budget
Designated Funds Income	1,360.00	
General Fund Income	18,752.00	71.06%
General Fund Expenses	20,895.57	78.16%
General Fund Checkbook Balance	11,140.32	
July Income Budget	26,389.50	
July Expense Budget	26,733.57	

2024 Michigan Conference Special Sunday Offerings

- January 14th
Human Relations Day
- March 10th
UMCOR Sunday
- April 14th
Native American Sunday
- May 12th
Golden Cross Sunday
- May 26th
Peace with Justice Sunday
- August 25th
Christian Education Sunday
- September 8th
Rural Life Sunday
- October 6th
World Communion Sunday
- October 13th
Disability Awareness Sunday
- November 24th
United Methodist Student Sunday



September Events at a Glance

- 1st Communion Sunday – Holy Communion served at both services.
- 2nd Labor Day – Church office Closed
- 6th Health & Wellness Team meeting (Montague) 10am
- 9th UWF meeting (Montague) 10am
- 10th Leadership Team meeting (Montague) 1pm
- 11th Stewardship Team meeting (Montague) 10am
Worship Design Team meeting (Montague) 12pm
Dollar Dinners kick-off 5pm
Choir Practice 6pm
- 15th BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY
Blood Pressure Checks after service at each campus
SUMMER SPLASH – whole church event 3-6pm
- 21st UWF District Brunch and Celebration – Ludington UMC 9am – 3pm
- 22nd New Members Lunch at Parsonage 1 – 3pm
- 24th Leadership Team meeting (Montague) 1pm
- 27th – 28th Lay Servant classes – Cedar Springs UMC
- 27th- 29th Women’s Retreat
- 28th Men’s Breakfast (Montague) 8-10am

<i>WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES, FAITH GROUPS, BIBLE STUDIES AND MORE</i>						
<i>CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT (231) 894 5789 FOR MORE DETAILS</i>						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9am WORSHIP @ Montague 11am WORSHIP @ Praise Center Including Kids Church & Youth Study 4-6pm YOUTH GROUP @ Praise Center	 6.30pm NA MEETING @ Praise Center	10am Faith Group @ Montague 7pm AL-ANON @ Montague	5pm Dollar Dinner @ Montague 5.30pm Sister’s Group @ Montague 5.30pm Choral Joy @ Montague 6pm Praise Ringers @ Montague 7pm 7pm Faith Group @ Montague 7pm NA MEETING	10am Faith Group @ Praise Center 10am—3pm 9.30am Stitchers group @ Montague 5-8pm FREESTORE @ Praise Center 6-7pm THE GATHERING FREE MEAL @ Praise Center 7pm Bible Studies @ Praise Center	 6.30pm NA MEETING @ Praise Center	11am—2pm FREESTORE @ Praise Center 12-1pm THE GATHERING FREE MEAL @ Praise Center