

The title 'THE CHIMES' is written in a large, bold, serif font. The letters are filled with a dark grey color and have a slightly distressed or hand-drawn appearance. Two musical notes, one above the 'I' and one above the 'S', are positioned around the title. The notes are simple black outlines with stems and flags.

DIXBORO UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH
NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2011

WHAT IS A DEACON?

By Rev. Cathy Freeman, Deacon

The United Methodist Church has two orders of clergy – the Order of Elders and the Order of Deacons. Both Elders and Deacons are clergy, have earned the title Reverend, and are ordained. The focus of their ministry is different.

Rev. John Park is an Elder and serves in a ministry that is typical for Elders, as the pastor of a church. As our Book of Discipline says, Elders are called to the ministry of Word, Order, Sacrament and Service. In short, this means they preach the Word of God as told to us in the Holy Scripture, they participate in the organization and administration of a local church, they lead the celebration of the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion, and they are servant ministers to the church and the world.

I am a Deacon and there is no “typical” ministry for Deacons. Deacons are called to the ministry of Service and Word. Like all clergy, we preach the Word of God as told to us in Holy Scripture. The focus of our ministry is in Service where Deacons serve as parish nurses, Christian Educators, Music Ministers, missionaries, retreat leaders, doctors in free clinics, administrators for food banks, etc. etc. etc. Deacons are not called to the ministry of Sacrament so a Deacon may participate in the sacraments, like I do here at Dixboro, but a Deacon will not lead the celebration of the Sacraments alone.

The major role for Deacons is to be a “bridge” between the world and the church. We try to keep issues that affect our world in front of our congregations so people are informed. In this way, we “bring the world into the church.” I recently did a short reflection on World AIDs Day; this would be an example of helping the church stay informed of the issues that affect our world.

We also try to help our congregation find ministries that are important to it so they everyone can participate in helping others. In this way, we “take the church into the world.” My leadership as the Coordinator of the Shelter Meal Ministry is one example of how I help the people of Dixboro participate in ministries outside our church (in the world..)

Another important role of the Deacon is to “make room at the table” for everyone. This means that we try to help the people of the church recognize who is not being included in the church or not included in the activities of the church and make invitations to them. For example, there might be a single mother in the neighborhood and the family does not attend church. An invitation to the kids to participate in Vacation Bible School or the Christmas Play would be a way to be inviting to this family. Or there might be a senior citizen who cannot attend worship because of poor eyesight and a Deacon might find a ride each Sunday for this person. There are a million ways in which those who are not able to participate are invited to participate and the Deacon is always looking for these.

In my particular ministry, I am appointed half-time as the Pastoral Assistant here at Dixboro Church. Deacons always have some connection to a local church and I am so happy that mine is at Dixboro. I am also appointed half-time to work on the Board of Directors of the Ann Arbor Women’s Group and the Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County. Working with these two non-profit agencies gives me the opportunity to be “in the world”, doing ministry for God’s people outside the church. I am blessed to be able to serve in all these ways!

PUBLIC MEETING

In 2012, The Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC) will be resurfacing Plymouth Road from M-153 Ford Road to Dixboro Road. This resurfacing will also include the installation of 4-foot wide paved shoulders, similar to those that are currently in place on Plymouth Road, east of M-153 Ford Road. Through traffic analysis, the WCRC has also determined that a traffic signal is warranted at the Plymouth Road and Cherry Hill Road intersection. The WCRC is also considering a roundabout at that location as an alternative to installing a traffic signal.

There will be a Public Meeting hosted by the Dixboro Design Review Board on:

**Thursday
January 20, 2011
7:00 pm
Superior Township hall
3040 N. Prospect
Ypsilanti, MI 48198**

There will be conceptual designs for both the roundabout and the traffic signal. Prior to completing the design process, the WCRC and Superior Township are interested in residents' opinions, observations, and comments. This is an important opportunity to make your opinion known. The Township encourages all interested parties to attend. Representatives of Dixboro Church and the Trustees Committee will be there. Tom Freeman is the chair of the Design Review Board and will facilitate the meeting.

Persons wishing to express their views may do so in person at the public meeting or in writing addressed to David Phillips, Township Clerk at the address above. Superior Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities upon four (4) business days notice to the Township. Individuals requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Superior Township by writing the Township Clerk at the address above.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM DAY OBSERVANCES

Sunday, January 16, 2011 is Religious Freedom Day. This date has been chosen by many faith traditions to coincide with the Martin Luther King holiday since his work exemplifies freedom for all people

The Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County and the Interfaith Council for Peace are co-sponsoring a series of events to help observe this day:

Thursday, January 13, 7:00 pm – Panel Presentation: “Can I Get Some Respect? Flashpoints and Controversies on Religious Freedom.” At the Ann Arbor District Library, Fifth Avenue at Williams. Participants from Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Pagan and secular organizations. Questions and discussion will follow.

Saturday, January 15 – Interfaith Service Project: “Let’s Re-Build Something Together.” In cooperation with Habitat for Humanity, there are two shifts available to volunteer – 8am to noon or noon to 4pm. Volunteers 16 years of age or older are welcome for either or both shifts. Plenty of work for people with varying skills. Pre-registration required by contacting Habitat for Humanity at 734-677-1558.

Sunday, January 16, 1:00-3:00 pm – Living Library: Local Residents Sharing Global Religions.” At Genesis of Ann Arbor, 2309 Packard. Dozens of religious and non-religious “books” will be available for check-out (meaning you can have time with a person of a faith tradition you might want to know more about.) Refreshments available. Welcome all children, students, adults and families.

For more details, contact Chuck Warpehoski (ICPJ) at 734-663-1870 or George Lambrides (IRTWC) at 734-424-1535.

DONATIONS FROM BUSCH'S

Many of you use a Busch's gift card and part of your purchase is donated to Dixboro Church. In order to continue this donation, you must register for the Busch's My Way program and then designate Dixboro Church under the Cash for Education program.

You can become a My Way Member at <http://myway.buschs.com>. You will receive an email after you register to ACTIVATE your account.

Then login to MyWay. Under the My Account tab, choose the "Cash for Education" option. You will see instructions to register your MyWay card for Dixboro.

Please call the church office if you have any questions on this process. There are also printed instructions on the ministry table outside the church office.

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Survey Research Center at the University of Michigan is offering a Summer Internship Program. They offer 10 week, 20-40 hour per week paid positions for students with an interest in social science research. Interns will be typically assigned to an on-going research study, attend seminars/courses on principles of survey research, and participate in a research symposium.

The program will run from May 23-July 29, 2011.

Applications can be picked up at the Survey Research Center Director's office (room 1310) on 426 Thomson Street, Institute for Social Research Building, Ann Arbor. Please include a statement of purpose, resume, an official copy of your college transcript, and two letters of recommendation. **Applications are due February 17, 2011.**

Additional details are available at <http://sites.isr.umich.edu/dnn/diversity> or from George Myers (gmyers@umich.edu) or Leah Wright (wrightle@umich.edu)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday	Jan 1		HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Wednesday	Jan 5	6:30 pm	Worship Committee Meeting
Thursday	Jan 6	7:00 pm	Women of Dixboro Meeting
Friday	Jan 7	5:00 pm	Set up for Saturday Event
Saturday	Jan 8		Entire Church building rented for entire day
Sunday	Jan 9	12:00 pm	Shelter Meal Ministry
Tuesday	Jan 11	7:00 pm	Missions Committee
Thursday	Jan 13	7:00 pm	Trustees Committee Meeting
Saturday	Jan 15	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast - <i>rescheduled</i>
Monday	Jan 17	1:00 pm	United Methodist Women
Wednesday	Jan 19	6:30 pm	Nurture Committee Meeting
Thursday	Jan 20	7:00 pm	Superior Twp Public Hearing on Plymouth Road Changes
Thursday	Jan 27	2:00 pm	Tour of Building
		7:00 pm	Finance Committee Meeting
Monday	Jan 31		Cathy at Conference Training

FINANCIAL INFORMATION
by Ingrid Sheldon, Treasurer

	November	YTD 2010	Budget	Difference	YTD Actual as % of Budget	YTD 2009
REVENUE						
General Giving	18,517.65	177,625.04	210,000.00	32,374.96	84.58%	175,517.86
Spec Collections, Designations, Other	1,239.57	46,057.21	12,000.00	-34,057.21		20,930.52
TOTAL REVENUE	19,757.22	223,682.25	222,000.00	-1,682.25		196,448.38
EXPENSE:						
Conference/District Related	3,861.00	34,749.00	38,610.00	3,861.00	90.00%	37,341.90
Church Related						
Missions, special collections, PHP, scholarships	390.00	16,028.41	7,500.00	0.00		10,326.85
Payroll	3,246.27	30,672.65	40,241.37	9,568.72	76.22%	34,856.10
General church operations	2,745.10	35,503.35	42,401.30	6,897.95	83.73%	36,320.68
Committees	-311.96	3,416.24	4,000.00	583.76	85.41%	3,497.75
Special Projects	845.03	31,182.81	10,000.00	-21,182.81		10,615.98
Total Pastor related expense	6,387.00	71,025.75	80,644.00	9,618.25	88.07%	70,269.33
Total Parsonage Related	384.84	2,628.68	4,325.00	1,696.32	60.78%	4,343.14
Total Schoolhouse expense	0.00	203.90	575.00	371.10	35.46%	322.46
TOTAL EXPENSE:	17,547.28	225,410.79	228,296.67	11,414.29	98.74%	207,894.19
CHURCH RELATED INCOME (LOSS)	2,209.94	-1,728.54	-6,296.67			-11,445.81

...and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:8b

RECURRING EVENTS

Sundays	8:00 am	Service of Word and Table Worship Service
Sundays	9:00 am	Contemporary Worship Service
Sundays	10:00 am	Sunday School for all ages
	11:00 am	Traditional Worship Service
Mondays	10:00 am	Northeast Seniors Exercise Class
Tuesdays	8:15 am	Exercise Class
	4:30 pm	Dance Class in Fellowship Hall
Wednesdays	10:00 am	Northeast Seniors Exercise Class
Thursdays	8:15 am	Exercise Class
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study
Fridays	10:00 am	Northeast Seniors Exercise Class
Saturdays	8:30 am	Course in Miracles

First Sunday		Holy Communion celebrated
Second Sunday		Shelter Meal Ministry
Third Sunday		Bring canned goods to worship
Third Monday	1:00 pm	United Methodist Women
Second Tuesday	7:00 pm	Missions Committee
First Wednesday	6:30 pm	Worship Committee
Third Wednesday	6:30 pm	Nurture Committee
First Thursday	7:00 pm	Women of Dixboro
Second Thursday	7:00 pm	Trustees Committee
Fourth Thursday	7:00 pm	Finance Committee
Second Saturday	8:00 am	Men's Club in Fellowship Hall

LECTIONARY READINGS

Sunday, Jan 2 Epiphany Sunday	Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12	Sunday, Jan 9	Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29 Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17
Sunday, Jan 16 Human Relations Day	Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-11 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42	Sunday, Jan 23 Ecumenical Sunday	Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1, 4-9 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23
Sunday, Jan 30	Micah 6:1-8 Psalm 15 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Matthew 5:12		