

THE CHIMES

DIXBORO UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH
NEWSLETTER

JUL.-AUG. 2008

30th ANNUAL DIXBORO FAIR IS COMING!

By Peggy Moran, Fair Committee

The 30th annual Dixboro Fair is August 2 and will be better than ever. This year we are extending the hours, 10am-6pm. We have new games, new artists, and new food this year. Yet we are keeping the same prices as last year to keep the day a family friendly day.



We need everyone to sign up for a work shift. The sign up is in the hallway across from the Church office. There is also a pie/cake sign up list. We need homemade pies and cakes to sell. Many people come to the fair just for the wonderful desserts we have.

This year's charities are the Humane Society of Huron Valley, Habitat for Humanity, and the Dixboro Schoolhouse renovation.

Ed and Chris Martin are taking over the main food tent from the well organized Meredith. They will need our support so let them know you willing to help them out.

Invite your friends, neighbors and relatives to this great event!

FROG WEEK PLANNING

By Stephanie Cloutier, Education Director

FROG (Friends Reaching Out to God) is a week long program for middle school kids, under the amazing leadership of Sandy Bowers, that has been a big hit for the last several years. Due to her work schedule, Sandy cannot take on this program this summer so a new leader is needed. Can you take on this important ministry to our middle school kids?

The dates for the program are tentatively set either for the week of August 11 or August 18. As part of the planning process, please let me know if your middle school student is interested in participating. You can reach me at education@dixborochurch.org or 665-5632, ext 203.

LOVE BLOOMS AT DIXBORO

There are many ways we can minister to God's world and God's people – each according to our abilities and our gifts. One of these ways is to make our building beautiful and hospitable. The Trustees are ministers when they paint the kitchen (it's beautiful!) or fix the plumbing. The Women of Dixboro ministered when they planted flowers around the church. The Dinner Divas contributed when they redecorated the Fellowship Hall. And many of us were very active ministers when we worked at Blue Jean Sunday.

The ways we minister and show God's love are innumerable. Thank you to all God's people for all you do!

SESQICENTENNIAL NEWS

By Ardith King, Committee Chair

Pastor Weekend in September

We sent invitations to nine former pastors of Dixboro UMC to join us for a celebration on the weekend of September 13 and 14. There will be one of Dixboro's famous potluck dinners on Saturday night and a special worship on Sunday morning. The pastors will be sharing their memories of Dixboro with us.

We will need places for our guests to stay so please consider offering your home. Put these dates on your calendar and plan to attend this special time of celebration.

Successful Hymn Sing

The choir and communal singing event on Sunday, June 1 was a joyous occasion and well attended. The program designed by Janice Clark was a combination of local talent - a combined Dixboro and Northside Community Church choir supplemented with the Northside Bell Choir, Becky Horvath on oboe, soloists Kevin Simons and Chris Grapentine, and Amy Simons on the trumpet. The Youth Choir led by Beth Little and the organ support and solo provided by Joy Schroeder added to our enjoyment.

Additional Celebrations?

The planning committee of Ardith King (Chair), Garvin Smith, John Park, Gerald Parker, Phoebe Judson, Janice Clark, Peggy Moran, Tom Freeman, Beth Woodward Smith and Spence BeMent meets regularly. Let us know what you would like done.

WOMEN OF DIXBORO MINISTRY IN AUGUST

By Cathy Freeman, Co-Chair

The Women of Dixboro are doing a ministry project during the summer months and will be helping to serve breakfast at the St. Andrews Episcopal Church on either Saturday, August 16 or 23 (watch email and bulletins for confirmation of the date).

St. Andrews serves breakfast 365 days a year to low-income and homeless people, sometimes as many as 150 a day. Seven to ten volunteers will be needed for this ministry in August and it will require getting up nice and early. Let Cathy Freeman or Phylis Brandon know if you can help.

DIXBORO MEN'S CLUB

By Spence BeMent

The men of the Dixboro are not meeting over the summer. However, they have organized a trip to the Toledo Mudhens Minor League baseball game on Sunday, June 29. Bill Sanford has secured 50 tickets for \$10 each and bus transportation (limited to 47) for another \$20 each is available if you wish to avoid travel, parking, and gas cost problems. The bus will leave from the church at 4:30 pm. Check with Bill (434-6176) if any of this works for you and yours. Women and girls are welcome. Money has been donated to take needy youth and suggestions are welcome.

NURTURE COMMITTEE RECONVENES

By Madeline Kingston-Park, Chair

There will be a meeting of the Nurture Committee before the Administrative Board meeting in August. Members will get a phone reminder of the meeting. We had a great time at coffee hours for our new members on June 8 and will be doing more of that kind of thing along with other ideas to nurture among ourselves and others. Have a relaxing summer as we prepare to gear up for exciting times to come.

CHANCEL DECORATING COMMITTEE FINAL REPORT

By Cathy Freeman, Chair

The Chancel Decorating Committee has been working for about a year and these projects were either completed or are in process as a result of their work.

- A decision was made to retain the altar.
- A docile cloth was installed behind the altar to soften the dark organ pipe covering.
- Wireless microphones were purchased to enhance the sound and provide flexibility for who can use them and where they can be used in the sanctuary.
- Atomic clocks that automatically reset with daylight savings time were purchased for the sanctuary, the fellowship hall hallway, and the choir room.
- The altar, organ, organ bench and wedding kneeler will be refinished in the same paint color as the columns behind the altar and the same wood stain as on the pews.
- A pulpit and lectern will be built by Kenn Scheffer, Eric Blom, and Fred Fragner. Sketches of these items are on the bulletin board by the women's bathroom in the fellowship hall hallway.

We want to thank the Memorials Committee and other generous donors who have contributed to the cost of these items. No funds were taken from the general fund to pay for any of this work.

I also want to personally thank those who served so well and so hard on this committee: Linda Aldrich, Sandy Bowers, Janice Clark, Gary Harrison, Ardith King, Beth Little, Lee Mein, John Park, Ingrid Sheldon, Helen Snedeker, and Carol Weigel,

HISTORY OF DIXBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – A BOOK

By Ardith King, Church Historian

Would anyone be interesting in editing my book about Dixboro Church? Or printing it? This is not great writing, it is a report of the people and doings of DUMC from its beginning in 1858 through June 2006. It is long.

I am working on the last chapter, so hopefully it could be printed before our 150th birthday on December 7, 2008. Please contact me at 663-7491 if you can help.

MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES GALORE

By Roberta King, Chair

HAITI SCHOOL OFFICE PROJECT



Dixboro UMC and friends are sponsoring a project to build a High School Office for a Methodist school in Haiti. Methodist schools are just starting to provide a high school education to children in Haiti. The teachers walk several miles to work each day. They have no desk or place to put supplies. They have no place to keep student records. The high school office will cost \$6,000.00. We still need \$2,200.00 to complete this project. If you would like to make a contribution, make a check payable to Dixboro UMC. Indicate Haiti School Office on the memo line. Checks can be given to Roberta King or placed in the church offering.

PARTNER CHURCH IN LIBERIA

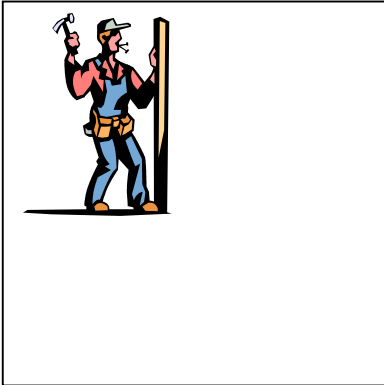
Our partner church in Liberia has started an adult literacy program. They have 85 students enrolled and have asked for school supplies. We will be collecting notebook paper, pencils, pens, and notebooks of paper to ship to this program. A box will be placed in the parlor for contributions. A laptop and a typewriter are also needed. Our next project will be the purchase of a generator for the adult literacy program.

The Missions Committee agreed to provide \$300 of missionary salary support for Beatrice Bganga in Liberia. They also agreed to try to raise \$1000 to buy a portable generator for use by adult education classes the Liberian Ada Ann Wright Church we support. More information on this project will be provided in the near future.

HABITAT HOUSE

The Good News Habitat House is well underway. Dixboro UMC's pledge is \$3,000.00. Most of this money has been raised already. Thank you.

HABITAT HOUSE WORK DAY



Our volunteer work days for the Habitat for Humanity Good News House are Thursday, July 10 and Saturday, July 12. A sign-up sheet for those days is on a clipboard on the table in the hall across from the church office. We need 5-6 people for both the morning and afternoon sessions (8-12 am and 1-5 pm) on each day. Lunch will be available at noon. If those days do not work for you, other week days are available. Directions to the house on Firwood in Ypsilanti are also on the table. See Spence BeMent for further details.

VOLUNTERS IN MISSION TRIP

The next VIM (Volunteers in Mission) trip to Haiti led by Curtiss Bartz (Ypsilanti First UMC) is scheduled for the fall (Nov 7-14) and it would be a great accomplishment to send our contributions with them.

FOOD GATHERERS

The need for food has increased this year. People who were contributing food last year are now in need of food themselves this year. Food contributions can be left in the box outside the church office.

DISASTER RELIEF

Many people have asked what we can do to aid those who have suffered recent natural disasters. The Mission Committee recommends a contribution to the United Methodist Committee on Relief. This contribution can be made through Dixboro UMC. You can indicate UMCOR USA, or UMCOR World Wide Relief. 100% of the funds you give through UMCOR will go directly to the relief effort. All administrative costs for UMCOR are funded through other contributions.

NEW MEMBERS

The Mission Committee is looking for a few new members. If you are interested in serving on this committee, contact Roberta King or put a note in the Mission Mailbox.

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

By Garvin Smith, Scholarship Committee Chair

On Sunday, June 15, four outstanding students from Dixboro were awarded scholarships.

The first Terry Wick Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Erin Bowers. Erin is going to be a junior at Western Michigan University where she is in the Nursing Program.

Suzanne Smith Memorial Scholarships were awarded to Scott Bowers and Sara Smith. Scott just finished his first year at Michigan State University. Sara will continue at Eastern Michigan where she is majoring in Physical Education and Health.

The Barbara Morris Academic Achievement Award was given to Leslee Brandon who will be studying education at Miami University in Oxford, OH beginning this fall.

STAFF VACATIONS

John Park will be on vacation from July 6 (after the church service) through July 12 and will also be out of town the weekend of July 26 and 27.

Cathy Freeman will be on vacation from July 16-18 and again from September 10-20.

CHURCH FINANCES

By Ingrid Sheldon, Treasurer

	May	YTD 2008	Budget	Difference	YTD Actual as % of Budget	YTD 2007
TOTAL REVENUE	18,527.42	93,336.15	220,000.00	126,663.85	42.43%	78,071.06
EXPENSE:						
Conference Related						
Apportionments	4,238.20	21,959.00	43,150.00	21,134.00	50.89%	24,238.50
Conference related donations	615.00	615.00	0.00			
Church Related						
Payroll	3,437.85	18,360.33	41,639.00	23,278.67	44.09%	16,039.92
General church operations	2,717.18	21,908.86	51,956.40	30,047.54	42.17%	17,936.18
Committee	1,843.10	3,938.69	8,000.00	4,061.31	49.23%	2,311.36
Scholarship, Conference fee, PHP	840.49	1,149.46	200.00			1,267.00
Special Project:	4,402.51	11,400.55	0.00			2,737.00
Total Pastor related expense	6,267.19	30,733.49	75,451.00	44,717.51	40.73%	29,222.18
Total Parsonage Related	269.66	2,501.46	5,750.00	3,248.54	43.50%	1,653.20
Total Schoolhouse expense	-650.29	246.24	791.04	544.80	31.13%	1,045.80
TOTAL EXPENSE:	23,980.89	112,813.08	226,937.44	127,032.37	49.71%	93,577.18
CHURCH RELATED INCOME (LOSS)	-5,453.47	-19,476.93	-6,937.44			-15,506.12

As reported before, our revenue has been good, but our expenses have been better! We are down about \$4000 when compared to Year To Date 2007. Special Project expense is up from a year ago, but there is corresponding revenue for those projects. End of year 2007 giving has provided "cash" to meet our obligations

to this point except for a portion of our Conference Apportionments. Thank you to those of you who "prepaid" their annual church pledge and to those who have given the "special" gifts to make the "special" projects possible.