

THE CHIMES

DIXBORO UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH
NEWSLETTER

September, 2007

AN OPEN LETTER FROM REV. JOHN G. PARK

Recently I said to Tom Macaulay, the Ann Arbor District Superintendent (and a good guy, too), "Dixboro is the best Church on the District." I believe it. God makes it happen and you are an important part of it.

The way we learn things early on sets a pattern for the rest of our lives so, for me, August is always the time of sweet corn and tomatoes. This year real tomatoes are in our garden because both Carol Guregian and Phebe Judson offered lots of encouragement for us to try. I've learned that a fresh tomato eaten before it gets to the kitchen tastes best!

Early patterns set, with thanks to Sandy Bowers, mean many of the younger people around Dixboro, will define August as the time for FROG week activities of work and fun. Other young adults will think of June as Mountain Top time.

Summer is associated with some slowing down and the old label sticks when everyone says they are busier than ever.

The summer worship services mixed more of the contemporary and traditional styles we like and the attendance has been up at the 8:00 and 9:30 services.

On these slow-down summer Sundays six people were baptized and 20 became members of Dixboro Church to the glory of God.

Every time I mention September during the summer I think getting back; back from vacation, back to school, back to church.

Starting September 9, we'll have three worship services every Sunday: Holy Communion and message at 8:00, Contemporary at 9:00 with the Joyful Noise, and Traditional style at 11:00 with the Chancel choir. Stephanie Cloutier is gearing up for the full docket of Sunday School classes at 10:00 to choose from.

The Preacher

NEW FALL SCHEDULE BEGINS SEPT. 9:

Our Summer has flown by and it is now time to put our Fall Schedule on your calendar!

8:00 a.m. – Prayer and Communion Service

9:00 a.m. – Contemporary Worship with Joyful Noise Praise Team

10:00 a.m. – Sunday School hour and Fellowship Coffee time

11:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship Service including Chancel Choir

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FINANCIAL REPORT, THROUGH JULY 31, 2007 – Ingrid Sheldon, Treasurer

Since the Conference does not bill churches for their portion of conference expense and mission spending during July and August, we at Dixboro received \$2,518.96 more than was spent during the month. Unfortunately, we are still \$14,001.30 down for the year, of which \$11,000 is owed to the Conference. I am now incorporating the Endowment Fund into our formal church statements and thus reallocated \$1000 of scholarship income and expense back to the Endowment.

The Sanctuary Renovation Project is nearing completion. The current cost is \$487,235 and \$454,664 has been pledged or donated to the project. Thank you all. Special thanks go to the Mark Korzon family and Korzon Landscaping for providing leadership and material for the adjacent grounds.

Not only does our physical plant have very specific needs but more would like to be done in the area of missions. Thank you to those who have increased your support for our church and its work as we continue to work hard to elevate our presence in our community and people's lives.

	July	YTD 2007	Budget	Difference	YTD % of Total
TOTAL REVENUE (All Sources)	15,377.36	116,086.96	227,600.00	111,513.04	100.00%
EXPENSE:					
Conference Related:	0.00	29,106.80	42,950.00	16,826.00	22.37%
Church Related:					
Payroll	2,001.28	20,770.26	45,200.00	24,429.74	15.97%
General church operations	3,685.30	25,887.67	48,172.00	22,284.33	19.90%
Committee	2,183.69	4,603.20	8,000.00	3,396.80	3.54%
Scholarship, Conference fee, PHP	-1,000.00	2,782.00	125.00	-192.00	2.14%
Special Project: Parsonage, Organ	0.00	2,737.00	0.00	-2,737.00	2.10%
Total Pastor related expense	5,800.98	40,824.14	74,951.00	34,126.86	31.38%
Total Parsonage Related	123.07	2,210.75	6,225.00	4,014.25	1.70%
Total Schoolhouse expense	64.08	1,166.44	1,975.00	808.56	0.90%
TOTAL EXPENSE:	12,858.40	130,088.26	227,598.00	102,957.54	100.00%
CHURCH RELATED INCOME (LOSS)	2,518.96	-14,001.30	2.00		



SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION DATES:

The following dates and events are being planned to celebrate Dixboro Church's 150th anniversary next year. The Sesquicentennial Committee has been working hard to make this an important and meaningful part of celebrating our church's history.

December 8, 2007
January 27, 2008

A play based on the first Trustees meeting. Refreshments served.
An organ recital performed by former organists, commemorating the installation of our Moeller organ on 1-29-1967 (41 years ago).

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<u>February 24, 2008</u>	Special Service to commemorate the hiring of a contractor to build the church, 2/27/1858.
<u>April 27, 2008</u>	“Heritage Sunday” honoring the Galpin and Judson families, and 50+ members, along with displays.
<u>June 1, 2008</u>	Choral Sunday.
<u>August 2, 2008</u>	The annual Festival includes old-fashioned games for children, souvenirs, church tours with displays.
<u>September ? & ?, 2008</u>	(Date not set yet...) Week-end for former Pastors – famous Dixboro potluck dinner on Saturday and special worship on Sunday.
<u>November 8, 2008</u>	Children’s pageant of Dixboro.
<u>December 7, 2008</u>	Special worship to commemorate completion of the building. We hope to have our Bishop speak to us.

WOMEN’S RETREAT -- *Cathy Freeman*

The Women of Dixboro are planning a fall retreat. All women are welcome.

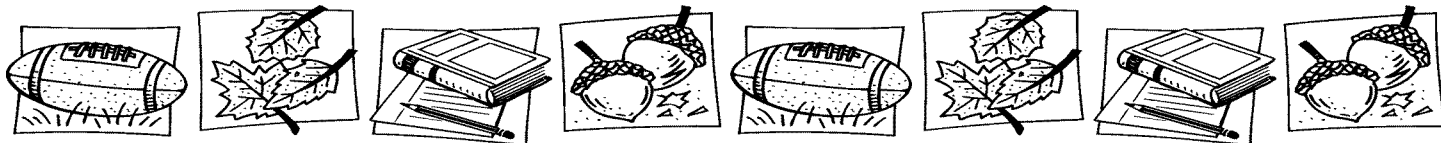
Cathy Freeman will lead the retreat called “Telling Our Stories.” As Sue Monk Kidd says in her article called “The Crucible of Story” – “Discovering our personal stories is a spiritual quest. Without such stories we cannot be fully human, for without them we are unable to articulate or even understand our deepest experiences.” At the retreat, we will start to remember and articulate our own



stories, especially those stories of our Christian faith. We will also have worship, prayer, quiet time, and some fun activities.

The retreat will be held at the Grace United Methodist Church in Britton – about 10 miles west of Dundee on M-50 – from Friday, October 12 at 6:30pm to Saturday, October 13 at 5:00 pm. We will stay overnight at a hotel in Dundee. Meals will be provided by the UMW at Grace UMC.

Stay tuned for more information on registration, activities, and costs. Meanwhile, hold the date!



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CORNER: *Stephanie Cloutier, Christian Education Dir.*

Sunday school is starting again!!

Sunday September 9th at 10 AM!!

We can't wait to see you...

Preschool & Kindergarten - Led by Tammy Bargo ~ Class now held upstairs in Room 12

First & Second Grade - Led by Angela Charnetski & Amy Knutilla - Room 11 Upstairs

Third - Sixth Grade - Led by Patty Fagner & Marla Kuehn - Room 13 Upstairs

7th - 12th Grade - Led by Sandy Bowers - Meeting Room TBD Meet in Fellowship Hall. Drama, music, service projects, bible study and FUN! Join us in our new “Youth Room”.

Adults – Gather in the Conference Room at 10:00 a.m. to decide study book and meeting time.

We are always looking for people to substitute teach!! If this sounds like something you are interested in doing please speak to Stephanie Cloutier or your child's teacher.

We are in need of some murals on the walls in our Sunday School spaces!!! If this is your area of expertise please let Stephanie know. Let's brighten up our walls together!!

THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!!

Our Vacation Bible School (VBS) program was awesome!! We had 60 kids attend a week filled with fun, adventure, snacks, music and learning about Jesus!!!

We couldn't have done it without our wonderful volunteers ~ ALL 45 of you!!!!

Thanks so much for all your help I truly appreciate it!!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S

GROUP: *Phoebe Judson*

An open invitation is extended to all women of the church to attend the United Methodist Women's monthly group meetings. The new Fall schedule will start at 1:00 p.m. in the Parlor on Monday, September 17. They will be discussing plans for the upcoming Annual Turkey Dinner to be held on Saturday, October 20.

ANNUAL C.R.O.P. WALK –

submitted by Susan Engle

The Washtenaw County C.R.O.P. Walk will take place on Sunday, October 7 in the afternoon. The host church is Ann Arbor First U.M.C.

Put this date on your calendar and please plan to walk! Look for more information which will be available early in September.

SEPTEMBER BIBLE READINGS:

Sept. 2

Psalm 81:1,10-16

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Sept. 9

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

Luke 14:25-33

Sept. 16

Psalm 14:1-7

Luke 15:1-10

Sept. 23

Psalm 79:1-9

Luke 16:1-13

Sept. 30

Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16

Luke 16:19-31

**THE ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE OF
DIXBORO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Is scheduled for Thursday, September 27.

**At 6:45 p.m. our Staff / Parish Committee will meet with
Rev. Tom Macaulay, Ann Arbor District Superintendent.**

**At 7:30 p.m. the Church Conference will be opened
and chaired by Tom Macaulay.**

You are invited and urged to attend this important church meeting.

**All committees will report their yearly business,
and the Pastor's salary and annual church budget for 2008
will be presented and approved.**

**You may vote on major issues if you are a member of Dixboro Church
but your presence is equally important if you are a constituent.**

TRUSTEES NEWS: *submitted by Gary Harrison, Chairman*

Over the Summer we continued to spruce up the grounds after the good work of "Blue Jean Sunday". We changed the water softening system at the church, completed the new sidewalks including making new Handicapped Parking places on the East side by the ramp. We have been working on redefining the usage of rooms for Sunday School, Nursery and Youth, too.

There is always much to do caring for facilities this size and your support is appreciated.