



THE CHIMES

Dixboro United Methodist Church

July/August 2016

Vol. LXIII

No. 3

A couple months ago Dixboro UMC received an invitation from our Ann Arbor District Superintendent to join **The Vital Church Initiative (VCI)**. VCI is a process of renewal for growing more healthy, vital, fruitful, missional congregations in the Michigan Area of the UMC. I have served in the VCI faculty for 4 years, and have witnessed first-hand, the excitement and momentum VCI has ignited in churches that were plateaued or declining. I'm convinced VCI is the best resource available for revitalization in the local church.



VCI is based on these core values: a vital church is Christ-Centered, fruitful (effective), aims for excellence, provides accountability, and fosters collaboration among leaders (clergy and laity). The VCI process includes coaching for the pastor and congregation, laity training, congregational assessment (self-study), a consultation event that provides prescriptions based on the congregations strengths and concerns, goal setting and evaluation of results. The goal is to equip leaders to lead a congregation back into God's mission field and help them retool for ministry in the 21st century.

Should Dixboro UMC vote to participate, we will partner with 4-6 other smaller membership churches (less than 100 avg. attendance) in our district. This "Smaller Church Path" is uniquely designed to fit the needs and resources of churches our size. The Smaller Church Path consists of three phases:

1. Phase I: the Shared Learning Experience is 9 monthly sessions. Sessions have been scheduled on Saturdays from 9 am – 1 pm beginning in September and will be held at a central location in the Ann Arbor district. Rev. Mary and I will attend these learning sessions with a team of laity from Dixboro Church. Harold Tuckett, DUMC member, has agreed to lead our VCI Team. *We will need 4-6 more laypersons willing to commit to this Shared Learning Experience.*
2. Phase II: Consultation Event and Peer Mentoring. Upon completion of Phase I, Dixboro may be invited to move towards a Consultation Event. This phase lasts about 6-8 months and includes a Self-Study conducted by our VCI Leadership Team, a congregation-wide book study and 5 "Mystery Guest" worshippers who evaluate their experience with us on Sunday morning. Then a VCI Consultation Team will spend two days on-site here in Dixboro, interviewing clergy and lay leadership. Their Consultation Report will consist of 3 strengths, 3 Concerns, and 3 Prescriptions (things we need to do to help move Dixboro Church towards greater growth and vitality). We will have 4-6 weeks to review and discuss the Consultation Report in a series of Town Hall meetings. Then in a specially- called Church Conference, we will vote whether or not to adopt and implement the VCI Prescriptions.
3. Phase III: Implementation of Prescriptions. Should we adopt the Prescriptions, a trained coach will be assigned to us for 18 months to help Dixboro Church fulfill our prescriptions and "live into" our calling to "make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

Over the next couple months, I encourage us to pray for discernment as we consider this invitation to be part of the Vital Church Initiative. On Sunday, August 28th, our Church Council will vote whether or not to enter Phase I. In the meantime, feel free to share your questions, concerns and excitement as we seek God's will for our future.

Be blessed – Rev. Tonya Arnesen

Message from the Witness Team

Patty Burns

Now that the weather has warmed up and Farmers Market is now in full swing, it can only mean one thing - it's Dixboro Fair Time!!! This year we are adding new activities for kids and their families, such as pony rides, a new petting zoo, crafts, Jenga competitions and maybe a few more fun items! Also, we will sell hot dogs and chips, along with all our very tasty desserts. There will be vendors, music and the silent auction. We will need items for the silent auction, so if you have any antiques, sports memorabilia, or if you know a company that would like to donate goods or a gift card, please let Patty Burns know at prburns2002@yahoo.com.

We are going to implement an electronic volunteer sign-up system that will be sent to your email accounts. Do not fret if you do not use email; we will also have hard copies of the sign up forms in the Fellowship Hall. Like last year, we are asking for volunteers in 2 hour increments, so you can take time to enjoy the fair.

This fair is such an important community outreach program for our church and we hope that you will help ensure that it runs smoothly and successfully! One more item: please save your books to put in the DUMW group book sale that will run during the fair.

If you have questions on how you can help or would like more information on the fair please contact Patty Burns.

Thank you and have a blessed day!



Sponsors from Dixboro Church at the 2016 Blavin Scholars Banquet with Paul Blavin.



www.DixboroChurch.org

Don't Forget to Check Our Website!

Check our website regularly to stay up to date with what's going on with our church. We have the calendar, pictures, sermon videos, and news posted regularly. You will also find our weekly bulletins along with this CHIMES (and previous editions) for view and download.

Rev. Tonya M. Arnesen
Lead Pastor

Rev. Mary Hagley
Minister of Children and Youth

Rev. Cathy Freeman
Deacon Emeritus

Zack Belsky
*Director of Music Ministry
Administrative Assistant*



dumc@dixborochurch.org

Like us on Facebook!

(734) 665-5632

5221 Church Rd.

Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Dixboro Devotional

Where the Church Meets to Pray

After Easter, our youth began studying the Book of Revelation. It took us awhile to go through the book because we needed an opportunity to discuss each chapter. We discussed it during Sunday School, youth group, and at our Famine retreat. The youth were excited and yearning to learn more and study more each time we met. Some conversations made us feel really uncomfortable and sad...however, we have hope in our All-Powerful and All-Knowing God who takes care of us in any situation. Here are some of the things we learned together:

- Jesus is Lamb, the only one who can open the scrolls of the 7 seals, he is the white rider who defeats the beast, and the Church is his bride.
- Satan is a dragon, beast, snake, and reigns for 3.5 years, held in captivity for 1,000 years, and then is defeated and thrown into a fiery death forever.
- Evil creates chaos and horrible things during the Great Tribulation, but then finally eliminated when Satan is defeated.
- Worship will be spectacular with 24 elders surrounding the throne of God, the 4 living creatures who guard the Lamb of God and blow their trumpets. Angels surround the elders as they all fall down to worship God, singing "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is coming!"
- Heaven is where God rules forever. New Jerusalem comes down to earth, it is bright and there will be no more tears or mourning or sadness. If reading this list you wonder more about what happened, go read Revelation and then you will understand a little better, or ask one of the youth.



We spent a lot of time talking about heaven. To wrap up our discussion about Revelation, I had each youth write down what heaven means to them...here are their answers:

- Heaven is a big place full of happy, joyful people. You get to do the thing you love to do everyday. It is also a very fun place, where you get to meet and see the people you love.
- When you get to Heaven no matter what you look like you will know and recognize everyone. There will be no evil – you will and can always feel safe.
- I believe that everyone is how they want to be. There is no evil, only good. I feel as if you can do almost anything (as long as it isn't sinning). You wouldn't have to go to school and you would know everyone. You would worship all the time. There are trumpets, angels, and plus you get to meet Jesus, God, and feel the Holy Spirit even stronger than ever before. It's a vast area so everyone can fit. God and Jesus rule and the New Jerusalem is where you live.
- Everyone who has passed away appears as youthful angels. There is no sin. Every day is a blissful worship party – forever. In heaven, you can do whatever you want. However, because there is no evil, though what you want may be different.
- Heaven is personal, meaning that everyone will be able to see what they want or who they want. I picture heaven in a small town setting where you know everyone and everyone is happy.
- To me heaven is where your soul meets with all of your loved ones and God. It is very happy, peaceful, and great!
- Heaven is Holy, Light, Pure, Happy, Nice, do whatever you want that's nice, no sin and LOVE!

I reminded the youth often that it is really hard to talk about heaven and give details because we don't know for sure. I said here's the most important thing to remember about heaven, it is eternal life with God and Jesus. When we believe in Jesus and are in a personal relationship with him, we know there will be eternal life (John 3:16). We may not know exactly what it will be like or look like, but I think it will be something amazing. The idea of heaven can be different for each person (as you see reflected above), I believe I will get to meet Jesus face to face and see my loved ones who have gone on before me. I don't know if people will be in bodily form or just souls, but I do know I will be with Jesus. Heaven is real, and we strive daily to bring a little heaven on earth by loving God and loving others. And we have an All-Powerful and All-Knowing God who unconditionally love us.

Reflection Question:

What is your understanding of Heaven/Kingdom of God?

How does reading Revelation and knowing what the "end times" will be like help us live here and now?

Written by: Rev. Mary Hagley and our Dixboro Youth

Want to Share Your Story?

***If you would like to participate in the Dixboro Devotionals,
please contact Mary Turfe: maryt810@yahoo.com***

C.O.O.L. KIDS @THE MARKET

Children of Our Lord

FRIDAYS 5-6 PM

C.O.O.L (Children of our Lord) Kid's @ the Market, is going well, but we could use more volunteers!

The kids area runs from 5-6pm at the Dixboro Farmers' Market. Come stay for the whole hour or stop in to hear a Bible story, learn a song, play a game, and do a hands on activity! Parents can sign-in their children and shop while the kids learn about God.

We will need volunteers for C.O.O.L Kids to be successful again. Please let Rev. Mary know if you are interested in helping. And we need you to invite friends and family.

Here are the dates:

- July 29
- August 5
- August 12
- August 19



Surf Shack VBS August 8-10

This year we are partnering with Marble Memorial UMC, London UMC, and Azalia UMC (churches around Milan) for Vacation Bible School. As a way to create a partnership and space for our kids to learn and attend VBS, I have decided to lead VBS in Milan, who has a critical mass of children who want to experience VBS. (We are still offering COOL Kids @ the Market here at Dixboro). I'm looking for volunteers to help me share Christ's love with these kids.



Our theme this year is Surf Shack: Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love! It will be a three-day beach adventure from 6:30-8:30pm. On Wednesday, August 10 we invite you at 8:10pm to come celebrate and worship with the kids and then join us for ice cream afterwards. Please pre-register your child at <http://2016.cokesburyvbs.com/MilanMarbleUMC>

VBS Collection Items: Are you going on vacation this summer? Staying in a hotel? Please bring us back or purchase some travel size toiletries items, such as shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotion, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc. There is a collection bin outside of Pastor Tonya's office. These items will be collected for a mission project called "Dignity Bags" that will be given to a homeless shelter. We will be making these bags during Vacation Bible School.

Motown Mission Experience July 10-15

On Sunday, July 10 during worship we will be consecrating 9 youth and 3 adults for our Motown Mission Experience. Our team will be leaving in the afternoon for Motown, where they will share God's love with the city of Detroit working with the Joy-Southfield Development Group. Please keep our team in prayer as they set out on this adventure. Watch for pictures on Facebook and the next Chimes. Here's our team:

Garron Little, Ben Little, Ian Little, Grace Czachorski, Madeline Leidlein, Gabbie Cox, Sam Cox, Kelsey Charnetski, Viko Mumbiro, Kaylee Burton, Beth Little, Patty Fagner, Nhamo Mumbiro, and Rev. Mary Hagley.

FROG Week (Friends Reaching Out for God) August 15-19

Beth Little

All youth entering 6th through 9th grade are welcome to join us for a week of mission work and fun! In the mornings we will do a service project somewhere, followed by an afternoon of fun! We will be volunteering at Food Gatherers, Glacier Hills, and 2 other ministries. We'll end the week with a campout at Murrays Lake.

F.R.O.G. Week (Friends Reaching Out for God) will run from 9am – 4pm, M-W and Thursday 9am through Friday at 12 noon. It is \$50 per student; scholarships are available if needed.

For more information or to donate cookies, snacks, water, or juice boxes email Beth Little at:

tom_and_beth_little@msn.com
or call 734-645-6160.



Rev. Mary Hagley's Ordination

Thank you Dixboro UMC for supporting and encouraging me during the last 3 years during my provisional period as Deacon. It has been three wonderful years of growing, learning, and shaping the ministry God has called me to. I love being in ministry with the children, youth, and the congregation.

I want to thank you for my stole, I love the butterflies! Ordination was a wonderful experience, being prayed over by Bishop Deb, the District Superintents, sponsors, clergy, friends, and family was a very powerful act of love! One of my favorite parts of the service was doing the Benediction with Bishop Deb, plus singing with her beforehand.

If you would like to see more pictures, and a video of the service check out our Dixboro UMC Facebook page.

Thank you and May God Bless You, Rev. Mary, Deacon



2016 Dixboro Graduates



In August 2016, Amanda Williams will be graduating from Eastern Michigan University with a Bachelors degree in Vocal Performance. This summer, she will be attending the prestigious American Institute of Musical Studies, in Graz, Austria. This fall she will be attending Bowling Green State University pursuing a Masters in Vocal Performance with a full ride scholarship.



Bennett Hudson Little graduated from Washtenaw International High School. He is a member of the National Honor Society, principal trombone in the Wind Ensemble, and the music director of the A Capella ensemble. Ben is also active with Lincoln High School drama, appearing in *Pippin* last Fall, and as "Orlando" in the spring production of *As You Like It*. Dixboro Church has been a big part of Ben's life: singing in the youth choir and praise band, participating in youth group, and going to camp and mission work weeks each summer. Bennett will attend Michigan State University in the fall and plans to major in chemistry.

2016 Dixboro Scholarship Recipients

Barbara Morris Scholarship
Bennett Little

Terry Wick Scholarship
Anna Little

Ivan & Elnor Parker Academic Achievement Award & Suzanne Smith Scholarship
Bobby Knutilla

History Corner

Susan D. Engle

The Reverend Doctor Seth Reed (1823-1924) began his long career in ministry at the age of 21 when he was licensed as a Local Preacher by the Grand Rapids Circuit in June 1844. That fall, he was recommended for "admission on trial" to the Michigan Conference. He was sent to the new Flat River Circuit in the wilderness to assist the minister, who soon died of pneumonia. That left Seth to cover the large circuit alone; each month he preached regularly 20 to 24 times.

His autobiography was advertised in "The Christian Advocate," Vol. 89 [1914]: "Dr. Seth Reed, a patriarch and saint of Michigan Methodism, preached before the Detroit Conference in 1912 when he was ninety years of age, and in response to the request of his brethren has since published *The Story of My Life*. Spanning the period of nearly a century of earnest Christian work, under varied conditions, it is a picture of an American minister's life in the nineteenth century....(The Methodist Book Concern, Cincinnati-New York, 50 cents, net.)"

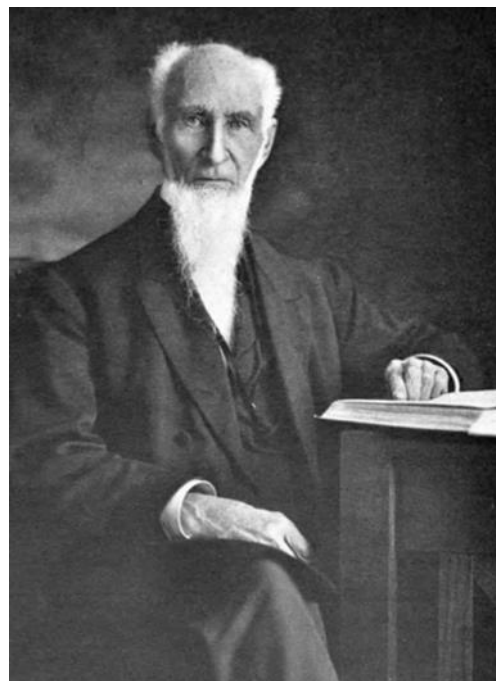
[This book may be read online and/or downloaded as a PDF at this website – HATHITRUST.org – it is a quick read (94 pages) and quite interesting!] As a child he had severe asthma and was unable to attend school; he educated himself by studying whatever books he could find, and he became a school teacher at age 17. For many years he was secretary of the Detroit Conference; he was also involved in the acquisition and naming of Bay View camp and was the first superintendent of the Old People's Home in Chelsea [fromStory].

Rev. Reed was never appointed to Dixboro, but at different times he worked alongside Rev. Samuel Bessey and Rev. Manasseh Hickey who did serve here. In 1845 Seth assisted Rev. Bessey on the circuit; Seth's salary "for the year, including hay, oats, socks, mittens, and cash, amounted to \$59.56." When he was appointed to Ypsilanti, he wrote, "John W. Crippen was a useful member of the Detroit Conference." [Quotations from Story]. John Wesley Crippen's father Daniel Crippen lived in Dixboro; he was a Local Preacher for 50-plus years, and was buried in Dixboro's Oak Grove Cemetery. John's brother Henry

S. Crippen was one of the Trustees named in December 1857 for the not-yet-built Dixboro M. E. Church. In the summer of 1848 Seth Reed accompanied Rev. Manasseh Hickey through the Saginaw Valley to attend a camp-meeting of more than 600 Indians, where [Seth] preached on the text, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles....[During his speech, the] audience uttered their shouts like the 'noise of many waters.' ... Suddenly Brother Hickey...uttered a roar...[I] saw him with mouth wide open, arms and legs extended, shouting with all his might at every breath. [They all] let loose their voices in billows of praise." Rev. Reed was appointed to Ann Arbor and twice to Ypsilanti; later he was Presiding Elder for the Ann Arbor District and probably visited the Dixboro Church occasionally.

"At the Conference of 1893 I was entered upon the retired list. Under God's blessing my health [mostly] has been good. My ears and eyes are serving me well, never having needed glasses for reading or anything else" [Story, p. 87]. He was described as the "man among the ministers that is so tall, walks so straight, and has a long, white beard" [Story, p. 92]. From *The History of the First United Methodist Church, Ann Arbor*, p. 188: "He was a dynamic preacher with the most interesting and longest career in Michigan Methodism. He answered the conference roll call seventy-nine consecutive years." He died March 24, 1924, [at age 100 years, 9 months, 22 days,] and was buried in Glenwood Cemetery, Flint, Michigan. His two wives were buried there also.

[From an online article of the Detroit Conference Archives, Adrian College]: "The Detroit Conference Cane was...presented to and held by the oldest ordained elder of the Conference who has served in the Conference for at least thirty-five years and lives within the boundaries of the conference." The second recipient of the Cane in 1905 was Seth Reed. Several small artifacts decorate the cane, including a piece of wood from Reed's desk.



DUMW Update

First we would like to say a big thank you to everyone who donated and volunteered their time for the annual rummage sale. We raised over \$2100.00 this year and some of the proceeds will help missions that Dixboro Church supports.

DUMW also purchased the flowers for the church and got them planted in May. We are in need of volunteers to help with watering each week. The sign up sheet is located outside the church office.

Please start saving your used books (no text or reference books) for the book sale at the fair this August 6th. We will let you know as we get closer when you can start bringing them to the church.

Dear Dixboro Church Family,

I recently shared a short Mission Moment during worship about the criteria for becoming a Spotlight Church in the Detroit Conference of the United Methodist Church. The Outreach Tea asked me to send this out as an email so that everyone would have this information.

The Detroit Conference asks for giving in 8 different mission areas in order for a church to be designated as a Spotlight Church. (Dixboro has met these criteria for many years.) The Outreach Team uses this criteria to commit mission giving to local and world-wide missions. Here are the initiatives to which Dixboro is contributing in 2016, the 8 steps that will lead to our designation as a Spotlight Church for 2016:

1. Pay 100% Apportionments ***
2. Support Conference Mission and Ministry Projects
 - a) UMC Retirement Communities \$ 500
 - b) Cass Community Social Services \$ 500
 - c) NOAH (Homeless Initiative) \$ 500
 - d) Methodist Children's Home \$ 1,000
 - e) Young Leader's Initiative \$ 500
 - f) Justice for Our Neighbors \$ 250
3. Support District Projects
 - a) House By the Side of the Road \$ 500
4. Support UMC Missionary
 - a) Princess Jusu - Liberia \$ 1,250
5. Support an International General Advance Ministry
 - a) Liberian Girl's Dormitory \$ 500
6. Support a USA General Advance Ministry
 - a) Baldwin Center, Pontiac \$ 500
7. Support the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)
 - a) One Great Hour of Sharing as collected
8. Participate in the Conference Covenant Relationship with Haiti
 - a) Haiti Mission Trip

This all adds up to over \$6,000 in financial commitments to Spotlight Church initiatives and \$31,794 in apportionment payments (see detail below). In addition, we have pledged \$1,000 to Habitat for Humanity.

*** 2016 APPORTIONMENTS ***

Conference Administration	\$11,286
Conference Programs	\$6,185
UMC Clergy Pensions	\$9,100
UMC World Service Fund	\$3,149
UMC Administration	\$380
UMC Ministerial Education Fund	\$1,081
UMC Black College Fund	\$431
UMC Africa University Fund	\$97
Interdenominational Cooperation Fund	\$85
TOTAL	\$ 31,794

We know this is a lot of information so please contact me or Rev. Tonya if you have questions.

- Cathy Freeman, Chair
Outreach Team



Dixboro Book Club

The Dixboro Book Club will meet Wednesday, July 27 at 11:30 am At the Plymouth Road Big Boy. We will discuss the book, "Coffee, Tea, and Holy Water" by Amanda Hudson. Contact Roberta King for further information. 734-662-8020

JULY

Connect. Grow. Serve.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 8:30 am Course in Miracles
3 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship -Holy Communion	4 Independence Day Office Closed	5 8:30 am Exercise Class	6 8:30 am Michigan Folk School	7 8:30 am Exercise Class 9:30 pm Women's Bible Study 10:00 am Tai Chi - WCC	8	9 8:30 am Course in Miracles
10 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	11	12 8:30 am Exercise Class	13 10:00 am Italian Cooking - WCC	14 8:30 am Exercise Class 9:30 pm Women's Bible Study 10:00 am Tai Chi - WCC 6:00 pm Chinese Cooking - WCC	15	16 8:30 am Course in Miracles
Motown Mission						
17 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship -Bring Canned Goods	18 1:00 pm Abigail Circle	19 8:30 am Exercise Class	20 10:00 am Italian Cooking - WCC	21 8:30 am Exercise Class 9:30 pm Women's Bible Study 10:00 am Tai Chi - WCC	22	23 8:30 am Course in Miracles
German School Summer Camp						
24 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	25	26 8:30 am Exercise Class	27 10:00 am Italian Cooking	28 8:30 am Exercise Class 9:30 pm Women's Bible Study	29 C.O.O.L. Kids @ The Market 5:00-6:00 pm	30 8:30 am Course in Miracles
31 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship						

Bold = Dixboro Church Events · *Italic = Community Events*

Please visit dixborochurch.org for more information, and the most up-to-date calendar.

dumc@dixborochurch.org

AUGUST

Connect. Grow. Serve.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>Superior Township Special Election (Set-Up)</i>	2 <i>Superior Township Special Election</i>	3 <i>Superior Township Special Election (Clean-Up)</i>	4 <i>8:30 am Exercise Class 9:30 pm Women's Bible Study</i>	5 C.O.O.L. Kids @ The Market 5:00-6:00 pm	6 8:30 am Course in Miracles Dixboro Family Fun Fair
German School Summer Camp						
7 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship on the Green: Blessing of the Animals	8 12:00 pm Potluck Lunch Missionary Speaker	9 <i>8:30 am Exercise Class</i>	10	11 <i>8:30 am Exercise Class 9:30 pm Women's Bible Study</i>	12 C.O.O.L. Kids @ The Market 5:00-6:00 pm	13 8:30 am Course in Miracles 9:00 am <i>Michigan Folk School</i>
14 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	15 1:00 pm Abigail Circle	16 <i>8:30 am Exercise Class 6:00 pm Michigan Folk School 7:00 pm Nurture Team</i>	17	18 <i>8:30 am Exercise Class 9:30 pm Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Michigan Folk School</i>	19 C.O.O.L. Kids @ The Market 5:00-6:00 pm	20 8:30 am Course in Miracles 9:00 am <i>Michigan Folk School</i>
FROG Week						
21 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	22	23 <i>8:30 am Exercise Class 6:30 pm Vision Team</i>	24	25 <i>8:30 am Exercise Class 9:30 pm Women's Bible Study</i>	26	27 8:30 am Course in Miracles
28 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:30 pm Church Council Meeting	29	30 <i>8:30 am Exercise Class</i>	31			

Bold = Dixboro Church Events · *Italic = Community Events*

Please visit dixborochurch.org for more information, and the most up-to-date calendar.

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5221 Church Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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DIXBORO UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
NEWSLETTER

July/August 2016



Rev. Tonya M. Arnesen, Lead Pastor
Rev. Mary Hagley, Minister of Children and Youth
Rev. Cathy Freeman, Deacon Emeritus
Church Phone: (734) 665-5632

Worship Schedule:
Sunday School for All Ages at 9:00am
Sunday Worship at 10:00am

Email: dumc@dixborochurch.org
Web site: www.dixborochurch.org

“The mission of the Dixboro United Methodist Church is to develop and sustain disciples of Jesus Christ through worship, education, outreach, and nurture.”



IF YOU NO LONGER WISH TO RECEIVE THIS PUBLICATION, PLEASE CALL 734-665-5632

