



August 2011

Tidings



First United
Methodist Church
of Troy

Rev. Hal Weemhoff
248.879.6363
Fax 248.879.7552



Dear Friends,

A WORD
FROM THE
PASTOR

Mandy McNeil and I had a wonderful time with Mission Possible at the Troy Historical Museum. We worked hard and played hard and wrapped the week up with a wonderful worship service in our first church building with a large number of adults who came to support our youth and share in praising God. Also, for those of you who prayed for us all week, THANKS! Your prayers and our work have made a difference in the lives of a lot of our friends and neighbors in Troy.

On Sunday, June 19th we baptized a beautiful baby girl : McKenzie Elizabeth Stevens. Tom and Ann Stevens are proud grandparents as well they should be. Mandy thought it was very special to hold the baby on behalf of the church for the baptism while I administered the sacrament. It is always a holy privilege. . .

On Sunday, June 26th we took new members into our fellowship: Zuretta DeVilling, Betty and Jim Kuzmaul and their daughter Barbara Strozynski, Ginger Mahrle and Don Miller, and Dick and Nancy Boari. Again, what a privilege to confirm faith commitments to Christ's Holy Church...

Our outdoor worship service was a huge success with 187 in attendance and the weather was absolutely spectacular! It was comfortable with a slight breeze and the picnic that followed was filled with great Methodist treats and we had lots of fun playing games together. Thanks to Membership and Evangelism and the Worship committees for a job well done.

Next was the Mission Trip to East Bank West Virginia; it was wonderful. We are blessed with terrific young people who understand that the servant of all is the greatest of all!

The only reason for a church to exist is mission and we are on one!

Thanks Be to God!

See You In Church...

Hal

Rev. Hal

Don't forget to check out my blog at
<http://pastor-troyfumcstidings20.blogspot.com/>

Volume XXIX Issue 8



troyfirst@sbcglobal.net



www.fumctroy.org

SUNDAYS

10:00 Worship
10:25-11:00
Jr. Church/Faith in Action
11:00-11:20
Coffee Fellowship

Sunday School
for all ages
will resume in
September

United Methodist Women – August Activities

Activities are open to all women; you do not need to be a member of UMW. If you have questions on any of the events please call Linda DeVilling.

August 17-20 School of Christian Missions at School by the Lake
Lake Huron Retreat Center

August 25 9:30 a.m. Crafty Ladies at Jan Garrett’s



The Rummage Sale initially scheduled for May 21st has been postponed to October 15th. Thank you in advance for saving your rummage so that we can have a great fall event.



Volunteers Needed

Due to the increased usage of our building, we need additional volunteer help week-nights and weekends. You would be welcoming renters, supervising the rental and locking up upon conclusion of the rental.

Please contact Lisa Head for more information.

Facilities Committee

Rev. Hal Has A Blog!!!!

That’s right friends! Our not so tech savvy pastor has a blog. Go to <http://pastor-troyfumcstidings20.blogspot.com/> to check it out. The blog will include information on upcoming events, conversations about the events, theological reflections, and whatever else is on Rev. Hal’s mind. Feel free to add comments and carry on conversations with other members of the church through this interactive technology. No matter how far life’s travels take us from home, the blog is our opportunity to stay connected as a community.



Crucifers, Bible Carriers and Acolytes

Would you like to serve your church? If you are in 5th-8th grades, you can be an acolyte and carry the flame into and out of the sanctuary. Then 9th-12th graders are crucifers and carry the cross or Bible. We would like to hear from **new** 5th graders. If you have been an acolyte or crucifer and have not notified us to take your name off, you will be on the new schedule. Please call Marie Leverenz.





South Oakland Shelter Is Coming!

SOS week is coming August 14-21. Watch for sign-up during coffee hour in the weeks ahead. There is a job to do or a donation to be made by everyone. Do you have a garden this year? Donate fresh veggies. Do you like to bake breads? Donate breads or sweets. Do you buy in bulk? Buy something extra to donate for SOS!

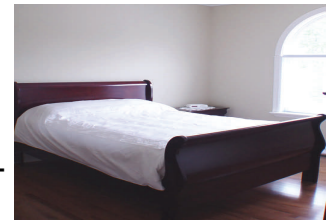
Sign up for a job too! We need people to work during the week by driving, cooking, greeting, mingling, taking shower duty, helping with laundry, helping with set-up and clean-up and spending the night.

The entire week takes place here at Troy First. We are looking to involve the whole church in this outreach program. With everyone's help South Oakland Shelter is sure to be a great success this year and for many years to come.

Sincerely,
Julie Olsavsky & Kathy Sobanski

Sheets For S.O.S. Still Being Accepted

UMW is still accepting sheets to be given to S.O.S. Twin Extra-Long size are preferred and will be used for S.O.S. shelters. Other sizes will also be accepted and given to S.O.S., who will provide them to their clients who are establishing a home. Please, no satin or slippery fabrics. An ingathering box for the sheets is located in the Mercer Hall. Monetary donations are also accepted. Please contact Ann Goff with any questions. Deadline for donations is September 11. Thank you for caring for those in need.



Volunteer Drivers Needed

Troy People Concerned (www.tpchelps.org) has provided residents with information and referrals to helpful agencies since the 1970's. TPC tries to be a "helpful neighbor" to every resident in Troy, matching those in need to the most appropriate available services which is sometimes a local volunteer.

One constant need is volunteers willing to drive TPC clients (who have no access to public transportation or local family) to doctor, dentist, and other necessary appointments. Most frequently, a Troy senior needs to get to a an appointment and TPC cannot find reliable public transportation so calls on a volunteer driver.

If you might be interested in volunteering to drive TPC clients or to get further information, please contact Doris or Peggy at the Troy People Concerned office, 248-528-9199 or tpctohelp@sbcglobal.net.





A Seminarian's Scribblings

When I last sat down to write for the Tidings, Mission: Possible was still on the horizon and the high school mission trip was still far off in the distance. It is amazing how much God has been doing in the life of this church in such a short period of time!

The Mission: Possible team continually amazed me with their deep spirits and hearts for service. We had many great discussions about why we serve; the answer always finding its root in God's love for us. We also closed with a worship service in our old church building. The young people serving at the Troy Historical Village and Museum were surrounded by generations of the Troy First family, truly connecting us to the past, present, and future that help to form the great cloud of witnesses. The love and support that enveloped the closing worship service was a testament to how loving this church family is. Thank you to all who were able to come and show their support and to those who held us in your prayers throughout the week.

The high school mission trip was as hot as it was fun. East Bank, WV had an impressive heat wave during the week we were there, but the 400 high schoolers and adults did not let that stop them from serving God and the community. The theme for the week was "Connect." We spent time talking about what it means to connect to God and to each other. I came away from that experience once again blown away by the young people whom I served along side. I was on a double crew that painted a woman's trailer and repaired her porch. I watched as 12 strangers came together with a common purpose and grew into a close group of friends by the end of the week. These young people opened themselves up to the amazing work that God was already doing in their lives and in East Bank. They allowed themselves to be changed by and connected to God's love.

I could go on and on about how amazing the young people at this church are, but you have watched them grow up; you already know how wonderful they are. I am grateful for the opportunity to walk along side them on their journey of faith for these past two months. I pray that this community continues to support the work that God is doing through these amazing young Christians and that we as a church are able to learn from the faithful examples they have set for us. It is only when all members of the body of the church support and love each other that we are able to grow and share God's love with others.

Grace and Peace,

Mandy 😊



Save the Date

Your congregation is cordially invited to attend and celebrate the inauguration of the Detroit Renaissance District of The United Methodist Church, and the installation of The Rev. Melanie Lee Carey as the District Superintendent on Sunday, August 28, 2011 at 4:00 pm at Metropolitan UMC, 8000 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI 48202.

The inauguration of the Detroit Renaissance District represents the first major ecclesiastical reorganization for the mission and ministry of The United Methodist Church in Michigan in a generation. This is an exciting time to be in the service of the Lord. Ephesians 4:4-6 says *“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all”* – the possibilities are limitless. We are asking you to help fill this 2,400-seat sanctuary with members and friends of your congregation.

If you would like to meet Rev. Carey before her installation, there are some “Meet and Greet” dates in which to do that. All are welcome. They are as follows:

Sunday, July 24 from 2:00-4:00pm
Detroit: Central UMC
23 E. Adams, Detroit

Sunday, July 31 from 2:00-4:00pm
Troy: Big Beaver UMC
3753 John R. (South of Wattles), Troy

Sunday, August 7 from 2:00-4:00pm
Wyandotte: First UMC
72 Oak, Wyandotte

Sunday, August 7 from 6:30-8:30pm
Livonia: Newburg UMC
36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia

Attention Young Adults (18-30)!

I need your help now...

I am writing to you as your pastor to invite you to be apart of our young adult fellowship.

What this means is that you agree to provide us your name, address, email and cell phone. Your name will be put on a distribution list and we will send you goodies at Halloween and Valentines Day. We will invite you to special gatherings for fellowship and service; for instance, please put the Young Adult Mission Trip on your calendar now. We will be going to Henderson Settlement again on May 6-10, 2012, Sunday through Thursday.

Email me with your vital info ASAP, please.

Hal

Rev. Hal

WHOF??? (What's Happening in our Facility?)

Greetings in these hot days of summer; how nice to keep cool in our wonderful building!! Things continue to happen during these hot weeks and weekends at Troy First and I invite you to sit a spell and read all about it.



The week of July 11th, while our youth were in West Virginia, we hosted Righteous Mission, a youth mission group from the Clarkston United Methodist Church. They were completing the fourth “part” of their complete mission at Grace Centers of Hope. We became their home-base for the week including sleeping, eating, showering, worship, music and fun & games. There were 60 youth and 10 adults in our building from Sunday afternoon through Saturday morning.

Our sanctuary was perfect for their worship time as the band from Spring Arbor University “Wellspring” graced our church with beautiful music. I have some recorded if you would like to hear it.



Our CLC was exactly what they needed for relay races, volleyball games, dining space, and even “warm & fuzzy” bags which were caring notes to each other about the week. Troy First UMC even had one. Here’s a few of the notes that ended up in our bag:

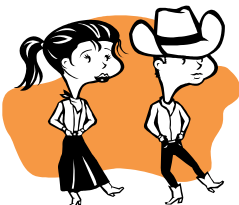


Thanks for letting us use your church for RM.
 Thanks for all you did for us! We are a handful!
 Your church is beautiful!
 Thank you for letting us stay & taking care of us.

PS: you have a really well-run kitchen. Your dishes are so clean, I can see myself!

If you want to hear anything else about this great week, just ask me. I’m happy to talk about it!

Mad Science is going well with different camps each week in our building. Check out the brochures; see if there is one more camp you would like to come to this summer! I think this week (18 July) is Chemistry Exploration Week!!



Coming up once again 4th Saturdays of the month is Contra Dance sponsored by Oakland County Traditional Dance Society. Church members only pay \$8.00 and if you bring a snack to share it’s only \$5.00! Such a bargain for a fun evening of dancing and fellowship! 7:30pm is the time for beginners and instruction. No partner or experience is necessary, come and try out this fun event! Bring a friend, or bring your dinner group, it’s really a great time! August 27 is the date of the next dance night.

We are gearing up for Vacation Bible School and also SOS week so please volunteer for both those weeks as many hands make light work.

We are very excited that the tile in the lower level CLC has been installed. Tile will definitely make this room more desirable for meetings, events and church activities. The picnic following outdoor worship was held in the lower level CLC and we had very positive feedback. Just wait until you see it with a new floor!!

If any of this information sounds interesting and exciting OR you would like to help the Facility Committee by volunteering to staff an event or function, please let Lisa Head know ASAP. We need additional people who want to practice radical hospitality...is it you??

Lisa Head
Facilities Coordinator



THANKS Donors/Helpers Next BLOOD DRIVE, Friday AUGUST 26

Thanks to all the donors who gave blood on June 24. We were able to collect 34 units of blood which could save up to 102 lives. Thanks to volunteers Lennie Michael, JoAnn Horning, Outreach Committee and other cookie makers.

Please consider donating on Friday, August 26, from 1-7pm in the CLC. Blood is especially needed because of the upcoming Labor Day holiday. Sign up at church or go on line at givelife.org using code "fumctroy" or you can call Kathy Sobanski.

Rummage Sale

Checking kids' back-to-school clothes? Dreaming of Fall clothes shopping? Please save your gently used, un-needed clothing and small household items for the **October 15th UMW RUMMAGE SALE.**



The **Memorial Book** focus for the month of August is for the following:

	In Memory of	For
August 7	Elizabeth E. Etherington	Furnishing Mercer Wing
August 14	Eloise Mercer	Furnishing Mercer Wing
August 21	Michael Frank	Furnishing Mercer Room
August 28	Mildred Costello	Furnishing Mercer Room



The **Memorial Garden Book** focus for the month of August is in memory of Harry Darwin Saeger.

**Hush! Somebody's Callin' Your Name
(to sing with one of the choirs!)**



This recent heat wave has me longing for autumn, which means it will soon be time for the Chancel Choir, the Bell Choirs and One Voice to once again enhance our worship in song and beautiful music!

There's an old saying that "Singing is Praying Twice," and members of the choir couldn't agree more. If YOU would like to pray twice, why not consider joining us? The first rehearsal will be Wednesday, August 31st from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m., and we will begin singing on Sundays on September 11th the day of our Fall Kick-off. All members of Troy First are welcome – musical training or a beautiful voice is **not** required to share in our musical fellowship. Even if you cannot commit to singing every Wednesday or every Sunday, we still would love to have you join us. With recent retirements and relocations, we are especially looking for a **few good men**, but can always find a place for anybody interested in joining us – male or female.



One Voice is our choir for teenagers, and our first rehearsal will be on Sunday, September 18th immediately after Sunday School – at approximately 12 noon.



Steve has spent many hours reviewing and selecting some exciting new music for this coming year, and is anxious to get started. Chancel Choir folks, see you on August 31st, and we hope to see some eager new faces as well!

Bell Ringers Needed

Summer will be over soon and we will be ready to begin a new season of bells. Genesis Bells is for new players who need to learn the basics of bell playing and acquire the skills to move up to Jubilee or Bellissima. New ringers should be able to count basic music.

We will begin practice on Monday, September 12, starting at 4:30 and ending by 5:15. The bell season runs Labor Day to Mother's Day. If you or your child are interested in joining the Genesis bell choir, please contact Nancy Heffron. New ringers are always needed.



Troy Co-op Preschool



Troy Co-op Preschool is now enrolling for fall classes! We offer 2 day preschool for 3 year olds, 2 or 3 day preschool for 4 year olds and also a mom and tot program for 2 year olds. And now through the end of May you can schedule a free class visit with your child. For more information call 248-879-7601 or visit our website: troycoopreschool.com .

Take Me Out to the Ball Game!

What: Detroit Tigers vs. Minnesota Twins
When: Friday, September 9, 2011 at 7:05 pm
 Plan to stay for the fireworks show after the game!
Where: Comerica Park, Lower Deck
Cost: \$28.00/person



Reserve your seats with Robin Ostergaard by Sunday, August 28, 2011

Make Checks payable to Robin Ostergaard

Note: Carpools will leave the church parking lot at 5:30pm



Troy First LOGOS Returns... Join the Fun!

Attention all Kindergarten through Fifth grade students and their families!

Fall activities are just around the corner! LOGOS is our Wednesday night activity program for children entering Kindergarten through Fifth grade. The eight-week fall session begins on October 5th and will include a themed family dinner time, recreation, crafts, and play practice for the Children's Christmas Pageant. Please call the office or Nancy Dolehanty to learn more. Registration forms will be available in September.

8th Grade Confirmation Class to Begin October 5th

Confirmation preparation with Rev. Hal will follow the LOGOS schedule with two eight-week sessions beginning October 5th through November 30th and February 1st through March 28th excluding Thanksgiving week and Ash Wednesday. Participants are encouraged to have dinner at LOGOS before class begins. Don't forget to register with the office!

DVDs AVAILABLE!!!!

Do you have some time this summer to rest and relax in front of your DVD & TV? We have three videos that may interest you. One is the Organ Dedication Service which shows the organ, the dedication, and the concert that followed taking place on January 23, 2011. The second DVD available is the annual Good News Bible Class play directed by Sue Olesen, "The Lord Looks on the Heart." This was presented to the congregation on February 27, 2011. The third DVD available is the youth Musical which was presented on March 6, 2011, and is entitled "Old Testament, Fast Forward." Please check these out in the office, and return promptly so everyone can enjoy them!



Saturday Morning Yoga

Have you had an interest in yoga, but were worried about whether you could do it? Eischens yoga is for you!

Eischens Yoga is specifically accessible to all body types and experience levels. The focus is on the energetics of poses and their effects rather than on achieving complex, body-contorting poses. Props, such as yoga blocks are used to help with alignment and modifying poses. A typical class consists of a flowing Eischens Yoga series (including classical and modified poses), transformational work (mini-workshops on poses), and breathing practices and relaxation. Please bring a mat. Class meets from 9 - 10 a.m. on Saturdays, and costs \$10 per class.



Sonja Becker-Boelter, certified Eischens Instructor, has been studying Eischens yoga for five years. She has found the practice to be both physically and emotionally healing.



It's not too late to register. Sign up now.
 August 1—5 from 9:30am—12:30pm
 4 year olds - 5th graders in the Fall
 \$15/child

A special thank you to all my friends at Troy First for their cards, phone calls and visits during my recent surgery. I'm doing very well. I want to especially thank Rev. Hal for sending another pastor to be with me while he was on the youth mission trip.

Irv Moore

Thank you to our church family for the sympathy cards and condolences we received upon the death of my mother, Dorothy Kopacz. It was such a comfort to us. We were blessed to have her as our mom and grandma and I thank God for blessing her with a good life of 87 years. Your caring thoughts were much appreciated.

Judy Slater and Family



Attention Seniors!!!

You are invited to another SENIOR LUNCHEON!!! It's happening on Wednesday, August 10 @ Noon! Mark your calendars now!! Call the office with your RSVP by August 7, so we can plan the summer seating and food!!

We will have our member, Nancy Boari, a Long Term Care Specialist, presenting ideas and discussing:

- Family Concerns with Aging Parents
- Medicare/Medicaid, Federal and State Programs and What They Pay
- Current Costs of Care
- Planning Tools to Financially Consider

This discussion will be purely informational, no obligation. Remember, Wednesday, August 10, at noon, please RSVP your YES answer to the office before August 7!

Activity	August 7	August 14	August 21	August 28	No 5th Sunday
Greeters	Bill & Kathy Deyo	The Mitchener Family	Fred & Nancy Dolehanty	Bernona & Jennifer Fry	
Ushers	Ed Freeland Marie Leverenz Bill Rampenthal Doug Smith Mary Smith	Karen Carl Ben Olesen Tom Stevens Marie Watson	Patti Aurand Chris DeVilling Corwin Hanson Brian Urbach	Terry Pritchett Lyle Pushman Roger Steiger Kristin Truelove	
Crucifer Bible Carrier	Ashley Sadlier Riley Smith	Gary Williams Jacob Carl	Andrew Aurand Victoria Aurand	Emily Woods Lauren Matthews	
Acolytes	Aaron Goudie	Haley Sutton Jessica Carl	Christian Aurand Lauren Jakobiak	Merrick Rumel Morgan Michaux	
Sound Video Engineers	Steve Olsavsky Jane Egermann	Rick Wright Rick Wright	Jerry Michaux Jerry Michaux	Karen Carl Meghan Ostrander	
Coffee Hour Hosts	If you would like to help by providing goodies for coffee hour, please call Diane Martin.				
Monday Counters	1st Monday (8/1) Mary Jo Johnston Bunny Schultz Sharon Smith	2nd Monday (8/8) Joyce Berard Ben Olesen Tim Teagan	3rd Monday (8/15) Jane Egermann Nancy Heffron Jayne Saeger	4th Monday (8/22) Chris DeVilling Marie Watson Michelle Williston	5th Monday (8/29) Janice Drager Jan Garrett Chris Gullion
Trustee on Duty	Chuck Tincknell	Linda Pushman	Bill Wesp	Jon Bertolet	
Flowers for The Lord's Table	B. Burnsteel in memory of her mother	Emily Woods 17th Birthday	Swapna Bagchi Sophia's birthday	Ken & Sue Abbey Kathy Sobanski's birthday	
Jr. Church	Patti Aurand Kathy Sobanski	***	Williston Family	Lyn Moore Tom Stevens	
Faith in Action	No Faith in Action during the summer.				
Nursery (Newborns & Crawlers)	Julie Olsavsky Tina Olesen	Sharon Ostrander Meghan Ostrander	Angela DiBartolomeo Christine Knoper	Mary Smith Riley Smith	
Toddler Room (Walkers-2 year olds)	Gary Williams	Jessica Urbach	Jennifer Rivera	Marianne Melton	
3&4 Year Olds	The Mitchener Family	Leslie Diebol Stephanie McNett	Brooke Schocke Kristin Truelove	Emily and Jill Woods	