



October 2011 Tidings



First United
Methodist Church
of Troy

Rev. Hal Weemhoff
248.879.6363
Fax 248.879.7552



Dear Friends,

Well, it's time for charge conference. This is the annual church meeting with the district superintendent (Melanie Carey). She just started her ministry as our supervising pastor for the Detroit Renaissance District. She has 84 charge conferences and we are one of the early ones. In addition she has over 100 pastors to supervise and she has spent all summer talking with each one of us. Now it's fall and it's time to visit each church in The Detroit Renaissance District.

What I am excited about is that she is coming to Troy First to learn about the many and varied ministries that we offer our church community and the community in which we live. Won't she be surprised as committee after committee will creatively share their passion for ministry?

This gathering is an opportunity to celebrate the past and look to the future together through faith! This is a defining moment in the life of the church. It is your opportunity to hear what our leadership says about their ministries and how God is working in the lives of their committee members and the people they serve. One of these sharings might become your opportunity to choose a new path of ministry for your life that you never thought of before.

I urge you to take the time to find the path of service that is waiting for you at Troy First!

Our Ministry Fair and Charge Conference theme for this year is:

"LET YOUR FAITH JOURNEY CONTINUE HERE"

Jesus said: "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Mark 12:34

So discover your passion, claim your ministry, share your treasure, and fill your heart!!!

Go and Be The Church!
See you in church.

Hal

Rev. Hal

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

Volume XXIX Issue 10



www.fumctroy.org

SUNDAYS

10:00 Worship
10:25-11:00
Jr. Church/Faith in Action
11:00-11:20
Coffee Fellowship
11:20-12:00
Sunday School
for all ages
6:30—8:00 UMYF
12:00 One Voice Choir
Rehearsal

United Methodist Women – October 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.



- Thursday, October 6** 12:30 pm Executive Board at Troy First hosted by Bernona Fry.
- Saturday, October 8** District UMW Annual Meeting and Celebration at Nardin Park UMC. Angela Hart is the key note speaker.
- Thursday, October 13** 9:30 am Ruth Circle at Troy First in the CLC. Jan Garrett and Ann Stevens are hostesses. Circle time will be devoted to setting up the Rummage Sale. Anyone can come and help during this time.
- Thursday, October 13** 7:30 pm Deborah Circle at Troy First. Circle time will be devoted to setting up the Rummage Sale. Anyone can come and help during this time.
- Saturday, October 15** **Rummage Sale**
- Sunday, October 16** Blessing of the blankets for Baldwin during Worship
- Thursday, October 20** 9:30 am Crafty Ladies at Jan Garrett's house. These are simple to do items that will be sold at the Christmas Cookie Walk.
- Saturday, October 29** District Conference UMW Annual Meeting at Brighton First UMC.

What's Your Name?

“A stranger is simply a friend I haven't met yet.”

The Membership and Evangelism Committee wants to encourage all those who attend worship to wear their nametag each Sunday. Nametags will be available in Mercer Hall every Sunday and we hope you will wear them until the end of Coffee Hour. Then you can leave them in the basket as you exit the CLC after Coffee Hour. This will help each of us to be able to recognize and remember each others' names as well as help visitors get to know us too. If you forget your nametag, temporary ones are available. Don't be a stranger; proudly wear your nametag. You will probably make a new friend.

Buried Treasure ...

At the August 28th inauguration service at Metropolitan UMC, Rev. Melanie Carey referenced Matthew 25: 14-30 and handed out \$1000 each to 20 churches who stepped up to the challenge of growing the kingdom money and sharing it with the Detroit Renaissance District. We are one of the 20 churches!!

The challenge is not to bury our treasure, but to grow it and nurture it and then share it with those we serve in the Detroit Renaissance District. This project runs through February 2012.

Any ideas or thoughts may be shared with the following people who were in attendance at this service and accepted this challenge for our congregation: Chris Weemhoff, Lisa Head, Paul & Gerda Clark, Fran Pruet, Jane Egermann, and Ben & Sue Olesen.

World Communion Sunday, October 2, 2011

World Communion Sunday funds World Communion Scholarships with at least one-half of the annual amount reserved for ministries beyond the United States. Gifts also provide for U.S. Ethnic Scholarship and Ethnic In-Service Training programs. Please give to this important United Methodist program.



Midnight Miracle

Mark your calendars! Save your Sunday mornings after Sunday school! It's time again for the Christmas Musical of students in grades K through 5. Rehearsals begin Sunday morning October 9 from 12:00 noon to 12:50pm. Additional rehearsals are October 16, 23, & 30, November 6, 13, & 20. And our dress rehearsal will be on Saturday, Dec. 3. (Time to be determined.) We will share the musical with our church family on Sunday, December 4th during the 10:00 worship service. Call Cheryl Barnes or Laurie Urbach with any questions. Come be a part of the fun!

Rummage Sale, Sat., Oct 15, 8:00 AM-1:30 PM!

United Methodist Women hope you're gathering up un-needed items for the Rummage Sale. We'll need gently used clothing, books and small household items. (Please do not include computer stuff, or items bigger or heavier than a folding chair. Also, due to stringent safety laws, no toys or kids' equipment.)



**Rummage drop-off during office hours and evenings -
Sunday evening, October 9, thru Wednesday evening, October 12. Thank-you!**

We Need You!

Every third Monday of the month a group of people (5 or 6) go to Baldwin in Pontiac to help serve meals to the needy. They leave the church at 9:30am and return about 1:30pm. If you would like to help with this worthwhile cause, please call Linda Wright Their next date to go would be October 17th.



Another Blood Drive October 21 -WE NEEDYOU!



We had a great Blood Drive on August 26 with 35 units collected! Thanks to all the great volunteers and cookie bakers. You are appreciated!

Yes, we are having another blood drive on Friday, October 21 from 1-7 PM in the CLC. We need donors; what about you? Please sign up in the CLC on Sundays or click on to the website givelife.org using code "fumctroy."

ALL CHURCH FALL WORKDAY Saturday, October 22



Our church needs YOUR help with a few tasks that can be completed within a short period of time. The Trustees are hosting an ALL CHURCH workday, on Saturday, October 22, 2011, from 9:00am-noon. Lunch will be served to all who help!

Do you have a special skill that you could share? Do you have some energy that you could volunteer to help clean up and fix up our church? Do you like working outside in God's world, in the garden, or trimming bushes/trees? WE NEED YOU to make this a priority on your family calendar and let Bill Wesp know that you are able and ready for a job or two.

Many hands make light work, and the day will fly by if we have many individuals who volunteer for this task filled day! Thanks for considering a mere three hours of serving the church in this physical way.

Trick or Trunk



Trick or Trunk is a popular event here at Troy First organized by our youth for children and their families. It will be held on Sunday, October 23rd, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the church parking lot. There will be games and refreshments, a costume parade and, of course, trick or treating.

You can participate by coming to the event and passing out candy to the children from your car's trunk. You may decorate your car in a Halloween theme, but it is not required.

Trick or Trunk provides a safe and fun way for the children to experience trick or treating from the safety of the church parking lot! If you've never come before, you'll be in for a great time! Come and enjoy an afternoon with our youth and children. Grandchildren and neighbors are welcome. It will be a frightfully good time!

Halloween Boxes for College Students

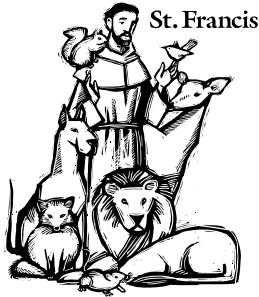


It's time to start thinking of Halloween and sending a care package to our college students. We need individually-packaged items such as gum, popcorn, hot chocolate and candy as well as non-food items. There will be a collection box in the gathering area. Items need to be returned by Sunday, October 23rd.

Rev. Hal is asking for the email and snail address of all college students. We would like your address even if you are living at home so that we can keep in touch. Please send your information to donnaklungle@sbcglobal.net. Thank you.

Sandy Sands
Higher Education/Education Committee

Blessing Of The Animals



Come and worship with your pets on Sunday, October 30th at 6:30pm. This is a brief indoor service in the Christian Life Center.

We all love our pets and this is a special way to bless them. This is a tradition started by St. Francis of Assisi, 1181-1226.

All your pets are welcome and humans too! Stuffed animals may be blessed if your household does not include any living creatures! Please have your pets restrained for safety. So, bring your goldfish, dogs, cats, hamsters, horses and any other creature to this evening of fun and celebration!

Rev. Hal will officiate with help from the youth. Refreshments will be served to both human and animal participants.

What if...



What if a shoebox were more than just a box to hold shoes?

What if it was filled with small, inexpensive items that **brought great joy?**

What if it traveled around the world and **told children about Jesus Christ?**

What if it **was used by God to change lives?**

All these things happen when our youth pack shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, an organization that brings joy, hope, and the message of God's love to children in desperate situations. Each of the past three years, our youth have wrapped, filled, and prayed for nearly 50 shoeboxes before sending them on their way to Haiti, Sudan, Romania, or a hundred other destinations.

Troy First Youth will be collecting the following items for packing shoe boxes during Youth Group on Sunday, November 6th.

Toys: Small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, yo-yos, jump ropes, etc.

School Supplies: Pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, small writing pads, solar calculators, small coloring or picture books, etc.

Hygiene Items: Toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap, comb, washcloth, etc.

Other: Hard candy, lollipops, mints, gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair accessories, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights and extra batteries.

If you would like to join the youth in sharing "good news and great joy" through Operation Christmas Child, a box will be available in the Mercer Hall for donations. Cash contributions are also welcome to help with shipping expenses.

Just think—**what if a shoebox was more than just a shoebox.**

Veteran's Day



On November 6th, we will again be honoring our veterans by producing a Power Point presentation to be displayed during worship. If you have not given us a picture in the past, we would like a picture of yourself, a parent, grandparent or good friend who has or is serving our country in any of the military branches. Please drop it off in the church office by October 23rd. Pictures will be returned. Please come in all or part of your uniform (that still fits) to greet at 9:30 if you are able.

Angel Tree Ministry is coming!

Angel tree is a unique opportunity to share Christ's love by helping to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the families of prisoners. It is a highly rewarding program that cares for some of the most overlooked members of our communities.

Angel Tree Christmas works by connecting parents in prison with their children through the delivery of Christmas gifts. We are looking for a few volunteers to phone the custodial parents of the children to get gift ideas. We will also have the "Tree" up in the CLC in November for you to choose a gift to purchase based on the parent's request or to volunteer to deliver the gifts. If you would like to help with phone calls, please contact Carole Bauer 248-879-7638 or carolebauer@wowway.com.



SOS – Another Successful Year!

Thanks to all who helped out during the week of August 14th -22nd. It was a very busy and exciting week! To make this week a success, a lot of helping hands were required. It started with a long day on Sunday when the church was set up for our incoming guests. Volunteers came in to make beds and organize the sleeping, shower, kitchen, eating, recreation and smoking areas. Thanks to co-chair Kathy Sobanski, to the Aurand family who came in Monday thru Friday to fix our guests a hot breakfast, and to Linda Wright, who was a very valuable asset by being in the kitchen to help with breakfast and do clean-up by herself every day (and she even cooked on the weekend!).

Our overnighters are always appreciated as they come in and are dedicated to staying awake for the whole night. This year SOS moved to a new home in the Southfield area. Although their new facility is much better than the old place, it was more of a burden on our drivers. Big thanks to all who drove either in the morning or at night, especially during the Dream Cruise crowds!

Our great cooks received many wonderful compliments on the terrific meals served each night. The youth really stepped up this year, coming out on an almost nightly basis and making a lot of lunches too! The laundry ladies came through again this year on Sunday morning, even after a power outage from a severe storm on Saturday night which closed the laundromat.

Lastly, this program could not be successful without all the people who donated money and items used throughout the week. So as you can see, it really does take a village to make this program successful. No matter what your role in this week was, please keep doing it! Thanks so much!!!

Julie Olsavsky, Chairperson

Campbell Products Labels

For years we've collected labels from Campbell's products to benefit the Red Bird Mission in Kentucky. This is a great opportunity to benefit others, but some of our efforts are being wasted. There are specific rules about what will be accepted by the company. So, when you're trimming your labels, please be sure to stay outside the lines marking the label, otherwise they won't be honored.

For information on the variety of products that have redeemable labels, see the display on the UMW information board in Mercer Hall.

Eyeglasses

This is the third year we've been able to offer our South Oakland Shelter guests the chance to see more clearly. Throughout the year, we collect used prescription glasses and sunglasses. When S.O.S. came, we encouraged our guests who needed to improve their vision to search through the donations. At least four people this year were pleased to be able to find glasses that made it easier to see the world around them.

Generally, we send the remaining glasses on a mission trip. This year, we were unable to connect with a trip. However, Bernona read a newspaper article about "Give the Gift of Sight," a charitable foundation that provides free vision care and eyewear to underprivileged individuals worldwide since 1991. Our glasses were delivered to 20/20 Vision in Rochester Hills, which is a drop-off point for Give the Gift of Sight. Now our glasses will find their way to people who need them throughout the world.



Our new website is up and running. We hope to provide an up-to-date forum for news, events, and happenings here at FUMC Troy. It is called a "Ninth Generation" website because of its interactivity and features, such as a Guestbook for comments, prayer request/contact form, e-mail accounts for staff and committee heads, flash slideshows, and our Word@Home blog. It will allow designated individuals to edit and manage pages online, without complicated software or knowledge of html.

Eventually, congregation members will be able to fill out permission forms, sign up for ministries, subscribe to the Tidings Newsletter, and even pay for events or donate online. We hope this new site will make it easier for you and your family to know what's happening, and provide a 21st century way to make contacts and share information.

Please check out our "Help Wanted" page, our Photo Galleries, and our links to our Facebook page and Reverend Hal's blog. We welcome your comments or suggestions. If you have something you would like published on our church website, please see Donna or Lisa in the church office.

Ginger Mahrle
Communications Committee

Adult Education Classes

FaithLink

"Christian Understandings of Hell", "Crimes Against the Elderly", "Modern-day Slavery", "September 11, 2001: Ten Years Later". What do these have in common? They are among recent topics discussed in the FaithLink Sunday School class. Every week, we get a current topic from Cokesbury, the Methodist publishing house. We discuss, and try to formulate Christian responses, for the Church and personally. The topic for the week is listed in the bulletin. If you see something that interests you, please stop by. Kaj Ostergaard, facilitator.



Good News

The Good News class will begin its eighteenth year studying Acts 25. In September of 1994, we began the study of the entire Bible with the first chapter of Genesis.

So far, we have completed the study of 43 books, containing a total of 1,018 chapters. We have learned much; we have probably forgotten more; but we have gained understanding and appreciation of our text book, the Holy Bible.

Although the Good News class has undertaken an ongoing study of the Bible, new members are always welcome. No prerequisites are required. Each class is a unit unto itself and is designed to include everyone.

For the last thirteen years, we have presented a play to the congregation. These plays have included everyone who wished to participate, and they have dramatized Bible stories, the Wesley family, and the history of our own church.

On the last day of Sunday School in June, we play a Jeopardy game against the high school class. These young people are worthy opponents who always challenge us—but we did win the trophy eagle this year.

If you are not currently attending an adult Sunday School class, Good News welcomes you.

Short Seminars

The Parenting Up Class will combine with Short Seminars. On Sunday, October 2nd, the class is a discussion based on Nooma videos by Rob Bell and led by George Berquist, who is head of our Adult Education.

Welcome New Members

Jerry and Joan Coval
Randy Dunn
Janeen and Scott Flores and Lexi
Anne Hernandez and Haley and Benjamin

Kazem and Jennifer Hodroge and Andrew, Emily and Sarah
Matt and Julie Justice
Lori Morris and Rachel and Zachary
Lindsey and Chris* Murray and Alivia

WHOF!?!? (What's happening in our Facility?)

Fall is here!! Praise God for September & Beyond! It's a beautiful fall season with crisp temperatures, and I'm so excited to share with you what has been happening, what is happening and what will be happening, in our beautiful church!!!

Our Monday and Tuesday night volleyball groups are back once again and feel so welcome, especially with the gorgeous fall decorations from the Ministry Fair to greet them (thank you Ann Stevens) as they walk in the building.

We had a senior luncheon following Roundtable on September 7 with David Bell speaking to our interested seniors. Thanks to Jeff Sheren for handling the menu/cooking and kitchen duties that day. We had 42 folks enjoy food, fellowship and information.

The Royal Scottish Country Dancers are here every week on Thursday nights. They sure enjoy their dancing and have even asked when Rev. Hal will join them in his "world famous" kilt. (If this happens, I'll take a picture!) Church members are always welcome!

Our Ministry Fair was a great event again this year! Many people, many opportunities, and what a great showcase of all our church ministries! Thanks to Chris DeVilling for spear-heading the entire set up, execution and clean up of this fantastic event!

The Facilities Team met and are still hoping to find some responsible, flexible, cheerful, and helpful volunteers to staff some of the "normal" building usages by non-members. This might be a bell ringer on Monday night, or a Choir member on Wednesday night, or a committee member meeting on a week night. Please contact Lisa Head if you are responsible, flexible, cheerful, and have a willing, helpful heart. Your volunteer help is most needed at this time.

I'm so pleased to say that we had our first "official" event in the CLC Lower Level and it was a grand success! Both the renter and all the guests were impressed with the tile floor being complete and the brightness of the room with all those windows! If you haven't seen the lower level, please go down and take a look! The United Methodist Women Circles met this month in the lower level to make Blankets for Baldwin and truly enjoyed the daylight, as well as the completed kitchenette and spacious area.

We have one wedding this month and also the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts will have training this month in our facility.

Scrapbooking is a good way to bring in a large amount of revenue in one day. We are offering three events this fall and if you EVER were interested in scrapbooking, this would be a great place to start! We have several members who scrapbook and they are quite pleased when it's right here at our church!! Flyers are around the church if you are interested.

Great Lakes Depression Glass Club returns this month for their sixth year. What is Depression Glass? Ask Jayne Saeger as she is a member of this club and certainly can answer that question better than I. We are glad they are here every month and they are very glad to be HERE!

Our regular men's basketball teams are playing almost every Wednesday night, but if you have a desire or a team that needs practice space or would just like to "shoot some hoops" sometime, call me, email me, text me, and just ask!! There's always a time you could practice your NBA skills...

That's it for now because there is always something new happening every day! Praise God for our Facility!!

Lisa Head
Facilities Coordinator

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.



Medicare Information

Free Medicare Enrollment Assistance—Jim Zoellner, certified Medicare/Medicaid counselor, offers free enrollment assistance on the 2nd and 4th Friday from 10am—1pm in room 404 of the Community Center by appointment only. Get help with selecting insurance, claims, denials of service and more. Call 248-524-3484 to make an appointment by the Wednesday before desired appointment date. For help with Part D enrollment, bring your prescriptions.

Medicare Prescription Drug Program Enrollment Day,
Tuesday October 25, 10am—3pm in Rooms 304/305 of the Community Center

The Area Agency on Aging 1B will hold a Medicare enrollment day at the Troy Community Center for the Medicare Part D Prescription plans. They will navigate through the many plans to help you make an informed decision about which plan to choose. Even if you already have a Medicare Drug Plan, there may be changes that affect how much you pay for your prescriptions and you should review your plan. Bring your current medications with you so that they can be sure to get the correct spelling and dosage. Call 1-800-852-7795 to schedule an appointment.

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

In Memory of	For
Genevieve Brown	Landscaping church grounds
Edna M. Hughes (3 pages)	Furnishing Mercer Room
William Aspenwall	Landscaping church grounds
Maxine and Walter Jackson (3 pages)	Furnishing Mercer Room
Walter Jackson	Choir use



The **Memorial Garden Book** focus for the month of October is in memory of

Raymond Arnold Kiddle

Activity	October 2	October 9	October 16	October 23	October 30
Greeters	Paul & Gerda Clark	LaNae Michael	Dale & Mary Jo Johnston	The Matthews Family	Youth
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	Youth
Crucifer Bible Carrier	Riley Smith Lauren Matthews	Jacob Carl Jason LaCombe	Victoria Aurand Andrew Aurand	Brianne Abdo Jessica Abdo	MollyMitchener Jamie Miller
Acolytes	Alexa DiBartolomeo Aaron Goudie	Jessica Carl Brent Goudie	Christian Aurand Kaleigh Truelove	Madison Abdo Fay Steiger	Andrew Gordon Carly Gordon
Sound Video Engineers	Steve Olsavsky Lauren Matthews	Jack Stover	Jane Egermann	Joe Meek	Karen Carl Megan Ostrander
Coffee Hour Hosts	If you would like to help by providing goodies for coffee hour, please call Diane Martin.				
Monday Counters	Mary Jo Johnston Bunny Schultz Sharon Smith	Joyce Berard Ben Olesen Tim Teagan	Jane Egermann Nancy Heffron Jayne Saeger	Chris DeVilling Marie Watson Michelle Williston	Janice Drager Jan Garrett Chris Gullion
Trustee on Duty	Chuck Tincknell	Linda Pushman	Bill Wesp	Jon Bertolet	Andrew Power
Flowers for The Lord's Table	***	***	George & Joyce Bauman's 10th Anniversary	Stephen & Brooke Schocke's 1st Anniversary	June Lamm Memory of her son Gary
Jr. Church	Patti Aurand Kathy Sobanski Brooke Hartrick	Lori Ann Rumel	Williston Family	Tom Stevens	No Jr. Church
Faith in Action	Stay in Service for Communion	Kelly Gordon	Ostrander	***	No Faith in Action
Nursery (Newborns & Crawlers)	Tina Olesen Julie Olsavsky	Sharon Ostrander Meghan Ostrander	Angela DiBartolomeo Christine Knoper	Mary Smith Riley Smith	***
Toddler Room (Walkers-2 year olds)	Kara Olsavsky	Jessica Abdo	Jennifer Rivera	***	***
3&4 Year Olds	Laurie Mitchener Marianne Melton	Leslie Diebol Stephanie McNett	Kristin Truelove Jessica Urbach	Emily and Jill Woods	Marie Watson