

The Arbor Vine

A newsletter for the Ann Arbor District of the United Methodist Church



Dear Friends,

It's the day after Labor Day as I write these words and the pulse of life in the Body of Christ is beginning to resume its usual frenetic pace for most of us, including my wife who teaches at a parochial school. Last week we also witnessed all the hoopla and excitement around the Obama-Biden slate, while this week unveils for our nation the beginnings of the McCain-

Macaulay's Musings

Palin ticket. All this against the backdrop of some pretty significant issues we need to address as a people.

In this month's words, I invite you to help set a respectful tone in your churches as the election season "heats up". This election, like so many, tends to create and incite great passion and energy. People can allow differences to become divisions. Others will draw "lines in the sand" in all manner of settings and for all sorts of issues. It is crucial that we all honor each other and do what we can to encourage thoughtful, faithful debate.

We can model for family and friends how to disagree without being disagreeable. People of faith often see the world in widely divergent ways... they often see "the answer" in a prescriptive way. Matters about which we care deeply can sometimes lead us to say certain things that can divide, wound and damage the other... and the entire community of faith.

Thus, as this 2008 Election draws closer, I encourage us, as leaders in our churches and in our communities, to model well a spirit of charity with each other... and others. Let us speak with as much humility as clarity... with as much to learn from others as we have to share. Lastly, I remind you that while you can speak to issues from the point-of-view of your faith, you can not endorse a candidate or issue without risking the loss of the church's tax-exempt status. And the days when we can act as if we are immune from civil authority are long-gone (if they were ever real).

- continued -

To have "The Arbor Vine" delivered by email, contact the District Office (page 2).

Thank you for your ministry. I trust that each of you were able to have at least some time off this summer... or at least some on the near-horizon. Take the issues we confront as a people seriously. Use the prism of your faith. But also be careful with the ways in which you bear witness so that it really is a witness... and not a witness to raw power. As always, I invite your feedback and reflections. May Christ's spirit continue to empower you and all you love in these days of change.

Shalom,



Tom Macaulay
District Superintendent

The Arbor Vine

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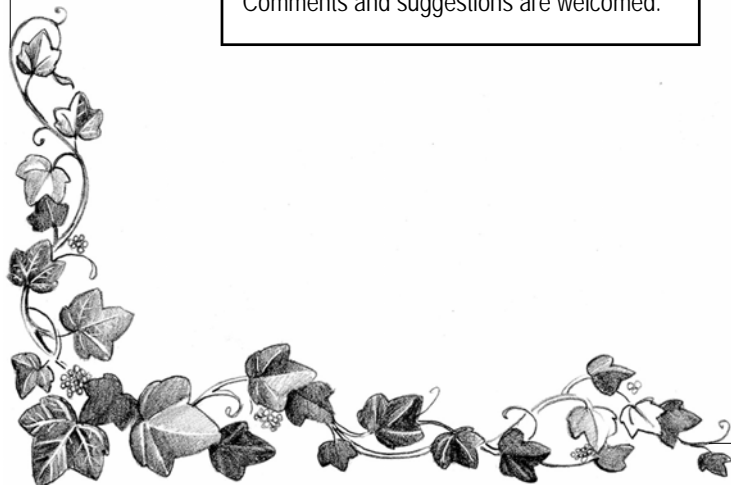
Tom Macaulay, District Superintendent
Jane Pollock, Editor

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Ann Arbor Michigan 48103
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Email: aadisumc@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.gbgm-umc.org/annarbordist/

Articles are due on the 10th of the month.
Comments and suggestions are welcomed.

Michigan Area Resource Center News

The Michigan Area Resource Center newsletter is now available online at: www.marc-web.org. They have new and useful offerings with each newsletter.



The September Schedule for the District Superintendent

September thru December

Sept 11	9:30 a.m.
Sept 13	8:30 a.m.
Sept 14	3:30 p.m.
Sept 21	2:00 p.m.
Sept 23	1:00 p.m.
Sept 25	3:00 p.m.
Sept 27	8:30 a.m.

Church Conferences (see page 6)

Connectional Grants Committee
Lay Speaking School
Welcome Back Bishop Reception
Ann Arbor District Annual Meeting
CCOM Personnel Meeting
Peace Pole Dedication at UMRC
Lay Speaking School

Tom's personal day is Friday.

HOLD ON to your Jubilee Mission Spotlight Book!

They will not be printing a new Jubilee Spotlight book this year. Instead, there is an *addendum for 2009* with corrections and additions. You will need the Jubilee Spotlight 2008 book in addition to the addendum to participate in your ministry/mission project. A copy of the addendum is on the District website, and also has been emailed to every church.

Again: Do not throw away your Jubilee Spotlight 2008 book!

Church Conference forms online

This year all the Church Conference forms you need are available for download on the District website:

www.gbgm-umc.org/annarbordist

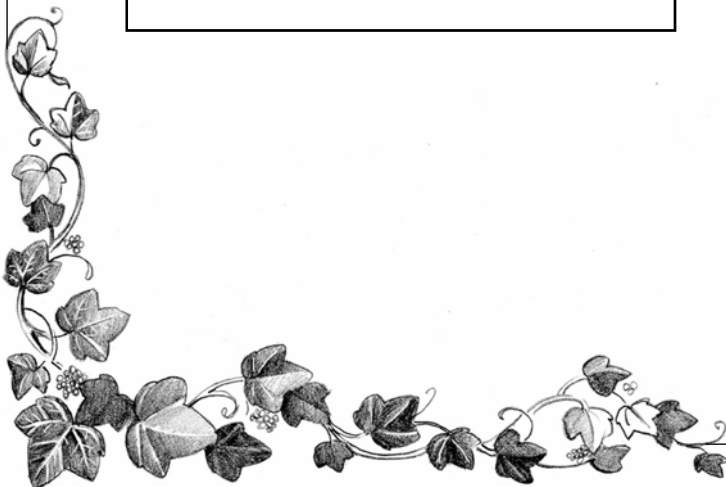
Do you need help with this? Call Jane at the District Office: 734-663-3939.

Five subscription forms for *Interpreter Magazine* will be given to you at your Conference. Additional forms are available on the internet.

Items for Local Church Discussion

Your church has received a packet with the resolutions that were set aside at Annual Conference. You can review and discuss these legislative pieces on the Conference website:

www.umc-detconf.org



2009 Mission Travel Study
Peace Building and Pursuing Justice

Mission, Education and Advocacy for Sudan March 12–23, 2009

The exposure trip will help you gain knowledge and understanding of the present issues prevalent in Sudan while raising awareness concerning the realities and the misconceptions about its land, people, resources, and conflicts.

Participants will be introduced to the work of the United Methodist Church and the present work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), its partnerships, and its efforts toward peace building in Sudan.

Each ambassador will:

Visit mission sites

Write articles for the MI Christian Advocate and/or United Methodist Women News

Speak and give presentations with offerings at local churches in all districts

See the current mission trip at: <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/about/us/me/resources/travelseminars>

The Board of Global Ministry will pay one third of the cost of the trip.

For more information contact: Rev. Mary Shipley, 20 East M-55, Tawas City 48763,

989-362-4288, revmary@shIPLEYweb.com

Application must be postmarked by September 12, 2008

Training Opportunities

Fall Worship for Church Secretaries

*“Managing Emotions Under Stress:
Finding Your Center
in the Middle of Turmoil”*

Wednesday, October 8, 9:00 am -3:00 pm

**Flushing UMC, 413 E. Main Street
Flushing MI**

Who doesn't need this?

Contact Jennifer Gertz: dcumcs@gmail.com

Web Site Workshop

Saturday, Nov. 1, 9:00-3:00

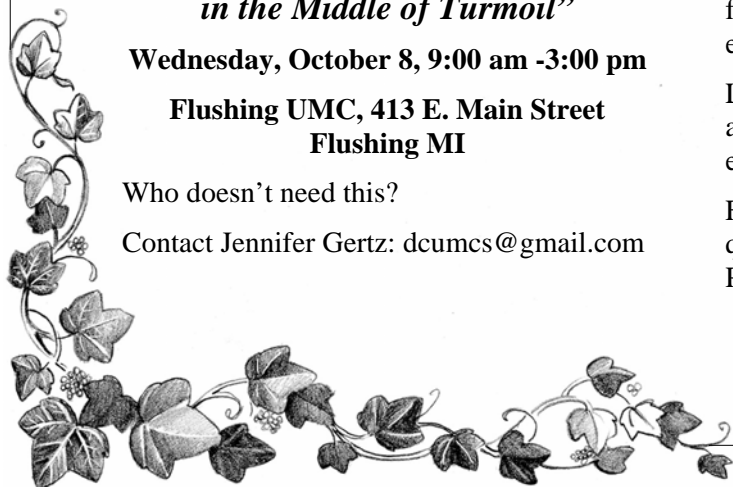
Mt. Pleasant First UMC

\$40 per person includes lunch

Learn how to create and maintain a website from Cheryl Hemerle, from General Conference United Methodist Communications

Laptops and wireless internet will be available. Sponsored by both Michigan Conferences and PAUMCS.

For more information email Ellen Johnson at quincyumc@charterinternet.com. Put “Website Workshop” in the subject line.



Welcome Back Bishop Keaton!

August 13, 2008

Dear Pastors and Congregations,

The Michigan Area Committee on Episcopacy was delighted to hear that at the recent North Central Jurisdictional Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan, Bishop Jonathan D. Keaton has been reassigned as the Resident Bishop of the Michigan Area for the coming 2008-2012 Quadrennium. Bishop Keaton's leadership has been greatly appreciated and we look forward to his presence with us for the next for years.

The Committee on Episcopacy would like to invite you to join us in welcoming Bishop and Mrs. Keaton back to the Michigan Area. We invite you to participate in these ways:

Welcome Back Reception: On Sunday September 14, 2008 between 3 :30 and 5 :30 pm a welcome back reception will be held at the Lansing Trinity UMC. (A similar event will be held at the Sault Ste Marie Central UMC on Sunday October 26, 2008) A short presentation will take place at 4:00 pm. Please come and greet Bishop Keaton and members of his family.

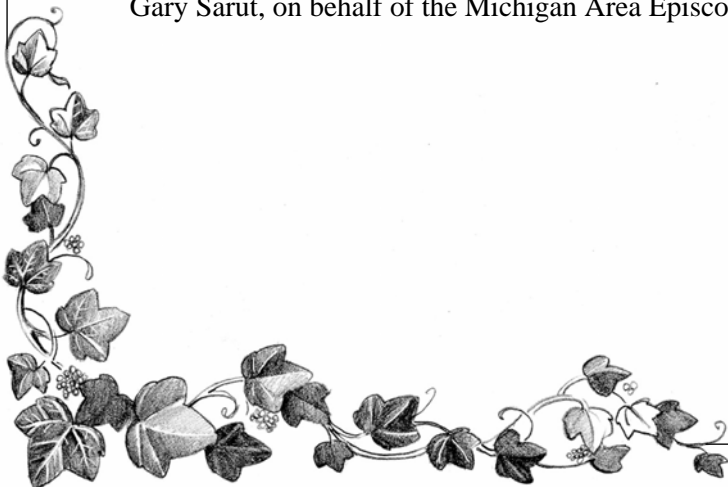
Letters of Greeting: We invite you to send letters of greeting, appreciation for his leadership, and welcoming back to Bishop Keaton. Individual letters and letters from your congregation. should be sent to: Welcome Back Bishop P.O. 25068 Lansing, MI 48909.

A Gift To Missions: Bishop Keaton has a passion for making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. He has a true heart for mission and especially for the Haiti Hot Lunch Program. It is our hope that a substantial gift for the Haiti Hot Lunch Program can be presented in honor of Bishop Keaton. Please encourage your congregation to receive a special offering for this purpose, and send it to the Conference Treasurer, designated to the "Welcome Back Bishop Keaton Gift".

The challenges facing the Michigan Area are great. Please join us in thanking Bishop Keaton and welcoming him back. If you have any questions please contact me at 231-773-3551.

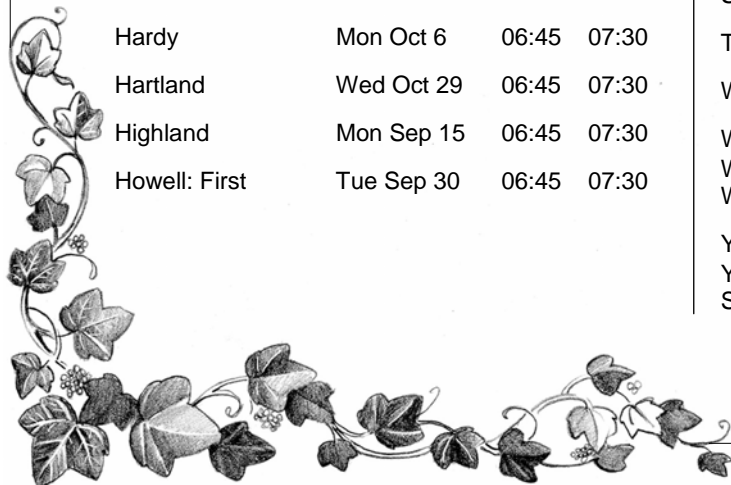
Grace and Peace,

Gary Sarut, on behalf of the Michigan Area Episcopacy Committee



Church Conference Schedule

Church	Date	SPRC	Conference	Church	Date	SPRC	Conference
Adrian: First	Thu Nov 13	06:45	07:30	Hudson: First	Mon Nov 24	06:45	07:30
Amen Korean	Mon Sep 22	06:45	07:30	Ida, Samaria: Grace	Wed Nov 5	06:45	07:30
Ann Arbor: Calvary	Wed Nov 12	06:45	07:30	Lambertville	Sun Dec 7	03:15	04:00
Ann Arbor: First	Sun Dec 21	12:15	01:00	LaSalle: Zion	Sun Dec 7	12:15	01:00
Ann Arbor: Korean	Sun Dec 21	03:15	04:00	Lincoln Community	Mon Dec 8	06:45	07:30
Ann Arbor: West Side	Thu Dec 4	06:45	07:30	Livingston Cir: Plainfield, Trinity	Thu Oct 23	06:45	07:30
Azalia, London	Sun Nov 2	12:15	01:00	Lulu	Wed Dec 17	06:45	07:30
Belleville: First	Sun Sep 28	06:45	07:30	Macon	Wed Oct 8	06:45	07:30
Blissfield: Emmanuel	Wed Oct 22	After	07:30	Manchester	Mon Oct 13	06:45	07:30
Blissfield: First	Wed Oct 22	06:45	07:30	Manchester: Sharon	Mon Oct 13	After	07:30
Brighton: First	Tue Nov 18	06:45	07:30	Milan: Marble Me- morial	Mon Oct 20	06:45	07:30
Britton: Grace	Wed Oct 1	06:45	07:30	Milford	Tue Nov 25	06:45	07:30
Canton: Cherry Hill	Thu Dec 18	06:45	07:30	Morenci	Mon Nov 24	After	07:30
Canton: Friendship	Sun Sep 28	03:15	04:00	New Hudson	Wed Dec 10	06:45	07:30
Chelsea: First	Tue Dec 16	06:45	07:30	North Lake	Mon Dec 15	06:45	07:30
Clayton, Rollin Center	Mon Nov 17	06:45	07:30	Northville: First	Mon Nov 3	06:45	07:30
Clinton	Sun Nov 9	03:15	04:00	Novi	Wed Sep 24	06:45	07:30
Commerce	Mon Oct 27	06:45	07:30	Oak Grove	Sat Nov 1	09:15	10:00
Deerfield, Wellsville	Sun Dec 7	06:45	07:30	Petersburg	Sun Nov 2	06:45	07:30
Denton: Faith	Tue Nov 4	06:45	07:30	Pinckney: Arise	Tue Dec 9	06:45	07:30
Dexter	Sat Nov 8	09:15	10:00	Plymouth: First	Thu Nov 20	06:45	07:30
Dixboro	Wed Dec 3	06:45	07:30	Salem Grove	Tue Oct 7	06:45	07:00
Dundee	Sun Nov 2	03:15	04:00	Saline: First	Sun Oct 26	06:45	07:30
Erie	Mon Dec 1	06:45	07:30	South Lyon: First	Wed Nov 19	06:45	07:30
Fowlerville: First	Tue Oct 28	06:45	07:30	Springville	Thu Oct 9	06:45	07:30
Hardy	Mon Oct 6	06:45	07:30	Stony Creek	Wed Sep 10	06:45	07:30
Hartland	Wed Oct 29	06:45	07:30	Tecumseh	Sun Nov 9	06:45	07:30
Highland	Mon Sep 15	06:45	07:30	Walled Lake	Thu Dec 11	06:45	07:30
Howell: First	Tue Sep 30	06:45	07:30	Weston	Wed Sep 3	06:45	07:30
				Whitmore Lake: Wesley	Tue Oct 21	06:45	07:30
				Ypsilanti: First	Sun Oct 26	03:15	04:00
				Ypsilanti: St. Matthew's	Sun Oct 26	12:15	01:00



Celebrate a Year of Service

at the

Annual Meeting of the **Ann Arbor District**

Ann Arbor District
Board of Missions and Church Extension

Ann Arbor District Council on Ministries

Sunday, Sept. 21, 2:00 p.m.

Plymouth First United Methodist Church

Business meeting followed by Soup & Sandwich meal - \$6.50

**You must reserve
your meal
by September 17**

Who should attend?

Pastors, elected representatives from each congregation, and members of the board of trustees of the district board of missions and church extension are encouraged to attend and cast their votes during the business meeting. Guests are invited to attend the meeting as well as the supper.

Please reserve my space for the annual meeting soup and sandwich meal on Sunday, September 21 at 2:00 p.m. ____ persons at \$6.50 each = _____

Make checks payable to Plymouth First United Methodist Church

Mail check and this form to:

Plymouth UMC, 45201 N. Territorial Rd., Plymouth MI 48170

ATTN: Susan Henry

Name(s) _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Church _____

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Rich Burstall
- 2 Charlotte & Jim Simmons
- 4 Mary Hoff
- 4 Ardith Stewardson
- 6 Jim Tuttle
- 7 Ellen Shin
- 7 Diane & Ken Ray
- 8 George & Sandy Tannery
- 9 Sandra & Doug Olsen
- 9 Marc & Diane Vale
- 10 Edward Weiss Jr
- 10 Susan & David Hurst
- 10 Fred & Bev Marr
- 13 Jonathan Carey
- 14 Don Weatherup
- 14 Ed Willobee
- 16 Kim & Christopher P Momany
- 22 Daniel Harris
- 23 Pauline Hart
- 23 Beth Miller
- 24 Jim Walker
- 25 Susan Walker
- 27 Gloria & Tom Tarpley
- 29 Bev Marr
- 30 Lorraine Pillow

Mission Estonia

A group from Ann Arbor: First has traveled in service to Estonia, and would be glad to speak to other churches and give advice about mission trips.

Contact Carolyn Hannum at 734-761-6564 for more information and to have a speaker at your church.

Liberia Consultation

Operation Classroom, an arm of the UMC that sends educational materials to Liberia and Sierra Leone, is hosting a "Consultation on Liberia" on Friday, October 31st, 2008 at the Troy First United Methodist Church, 6363 Livernois Rd., Troy, MI48098-1598, ph. 248-879-6363.

This annual event is usually held in Indiana, so we are thrilled that it is so close! There is also a Consultation on Sierra Leone on Thursday, October 30th. Please save the date.

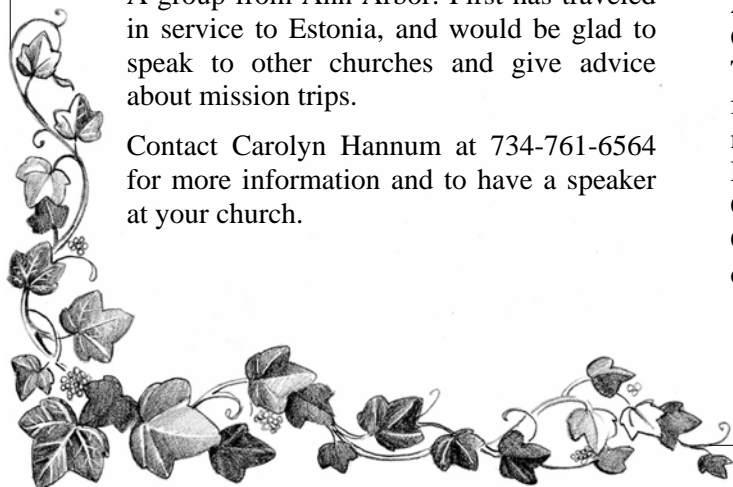
More information regarding start and end times, lunch arrangements, etc. will be forthcoming (last year it was 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.). The bishops of Liberia and Sierra Leone are expected to attend, as well as other significant leaders from their conferences.

If you are considering attending, and are not familiar with Operation Classroom, I encourage you to visit their website (www.operationclassroom.org) and learn about what they do. Much of the consultation is hearing reports from different leaders of projects, and it helps if you know what they are talking about ahead of time.

For more information, please contact Laura Speiran, Ann Arbor District Liberia Task Force Chairperson

Auction at Saline

First United Methodist Church of Saline will be holding an "Antique and So Much More Auction" at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds on Saturday, September 13, 2008. This event is open to the public. Proceeds from the auction will be applied toward a matching grant to expand the church facility. Donations will be accepted at the church. Contact Edna Laughrey (734-429-4468), Carol Osterling (429-9653) or Shirley Padding (477-9223) for additional information.



Upcoming Workshops, Seminars, & Trips *not mentioned elsewhere in The Vine*

Friday, Sept 12, 8:30 am

Fall Golf Outing to Support Outdoor & Retreat Ministries

Fenton Farms Gold Club, Contact: Jon Lawrence at 810-266-4571

Sunday, Sept 28

Fall Youth Rally

Myers Lake UM Campground, Byron MI, Contact: Jackie Euper 800-334-0544 ext. 362

Sunday, Sept 21, 2:00 pm

Annual Meeting of the Ann Arbor District

Plymouth First United Methodist Church; See registration form later in this newsletter

Wednesday, Oct 8

The Spiritual Life of Children Living with Serious Illness

Robert Coles, MD; Kellogg Center, MSU; <http://chmfamilymedicaine.msu.edu>

Monday, October 20

"Living the Sacred" - UMC Mission School of the North

Gaylord UMC, registration deadline Oct. 13

Contact: Linda Andersen, Garrett Seminary, 1-800-SEMINARY

Saturday, October 25

United Methodist Women - Detroit Conference

Sault Ste. Marie Central

November 13-14

Rethinking Evangelicalism—Roundtable 2008

Sandberg Leadership Center of Ashland Seminary, Contact: Renae Osborne 419-289-5323

November 13-23, 2008

Cruise into History

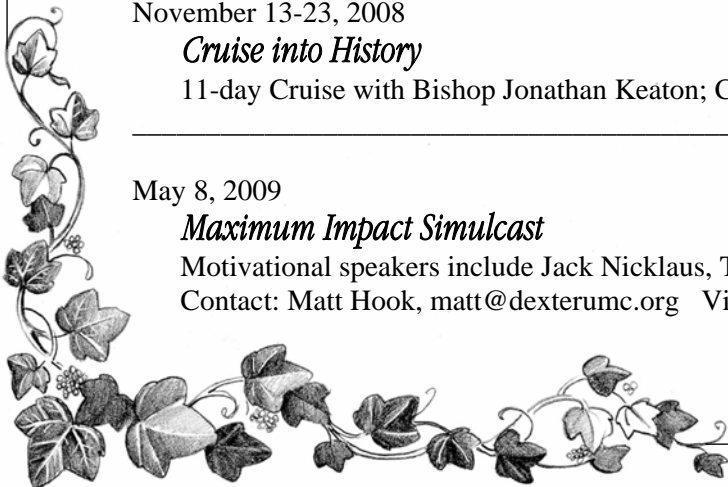
11-day Cruise with Bishop Jonathan Keaton; Contact: Rev. Ann Emerson at 810-327-6272

May 8, 2009

Maximum Impact Simulcast

Motivational speakers include Jack Nicklaus, Tony Blair

Contact: Matt Hook, matt@dexterumc.org Video clip on www.injoy.com/mis



Corrections to the 2008-2009 Ann Arbor District Directory

CHURCHES

Blissfield: Emmanuel
Their secretary is Maria Kesson

Allen J. Lewis
805 W. Middle St. TV #426, Chelsea

Dexter
Steven Bringardner,
Pastor of Discipleship
4545 Mast Road, Dexter 48130
(temporary)
734-646-1968

Josephine Merrell (Roger, dec.)
805 W. Middle St. TV #118-1
Chelsea

Johncie Palmer
795 W. Barrington Circle
Jackson 49203 734-972-7186

Dundee
Their new website is
www.umcdundee.org

Doris White (Hugh, dec)
805 W. Middle St. TV #106, Chelsea

Fowlerville: First
Their new website is
www.fowlervillefumc.org

OTHER CLERGY AND PERSONNEL

Tom Burdette
Department of Spiritual Care
U of M Hospitals, Ann Arbor 48109
734-936-4041

The Wesley Foundation
at University of Michigan
Chaplain/Director Rev. Eric Stone
602 E. Huron, Ann Arbor 48104
734-668-6881
Email: eastone@umich.edu
Secretary: Mary Getsoian
Website: www.wesley-foundation.org

Judy Mayo, Deacon, disability leave
6065 Vista Dr., Ypsilanti 48197
734-482-0776

METROPOLITAN REGIONAL OFFICE

Address is 17117 West Nine Mile Rd.
Suite 1545

RETIRED UM CLERGY AND SPOUSES

Mary Albery (not Allbery)
801 W. Middle St. #462, Chelsea

Bob Boley (Emily)
805 W. Middle St. TV #427, Chelsea

Virnelle Cookingham (Charles, dec.)
805 W. Middle St., TV #417, Chelsea

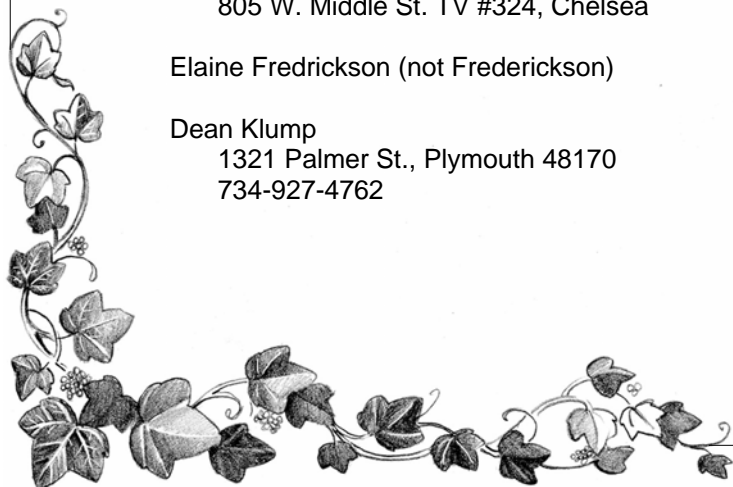
Ralph Edwards
805 W. Middle St. TV #324, Chelsea

Elaine Fredrickson (not Frederickson)

Dean Klump
1321 Palmer St., Plymouth 48170
734-927-4762

WEST MICHIGAN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Kalamazoo District zip code is
49008



Leadership Grants

Are you or someone else you know looking for grants for leadership development? If so, you may want to check out the new process and information on grants from the Foundation on Evangelism at www.foundationforevangelism.org/grants. Proposals need to fit within their definition of evangelism which is “to help all persons experience God’s transforming love through Jesus Christ”.

Multimedia Blues?

Does multimedia worship sound complicated? Does your church want to expand its media options but it not sure how to do it?

1) Consultation

Dennis Just, an experience technology worker and also a member of the District Board of Missions is willing to consult with churches on their technology needs, including multimedia development.

2) Seminar

A two-day seminar on Creative Worship Technology and Designing Worship Images will be held at the Millville UMC on November 7 and 8. Len Wilson and Jason Moore are teaching professional design techniques in a team model. Information is on their website: www.midnightoilproductions.com.

3) Free PowerPoint

You may remember Rev. Dorothy Okray, recently retired pastor from the Morenci church. She has developed a new website at <http://churchpowerpoint.com>. This website offers good quality ecumenical, lectionary based PowerPoint presentations for worship services without charge. Try out this generous and useful ministry.

Support for Church Lay Leaders

Samaritan Counseling Center of SE Michigan will be offering two groups for congregational leaders beginning in September. These consultation/support groups provide a confidential and learning possibility to share matters of mutual interest and concern around work with congregations and the lives of those who lead congregations. Dr. Barbara Lewis Lakin will lead one group beginning September 8. The group will meet at First United Methodist Church in Northville, Michigan. The second group will meet beginning on September 16 for lunch. Dr. Paul Melrose will lead this group, which will convene at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, Farmington Hills. Each member is asked to contribute \$25 per meeting. Space is limited; if interested please call the Samaritan office at 248-474-4701 or email us at info@samaritancounselingmichigan.com.

Lay Speaking School

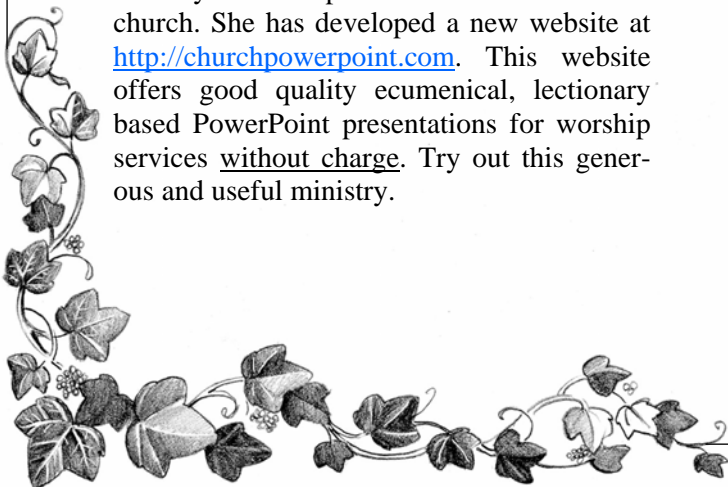
The fall session for the training and recertification of Lay Speakers will be held on

Saturday, Sept 13 and

Saturday, Sept 27

at Ypsilanti First UMC
209 Washtenaw Ave.
Ypsilanti MI 48197
734-482-8374

Basic, Refresher, and Advanced Classes are offered. For more information call the Ann Arbor District Office at 734-663-3939.



Ann Arbor District Office
of the United Methodist Church
900 S. Seventh St. Suite 1
Ann Arbor MI 48103

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