

# CONNECTIONS

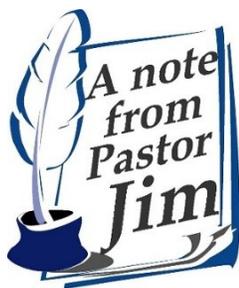
August 2019 Issue



**BELLEVILLE FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**  
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**Mission:** *Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

**Vision:** *With Christ as our center, we are His extended family, compassionately sharing Jesus' love with all people. Our congregation is on a lifelong journey of discipleship to become more like Christ.*



Dear Friends,

I understand that the light on the torch of the Statue of Liberty has been on continuously since she was built. The lamp of Liberty has never gone out. Even in the daytime, the light is shining. During World War II, all of New York City was under a blackout for security reasons, but they kept this little 60-watt light bulb glowing in Liberty's torch. On the night all the lights went out in New York because of a massive power blackout, the light still stayed on because it's powered by electricity from across the river in New Jersey! As wave after wave of immigrants sailed into New York Harbor, they'd strain for that first look at the statue, the symbol of the freedom they had risked so much to find. Whenever they arrived, they saw the light of Liberty. It was always, always on. In John 4:4-7. "Now Jesus had to go through Samaria.

So He came to a town in Samaria called Sychar...Jacob's well was there. Jesus, tired from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about the sixth hour (that's noon). When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Will you give me a drink?'

This encounter starts a chain reaction that in turn ends up with a massive revival in this Samaritan village, and much of the village comes to Christ as Savior. It started at a time when Jesus was feeling tired and thirsty, and ready for some rest. It was one of those seemingly "off duty" moments.

But along comes a woman who needs Him, and He opens up her life to His claims. And here's Jesus, worn out, but as "on" at this resting spot as He is in a crowd on a sunny hillside. In fact it is, humanly speaking, Jesus' thirst that puts Him at the right place at the right time, and that's the same way God is directing your steps. He wants to use the everyday events of your life to position you to affect someone else's life, if you're willing to do the Statue of Liberty thing, and never turn off your light.

You never know how God will get you to be at the right place for someone who needs you: for someone who needs Him! It's important to be "on" for Jesus when you go to lunch, when you're in a store, when

# Prayer Requests

## In the Hospital:

## Members At Home:

Bernadine Schaerer

## Please remember those in Continuing Care Facilities:

Bobbie Winters  
Superior Woods



Stephanie Boltrick  
Daughter of Nancy Boltrick

Christopher Stone  
Son of Mike & Dawn Stone

Michael Stone  
Son of Mike & Dawn Stone

Blake  
Grandson of Betty Hughey

Jared Stabnau  
Grandson of Harvey & Elaine Stabnau

Cody Ford-Aimone  
Grandson of Mike & Lynda Aimone

Justin Renton  
Grandson of Donna Sweeney

Chad Koenne  
Grandson of Dick & Lila Timm



Lila	Timm	1
Amy	Milios-Knieper	3
Abby	Fleming	6
Louis	Kissel	11
Arlene	Bird	11
John	Lucidi	11
Travis	Smith	14
Betty	Shaw	15
Janet	MacDermid	15
David	Murray	15
Rylie	Scharlach	16
Dennis	Jacobson	17
Valerie	Moore	20
Pat	Taylor	21
Dave	Burns	21
Amy	Reeves	21
Kathy	Perkins	23
Sharon	Webster	24
Brendan	Smith	25
Jerry	Caldwell	27
Jim	Wilson	27
Ron	Banks	27
Harriet Anita	Dawson-Bucknor	27
David	Damon	30
Kristopher	Sharpe	30
Marilyn	McKenna	31



John and Janet MacDermid	3
Chris and Angelle Whitt	4
Joseph Baynesan and Janelle Wofford	8
John and Deborah Juriga	11
Russ and Carole Leake	13
Derek and Amy Reeves	19
Ed and Kim Paris	21
Mike and Julie Skelton	21
Wesley and Doris Crocker	22
Dick and Nancy Carey	25
Mark and Jan Cook	29
Kelly and Lynette Jordan	29

Continued from Page 1

you're waiting in line, when you're on Facebook, or when you're on a plane. If you're going to be like Jesus, you can't put your service into little compartments: "OK, it's ministry time now." When isn't it ministry time? Today, in the middle of your journey, there is someone who needs Jesus. There's someone who needs encouragement. There's someone who needs a hand. There's someone who needs to be prayed with.

Life really becomes an adventure when you consciously open up your day to God's sovereignty, bringing you together with other people for His glory and for their good. In fact, it's exciting to begin each day, praying something like this, "Lord, use my everyday activities today to put me in the path of someone who needs me, who needs you."

May God challenge you in life.



Rev. Jim Walker

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## Mark Your Calendars!

The Annual Church Conference will be held Sunday, **October 27th at 2:00pm**. The conference will be held at Belleville 1st UMC.



## Notes from the 2019 Annual Conference

The 2019 Michigan Area Annual Conference was held at the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme (Traverse City), Michigan, May 30th—June 2nd.

There were 1,937 combined clergy and laity who registered for the conference.

There are now nine districts in the Michigan area conference versus 12 in the past. Our district is the Heritage and we are headquartered in Ann Arbor.

The primary event on Day (Thursday, May 30th) was a sermon by Bishop Bard.

On Day Two, Friday, the first issue to be voted on by the entire body of the conference came to the floor entitled “Aspirations for the Michigan Annual Conference”. This resolution (GCR 2019-2) which states that the Michigan Annual Conference aspires to live into an expression of Methodism that includes LGTBQ in full life and membership of the UMC. This resolution passed by more than a two-thirds majority 819 (68%) to 377 (32%). For the first time we were given voting handsets for electronic confidential voting. These devices actually worked pretty well.

The members also approved the taking of a non-binding straw poll-GCR 2019-3. The result of the straw poll indicated a two-thirds preference for “a united Methodist conference whose policies allow for, but do not require, clergy to officiate at same-gender weddings, allows for consideration for ordained ministry or persons regardless of sexual orientation, and in which appointments are made with consideration given to the full range of contextual realities.”

Finally, and also by a similar two-thirds majority, a resolution that recommends to general conference 2020, creation of a central conference in North America. This resolution was referred to general conference by a vote of 705 to 336. If adopted by general conference 2020, this would “provide for the creation of a central conference encompassing North America,” allowing more contextualized ministry and mission.

### R#2019-9—Recognize the Unborn Baby

MOTION: The Michigan Conference recognizes the unborn baby in the womb as fully human from the moment of conception—motion defeated 60% to 40%.

### Other Important Agenda Items Discussed at Annual Conference:

Methodist Camps—From 12 to 7 Now Operating—Judson Collins Okay—\$400,000 Deficit  
Churches Closing—9 in Total—Close to Home—Dearborn Heights’ Stevens  
David Dobbs—Centralization of Church Property and Liability Insurance  
Roads to Vibrancy (Including Financial Grants) - Gray Step

### Delegates to Attend the 2020 General and Jurisdictional Conferences

General Conference in Minneapolis—May 5 to 15 —8 (4 Clergy and 4 Laity)  
North Central Jurisdiction in Fort Wayne—July 15 to 18 (8 Additional and 2 Alternatives)

Note: Next Year’s Annual Conference at Grand Traverse Resort May 28—31

Submitted by Ron Stansifer

## News from the Food Closet

### **Meijer's Simply Give Campaign**

Our Emergency Food Closet has been selected by our local Meijer store to participate in its **Simply Give Campaign**. The Campaign dates are August 18 to September 28. **DOUBLE MATCH DAYS ARE SET FOR AUGUST 30 and SEPTEMBER 13.**

The **Simply Give Campaign** is our biggest fundraiser of the year. This provides **85%** of the funds used to purchase food for our clients for the year. You can purchase a **Simply Give** card at the check-out aisle for \$10 on any day between August 18<sup>th</sup> and September 28<sup>th</sup>. (Before you buy, make sure that our Emergency Food Closet is listed as the recipient at the bottom of the sign so that your purchase goes to our account.)

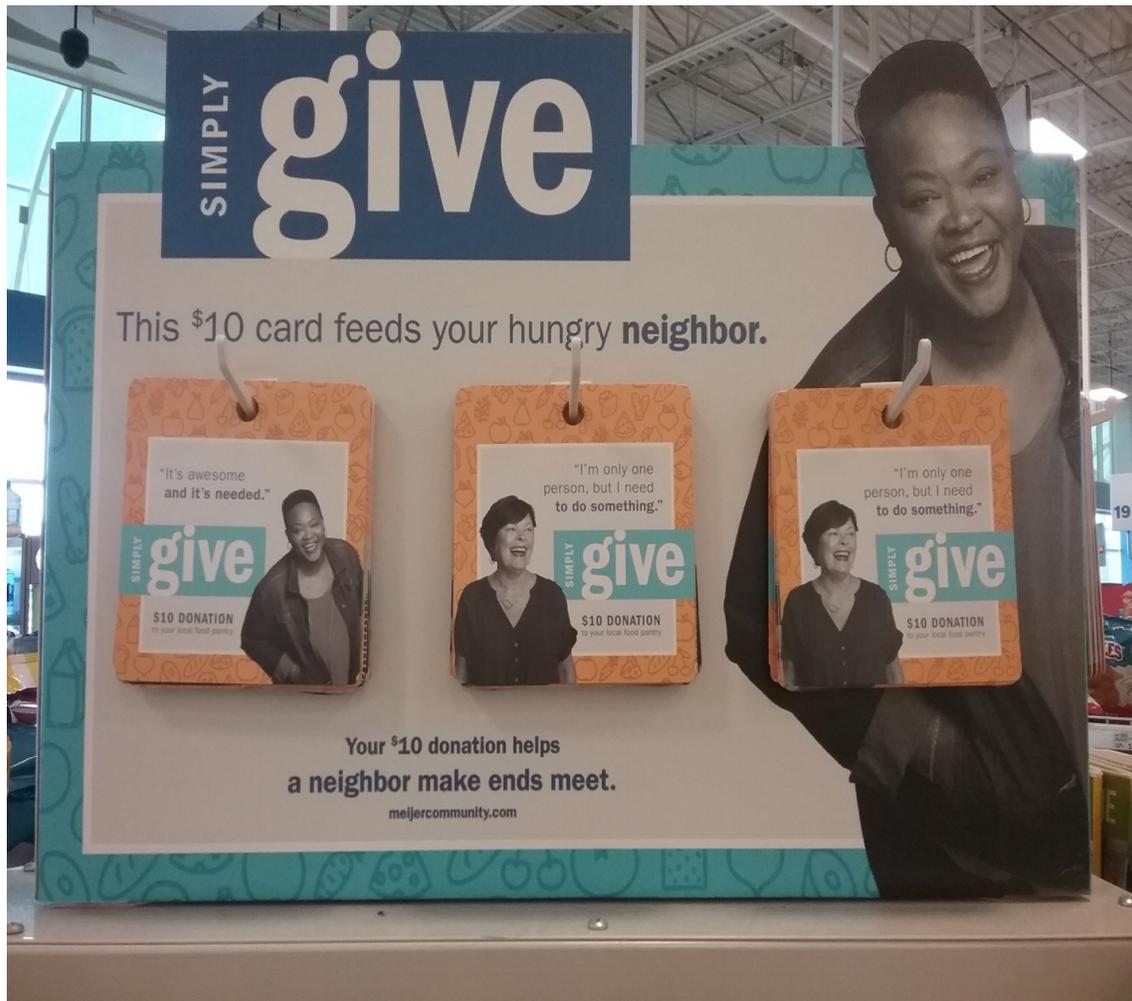
Your \$10 donation goes directly into our **Simply Give** account. When the campaign is over and the donations are tallied, we are given **Food Only** gift cards to spend in the amount raised. This pays for the food for the weekly bags and the meat and dairy products we distribute.



## News from the Food Closet

If you plan on donating during the campaign, the best days to buy your **Simply Give** cards is on either **August 30** and/or **September 13**. **On these two dates, Meijer will double what you purchase.** For example, if you purchase a \$10 card, Meijer will match it with \$20, for a total contribution of \$30. Meijer will double match up to \$5,000 per pantry during double match days.

The **Simply Give** cards are located at the end of each checkout aisle. Take a card (or several) and give to the cashier. She/he will scan the card/cards to activate and credit our account. You keep the cards so that you can claim the amount as a tax donation. Turn in your store receipt with your name and the card purchase circled to Mickey Keelan or put in the collection basket. It will be credited to your monthly BFUMC statement.



## News from the Food Closet

Please share this information with your family and friends so that this fundraising campaign is a **huge success!**

**PLEASE** continue to support our local Meijer store and their effort to **feed the hungry in our community!**

*Marilyn Wood*



The Food Closet staple for the month of August:

Macaroni & Cheese



# WORD SEARCH

UQE Z J Y L A V E X S T F L  
N O I T A C A V L G A C Y Q O  
Q X D C C T G T T G A K V P L  
Z T F U P F S U N F L O W E R  
H O Q Q T A C A O X A D Q H X  
H E A T C I I Q L T Q U C N Y  
B V B D Q C N A E O H A V W F  
F A N P D E C S M P E V L U S  
G A S K B C I F R B O P A W K  
S N V E A R P C E C G O I N O  
F S I S B E L J T D F M L D G  
U I O T W A K J A X M Q E B F  
A I Y S A M L F W I V N A F G  
I T A C E O H L N G D B Y V F  
T F Z C G K B G O V W N P Y C

BEACH  
BASEBALL  
ICE CREAM  
SWIMMING

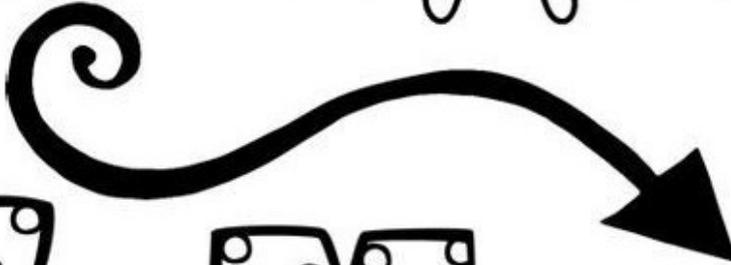
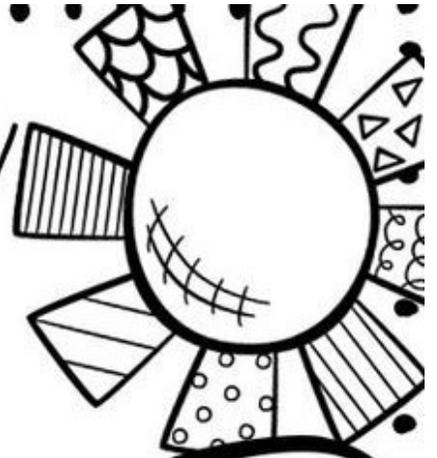
PICNIC  
VACATION  
SUNFLOWER  
WATERMELON

SANDCASTLE  
HEAT  
BOATING  
POOL



# Coloring Page

i'm ready for



SUMMER

FUN



# 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Macaroni and Cheese</b>				1 10 a.m. AA (FH) 7 p.m. Music in the Park (S) 8 p.m. AA (FH)	2	3 10 a.m. GA (AR)
4 9:30 a.m. Worship	5	6 6 p.m. Christian Ed Comm Mtg (Artley Rm) 7 p.m. Ad Council (L)	7 Payroll 7 p.m. Prayer Group (AR)	8 10 a.m. AA (FH) 8 p.m. AA (FH) 7 p.m. Music in the Park (S)	9	10 10 a.m. GA (AR)
11 9:30 a.m. Worship	12	13 7 p.m. SPRC (L)	14 11 a.m. Women's Bible Study (AR) 7 p.m. Prayer Group (AR)	15 10 a.m. AA (FH) 8 p.m. AA (FH) 7 p.m. Music in the Park (S)	16	17 10 a.m. GA (AR)
18 9:30 a.m. Worship 12 Noon Finance Comm Mtg (L)	19 )	20	21 7 p.m. Prayer Group (AR)	22 10 a.m. AA (FH) 6 p.m. Praise Band Prac. 7:30 p.m. Choir Prac. 8 p.m. AA (FH)	23	24 10 a.m. GA (AR)
25 9:30 a.m. Worship	26 Payroll 6 p.m. Trustee's Mtg (Artley Rm)	27 7 p.m. Missions (L)	28 7 p.m. Prayer Group (AR)	29 10 a.m. AA (FH) 6 p.m. Praise Band Prac. 7:30 p.m. Choir Prac. 8 p.m. AA (FH)	30	31 10 a.m. GA (AR)