

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | HOWELL FUMC | NOVEMBER 2020

From the Pastor

¹¹ I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.

As your new pastor, I want you to know how much I appreciate your hospitality and welcome to Carrie and me. You have really made us feel cared for, even in the middle of this strange pandemic. I am enjoying getting to know you - masks and all.

Some of the things I am thankful for are the giving garden (thank you volunteers), the help at the parsonage and the amazing courtyard at the church (thank you Shaila, Cheryl and the strong men who moved dirt).

Worship services have been great even though we have lived with many adjustments for the sake of safety. In spite of our inability to have congregational singing we have had great music at our services. I keep hearing people say, "I wish you could hear the choir, the full praise band and the bells." I can hardly wait. Between live and virtual services, we have reached

about 400 per week in the last few months. That is pretty amazing. It also gives you a great opportunity to invite your family and friends to experience Howell FUMC in a very safe and anonymous way. People are so hungry for God today that they might just give us a try! Who does God want you to invite?

In Philippians 4, Paul tells is that he has learned to be content regardless of circumstances. He learned to be satisfied to the point where he is not disturbed in abundance or in need. He has Godly contentment! He is simply not allowing the things he wants to steal the enjoyment of what he has in Christ at the present time. My prayer for you as the fall moves on is that you will experience everyday contentment.

- Pastor Scott

On the Calendar

- Nov 1st All Saints Sunday
- Nov 5th Trustees
- Nov 12th Finance
- Nov 13-21 Pastor Unavailable
- Nov 16th Stephen Ministry
- Nov 20th SPRC
- Nov 26th Thanksgiving OFFICE CLOSED
- Nov 27th OFFICE CLOSED
- Nov 29th UM Student Special Offering
 - Every Monday 7pm Worship Design



Once again, Howell FUMC will be assisting the Salvation Army by supporting the Red Kettle Campaign and ringing bells on Friday, December 18. We will staff the Kroger location at M-59 and Michigan Ave. from 10am-6pm. Shifts are two hours and due to COVID-19, we are limited to two volunteer ringers per shift. We are looking for eight (8) volunteers to fill the four, two-hour shifts.

10am-12pm; 12pm-2pm; 2pm-4pm; 4pm-6pm

Call or email Marsha Gray to sign-up today! migray1@charter.net (517) 242-1630

Gleaners

The need is great! Online donation option is now available!

One delivery of 37 pounds was made to Gleaners in October. This brings Howell FUMC to a total of six deliveries and a total of 743.5 pounds in the year 2020. The need is great. Please consider donating food or personal products to the black box in the church. You may also make a monetary donation in your offering envelope,

Online through our website www.howellfumc.com and go to the giving tab or you may donate directly to Gleaners. Making a donation in the special Giving Garden envelopes will be given to Gleaners during a time of double donations.

- Basil Bloss

Laundry Gap Ministry

Through the end of September, the Laundry Ministry has served a total of 39 families with vouchers totaling \$1,200 to help keep the 66 individuals in clean clothes. Thank you for your continued ministry to the needy in our community through the church budget and your regular and special offerings.

Volunteers Needed

Several volunteers are needed for the Laundry Gap Ministry. The ministry is done in cooperation with Love in the Name of Christ (Love INC) and provides laundromat vouchers to community members in need.

The laundry Gap tram is looking for an individual who would be willing to manage our recordkeeping and tracking the number of clients served. Great for someone who regularly checks their email. We are also looking for a few additional volunteers who may be able to assist with meeting clients on Mondays or Wednesdays for pre-determined appointments (currently

Noon-12:30 PM). This would likely be a once or twice a month commitment.

Interested making difference in your community? Marsha Gray (517) 242-1630 to learn more!





Phone: 517-546-2730 Fax: 517-546-5076

E-mail: jrhodes@howellfumc.com

Website: www.howellfumc.com

Rev. Scott Otis Pastor

Diane Griffin

Dir. of Educational Ministries

Danielle Burkhart

Youth Director

Olive Hayden-Moore

Children's Ministry Director

Jennifer Rhodes

Office Manager/ Communications Coor.

Ellen Paige

Organist

Jan Clay

Chancel Choir Director

Ken Ferguson

Director of Worship Celebrations

Jamie Rouster

Financial Administrator

Dennis Brandon

Custodian



First United Methodist Church

1230 Bower Street, Howell, Michigan 48843

Dear Friends of First United Methodist Church of Howell,

We are finally at a point where we can begin opening! This is very exciting news for everyone indeed. There is a process involved that is a bit lengthy in order for approval. Thank you for your patience both over the last seven months, and through the reopen process.

This process has been developed by a team of professionals from the church's congregation and our staff. The process includes several pieces of reading material for the person(s) in charge of the meetings and/or events. When you have completed the reading, you will fill out and sign a "training checklist" showing you read and will adhere to all the guidelines and use a building use request form for each activity. Please turn into me via mail, email, fax or in-person (all information below). All of this may be found on our website. If you would like hard copies, please contact me and I can mail you copies. You will be contacted once the Trustees Committee approves or disapproves the use of the building.

Many items have changed, please read every thing carefully. We want to safely welcome you back in the building however under our new guidelines.

We look forward to seeing each of you soon.

Many Blessings,

Jennifer Rhodes,

Office Manager / Communications Coordinator

1230 Bower Street Howell, MI 48843 (517) 546-2730 (517) 546-5076 fax jrhodes@howellfumc.com

https://www.howellfumc.com/covid-19-updates

Stephen Ministry

He makes everything work out according to His plan. Ephesians 1:11

Have you ever been so consumed with distractions that you forget to do something? For instance, forget to send something to school that was required for your child (lunch, permission slip, etc.), pick-up groceries, or an item you promised a spouse or friend? Have you forgotten an important date, like a birthday, anniversary or even submitting an article for the Bell Ringer? Distractions can keep us from focusing on our relationships with others, responsibilities or even to enjoy life and our faith in God. Have you been distracted lately?

Life often surprises us with difficulties that can occur in a marriage or relationship, a wayward child, an unexpected illness, loss of a loved one, loss of a job, a fire or storm that destroys or damages our homes. There are even little distractions that take or keep our focus off our relationship with God. When we are in the difficult times, we tend not to stop and reach out to God, instead try to fix circumstances on our own. We struggle to understand why we can't seem to make things right or seek an outcome to be what we'd like it to be. However, God patiently waits for us to turn to Him for guidance, patience, understanding, forgiveness, healing and love.

Stephen Ministers don't have the answers for why things happen and we cannot fix the problems or heal the sick, but we are here to listen. We allow you to vent frustrations, doubts and fears. We are here to help lead you to scripture that will restrengthen your faith and trust in the Lord. We will pray for you. Don't let the distractions of your life keep you from reaching our for help. We care and hope through faith.

It is our hope that through a Stephen Minister, God's grace will be poured out and that through the difficulties and distractions of life, you will once again experience God's richest blessings. "He makes everything work out according to His plan/ Ephesians 1:11

Your Brothers & Sisters in Christ, Patti Van Loo for the Stephen Ministry Team

STEPHEN MINISTRY





Two Ways to Support -Salvation Army Angel Tree

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ ls/1VMDP588QAF5C?ref =wl share

Howell First United Methodist Church annually supports the Salvation Army Angel Tree program and 2020 will not be different. Those interested in providing a gift for a child may participate in one of two ways.

- 1.) We will have the traditional Angel Tree Tags available for pick-up at the church after services Sunday, November 8. You can select a tag and fulfill that wish by purchasing the suggested item and returning it to the church in the designated boxes by December 7.
- 2.) For those who are worshipping from home or like the convenience of shopping online, please follow the link below to a wish list of items available through Amazon. These choices were selected by the program staff at Salvation Army and when you purchase an item it is delivered directly to their office. You will receive a confirmation when Salvation Army receives the shipment.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1VMDP588QAF5C?ref_=wl_share

When you adopt an angel, you don't just give a child a special Christmas memory, you also ease the burden of a struggling family.



Love asks of us to care for each other

Clarifying the impact of recent Michigan Supreme Court rulings

October 9, 2020

Dear Michigan United Methodists,

Grace and peace to you from God and from our Lord Jesus Christ.

Last week the Michigan Supreme Court ruled that Governor Whitmer exceeded her authority in issuing executive orders after the legislature did not extend her emergency authority in April. The legal situation surrounding our state's response to the coronavirus is now uncertain, with the Michigan Department of Health and many county health officials issuing new guidelines, guidelines to which I would ask you to pay attention.

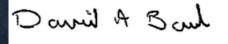
As your bishop, I have not viewed the coronavirus pandemic primarily in legal or governmental terms, but have always wanted to focus on public health. I found in the Governor's executive orders helpful guidelines for promoting public health. In their absence, I want to reassert the importance of continuing to act in ways that promote public health, that further the common good, and that demonstrate loving care for the well-being of others.

When you meet together, wear masks and maintain social distance. Wash your hands frequently and clean your facilities thoroughly. Continue to offer on-line options for people to participate in the life of your church.

The same Jesus who invited us not to be afraid also encouraged us to be wise. We need not be dominated by fear, but we do need to be wise. Wisdom asks of us to exercise good judgment. Love asks of us to care for each other.

Thank you for being wise and loving.

Grace and Peace,



David Alan Bard



Michigan Area Bishop

Howell FUMC Financial Summary

01-01-2020 thru 09-30-2020



ual to Evportor

Income

				Actual to Expected			
			Amt Over/		Y-T-D	Percentage	
	2020 Actual	2020 Target	(Under)	Target	expected	Over/(Under)	
General - pledged	255,466.48	350,616.00	(95,149.52)	72.86	74.86		(2.00)
General - non-pledged	83,917.27	199,835.18	(115,917.91)	41.99	74.86		(32.87)
Loose Plate	1,950.21	8,000.00	(6,049.79)	24.38	74.86		(50.49)
Other	76,786.41	9,327.00	67,459.41	823.27	74.86	7	748.41
Payroll Protection Loan	71,408.42						
Total	418,120.37	567,778.18	(149,657.81)	73.64	74.86		(1.22)

Expenses

							Actual to expect	eu
Budget				Amt Over/	Actual /	Y-T-D	Percentage	
split		Actual	Budget	(Under)	Budget	expected	Over/(Under)	
18.26	1.0 Operating expenses	62,732.83	103,700.00	-40,9 <mark>67.17</mark>	60.49	74.86	((14.37)
9.22	2.0 Program expenses	22,815.82	52,325.00	-29,509.18	43.60	74.86	((31.26)
12.34	3.0 Ministry Shares	14,240.57	70,050.94	-55,810.37	20.33	74.86	((54.53)
60.09	4.0 Staff Salaries	262,991.22	341,202.24	-78,211.02	77.08	74.86		2.21
0.09	Payroll expenses	488.25	500.00	-11.75	97.65	74.86		22.79
100.00	Total	363,268.69	567,778.18	-204,509.49	63.98	74.86	((10.88)

Income Overage/(Shortfall \$ 54,851.68

The church is in decent financial shape due to your continued support. Please keep up the faithful giving. We have started to receive bills again for the apportionments. Our plan is to pay 50 percent which is the amounts we will be billed for and then see if we can pay any additional at the end of the year.

The special giving event for the Mortgage principle has resulted in \$31,360 being applied to the Mortgage principle thus far. This special giving event runs thru the end of the year.

Thank you for your participation in this year's Stewardship campaign - "Excel in the Grace of Giving!".

We will communicate the results next month.



Fill out your 2021 Stewardship Commitment Card

www.howellfumc.com/finance-stewardship

Thanks!

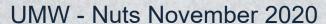
- Thank you so much for the thoughtful graduation cards! I appreciate the gifts as well! T will use them for my future endeavors.
 - Preston Tippie
- Dear Church Family,

Floyd and I wish to thank all of our church family for all your cards, calls and those who have helped with groceries, etc. We want to thank Pastor Scott for his prayers and calls to us and our son Brian Tyler. We just wanted to keep him busy!

All of you are in our prayers as well.

Thank You,

Floyd and Priscilla Shelters



Thursday, November 19 & Friday, November 20

Nut order pickup will be from 9:00 AM—1:00 PM November 19&20. This is a drive thru pickup, so please do not leave your vehicle. Please pull up to door #2 at the Narthex and someone will bring your order out.

There are a few extra nuts available. If you would like some, your payment is due at the time of order. Available extras are on the form below. There are not any almonds or chocolate cashews.



The preschool staff at First United Methodist Preschool were very excited to open the preschool doors again!





We know how important social and emotional growth is to our early childhood families, and so much of that happens in person. Since the day we had to shut down last March, we began planning ways to safely reopen preschool classes. With the guidance of Michigan Department of Childhood Licensing, Livingston County Department of Health and the CDC, we worked diligently behind the scenes on a reopening plan that prioritizes the children's safety as well as their education. On October 5th, we welcomed 13 students to preschool. We look forward to a fantastic year!

United Methodist Women

1230 Bower St., Howell, Mi 48843

Nut Order - Fall 2020 - Return Date By Ostober 11, 2020

All Nut orders are to be PREPAID with Check/Cash or Website Return to Church by mail or drop off at office

				Mixed				Milk	Milk	Milk	
	Malted	Pecan	Walnut	Deluxe					Chocolate	Chocolate	
	Milk Balls	Halves	Halves	Nuts	Cashews	Pistachios	A OF	the last	Raisins	Bridge Mix	TOTAL
	\$8.00	\$11.00	\$11.00	\$11.00	\$11.00	\$10.00	\	\$ 00	\$7.00	\$8.00	
Name											
Phone Number											
Office Use Only											
Total Nuts Ordered											
Total Amount											
PAID											

*Youth Group | 6-7:30 pm | 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th
*Trunk or Treat | 5-6:30 pm | 25th

*Youth Group | 6-7:30 pm | 4th, 11th & 18th
Youth Bible Study | 10:30am | 8th, 15th & 22nd

*Thanksgiving Break, No Events | 25th - 29th
*Finish 2019-2020 Confirmation Classes. Dates TBD

Find our more @ www.howellfumcyouth.com | danielle@howellfumc.com

fallevents IGNITE grades 9-12

October

- *Youth Group | 6-8 pm | 4th 11th & 18th
- *Trunk or Treat | 5-6:30 pm | 25th

November

- *Youth Group | 6-8 pm | 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd
- *Youth Bible Study | 10:30 am | 8th, 15th & 22nd
- *Thanksgiving Break, No Events | 25th-29th
- *11th Grade and 12th Grade Bible Studies begin. Let Danielle know if you're interested! www.howellfumcyouth.com

danielle@howellfumc.com