



## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - HOWELL FUMC - OCTOBER 2020

Dear Members and Friends of Howell FUMC,

With great joy I write to you as fellow family in Christ. I consider these letters as a chance to huddle together to strategize about the future.

I have now been with you three months. With all of us hiding behind necessary masks it has been a huge undertaking. How do I get to know you when learning your faces is such a challenge? I am not sure I have made three months or even three weeks' worth of progress. Together we press on.

A highlight of my time here has been the many listening sessions. I have attended eight in the recent weeks. I have gathered for seven in person and one zoom meeting. The clear message I am learning about Howell FUMC is that this church is both welcoming and loving. Worship with quality music is both a priority and a reality here. Though the church is made of individual parts there is a unity of fellowship. You are aware that FUMC is too great a gift not to share. You long for many others to experience God's love in this place, just as you have. You especially long to reach younger generations. You have made that a priority. Deep down you understand that you will never look anyone in the eye whom God does not love. Your passion for making disciples is an inspiration.

Moving forward we will continue to creak back to life. Like Lazarus, raising from the dead, our resurrection will take time. There are more "grave clothes" to remove. In the process of coming back to life we will still look to the needs of others before our own. That means we will still follow the COVID protocols of social distancing, hand washing and the wearing of face masks at all times in our building.

We are coming to life through:

- Increasing our limited office hours

- Continuing with three limited capacity Sunday Services

- Continue to broadcast our online services through Facebook Live and our Web page

- Our prayer chain continues to remain open

- I can be reached by phone 24/7 for support at (616) 307-9765

- I will continue to meet with you twice daily on Facebook Live and our Web page with "Pastor Scott on the 8's".

- We will be offering zoom Bible Studies to help with personal growth.

The good news is that each week our virtual services are viewed on Facebook over 400 times. Our Sunday Services continue to draw first-time guests who are seeking God. There is a deep spiritual hunger all around us. Please keep Howell FUMC in your prayers as we navigate the days and months ahead.

- Pastor Scott

# Stephen Ministry

*So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are doing. 1 Thessalonians 5:11*

In our lives we are not exempt from difficult times. Like athletes during a race, we need friends and fans to encourage us to finish the race; words of encouragement help push through the pain. Christians are to encourage one another in a way that is sensitive to the needs of others and offer supportive words and actions.

Winds of adversity will blow at times in our lives and it is during those times we need Christian fellowship even more. We need the counsel and the listening ear of a friend. That is what Stephen Ministry is about; a Christian friend who will listen, care, pray, provide scripture and allow God to give guidance to the path of peace.

A devotional I recently read said *"God engineered us so we required the intertwining of genuine give and take fellowship. Even Jesus needs this. On the last night of His life, when the storms of satanic opposition began howling around Him, He asked for help: 'Stay here and watch with Me'. If Jesus sought support from his disciples in the midst of His trials, how much more do we need our brothers and sisters?"*

We all need Jesus and the support of His followers. Consider requesting a Stephen Minister in the times you need a listening ear and a Christian friend. We are here to serve. You may contact Pastor Scott or one of the Stephen Ministry team to request a Stephen Minister.

Many Blessings abound to all,  
*Patti Van Loo*  
for the Stephen Ministry Team

## Current Stephen Ministers

Lance Schuhmacher  
Tom Burkert  
Marge Burkert  
Carolyn Henderson  
Patti Van Loo  
Bill Buyers  
Jan Clay  
Rick Dell  
Mary Lou Dell  
Jim Rutherford  
Gloria Shadaker  
Judy White  
Nancy Milner



stephen  
MINISTRY.

When the service is **LIVE**, they can hear you at home!  
***Make a joyful noise.***

\*Microphones pick up conversations in chairs and pews.



**LIVE**



**9:00 AM & 10:30 AM**  
**Worship**

# Howell FUMC Financial Summary

01-01-2020 thru 08-31-2020

## Income

	2020 Actual	2020 Target	Amt Over/ (Under)	Actual / Target	Y-T-D expected	Actual to Expected Percentage Over/(Under)
General - pledged	234,006.46	350,616.00	(116,609.54)	66.74	66.67	0.07
General - non-pledged	75,034.38	199,835.18	(124,800.80)	37.55	66.67	(29.12)
Loose Plate	1,543.91	8,000.00	(6,456.09)	19.30	66.67	(47.37)
Other	76,527.17	9,327.00	67,200.17	820.49	66.67	753.82
Payroll Protection Loan	71,408.42					
<b>Total</b>	<b>387,111.92</b>	<b>567,778.18</b>	<b>(180,666.26)</b>	<b>68.18</b>	<b>66.67</b>	<b>1.51</b>

## Expenses

Budget split	Actual	Budget	Amt Over/ (Under)	Actual / Budget	Y-T-D expected	Actual to Expected Percentage Over/(Under)
18.26 1.0 Operating expenses	58,755.55	103,700.00	-44,944.45	56.66	66.67	(10.01)
9.22 2.0 Program expenses	21,271.46	52,325.00	-31,053.54	40.65	66.67	(26.01)
12.34 3.0 Ministry Shares	14,240.57	70,050.94	-55,810.37	20.33	66.67	(46.34)
60.09 4.0 Staff Salaries	237,582.30	341,202.24	-103,619.94	69.63	66.67	2.96
0.09 Payroll expenses	444.50	500.00	-55.50	88.90	66.67	22.23
100.00 Total	332,294.38	567,778.18	-235,483.80	58.53	66.67	(8.14)

Income Overage/(Shortfall) \$ 54,817.54

The church is in decent financial shape due to your continued support. Please keep up the faithful giving. We still have not been billed for apportionments since March but some requests should be coming in a few weeks. This will eat in to our current overage.

The special giving event for the Mortgage principle has resulted in \$26,644 being applied to the Mortgage principle thus far. This special giving event runs thru the end of the year.

We will be starting up our Stewardship campaign for the 2021 Budget and the Church Building Mortgage in a week or two. The theme for this year's campaign is "Excel in the Grace of Giving!". A mailing of information including a commitment form will be sent out shortly. Information will be shared the first three Sundays of October with Commitment Sunday being October 25, 2020. We look forward to your participation in this year's campaign.





The following is an excerpt from the Heritage District newsletter, September 2020.

*"The needs of women, children, and youth around the world have not gone away. Even if we as individuals are not able to go out and meet with our units in person, we can continue to donate to meet our pledge for 2020."*

- *Maybe we can imagine how much money we would have spent at a rummage sale and donate that amount without having to add any clutter to our homes.*
- *Maybe we can calculate how much money we saved by not eating out during the past 4 months and donate that amount.*
- *Maybe we can see how much we have saved in gasoline by not driving so much and donate that amount.*
- *Maybe each one of you has more creative ways to fund-raise or save money to donate in these times.*

*No matter what, we need to plan how we can continue to support the mission of United Methodist Women, to serve the vulnerable women, children and youth in Michigan, in the United States and around the world."* Mary Danforth, Mich. Conf. UMW Treasurer.

If you can donate additional money this year, please send to Diane Griffin, treasurer. It will be greatly appreciated. Janet Adams, UMW President

**NUT SALES:** Our nut sales will be offered again this year, only in a different way. First, all orders will be prepaid. Order forms are available in the church near entrances, in this bellringer or on the church website. Payment must be made at the time of order and can be made via cash, check or website under "GIVING" - nut sales is listed toward the bottom. Orders are accepted from September 20 through October 11. If we do not have your payment, your order will not be made. Thank you for your understanding during this transition year. Happy Ordering!

*Nut Sales Committee: Linda Barasch & Marilyn Kelley*

#### **Circles:**

Grace Circle will meet October 8, 2020 at **6:00 PM**. Pizza Dinner at Jan Clay's home by the pool.

Mary-Elizabeth Circle will meet October 22, 2020 at 7:00 PM. Location TBD

# HFUMC GIVING GARDEN

**GOAL: 2,000 LBS & \$1,200**

**Harvest is nearly complete! *Only about three weeks away and currently at about 1,200 lbs.***

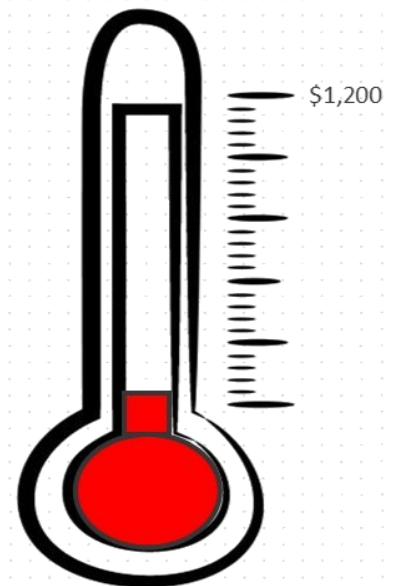
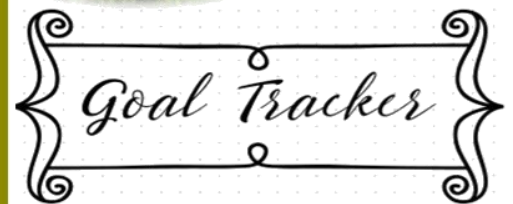
## **DONATIONS**

### **Gleaners and Seed**

**Your donations will fund the seed to plant next year and the remainder will be donated to Gleaners. The funds are given at a time where our funds are doubled. The last few years HFUMC has donated \$1,200! We would LOVE to see that goal again in 2020, especially in a year where food shortages are high.**

***Donation envelopes available at garden table on Sunday or in the church office. Special offerings for Giving Garden during the month of October.***

**MANY THANKS TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS!**



**- DIANA VISCONTI**



# Order form & Online

**Return to Church by mail or drop off at office**

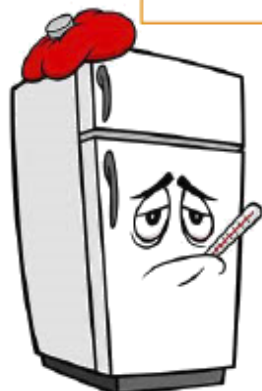
	Nuts							Milk	Milk	Milk	
	Malted	Pecan	Walnut	Deluxe				Chocolate	Chocolate	Chocolate	
	Milk Balls	Halves	Halves	Nuts	Cashews	Pistachios	Almonds	Cashews	Raisins	Bridge Mix	TOTAL
	\$8.00	\$11.00	\$11.00	\$11.00	\$11.00	\$10.00	\$9.00	\$ 11.00	\$7.00	\$8.00	
<b>Name</b>											
<b>Phone Number</b>											
<b>Office Use Only</b>											
Total Nuts Ordered											
Total Amount											
PAID											

## Wednesday Weekly Drive-Thru Dinner

October 14, 5-6:30 PM

(or until food runs out)

Generous free-will donations  
will be gratefully accepted  
~Reservations Requested~



### Menu

Baked Cod (light crumb topping)

Roasted potatoes

Broccoli bake

Rolls & butter

Apple Dessert

She didn't have Covid-19, but our "vintage" kitchen double fridge gave up the ghost during lockdown! She had a good, long life and served us well, and for that we are thankful. A new fridge will cost just under \$2000 to replace, and to that end, Wednesday Weekly Ministries is sponsoring a drive-through fish dinner. Contactless delivery will be provided to your car. Please email Diane Griffin ([diane@howellfumc.com](mailto:diane@howellfumc.com)) with the number of meals you would like to have and the time you plan to arrive to pick them up. Those without reservations are invited to come between 6 and 6:30 and orders will be filled as quantities allow.



## Virtual Children's Worship and Faith Factory

Faith Factory began on September 13 using a virtual format and will continue through October and probably beyond. Videos containing Music, a Children's Message, Celebrate Wonder Videos, Crafts and a Bible Story appear on the church website and Facebook page each Sunday. You and your family can participate at any time throughout the week and beyond, as the videos can be accessed at any time. Materials were dropped off on porches for September 13-October 4, and materials for October 11-November 5 will be dropped off on or around October 10. If you did not receive materials in September and would like October/November materials, please contact Diane Griffin (on the website or by email – [diane@howellfumc.com](mailto:diane@howellfumc.com)) and you will be added to the list.

Sunday Nursery Ministry continues to be suspended for the time being. Families will be informed when it is safe to resume this important service provided to our youngest disciples.

## Discipleship Ministries October, 2020

### Wednesday Weekly Ministries

Wednesday Weekly Adult Bible Studies will begin on October 7, using a hybrid format. A limited number of people can attend in-person wearing masks and seated 6 feet apart. Others are welcome to join from home via Zoom. Please contact Diane Griffin ([diane@howellfumc.com](mailto:diane@howellfumc.com)) if you would like to be a part of either of the following studies:

4:00 PM – Study of the first few chapters of Revelation led by Sue Rice.

6:00 PM – Study of the Gospel of John led by Jim Rutherford using the book: *The Gospel of John: Believe and Live* by Elmer Towns.

### BLAST (Believers Living and Serving Together)

As with most Wednesday evening activities this fall, BLAST (Believers Living And Serving Together) and Wednesday Nursery are on hold for now. Watch the website and your email for BLAST info – we are hoping for an outdoor gathering later in October.

### Trunk or Treat

Sunday, October 25

FUMC Church Parking Lot

More information will be available on the church website and Facebook page!!



8 am Early Encounter  
*in the Chapel*  
After September 13<sup>th</sup>

9 am Band-led  
*in the Fellowship hall*



[www.howellfumc.com](http://www.howellfumc.com)  
FM 87.9 Sundays only

10<sup>30</sup> am Organ-led  
*in the Sanctuary*



[www.howellfumc.com](http://www.howellfumc.com)  
1-855-546-0735

# WAYS TO WORSHIP

WITH HOWELL FUMC



MON - FRI  
9 AM - 1PM

\*Temporary



## Giving Garden Donations

EVERY SUNDAY IN  
**OCTOBER**

SPECIAL ENVELOPES  
AVAILABLE AT GARDEN  
TABLE OUTSIDE



Do you have a  
friend or loved one  
without internet?

Listen to Sunday service  
by calling toll-free  
1-855-546-0735

\*services available on  
Monday via telephone  
services.



## Virtual Bible Study

Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>  
10 am

Register with church office



Study the Gospel of John with Jim Rutherford

October  
25<sup>th</sup>

# TRUNK OR TREAT

Watch  
for  
Details!

CARS, CANDY, COSTUMES



## World Communion Day

October 4, 2020  
UMC Special Offering





MOPS and MOMSnext at Howell FUMC

# Decide To Rise

*I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.* Psalm 139:14

**BE STRONG** : Arise as a mother. This is your year to get strong physically and mentally. To own the body you've been given and build muscle and stamina so you can do all the things that God is calling you to do; important things like chase your kids around the backyard, carry groceries for your elderly neighbor, or even build a mud house for a family in Rwanda. To embrace your own body's abilities and build it up – whatever your physical ability may be. It also means being strong mentally. Sometimes our thought life needs a little tightening up. It might mean seeing a therapist who can give you tools for dealing with anxiety, or maybe developing mental stamina so you can endure the daily toddler meltdowns. Often we wait for all the right details to come into place before we act, but maybe this is the year God is saying, "Stop waiting and get to it." Body and mind – this is the year we embrace the self that God gave us.

**DO YOUR WORK** : Doing your work happens in big and small, but always significant ways. It's about persevering through the daily grind of essential but mundane tasks; and it's also about making brave choices to do new things. Doing your work looks different for each of us, but everyone's work will require some grit and courage. Maybe it's choosing forgiveness, healing from past trauma, or making amends to those you've hurt. Maybe it's sharing the secret you've been carrying for years, or unlearning harmful patterns of behavior. And when it comes to mothering... God gave those kids to you, Mama! You've been appointed and no one else can mother them like you. You are made of brave spirit. You'll figure it out because you always have, and you have God and your MOPS sisters by your side.

**CHASE JOY** : Actively seeking out joy is how we fight discouragement and fear. It's how we fight our tendency to complain, accuse or be offended. Joy is a decision, a really brave one, about how you will respond to life in all its circumstances. Joy is the most magnetic and contagious force in the universe, the type that people around you can't help but notice – especially those looking up toward their mom. It is a gladness that's not just reserved for happy moments, but particularly during the hardest days that come your way. Joy is the deep knowing that you were made for more than anxiety, depression and fear. This is your year to reclaim joy and share it with others!

## 2020/2021 Meeting Schedule

Join Us!  
First Thursday  
of Each Month  
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

September 3, 2020  
Kick-off

October 1, 2020

November 5, 2020

December 3, 2020

January 7, 2021

February 4, 2021

March 4, 2021

April 1, 2021

May 6, 2021

1230 Bower Street, Howell, MI 48843  
Email: [mops@howellfumc.com](mailto:mops@howellfumc.com)  
"Like" us on Facebook:  
MOPS at First United Methodist Church (Howell)



## 2020-21 Registration Information

This year, registration will look a bit different. We can still handle everything for you, if you need. Please send us a message, and we will coordinate registration privately (MOPS International and local dues). If you are in need of a scholarship, please also message us, and we would be happy to assist with that as well. If you would like to complete the process on your own, please follow the guidelines below:

### For MOPS International dues (\$31.95):

1. Go to [mops.org/join](https://mops.org/join)
2. Enter code for which group you would like to join:  
MOPS: SPIW  
MOMSnext: 2QPG
3. Complete the process and enroll with MOPS International at \$31.95/year.  
\*\* Use promo code MAG2020 for \$3 off your registration (expires 07/14)

### For local dues (\$18.00):

There are 2 options:

1. You can mail in a check made payable to FUMC for \$18.00, and write MOPS on the memo line of your check. Please send to 1230 Bower Street, Howell, MI 48843, Attn: Jamie.
2. Visit [howellfumc.com/onlinegiving](https://howellfumc.com/onlinegiving). From here, you can enter \$18.00 in the MOPS/MOMSnext line. Click Continue and then complete the authorization for the online payment.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us!  
We are happy to help!



## *Excel in the Grace of Giving!*

### **Giving: an Obligation or Opportunity?**

As the Apostle Paul traveled to churches, he collected offerings for the Christians in Jerusalem who were experiencing hard economic times. When Paul was speaking to the Corinthians, he used the Macedonian believers as an example of people who, in spite of their own economic troubles, gave joyfully to the people in Jerusalem. The Macedonians' love for Christ and their concern for their fellow believers moved them to give beyond their ability. They **excelled in the grace of giving**. The Macedonians gave themselves first to the Lord, and then, Paul said, they *"urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints"* (2 Corinthians 8:4). In Christ, they saw their giving as an opportunity to help other believers in need.

Does someone who views giving as an obligation plead for the opportunity to give? Probably not. When giving is an obligation, we will give, but giving as an obligation will not give us the joy or the attitude of pleading for the privilege to give as the Macedonians had. As God's people, we have both an obligation and an opportunity. Scripture is clear that we are called to give. Paul said, *"On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made"* (1 Corinthians 16:2).

Giving is an obligation, but, just as God changed the hearts and minds of the Macedonian people, he changes us so we view our giving as an opportunity rather than an obligation. As renewed and transformed people, our attitudes toward giving change from a "got to" to a "get to" attitude. We stop giving grudgingly, and we start to **excel in the grace of giving** by giving willingly and cheerfully. We want to give, because giving is an expression of our love and gratitude to God for who he is and what he does for us. The more we give of ourselves and our gifts the closer our relationship with Christ becomes and the more we want to give, and the more God blesses us, enabling our continued giving. *"You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God"* (2 Corinthians 9:11). We thank God that he fills us daily with his love so that we as members of his Body here at our church see giving as a privilege and an opportunity to praise and thank him.





## SEPTEMBER 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4 No School	5
6	7 Labor Day No School	8	9 Spark Fall Kick-Off 6-7:30pm	10	11	12
13 Ignite Youth Meet & Greet Kick-Off @ Danielle's 5-7pm	14	15	16 Spark Youth 6-7:30pm Devos	17	18	19
20 Ignite Youth 6-8pm Devos	21	22	23 Spark Youth 6-7:30pm Devos	24	25 Half Day	26
27 Ignite Youth 6-8pm Devos	28	29	30 Spark Youth 6-7:30pm Devos			

## OCTOBER 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4 Ignite Youth 6-8pm Devos	5	6	7 Spark Youth 6-7:30pm Devos	8	9	10
11 Ignite Youth 6-8pm Devos	12	13	14 Spark Youth 6-7:30pm Devos	15	16	17
18 Ignite Youth 6-8pm Youth Fellowship	19	20	21 Spark Youth 6-7:30pm Youth Fellowship	22	23	24
25 Trunk or Treat 4-5:30pm OR Ignite Halloween Party 6-8pm	26	27	28 Halloween Party 6-7:45pm	29	30	31 Halloween

## NOVEMBER 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Ignite Youth 6-8pm True Story (Identity) wk 1	2	3	4 Spark Youth 6-7:30pm True Story (Identity) wk 1	5	6	7
8 Ignite Youth 6-8pm True Story (Identity) wk 2	9	10	11 Spark Youth 6-7:30pm True Story (Identity) wk 2	12	13 Devin's B'Day Half Day	14
15 Ignite Youth 6-8pm True Story (Identity) wk 3	16	17	18 Spark Youth 6-7:30pm True Story (Identity) wk 3	19	20	21
22 Ignite Youth 6-8pm True Story (Identity) wk 4	23	24	25 Thanksgiving Break, No Events	26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29 Thanksgiving Break, No Events	30					

# October 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 4 6-8pm IGNITE (high school)	5 1st day of Preschool Blood Drive	6	7	1 6:30pm MOPS (Zoom)	2	3
11 Nut Orders Due (prepay only) 6-8pm IGNITE (high school)	12 Columbus Day 	13 Health Ministry (Zoom)	14 Preschool Picture Day 6-7:30pm SPARK (middle school)	15 7pm Finance (Zoom)	16	17
18 6-8pm IGNITE (high school)	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Stewardship Sunday 	26	27	28 6-7:30pm SPARK (middle school)	29	30	31 Halloween Day 
			<b>Every Sunday: Worship</b> <b>8am, 9am &amp; 10<sup>30</sup>am.</b>			