



# January 2012

## Tidings



First United  
Methodist Church  
of Troy

Rev. Hal Weemhoff  
Cell 313.418.2748  
248.879.6363  
Fax 248.879.7552



My End of the Year Newsletter:

I am so pleased to be your pastor! The spirit of our church is hopeful and expectant. We care about people of all ages both inside and outside of our membership. This past year has been a banner year and here are just some of the highlights:

- January: Organ Dedication – NEW! Women’s Retreat – NEW!
- February: All Scout Sunday Good News Class Play  
M & E Family Game Night—NEW!
- March: Bishop’s Day Troy Historical Society Event – NEW!  
Youth Mission Auction
- April: Palm Sunday Choir Cantata God & Country Awards
- May: Heritage Sunday Young Adult Mission Trip – NEW!
- June: Mission Possible, mid-highs mission week Outdoor Worship Service  
Mandy McNeil joined us for the summer as our seminary intern—NEW!
- July: Youth Golf Camp – NEW! Youth Mission Trip, senior-highs
- August: Roof Completed –NEW! Vacation Bible School Golf Outing  
SOS - South Oakland Shelter Lower Level completed—NEW!
- September: Ministry Fair
- October: Rummage Sale Trick or Trunk Blessing of the Animals
- November: Troy Community Thanksgiving Service – NEW! ABC Decorating  
Holy Lands Tour to Egypt, Israel, Turkey, Cypress and Italy—NEW!
- December: Advent, Children’s Pageant, Troy Churches’ Advent Choir Festival,  
UMW Christmas Tea, All Music Sunday, Cookie Walk and  
Crèche Walk, One of many Blood drives, Reunion Bells,  
Christmas Eve is just the best!!!

This is one busy place, and such a joy to be a part of 365 days a year!  
What was your favorite thing this past year? What sparked your spirit?  
What spoke to your heart? What stirred your soul? Go to my blog and leave me a note.  
Thanks.

See You in church!  
In the meantime, Be The Church!  
Rev. Hal

Don't forget to check out my blog at  
<http://pastor-troyfumctidings20.blogspot.com/>

Volume XXX Issue I



troyfirst@sbcglobal.net  
drhalw@sbcglobal.net  
donna.klungle@sbcglobal.net  
cwellbaum@comcast.net  
lisaheadclc@sbcglobal.net  
suewespa@comcast.net  
skosinski99@gmail.com  
krawlinl@hfhs.org  
amandasabelhaus@yahoo.com  
bagdel6@hotmail.com



[www.fumctroy.org](http://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  
12:00 One Voice Choir  
Rehearsal  
6:30-8:00 UMYF

## United Methodist Women – December 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.



- Thur, Jan 5** 12:30 pm Executive Board hosted by Marie Watson in her home.
- Thur, Jan 12** 9:30 am Ruth Circle in the CLC at church
- Thur, Jan 12** 7:30 pm Deborah Circle at Chris Gullion's house.
- Sun, Jan 15** UMW Sunday during worship.
- Sat, Jan 21** 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Women's Retreat at church. The theme is **"Remember Your Story."**
- Tues, Jan 24** 11:30 am, Fellowship Luncheon at Camp Ticonderoga. Contact Linda DeVilling if you would like to attend.



I would sincerely like to thank all who sent cards, said prayers and gave hugs to me at the time of my mother's passing. It was very much appreciated.

*Donna Klungle*

Praise God for our church family and all the cards, thoughts, prayers and kindnesses during this time of Ken's father's final journey into heaven!

Ken, Lisa, Tom and Becky Head

## Angel Tree Ministry a Successful Mission Project

Angel tree was a unique opportunity for our church to share Christ's love by helping to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the families of prisoners. Despite the bad economic times, this year our church was able to serve this mission in many ways. There were people who contacted the caregivers of the children to verify the gift requests and delivery addresses. There were people who chose and bought gifts off the angel "tree." Finally, there were people who delivered the gifts to the families. From our church alone there were gifts purchased for 36 children from 12 families in our area. There were more than 75 members of our congregation who helped make this mission successful. Thank you all who helped and found the spirit of the Christ child in this mission!

## Thank You for Baldwin Christmas Store

The Outreach Committee would like to THANK everyone for the great support of gifts for the Baldwin Christmas Store. Our church and our sponsored Cub Scout Pack 1701 donated an entire pick-up truck full of gifts. When the gifts were delivered the staff was so excited for the people and guests that are in need, so again THANK YOU for your support.



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 Guest book for comments, prayer request/contact form, e-mail accounts for staff and committee heads, flash slide shows, 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

## We Want To Hear From You



Troy First is using social media on the internet to get the word out to our members and the community about the ministries and activities going on in our church. Pictures of people involved in these activities may be put on our website or Facebook page. The Communications Committee needs to hear from those who don’t want their pictures used. Please contact Dale Johnston at 248-289-6662 or [mrmrsjo@comcast.net](mailto:mrmrsjo@comcast.net). to let us know you do NOT want your picture on the internet.

In the absence of contact from you, we will publish with no restrictions.

## What Goes Up Must Come Down—Christmas Undecorating

It's time to take down the Christmas decorations and move in to the New Year. It would be helpful if those who put up decorations could also take down their area. If you cannot do this, please contact Jane Berquist or Terry Pritchett. Decorations may come down anytime after church on Sunday, January 8th, and throughout the following week. (Please check with the office to make sure your area is not being occupied). Everything should be spit-spot by Sunday, January 15, 2012.

## Calling All Girl Scouts



On January 8th and 15th, TFUMC Girl Scouts will have a table in the CLC for accepting cookie orders from TFUMC members. If you are a Girl Scout and would like to participate, please wear your vest or sash and meet in the CLC during coffee hour.

The sales each morning will be divided equally among the girls, and each girl will receive a list of her cookie orders in early February. These she will turn into her troop with her other cookies orders.

If you have any questions, please contact Ann Goff.

## Ladies: It's Retreat Time! Note the New Date!

January 21st will be a lively day in our building as all women in our congregation and their friends are invited to a mini retreat right at our church. Our theme will be "Remember Your Story." Registration begins January 1st for three Sundays, or sign up at the church office or get a form on our website! We will gather at 8:30 a.m., with the program beginning promptly at 9:00 a.m. A \$15.00 fee will cover materials, light breakfast, and lunch. Want to know more? Contact Megan Steiger, Jane Berquist, or Jan Garrett.

## Calling All Scouts – Scout Sunday is February 5

Sunday, February 5, 2012, has been reserved as Scout Sunday. Whether you are a Boy Scout or Girl Scout, this day has been set aside to honor scouting and you. Mark your calendar for February 5th and plan to greet, participate in worship and serve at coffee hour. Plan to meet in the chapel at 9:00 am, wear your uniform and bring one or two items to the kitchen for coffee hour. Contact Ann Goff or Lee Matthews if you have questions.

## Goodie Bags

For over twenty years the United Methodist Women have hosted the mentally and physically challenged adults who attend the Adult Foster Care Program sponsored by Cass Community Social Services. These adults come one day every summer for a picnic at our church. We sing songs, play games and cook a delicious meal. Our picnics always have a theme, and this year it is a Hootenanny. So expect to see the CLC decorated with horses, cows and maybe some hay. For the trip home we always give our guests a Goodie Bag. I am asking the congregation to help bring items for our Goodie Bags.

Items we need are small shampoos, soaps, toothpaste, tooth brushes, and tissues. There is a box in the Hallway labeled Cass Community Social Services. You may drop your items off anytime.

Our guests look forward to a day out and with your help we can make it a special day.

Thank you,  
Betty Kalvoda

## What Makes a Successful Cookie Walk and Contest?

Well . . . Cookies . . . of course!

Did you know there were more than 40 bakers all baking cookies for the December 11th Cookie Walk? And many of those bakers made several kinds of cookies! Some bakers were over ninety (Thank you June!) and some were under 10 (Thank you Brendan and Caitlin; supervised by Alexa and Mom! Those cookie pops sure looked good!). Most of us fell somewhere in between, but each and every cookie was important!

Next we needed judges. Jeff Sheren, Mike Hartrick, and Mark Bauer rose to the occasion and sampled several dozen cookies to find our winners. Ann Goff took third place for the second year in a row! Julie Olsavsky's Neiman Marcus cookies, from the church cook book, garnered second place and the judges declared Sandy Bertolet's Cranberry Cheesecake Bars the 1st place winner! Mmm, Mmm, Good!

Thirdly, we had to have workers – lots and lots of workers. There were crafters who worked throughout the year – in groups and at home. There were makers of mixes, bakers of breads and specialty items. There were chocolatiers and cookie arrangers. There were table placement personnel, set-up specialists, traffic directors and cashiers. And there were dozens of women and youth who placed cookies in boxes as they were selected.

Finally, there were buyers - many, many buyers -who took home the delicious cookies in white styrofoam boxes and allowed us to raise over \$1700 for missions.

Thank you all! You are what makes a successful Cookie Walk!

## What's Your Name??

Remember, we are all ministers at Troy 1st and so we are all responsible for making visitors and our own members feel welcome and that they belong. One way is by wearing your name tag every Sunday. We have tried to make it easy for everyone, whether they are members or not to have some sort of name tag, so we can all call each other by name. Please be aware of new faces and invite them to coffee hour and offer them a visitor packet, or even just smile and say hello. We can all help to make everyone feel like they belong and have a place here at Troy 1st.

Robin Ostergaard  
Membership and Evangelism



## THANKS

We had over 150 units of blood donated at our Blood Drives in 2011. That's over 450 lives who were impacted by your blood donation. At our December Drive, we collected 31 units, with 4 units coming from the Tincknell family alone and 3 from our volunteers! Thanks to all the donors and volunteers throughout the year. Volunteers from our church were Jane Egermann, Swapna Bagchi, JoAnn Horning, LaNae Michael, Gloria Dixon, Terri Watson and many others who donated cookies.

Our Next Drive is March 30. **MAYBE YOU** could become a donor then. Ask me for details.

*Kathy Sobanski*

## Kingdom Challenge – Part 2 – Growing the Gift: Update

We're off to a great start growing our Kingdom Challenge money. 27 people have accepted the challenge (detailed below)! This will generate an additional \$675 for us to share with our communities! There is still time to participate. Please see Chris Weemhoff during January's Coffee Hours and get your \$5.

At the inauguration of the Detroit Renaissance District on August 28, Troy First was one of 39 district churches to accept \$1,000 and the challenge to give this money to our communities. Based on the parable of the servants and the talents, we are going to invest/grow the \$1,000 and then we will invest/distribute the money within our community. For the Kingdom Challenge, our community is Troy, the Greater Rochester area, Auburn Hills, and Pontiac --- where we live and where we serve.

How to do this? Accept a 5 dollar bill, available during coffee hour, and agree to talk about the Kingdom Challenge with friends, family, coworkers, and others, about this project, and then ask them to contribute \$5.00 to our Kingdom Challenge. When you accept your \$5.00, you will also get the information to share. The goal is to have each person who accepts \$5.00, return with an additional \$25.00 (5 gifts of \$5.00). You can participate starting today, and we will be growing our gifts through January. You can start today or on any upcoming Sunday, and you can participate more than once. We are requesting that the monies be raised "outside" this congregation, as a new ministry, and then our members can continue to support our current congregational ministry projects.

We will complete our harvest by the end of January.

By the way, our Youth Group has \$100 to do this same project on their own, too.

**Kingdom Challenge – Part 3 – Sharing the Harvest:** During February, the entire congregation will be involved in determining how and where we will be distributing our gifts in our community. Our gifts will be distributed by the end of February, and we will share our story at Bishop's Day on March 3, 2012. Keep watching Tidings, the Word at Home, Rev. Hal's Blog, and announcements for our progress and plans.

Please see Chris Weemhoff with questions or comments about this exciting opportunity.

## Holy Land Trip Review

The three adult Sunday school classes will merge on Sunday, January 8th, to see a review of Rev. Hal's Holy Land trip. It will be shown again at 11:30 (bring a bag lunch) on January 11th in the Chapel. All are welcome.



### 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.

The Area Agency on Aging IB 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.

### Human Relations Day—Changing the World, One Life at a Time

On January 15th, there will be a special offering for Human Relations Day. Your gifts provide avenues to restored relationships through ministries like Redemption Kids, a Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program; Community Developers, self-improvement programs; and United Methodist Voluntary Services, community advocacy that challenges oppression and injustice. Please prayerfully consider giving to this worthwhile cause.

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

	In Memory of	For
January 1	Homer A. Pugh	Landscaping Church Grounds
January 8	Mae Gibson	Daffodils—New Garden
January 15	Helen C. Moore	Hymnals
January 22	In Honor of The Chancel Choir	
January 29	Mary Cobb	Choir Room Renovation Wireless Microphone



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

E. Beatrice Premer

Activity	January 1	January 8	January 15	January 22	January 29
<b>Greeters</b>	Jerry & Joan Coval	Brenda, Jerry, Lisa & Morgan Michaux	United Methodist Women	Linda & Rick Wright	Youth
<b>Ushers</b>	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
<b>Crucifer Bible Carrier</b>	Kurt Leverenz Jason LaCombe	Molly Mitchener Jacob Carl	Jessica Moore Meghan Ostrander	Jackson Steiger Jamie Miller	Emily Woods Kara Olsavsky
<b>Acolytes</b>	Elise Leverenz Aaron Goudie	Jessica Carl Alexa DiBartolomeo	Robert Ostrander Erika Ostrander	Fay Steiger Brent Goudie	Lauren Jakobiak Morgan Michaux
<b>Sound Video Engineers</b>	Steve Olsavsky Lauren Matthews	Kaj Ostergaard Kaj Ostergaard	Karen Carl Meghan Ostrander	Jane Egermann Jane Egermann	Joe Meek Joe Meek
<b>Coffee Hour Hosts</b>	If you would like to help by providing goodies for coffee hour, please call Diane Martin.				
<b>Monday Counters</b>	Mary Jo Johnston Laurie Urbach 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
<b>Trustee on Duty</b>	Chuck Tincknell	Linda Pushman	Bill Wesp	Jon Bertolet	Andrew Power
<b>Flowers for The Lord's Table</b>		Brian & Kelly Dukes Baptism of Tristyn Irene			
<b>Jr. Church</b>	Children remain in worship	Lori Ann Rumel Megan Steiger	Williston Family	Tom Stevens	Noisy Sunday Children remain in worship
<b>Faith in Action</b>	Children remain in worship	Kelly Gordon	Ostrander	Alexandra La-Combe	Noisy Sunday Children remain in worship
<b>Nursery (Newborns &amp; Crawlers)</b>	Julie Geggie Melody Power	Sharon Ostrander Meghan Ostrander	Angela DiBartolomeo Christine Knoper	Mary Smith Riley Smith	
<b>Toddler Room (Walkers-2 year olds)</b>	Jessica Abdo	Sarah Hodroge	Jennifer Rivera		
<b>3&amp;4 Year Olds</b>	Laurie Mitchener Marianne Melton	Leslie Diebol Stephanie McNett	Kristin Truelove Jessica Urbach	Jill Woods Emily Woods	Marie Watson Faith Clay