

September Tidings

Troy First UMC

September 1, 2023
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Dear Friends,

There is a special energy in September. There is a chill in the air, not every day, but some days. Children are headed back to school with backpacks and new shoes. Teachers are putting the final touches on bulletin boards and teaching plans. Football and soccer are in the air as the baseball season wraps up.

For us at Troy First,

There is a very special opportunity before us. We'll talk about the resolution to adopt Bloomfield Hills St Paul in our Townhall meetings – after the service on September 10 and 17 and on September 19, we will vote on that resolution.

Our sermon series for September is E3. We will leave the ABC's to the schools. We are looking at the three Es...

Expand: our minds, our hearts and the concept of God whose love is deeper and higher and wider than anything we can imagine.

Embrace: the commitment and the covenant of being Baptized in Christ.

Experience: the energy of the Holy Spirit. Experiencing God is powerful. John Wesley said his heart was strangely warmed as he "experienced" God. When was the last time you felt or experienced God? How do we reclaim that part of our faith and of our heritage

Come be a part of the movement as we expand, embrace and experience God in new ways.

On a personal note, I have a vacation coming up at the end of September. It's been quite a while since I got away. I do love you all and love being here, but Pastors Rich Peacock and George Marck will be bringing the word

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Myra

Youth & Children Recap

The youth group had a blast this summer with all the pop-up events that we had! In June we wrote letters to senior citizens across the United States to brighten their days, and a baseball game at Jimmy John's Field. In July, we served dinner at the Glory Way concert and enjoyed listening to their upbeat music. In August we saw Children of Eden at the Warren Civic Theatre starring our own youth group member Anna Maclean! Capping off our summer with a thrilling lock-in at the church. Surprise! During the lock-in, we discovered pictures from the beginning of TFUMC, and we had a great time pointing out members we recognized from decades before! The morning after our lock-in we crashed the Men's Breakfast group and enjoyed their cooking. Over the summer there were so many smiles and tons of laughter. The youth we have at our church are truly amazing individuals, who all have a heart for giving. I am honored to spend time with these wonderful young adults. Looking forward to seeing more smiles with our kickoff meeting September 10th from 6:30-8. Continuing every Sunday from 6:30-8pm.

I'm looking forward to continuing to see K-5 age down at First Kids on Sundays during the service. This fall, I am eager to use the Cokesbury Bible Story Basics curriculum as an outline for the lesson. The celebration of Children event we had this summer will always have a special place in my heart. Followed up closely behind us making crafts during first kids and sharing my love of Jesus with the children. Thank you to everyone in the church for making all these things possible.

-Corinna Olesen



Outreach Updates

Join Us for Missions: Monday September 11
12-3:30pm

Troy 1st will be going to work at the Lighthouse Food Pantry in Pontiac every month beginning on Monday, September 11 - 12-3:30. Sign-ups will begin on Sunday, August 20th. Questions can be directed to Robin Ostergaard.



Healthy Snack Collection for Auburn Resumes!

Since school has started, we will resume our collection of healthy snacks for the students at Auburn Elementary. Auburn Elementary is in the Avondale School District and over 70% of their students are considered to be at the poverty level. Troy First supplies healthy snacks that can be sent home with these students, so they have something nutritious upon arriving at home. Here is a list of suggested snacks: fruit cups in juice/water, cheese sticks, applesauce, granola & cereal bars (like NutriGrain), beef jerky/sticks, individual peanut butter cups, trail mix, and pretzels. Please, NO candy, junk food or juice boxes.

These can be placed in the bin in Mercer Hall!

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United Women of Faith

United Women of Faith

Sign-ups for our Oct. 13-14th Women's Spiritual Retreat begin on Sunday Sept 3rd in the CLC. Deadline for Registration is October 1st. Our monthly regular meetings and activities begin in September. See the schedule of dates below. **Start saving your rummage for our Rummage Sale in October!**

Calendar of upcoming Events

September

8th Executive Board Meeting 10AM

14th Ruth Circle - 9:30 AM

Deborah Circle – 7:00 PM

17th – Host Coffee Hour

20th Kitchen Cleaning 9:30 AM– 12noon

27th Fellowship Luncheon at Red Lobster on Rochester Rd.

October

6th- Board Meeting

13-14 Women's Spiritual Retreat- Lake Huron Retreat Center

15th - 17th collect and organize rummage

19th – Early bird rummage sale

20th – Rummage sale 9 AM-2 PM

21st - Rummage bag sale 8 AM – Noon

23rd - Fellowship Luncheon at Shield's

(No Circle meetings in October due to Rummage sale)



SAVE THE DATE

Come Meet us at
The well
Womens Retreat
2023

 **October 13 & 14**

 Lake Huron Retreat Center

Registration will begin in September

John 4: 15-17

The graphic features a dark blue square on the left with the text 'SAVE THE DATE' in white. To the right, the text 'Come Meet us at The well' is written in a mix of serif and script fonts. Below this, 'Womens Retreat 2023' is in a smaller serif font. A calendar icon is followed by 'October 13 & 14'. A location pin icon is followed by 'Lake Huron Retreat Center'. At the bottom, it says 'Registration will begin in September' and 'John 4: 15-17'. The right side of the graphic has a vertical strip of abstract blue and white brushstrokes.

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

1	Kathy Sobanski, Debbie Ogg	22	Katie Mile, Judy Slater
3	Lori Ann & Mike Rumel	23	Sandy Bertolet
4	Dorothy Engelman, Emma Zeeman, Karen & Bob Hursin	24	Anne Hernandez, Mark Frank
	Rachel & Dan Cardiff,	26	Judy Pritchett, Roger Klungle
7	Janet Garrett	28	Jennifer Shock
8	Nick Olesen, Tom Stevens, Jean Sheren, Jill & Pete Woods	29	Cheryl & Richard Barnard, Katie & Erik Mile, Christian Aurand
10	Janice Drager		
11	Ellie MacLean		
12	Tina Stefanski, Jan Chamberlain		
15	Amanda & Waylin Zeeman, Laurine & Justin Urbach		
16	Betty & Jim Zych		
17	Ken Head		
19	Kathyrn McNamara		
20	Sara Matthews, Taylor Saeger, Rachel Hartrick		
21	Erin & Marcus Carbajo, Emily Woods & Tyler Drabeck		

Mark your calendar for some important dates coming up in September. We have two Townhall Meetings to discuss the resolution to adopt Bloomfield Hills St Paul UMC . **On September 19** we have two Charge Conferences: our Annual Charge Conference and a Special Charge Conference to vote on the Bloomfield Hills St Paul UMC resolution.



Townhall Meeting
Discussing the resolution to adopt
Bloomfield Hills St Paul Church

September 10&17

Immediately following the service

The graphic features a light beige background with a purple border. On the left and right sides, there are images of stationery items: a spiral notebook, a pen, and a small wooden mug. The date 'September 10&17' is circled in yellow.

Troy First Music

Introducing Debi Szeliga



Beginning September 10, Debi Szeliga is the Collaborative Pianist/Organist for Troy First.

She completed her Bachelor of Music degree from Wayne State University in Detroit in 2002. From there, her studies took her to Ann Arbor where she completed her Master of Music Degree from the University of Michigan in 2006. Go blue! In both programs, she studied Church Music and Organ.

For the past 25 years, Debi has served in churches across Metro-Detroit in various capacities. Her most recent position was Director of Music at St. Pio Pietrelcina in Roseville, Michigan. In addition to her position at FUMCT, Debi works at Dakota High School in Macomb where she accompanies the choral program. In addition, she plays for the weekly school masses at Guardian Angels Catholic Church in Clawson.

Working with the youth has always been a passion for her! It brings her tremendous joy to encourage a young person to pursue musical excellence. She knows first hand how music can positively impact a life!

Debi resides in Clinton Township with her husband of 17 years, Peter and their 3 year old golden retriever, Henry. Henry is her pride and joy! Debi and Peter love to cook, watch baseball games and binge on Netflix series, but mostly, they enjoy spoiling their best friend, Henry. In her spare time, Debi also enjoys trying her hand at the cello. It has been a life-long dream of hers to play in a symphony. In 2018, she finally made that dream a reality. She joined the Detroit Communion Orchestra. Debi is very excited to join Troy First.