

Plymouth First United Methodist Church



2022 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

To the congregation,

I was blessed this year, another time, to attend the Michigan Annual Conference in Traverse City, Michigan in June representing our church. It was a wonderful experience again to connect with many other Christian people and to discuss the many issues that the church is facing at this point.

There were several legislation items that were discussed and voted on, including the possible separation of the church, LBGTQ issues, pastor's retirements, churches that have closed, encouraging gun control, etc. Most were approved.

We also had beautiful music, worship times, honoring new clergy including our own Amy Triebwasser, and inspiring messages for laity.

A wonderful experience! Brad also attended as a lay equalization member.

Joy Coyle

If you would like more information, please contact me. I am happy to share.

Brcoyle@aol.com

Please continue to page 8 and 9 to read more about Annual Conference from some of the members that attended.



PASTOR BOB WAS ON
VACATION AT THE TIME OF
THIS PRINTING

B
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Message from Pastor Suzy

Friends -

For the last couple of years I have led an anti-racism study in the church. We've read a dozen or more books ranging from *The Vanishing Half*, a novel, to *The Color of Law*, a dense book about how the codes and laws of the country have sustained segregation beyond the time it was ruled illegal by the courts. We've read books that specifically address the ways racism is inconsistent with Christianity and the reasons that most churches remain singular in their racial composition. Jemar Tisby's book, *How to Fight Racism*, challenged us to move beyond reading and education into relationship with people of other races.

For our last study, we joined with the Garden City church and some members from West Outer Drive UMC. Most of them were BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) people. This expanded the way that we were able to engage with the book and discuss the issue of anti-racism work as well as how to be a good ally with people who are discriminated against. We will continue that relationship in hopes of expanding it beyond our group and into the fuller body of the church.

On that note, we've planned an outing with Garden City UMC and will be inviting people from other nearby United Methodist Churches to join us too. On July 30, 2022 we will be taking a tour of the Detroit sites that are important to the history of anti-racism in Detroit. We will have two official guides for this tour known as the Arc of Justice tour. If you have not read the book by that name, it is a great place to start to understand racism and Detroit. It is a true story that takes place during the Great Migration when the Sweet family dares to cross color lines and how the neighbors reacted. On the tour, we will see where the Sweet family home stood. We will see the Birwood Wall of segregation, Black Bottom neighborhood and the Algiers Motel and more. We'll end our tour with lunch at a Black-owned restaurant.

If you are interested in learning about Detroit and its history with race, consider joining us. We'll meet at the first site in Detroit at 9AM and will finish at lunch time. The entire tour will be outside, and thus quite covid safe. They do not charge for the tour but ask for a donation to be made to their churches. Please RSVP to me before July 21, so that we can get a good headcount.

Blessings, Pastor Suzy





Summer Choir

Come join members of the Chancel Choir in singing for worship this summer. No evening mid-week rehearsal and no choir robes, just come to the Sanctuary on Sunday morning and learn an easy anthem. It's a great opportunity to sing if you can't make Wednesday rehearsals during the choir season, and a great way to try singing in choir.

Sunday, July 3rd rehearsal at 9:30 am
anthem – Come Build a Church

Sunday, August 7th rehearsal at 9:30 am music tba

If you have questions or would like a link to a recording of “Come Build a Church” to listen to ahead of time, contact Marcia Van Oyen – marcia@pfumc.org or leave a message 734-453-5280 ext 115.

Thank you to all our musicians in the Chancel Choir, Orchestra, Bell Choir and Impact Band for providing music for worship so faithfully over the past year! We truly appreciate you!

Thank you!
♡



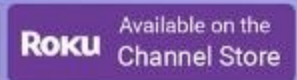
AMPLIFY

Grow your faith this summer!



Amplify provides 24/7 access to motivating stories, insightful teaching, and powerful resources.

FREE Contact Cathy Montgomery
cathym@pfumc.org 734-560-3498



SUMMER FUN FOR KIDS

Summertime means fun but it can also mean boredom for some kids. Amplify Media has curated this special list — just for kids — to help keep them entertained AND inspired this summer. From crafts to stories to music to trivia, these videos will help them grow in their faith while enjoying their summer break!



Celebrate Wonder series is all new this summer with premiere episodes and music videos your children will love.



Celebrate Wonder features a child host who engages children through storytelling, life application, and an exploration of their faith.



Kids can still enjoy the fun of VBS with Cokesbury's Food Truck Party. Children of all ages are invited to get on a roll with God as a parade of Food Trucks rolls into their neighborhood for the summer's biggest party! Watch engaging lessons and learn new VBS songs.

Life and Teachings of Jesus for Youth



Submerge guides tweens through the Bible stories and makes connections between the Bible and everyday life.

Topics include: Baptism, Being Called, How to Treat Others, Forgiveness, Protection, Knowing Jesus, Praising Jesus and Giving Generously.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

I want to say thank you to this church. When one is called to ministry, they never know what that road is going to look like. My road began in 1994, I was in the tenth grade. I knew then that God had placed a call on my life to work with young people. He placed me on a path to do that. I never imagined the twists and turns that this journey would take me on. In 2012, God brought our family to Plymouth First and I became a part of the staff in 2015.

I will always be grateful for the time I have had as a part of the PFUMC staff and family. It is difficult to go. We have walked through unprecedented times together, and our church has certainly seen the effects of that. I have tried really hard to keep things afloat and to rebuild throughout and in the ongoing aftermath with a limited group of volunteers. It has been said that insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result (that quote is often attributed to Albert Einstein; there is actually no evidence he ever said it). I am doing the same things here over and over, and if it was working, that would be one thing. It isn't. Nothing I try seems to work. We aren't reaching new families who are consistently coming back, the youth group hasn't grown, Sunday school has stayed pretty consistent for the last year (numbers are low); that means it hasn't grown, our Easter outreach event was not successful. These are facts, and have played a part in my decision to move on. The decision was a difficult one to come to, and it was not taken lightly. When you love your job and the children and youth you are able to work with, it shouldn't be easy. There were many prayers and tears. My heart is sad because I will miss these children, these young people. I also have great peace because I can't help but think of all the good things God has in store for Plymouth First.

I want the best for this church. I want the families, youth, and children of the Plymouth, Canton, and surrounding areas to know Jesus loves them. That is all that matters on an eternal level. God has big plans for this place and I can't wait to see what He does here. I want to challenge you as a church to take risks as you step into a new season. You are getting an additional pastor who is going to lead a digital campus. You are going to have to embrace new things if you want to see this place become all it can be. That can be scary, don't be afraid to do it. I have heard tales about how things used to be around here in years past almost since the day our family walked in the door. I would caution you that as you celebrate the rich history of PFUMC that you hold on loosely. If you cling too tightly to what you loved about what was, you will never be open to what God wants to do right now. It would be tragic for you to miss out on what God is trying to do now because you are busy looking back at what he did then. Don't miss it.

My son is about to turn thirteen (thirteen; I can hardly believe it!). Every year around this time, I get very nostalgic, remembering him as a baby. I allow myself to do it for just a few moments because I don't want to miss who he is now. That little guy who was so squishy and roly-polly has grown up into a pretty awesome kid that I would miss out on if I just buried my head in his baby book. Sure I could look at who he was and enjoy those memories, but who he is right now matters a lot more. Who he is now is so very important.

The same is true for Plymouth First. This church is a great church, today. Great things are in store because an even greater God is in control. I will say it again; Don't miss it. ! *Sarah*



FUSION



THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING SARAH— WE WILL MISS YOU!

What are you doing this summer?
 Did you know that in 10 weeks (69 days) which is the
 length of the summer,
 you could read the entire New Testament?
 Take the challenge. I dare you!

*(Copies of the New Testament and Challenge
 are available at church in the front entry.)*



WEEK Summer 2022

6/26-7/2

1

Day 1: Matthew 1-2, Romans 1-3
 Day 2: Matthew 3-4, Romans 4-6
 Day 3: Matthew 5-6, Romans 7-9
 Day 4: Matthew 7-8, Romans 10-12
 Day 5: Matthew 9-10, Romans 13-15
 Day 6: Matthew 11-12, Romans 16

7/3-9

2

Day 8: Matthew 13-14, Hebrews 1-2
 Day 9: Matthew 15-16, Hebrews 3-4
 Day 10: Matthew 17-18, Hebrews 5-7
 Day 11: Matthew 19-20, Hebrews 8-10
 Day 12: Matthew 21-22, Hebrews 11-12
 Day 13: Matthew 23-24, Hebrews 13

7/10-16

3

Day 15: Matthew 25-26, 1 Corinthians 1-2
 Day 16: Matthew 27-28, 1 Corinthians 3-4
 Day 17: Mark 1-2, 1 Corinthians 5-7
 Day 18: Mark 3-4, 1 Corinthians 8-10
 Day 19: Mark 5-6, 1 Corinthians 11-13
 Day 20: Mark 7-8, 1 Corinthians 14-16

7/17-23

4

Day 22: Mark 9-10, 2 Corinthians 1-2
 Day 23: Mark 11-12, 2 Corinthians 3-4
 Day 24: Mark 13-14, 2 Corinthians 5-6
 Day 25: Mark 15-16, 2 Corinthians 7-8
 Day 26: Luke 1-2, 2 Corinthians 9-10
 Day 27: Like 3-4, 2 Corinthians 11-13

7/24-30

5

Day 29: Luke 5-6, Galatians 1-3
 Day 30: Luke 7-8, Galatians 4-6
 Day 31: Luke 9-10, Ephesians 1-3
 Day 32: Luke 11-12, Ephesians 4-6
 Day 33: Luke 13-14, Philippians 1-2
 Day 34: Luke 15-16, Philippians 3-4

7/31-8/6

6

Day 36: Luke 17-18, Colossians 1-2
 Day 37: Luke 19-20, Colossians 3-4
 Day 38: Luke 21-22, 1 Thessalonians 1-2
 Day 39: Luke 23-24, 1 Thessalonians 3-4
 Day 40: Acts 1-3, 1 Thessalonians 5
 Day 41: Acts 4-6, 2 Thessalonians 1-3

8/7-13

7

Day 43: Acts 7-9, 1 Timothy 1-3
 Day 44: Acts 10-12, 1 Timothy 4-6
 Day 45: Acts 13-15, 2 Timothy 1-2
 Day 46: Acts 16-18, 2 Timothy 3-4
 Day 47: Acts 19-21, James 1-3
 Day 48: Acts 22-24, James 4-5

8/14-20

8

Day 50: Acts 25-27, Titus 1-3
 Day 51: Acts 28, 1 Peter 1-2
 Day 52: John 1-2, 1 Peter 3-5
 Day 53: John 3-4, 2 Peter 1-3
 Day 54: John 5-6, Philemon
 Day 55: John 7-8, Jude

8/21-27

9

Day 57: John 9-10, 1 John 1-2
 Day 58: John 11-12, 1 John 3-4
 Day 59: John 13-14, 1 John 5
 Day 60: John 15-16, 2 John
 Day 61: John 17-8, 3 John
 Day 62: John 19-21

8/28-9/3

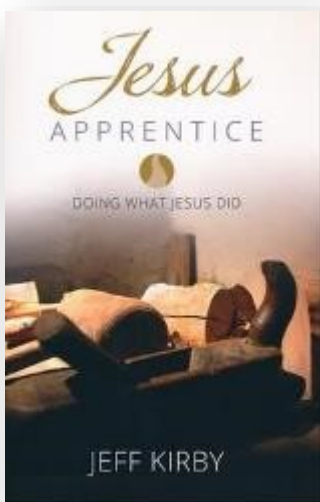
10

Day 64: Revelation 1-4
 Day 65: Revelation 5-8
 Day 66: Revelation 9-12
 Day 67: Revelation 13-16
 Day 68: Revelation 17-20
 Day 69: Revelation 21-22

Intentional Faith Development

What is your *NEXT STEP*?

Pick up a book for \$12 and read along with the sermon series to enhance the message from the pastors.



Christian belief through Christian action—it's like an apprentice who learns from a master carpenter not only by listening, but also by following the master's example. We aren't truly following Jesus until we do as Jesus...until we become a Jesus apprentice. Learn how to sweep aside the clutter of daily life, getting to the heart of Jesus' message and finding the way to a renewed faith.

June - July Sermon Series

Material is available to host a small group or do a 4 week book club. Contact Cathy Montgomery to get all the material you will need to make your time together a success.

What does it look like to be an Apprentice of Jesus?

We have been trying to answer that question on Sunday mornings and the best way to learn firsthand from the New Testament. Read what Jesus taught, what he did and how the Disciples responded. Take the New Testament 10 Week Bible challenge and discover what it means to be an Apprentice of Jesus.

Gather some friends and walk through the study together.



Log on to Amplify Media and watch the video for each week. Don't have access to Amplify Media? Contact Cathy Montgomery to get access to the church account and watch the videos for Jesus Apprentice along with hundreds of other options.



The membership vows serve as guideposts for our Journey.

How can I help? Contact me and let's sit down for coffee, tea, breakfast or lunch. I would love to share in a conversation with you about God and your *NEXT STEP* that will take you deeper in your faith.

Cathy Montgomery
Intentional Faith Development
(734) 560-3498 (cell)
cathym@pfumc.org.

2022 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Hello Church Family,

I am a lifelong Methodist, but this is my first time being a delegate at an Annual Conference. I went into the conference thinking it was going to be primarily administrative. In my professional and personal life I have been on different boards, so I was comfortable with the process and prepared for the agenda. To my pleasant surprise I found that the items that were voted on, while important, were not my primary take-away from the conference. Certainly, they are necessary for the operation of the church and I have provided a link below if you wish to review the motions. But what impacted me most can be best described as renewal and connections.

Renewal as in renewal of faith, renewal of friendships and renewal of mission. I was impacted by the messages from Bishop Bard in the opening service, and guest speakers Dr. Ron Bell, a pastor from St. Paul who spoke on dealing with the pervasive stress and tension of the past couple of years and Derrick Scott the Executive Director of a campus ministry in Florida who spoke at a laity only session. A link to the video for Friday's session is below with the times for Ron and Derrick, I encourage you to have a look. On Friday night, there was an ordination service for Deacons and Elders. It was inspiring watching others reach plateaus in their life's mission of serving Christ. The service included the ordination as an Elder of Amy Triebwasser. Amy was a member of our church, and I can remember when she took the first step to becoming a pastor. She will be serving at Saline first UMC starting July 1st.

I enjoyed watching the clergy in attendance (including ours) get recharged by being together. This may have been accentuated as the last two years have been virtual, but it was clear there are great friendships and bonds between pastors. I did not previously appreciate how these connections clearly helped strengthen them to serve Christ. As we listened to presentations of the great works being done by churches in service to their communities, including our church being highlighted for our upcoming digital campus, you couldn't help feeling connected as one body. It was great to be reminded of how our congregation is not isolated, but part of a larger entity that even with the changes we are experiencing, is working in unison to serve Christ.

Dave Barrett

Link to Administrative Actions

<https://michiganumc.org/annual-conference-takes-care-of-business/>

Link to Video of Friday's Session

<https://vimeo.com/716609805>

Ron Bell's message starts at the 54-minute mark

Derrick Scott's message starts at 8 hour 36-minute mark





United Methodist Church of Michigan Annual Conference

I was given the opportunity to be an alternate and attend this year's Annual Conference, "Mourning to Dancing." I was in awe as I entered this governing body of over 1,500 fellow Methodists. Each session was blessed with music, prayer, and praise. Pastor Dr. Ron Bell and Lay Leader, Derrick Scott provided inspirational messages. I must admit that I never truly knew the magnitude of what this body of believers was all about. Several issues that were covered included Gun Violence Legislation, Federal Student Loan cancellation, support of a maternity clinic in Haiti, help for Ukrainian refugees, child hunger in Michigan, and financial support for Liberian children to attend school. Annual Conference will be endorsing Kennetha Bingham Tsai for consideration as bishop. On a sadder note, information was shared that 10 UMC churches have closed or will be closing by year end and 4 additional churches have chosen to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. This was an eye awakening and educational experience and I thank our congregation for this opportunity.

Sharyn Hoard



Annual conference was a very worthwhile experience. The conference title, "Mourning and Dancing" proved to be an appropriate theme with all the challenges and decision-making presently in the United Methodist Church. A worship service with inspirational speakers, both laity and clergy, began each of our days. My favorite moments centered around worship time with 2000 people singing hymns-it was amazing to be a part of that group which left each and everyone of us energized, and feeling the presence of God, along with a delightful sense of community.

It was wonderful to be able to meet in person again after meeting online the last two years. [Although we are moving toward the final stages with the UMC split, there seemed to be a more peaceful tone which I would probably attribute to the fact that we know the split is inevitable and many people know which direction they are moving toward.](#)

General conference will meet in 2024 to take a final vote. As church delegates continue to work toward these important decisions, we would do well to pray for a smooth transition and continue to respect the opinions of others-no matter how different those opinions are from our point of view.

"I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope." (Jeremiah 29:11 CEB)

We need to put our trust in HIM.

Jan Kavulich



**FINANCIAL UPDATE
May 2022**

Income \$ 80,005
Expenses \$ 62,478

YTD 2022

Income \$ 293,831
Expenses \$ 308,894

**Fast
Easy
Secure**

Online	Text	Mobile App	Check/Cash Direct Bank Bill Payment
www.pfumc.org/give/ To set up and manage your one-time or recurring gifts.	1-844-208-0637 the amount you want to donate.	Download the Vanco Mobile app to make contributions.	Drop off or mail check/cash. Set up automatic giving through your bank provider.

2022, Roof Expense Recovery Initiative

	2021 Year	2022 Year	Difference of 2022 compared to 2021.
<u>Month</u>	<i>Monthly entries shown are cumulative totals received YTD for the trustees Capital Fund in 2021.</i>	<i>Monthly entries shown are cumulative totals received YTD for the trustees Capital Fund in 2022.</i>	<i>The difference of offerings received for trustees Capital Fund. Amount received YTD in 2022 compared to the amount received in 2021.</i>
January	\$3,941	\$1,538	-\$2,403
February	\$8,829	\$5,347	-\$3,482
March	\$10,407	\$8,532	-\$1,875
April	\$11,670	\$11,507	-\$163
May	\$13,010	\$15,642	\$2,632
June	\$14,103	\$0	-\$14,103
July	\$15,646	\$0	-\$15,646
August	\$18,384	\$0	-\$18,384
September	\$20,117	\$0	-\$20,117
October	\$21,265	\$0	-\$21,265
November	\$23,102	\$0	-\$23,102
December	\$24,155	\$0	-\$24,155
Total	\$24,155		

Note: The values shown by month are cumulative totals.

The building has undergone major repairs to the flat roofs. This cost was covered in part by the Capital Fund thanks to the many donations we have received over the last few years. However, the cost to replace these areas of the roof have reduced the funds set aside for unexpected future repairs to our building. We are in the process of replenishing the Capital Fund. To the left is a status report on the Capital Fund in comparison to 2021. We will provide you with a monthly update throughout 2022.

The Finance Committee

NOTE: Values are taken from the Finance Balance Sheet. Line #21909 and 21910 Trustees Capital Fund, 2021 and 2022

PRAYER CONCERNS

Members

Jeff Berliner
Marge Brown &
Tom Brown
Lorraine Dermyre

Lois Maiorana
Vincent Maiorana
Bill & Mary McCully
Richard Moore
Nancy Nelson
Dennis Piggott
Ruth Slade
Connie Slazinski
Peter Slazinski
Whitney Stevens
Marica Van Oyen

Military

Suzanne Gyde—Hall
Brian Krautler (Ramsay)

Members Shut In

Cleo Pappin
John & Sydney Paul
Jim Walk

Family & Friends

Rich Brown, friend of George Thompson
Matt Carter, family of Stella Smith
Clay Good, Dale Good's son
Robert Nulty & Phyllis Nulty
Mike Petri and family, friend of Dale Good

Missionaries

Hannah Kappler
South Korea

Thank You!

Dear Church Family, We want to thank you all who called, sent cards, and prayed for Vince's health concerns. He is slowly on the road to recovery and gaining strength even back to driving himself to dialysis and back. While still struggling with some health issues we feel, with the help of God's healing and continued prayers, he will improve. We thank God for you for being apart of his healing. Thank you and we send our love to you all. Lois & Vince and Carey and Maiorana Family



Peter and Connie Slazinski will celebrate
their 50th wedding anniversary
July 8th CONGRATS!

Pray for



ASP June 19—25, traveled to Fayette, West Virginia.
THANK YOU for your ministry

- Bob Mason
- Cathy Webster
- Michael Marble
- Eric Paulsen
- Rachel Paulsen
- Hannah Rawlings
- Will Robertson

RETURN ADDRESS

First United Methodist Church
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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY—THURSDAY 9 AM—3 PM
OFFICE CLOSED ON FRIDAY

PERIODICALS

Printed June 2022

JULY BIRTHDAYS 2022

7/1 Bryce McDonald
7/3 Ron Lowe
Angela Martin
7/4 Cassandra Best
Judith Cox
7/5 Zach Holmes
Chris Penney
Bill Pickering
Katelyn Westerberg
7/7 Steve Edwards
7/8 Eithan Box
7/9 Meri-Lyn Hill
Robert Thompson
7/11 Julie Kimsal
7/12 Charles Roebuck
Chantel Spieth
7/13 Walter Murray
Mara Patterson
Chris Satterfield
7/14 Glen Kordick
George Thompson
Cara Trost
7/15 Bobbie Doe
Teagan Hering
Elaine Honecker
Adalyn Shaffer

7/16
Cheryl Hetherington
Dennis Brunzell
Lisa Hollo
7/17 Rich Pushies
Tom Williams
7/19 Chris Holland
7/20 Paige Novak
7/21 Mike Hartke
John Roushkolb
7/22
Carolyn McWhirter
7/23 Jack Ammons
Nancy Gorham
Chuck Olson
Billy Peckrul
Nolan Sutphin
7/24 Lynne Coker
7/25 Donna Moore
7/26 Susan Sayers
7/27 Robert Beaudoin
Jim Hutchings
Carl Robertson
7/28 Michael Marble
7/31 William Verrill

