



We invite YOU to experience HOPE in Christ. There is a place for you here, to connect with people and God. Together we will grow in faith. Together we will serve as the hands and feet of Christ for the Glory of God!



2026



Dear Church Family,

As July arrives, we find ourselves in the heart of summer here in southern Michigan. The days are long, gardens are flourishing, families are gathering, and communities are celebrating. This month, our nation pauses to celebrate Independence Day and the freedoms we enjoy as Americans. While we are grateful for those freedoms and for the sacrifices made by generations who have defended them, July also provides an opportunity for Christians to reflect upon an even greater freedom, the freedom we have through Jesus Christ.

Freedom in Christ

The Apostle Paul writes in Galatians 5:1:
"For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery."
 As followers of Jesus, we recognize that true freedom is not simply the ability to do whatever we want. True freedom is found in becoming who God created us to be. Through Christ, we are set free from the power of sin, free from guilt and shame, and free to live lives that honor God and bless others.

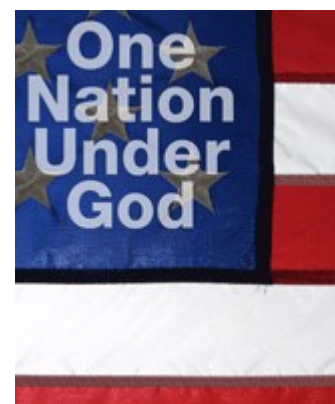
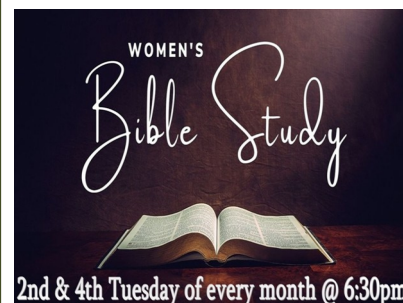
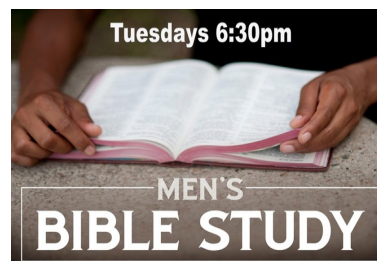
Freedom That Changes Lives

The world often defines freedom as independence and self-determination. Yet Scripture teaches us something different. Christian freedom is not freedom from God; it is freedom for God. Before Christ, we are bound by sin. We struggle under burdens we cannot carry alone. But through God's grace, offered freely through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and given new life. As Global Methodists we believe that God's grace not only saves us but continues to transform us. The Holy Spirit works within us to shape our hearts and lives, helping us grow in holiness and Christlikeness.

Freedom in Christ means we are free to love. Free to serve.

Free to forgive. Free to become the people God intends us to be.

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America stands on two great pillars — faith and morality. Without these, our foundation crumbles.

—George Washington

(Pastor, continued)

Living as Christ's Ambassadors

Summer often brings opportunities to connect with neighbors, friends, and family members. Whether at community events, backyard cookouts, family reunions, or local festivals, we have opportunities to reflect the love of Christ. People today are searching for hope, purpose, and peace. As followers of Jesus, we carry the Good News that many desperately need to hear. You do not need a pulpit to share your faith. Sometimes the most powerful witness comes through:

A kind word. A listening ear. A helping hand. A sincere prayer. An invitation to church.

God often uses simple acts of faithfulness to accomplish extraordinary things.

Staying Rooted During Summer

Summer schedules can become busy and unpredictable. Vacations, family activities, and outdoor projects can easily fill our calendars. While these activities are blessings, I encourage you to remain rooted in your relationship with Christ.

Continue to worship faithfully. Spend time in prayer each day. Read Scripture regularly.

Stay connected to your church family. Just as a garden needs regular care to flourish, our spiritual lives require ongoing attention and nourishment. Jesus reminds us in John 15 that apart from Him we can do nothing. When we remain connected to Him, we bear fruit that blesses both our lives and the lives of others.

Looking Ahead

As we continue through the summer months, let us seek opportunities to serve our community, strengthen our relationships, and grow deeper in our faith.

May we be a church that reflects the love of Christ in both word and deed.

May we be known as people of grace, compassion, and truth. And may we never forget that the greatest freedom we possess is the freedom found in Jesus Christ.

A Final Blessing

My prayer for each of you this month is that you would experience the peace of Christ, the joy of His presence, and the transforming power of His grace.

May God bless your families, keep you safe in your travels, and draw you ever closer to Him.

Thank you for being such a faithful church family.

In Christ's love, Pastor Rob



Messy Church is open to families of all shapes and sizes, and folks of all ages!

Come join in on the fun!

Sunday, July 26th 5-7pm!

WAY FINDERS June luncheon



meeting found 15 women in attendance at Four Lakes Kitchen. We celebrated

our leader, **Dee Vandevire's, 90th birthday.** We will meet on July 17 in Elkhart at Perkins, collecting small cans of tuna for our outreach item.



The newly published hymnal Our Great Redeemer's Praise represents the theo-

logical heritage of John and Charles Wesley. Copies of this new hymnal have recently been ordered for Hope of Edwardsburg.





ZACHARY STRYCKER	7/02
PAIGE MOLER	7/03
LYNN STRAKA	7/03
GEORGE LOOTENS SR.	7/04
GEORGE LOOTENS JR.	7/04
KATHY FULLER	7/05
LAURA SHEETS	7/05
TOMMY HARRIS	7/06
GENE MONTGOMERY	7/08
NATALIE FRENTZ	7/11
SHIRLEY FARKAS	7/12
PAULA KENDALL	7/13
PENNY CREAGER	7/13
DELANEY PETERS	7/15
BEVERLY PROCTOR	7/17
ROGER MAHNESMITH	7/18
AUSTIN CLINE	7/18
SABRINA ENGLISH	7/19
BILL GRIFFIN	7/19
TOM REA JR.	7/21
BRIAN WEAVER	7/21
JEFF D JOHNSON	7/24
KIM BURGER	7/24
SANDY MYERS	7/24
LINDA MASTEN	7/25
CONNOR SPICHER	7/25
JIM CHAPMAN	7/25
SAMANTHA ANDERSON	7/25
ELAINE RICHARDSON	7/27
BRANTLEY FROST	7/29
COREY SHEETS	7/29
ABIGAIL LaPORTE	7/30
TAFU TAFUNAI	7/31



GAYLA SIMMONS & JOHN DALRYMPLE	7/01
JACKIE & DAN BOONE	7/02
CARRIE & SCOTT OTIS	7/02
PAULA & JIM RALPH	7/06
CHARLOTTE & GEORGE LOOTENS SR	7/08
PENNY & ERIC FRIES	7/11
ROSE & BRIAN WEAVER	7/16
SHARON & TAFU TAFUNAI	7/19
SUSIE & CHRIS EDGERTON	7/22



They Walked Everywhere

When a teenager earned his driving permit, he approached his father, a minister, to discuss using the car. His dad replied, "I'll make you a deal. Raise your grades, spend some time in your Bible and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk."

A month later, the young man came back. "Son, I'm proud of you," his father said. "Your grades are up, and you've been faithful in your Bible study. But you didn't get your hair cut."

The teenager paused. "Well, Dad, I've been thinking. Samson had long hair. Moses had long hair. Noah had long hair. Even Jesus had long hair."

His father nodded. "That's true. And they walked everywhere they went."



Month of May Ministry Fund Summary

Ministry Fund Donations: \$ 22,475.24
 Ministry Fund Expenses: \$-20,694.15
 Surplus for the Month: \$ 1,781.09

Year to date shortfall = \$ -8,925.50

Monthly Budget amount: \$ 18,541.92

All May bills have been paid. Our Ministry Fund balance is \$89,521.32.
 Thank you for your continued support!

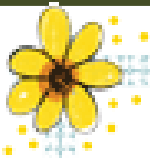
May Mortgage & Mission Fund Allocation

\$ 155.32 Missions
 \$ 962.80 Parsonage Mortgage
\$ 435.08 Capital Improvements
 \$ 1,553.20 Total Donations

Mortgage & Mission Monthly Budget amount: \$3,481.25
 Mortgage balance after payment due May 1 is \$185,813.58



Dawn Proctor celebrates success as a participant in recent Olympic games.



We will continue to collect recipes in hopes of publishing a **HOPE OF EDWARDSBURG COOKBOOK**.

Please submit your recipes (s)cards are available in Reese Hall on the table under the clock.

Please put your name on the card along with your recipe and then place in the binder on the table. When we get enough submissions we will try to get this long overdue cookbook published.!



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

began with "healing shawls" given to women being treated for cancer and other illnesses. It then grew as gifts and support for both men and women needing comfort for whatever reasons.

The **Hope shawl ministry** begun by Judy Christner has recently been revived. Any and all who knit and/or crochet are welcome to join in this creative ministry. Directions, supplies and fellowship are provided for participants. For more information call **Jackie Boone** at 269-663-8238 or 574-250-0364.



July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Office Hours 9am-12pm 5:30pm Band Practice 5:30pm	2 Office Hours 9am-12pm 5:00pm Music Practice 5-6pm	3 10:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise 6:00pm Euchre Night 6-8pm Reese Hall	4 Independance Day
5 8:30am & 10:30am Service	6 Office Hours 9am-12pm 9:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise 6:30pm Women's Monday Bible Study	7 Office Hours 9am-12pm 6:30pm Men's Bible Study	8 Office Hours 9am-12pm 5:30pm Band Practice 5:30pm 6:30pm Leadership Team Meeting	9 Office Hours 9am-12pm 5:00pm Music Practice 5-6pm	10 10:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise	11 9:00am Reservation Reese Hall
12 8:30am & 10:30am Service	13 Office Hours 9am-12pm 9:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise 6:30pm Women's Monday Bible Study	14 Office Hours 9am-12pm 6:30pm Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Women's Tuesday Bible Study	15 Office Hours 9am-12pm 5:30pm Band Practice 5:30pm	16 Office Hours 9am-12pm 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:00pm Music Practice 5-6pm	17 10:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise	18
19 8:30am & 10:30am Service	20 Office Hours 9am-12pm 9:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise 6:30pm Women's Monday Bible Study	21 Office Hours 9am-12pm 6:30pm Men's Bible Study	22 Office Hours 9am-12pm 5:30pm Band Practice 5:30pm	23 Office Hours 9am-12pm 5:00pm Music Practice 5-6pm	24 10:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise	25
26 8:30am & 10:30am Service 5:00pm Messy Church 5-7pm	27 Office Hours 9am-12pm 9:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise 6:30pm Women's Monday Bible Study	28 Office Hours 9am-12pm 6:30pm Women's Tuesday Bible Study 6:30pm Men's Bible Study	29 Office Hours 9am-12pm 5:30pm Band Practice 5:30pm	30 Office Hours 9am-12pm 5:00pm Music Practice 5-6pm	31 10:00am Ship Shape for Christ Exercise	