

Chapel Hill Newsletter

April, 2016



Throughout Lent we learned about doors: open, closed, about ourselves, and about how God opens and closes doors to help us grow and mature as Christians. So now, what doors are opening and/or closing for Chapel Hill?

Where is God leading us as we journey through 2016? Is God urging you to start a Bible Study, create a small group ministry, get involved in an existing ministry of the church, or to start a new ministry? There is a place for everyone of us in the life of the church. This isn't the pastor's church or my church, it is the church of Jesus Christ. Paul reminds us in I Corinthians 12:14 (NRSV) "indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many." and in 12:27 (The Message) "The way God designed our bodies is a model for understanding our lives together as a church: every part dependent on every other part." We need each other and God needs each of us to be the hands and feet of Christ in our world today.

So where do you fit in? There are some opportunities coming in the next couple of months I would like to share with you. First there is the CROP Walk on May 15. Here is an opportunity to walk to support hunger efforts in our world today. Of the money raised (our goal for the Blossomland Walk is \$45,000 this year – last year we (over 30 churches and organizations) raised over \$40,000), 25% stays right here in Berrien County to support 6 different agencies that provide help in food, shelter, support, etc. Can you help your fellow neighbors by walking and raising money to help?

Secondly, please set aside the date of May 22 on your calendars. We want to start at 5 pm with a potluck dinner and then move to spending time having a conversation about the future of Chapel Hill UMC. This is being organized by SPRC in an attempt to hear all voices as we talk about 4 areas: trustees (building and grounds), worship (where we can improve), education/youth (how do we attract children/youth and their parents), and missions (how can we take more of a hands on approach). We would start by asking some questions in regards to our mission statement and then break into groups to explore each of the four areas. We want/need your input in these conversations.

Thirdly, I would like to propose a new ministry that will help us to better care for ourselves and others who join us. We'll call it "The Shepherd's Ministry". We would start with a group of folks who volunteer to be shepherds of a flock of 10-15 (depends on the number of shepherds). As a shepherd you would be asked to connect with each of your flock at least once a month, recognize birthdays/anniversaries and be able with permission to communicate prayer concerns. We will have a meeting for anyone interested in becoming a shepherd later in April – watch the Sunday bulletin for date and time.

These are just a few opportunities, but there are more you can join or maybe start one as God leads you. If you need some help or direction, see Pastor or any SPRC member.

Paul reminds us again in I Corinthians 12:26 (The Message) "If one part hurts, every other part is involved in the hurt, and in the healing. If one part flourishes, every part enters into exuberance." There are some of you we haven't seen for a while. Without you we are not whole and complete. And there is always room for more. When was the last time you invited someone to church? Join us either for worship or an activity, so that we may praise and worship God together.

Peace to you,

Pastor Mark

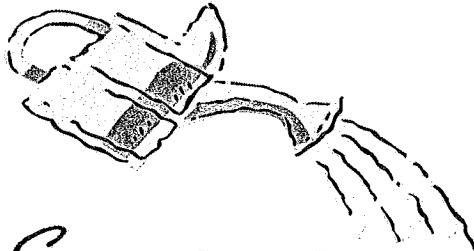
**SERMONS AND SCRIPTURE READINGS
FOR APRIL**

April 3 Sermon: Unless I See Scripture: John 20: 19 - 31

April 10 Pastor is on Vacation

April 17 Sermon: Listen to My Voice Scripture: John 10: 22 - 30

April 24 Sermon: Love Each Other Scripture: John 13: 31 - 35



So neither the one
who plants nor the one
who waters is
anything, but only
God, who makes
things grow.

1 Corinthians 3:7, NIV

**We Are
BLESSED**

Keep in our Prayers

Our Pastor
and

Those individuals who are serving
within our church fellowship
and our community.

May their lives show Christ in all they
do and say.

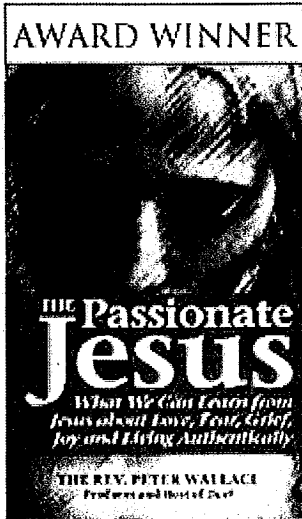


Do you have a high school or college graduate this year? Anyone wanting a graduate listed in this year's bulletin and newsletter needs to have their information in to the office no later than May 8th.

Please share the grad's name, institution from which the degree was earned, degree type, and post - graduation plans. Information can be dropped off in the office, e-mailed to chumesodus@comcast.net or called in to the office at 927-3454.

CHRISTIAN JOURNEYS

FROM SKYLIGHT PATHS®
PUBLISHING



By the Rev. Peter Wallace

Quality
Paperback
\$18.99

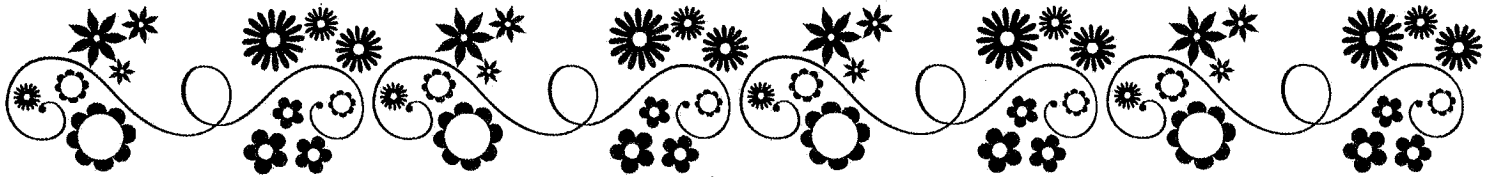


By Rami Shapiro
Forward by
Marcia Ford

Quality
Paperback
\$16.99

In this eye-opening spiritual study, Peter Wallace examines Jesus's actions as well as his teachings to uncover a passionate figure who was involved, present, connected, honest and direct with others.

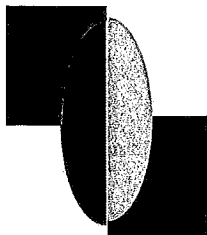
Shows you that by choosing to act out of love rather than fear, with kindness rather than anger, you can transform how you perceive the world and ultimately lead a more complete spiritual life.



Our family would like to thank all our friends at Chapel Hill for the prayers, cards and phone calls during the open heart surgery for Dennis Kraklau. Knowing how much friends care during the difficult time has made it easier to bear. Also thank you for the beautiful prayer blanket.

Marilyn Kraklau and family

REMEMBER TO LOOK ON CHAPEL HILL'S INFORMATION BULLETIN BOARD EACH SUNDAY



The Kalamazoo District Weekly Newsletter is posted every Friday
and
MI Connect News is posted every Friday

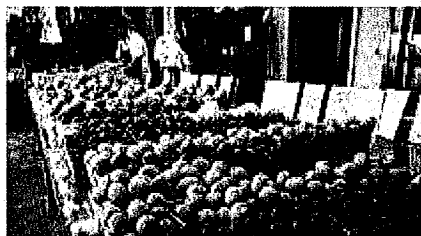
The office must first receive the email before it can be posted - Thanks

Draw more than bees with a community garden

SUMMARY: Gardens produce much more than tomatoes, zucchini and corn. Community gardens foster relationships and produce pride that comes with providing sustenance for others.

A garden offers a great opportunity to nourish the community with both food and care. Stake your claim now. Plan to have a community garden at your church, in your neighborhood or at your members' homes this summer.

A community garden is a great way to involve everyone in the church. (A green thumb is not required.) Environmentally sound, it can invite and unite your neighborhood. No matter where the garden is or who grabs a hoe, everyone shares the garden's bounty. Read More in MI Area Connect for March 9, 2016



How to do church farmers market outreach

Over the last ten years, farmers markets have more than doubled across the country. Churches have a great opportunity to minister to both farmers and shoppers.

Learn how. Read More in MI Area Connect for March 9, 2016.

Located on Bulletin Board in the Fellowship Hall.

Putting our faith into action

"Everyone can be great because everyone can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't even have to make your su your verb agree... You only need a heart full of grace...a soul generated by love."

—Martin Luther King, Jr.

United Methodists have believed, from the beginning, that each of us is called to participate in the outreaching ministry of Jesus Christ. John Wesley described this work in simple, practical terms: "Do all the good you can, in all the places you can, to all the people you can."

Putting our faith into action is at the very heart of our Christian calling. By volunteering to serve through programs such as United Methodist Volunteers in Mission or the Mission Volunteers program of The General Board of Global Ministries, every person in the church has the opportunity to serve and to live their calling more faithfully.

Church	% Paid
PLEASANT VALLEY	101.0%
POKAGON	100.1%
KALAMAZOO WESTWOOD	100.0%
STEVENSVILLE	100.0%
WATER'S EDGE	100.0%
KALAMAZOO FIRST	100.0%
THREE OAKS	100.0%
SOUTH MONTEREY	100.0%
KENDALL	100.0%
GOBLES	100.0%
ALMENA	100.0%
LAKESIDE	100.0%
PORTAGE PRAIRIE	100.0%
MARCELLUS	100.0%
WAKELEE	108.3%
ORONOKO	100.0%
BREEDSVILLE	100.0%
HOPKINS	100.0%
LACOTA	100.0%
PATHFINDER	100.0%
SILVER CREEK	100.0%
SUNNYSIDE	100.0%
HARTFORD	100.0%
DOWAGIAC	100.0%
EDWARDSBURG HOPE	100.0%
HINCHMAN	100.0%
NORTHWEST	100.0%
OLIVE BRANCH	100.0%
PEARL	100.0%
PORTAGE CHAPEL HILL	100.0%
RIVERSIDE	100.0%
SCOTSDALE	100.0%
TOWNLINE	100.0%
TROWBRIDGE	100.0%
OTSEGO	100.0%
BUCHANAN FIRST	100.0%
BRIDGMAN FAITH	100.0%
MORRIS CHAPEL	100.0%

Church	% Paid
BURNIPS	77.0%
GLENN	76.9%
PAW PAW	67.8%
OSHTEMO	67.6%
NILES WESLEY	61.0%
PLAINWELL	60.0%
KEELER	56.6%
ARDEN	49.0%
FENNVILLE	45.0%
BUCHANAN FAITH	43.8%
BLOOMINGDALE	41.7%
BANGOR SIMPSON	40.7%
SODUS CHAPEL HILL	36.9%
SOUTH HAVEN	35.4%
CASCO	24.2%
KALAMAZOO STOCKBRIDGE AVE	24.2%
PARCHMENT	23.2%
ALLEGAN	17.7%
ST. JOSEPH FIRST	17.3%
GANGES	15.7%
GALIEN	15.3%
BERRIEN SPRINGS	14.6%
CASSOPOLIS	11.5%
LAWRENCE	10.0%
KALAMAZOO MILWOOD	8.3%
LAWTON ST. PAUL'S	8.3%
SCHOOLCRAFT	6.6%
GULL LAKE	0.0%
MONTEREY CENTER	0.0%
NILES GRACE	0.0%
VICKSBURG	0.0%

BOLD = Six Lanes Church

United Methodists support mission outreach in a variety of ways. The primary route is through apportioned giving. An apportionment invites each congregation to remit a "fair share" of dollars to connectional ministry and mission. In West Michigan apportionments are called "Ministry Shares." Ministry Shares are considered First Mile Giving. Churches should pay Ministry Shares in full before they begin to designate other giving.

Churches that pay their First Mile giving then go on to Second Mile giving through The Advance. The Advance is a way to support projects with special interest to a congregation. An important feature of The Advance is that 100% of every donation goes to the chosen project.

A congregation becomes a **Six Lanes Church** by paying 100% of their Ministry Shares and giving to at least one project in each of the Six Lanes of The Advance.



Ministry Needs

Lay Participant Forms

Please sign up for lay participant positions.

Liturgists: Greeters:

Coffee Hour: Nursery:

The sign up sheets are on the foyer table.

Contacts:

Liturgists:	Linda Bennett	944-1961
Greeters:	Karen Hook	463-8535
Coffee Hour:	Sandy Keath	208-0115
Nursery:	Bob Wesner	463-5050

Planning for the Summer



The 2016 lawn mowing
sign up sheet is out!

The deadline for weekly announcements going into the bulletin is **Thursday at 10:00 am**. However, we take prayer requests until the bulletin is printed.

The deadline for **newsletter** items for **May** is Thursday **April 21 at 9:00 am**

April

2016

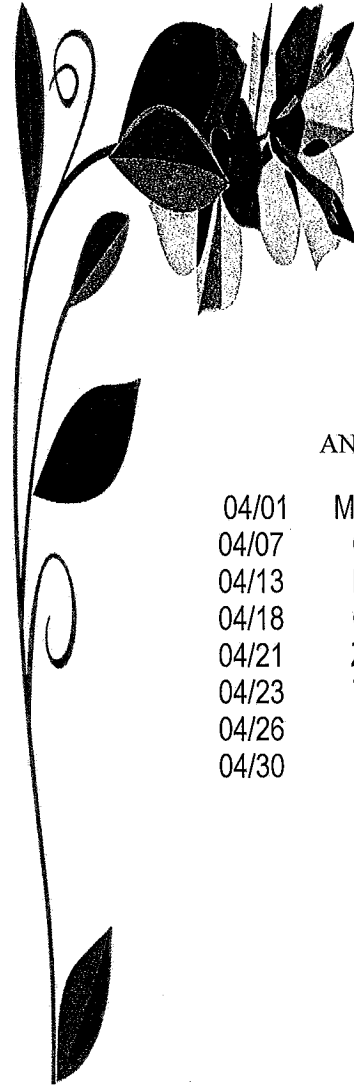
A decorative illustration featuring a small bird perched on a branch with several small flowers, positioned to the right of the word 'April'.

Birthdays

04/01 Robert Hahn
04/04 Corey Berget
04/05 James Burgess
Maureen Dohm
04/09 Ken Krieger
04/10 Louise Grosse
04/13 Michelle McCoy
04/14 Amy Bennett
04/15 Alan Berget
04/16 Linda Dilts
Reaghan Scott
Anthony Warman
04/17 Hannah Borr
04/18 Tami Hudson
04/24 Robin W. McKenzie
Shirley McLaughlin
04/27 Lindsay Harner
04/30 Alvin Tomoske

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

04/01 Michael and Beth DeCoursey
04/07 Gary and Judy Walter
04/13 Dick and Phyllis Dowsett
04/18 Glenn and Liz Burkhard
04/21 Zachary and Wendy Harris
04/23 Tom and Barb Johns
04/26 Neal and Stacy Bruder
04/30 Eugene and Lois Akright



If we have missed a birthday or anniversary, or have you listed incorrectly, please call the office so that we may update our information.



PUZZLE

A SPECIAL GIFT

Give thanks to God for this amazing planet, which he filled with people, animals and plants.

Directions: Following the code below, fill in the blanks to complete the Bible verse. Then color the earth.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z



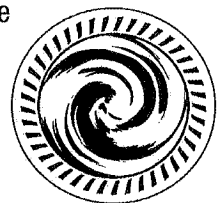
The _____ is _____, and
 _____, the
 _____, and _____

24:1, NIV

Answer: The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it. Psalm 24:1, NIV

SHAVING CREAM EARTH

God created this wonderful world and told us to care for it. Remember that by making a unique painting.



What you need:

- A cookie sheet
- White shaving cream
- A wooden craft stick
- Paint (blue and green)
- A straw
- A paper plate

What you do:

1. On the cookie sheet, spray shaving cream in a circle (the same size as the bottom of the paper plate). Smooth it out with the craft stick.
2. Squirt the blue and green paint on top of the shaving cream in loopy, squiggly patterns. Swirl the paint around with the straw.
3. Place the bottom of the paper plate on top of the paint. Press it down gently so the whole plate bottom is covered in paint.
4. Lift up the plate and gently remove excess shaving cream with the stick.
5. After the painting dries, hang it on your wall.

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Communion	4	5 Prayer group 10:00 am	6 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:30 pm	7	8	9
10 Native American Ministries Offering and Loose Change Offering	11	12 Prayer group 10:00 am	13 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm	14	15	16
17	18 Worship Meeting 7:00pm Trustee's Meeting 7pm	19 Prayer group 10:00 am SPRC Meeting 7:00pm	20 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm	21 Newsletter Info Due	22	23
24 Potluck Celebrating B Days & Anniversaries	25	26 Prayer group 10:00 am	27 Bells 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm Newsletter Goes Out	28	29	30



A Reflection of Christ's Love
Chapel Hill United Methodist Church
4071 Naomi Rd
Sodus, MI 49126-9768



CHAPEL HILL NEWS

March 2016

Phone: (269) 927-3454

Parsonage: (269) 925-4528

E-mail: chumcsodus@comcast.net

Websites: www.chumcsodus.org
www.chapelhill-craftshow.org

Adult Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

K-12 Sunday School: after the
children's message

Mark Mitchell, Pastor

Church Office Hours
Tuesday through Friday
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

In case of emergency when the office is closed,
please try the parsonage (925-4528).