



The Belltower

happy
new year!

Dear Friends,

Blessings upon your new year. May the year be gracious to us in Jesus Christ.

Sometime about now, it is easy to sink into the post-Christmas blues. No more lights, Christmas treats, or gifts. Instead of celebrating the fresh snow, we move into a “not more snow!?” kind of mood. The days seem a bit drearier. And maybe you sort of collapse into post-Christian exhaustion. (And oh yes, if you are a student, it is time to go back to school.)

Somewhere in the midst of post-Christmas, it is important to remember that we are “Christmas people” year around. Christ has come. The Light has come into the world and cannot be overcome. Jesus continues to live in our lives. Jesus was not just some casual visitor dropping in for a seasonal visit. Jesus lived, worked, faced temptation, felt the emotions of joy and sorrow. Jesus knows what our lives are like.

Jesus is today, tomorrow, and forever, Emmanuel—God with us. Since he was born into our world, we are never ever alone when we face the chaos of our lives—loneliness and fellowship, pain and health, fear and courage, even life and death. We know we are wrapped up in understanding, unconditional love because Jesus experienced it all.

At Easter we sing, “Because he lives, I can face tomorrow”. We need to also remember that because he was born, we can always face the tomorrows. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. A manger, a cross, a resurrection, all lived out in God’s power.

At one level, each tomorrow is the same unknown possibility for persons of faith and for people without faith—bright days lengthening into dark nights, warm days dropping to cold nights, times of courage followed by times for fear. Except there is something more. We live with the assurance that God holds every day in unconditionally loving, firm hands. Jesus brings to every season faith, hope, love and joy.


Christmas is not over. The Holy child has come.

Blessings,

Pastor James




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 Doug Mantha *Director of Ministries*
 Melissa Joneson *Office Secretary*
 Melissa Joneson *Treasurer*
 Sandy Weber *Financial Secretary*
 Michelle Mitchum *Praise Band Director*
 Phillip McLellan *Chancel Choir Director*
 Sue Moffatt *Carillon Ringers Director*
 Paul Ferris *Organist*
 Charles Murray *Custodian*
 LeaAnne Montel *Nursery Coordinator*

DEADLINES
 Bulletin ~ Tuesdays at Noon
 Belltower ~ 20th of each month

OFFICE HOURS
 Monday thru Thursday
 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 Friday : 9:00 a.m. To 1:00 p.m.
 Saturday: **CLOSED**



November 2017 Financial Report

Attendance for November: 804


	<u>2017 YTD</u>	<u>2016 YTD</u>
General Operating Fund Income:	\$338,317.97	\$335,530.21
General Operating Fund Expenses:	<u>\$343,154.91</u>	<u>\$347,758.50</u>
Net Income/Loss	(\$4,836.94)	(\$12,228.29)
Mortgage balance as of 11/30/17 :	\$293,047.58	
Needed for Mortgage YTD:	\$57,145.00	
Giving Toward Mortgage YTD:	<u>\$48,680.09</u>	(\$8,464.91)

Missions Giving 2017 Thru 11/30

Adopt a Family	\$1,250.00	
Community Assistance	\$8,084.68	Balance \$3,350.69
Manna	3,538.50	Balance \$2,757.99
Radio Ministry	3,415.00	Balance \$193.83
Kids Hope USA	667.04	Balance \$2,610.02
UMCOR	14,185.00	
Advance Specials	887.00	
Other Missions	<u>9,260.89</u>	
Total Missions Giving YTD	\$41,288.11	

2017 Budgets

General Operating Fund	\$406,017.26
Buildings Maintenance Fund	\$16,000.00
Minimum Mortgage Payments	\$62,340.00
Monthly Mortgage Payment:	\$5,195.00



MAILING REQUIREMENTS

Due to postal regulations, we are charged \$.68 whenever the Belltower is mailed to an incorrect address (UAA - Undeliverable As Addressed). This includes anyone who has placed their mail on hold or is having mail forwarded. The post office will not forward third class mail. **If a newsletter is returned to us, as undeliverable, we will place your future mailings on hold until you contact us at (231) 347-2733.**

If you are leaving the area for a period of time, please notify us, so that we can deliver all mail to you during your absence. This will help us to not incur the expense of returned mail. Please be aware that dates must be accurate. If we do not have the date for your return to and from a winter address on file, please help us out by calling or sending this information.

If you do not wish to receive this mailing in the future, please contact the church office at (231) 347-2733 to be removed from the mailing list.

THANK YOU ~ THANK YOU ~ THANK YOU

January

Sunday, Jan. 14 4:00-6:30

Building: cardboard sleds & relationship with God. Supper @PUMC

Monday, Jan. 15 6:00-10:00

Tuesday, Jan. 16 12:00-10:00

Wednesday, Jan. 17 12:00-10:00

Exam cram for high school @EEC: quiet study, peer tutoring, food, movies, bring friends

Sunday, Jan. 28 4:00-6:30

Sled racing, awards & pizza @Winter Sports Park



Children's Sunday School

During worship after children's time

K - 2nd Graders, Room 4
3rd - 5th Graders, Room 3

There is no Sunday School on Communion Sundays



Safe Families for Children

2017 Year-End Potluck

Thursday, January 11th, 2018

6:00-7:30 pm here at the church

All Safe Families volunteers, prospective volunteers and placing parents and their children that have been or are currently a part of our program are invited. Please bring a dish to share. There will be a short presentation by Clint Cleveland. Child care will be provided.



Nursery

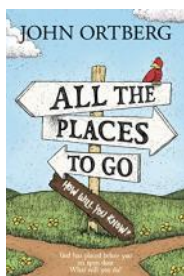
Our Nursery is professionally staffed and is available for children newborn through preschool during worship service. If you would like to serve in the nursery, please contact Doug to schedule training and safety certification. 347-2733 or doug.mantha@petoskeyumc.org

Our Monday night women's study group has stopped for the holidays and will resume on January 8, 2018 at 5:45 pm until 7 pm. We are excited about our next study 'All The Places To Go' by John Ortberg. The study will include a book, study guide, and DVD. We invite all women to join us.!

2017 Christian Book Award finalist

Very rarely in the Bible does God command someone to "stay." He opens a door, and then he invites us to walk through it—into the unknown. And how we choose to respond will ultimately determine the lives we will lead and the people we will become. In fact, to fail to embrace the open door is to miss the work God has made for us to do.

God had placed before you an open door. What will you do?



Please call Barb Angove 881-9051 to sign up and if you need a ride.



Join us for
WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS

Brought to you by:

- 1/10 - Suzy Storrs
- 1/17 - The Bartha & Willson Families
- 1/24 - *Needed*
- 1/31 - *Needed*

Memorial Committee



Recently Memorials have been used for the Radio Ministry and for Mortgage Principal.

Gifts made in celebration of a person's life or made in honor of an individual are greatly appreciated by PUMC. The committee meets when there are funds to review. Any questions or suggestions are always welcome.

Lois Duiven, Pam Moyer, Barb Angove, Bobbie Barger, Ann Pelham

Names can be added or removed to the prayer list by calling Pastor James or Doug Mantha.



Church Family

Shane Myers
Jennifer Joneson
Ruth Hanson

Friends & Relatives of Church Family

Roxsanna Stenuis (sister & sister-in-law of
Babette Stenuis Stolz & Jack Stolz)
Norma Wirgau (mother of Bob Wirgau)
Kirk Schroeder (son of Bev McConnell)
Jay Green

Active Military Duty

Ben Fannin (*Doug & Michele Fannin*)
Shane Kuziel (*Mitch Kuziel & Deb Munn*)
Jacob Kuziel (*Mitch Kuziel & Deb Munn*)
Adam Upleger (*Nancy Mielt*)
Ethan Gulledge, U.S. Navy (Grandson of
Bob & Sue Gulledge)

Long-Term Care & Shut-ins

American House

Miriam Rasmussen

Bay Bluffs

Lila Ball
Evelyn McNeil

The Villa at the Bay

Bob & Mary Jane Dick

Boulder Park Terrace

Gail Liebold, Bud Shanley

Independence Village

Mary Brubacher, Norman DuCoin
Betty Hayner, Marian Jurries
George & Martha Palmateer

Mallard Cove

Betty Doherty

At Home

Phyllis Blanchard
Barb Fannin
Dean Carper



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

The December UMW Luncheon was well attended. Our thanks to Barb Fry for the overall planning and program, and to Dean Smith for the excellent food. The donations of paper products will help the Nehemiah Project and Women's Resource Center.

We are gearing up for 2018. Put these dates in your calendar, please.

We will meet on January 17, February 21 and March 21 as the Lunch Bunch.

Meet us at Bob Evans, Petoskey ~~ at 11:30 a.m. in the small dining room off of the Lobby.

Sign up sheets will be posted in the Church Lobby and/or call Meredith Richter at 347-9717. Leave a message if I don't pick up.

Join us! We look forward to seeing you for lunch!!

The Elderberries will start the new year by meeting for lunch on Friday, January 12 at Bob Evans Restaurant in Petoskey at 12 noon. We will be sticking close to home during the winter months because of unpredictable weather.

Please RSVP no later than January 11, either to Joan Kahgee or me.






All widows are invited to attend our luncheons. This is not a grief group, this is a group of Christian women who understand our circumstances. We share useful information and enjoy being together. If you have any questions or would like further information, please call.

Bev McConnell
e-mail: bevmac70@sbcglobal.net
phone: 231-645-5000

Joan Kahgee
phone: 231-347-8271

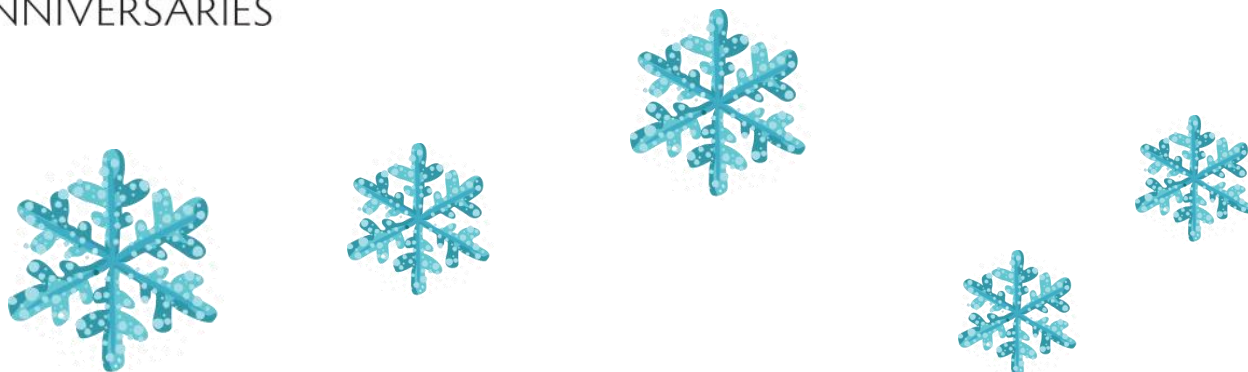


JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Study Group</p>	<p>3</p> <p>NO DINNER</p> <p>6:30 PM Kings Choir</p> <p>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:00 AM Women's Study Group</p> <p>6:30 PM Spanish Conversation Class</p>	<p>5</p> <p>12:00 PM Elderberries</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Epiphany</p> 
<p>7</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service</p> <p>11:15 AM Trustees Meeting</p> <p>11:30 AM Worship Committee</p>	<p>8</p> <p>5:45 PM Women's Study Group</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Study Group</p> <p>9:30 AM Prayer Shawl Group</p> <p>1:30 PM UMW Readers</p> <p>5:15 PM Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>5:00 PM Bell Choir</p> <p>6:00 PM Wednesday Night Dinner</p> <p>6:30 PM Kings Choir</p> <p>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 AM Women's Study Group</p> <p>6:30 PM Spanish Conversation Class</p> <p>NOT FOR SALE</p> <p>Human Trafficking Awareness Day</p>	<p>12</p> <p>12:00 PM Elderberries Widow Women's Group</p>	<p>13</p> <p>2:00 PM Tracy Shanley Fundraiser</p>
<p>14</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service</p>	<p>15</p> <p>5:45 PM Women's Study Group</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Study Group</p>  <p>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</p>	<p>17</p> <p>11:30 AM UMW Lunch Bunch</p> <p>5:00 PM Bell Choir</p> <p>6:00 PM Wednesday Night Dinner</p> <p>6:30 PM Kings Choir</p> <p>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00 AM Women's Study Group</p> <p>6:30 PM Spanish Conversation Class</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Belltower Deadline</p>
<p>21</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service</p>	<p>22</p> <p>5:45 PM Women's Study Group</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Study Group</p> <p>5:15 PM Finance Committee Meeting</p>	<p>17</p> <p>5:00 PM Bell Choir</p> <p>6:00 PM Wednesday Night Dinner</p> <p>6:15 PM Missions Committee</p> <p>6:30 PM Kings Choir</p> <p>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00 AM Women's Study Group</p> <p>6:30 PM Spanish Conversation Class</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Holocaust Remembrance Day</p> 
<p>28</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service</p>	<p>29</p> <p>5:45 PM Women's Study Group</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:00 AM Men's Study Group</p>	<p>31</p> <p>5:00 PM Bell Choir</p> <p>6:00 PM Wednesday Night Dinner</p> <p>6:30 PM Kings Choir</p> <p>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</p>	 <p>There will be a Cuba mission trip meeting at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Sunday Jan. 14 at 11:30 a.m.</p>		



A.K. & Bridget Brown Powers Smith	1/05/17	1 year
Charles Scott & Jan Schwinke	1/08/83	35 years
Bob & Mary Jane Dick	1/16/64	54 years
Dennis & Lois Hughes	1/30/65	53 years



- 1 Jason Miller
- 2 Carol Helmer, Karen DeYoung
- 3 Joan Kahgee,
- 4 Melissa Karr, Brinn Rider
- 5 James Hibbler, Brandon Klawuhn, Lyle Janeczek
- 6 **Tillie Swiger - 100 Years Old!**
- 7 Elizabeth Johnson
- 9 Carol Thomas
- 11 Susie Nuorala
- 13 Connie Nasson, Merrick Smith, Sophia DeYoung
- 14 Sue Hutchinson, Linda Clutter
- 17 Nancy Smith, Kaitlyn Lewis
- 18 Jim Straley
- 20 Paul Horn, Walleen Berakovich, Richard Seguin
- 22 Susan Wirgau
- 23 Lois Duiven, Sander Cole
- 24 Patricia McFall, Rilla Snedden

- 25 Larry Hanson, Perry Clark
- 26 Susan Janeczek,
- 28 Janice Juday, Carolyn Sanback
- 28 Jeannette Lewis, Jace Copeland



If your birthday or anniversary is missing from this list, or incorrect, please call the church office so we can update our files 347-2733 or info@petoskeyumc.org



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Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Petoskey, MI 49770
Permit #130

Return Service Requested

Worship Service
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday service broadcast at 11:00 a.m.
each Sunday on 1270 AM and 102.3 FM

Children's Worship is available.
Professional-staffed nursery is available.



January



Special Offerings for January

1/7 - UMCOR

1/14 - Hunan Relations Day

Manna for January

Boxed cereal, hot or cold



We exist to seek and nurture lifelong followers and servants of Jesus Christ.