

THE CHURCH MESSENGER

Gobles Kendall UMC

Making Disciples for Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World

****Happenings****

Men's Gathering: Breakfast/Dinner

Wed. Nov. 1, 9am, Breakfast @ Robin's Nest

United Methodist Women - UMW

Wed. Nov. 1, 7pm, Business Meeting @ GUMC

Choir

Practice on Thursday's at 7:00pm @ Pam's. Practice begins November 2nd.

Book Club

Sunday, January 28th, Church wide Movie and Soup Supper. Next book meeting is February 28, 7pm @ GUMC - Category is Social Action. Book Topic: "Just Mercy" by Bryan Stevenson. Books can be ordered through Gobles Library, MeL.org. See Diane C. for questions.

General Calendar Events

Sat. Nov. 11, Gobles Fall Bazaar and Dinner
Wed. Nov. 15, New Church Directory Photo Day, 2-9pm.
Sat. Dec. 2, Soup Supper, 4:30-6:30pm @ KUMC

Keep in Touch

(Through visits, phone calls, cards)

Ruth Green, Bea Stowman, June Hustafa,
Pat Corradini, Ruby Hyde, Joyce Mansfield,
Dorothy Healy, Del Bassett

Anniversary

Nov 26 Tim & Peggy Harvey

Birthdays

Nov 2 Karen Grimes
Ruth Westcott
Nov 3 Ruth Green
John Smith
Nov 10 Robert Wiseley
Harlon McMillian
Nov 11 Diane Corradini
Nov 13 Lorraine Haring
Nov 24 Archie Boyer

Sermons are available on the webpage. Go to www.goblesumc.org and go to sermons.

Church Web: goblesumc.org / Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/goblesumc/>

Office Phone: 269-628-2263

Church Email: info@goblesumc.org

Pastor John Brooks Email: johnbrookspastor@gmail.com

Pastor's cell: 271-0856 / Parsonage: 628-9126

Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Thurs, 9am to Noon / Home Office: Tues, 9am to Noon

Servants for Gobles

Liturgist:

November: *Eileen Chaffee*

December: *Jan Leonard*

January: *Madison Ely*

Ushers & Greeters:

Nov 5, 12

Dan & Jan Leonard

Nov 19, 26

Donna Launius, Jan Wescott

Dec 3, 10

Nancy Finch, Marlene Krajewski

Dec 17, 24, 31

Dave & Cheryll Goodwin

Hospitality Table:

November

Dave & Cheryll Goodwin

December

Russ & Chris Pomeroy



GKAMA NEWS – November 2017

The annual “Stuff the Bus” sponsored by United Way is scheduled to be at the Gobles Village Market on Saturday, November 4, 2017. All donations will be given to the Gobles GKAMA Food Pantry.

The GKAMA 2017 Thanksgiving Service is scheduled for Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 7pm at Gobles UMC.

The GKAMA Food Pantry needs are pancake mix, syrup, jelly/jam, baking soda and sugar.

Thanks Dee

Jesus Offers New Life

Missions

***** APPLE PIES ***** Sunday, November 5th - Everyone is invited and welcome to come help make apple pies with us. We start at Noon and are usually done by about 4:00pm, but you don't have to be there the whole time. Lunch is provided. Please bring apple peeler/corers if you have them and a few food processors are needed (those that usually bring them should be enough). Pie orders will be taken through Sunday the 5th - \$10 each. Contact Diane Corradini if you need pies and haven't signed up yet.

Domestic Violence Coalition Fundraiser on October 22 - Thank you to everyone who donated baked goods for the bake sale and the 12 volunteers who worked the event, both cooking and serving hot dogs and selling baked goods. Our participation was greatly appreciated. Though the event was not well-attended, we gave them the remaining baked goods which they planned to sell the next day and the remaining hot dogs which they were going to use to provide a meal for the homeless.

Faith-testing times can be faith-strengthening times

Training Opportunities

Church Leader Training

Saturday, November 11, 2017, 9:30 - 11:30AM, Portage Chapel Hill UMC (7028 Oakland Dr.)

Want to learn more about your role as a church leader? Join us for one of these free workshops:

DACA, Immigration, and Hispanic Ministry

Implementing Mission, Vision and Values for Vital Ministry

Like and Share Jesus

Ministry of Laity

The Mission of Ministry Shares

Radical Hospitality

Using MissionInsite to Reach the People Within Your Reach

Register online by November 6 at KalamazooDistrict.org

A Thanksgiving Feast!

A thankful heart is not only the greatest virtue, but the parent of all other virtues. -- *Cicero*

Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough. -- *Oprah Winfrey*

Develop an attitude of gratitude, and give thanks for everything that happens to you, knowing that every step forward is a step toward achieving something bigger and better than your current situation. -- *Brian Tracy*

Let us rise up and be thankful, for if we didn't learn a lot today, at least we learned a little, and if we didn't learn a little, at least we didn't get sick, and if we got sick, at least we didn't die; so, let us all be thankful. -- *Buddha*

The thankful receiver bears a plentiful harvest. -- *William Blake*

Things turn out best for people who make the best of the way things turn out. -- *John Wooden*

So often we dwell on the things that seem impossible rather than on the things that are possible. So often we are depressed by what remains to be done and forget to be thankful for all that has been done. -- *Marian Wright Edelman*

Let us be grateful to people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom. -- *Marcel Proust*



Gobles Lead Team Minutes Monday, October 2, 2017

Serving God, Serving Community, Connecting Community with God

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor John Brooks, Dennis Hurlbut, Wynne Hurlbut, Donna Launius, Lois Wesler, Jan Westcott, Cheryl Rumery, Terri Brooks, Diane Corradini, Dee Clement, Chuck Grimes, Karen Grimes

Main purpose of the meeting was to go through the Congregational Profile necessary for annual conference. Wynne lead through the profile. There were a few minor changes.

Missions: Diane brought up the Six Lanes of Giving for Camp Sunday and suggested we do \$100.00 from the youth camp fund. Motion was made by Wynne and seconded by Jan. Passed.

Sunday, October 22, from 12-4pm behind Classic Arcade downtown is the fundraiser for Domestic Violence Coalition through Melanie Hooker from Paw Paw along with Kevin Ketchum. We will be hosting the event. We will need roughly 150 hotdogs with three people to attend that. We also will need to provide baked goods for the sale. Diane will send around a signup sheet during service.

Secretary's Report: Cheryl provided update. Average weekly contributions to date is \$1418; needed, \$1514. Various savings fund(s) total; \$14,824. Six Lanes of Giving for the past month: \$124.00 for World Communion Sunday and \$290.00 for hurricane relief.

Our intimate moments spent with God can change us and direct others to His Love

Gobles Men!!

Volunteers needed for snow removal on the sidewalks. A list will be available soon to sign up for one day a week. As there are people at the church almost every day the walks need to be cleared by 8:30 a.m. each day. Please pray that you will be able to help with this ministry.

While we are talking about volunteering, a list of those willing to set up tables and chairs and also take them down is going to be available soon.

While you are praying for snow removal pray for this also.

Dennis

Gifts continue to come in to meet our budget but our balance in checking has gone down. The parking lot sealing and our share of a new air conditioner at the parsonage were large expenses.

Your Finance team is currently working on next year's budget. As you are aware some expenses are shared with Kendall and the amount is based on average attendance during a preceding twelve-month period.

Next years shared expenses for Gobles have increased from 71% to 79%. In the near future you will be advised of next year's budget and asked how you will be able to help meet those expenses.

Your Finance Team

Kendall Lead Team Minutes Wednesday, October 18, 2017

Present: Pastor John and Terri Brooks, Joyce Bergman, Lorraine Haring, Cheryl Shaw, Keith Shaw, Freida Amos, Jim Westcott

The meeting opened with prayer and a devotion by Pastor John and a devotion by Freida.

The minutes of the September 20th were read and corrected (Annual Conference date: Oct. 26th, parsonage utilities and insurance costs are split 50/50 with Gobles).

Treasurer's Report: As of September 30th, CD: \$30,114.03; Savings \$1,813.41, Checking \$103.49. All bills paid to date. Average attendance 12. Ministry shares 67% paid. Joyce reported having received a cancellation notice on the church's insurance for non-payment of premium. This was due to their having an incorrect church address. From now on premium notices will be sent to PO Box 62, Kendall, MI 49062. This bill will be paid prior to the due date. The October 7th soup supper donates were \$575.

Trustees: Installed new ballasts in the ceiling lights in the conference room. They have rebuilt the wall by the basement back door to hopefully eliminate flooding of the basement during heavy rains. Still to be addressed is repair of the steeple cross and repair of the damaged asphalt in the west parking lot.

Freida reported that the UMW's group has disbanded due to lack of participation. We will attend Gobles UMW beginning in January. We spent down the treasury to zero and closed the account. Donations were made as follows: International Child Care: \$50; Kalamazoo Gospel Mission \$50; KUMC Utilities \$1,500; UMCOR Hurricane Relief \$100; Undesignated Giving to Missions \$450; United Methodist Community House \$120; World Thank Offering \$50; Gobles UMW \$107.84; a few other bills, leaving us a zero balance. The former UMW members will continue to offer funeral luncheons with proceeds going to the church.

Pastor John reported that the current sermon series on Discipleship will take us to Advent

Old Business: The December soup supper proceeds are designated for the general fund. A new projector is still needed; John will talk to Dee Clement to borrow his tall ladder. A new refrigerator is needed for the kitchen. The refrigerator stays cold, but nothing stays frozen in the freezer. Cheryl made the motion to purchase same; seconded by Lorraine, passed. Refreshments for the Annual Conference will be provided by Lorraine, Joyce, and Freida. The noisy offering for November will go to Christmas Family. New carpeting has been installed in the primary Sunday School rooms, appropriate thank you notes have been sent. A discussion of what to do with the old carpeting--carpet the kitchen: put it in the next rummage sale? After much discussion, it will be stored in the Grimes' barn until the next rummage sale next spring.

Pastor John shared that a flu clinic will be held on Friday, October 20th, at Gobles church from 10am to Noon. Pictures will be taken for a new church directory on Wednesday, November 15 from 2-9p. Plans are still in the works for the new system of notification of prayer chain requests which will send requests to people's computers, phone answering machines, smart phones, which will eliminate all the phone calls. We are reminded of District Leadership Training on Saturday, November 11th at Chapel Hill UMC, 9:30-11:30am. The Thanksgiving service will be held on Tuesday, November 21st at Gobles UMC.

Copies of the 2018 budget were distributed.

Following Jesus is the way to a rich and satisfying life

Pastor 's Corner

Wow, it's November already and by the time you read this, Halloween 2017 will be in our rearview mirror.

As you all probably know, November is not my favorite month. Not even in the top six. It seems more like a transitional month between all the colors (in my case shades) of fall and the winter wonderland of snow that will soon be upon us. If there was ever a month that makes me think of *The Twilight Zone*, this is it. However, it has one redeeming quality – Thanksgiving.

What I love about Thanksgiving is that it is not about buying presents or decorating trees and homes, etc., but it's about getting together with family and friends and doing what we all love—eating! And more importantly, it's about giving thanks.

Thanksgiving was established by George Washington on November 26, 1789 to give thanks to God. It is a religious holiday that we all know was started by the Pilgrims. The first Thanksgiving lasted three days, during which the Pilgrims had a feast with their Native American guests, celebrating their harvest.

The Bible says to us as believers:

*"Praise the Lord! Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever."
Psalm 106:1*

"By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to his name." Hebrews 13:15

Yes, praise and worship can sometimes be a "sacrifice" because we don't want to give it. That may be because we are down or depressed, or things aren't going all that well. Or it may be that hardship or tragedy has hit your life and you don't want to thank God. But the Bible does not say, "Give thanks unto the Lord when you feel good," but rather, because "He is good!" So, I encourage you to give thanks in this special holiday time to our amazing God.

So, let me be this first to say God bless you, and I hope that you have a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends.

Pastor John

