

Dunes Digest



In Worship this July - Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 7

Guest Preacher: Jeff Verry, MDiv

Jeff Verry has a master's degree in divinity and experience in a variety of ministry areas. He is a thoughtful, creative, and engaging speaker.

Special Music: Dianne Prieditis, Piano Soloist

Dianne brings joy to every piece she plays. Her experience and passion for piano bring light and life to musical notes and phrases.

SUNDAY, JULY 14

Guest Preacher: Jeff Verry, MDiv

Special Music: Hymn Sing

Check out the Sunday morning sign-in sheets on the Sundays leading up to that date. You will have an opportunity to submit the title of your favorite hymn as a possible hymn-sing selection.

SUNDAY, JULY 21

Guest Preacher: Rev. Brad Bartelmay

Pastor Brad is a retired elder (ordained pastor) currently serving part-time as a special assistant to the Michigan Conference Bishop. He is also the Senior Director of Mentored Learning with the United Methodist Foundation of Michigan. Pastor Brad's experience brings depth and unique insight to his sermons.

Special Music: Instrumental Quartet - Violin, Viola, Flute, Piano

Church of the Dunes is blessed to be a faith community with gifted and skilled musicians. This quartet is no exception. You won't want to miss it.

SUNDAY, JULY 28

Guest Preacher: Rev. Brad Bartelmay

Special Music: Plans are in the works. Please watch for more information.

Remembrance

Marylou Daane

died on May 22, 2024. A funeral was held at Church of the Dunes on May 28.

Clayton “Clay” McCastle

died on May 24, 2024.

Anita Benes

died on May 26, 2024.

Please keep the loved ones of Marylou, Clay, and Anita in your prayers.

Sunday Worship

9:30 a.m.

All are welcome!

Livestream available at 9:30 a.m. on the church’s YouTube channel.

Recordings of the services are also available there. To find it, search *Dunes Church Grand Haven YouTube*.

Church office hours:

Monday through Thursday
9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Phone:

(616) 842-7980

Email: office@umcdunes.org

United Methodist Church of the Dunes

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Grand Haven, MI 49417
www.umcdunes.org

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Calendar Notes

These events take place at the church unless otherwise noted.

Tuesday, July 9 10:00 a.m.

Summer Bible Study “Sip, Savor, and Drink Deeply” begins

Wednesday, July 31 3:00 p.m.

Red Skelton Tribute Performance

Tickets \$27

Tickets are available through Central Park Players

Sunday, August 11 2:00 p.m. - Sign up by July 9

West Michigan Whitecaps Game
LMCU Stadium, Comstock Park, MI

Tickets \$19

Please Save the Dates

Sunday, September 8

ENGAGE Fall Kick-off

After worship

Sunday, September 22

Pig Roast

After worship

Friday, November 1

Volunteers help at Feeding America Food Truck

9:00 a.m.

St. Patrick’s Catholic Church

SERVING NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Family Promise Update and Welcome

Church of the Dunes Missions and Social Concerns Commission

Updates from Family Promise

Kristy Smith, Executive Director of Family Promise of the Lakeshore, attended the June Missions & Social Concerns Commission meeting and shared information about Family Promise and how Church of the Dunes can best help. Family Promise can host up to 4 families, 14 people, or 20 people in extreme weather. Family Promise is almost always full. There are paid staff on duty around the clock at the Day Center who help with meals, daily needs, and life skills classes such as job searches, budgeting, parenting, health care options, housing options, good tenancy, etc. Their new eviction prevention program helps Family Promise guests learn how to reduce evictions. Family Promise clients are required to save 80% of their income while in the shelter and open bank accounts.

The organization's annual budget is almost \$300,000 per year. This is a \$200,000 increase from pre-Covid times now that overnight housing is provided completely at the Family Promise Day Center, rather than stays at local churches in the Tri-Cities and Muskegon. Family Promise is working on expanding its services in Ottawa County and hopes to start overnight housing in thirteen Holland-Zeeland area churches in the future.

How can we continue to help? Contribute money, help arrange or deliver meals and groceries during Church of the Dunes hosting weeks (our next week is July 7-13), volunteer in the Family Promise office, assemble welcome home kits, assemble children's birthday kits, help organize and maintain the pantry, or serve on the Board of Directors.

Church of the Dunes has an account designated for Family Promise to receive donations to purchase meals and groceries during this church's meal hosting weeks. To give in support, and if you will do so by check, please make payable to Church of the Dunes and note "Family Promise Meals" on the memo line of your check or on your giving envelope.

Welcoming a New Volunteer Coordinator

The Missions and Social Concerns Commission welcomes Kathy Vogel as the new Family Promise volunteer coordinator for Church of the Dunes. If you have questions or would like more information about this church's work with Family Promise or how you can get involved, contact Kathy. For assistance making that connection, contact the church office. There is also a Family Promise information bulletin board. It is located on the main floor, between the church office and the Wiltse Center fellowship area.

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in

Matthew 25:35

REACHING OUT

Finishing Well Ministry Plans BIG Event in July



Susan Thorpe, Coordinator, Church of the Dunes Finishing Well Ministry

Finishing Well Ministry has focused on Church of the Dunes 55+ membership for over five years now. We are so grateful for your attention, responses, and suggestions.

Red Skelton Tribute Performance

After many months of preparation, July 31 at 3:00 p.m. is the BIG event of the year for Finishing Well. We are so proud and excited to have Brian "Red Skelton" Hoffman perform at this church. Tickets are on sale now for \$27. You can get tickets by calling the Central Park

Players box office at (616) 229-0530. This will be a professional production with a nationally recognized performer right here at Church of the Dunes. Get your tickets soon!

In the Community

A Grand Haven-based Parkinson's Support Group was started recently. It meets at St. Paul's United Church of Christ at 1401 S. Griffin in Grand Haven. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. This is an opportunity to be among others who can relate to the challenges being faced. The meetings are a place to share experiences and provide encouragement.

 The graphic features a central photograph of three men dressed as Red Skelton. The man on the left is wearing a tuxedo and a bow tie. The man in the middle is wearing a brown hat and a red shirt. The man on the right is wearing a black hat, a red and white striped scarf, and a dark jacket. Above them, the text "#1 COMEDY SHOW as per TripAdvisor" is displayed. Below the photograph, the following text is centered: "Brian Hoffman's Red Skelton Tribute Wednesday, July 31 3:00 p.m. at United Methodist Church of the Dunes Tickets \$27 - available from Central Park Players". At the bottom, in a smaller font, it says "Hosts: Church of the Dunes Finishing Well Ministry (55+) and Central Park Players".

Brian Hoffman's
Red Skelton Tribute
Wednesday, July 31 3:00 p.m.
at United Methodist Church of the Dunes
Tickets \$27 - available from Central Park Players

Hosts: Church of the Dunes Finishing Well Ministry (55+) and Central Park Players

CELEBRATING MUSIC

Spring Recital a Musical Success

Dunes Music Education Fund



On a beautiful June 2nd afternoon, twelve students of the Dunes Music Education Fund performed at the second annual Celebration Recital. Seven piano students of instructor Dianne Prieditis, ranging in age from 6 to 11, and four piano students of instructor Laura Quigley, ranging in age from 8 to 11, performed solos. Pipe organ instructor Marna Jeffrey introduced her 16-year-old-student who performed a musical piece after only a few lessons.

There were nearly ninety in attendance to support the students and hear their performances. In addition to the twelve students, there were sixty family members and guests, along with sixteen members from Church of the Dunes. Instructors Marna and Dianne played a surprise duet - a rendition of "This Little Light of Mine" - to conclude the program. Refreshments were served at a reception afterwards. At the reception, many appreciative comments were received about the church, the Dunes Music Education Fund, and the free lessons for these budding musicians.

SEWING TO GIVE

Craft Circle Hosts a Sewing Bee on July 11

Ann Antaya, Church of the Dunes Craft Circle



Craft Circle will meet Thursday, July 11 at 10 a. m. in Room 2 (lower level). We are having a sewing bee to make pillowcases. They will go to our local missions, especially those serving families, women, and children. Pillowcases are pretty, practical, and personal. We hope they bring joy to their recipients and a reminder that they are loved. If you have a good quality cotton we could use, please bring it. You are welcome to bring a sewing machine. There will also be plenty of tasks that do not require sewing. Refreshments, fellowship, and laughter are always included in our meetings. All are welcome.



Let's go to a Whitecaps Baseball Game

Sign up and buy tickets by July 9 at church during office hours or after worship in the Wiltse Center fellowship area on June 30 and July 7.

Grow in Faith

July Classes and Discussion Groups for Adults

Faith Linked Weekly Discussion Group

Sundays 10:45 a.m., Bron and Barry Kram, facilitators, Ryder Lounge (main floor)

Drop in or attend weekly to discuss current events and topics from a faith-focused perspective. A new topic is discussed each time.

Fourth Monday Reading Group

“Lead from the Outside: How to Build Your Future and Make Real Change”

by Stacey Abrams

Monday, July 22, 1:30 p.m., Panera, Grand Haven

Gayle Cox, facilitator

To participate, get a copy of the book, read it, and join in the discussion.

“In *Lead from the Outside*, Stacey Abrams argues that knowing your own passion is the key to success, regardless of the scale or target. Stacey uses her experience and hard-won insights to break down how ambition, fear, money, and failure function in leadership, while offering personal stories that illuminate practical strategies.”



Tuesday Morning Bible Study “Sip, Savor, and Drink Deeply: A Bible Study for Women ”

by Deb Burma

Begins July 9, Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m., seven weeks, Room 2, lower level

Cathy Shick, facilitator

Bring your favorite coffee or tea and drink deeply from God’s word, accompanied by this unique Bible study. “Each session is based off a coffee-themed item, such as latte, java, or mocha, and contains a coffee shop recipe, discussion questions, and activities.” To sign up, use the sheet on the Adult Ministries bulletin board. The book (\$10) is available from the facilitator.



Images and summaries this page: Amazon.com and book introductions

“Sometimes all you need is coffee with God.”

~ unknown ~

SUPPORTING STUDENTS

Education Grant Applications Have New Summer Deadline

Church of the Dunes Memorial Fund Committee

Once in winter and once in summer, Church of the Dunes Memorial Fund awards one-time grants or scholarships of up to \$1000 to selected applicants.

Education Grants

Applications are due by July 31 to be considered in August. The July 31 deadline is a recent change, and a month earlier than in prior years. This new date allows for applications to be processed and awarded in time for the fall term or semester.

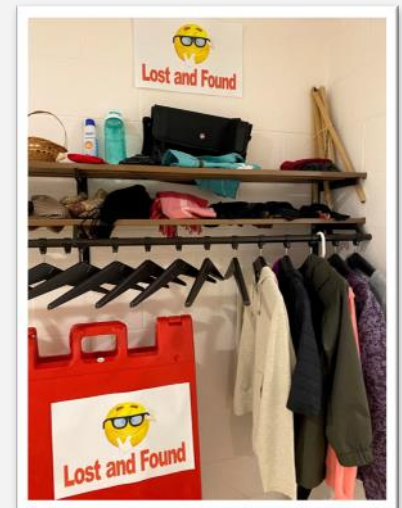
Applicants should be members of Church of the Dunes, or a child or grandchild of a church member who attends regularly. An essay and at least one letter of recommendation from a teacher or non-family member are required. Awarded funds are sent directly to the college, university, or institution providing the education.

Instructions and additional eligibility criteria are provided in the Education Grant Application Guide. The guide is available on the church website at www.umcdunes.org/serve or by contacting the church office.

Please help the lost get found.

Church of the Dunes needs your help. The lost and found is overflowing with gloves, scarves, jackets and sweatshirts, umbrellas, glasses and sunglasses, and a variety of other miscellaneous items. Next time you are at church, would you please check to see if any of the items are yours? If getting to church is a challenge for you, feel free to call the church office and describe the item you are missing. Staff will be glad to take a look for you.

The lost and found is located at the coat rack near the Wiltse Center fellowship area and the main floor restrooms. Church office hours are Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



Even in the summer months, Church of the Dunes is an active and busy faith community. Thank you to all who volunteer, participate, pitch-in, and of course, worship. You are appreciated.