



# THE BEACON

## Monthly Newsletter

**VOLUME 14 - Vol. 8 AUGUST 2025**

### Ministry Spotlight: Ministry and Programs [MAPS]

This month, we shine a light on our Ministry and Programs outreach team, whose tireless efforts connect our congregation to the wider community. Recently, EUMC entered a float in the annual Anchor Day Parade, in Empire. Volunteers decorated our float entry and distributed “icy pops” along the parade route in downtown Empire. Parade attendees appreciated the “icy” treat. Thanks are extended to Mike and Candy Hasselbeck who towed the float and helped to decorate it, along with Gerri Sorbie, Sandy Mallory, Meredith Goodrick and Claudia Bomersback.

If you feel called to serve on this team or contribute in some way to promote our participation and visibility in village activities and events, please contact the Ministry and Programs outreach team chair, Jean Petersen.

***Empire United Methodist Church - Vision Statement:***

A community who goes out, serving in love, sharing Christ.  
“Go, Serve. Share Christ.”



**ANNUAL CHURCH CHARGE CONFERENCE**  
**SUNDAY, OCT. 5 - 4:30 PM**  
**Traverse City Central United**  
**Methodist Church**

## Thursday Bible Study to Resume in September

The Thursday Bible

Study at 2:00 pm will

resume on September

4. The following Books

of the Bible will be

covered this Fall:

Philippians,

Colossians, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>

Thessalonians , 1<sup>st</sup> and

2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy, Titus, and

Philemon, beginning with Christ's obedience and ending with Christian refreshment. Some of the major ideas explored are obedience, faith and action, coming of the Lord, Christian endurance, and the life of grace in the church.

This revision of the Abingdon classic Genesis to Revelation series is a comprehensive, verse-by-verse, book-by-book study of the Bible based on the NIV. These studies are 13 weeks each and help readers strengthen their understanding and appreciation of the Bible by enabling them to engage the Scripture on three levels:

1 – What does the Bible say?                      2 – What does the passage mean?

3 – How does the Scripture relate to my life?

The meaning of the selected passages is made clear by considering such aspects as ancient customs, locations of places, and the meaning of words. The simple format makes the study easy to use. To sign up and purchase a study book, please see Tom Petersen.

*Dr. Van Bogard Dunn, was Professor Emeritus and Dean Emeritus at  
The Methodist Theological School in Ohio, Delaware, Ohio.*

## Prayer Requests

For healing; For strength and guidance: those seeking employment and students preparing for the new school year; For peace: in our community, nation, and world —

*If you have prayer concerns to add, please call the church office or fill out a card at the prayer mailbox, located at the Michigan St. sidewalk in front of EUMC at any time.*



## FOR AUGUST – Benzie County School District

### Student Fund



Donations support economically disadvantaged students who are unable to participate in sports or other school activities during the year. ***Please be generous!***

**Mail your donation to: Empire UM Church, PO Box 261, Empire 49630 Attn: Benzie Co. Dist. School Fund**

*The United Methodist Church's special giving structure ensures your generosity blesses as many people as possible in sustainable, strategic ways. Through your support, and our church, we fund many projects each year.*

### Worship Services

**SUNDAYS - In Person 10:00 AM**  
**Sermons continue Online & Web Site**



### Empire Unit – UWF

On July 24th, our group visited The Bohemian Lavender Farm near Maple City, explored the lavender fields, took shelter in the Gift Shop during a sudden downpour, and enjoyed lunch and conversation!

**NEXT MEETING: AUG 4 @ 11 AM –**

**Program: Mission u Lesson & Planning for Fall**



## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

### MINUTES – JULY 13, 2025

**PRESENT:** Pastor Melody & Denny Olin, Sandy Mallory, Tom & Jean Petersen, Jim & Gerrie Sorbie, Kay Wilcox, Roger & Beth Noonan, Roy Pentilla, Meredith Goodrick

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** June 13, 2025 minutes **APPROVED**

#### **PASTOR'S REPORT:**

- Pastor will be on vacation July 14 – July 21 and 2 weeks in September.
- Annual Church Charge Conference reporting will begin in August; EUMC's Annual Charge Conference is scheduled for 4:30 PM, October 5, at Traverse City Central UMC.
- "Fall Fun" [Adult VBS] in being prepared for October.

#### **ANCHOR DAY – July 19: Parade Float**

Volunteers are requested to assist with both the decoration and assembly of the parade float. The group will convene in the EUMC parking lot at 10:00 AM for float preparation.

At 11:30 AM, parade participants will gather for line-up at Lions Club Park, with the parade commencing promptly at 12:00 noon. Icy Pops will be distributed along the parade route.

Additional support is needed for float disassembly following the conclusion of the parade.

We appreciate the commitment of Gerrie Sorbie, Meredith Goodrick, Claudia and Jim Bomersback, and Candy and Mike Hasselbeck for towing the float and assisting with float decoration, as well as Lydia Olin for volunteering to ride on the float.

**STAFF/PASTOR – PARISH RELATIONS:** Tom Petersen reported that SPRC will hold its quarterly meeting on Aug. 12 at 10 AM. Annual Church Charge Conference forms will be distributed at that time. SPRC is scheduled to meet [via Zoom] with the District Superintendent on September 18 at 5:45 PM to discuss parish work.

**FINANCE:** Treasurer Meredith Goodrick reported that sponsorships and donations covered all expenses for the First Responder pig roast, resulting in a \$130 surplus to be allocated for next year's event. An additional \$500 was paid for catering in error and will be used as a food deposit for next year's event. Fifty percent of Ministry shares are paid through June. As of June 30, 2025: Income \$63,041; Expenses \$83,008 [General Fund monthly income required \$13,542].

**WORSHIP & NURTURE:** Pastor Melody is well-advanced in preparing worship services for the autumn season. The choir and accompanists have received favorable feedback and are commended for their outstanding contributions.

**TRUSTEES:** Jean Petersen announced that the trustees will convene for their quarterly meeting next Sunday following the church service. She also reported on the acquisition of a new chair for

the church office. Additionally, Jean recognized Tom and Donna Haiderer and Jim and Claudia Bomersback for beautifully maintaining the church grounds. Thank you!

**MISSIONS:** Jim Sorbie reported that Paper Pantry operations are proceeding as planned. Eleven individuals were served in June. The next Pantry event is scheduled for August 26, from 5:00 to 6:30 PM.

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

The Administrative Council will meet **quarterly** in **2026**, with special meetings arranged as needed.

#### CONSENSUS.

1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2026	January thru March	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	Winter season	After worship
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2026	April thru June	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday 7:00 PM	Summer season	Fellowship Hall
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2026	July thru September	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday 7:00 PM	Summer season	Fellowship Hall
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2026	October thru December	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	Winter season	After worship

**ADJOURNMENT** - 11:40 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING – Monday, October 13 @ 7:00 PM**

Respectfully submitted,  
Beth Noonan, Secretary



### Monthly Devotion “Be still then and know that I am God.” — Psalm 46:11

*“Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”*

How often do we find ourselves rushing from one activity to another, filling every moment with noise and motion? As summer invites us to slow down and savor God’s creation, let us remember to pause, listen, and rest in His presence.

## Financial Update

EUMC is grateful for your faithful giving. This past month, your tithes and offerings helped to support not just our day-to-day ministry but also outreach projects and building maintenance.

*If you would like to set up recurring donations or learn about planned giving, visit our website or speak with Gerrie Sorbie, finance chair.*

## PAPER PANTRY UPDATE ...



**ALL** items on the Paper Pantry shopping list are needed to restock the shelves monthly. In JULY 25 people were served.

Please bring or send your donation [purchased items or \$\$] for the next **PAPER PANTRY – AUGUST 26, 5:00 TO 6:30 PM.**

**And don't forget to sign up to help distribute paper pantry items to community families the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month. Thanks!**



### CARE GIVERS GROUP

*Meets Every Other Wednesday at 11:00 AM*

**AUGUST 6 – AUGUST 20**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

**Barb Foged 231-633-3348 or Kay Coombs 231-227-1051**

**EUMC FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**Public Welcome**

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## Volunteer Opportunities

- Greeters and ushers, host, collect offerings for Sunday worship services
- Singing in the Choir
- PAPER PANTRY distribution (4<sup>TH</sup> Tuesday of every month, 5—6:30 PM)
- Buildings and Grounds care

**Contact Pastor Melody for more information.**

May this **AUGUST** be a season of renewed faith, hope, and community. Whether you are traveling or staying close to home, know that you are in our prayers and forever part of our church family. Let us walk together, trusting God to lead us into the fullness of His love and purpose.

With blessings and joy, *The Empire United Methodist Church Ministry & Programs Team*





**FIRST SUNDAY of the month**  
**HOLY COMMUNION served**  
*"Take communion as often as you can.  
... It is food for the journey."  
ALL ARE WELCOME!*

## **SECOND SUNDAY of the month    Food Pantry collection**

**Leelanau Area Food Pantry Collection - Donations of canned goods and packaged food.**  
*The pantry is always in need of volunteers. Please contact Elaine Pentilla for more information.*

## **FIRST MONDAY of the month**

Worship Team	10:00 AM
United Women of Faith	11:00 AM

## **FOURTH TUESDAY of every month:**

**EMPIRE PAPER PANTRY - 5:00-6:30 PM**

## **Year-round Mission Giving – Check out the Lighted "Giving Tree" in the Lobby!**

- ❖ *Do not forget the Socks Box for the TC homeless! Thanks for your support to "Safe Harbor."*
- ❖ *Paper Pantry products! Your donations are appreciated.*

**MISSION OF THE MONTH Offering** – Throughout the month checks, currency and coins may be placed in the buckets on the tables at the back of the sanctuary. The **"Mission of the Month"** offering helps a wide variety of charities and the Pastor's Discretionary Fund (for local families in need). Global, Conference and local charities are selected throughout the year for this offering. If you have any suggestions or questions about selections, please contact Jim Sorbie, chair of the Missions Team.



AUG 3	Kay Coombs	Gerri Sorbie, Tom Haiderer
AUG 10	Sandi Flack	Jan Lyon, Beth Noonan
AUG 17	Jean Petersen	Tom Petersen, Sandy Mallory
AUG 24	Meredith Goodrick	Kay Wilcox, Meredith Goodrick
AUG 31	Sandy Mallory	Kay Coombs, Gerri Sorbie

*Thank you for serving!*



## EMPIRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*"An Anchor in the Community"*

**1884 – 2024**

**The Beacon** is published monthly by The EMPIRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. Our mailing address: PO Box 261 – 10050 Michigan Street, Empire, MI 49630. We can be reached at 231.326.5510 or [eumc@gmail.com](mailto:eumc@gmail.com) Information and items for publication must be received at the church office by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.

*Our Mission Statement: "To live out a faith in Jesus Christ through our efforts to hear others, share in God's truths, join in worship and celebrate in the Joy of God's grace."*

<b>SUNDAYS</b>	<b>10:00 AM – Worship Service</b>	<b>7:00 PM AA Group</b>
<b>MONDAYS</b>	<b>9:00 AM – 10:00 AM Church Office open</b>	
<b>WEDNESDAYS</b>	<b>9:00 AM – 10:00 AM Church Office open</b>	
	<b>11:00 AM – Care Givers Group every other week</b>	
	<b>12:30 PM – 12-Step Women's Group</b>	<b>8:00 PM – NA Group</b>
<b>THURSDAYS</b>	<b>Church Office closed</b>	<b>2:00 PM – Bible Study</b> <b>RESUMES in SEP</b> <b>3:45 PM – Choir Rehearsal</b>



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