

2016

Parish Paragraphs



Family Picnic

Saturday, August 27 @ 3:00pm

Dinner about 5pm.

Hosted by Cindy & Clif Trudeau

7033 Todd Rd., Ida Michigan

Maps will be available at church

Pool will be open

Backyard Games, too!

Sloppy Jo's and Soft Drinks provided

Bring a side dish and preferred beverage.

While kids play, adults will brainstorm 100 Year Anniversary Celebration.

**POINT PLACE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**





July 3rd: Small Packages

10:30am: Worship with Communion
Philemon—The Heart of Change

July 10th: Stump-the-Pastor

10:30am: Worship
Bring your best questions on faith, theology, ministry, church, and life. Everyone can submit a question. Pastor Jon will choose from a hat and prepare a sermon during a hymn. See how the Spirit moves!

July 17th: Bible Jeopardy

10:30am: Celebrate Worship
In the midst of a Celebrate Worship, we will have some fun testing our collective knowledge of the Bible and more!

July 24th: Small Packages

10:30am: Worship
2/3 John—Loving One Another

July 31st: Small Packages

10:30am: Worship
Jude

August 7, 14, 21, 28: The Gospel on Canvas

10:30am: Worship (Communion August 7th)
Each week we will look at a different religious art work that conveys a Gospel theme, accompanied by a Scripture meditation on that Good News!

From the Pastor's Desk

I grew up in church singing, "I am the Church. You are the Church. We are the Church together!" (If you did too, I know that tune is going to be stuck in your head all day!) It may be a children's song, but it is a truth of which even adults need reminding. We (your pastor included) sometimes forget the glorious truth that when we gather together, when we are at work, and in our homes, we are the Church! We are little outposts where God dwells by the Holy Spirit.

This truth is also behind our new structure experiment. As we talked about during our Hymn Sing/Ice Cream Brunch on June 26th, the Leadership Team has been exploring a structure that is less like a building (a structure which contains) and more like a skeleton (a structure which empowers movement). And we have, of course, sought to have that structure flow out of our Vision: "Living the Gospel Life together as we Glorify, Grow, and Glow."

We shared that we will be trying out 4 new teams in addition to the Leadership Team and Board of Trustees: our 3G Teams (Glorify, Grow, and Glow) and a Together Team. For some of the details, please check out the booklet that you can find attached to this email or a hard copy which can be requested from the church office. The main idea, though, is that YOU are the Church! Each of these teams will help to bring our vision to life, and hopefully make our church life increasingly a reflection of the stories, passions, gifts, and personalities of our people.



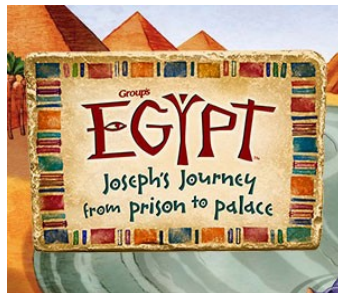
None of these teams have a set task list or job description. It will be up to each team to determine how God is calling them to inspire the congregation in worship, discipleship, mission, and care for one another. Each team will have 3 one-year-long commitments and then an open number of

seasonal spots. This means you can experiment. Try out a team for Advent or Lent—for instance—and see if that's where God might be calling you.

If you are wondering if you have a place in this church (I'm confident you do!) and where that place is, we hope these teams will be a chance for you to discover that place and flourish in your calling. We will be making calls over the next couple weeks to check in and see if you have any questions, thoughts, or even if you know right where you want to start. I can't wait to see how God brings life to OUR church as we bring our vision to life together.

Pastor Jon

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.
Ephesians 4:11-12



Vacation Bible School

A big "Thank You!" to Lynette Thayer and all who contributed and served during our annual Community VBS. We had a great week as the kids learned about all that God gave Joseph—and gives to us! Hope, Special Abilities, Wisdom, Forgiveness, and Family. The kids also raised \$240 for

Water for Ishmael and learned what it means to be a refugee like Joseph's family. And they collected 626 items for Mustard Seed. Wow! "For how good and pleasant it is when kindred come together in unity." Psalm 133:1

Thank you to all the volunteers who assisted at VBS and to everyone who donated goodies. We served approximately 687 persons (but some came back for seconds, thirds and even fourths!). We could not have done this without everyone of you helping! A special thank you to Dave McRitchie who

helped after hours with the watermelon and making jails, and to McDonald's who provided all the drinks and cups! Another successful year! You are the Best!

- *Lynette Thayer*



GIVING TREE

July's giving tree is for the Agility Angels. We are asking for monetary donations for them. Agility Angels is an all-volunteer organization that uses Therapy Dogs trained in the Sport of Dog Agility to enhance the lives of children & teens living with Autism. Our own

church family member, Alex Korecki, enjoys his time with the dog he has been matched up with. We ask that you would prayerfully consider donating to this worthwhile organization. Please put your offering into the plate and mark the envelope for "Agility Angels".

Agility Angels is dedicated to Cole Sensenstein and the late Don Holmes. Both of these beautiful individuals embody the very essence of what Agility Angels is all about. Courage, Perseverance, and the will to face adversity regardless of any fears! May their example live on in every "Flight" Agility Angels takes!

Agility Angels was founded by friends, Melissa Voetsch and Kim Holmes in the summer of 2008. As the mother of a son diagnosed with Autism, Melissa wanted to explore the use of dog agility to help encourage children with the disorder to engage with the world around them. Kim, a nationally ranked dog trainer, jumped at the chance and recruited other dog trainers to join in. By the end of the summer, more than 10 families had joined in the volunteer effort, which enjoyed immediate and overwhelming success in helping the students connect with each other, the dogs and the world!

Agility Angels has grown by word of mouth to over 50 participants. Training classes are held once a week by Holmes and a crew of wonderful volunteer coaches. All the coaches bring their trained agility dogs and are paired with children or teens based on their compatibility.

It is the mission of Agility Angels to serve children and teens with Autism and Asperger's Syndrome.

Agility Angels turns NO family away based on their ability to pay.



FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR



In preparation for the beginning of the school year, bring in items that might be packed in a school lunch: peanut butter and jelly, snacks, apple sauce, etc.



To all of my brothers and sisters in the church,

Thank you for all of you cards, visits, and prayers following my stroke in February. My family and I have truly appreciated your caring and thoughtfulness during this difficult time.

With love in Christ, Donna

FEED MY SHEEP

All are welcome for a free community dinner. Meals are served from 5--7pm. Assorted Baked Goods & Beverages are always served with the planned menu.

Tuesday, July 19:

Sloppy Joes

Chips

Vegetable

Tuesday, July 26:

Pancakes & Sausage,

Scrambled Eggs,

Applesauce

Tuesday, August 23

Ham Pasta Salad

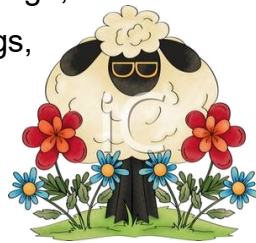
Cranberry Jell-O

Tuesday, August 30

Spaghetti

Salad

Garlic Bread



Point Place United Church of Christ presents...

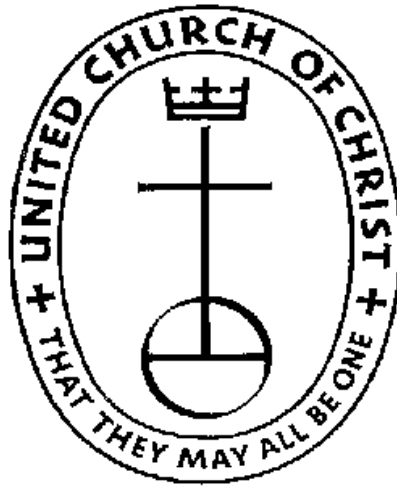
Fridays, July 29th & August 26th
8:30pm



MOVIE NIGHT

297th/116th St.
a movie that will make you think, smile, and hope.

Fresh-popped popcorn!



www.pointplaceucc.com

We are on Facebook, too.



*"To care for one another
 as God cares for us."*