



# THE BEACON



## A Pastoral Letter: General Conference 2019

By David Alan Bard, Michigan Conference Bishop

February 28, 2019

*Sisters and Brothers in Christ in the Michigan United Methodist Church,*

The much-anticipated special called session of the General Conference has come to an end. The days leading up to the General Conference were filled with hope and prayer. Not all of the hopes were realized, as people had differing hopes. Not all the prayers were answered in the way people hoped, because people were praying for different outcomes.

The United Methodist Church will maintain its stance on human sexuality. In addition, enhanced enforcement provisions were approved as a way to encourage pastors, bishops and churches to follow *Disciplinary* requirements. The plan encourages those who disagree with these positions to consider leaving to form another Methodist organization. It is not yet clear which of these provisions will be ruled constitutional or how they may be implemented.

What is clear is that many LGBTQ persons find this language hurtful and feel it leaves them on the margins of our church life. We need to acknowledge that hurt and pain and sadness, which is shared by their family members. People who were hoping for more space for LGBTQ persons are deeply disappointed. I invite us to remember that our *Book of Discipline* acknowledges that all people are of sacred worth, and that remains fundamental. The plan approved will likely mean additional conversation and perhaps voting at our Annual Conference, but, again, much remains to be sorted out.

We need to acknowledge the entire range of feelings people are experiencing, and the varying reactions people are having. I would invite us to acknowledge the reactions without becoming "reactive." Part of being human is to know what it is like to experience a gut-level "flight or fight" response. I invite us to move through that to a fuller human response that engages our feelings, our thinking, our pondering and our praying. If you feel you need to take some action about your place within the UMC, I invite you to wait. Nothing need be done right now.

There are many unanswered questions that need to be answered. I will communicate more in the coming days and weeks, providing additional information about what happened and possible next steps.

In inviting us to a more fully human response, I am inviting us to reach deep into our hearts and souls to embody Christian virtues of a humble mind, a tender heart, and mutual affection. St. Irenaeus once wrote that the glory of God is a human person fully formed, fully alive. In this difficult moment, may we give glory to God by, in God's grace, calling forth our best and deepest selves.

*Grace and Peace,*

David A Bard

Bishop David Bard  
Michigan Episcopal Area



## Ad Board Highlights — February 12, 2019

- ◆ *The 180 Conference, a conference centered around growth and change, will be held in the DeWitt UMC on March 21 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. So far there are two attending from our church. If you'd like to attend, registration is due by March 7.*
- ◆ *Aimee Luck, Kristen Olsen, and Nancy Clark will be participating in Lay Servant Training.*
- ◆ *Lenten Soup & Spiritual programs are all set, but we still need kitchen hosts/hostesses*
- ◆ *We will be looking at programs and events along with ways to bring more people in to church.*
- ◆ *Joan Wittkop and Louise Proctor will be attending the Reach Summit Network group in Pastor Brad's absence.*
- ◆ *Discussion was held on ways to brighten the facilities and make them more welcoming.*
- ◆ *A Hospitality Committee was formed consisting of Cindy Tessmer, Nancy Clark, and Chris Bird who will be recruiting more members as they get started.*
- ◆ *Prayer Fellowship on Tuesday mornings is going well and always open to more attendees.*
- ◆ *The Outreach Committee will meet on March 4 at 6:30 pm and there will be a Mission Moment March 10 during announcements.*
- ◆ *The SPRC will meet again on May 8 after choir.*
- ◆ *The Trustees met and the following positions were determined: Ed Proctor is chair, Pat Funk is vice chair, and Ken Seegert is secretary.*
- ◆ *The Trustees also discussed roof repair, cement work, the sanctuary's air conditioning, and forming a sub-committee to replace the screen, projector, and laptop in the sanctuary.*
- ◆ *We need to extend the wifi to the old section of the building.*
- ◆ *Jill Bradley will be taking over as Membership Secretary from Joan Wittkop.*
- ◆ *The Endowment Committee will be meeting February 28 at 7 pm. David Bell of the United Methodist Foundation will be meeting with the committee on April 30.*
- ◆ *The 2019 Interfaith Lenten Breakfast will be held Thursday April 11 at the West Ida Lutheran Church at 9 am.*



## Lenten Soup and Spirit

### ***Please join us...***

***Ash Wednesday  
7:00 pm***

**March 6** — Ash Wednesday will be observed with a service of scripture, song, reflection, and imposition of ashes as we begin the Lenten season.

***Soup and Spiritual Programs  
6:30 pm soup dinner  
approx. 7:00 pm program***

**March 13** — Speaker: Bob Tessmer

**March 20** — Speaker: Janice from Merkle Funeral Home

**March 27** — Speaker: Aimee Luck

**April 3** — Speaker: Kristen Olsen

**April 10** — Speaker: Pastor Brad Luck

# Prayer Warrior

1 Thessalonians 5:17  
Pray without ceasing.

# Prayer Requests February 2019

*The following represents a summary of prayer requests made during the worship service.*

*Dear Lord, you know the good and the bad. Please accept our thanks for the good and give us strength and comfort when dealing with the bad. Heal us and help us to see and be Your light in the world. In Jesus' name we pray.*

## February 3

Aimee Luck  
Dale Ziesmer  
Linda Goethe  
Lila Breitner  
Julie  
New granddaughter  
Jim Vansacker  
Lonnie Spoering  
Shirley Massingill  
Vaughn Massingill  
Dan Wyse  
Diana Brown's mom  
Barbara Brown  
Joe Labert

## February 10

Dan Wyse  
Vaughn Massingill  
JC Meehling  
Donna Adam's granddaughter

## February 17

Family of JC Meehling  
Lonnie Spoering  
Linda Goethe  
Barbara Brown  
Vaughn Massingill  
Jeanette Secor

## February 24

Jeanette Secor  
family of Barb Ost;  
Helen Busz  
Vaughn Massingill  
Hickey Family  
Ellyn Sandefur  
Pam  
Julie  
Bob Clark  
Linda Goethe  
Evan

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Dear Church Family—

Thank you for remembering me with your visits, prayers, and phone calls.

I have enjoyed them all.

I am adjusting here but missing my church friends.

God Bless all of you.

Love,

Marge (Dennison)



Just wanted to say thank you for all your kind words, prayers, and cards, during this hard time with mother Donna Winter-Hagen's passing. It is a blessing to have a great church family.

Thanks again,

Dennis & Bev Winter

March 1 Kenneth (Butch) Adams  
 March 2 Joyce Kanitz  
 March 2 Linda Plumb  
 March 3 Faith Secor  
 March 4 Brian Juckette  
 March 4 Jeanette Secor  
 March 6 Robin Moon  
 March 6 Amy Schroeder  
 March 7 Jerry Bellen  
 March 8 Pamela Romano  
 March 10 Karleigh Haller  
 March 11 Robert Sandefur  
 March 12 Tony Romano  
 March 12 Dale Ziesmer  
 March 14 Amy Hempel  
 March 14 David McKinstry  
 March 16 Amber Miller  
 March 16 Wyatt Whiting  
 March 17 Patrick Davis



March 17 Patrick Funk  
 March 17 Jane Wertenberger  
 March 17 Dawn Wyse  
 March 19 Kelly Whiting  
 March 20 Roger Adams  
 March 21 Amanda Goff  
 March 21 Abigail Goodridge  
 March 22 Jason Baugher  
 March 22 Alisa Kruse  
 March 23 Connie Biccum  
 March 23 Rosemary Lenz  
 March 27 Jan Burt  
 March 27 David White  
 March 28 Diane Goodridge  
 March 29 Lisa Crist  
 March 29 Brian Mills  
 March 30 Jordan Bradley  
 March 31 Herm Kruse

## Bulletin Board

### Claire's Stock the Kitchen Show

The UMW of Dundee United Methodist Church is hosting an on-line Pampered Chef 'Party' March 1-29, 2019.

ALL proceeds will go towards purchasing many items needed for the Church Kitchen!!

If you've received this edition of *The Beacon* by email, you can click on the link above to shop the show. You can also find the link on the church's Facebook page or go to [www.pamperedchef.com](http://www.pamperedchef.com) and click on "Find a party" in the upper right corner. Type in "Claire Jennings" and it'll take you right there!

No internet access? Ask someone who does and combine your orders! Every purchase helps us get things for our kitchen!

**Please** encourage direct shipment to the recipient. Thank you!



*Daylight Savings  
 Time begins  
 Sunday March 10!*

**Dundee UMC Endowment Fund** -- As you make long-range financial decisions for yourself and your family, please remember the Dundee United Methodist Church Endowment Fund. A gift to this fund, no matter the size, offers an opportunity to continue your giving for generations and insures the church and its ministries are sustained for the years to come. Ten Percent of the dividends are reinvested back into the fund as principle and the remaining 90% is used for church maintenance projects, programs and missions. For more information please contact the church office.

# March 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
24	25	26	27	28	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9a Sunday School 9a Confirmation Class 10:30a Morning Worship	6:30p Mission Team 6:45p Chime Choir Practice	10a Prayer Fellowship	10a Grief Support 4p Caring and Sharing 7p Ash Wed Service 8p Choir Practice*	4p Caring and Sharing (London Twp)		9a-12n UMW Heritage District Mission Meeting at DUMC
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9a Sunday School 9a Lenten Study 9a Confirmation Class 10:30a Morning Worship	6:45p Chime Choir Practice	10a Prayer Fellowship 7p Administrative Board meeting	10a Grief Support 6:30 pm Soup & Spiritual Program 8p Choir Practice*	6:30p UMW meeting		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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31	1	<b>NOTES</b>				
9a Sunday School 9a Lenten Study 9a Confirmation Class 10:30a Morning Worship						



\*Choir Practice will begin when program ends  
**Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday March 10**

WE'RE ON THE WEB AT:  
WWW.UMCDUNDEE.ORG

**DUNDEE UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

REV BRADLEY LUCK, PASTOR  
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DUNDEE, MICHIGAN 48131  
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Church Office Hours  
Monday, Thursday, Friday 4pm-6pm

Dundee United Methodist Church is an established family of faith reaching out to a growing community by offering the love of Christ and making disciples. This includes identifying gifts, encouraging a commitment to and relationship with Christ and each other, to become faithful witnesses through our daily living.

**WORSHIP SERVICE**

**10:30AM**

Dundee United Methodist Church  
645 Franklin Street  
Dundee MI 48131

*Prepared Especially For:*