



# The SPIRE

First United Methodist Church

[www.albionfirst.org](http://www.albionfirst.org)

find us on Facebook

600 East Michigan Avenue

Albion, MI 49224



If you've been around church the last few weeks, you've probably heard me talking about our upcoming Vacation Bible School. The time is almost here.

Albion FUMC will host the community Vacation Bible School, August 6-9th. We will partner with St. James Episcopal Church, Lewis Chapel AME and other area churches.

Providing a week's worth of meals and crafts and learning and laughs for a hundred or more area children requires a lot of planning and a lot of volunteer help.

We need group leaders, activity coordinators, kitchen help, registration workers, set decorators and many, many more hands. Whatever skill you have, the planning team can put it to use.



Since this is my first time coordinating a VBS here in Albion, I can't predict with certainty how it will all come together. But I can promise two things: we will have a lot of fun, and we will model God's love for the children of our community.

In mid-July, we'll have a planning meeting that will include all of our volunteers. Stay tuned for the details to be announced soon.

Pastor Leslee

## July 2018

2018 Michigan Area Annual Conference Christian Sympathy Leadership Listing Prayers	2
Albion FUMC at the Calhoun County Fair BSA Scrap Metal Drive UMW News and Views	3
Calendar	4
TGIF Summer Potluck Invitation	Back cover

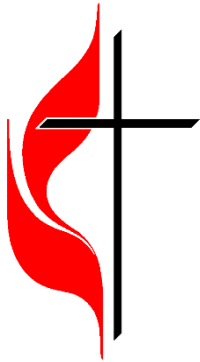
*Follow Jesus; Love Everyone*

## Prayers

Cheryl Krause, Elaine Rice,  
Barb Stowell, Sue Farley,  
Missy Wyss, Greg Metzler,  
Pastor Tom Hollowood, Jerry Rugg,  
Hilda Ebbinghaus and Rev. Gary Wyma @ home

Allison Roesti @ MediLodge, Marshall

Betty Beese @ Glazier Assisted Living, Chelsea



## 2018 Michigan Area Annual Conference

Members of the Detroit and West Michigan Annual Conferences gathered for the 2018 Michigan Area Annual Conference at the Grand Traverse Resort, May 31 - June 3, 2018.

We gathered for a time of worship and fellowship for a historic gathering. This was the last time the Detroit Annual Conference and the West Michigan Annual Conference met as separate organizations. On January 1, 2019 they will officially become the Michigan Conference of The United Methodist Church.

I attended this Conference as the Lay Member from our Albion First United Methodist Church. On Sunday July 15, 2018, I will bring items from this Conference to the Sunday Worship Service here in Wesley Chapel. It was an honor to attend the Conference, vote on Legislation, and worship with all of the attendees. The worship services at the Conference were just wonderful. Our Pastor, Rev. Leslee Fritz, not only attended as your Pastor but she also worked as a stage manager. It was also special to visit with our previous Pastors. They all send their regards to our Albion congregation. Thanks again for being such a supportive community of church members.

Sally Ammerman

## Leadership Listing

Lay Leader	Lois Fennimore glfennimore@yahoo.com
Church Council Chair	Mark Robison majerobi@gmail.com
Treasurer	Sally Ammerman sallya@wowway.com
Trustees Chair (Building & Property)	Barbara Rafaill plantgirl@rafaill.com
Staff-Parish Chair (Personnel)	Barbara Lange langehome.2@gmail.com
Finance Committee	Rick Lange langehome.1@gmail.com
Pastor	Leslee Fritz pastorleslee1@gmail.com
Missions Co-Chairs	John Williams Donna Williams
Memorial Chair	Carol Maynard
Choir Director	Drew Dunham
Music Director /Pianist	Jan Fourn
Administrative Assistant	Cindi Klingel albionfumc@gmail.com
Housekeeper	Lynn Markovich
Custodian	Larry Maynard

## Christian Sympathy

On Tuesday, June 12, Jim Deal peacefully went home to be with his Lord. His cheerful presence will be greatly missed in our midst. Please keep Noel and the family in your prayers.



# UMW News

Greetings to everyone, I hope you are having a good summer so far. Judging by efforts to track down information for this article, most of us are off and running on our summer pursuits. I need to keep reminding myself to slow down.

There are two upcoming UMW events that I'd like to bring to your attention. The first is Mission U, which will be held in Albion for one more year, and makes attending convenient for us - it will be July 11-14. This used to be called School of Christian Mission, and is an in-depth study of topics picked by the National Women's Division. This year the studies are: "Embracing Wholeness: an earth perspective for covenantal living", "What About Our Money", and "Missionary Conferences of the UMC in the United States". The registration deadline is probably pretty soon, but there are forms in the church office, and late registration is a possibility. The other event is our annual Summer Refresher which will be Thursday July 19th at the home of Carolyn Gaswick, a mostly social meeting. Our UMW unit is open to all women of the church and we welcome newcomers!

The memorial luncheon for Jim Deal last week reminded me that providing this service for those who ask it of our church has historically been a UMW job. More recently we have included all church members (men and women) to help with these meals, but UMW still provides the leadership and experience needed to organize this important ministry of our church.

Another opportunity for service, not just for UMW but for all of our congregation, is Vacation Bible School, to be held August 6th through the 9th. VBS will require donations of food and time from our entire church to be successful. Sign-ups will be forthcoming!

So, that takes us into August and I refuse to look further! Summer is going along too fast as it is! Safe travels to all who are off on trips this summer, and happy breaks in routine for those who are staying.

Polly Moore



## Albion FUMC at the Calhoun County Fair

On Saturday, August 18, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., our church will share our fellowship and musical offerings at the Calhoun County Fair. We will be performing on the community stage. If you are in the choir, if you would like to sing, if you are in the praise band, WE NEED YOU. Members of the congregation, we need your help for set - up, take- down and the greeting of those who wander in to hear us. Our goal is the share the message of Jesus Christ thru music and to take the opportunity to invite others to our Sunday morning worship service. August is a prime time for vacations, but this is a great change for us to share the amazing music we get to enjoy every week with many of our neighbors. Come join in the fun!

## Boy Scout Troop 158 - Scrap Metal Drive - July 2018



They are accepting all ferrous and non-ferrous metal. Also included are large items such as refrigerators, stoves, water heaters, washers, dryers, lawn mowers (drained of oil and gas), old bicycles, metal furniture, and old metal safes.

To help the our troop with this fundraising drive, arrange a drop-off place or a pick-up time and date, by contacting:

**David Huber, Scoutmaster**

phone: (207) 608-2571

e-mail: [mrweldo2@gmail.com](mailto:mrweldo2@gmail.com)

or

**David Farley, Assistant Scoutmaster**

phone: (517) 629-8396


**Sunday Schedule:**

**Office Hours:**

9:00 Band  
 9:30 Refreshments  
 10:00 Worship  
 11:00 Refreshments  
 11:30 Sermon Discussion

Monday-Thursday 8:00 am - 12:30 pm  
 Friday 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

# July 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Sunday Schedule Communion	2 1p Lectionary Group 5:30p WU Leadership 7p Boy Scouts	3 8a Biggby Bible Study 4p SPRC Task Force	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY OFFICE CLOSED 	5	6	7
8 Sunday Schedule 11:30 Sermon Discussion	9 7p Boy Scouts	10 8a Biggby Bible Study 9a SAP Steering Cmte 9a FCA Gatherings 1p ELT Décor Team 7p Trustees	11 9a FCA Gatherings 1:15p Sheldon Place Bible Study	12 9a FCA Gatherings	13	14 4p Williams Baby Shower
15 Sunday Schedule 11:30 Sermon Discussion	16 5:30p Women United 7p Boy Scouts	17 8a Biggby Bible Study	18 1:15p Sheldon Place Bible Study 5:30p WU/SIS Mentoring	19 10a UMW Summer Refresher @ Gaaswick home	20 8:30a Healthy Babies Day Committee 12p TGIF Potluck @ First Presbyterian Church	21
22 Sunday Schedule 11:30 Sermon Discussion	23 7p Boy Scouts	24 8a Biggby Bible Study 9a HFHS Vascular Screening 10a Piecemakers	25 1:15p Sheldon Place Bible Study	26	27 6p INCF Worship	28
29 Sunday Schedule 11:30 Sermon Discussion	30 7p Boy Scouts	31 8a Biggby Bible Study 8:30a AC Student Affairs Workshop				

Mission U @ Albion College

## **TGIF: Thank God I'm Forgiven!**

**When:** Friday, July 20, 2018 – 12:00 p.m.

**Where:** First Presbyterian Church  
305 E. Porter Street

**We Provide:** picnic style dinnerware,  
drinks, and a place to  
connect with friends

**You Provide:** a dish to pass and your  
delightful company!

**All are welcome. Hope to see you there!**

