

EXPRESSIONS



CHURCH IN THE HILLS USA

Summer Transitions

Summer in Northern Michigan is such a beautiful, active time. This is a time of cookouts and bonfires, star gazing and fireworks. What a great time of year! Here, at the beginning of the season, everyone seems to be in a time of transition. Summer is the time when kids have traded in their heavy coats for t-shirts, and have traded their snow forts and snow balls for sprinklers and squirt guns. Even tourists groups are changing: skiers have become golfers and snowmobilers have become boaters.

It is also a time of transition for our church family. Church in the Hills is entering a whole new era in its life cycle. As with any transition, there is a lot of sadness about seeing the end of the previous era. I already miss my great friend, Pastor Andrew. He has been a ministry partner and personal confidant to me and I have been exceedingly blessed by him and his family. I continually pray for God to bless him in his new calling. I am also mindful of his previous calling – Church in the Hills. He did such a great job leading and blessing this church family, and I am personally motivated to continue his powerful work in this church and community.

Transitions are not only a time of fondly remembering what has happened before. Times of transition are also times of excitement for the future. I am confident that God has plans to richly bless this church family and I hope that you can be a part of that blessing. I am looking forward to a wonderful summer. I believe this can be a time of fun activities, profound worship, and flourishing relationships within our church family.

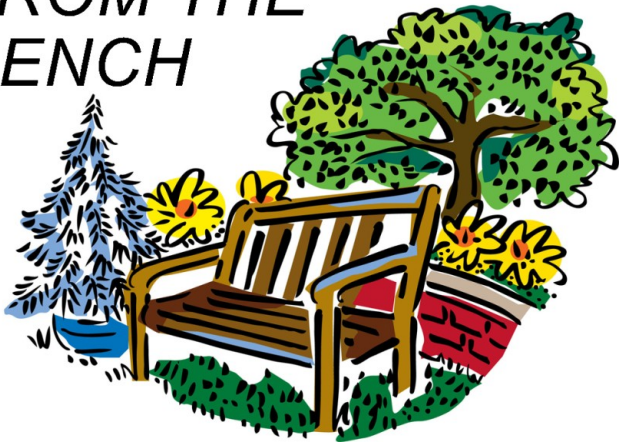
You are an important part of our church family and Church in the Hills remains ready and able to be a blessing and a service to you and your family. If there is any way we can be edifying to you, please let us know.

Also, I am available to you personally. If you are looking for anything from pastoral care, to a friendly chat, give me a call and I would love to get together with you. One of my great joys in the ministry is the abundance of wisdom and encouragement I have received just from conversing with my brothers and sisters in the Church. Through conversation, I would hope to be a blessing to you, but I am *sure* you will be a blessing to me.

Let's Have a Great Summer Together,

Corey

FROM THE BENCH



Pastor Russ Brandt's sermon on Father's Day included encouragement to all of us to continue making our church a place of refuge for those who are "weary and heavy laden." All of us go through rocky times and carry intangible "rocks" with us, sometimes for very long periods of time. It's hard to set them down.

When I'm in those hard places, I chose to seek out actual rocks to climb on - along the shores of Lake Superior where I grew up, where

rocks of small and very large dimension are easy to come by. One lets go of current anxiety and quickly substitutes the fear of slipping into the cold waters of Superior, but upon return to solid ground there is a great sense of victory and confidence.

Torch Lake, where I live now, isn't quite as cold or as rocky (except on the bottom of the lake near my dock) but here too I have always had a favorite rock to sit on, a large one in the lake to seek while swimming, and certainly Petoskey stones to pick up while walking.

I still need time alone but although I still swim in cold water, I find as I get older that sitting on or climbing over rocks has lost some appeal. Getting to the rock is a challenge and somehow rocks are harder and more slippery than they used to be. Rising up off one presents a whole other set of problems. The chairs at CITH are much more accessible and comfortable. They're not near a body of water, but there are beautiful trees, flowers and a couple of rocks to contemplate. There are enough references to rocks and water in the Bible if I chose to look for them.

We may be going through some rocky times at CITH as we seek a new minister to lead us. Let's take Russ's advice - enjoy collecting real rocks, wading around them, sitting on them if you still can, but let's not carry our emotional "rocks" too long. Come to CITH and release them, seek comfort in the friendship of those who worship with us, and be sensitive to those among us whose "rocks" may be even larger and harder to set down than our own. No burden is too heavy and we are never so weary that prayer, music, the liturgy of worship, the words of a sermon cannot lighten our loads and lift us up. May CITH continue to be a place of refuel and renewal for all who enter its doors.

Dorothy Clore

Book Group

We meet in the conference room of the Bellaire Library on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. The book for July is Love Wins by Rob Bell. This should provide an interesting discussion. All are welcome to come, even if you haven't read the book.



JULY GREETERS

- July 3**—Jeff and Deb Braden
July 10—Leslie and Barbara Harcus
July 17—Bruce and Bev Dickinson
July 24—Merv and Millie Sirrine
July 31—Dave and Carol Gregory

Greeters should be at the church at 9:30 a.m. If you cannot be at the Service of worship on the Sunday you are to be the greeters, please call Cindy Overby at 533-6001

JULY HEAD USHERS

- July 3** —Paul DeLange
July 10—Paul DeLange
July 17—Dave Gregory
July 24—Lew Lesperance
July 31—Deb Braden

If you cannot be at the service of Worship on the Sunday you are to be the usher, please call Maureen Stenback at 544-6522

JULY LITURGIST

- July 3**—Rex Luxton
July 10—Maureen Stenback
July 17—Bob Schaefer
July 24—Susie Hutchings
July 31—Fred Harris

If you cannot be at the service of Worship on the Sunday you are to be the liturgist, please call Maureen Stenback at 544-6522

Comparing January through May 2011 vs. January through May 2010, expenses are up 6% as expected while unfortunately giving is down 9%. It is normal for our giving to lag a bit in these early months with our “snowbirds” return helping us to stay in balance. We remain a comparatively healthy congregation. Your continued generous giving is greatly appreciated.

As of 5/31/11: Our Bank Balance is \$23,418.45. Our Designated Fund balances are: Memorial \$1,639.95, Memorial Garden \$3,695.00, Deacons \$870.50, Mission \$170.13, Concert \$4,190.27, Coffee \$198.75 and Emergency \$16,052.60: total \$26,816.60. This indicates we owe ourselves \$3,398.15- a condition which has been resolved with the generous giving from the first Sunday in June. We likely will not have to withdraw any funds from our CD's, which are included in the Bank Balance of \$23,418.45.

The impact of the Transitional Part/Time Pastoral Budget vs. the previous Full Time/Permanent Pastoral Budget- Note with time owed to Pastor Andrew for vacation time, Pastor Andrew will virtually be on our payroll through 7/17/11. However, for the last 5 ½ months of the year we will be likely on a Transitional Part/Time Pastoral Budget. **If the**

planned Summer cost of providing Pulpit Supply (\$150) and 10 hrs/week of other Pastoral Support (@\$25/hr.) is any indication, we can expect to pay \$400/ week (\$1,600/mo.-not including travel). We will “save” the \$6,200/mo. budgeted cost of a permanent pastor, offset by the Transitional Part/Time Pastoral Budget therefore, we can expect a net savings in expenses in the range of \$4,000-\$4,600/mo. (27%+) for the 5 ½ months Mid-July through December. We may find that our needs for Pastoral Support exceed 10 hrs per week and adjustment may be required. Therefore these figures are highly subject to change.

Your continued attendance and support is essential during this transitional period. This is true from a financial perspective, but more importantly, from an overall strength of the congregation perspective. This last quality-strength of the congregation, may be a deciding factor as we seek to find a permanent pastor.

We will continue to be closely monitoring the financial health of CITH’s. This will include timely communication. We are assured that the Lord will help us restore wholeness as we move forward in our Pastor search process. We should be self-assured that all of us, can in various ways, do our part, to help maintain our strong worship and fellowship community in the meantime.

Submitted by Fred Harris, for the Finance Committee comprised of Cindy Overby-Secretary, Ted Whittlesey-Elder, Member, Fred Harris-Elder, Member Mike Card-Member, Dale Hanson-Member and Mac Wright-Member.



Happy Birthday!

Ron Kershner	7-1
Beverly Baker Jones	7-3
Linda Bicum	7-6
Marge Glyshaw	7-7
Steve Grill	7-8
Marvin Olson	7-10
Philip Weiss	7-20
Olga Cairns	7-22
Rita Drudge	7-22
Lewis Lesperance	7-23
Mary Ann Waara	7-24
Carol Gregory	7-25

We have now broken even with paying for



Coffee Sales

the fellowship coffee and tea, so all the Equal Exchange fair trade items will be on sale this summer. We won't order again

until we need more fellowship coffee. Prices have been re-marked on the boxes. Any actual profits will go toward mission projects.



If you have a special day coming up this summer and would like to celebrate by giving flowers for the Sunday worship service you can. There is a signup sheet in our new brochure holder by the kitchen. You can sign up for anniversaries, birthdays or just a special remembrance. If you have questions please call Marty Harris at 533-6105 or the church office. We would love to celebrate with you.



The Farewell Luncheon for Pastor Andrew and his family went very well. As we get through the sadness and dry our tears, I just wanted to thank everyone who helped with set up and clean up, brought food, and added to our special Memory Book. I would like to give a special thanks to Garnett Anderson for the beautiful banner she made that we were able to give as a gift to Pastor Andrew. What a congregation of love we have! Thanks again to everyone.
Deacon Carol Gregory

DEACONS

Class of 2011

Carol Gregory	533-8138
Edena Williams	533-8598
Don Hoyt	989-614-0798

Class of 2012

Martha Harris	533-6105
Lewis Lesperance	322-2893
Millie Serrine	544-8047

Class of 2013

Garnett Anderson	322-6007
Jeff Braden	544-1685

Memorial Garden

If you look past the cross outside the sanctuary, you'll see the centerline marker for the newly surveyed Memorial Garden. We are hoping to have it finished and landscaped by early fall. The committee consists of Lew Lesperance, Dee Lynch, Marvin Olson, Jean Rowe, and Sue Schorfhaar. Sue Schorfhaar will be painting a water color rendering of the Memorial Garden for the sanctuary. If you would like more information or have questions, you may contact any committee member

Elder Jean Rowe



JULY MISSION UPDATE

Although
Pastor
Andrew's
leaving
has left us
with a

Missions

feeling of uncertainty, please be sure that God is still present at Church in the Hills. He has promised He will never leave us and He is calling us to continue the good works that have begun here. I decided to list the many ways we are Reaching Out and Helping Others through Mission and Outreach:

- Through your generous donations and \$300 from the Mission Fund, we donated a total of **\$607 to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for severe weather in the South!**
- Throughout the month of July we will collect **backpacks and school supplies** for local children. The list is included in this newsletter and will be in each Sunday bulletin. Last year we put together 225 backpacks and I feel certain we will do the same if not more this year. The needs are great and this is a wonderful way to help our local families.
- Carol Broadwick will come on July 17th to talk about the **Moms and Tots** Program in Ellsworth. She will leave baby bottles for contributions during the Baby Bottle Boomerang.

- Our monthly **Community Meals** have been well attended and will continue throughout the year . . . the next three meals will be cookouts and we look forward to seeing more people than ever. If you feel a call to help with these please see Don Hoyt.
- **Hygiene Kits** will be put together in August . . . more information will be forthcoming.
- Our portion of the Proceeds from The **5K Run** during Rubber Duck days will go to the Bellaire Youth Center. We continue to support the Bellaire Youth Center with volunteers and financial contributions.
- Church in the Hills will participate in the **Crop Walk** again this year. The first Sunday of each month continues to be a time when we can contribute to the Food Pantry with either food or financial contributions.
- We will sponsor another **Mom to Mom Sale** in October. This is another way of helping local families.
- We will have a **Clothing Drive** in November and ask for winter clothes especially coats, sweaters and boots for the chilly days ahead. These will be given to Antrim County residents at a **Clothing Giveaway/Exchange** at the Forest Home Township Building.
- Every Sunday there is an opportunity to purchase **Fair Trade** coffee, tea and chocolate in the kitchen. Please see Sarah or Tom Juntune for more information.
- We continue to financially support **Kathy and Joe Angi**, missionaries in Budapest, Hungary as well as local

missionary **Tianne Cole**, missionary for the Sudan.

- Church in the Hills provided scholarship assistance for a young person to attend **Presbytery Point** this summer. Members of Church in the Hills participated in the **Relay for Life** in June and also contributed to the **High Tea for Breast Cancer**.

It is wonderful to see God at work in so many ways and through so many people. Thank you for all of your generosity and concern for others. God Bless You.

Mary Ann Waara, Elder for Missions



Backpack Mission Project

Backpacks and Supplies Needed!

“Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works , and glorify your Father which is in heaven”. Mt. 5:16

Members of Church in the Hills you have done many good works and will continue to

do them – not for personal gain but to glorify our God . . . to serve Him by “Reaching Out and Helping Others”! That is Mission! That is Outreach! This is year 5 for our Backpack Collection. Every year we bring in more supplies and more backpacks than the year before – last year we filled and distributed 225 backpacks to schools in Alba, Bellaire, Central Lake, Elk Rapids, Ellsworth, Mancelona and Rapid City. We even sent some to Alaska and Mexico! The needs are still great in Antrim County and in other areas of the country. I don’t know how many backpacks we will fill this year or exactly where they will go but I do know that God will provide us with the means and the information we need to send them out into the world. We are beginning our collection July 3rd and will continue to gather items throughout the summer. The list of supplies is printed below. My hope is that we surpass last year’s donations and help even more children be prepared for school than we could have ever anticipated!

Backpacks

Single Subject Notebooks

Loose Leaf Paper

Folders

Pencils

Pens



I went to the People's Church web site where Pastor Andrew has been received and this was in the newsletter in

March 2011. I think we can be comfortable with the fact that Pastor Andrew was not out looking for this opportunity, it came to him.

Senior Pastor Search Update

After a lengthy process of praying, evaluating, and re-interviewing two of the candidates we were seriously considering, we have decided to re-open our search. Although we are disappointed that we are not able to come to you with a recommendation at this time, we are committed to continue searching until we can clearly hear God's voice in selecting the individual who will be the next Senior Pastor of Peoples Church. We thank all of you for your patience and support. We love our Church as we know you do. Together we will keep moving forward.

Senior Pastor Search Committee

I thought this was interesting because there have been a lot of questions on how we lost Andrew so fast.

As you probably already know Andrew and Corey have been friends for quite a while as they worked together to open and expand

the Youth Center in Bellaire and do the Thursday night Spirituality: untapped. I'm getting to know Corey Lecureux and what a gracious man he is. He is very kind and is committed to carrying on many of the traditions of Pastor Andrew. It's nice to do the bulletin the same and not have a ton of changes for awhile. I feel the church is lucky having Corey for the rest of the summer. So we have a very good friend of Andrew's guiding us on our journey with Jesus Christ. We are blessed!

Cindy Overby



Fred and Marty Harris

7-17

Ron and Dee Lynch

7-29

SESSION NOTES

The Session of the Church in the Hills held a Stated Meeting on June 8, 2011. Rev. Bob Faulman served as Moderator.

Items of interest from the Session Meeting

* A motion was passed to approve the Performance Contracts for our Summer Concerts.

* Our church has been selected by the Presbyterian Church USA to participate in the Congregational Life Survey as a

“growing congregation.” The Session agreed to have the congregation participate in the survey during the Congregational Meeting on September 25, 2011.

* Elder Juntune reported that when a repair is made on a portion of the floor in the sanctuary, renovation can begin on the children’s education area.

* The area of the Memorial Garden has been surveyed. When the legal description has been received by Jean Rowe, she will take it to the Health Department to obtain the necessary permit.

* Elder Waara reported that a total of \$500 will be sent to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance fund for victims of the recent tornados. Back Pack Collection for local schools will begin in July.

* The nominating committee has been at work selecting members to serve on the Pastor Nominating Committee.

*A motion was passed to give a tapestry, depicting Church in the Hills, as a parting gift to the Pomerville family. We will reimburse \$50 to Garnett Anderson for materials she used in sewing the tapestry.

* The Annual Congregational Meeting dates were approved. They will be September 25, 2011 and January 15, 2012.

* A motion was passed to recommend to the congregation, the Dissolution of the Call of Pastor Pomerville with regrets, appreciation and a prayer that God will watch over him as he moves on to his new Call.

**THE NEXT SESSION MEETING WILL BE
JULY 6, 2011.**



Recycling Update

Next Recycling Deadline

The next deadline is July 5, so it would be helpful if you could bring things by July 3. Please put smaller plastic items in the containers in kitchen. If you have a lot of styrofoam or other plastics that aren’t taken in the county bins, please put it in a closed bag by the recycling bin. Other items may be put in the kitchen by the window, and they’ll be bagged by category: electronics (no monitors), glassware (including light bulbs), rags, etc. Check with your township for the date of the annual large trash pick-up (tools, mattresses, etc.). If you have useable household items, check with the Habitat ReStore in Mancelona or the COA in Bellaire.



Women's Bible Study

The theme for this summer is the Beatitudes. We are using the *Horizons* study by Margaret Aymer as well as other resource materials. The focus is on both meaning and application, in Christ's time and today, and all are welcome to join us Thursdays at 9 a.m. in the undercroft.

SUMMER CONCERTS

The first concert this year is the **Cherry Capital Chorus on Tuesday, July 12th**. Next **The Ionia Community Band will appear on Sunday August 14th at 3:00 p.m.** In addition: we will feature the **Stargardt/Sears jazz duo on Thursday August. 18th**. These concerts are at **7:30 p.m.** A reminder that ticket prices remain the same as in previous years. \$10.00/adults and \$5.00 students. We welcome contributions of \$50.00 (which include 2 adult tickets) from anyone to help

underwrite our financial commitment to the musicians of \$1,700.00 for the season.


Thank you my friends

We would like to thank all of our brothers and sisters who supported us with prayer and cards during my brother's long illness and eventual death. It was always uplifting to know we weren't alone and our friends were sending up special prayer for us along with prayers for Dale. Our Lord always knows what we need and is always there to provide. All the love you showed was very much appreciated.

Thank you again my friends.
Jerry and Karin Walsworth

To all my wonderful friends.
Thank you to everyone who remembered my birthday this year. I especially want to thank the choir who surprised me with cake and ice cream and a very hearty happy birthday song. I need to let the choir know I was right in the middle of working with the bank and needed to finish a project by 5 so if I seemed like a work alcoholic it wasn't intentional. I love you guys. It was a wonderful day. Thanks again
Cindy Overby-Secretary

JULY 2011

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1 VBS	2
3 Start of 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	4 	5 7:00 p.m. Mission	6 9:00 a.m. Session 3:30 p.m. Choir	7 9:00 am Men's Rap & Women's Bible Study 10:15 a.m. Building Committee	8	9
10 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	11	12 7:30 p.m. Cherry Capital Concert	13 3:30 p.m. Choir	14 9:00 am Men's Rap & Women's Bible Study	15	16
17 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	18	19	20 3:30 p.m. Choir	21 9:00 am Men's Rap & Women's Bible Study	22	23
24 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	25	26 1:00 p.m. Book Group Bellaire Library	27 3:30 p.m. Choir	28 9:00 am Men's Rap & Women's Bible Study	29	30
31 10:00 a.m. Worship Service						

CHURCH IN THE HILLS

*A Presbyterian Community of
Faith and Friendship in Christ*

6401 Shanty Creek Rd Bellaire, MI 49615

Phone: 231-533-6001

OFFICE E-MAIL:

Office@churchinthehills.net

WEBSITE

www.churchinthehills.org

Service of Worship: Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Children's Program: 10:00 a.m. Sunday

OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Thurs 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (12-1 Lunch)

Secretary Cindy Overby

Church in the Hills is a member of the

Presbytery of Mackinac

The Synod of the Covenant

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

COREY LECUREUX

231-544-7130

pastor@churchinthehills.net

Clerk of Session: Dottie Schaefer 377-7848

Class of 2011

Bob Schaefer Personnel/grounds 377-7848

Fred Harris Finance 533-6105

Sue Schorfhaar Worship/prayer 533-5071

Class of 2012

Cynthia Tschudy C. Education 544-6167

Ted Whittlesey Finance 377-9304

Mary Ann Waara Mission 533-9340

Class of 2013

Jean Rowe Membership 533-8131

Maureen Stenback Worship 544-6522

Sarah Juntune Facilities 533-9403

Dorothy Clore Choir/Organist 331-6587

Edena Williams PW of CITH 533-8598

Reverend Mr. Donald E. Gordon, Pastor Emeritus

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