



"In Touch" at Hazel Park First UMC

*Newsletter for all those who worship at
First United Methodist Church of Hazel Park*



Organized in 1924 • Incorporated in 1925 • Sanctuary Completed 1953

315 E. Nine Mile Rd. ▪ Hazel Park, Michigan 48030 ▪ 248-546-5955 ▪ www.hpfirst.org

▪ DECEMBER, 2017 ▪

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN.....



APPRECIATING YOUR APPRECIATION

Thank you so much. Pam and I truly appreciated being appreciated. The greatest surprise and joy was when I came downstairs after Sunday service and saw members of both the St. Paul and Hazel Park congregations standing there together. But, I must admit as I turned the corner and saw the faces of St. Paul at Hazel Park it was like being a small child and seeing your teacher at the grocery store. It surprises you because in your mind you think they are just not supposed to be there. But then later when I thought about that reaction, my response went from a smile to concern.

It reminded me of a wonderful story about Jimmy Durante, one of the great entertainers of a generation ago. "He was asked to be a part of a show for World War II veterans. He told them his schedule was very busy and he could afford only a few minutes, but if they wouldn't mind his doing one short monologue and immediately leaving for his next appointment, he would come. Of course, the show's director agreed happily.

But when Jimmy got on stage, something interesting happened. He went through the short monologue and then stayed. The applause grew louder and louder and he kept performing. Pretty soon, he had been on 15, 20, then 30 minutes.

Finally he took a last bow and left the stage. Backstage someone stopped him and said, "I thought you had to go after a few minutes. What happened?"

Jimmy answered, "I did have to go, but I can show you the reason I stayed. You can see for yourself if you'll look down on the front row." In the front row were two men, each of whom had lost an arm in the war. One had lost his right arm and the other had lost his left. Together, they were able to clap, and that's exactly what they were doing, loudly and cheerfully.

Again, Pam and I want to thank you so much for showing and sharing your love with us. But I also pray that seeing you all come together will no longer be a sight that seems strange.

There are a lot of things that we may like to do but feel are beyond our ability, but I truly believe God can do some amazing things to us and through us if we come together and work together hand in hand. But for this to happen, like those two soldiers we must learn to share the gifts, guidance, and grace of Christ as stated in Ephesians 4:16, 16 He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love. (NLT)

God bless your hearts,

Pastor Frederick Sampson

Pastor: Rev. Frederick Sampson III • Music Director: Matt Sarns • Secretary: Marianne Foscett

Assistants to the Pastor: Nick Haller & Robert Narducci • Organist: Harriet Hardy



OBITUARY - MARVIN H. LEECE

Condolences are extended to LeeAnn Cox on the passing of her father, **Marvin Howard Leece** of Ortonville, who passed away on Wednesday, November 22, 2017 at the age of 91.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Janice, and five children.

Born in Clarkston, Michigan on November 3, 1926, Marvin retired from Pontiac Motor after 44 years of service. He was veteran of the U.S. Army-WWII and a longtime member of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. Funeral services were held on November 28 at the Village Funeral Home in Ortonville. Interment will be at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly. On-line notes of condolence may be made at www.villagefh.com.



Pot Luck Dinner & Blue Christmas Service - Wednesday, December 13 at 6:30 pm



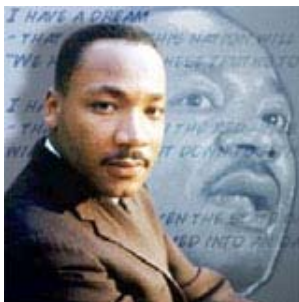
Not everyone is up and cheery for the Christmas holidays. Dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer or some other disease that puts a question mark over the future, and a number of other human situations make parties and joviality painful for many people in our congregation and community.

To reflect on this, we will have a **Blue Christmas service on Wednesday, December 13 at 6:30 PM**. Please join us as we pray for healing and hope. **The service will be preceded by a pot-luck dinner at 5:00 PM.**



The service is close to the longest night of the year, which falls on or about December 21st, the Winter Solstice. There is an interesting convergence for this day as it is also the traditional feast day for Saint Thomas the Apostle. This linkage invites making some connections between Thomas's struggle to believe the tale of Jesus' resurrection, the long nights just before Christmas, and the struggle with darkness and grief faced by those living with loss.

Detroit Renaissance 24th Annual Celebration Honoring Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Sunday, January 7, 2018 – 3:00 PM

Trenton Faith United Methodist Church; 2530 Charlton; Trenton, MI 48183

Rev. Doug Ralston, Host Pastor

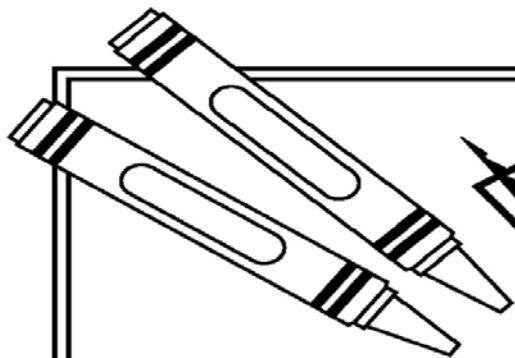
The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. dreamed, talked, and demonstrated to build a "World house."

This is the great new problem of mankind. We have inherited a big house, a great 'World house' in which we have to live together – black and white, Easterners and Westerners, Gentiles and Jews, Catholics and Protestants, Moslem

and Hindu, a family unduly separated in ideas, culture, and interests who, because we can never again live without each other, must learn, somehow, in this one big world, to live with each other." (MLK, 1964)

The celebration features a dramatic presentation: "MLK's Final Year" based on Tavis Smiley's book, Death of a King; Rev. King's favorite hymns including, "Precious Lord, Take My Hand;" and the Drummers and "Voices of Grace" from Second Grace United Methodist Church.





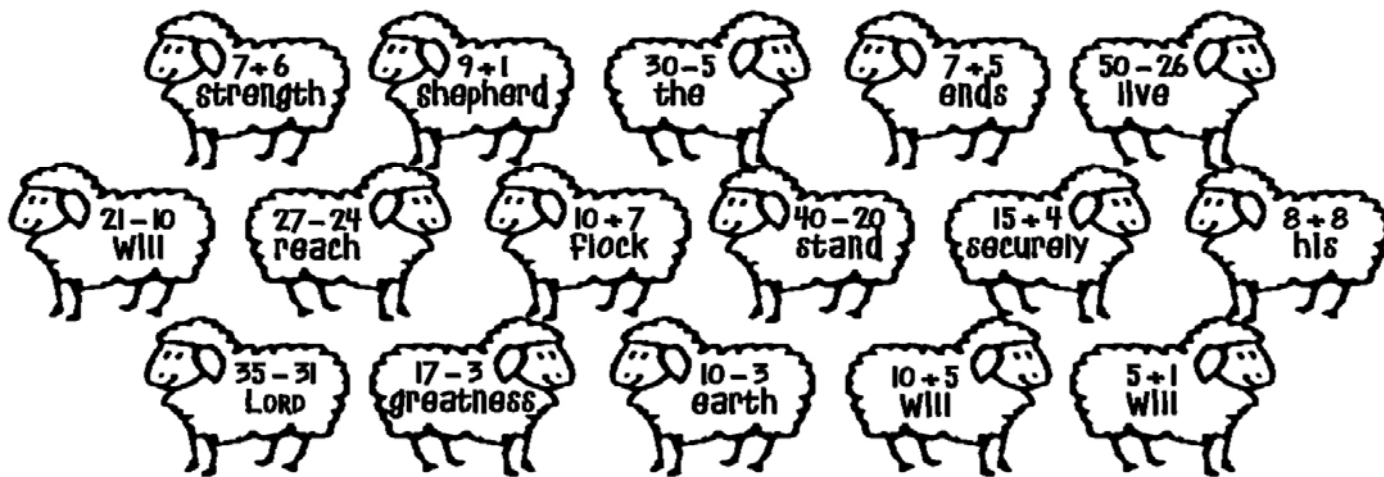
PUZZLE



A PROMISED RULER

Prophets told of Jesus' birth hundreds of years before it happened. Never had a baby's arrival come with such a promise.

Directions: To read what one prophet (Micah 5:4, NIV) said about Jesus, complete the math problems below. Then fill in the words, using the math solutions as your guide.



"He 15 and 20 his 17

in the 13 of the 4 And they 11 24

19, for then 16 14 6

3 to the 12 of 25 7."

MICAH 5:4, NIV



Health Concerns: Christian Narducci, Annie Edwards (sister of Teresa McMillian-Gerrish), Jeff Mattis (son of Heidi Ulanowski), Frank Cox, Gloria Kachadorian, Rick Tate, Norma Pugh, Kay Middleton, Betty Baker, Christina Anderson, Marsha Day-Kuhn (Norma Pugh's daughter), Bill and Remi Anderson, Patricia Gebo, JoAnna Prudden, Lynda McChesney, Carolina Reed, Robert Narducci, Rick Kachadorian, Dennis Rash, and Kathryn Ostrolencki (granddaughter of Jerry and Sharon Allen).

Serving in the Armed Forces: Casey Allen, Ronald Turner, Brendan Schemers, and Chris Collis.

Church Leaders: Bishop David Bard, Conference Cabinet Members, District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Charles Boyue, Jr., the Detroit Renaissance District, and our Pastor Rev. Dr. Fredrick G. Sampson, III.

Comfort for the Family of: Frank and LeeAnn Cox, on the loss of LeeAnn's father, Marvin Leece.

Please let the pastor know if you have any specific prayer request or needs, or if you would like for Pastor Sampson to visit you.

SOCKS FOR CHILDREN



December 10 is the last Sunday we be collecting socks for children of low income families. The socks will be given out as part of the Hazel Park Holiday Basket event. Families in the Hazel Park school district can apply for a food basket for the holidays through this program.

Please bring new, still in the package, socks of any size to help fill the giant box in our sanctuary.

Answer to puzzle: "He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord.....And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth." Micah 5:4, NIV

- POINSETTIA ORDER FORM -

Order deadline is Tuesday, December 19 for names to be in the bulletin on Sunday, December 24. Please send your order and payment together (note "poinsettia" on check) to First United Methodist Church; 315 E. 9 Mile Rd.; Hazel Park, MI 48030.

YOUR NAME: _____ **PHONE:** _____

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ (\$10 each). Designate flowers as noted below. (Attach additional sheet if needed.)

— PLEASE PRINT NAMES CAREFULLY —

IN MEMORY	IN HONOR	FOR	FROM





FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF HAZEL PARK



NO Church Council Meeting in December. Next Meeting: January 17

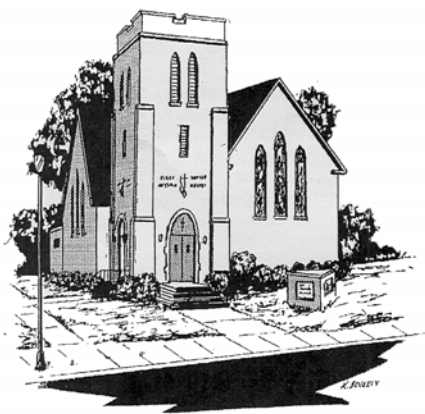
NO Community Dinner in December. Next Dinner: January 27

December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
3 1st Sunday of Advent GLOBAL MIGRATION SUNDAY Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service w/ Communion 11:15 AM	4	5 Praise Team 5:00	6	7 Advent Studies Class with Pastor Sampson 6:30 PM	1 World AIDS Day 	2 Men's Breakfast 10:00 AM Praise Team 11:45 AM																																										
10 2nd Sunday of Advent Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM	11	12 Praise Team 5:00	13 Pot Luck Dinner 5:00 PM Blue Christmas Service 6:30 PM	14 Advent Studies Class with Pastor Sampson 6:30 PM	15	16																																										
17 3rd Sunday of Advent Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM	18	19 Praise Team 5:00	20	21 Advent Studies Class with Pastor Sampson 6:30 PM	22	23																																										
24 4th Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM CHRISTMAST MEDLEY NO EVENING SERVICE	25 Christmas Day 	26 Praise Team 5:00	27 Community Dinner at Ferndale UMC 6:00—7:30 PM	28	29	30																																										
31 First Sunday after Christmas Day Watch Night New Year's Eve Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM AA/WARM Dinner — Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM	<div data-bbox="514 1333 871 1539" data-label="Text"> <p>AA (WARM) Meetings: Monday thru Friday at 6:30 pm <u>Saturday:</u> 10:30 am & 8:00 pm <u>Sunday:</u> Women Only at 6:00</p> </div>				<div data-bbox="1276 1360 1543 1550" data-label="Table"> <table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="7">JANUARY 2018</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table> </div>	JANUARY 2018							1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				<div data-bbox="1795 1318 2037 1559" data-label="Text"> <p>December Birthdays: Dorothy Bastien - 5 Kelsey DeToledo - 8 Renetta Renforth 9 Carol Willey - 12 Rebecca Hardy - 15 Jeff Edwards - 22 Denise Usher 24</p> </div>
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315 E. Nine Mile Rd.
Hazel Park, MI 48030

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Church Office: 248-546-5955

email: Hazelparkfirst@wowway.com

Website: www.hpfirst.org



Upcoming Birthdays:

Dorothy Bastien - December 5
Kelsey DeToledo - December 8
Renetta Renforth - December 9
Carol Willey - December 12
Rebecca Hardy - December 15
Jeff Edwards - December 22
Denise Usher - December 24

Upcoming Anniversary:

Aaron & Shannon Hardy - December 4