

# THE CHURCH NEWSLETTER

FOR BANCROFT AND MORRICE UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES  
NOVEMBER 2015

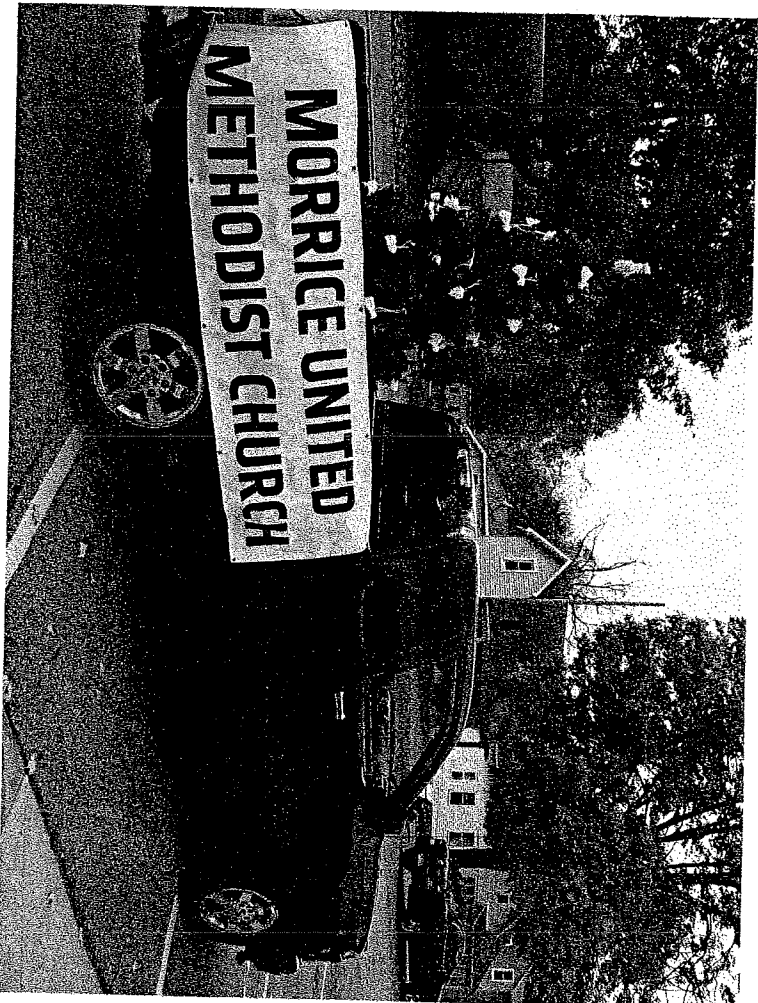
BOB FORSYTH, PASTOR

NINA MORTIMORE, EDITOR

[www.bancroftumc.org](http://www.bancroftumc.org)  
[www.morriceumc.org](http://www.morriceumc.org)

**[We] have a shared mission to serve God to the best of our ability by making him known in our church, community and world.**

Morrice UMC entered this float in the  
MHS Homecoming parade advertising  
Operation Christmas Child



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS  
NOVEMBER 1. TURN YOUR CLOCKS  
BACK ONE HOUR AND BE ON TIME FOR  
SUNDAY WORSHIP!**

## CHARGE CONFERENCE

Our annual charge conference is scheduled for November 4 at Bancroft UMC. The Pastor-Parish Committee meets at 6:00 pm and the conference is at 7:00 pm.

This is a time to celebrate all the things we have done as individual churches and as a charge. We have some business items to take care of, like the election of officers for 2016. Come and enjoy the worship and celebration!

# Missions

## UM STUDENT DAY

The United Methodist Student Day is another Special Sunday offering. It is on November 29. This collection helps deserving United Methodist students continue their education. Special envelopes will be available in your bulletins. Please give as you are able to help students at United Methodist institutions of higher learning.

## DISTRICT CONFERENCE REPORT

Our Crossroads District Conference was held October 11, 2015 at Bethany UMC in Chio. The business meeting proceeded rapidly until some reports near the end. The Urban Ministry Task Force reported on the crisis of Flint residents with the drinking water supply.

The worship service was a celebration of music with Bishop Kieseey preaching. We heard of another mission project, "Kids Against Hunger". Each Crossroads District church is asked to collect money for meals. See the article elsewhere in this newsletter. There will be more information on our website.

It was also great to see our former pastor, Jeremy Peters and visit with him for a short time.

We were each given a pocket cross to take home with us.

We were blessed to be with so many our our Christian family from the Crossroads District.

## WEBSITE

Please use our website for announcements, news, photos, prayer requests, devotions and links to other useful sites. Our website addresses are on the front page of this newsletter. Both addresses go to the same place.

You can sign up for e-mail alerts and/or announcements on the home page. By going to the calendar, you can click on an event for which you want to be reminded and an e-mail will be sent to you automatically after entering your information.

Prayer requests may be posted to our website. There are privacy instructions and each request is reviewed by an administrator.

We are constantly working on and upgrading our website. Please make suggestions for improvements or if you have questions to our administrators: Kim W., Lisa C., or Nina M.

## UMCOR

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) allows us to be in mission here and around the world. UMCOR teams are among the first to bring relief when natural disasters occur. They are among the last to leave when rebuilding needs to be done.

To donate, simply write a check to your church with the Advance # on the memo line and drop in the collection plate. 100% of your donation goes to that project.

Below are only a few examples of projects you can support. For more information, go to [umcor.org](http://umcor.org) or use the link on our website.

### HEIFER INTERNATIONAL, FILL THE ARK # 982418

Funds donated here help communities to end hunger and poverty and to care for the earth in sustainable ways.

### RED BIRD MISSION # 773726

Donations to this Advance help provide essential services to people living in a remote area of Appalachia.

### GLOBAL REFUGEE/MIGRATION #3022144

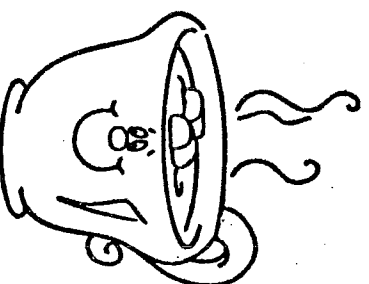
The news is filled with stories of the global refugees leaving Syria and Iraq. This Advance helps in several ways to help those fleeing war.

### KIDS AGAINST HUNGER

The Crossroads District has a new mission project for each of the member churches. It is Kids Against Hunger which includes kids of all ages. Each church is asked to help raise some money to purchase food and then participate in packing the meals.

The goal is for the Crossroads District to raise \$5,600 and hold two events to pack the meals. This amount of money should purchase 20,000 meals for distribution. 1/3 of the packages will stay in our local area, 1/3 will go to third world countries and 1/3 will be stored in a Michigan warehouse for Disaster Relief.

The two packing events are April 9 at Goodrich UMC and April 30 at Owosso First UMC. The packing events are limited to 75 participants each so you must be registered to take part. See our website for more information.



# November

- 1 Daylight Savings Time ends; Communion; Food Collection Challenge begins
- 2 Women Bible Study (M) 7:00 pm Shirley's house
- 3 Bible Study (B) 10:00 am Barb's house
- 4 PPR at (B) 6:00 pm; Charge Conference at (B) 7:00 pm
- 5 Bible Study (M) 7:00 pm
- 7 Men Eat Breakfast (M) 8:00 am
- 8 Food Collection Challenge; Hospice Offering (M); Shoe boxes to church (M); Trustees (M)
- 9 Women Bible Study (M) 7:00 pm Shirley's house
- 10 Bible Study (B) 10:00 am Barb's house; UMW (M) 3:30 pm Shirley's house
- 11 **VETERAN'S DAY**
- 12 Bible Study (M) 7:00 pm
- 15 Buck Pole at Senior Center 9:00-8:00 with Worship Service 10:30 am; Newsletter Deadline; Food Collection Challenge
- 16 Church Council (M) 7:00 pm
- 17 Bible Study (B) 10:00 am Barb's house
- 19 Salad Luncheon (M) 11-1:00 pm; Bible Study (M) 7:00 pm
- 22 Food Collection Challenge ends; Haiti Hot Lunch offering (M)
- 23 Women Bible Study (M) 7:00 pm Shirley's house
- 24 Bible Study (B) 10:00 am at Barb's house
- 26 **THANKSGIVING DAY**
- 29 Advent begins; UM Student Day
- 30 Women Bible Study (M) 7:00 pm at Shirley's house

## STATE HOLIDAY

The annual state holiday is here! Opening Day of firearm deer season is Sunday, November 15. The Morrice UMC hosts the annual Buck Pole at the Morrice Senior Center beginning at 9:00 am. Events will be happening throughout the day. Our 10:30 am worship service will be at the Senior Center dining room. There will be concessions, vendors, drawings, silent auction and lots of fellowship. There will be lots of stories about the big bucks still out in the woods.

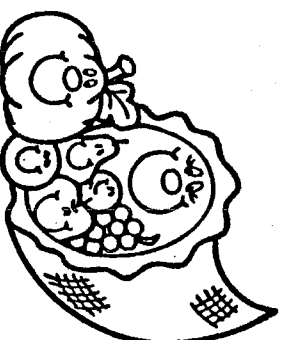
Come, join us for this special day! Tell your friends!



## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

*Bancroft: Worship 9:00 am  
Children's Sunday School during  
worship*

*Morrice: Sunday School 9:15 am  
Worship 10:30 am*



## TAKE THE CHALLENGE!

It's that time of year! It is our annual food collection challenge! As a reminder, bring food to the church each Sunday and weigh it. The church with the largest collection by weight will be awarded the "Golden Pear" trophy presently held by the Pittsburg UMC. Canned goods, boxed food items, personal hygiene items, cleaning products, etc. are accepted. All donations brought to Pittsburg go to the Owosso Salvation Army; items brought to Bancroft go to Durand Loaves and Fishes and Perry Morrice Shaffsburg Food Bank receives donations brought to Morrice.

We will collect items on November 1, 8, 15, and 22. Let's help replenish those shelves at our area food banks!

## MEN EAT BREAKFAST

Men of all ages are invited to eat breakfast at Morrice UMC on November 7 at 8:00 am. They have breakfast, a time for devotions and fellowship. Men of all ages are invited to attend.

## BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please have any announcements for the Sunday bulletin to Lisa Cole by Thursday of the week. You may hand write your announcement and give to her at Bancroft or place in her box at Morrice. Another option is to send her an e-mail at [liziree@yahoo.com](mailto:liziree@yahoo.com). Staying with this schedule insures the announcement is in the weekly bulletin and/or on the screen for PowerPoint presentation.

The Bancroft UMC received a letter from Kathy Coon, which reads as follows:

*Happy autumn dear friends!*

*Although I had to radically downsize during my nomadic journey this year, I still have a few fall scented candles and wax tarts to trigger my senses – transporting me to my favorite time of year in Michigan.*

*In Guayaquil, we are experiencing very hot and humid afternoons inserted between refreshing morning and evening breezes. We have been warned that the worst El Nino (destructive weather phenomena) in decades is supposed to hit us in November.*

*Meanwhile, in other parts of Ecuador, many are being negatively affected by the recent eruptions of the volcano Cotopaxi while protests and strikes have caused additional havoc throughout the nation.*

*Sounds ominous, but we find peace in His presence – not in the circumstances.*

*In recent weeks, I have also experienced:*

*Delight at attending the Ordination Service of one of my former music students, Juan Escobar, who now pastors a church in Guayaquil.*

*Joy as the Guayaquil Seminary celebrated 50 years of theological training in Ecuador. Pleasure in fellowshiping with and hosting former OMS Ecuador missionaries as well as OMS theological team members who were here for the festivities.*

*Excitement as I watched one of the ladies in our neighborhood Bible Study personally grasp and apply the message in II Timothy 2:2 about discipleship.*

*Shared grief with the family (friends and former neighbors) of a 50 year old wife and mother, Gina, who within ten days of diagnosis of stomach cancer went to be with the Lord.*

*Joy and peace upon hearing her teenage daughter's testimony at the funeral of how her mother had given her heart to the Lord before she died.*

*Gratification in teaching piano to six youth at a small music academy hosted by the Christian Bible Church.*

*Admiration for the volunteers who organized and give direction to the music academy as well as the church's youth group.*

*His peace! (John 14:27)*

*Thank you for keeping me in your prayers. You know, that plays a vital role in allowing me to experience His peace in my life. May you also be blessed moment by moment with His amazing peace.*

#### *Prayer Requests*

*For Gia's immediate family as they grieve the loss of their wife and mother. The husband and son do not have a personal relationship with Jesus, and the oldest daughter needs to renew her walk with the Lord. At the funeral, the message of salvation as preached; pray that the Holy Spirit will work in the lives of all who heard.*

*For the Portal al Sol ladies as we travel to Chongon (an economically challenged community) every Thursday morning to meet with and minister to the ladies of that area.*

*For clear direction, wisdom, and obedience to the Holy Spirit for the pastor and leaders of Shalom Christian Fellowship, facing ever-increasing challenges since a devastating church split this past March.*



October 15, 2015

# BANCROFT

The Sunday School children have completed their task of collecting snacks for Loaves and Fishes for the school children. I am happy to report 1,589 snacks and 227 bags will be delivered this month. A big "Thank You" to our church family for contributing and Mrs. Margaret Hemerway and the Sunday school children for bagging up all the goodies.

Margaret and I (Debby) had a surprise when we reached the church on Monday, October 5, 2015 to count the goodies for the Loaves and Fishes snacks. There on the steps of the church stood Gary Hulbert helping the delivery man trying to get this enormous crate out of the semi-truck and on to the front porch of the church. It was too large to move onto the ramp, so there it remained for about an hour until we could get additional help which arrived around 1:30 pm to assist Gary in removing the wooden slats, cardboard, and other items. When that task was completed there was the new Cross and flame (for the back of the church), and an additional flame (for the cross on the front of the church), which now lays on the floor in the round room until they can be placed in their appropriate places. We would like to "Thank" Steve Nelson and Dale Shiffer for assisting Gary in his time of need.

Our Bible study on "Revealing the Mysteries of Heaven" by Dr. David Jeremiah is continuing. This class is very interesting and very informative. The attendance continues to be impressive every week. A special "Thank You" for the ladies who bring treats every week and to Barbara Williamson for the use of her home and the beverages she supplies.

The United Methodist Church Women's group met on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. This meeting was our "White Elephant" sale, which was a fun time for all, and we collected \$52.50. We also discussed the upcoming "Trunk and Treat" festivities for Halloween. We will meet on Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am to fill the bags with lots of goodies and discuss any items that need to be discussed. There will be a few of us handing out the bags of goodies to the children on Halloween, Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm. Hopefully the weather will cooperate this year.

There will be no UMW meeting in November. The bazaar for this month has been canceled due to a conflict with attending a concert Friday night in Clarkson, and lack of items for the sale. We will try for next year.

We will be collecting items for "Loaves and Fishes", November 1st through November 22nd along with Morrice United Methodist Church, and Pittsburg United Methodist Church.

A reminder that anyone wishing to contribute two dozen cookies for "cookies for kindness", we will meet after the church service on Sunday, November 22, 2015 to package up the cookies for 16 or more businesses in the area. The cookies will be delivered on Monday or Tuesday of the week of Thanksgiving.

The UMW will meet at the "Abiding in the Vine" on Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at 12:00 pm for our Christmas get together. This will be an enjoyable time for the women of the UMW.

Council member Karen Davis, also praised Mary Piper as one of the honorable mentions for the "Perry Pride Award". The focus of the award is to recognize excellence by residents in maintaining their home and yard. Congratulations Mary Piper!

## GREETING YOU AT BANCROFT

Nov. 1 Mike & Linda Sedlock  
Nov. 8 Gary & Diana Hulbert  
Nov. 15 Barb Medlock  
Nov. 22 Dave & Kasey Fibernitz  
Nov. 29

## BANCROFT READERS THIS MONTH

Nov. 1 Linda Sedlock  
Nov. 8 Diana Hulbert  
Nov. 15 Barb Medlock  
Nov. 22 Dave Fibernitz  
Nov. 29

## Bancroft Church Trustees

Did you notice? The Bancroft Church Trustees have been hard at work making improvements and overseeing the maintenance needed for our wonderful, historic church home.

In 2014, the Trustees projects included:

- replacing the old water heater with a tankless water heater
- replacing the roof on the upstairs restroom
- installing a projector screen in the sanctuary

In addition, the Trustees plowed and shoveled snow; had the furnace, air conditioning units and fire extinguishers serviced; replaced the floor mats at the front door and annex door; replaced the vacuum sweeper and oversaw a myriad of other maintenance projects. A special thank you to:

- the Sprague boys, Ginnie and Matt for keeping the lawn cut all season.
- Mrs. Margaret, Joan & Ben Ordway and the Sunday School children for planting flowers and keeping them growing beautifully in the gardens in front of the church.
- Toni Monroe for keeping the inside of the church clean and well-kept.

The Trustees are indeed a great team of behind-the-scenes elves who work tirelessly to keep our church home in excellent order.

Just recently, the Trustees have:

- overseen the installation of a new metal roof over the sanctuary & Annex
- installed a chair lift system to the basement
- installed an 8' flame to compliment the cross on the front of the church
- installed a new 12' cross & flame on the back of the church

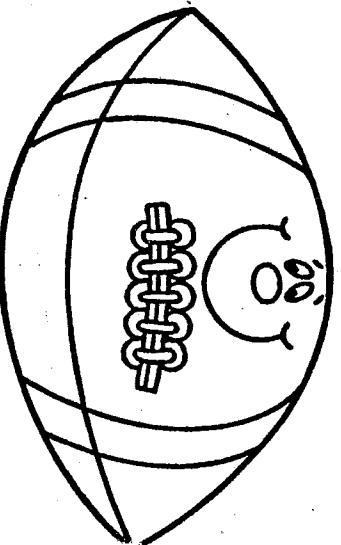
The chair lift system is in memory of Donna Tobey, Celia Runyan, Gladys Pickett, Doris Wright and Kathy Wright.

The cross on the front of the church was placed many years ago in memory of Fred & Hazel Fruchey. The new flame is in memory of Keith Fruchey.

The cross & flame on the back of the church is being placed in memory of Nellie Kingsley Babel, LaVerne Tattersall, and Stanley Eddy.

Be sure to thank these Trustees team members for all their hard work and dedication: Gary Hulbert (chairman), Ben Ordway, Curt Clymer, Ella Nelson, JoAnne Tattersall, Jerry Hulbert, and Church Board Chairman Terry Holzhausen.

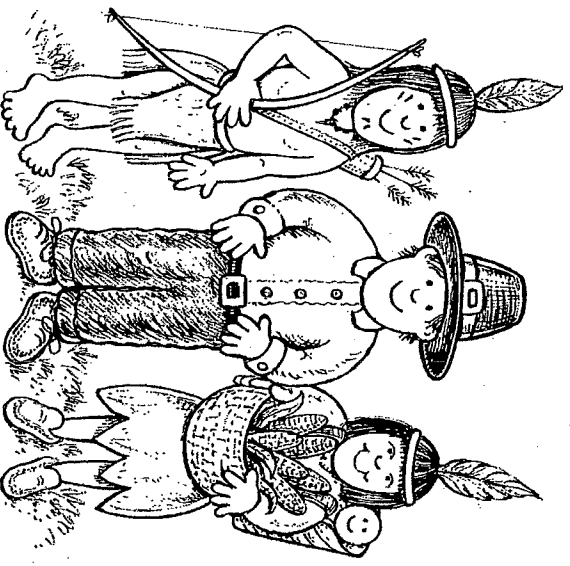
-October, 2015



### UPDATES NEEDED

Please keep us informed of updates to any addresses. That includes those of you who head south for the winter. We need to pay postage when a newsletter is returned to us. We can send your letter south too.

Please keep us updated on birthdays and anniversaries too.



# MORRICE

## NOVEMBER 15 WORSHIP

Don't forget our November 15 10:30 am worship service at Morrice is moved for this week only. It will be at the Buck Pole at the Senior Center dining room. Bring your friends! This is our regular worship. Don't forget to bring your food collection items too!

## COAT DRIVE

The Morrice UMW are collecting winter jackets and coats for the Salvation Army. Please bring donations to Shirley Shaw's home this month.

## PROVIDING SNACKS THIS MONTH

Nov. 1 Karen H.  
Nov. 8 Donna H.  
Nov. 15 Buck Pole  
Nov. 22 Bridget & John  
Nov. 29 Cheryl L.

## GREETING YOU AT MORRICE

Nov. 1 Katy J.  
Nov. 8 Donna H.  
Nov. 15 Robin and Jackie  
Nov. 22 Marge W.  
Nov. 29 Donna G.

## OPENING SERVICE AT MORRICE

Nov. 1 Donna Godfrey  
Nov. 8 Duey Russell  
Nov. 15 Amy Wihbert  
Nov. 22 Katy Jarrad  
Nov. 29 Bridget or John Mortimore



## WELCOME

We would like to welcome Ellie Rae Jean Wright to our church family. She arrived on October 20 at 20 inches and 6 lbs. 10 oz. The new mom is Kim Wright and proud grandma is Carol Wright.  
Welcome Ellie!

## SHOE BOXES

Operation Christmas Child boxes are due at the Morrice UMC on November 8 to be blessed before being sent on their journey. Please see Shirley for more information.

You may bring boxes to the Buck Pole on November 15 too.

## THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

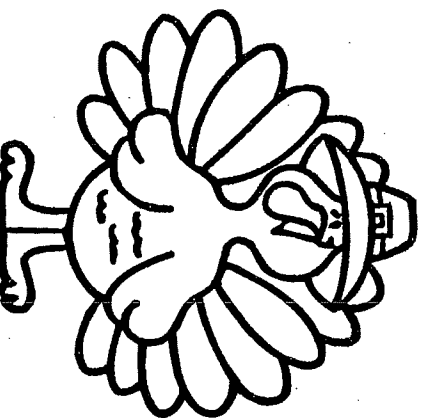
The Thursday night Bible study meets the first three weeks of this month at the Morrice UMC. The group meets at 7:00 pm to read through the Old Testament, one chapter at a time. Discussion is held on how the writings of so long ago affects each of us today. Comparisons of different versions of the writings takes place. They will not meet on Thanksgiving Day.

## WOMEN BIBLE STUDY

A group at Morrice is studying the women of the Bible most Monday evenings. They meet at 7:00 pm at Shirley Shaw's home. They will not meet on November 16.

## SALAD LUNCHEON

The Morrice UMW will have their salad luncheon on November 19 at the church basement. They serve the meal of salads, homemade biscuit with turkey gravy, beverage and dessert at 11:00 am until 1:00 pm. Take out orders are available. Please use the door at the back of the building.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Nov. 2	Stacey White	M
Nov. 5	Jackie Parker	M
Nov. 7	Bess Klobucher	B
Nov. 10	Jerry Hulbert	B
Nov. 11	William Parker	B
Nov. 11	Madison Fiebernitz	B
Nov. 11	Ashley Lang	B
Nov. 12	Braxton Lewis	M
Nov. 15	Claire Fuller	B
Nov. 15	Elizabeth Brown	B
Nov. 16	Brittany Clark	M
Nov. 16	Mary Lou Drobfish	B
Nov. 16	Claire Lewis	B
Nov. 16	Denise Temple	B
Nov. 18	Curt Clymer	B
Nov. 20	Rhonda McPherson	M
Nov. 20	Chris Davis	M
Nov. 21	Mitchell Fiebernitz	B
Nov. 21	Laura Cole	B
Nov. 22	Nicholas Boyer	B
Nov. 23	Kathaleen Jarrad	M
Nov. 26	Abby Liberacki	M
Nov. 27	Alice Tripplehorn	B
Nov. 28	Michelle Forsyth	☺
Nov. 29	Carl Cozart	B
Nov. 30	Joan Oliver	B

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

Nov. 4	Matt & Alethea Harvey	M
Nov. 10	Glenn & Lynn Reed	B
Nov. 21	Aaron & Dawn Markell	M
Nov. 23	Larry & Sharon Bower	B
Nov. 25	Elbert & Rusli Sidel	M

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Dec. 5	Men's Breakfast at (B)
Dec. 15	Newsletter deadline
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve
Dec. 25	Happy Birthday, Jesus!
Dec. 31	New Year's Eve
Jan. 1	Happy New Year!
Jan 15-16	U-Nite at Genesys
Jan. 17	Human Relations Day
Jan. 29-31	Youth Lay Speaker training

**REACH SUMMIT**

October 17 was a great day to be a United Methodist in Michigan. Those attending the REACH Summit at the Lansing Center were treated to a great time of worship and keynote speaker. We then headed to various sessions to learn ideas to grow our churches.

For lunch, we were able to meet and talk with others in the same boat as us. How do we meet the needs of our community and teach them about Jesus Christ?

We had another teaching session and then returned for another time to hear the keynote speaker.

We left for our homes but had the invite to come back for sessions throughout the year to work on implementing some the ideas.

If this Summit is offered again, everyone should try to take advantage of the learning that can take place.



MORRICE UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
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