



The Metropolitan Messenger

Sharing the light and love of Jesus Christ in Metro Detroit
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FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God whenever I think of you; and when I pray for you all, my prayers are always joyful, because of the part you have taken in the work of the Gospel from the first day until now. Of one thing I am certain: the One who started the good work in you will bring it to completion by the Day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 1:2-6

My Dear Friends:

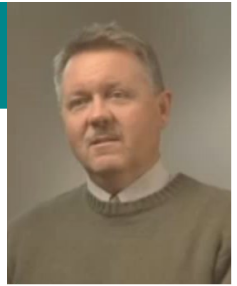
I DO thank God for you, and for these 5 years of ministry we have shared together. But now the time of my departure from you is nearly here. My reason for leaving Metropolitan is not because I was in any way discontent or unhappy. To the contrary, serving you has been a great privilege and joy. I had hoped to remain with you until my retirement. That said, when I took my ordination vows, I committed to become “itinerate.” I trust our United Methodist appointive process and have agreed to serve wherever the Bishop and Cabinet appoint me. At this time, they have determined that my particular gifts and skills are needed in Dixboro (Ann Arbor) and they also believe that Rev. Dr. Ray McGee’s gifts and skills will help Metropolitan move forward into the marvelous future that God has in mind for you.

The Alban Institute for Church Leadership has learned from long experience in countless churches that “it is harmful for a former pastor and for the church if he/she returns to do the duties of a pastor during someone else’s appointment.” I know that we all want what is best for Metropolitan – and the “best” begins with your commitment not to ask for, and my commitment not to offer, pastoral services to you after June 30, 2011. Just as we have grown to love one another during my tenure, Dr. McGee should be given the opportunity to build strong, loving relationships with you now. And of course, I will need to focus my time and energies on developing strong, loving relationships with my new “flock” in Dixboro. Therefore, unless I am specifically invited by Rev. McGee, I will no longer be available to officiate at weddings, funerals, or baptisms; I will not be available for preaching, teaching, counseling, or pastoral calls in times of need. Simply put, I will always be your friend – but after June 30th, I will no longer be your pastor.

I feel great sadness in leaving – the friendships we have forged over the past 5 years are deep and will remain strong for the rest of our lives. At the same time, I feel great excitement about the opportunities that await me in Ann Arbor. In all things, we know that GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME! Therefore, we can move through this time of change and transition, trusting that God has good plans in store for all of us. Indeed, the One who started this good work in us, will bring it to completion (BOTH at Metropolitan and at Dixboro).

Amazed by grace,
Rev. Tonya Arnesen
Senior Pastor

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



Greetings in the Name that is above all names!

My name is Ray McGee and today, I write to you as the incoming pastor of Metropolitan United Methodist Church. As you are well aware, effective July 1st, Rev. Tonya Arnesen will be leaving your midst to serve as the Shepherd of the Dixboro United Methodist Church and I will begin serving in that capacity at Metropolitan.

As we begin this new chapter together in the distinguished history of this proud and storied Methodist Church, I wanted to share a little bit about myself, my family and my dreams:

- I was born in Detroit (at Detroit Memorial Hospital) just a few miles from Metropolitan and was raised in the city for the first 10 years of my life. Although family and life issues caused me to leave my hometown, I now find myself returning. (I am often so amazed by God and His plans for us!)
- I am married to Darlene ("Dar") as of last November. We both have been married before and thank God for the joy that God offers at this stage in our lives! We have 3 grown children between us. I have a daughter, "Kori" who is married to Mitchell. They live in Shelby Township with my 2 grandsons (Alex and Eli). Dar has 2 sons, Neil and Nathan. Neil is married to Lauren. They live in Wilmore, KY. Nate lives in Orlando, FL and is engaged to "Becca." Their wedding is planned for this October in Florida.
- Before yielding to my call into the ordained ministry, I worked 19 ½ years for General Motors as an Engineer. In many ways, this experience served to help prepare me for the call that God had for me. I often times will joke that I attended 2 seminaries – Candler School of Theology at Emory University, Atlanta, GA and General Motors. (Both offered experiences that God has used to shape me into who I am.)

There is much more that we will learn from and about each other over the coming years. But allow me to share that my wife, Darlene, and I are very honored and excited to be afforded this opportunity to serve the Kingdom with each of you at Detroit Metropolitan United Methodist Church. None of us knows what God has in store for us, however, each of us can and will be invited to be a part of that future.

I look forward to meeting and getting to know you better over the coming months and years.

May God bless you and yours,
Pastor Ray

Submissions

Articles and information for the next Messenger are due no later than June 20, 2011. Please submit to emitchell@metroumc.org or to the church office.

What's Inside?

Page

From the Senior Pastors	1 - 2
Staff-Parish Relations Committee	3
Elders, Deacons, and Appointments	6
Summer Day Camp	3
5 O'clock Rush Showcase	4
Good Samaritan Ministry	5
United Methodist Women	4
Prayer List	7
Calendar	8

SPRC

Rev. Tonya Arnesen Appointed to Dixboro UMC

Bishop Jonathan Keaton has appointed Rev. Tonya Arnesen to Dixboro United Methodist Church. Her new appointment will be effective July 1, 2011. Rev. Arnesen's Final Sunday in the pulpit at Metropolitan will be Sunday, June 19. A reception for Tonya and David Arnesen will be held that day in the parlor, immediately following worship. Plan to attend to share memories, to celebrate and offer gratitude to God for Rev. Arnesen's service in the life of our congregation, and to lift up the Arnesens with our prayers and good wishes as they move on to continue God's work in their new appointment.

Rev. Ray McGee Appointed to Metropolitan UMC

Effective July 1, 2011, Bishop Jonathan Keaton has appointed Rev. Ray McGee as the senior pastor at Metropolitan United Methodist Church. Rev. McGee's first Sunday in the pulpit will be Sunday, July 3, 2011. We will have a Welcome Reception following worship. Plan to be at worship and to greet Rev. McGee at the reception in the parlor.

Martha Martin

Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chair

SUMMER DAY CAMP

This summer, Metropolitan will host a **day camp for children ages 6-11**. We are partnering with Motown Mission Experience to make this happen. The camp features different sports and lots of fun activities. We are excited to kick off the day camp at the end of this month.

The camp will be held **Mondays through Thursdays, 10:00 AM to 3:30 PM, from June 20 to August 2**. The cost is \$5 per week per child. Scholarships are available. Parents and guardians must fill out a registration form for each child to participate. The **deadline to sign up is June 15, 2011**. Visit www.metroumc.org/daycamp for more information or call (313) 875-7407 ext. 301. The camp will be held at Metropolitan Church (8000 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI 48202).

How You Can Help:

There are many ways you can get involved. You can invite children you know to attend the camp. We are also collecting items from the list below. Place items in the box in the church office. We are also in need of volunteers (as mentors, readers, game leaders, to prepare lunches, etc.) You must be certified in the children's protection policy of the Conference or Safe Sanctuary to participate. See the next page for certification dates.

Items Needed for Day Camp:

- Sidewalk chalk
- Volleyballs
- Beach balls
- Playground balls
- Tennis balls
- Jump ropes
- Beanbags



- Soccer balls
- Basketballs
- Foam balls (all sizes/shapes)
- Paddle balls/racquets
- Ping Pong balls
- Hula hoops
- Badminton equipment (indoor and outdoor)



5 O'CLOCK RUSH R&B SOUL SHOWCASE



Tuesday, June 14

5:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$5 balcony, \$7 floor seats

Join Detroit's finest jazz singers and musicians for an evening of great music. Tickets can be purchased in advance or at the door. If you need floor seats, please purchase tickets sooner rather than later. Visit metroumc.org/showcase-june2011 or call (313) 875-7407 ext. 301 for more information.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Thank you Metropolitan congregation for your Loose Change in May. Funds will be donated to Gleaners to help fund summer lunch programs. Hunger hurts! Thank you for helping to alleviate some of the pain.

Metropolitan's United Methodist Women usually meets the 3rd Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM at the church, unless another time and place is specified. (This month we are having a special gathering. See below.) The UMW activities consist of study, hands-on projects, and fellowship. Please check the Sunday Bulletin for exact locations and times. The following are immediate dates:

June 18	UMW Fellowship Brunch – Big Boy Restaurant, 7033 East Jefferson, Detroit	10:30 AM
July 16	School of Christian Mission – Big Beaver United Methodist Church, Troy	

The Ingathering will be held in October. Extra-long twin bed sheets are needed. If you see a sale, please purchase. We will be collecting them in August.

- Jeanette Harris

PROTECTION TRAINING

The Protection Team of the Detroit Annual Conference will host Protection trainings to all interested persons. This 2 hour training will certify individuals to work with children, youth, and vulnerable persons. Any persons working with youth in our congregation should have this certification. There is no cost for this training.

Upcoming Protection of Children, Youth, and Vulnerable Persons Trainings

Saturday, June 4
3:30 PM – 5:30 PM
New Hope UMC
53245 Van Dyke, Shelby Township, MI 48316

Saturday, June 11
9:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Hope UMC
26275 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield

GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRY

Good Sam has served many households these past few months. We have been blessed with donations from our members of clothing, food, and toiletry items. Forgotten Harvest has been able to provide us with fresh vegetables, fruit, meat, and bakery items. These we share with other pantries and churches in the community.

Martha Martin has been able to gather members who size and hang clothes on the 2nd Tuesday morning of each month. If you are able to assist in this effort please let Martha know you are available to help. If you are off during the summer we could use a few more bodies on Wednesdays as servers or interviewers. We could use a few good men to help with picking up food on Tuesdays from Gleaners and being escorts to our Good Sam clients on Wednesdays. If you can help in this area talk to Ted Ebersold.

Good Sam is anxiously awaiting the start of our first program, the "Cooking Matters" class, for our clients and open to the congregation. This class will teach how to shop, cook nutritionally, and stretch food dollars.

Items Needed by the Good Samaritan Ministry

We can only use these items which are based on our client needs:

Food items – cans of spinach and asparagus, small bottles of hot sauce, Ritz crackers, mayonnaise, cooking spray, olive oil, packages of spaghetti sauce mix and chili mix, seasonings

Toiletries – men's razors and shaving cream, shower gel, lip balm, small jars of Vaseline, thick combs and brushes

Men's clothing – all sizes (especially x-large and up): coats and jackets, jeans, khakis, t-shirts, briefs, white athletic socks, short and long sleeve shirts, sweaters, shoes, gym shoes, boots, belts

Women's clothing – all sizes (especially xx-large and up): coats and jackets, jeans, casual pants, blouses, socks, bras, underwear, sweaters

Linens – washcloths, towels, queen and full size sheet sets, blankets, dish cloths, dish towels

Children's clothing – We can't use much at this time, but there is another clothes closet in the community that gives out only infant, toddler, and children's clothes.



Food & Clothing Donations

- Vivien Green
Good Samaritan Ministry

MOVIE NIGHT Returns in September

Family Movie Night will not be held during June, July, and August. The next free movie night will be Friday, September 9, 2011. Family Movie Night is a free event that features newer movies on the 2nd Friday of each month (fall-spring).

THE UMC APPOINTIVE PROCESS

Elders of the United Methodist Church

Every local church needs a pastor. The United Methodist Church has a unique way of matching pastors and congregations. Rather than local churches hiring and firing their own pastors -as in some denominations- United Methodist bishops appoint pastors to serve in local churches and other ministry settings.

One advantage to this process is that a local church never has to go without a pastor. Likewise, a pastor (specifically, a full member of an annual conference in good standing) never goes without a setting for ministry. **The primary goal of the appointment system is to match the gifts and graces of a particular pastor to the ministry needs of a particular congregation at a particular time.**

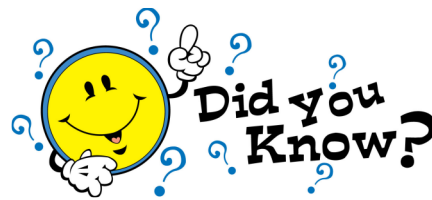


To understand the appointive process, it helps to know a little about how the United Methodist Church is organized. We are a connectional church. That means individual congregations are part of a larger network known as an annual conference under the leadership of a bishop. Most annual conferences consist of several districts. Ordained clergy are members of an annual conference rather than a local church.

Bishops are responsible for assigning pastors to charges. A multi-point charge consists of two or more congregations that share a pastor. Ordinarily, district superintendents assist the bishop in prayerfully making appointments. They generally meet with pastors and representatives of local churches every year to assess the effectiveness of ministry there. Bishops typically fix appointments once a year.

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee represents the congregation officially in this process. Usually, when everyone agrees that a current pastor's gifts and graces are a good match for the specific needs of a ministry setting, the pastor is assigned to remain for another year. Sometimes, however, a particular pastor is needed elsewhere or a local church requires someone with a new set of gifts and graces. In that case, the pastor will move and the church will receive someone new. The process always involves consultation, but the details vary according to the conference and the bishop.

The Difference Between Deacons and Elders



There are two ways to become an ordained clergy member in the United Methodist Church. This option was made available by the creation of the Order of the Deacons during the 1996 UMC General Conference. Ordained deacons are “called by God to a lifetime of servant leadership,” while elders are “ordained to a lifetime ministry of Service, Word, Sacrament, and Order.” Both are clergy, theologically trained, and have full membership in their annual conferences. However, elders can administer the sacraments of Holy Communion and baptism, while deacons may assist. Elders are appointed to jobs by the bishop through the itinerant system. Deacons generally find their own employment and then request to be appointed to that opening by the bishop. Many deacons do specialized ministry within congregations in areas such as music, education or youth work, but a growing number serve in other settings.

PRAYER LIST

Keeping each other in prayer

For Metropolitan United Methodist Church during its transition.

Loved Ones Lost: Larry Robinson, nephew of Nellie Brown and cousin of Cheryl Pettway
Beverly Wakefield, niece of Nellie Brown and cousin of Cheryl Pettway

For Their Service in the Armed Forces: 2nd Lieut. Hernando Flowers (Army), Zachary King (Army), Lcpl. Floritta Wilson (Marines)

For Support & Guidance: Ian, Mary Joyner (mother of Beverly Drakeford)

For Health & Healing: Sam, Dovie Allgood (mother of Gracie Hanks), Gary and Grace Angel, Elwyn Bush, Linda Byrd, Sam Dorsey, Sandra Dickens-Guy (sister of Rose Marie Swanson), Bob Hanna, Harold Harvell, Jnique McMillan (nephew of Marvin Jones), Moselle Rice (mother of Kimberly Rice), Kathleen Smith, Mary T., Sharon Teshka, Barbara Twachtman (daughter of Doris Timmons)

For Ongoing Health Needs: Jerry Batey, Dr. Sharon Burey, Henry Beamon, Carolyn Bolen, Hazel Boley, Jacqueline Burns, Desmon Charlet, Fred Douglass, Ervin Erickson, Ruby Fassold, Jean Fuqua, Gloria Gamble, Edith Geyton, Marjorie Goodwin, Martha Green, Juanita Hammond, Karen Hand, Richard Jackson, Daniel Jacobs Jr., Doris Jeffries, Norma Jend, Lolita Douglas-Johnson, Renee Johnson, Wilma Lakin, Vivian Lyles, Mary MacDonald, Clifford McCartney III (grandson of Carol McCartney), Rick McMurray (brother of Steve McMurray), Dr. Gbanyon Natt, Evelyn Newbill, Lois Nichols, Jean Nicholson, Charles Porter, Freddie Prather, Dr. William Quick, Arsha Rubyan, Nancy Simon, Inez Swint, Bernice Thierry, Mary Trigg, Eva Thomas, Tristan West, Cherian Zachariah

STAY CONNECTED

Stay connected to Metropolitan United Methodist Church online. We are constantly adding new information to keep you informed.

Website: www.metroumc.org

Facebook: [facebook.com/MetroUMCDetroit](https://www.facebook.com/MetroUMCDetroit)

Videos: metroumc.org/sermons

Blog: metroumc.org/blog

RSS: metroumc.org/blog/feed



CONGRATULATIONS!

- Congrats to Lee and Annmarie Wurm on the birth of their son, Joseph Robert Wurm, on May 9.

- Mike Ryckman graduated from the University of Arizona with a Ph.D. in Political Science.



Metropolitan United Methodist Church

8000 Woodward Avenue

Detroit, MI 48202



Children's Day Camp

June 20 - August 2

Mondays - Thursdays

10:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Ages 6-11

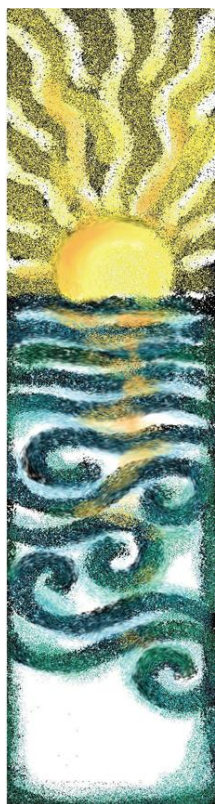
RSVP by June 15.

Cost: \$5.00/per child, per week.

Scholarships are available.

Activities Include:

- Games (indoors and out)
- Crafts
- Music
- Sports
- Movies
- Learning about God
- Field Trips
- Lunch
- And lots of fun stuff!



June 2011

Sunday, 5	Scholarship Sunday & Ascension Sunday
Sunday, 12	Pentecost
Tuesday, 14	5 O'clock Rush R&B Soul Showcase
Saturday, 18	UMW Fellowship Brunch
Sunday, 19	Father's Day, Peace with Justice Offering
Sunday, 19	Reception for the Arnesen Family
Monday, 20	Children's Day Camp Begins
Sunday, 26	Laity Sunday - Rev. Karl Zeigler preaching

July 2011

Sunday, 3	Worship - Rev. Dr. Ray McGee preaching
Sunday, 3	Reception for the McGee Family
Monday, 4	Independence Day
Sunday, 10	Sizzlin' Summer Games Sundays Begins