



It's time for a new pictorial directory! Our dates of photography are  
Monday, October 26 and Tuesday, October 27.

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com),  
click on [Photography Appointment Scheduling Login](#) on the right side,  
enter [mi1525](#) in the [Church Code](#) field and enter [photos](#) in the [Church Password](#) field.

If you have questions or need help signing up, please contact the church office.

**Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible  
to secure your preferred date and time.**

***Serving ~ Strengthening ~ Connecting ~ Our Community***

- ~ ***Serve*** our community in the name of Jesus Christ by spreading the Good News of God's unlimited love and forgiveness;
- ~ ***Strengthen*** faith through Christian education for people of all ages;
- ~ ***Connect*** in Christian fellowship with our family, our community, and the world.

## Pastor's Page

For the life of me I could not figure out what to write in this month's pastoral letter. It seems that for the entire year I've been trying to respond to what's been happening in our world. Because there is so much happening: The pandemic. The death of Black Americans at the hands of law enforcement and the protests that followed. The upcoming election. The contention over the Supreme Court. There's just so much that is seeking our attention right now, asking us to look. To care. To act. But every time I sat down to write, nothing I could say seemed good enough. I was stuck.

But then Erin took this binder out of her cabinet labelled "Newsletter Tags." She brought it out to read Millie Porritt's story. When I saw it and asked what it was, she explained to me what you probably all know: There was a time when you all were asked to write your stories and then tag someone else to write theirs for the Newsletter. A get to know you game of tag through the church.

Believe me when I say, I was *engrossed*. I flipped through and read everything people wrote. And I learned so much. Where people grew up. How they met. How they came to CUMC. Different talents I didn't know people had. Interests that I hadn't known people had. I told Erin "My goodness this would have been great to see last year when I came in!" I got a little more insight on the people in this congregation.

What I was reminded of was this: Church is a family. We are a part of God's family. We each bring our own experiences into the church, our individual lives into the church, but together we make up this Caledonia UMC family. This is a family that draws so many different people together in a radical way. This church is a family with memories, inside jokes, collective experiences. This church is a family that supports one another. Loves one another. Shows up for each other. A family that shares the good and the bad. The ups and the downs.

There is so much talk of division these days, that it's nice to remember the things that connect us.

*What first drew you into this CUMC family?*

*What are your favorite memories with this CUMC family?*

*What do you love about your CUMC family?*

*What makes you grateful for your CUMC family?*

We're facing tough and unknown times. But we're not facing them alone. We have this family behind us. Thanks be to God.

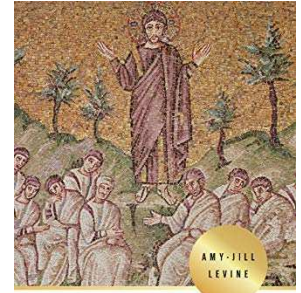
*Rev. Elizabeth Hurd*

## Fall Bible Studies

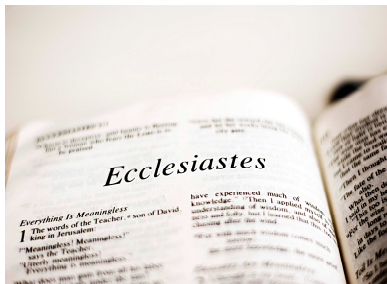
This Fall we will be offering 2 Bible Studies:

The first will focus on The Sermon on the Mount, aided by Amy Jill Levine's *The Sermon on the Mount Study*. We have 8 books available, for \$10 each. We can order more if more people are interested.

The Sermon on the Mount study will meet on Thursdays from October 23<sup>rd</sup> - November 27<sup>th</sup>, at 5 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We will also offer an option to Zoom into the conversation.



SERMON *on*  
the MOUNT  
A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN



The second will focus on the Book of Ecclesiastes. All you will need is your Bible. We will read chapter by chapter and discuss how this Book speaks to our present moment.

The Ecclesiastes study will meet on Sunday Mornings from November 1<sup>st</sup> - December 13<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Again, we will offer an option to Zoom into the conversation.

***Please continue to save your pop can tabs for the United Methodist Community House.***



These are recycled and turned in for cash to help UMCH with ongoing projects in their neighborhood. Just remove the pop tab, collect them in a baggie, and put them in the container in the Fellowship Hall.

***They have a whole parking lot of security lights paid for with pop can tabs!***

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### Happy Birthday

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 4 ~ Gary Besteman     | 18 ~ Sallie Niles    |
| 5 ~ Patti Kohl        | 19 ~ Valdis Arins    |
| 9 ~ Dennis Homminga   | 28 ~ David DeVries   |
| 11 ~ Ardith VanderBee | ~ Tamara Hammond     |
| 12 ~ Tyler Cross      | ~ Stuart Kohl        |
| 14 ~ Carole Strong    | 29 ~ Wyatt Overholt  |
| ~ Hayden Kohl         | 31 ~ Suellen Claflin |
| 17 ~ Fred Bradley     | ~ Sherill Fahrni     |

### Happy Anniversary

- 17 ~ Chuck & Judy Swift



If you don't see your name on our birthday and anniversary list, please let us know so you can be included!

Trustee of the month  
Judy Kidder



You - the people of Caledonia UMC - have been an important part of mom's life for many years. You have helped sustain her in good times and bad, given her a place to be herself, and loved her more than anyone could ask for.

One thing that has stood out in recent years, as she was resident at the Byron Manor, was the rides to church. Many of you went out of your way to pick up mom and dad, and later, just mom.

We appreciate you and all you have done.

Thank you,  
Tom & Ingrid Porritt  
Ron & Julie Porritt  
Don & Sharon Porritt

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<h1>OCTOBER</h1>				1 9:30 am Online Devotions 6:30 pm Scout Planning	2	3
4 10:00 am Worship 12:00 pm Brann's Fundraiser	5 7:00 pm Scouts	6	7 9:30 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Wild & Free Student Ministry	8 9:30 am Online Devotions 10:30 am UMW 6:30 pm Finance Committee 7:15 pm Ad. Council	9	10 8:00 am Trustees
11 10:00 am Worship	12 7:00 pm Scout Meeting	13 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Pieciful Quilters	14 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Pieciful Quilters 9:30 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Wild & Free Student Ministry	15 9:30 am Online Devotions	16	17
18 10:00 am Worship 12:00 pm Pizza Hut Fundraiser	19 7:00 pm Scout Meeting	20	21 9:30 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Wild & Free Student Ministry	22 9:30 am Online Devotions 6:30 pm Endowment Committee	23	24
25 10:00 am Worship	26 2:00 - 8:30 pm Directory Photos 2:00 pm Book Club 6:30 pm SPRC 7:00 pm Scout Meeting	27 9:00 am Pieciful Quilters 2:00 - 8:30 pm Directory Photos	28 9:30 am Staff Meeting 12:00 pm Women In Step 6:00 pm Wild & Free Student Ministry	29 9:30 am Online Devotions	30	31



## CUMC Youth Group

“**Wild and Free**” is taken from **Galatians 5:1**

*“It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.”*

To live wild and free means to be true to yourself, to live unapologetically and entirely who you are at your deepest, most authentic core. It means owning your imperfections as much as your strengths and claiming both as worthy and valuable parts of yourself. In Christ we have been set free to live our lives genuinely!

**Wild & Free Student Ministry meets every Wednesday from 6:00-7:30pm.**

**Youth Group is for anyone in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade. Friends are always welcome!**

**Wild &  
Free**  
STUDENT MINISTRY

Dear UMW Members,

At our upcoming October meeting we'll be discussing and deciding what we would like to financially support in 2021 and your wishes are very important to our mission goals. So, please think about or research some local agencies that you feel are important and could use our support and come to the meeting with your ideas. The meeting will be Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am in the Church basement and possibly some of you would like to continue, socially, after the meeting by going out to lunch.

Please mark your calendars and we'll hopefully see you on October 8. Thank you.

Nancy Duiven  
Secretary, UMW

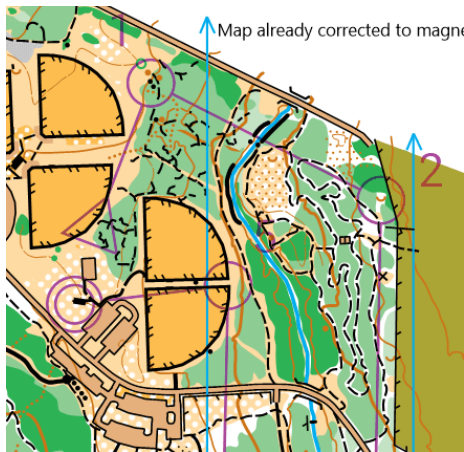


United  
Methodist  
Women

FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION



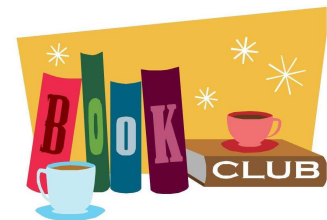
## Scout Troop 202



Scouting is back in session for the year, social distance style. Our first official meeting of the year was held at Lakeside Park with all of the scouts social distancing and wearing masks. The scouts learned about and completed an Orienteering activity. For those that are unfamiliar, Orienteering is generally described as the sport of navigation. Orienteers use highly detailed maps to navigate a specific area. Anyone can participate in this activity, from hikers to families to groups looking for an activity in the park. The more a person does it, the faster

they get at navigation. This also improves your map-reading skills. Orienteering courses have numbered orange and white flags placed in the terrain and the maps use symbols, like a triangle, circle and lines.

The **CUMC Book Club** will meet on Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm at Nancy Duiven's home, 9100 84th Street, Alto. Please remember to bring your face mask and we will meet on Nancy's porch.

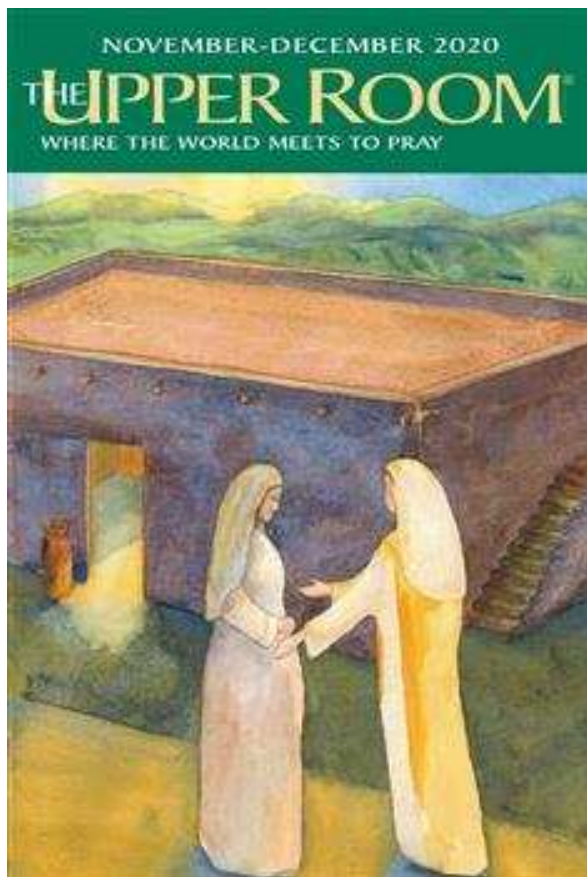


We will read and discuss *The Starless Sea* by Erin Morgenstern.

We meet for 1 - 1 1/2 hours and have a lively discussion about the book and enjoy great fellowship. Light refreshments are provided. *All are welcome to attend.*

Please contact Nancy or the church office for more information.

Caledonia United Methodist Church  
250 Vine Street  
Caledonia, MI 49316



The November/December issue of *The Upper Room* daily devotional guide is available in the church office.

Pick one up next time you're in the church, or contact Erin at [office@caledoniaumc.org](mailto:office@caledoniaumc.org) to have a copy mailed to your home.