

Georgetown
United Methodist
Church

**Special points
of interest:**

- Rev. Browne's departure and farewell letter
- New Pastor- Rev. Sherri Swawson
- Young

Disciples Ministry

- Annual

Conference

- Upcoming

Community Events

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Volume 1, Issue 1

June 2018

2018 Michigan Annual Conference

Bishop David Bard shares a reminder of the importance of this gathering: "We gather again in 2018 in an historic time for United Methodism. For Michigan United Methodists who have long shared a resident bishop but have lived in two conferences, this is the final meeting as separate entities. We begin living into



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(<http://news.michiganumc.org/2018/05/watch-conference-live/>)

To read more from Annual Conference including the Program Book from annual conference and the Legislative Book, click [here](#).



Event: Pop Can Collection **June 9 from 3:00-6:00pm**

M & M Circle in collaboration with Young Disciples Youth 4th-12th grade will be doing a pop can collection to raise money for a liver transplant fund for a member of our church community.

Please email Sara Zallar: sara@gumonline.org or call the church office if you would like us to make a pickup at your house! Donations can also be dropped off; call the church office for location information.

Community Garden Project

Young Disciples

To volunteer to help with the garden, please click link below to see schedule.

[Garden Volunteer Schedule](#)

Want to keep up with the Young Disciples over the summer, including garden updates and Youth activities? Visit the website under "Ministries->Kids" to keep up with the weekly newsletters or click the link below to receive them directly in your mailbox!

[Click here](#)

The community gardens are laid and in the process of being planted! We will be growing cabbage, radishes, beets, lettuce, kale, tomatoes, carrots, scallions, winter squash and a plethora of herbs. When our produce is ready to harvest we will donate

it to the GUM Church food pantry or community depending on the timing. Are you available to come water the garden, pull weeds, or harvest produce for a day this summer? We have plenty of opportunities to help, please contact Sara Zallar or Bailey Williams if you would

like to sign up!
Sara@gumonline.org
Bailey@gumonline.org



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JUNE 25-28, 2018
6:00-8:00 PM



Registration now open to children entering K5-5th grade in the 2018-2019 school year!
Application available on the church website: GUMonline.org
Volunteers needed! Contact Sara: sara@gumonline.org

Meet our new pastor: Rev. Sherri Swanson



Pastor Sherri is originally from Burlington, IA. She graduated from Truman State University in Kirksville, MO with a Bachelor of Art degree and from Garrett- Evangelical

Theological Seminary in Evanston, IL with a Master of Divinity degree. She also studied for a year at an Anglican seminary in Durham, England. She served as previous pastorates in Michigan at Three Oaks, Lakeside, Galien, Olive Branch and Faith United Methodist church in Grand Rapids. Pastor Sherri is married to Pastor Brad Bartelmay who is serving as the lead pastor at First

United Methodist Church of Holland. They are parents of three adult sons: Ben who is serving in the Peace Corps in Comoros and twins-Sam, studying Mechanical Engineering at Grand Valley State University and Tom, studying Jazz Guitar at Wayne State University. In her free time Pastor Sherri enjoys: reading, walking, playing the piano, going to the beach, skiing and yoga. Her first Sunday here at GUMC will be July 29.

Nursery Ministry News

Summer Nursery Care Providers

The nursery is looking for care providers to help with the summer worship hour. If you, your youth, or you **and** an eager upper-elementary child would like to play with our adorable nursery kids for an hour a couple times this summer please let Jenny Care know via email jenny@gumonline.org

Photo Release

The nursery ministry and children’s ministry are updating photo release approval. We like to share with the church what is happening in our ministries, while respecting parent’s discretion. Please let Jenny Care know if you would **not** like your child’s photo used on the church Facebook page or in the church newsletter.

Nursing Mother Room

If you are looking for a quiet place to nurse your little one, S-4 is available for use during worship. The room is located through the double doors of the sanctuary on the Baldwin St side. There is a rocking chair, diaper changing area and bathroom.

Meet our interim Pastor: Rev. Lynn DeMoss

Lynn will be here at GUMC for a meet and greet June 10th and then will be here for passionate worship from June 24- July 22.



Farwell from Rev. Dr. Jennifer Browne

Dear friends,

Unbelievably, June is here and I have less than three weeks left as your pastor. I'm looking forward to my next appointment as Director of Clergy Excellence for the Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church...but at the same time, I'm *not* looking forward to saying goodbye to all of you. Whether you know it or not, you've been the source of remarkable grace in my life. Here are just a few of those ways –

Your patience. I arrived single and moved into an apartment in Grandville. A year later, I was married and moving to a house in Kalamazoo. You welcomed me, overlooked my many moments of distraction, and sent prayers and good wishes all along the way.

Your flexibility. I arrived with many years of experience leading traditional worship; it took me awhile to get the hang of a more informal worship style. And I learned to love it! You've taught me that faith comes in many forms.

Your commitment. The core of GUMC, it seems to me, is that you truly share a commitment to "actively living the example of Jesus." You are a mission-minded group of Christians who care about others and want to see each child of God given the opportunity to grow and flourish. You are a congregation with wide-open doors, purposely ignoring the line between "us" and "them," which is exactly what Jesus did.

Your humor. You love to laugh! Keep it up, GUMC. God loves to laugh, too. Joy is a sign that you're taking God's promise of constant presence so seriously that celebration always wins out over solemnity.

Your generosity. Over and over I learned that when you care, you give. Whether it's to mission projects abroad, local ministry programs, or caring for someone within our congregation, your generosity never ceased to surprise and impress me.

Do I see challenges ahead for you? Well yes, of course! The top two on my list are –

The building and property. The earliest part of the building is forty years old now. Just like a person, it's going to take more care and attention than it did in its early years. Offering a safe, warm, dry and hospitable place for the worship and activities that take place within GUMC's walls – this too is ministry.

Intentional faith development. In order for GUMC to grow and thrive in the 21st century, each of you will need to take your own discipleship seriously. To be a follower of Jesus is to consciously and conscientiously attend worship, deepen your learning and offer your gifts in service and support. I can't say it more plainly and I can't overstate its importance.

There is a #3, of course. Some of you might have guessed...wear your nametag! Please, please, please. Not just for the new pastor...but for the next person who shows up for the first time and needs your smile and your name.

Many blessings to you, GUMC friends. My prayers will always be with you, and I deeply appreciate yours as I start this new vocational adventure.

God's peace to you,

Jennie



Our vision is to actively live the example Jesus.