

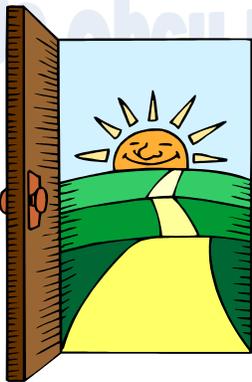


# PMC Connections

From the desk of...

Reverend Thomas Davenport

The Open Door



## Giving and Getting

The great actor Katharine Hepburn wrote these inspiring words:

“Love has nothing to do with what you are expecting to get—only what you are expecting to give—which is everything. What you will receive in return varies, but really has no connection with what you give. You give because you love and cannot help giving. If you are very lucky, you may get loved back. That is delicious, but it does not necessarily happen.”

These words are true! They are true of all kinds of Love! They may be the secret to happiness in relationships, with spouses, and children, (and even in-laws!).

It is true in our devotion to God, our love of Christ, and our sacred connection with the Holy Spirit! We LOVE not because of what we get, but because we can do no other thing. We are overwhelmed by love, and just have to let it loose!

I am occasionally dismayed when I meet folks who are turned around about this. They have an expecta-

tion of others and their love for themselves, and when not met, they also withhold. What a sad situation.

When we love without expectation, we are surprised and amazed with the unexpected love we receive.

Our LOVE of the church is also in this category. We do not come to church to be entertained or because we are supposed to “get something out of it” but we worship because it is our devotion to God! And occasionally we are surprised when God speaks to us. Perhaps we hear God speak in the Choral Anthem, or when a child comments in worship. God can even use a preacher!

We come to worship because we have something to give to God, and if we are blessed, it is a bonus!

See you next Sunday.

Pastor Thom

Church Office: 269-344-0125

Office Hours:  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Monday - Thursday

parchmentumc@tds.net  
OR  
pastorthomm@hotmail.com  
www.parchmentumc.org

Deadline  
for October Issue:  
Monday, September 19, 2016

# September 2016

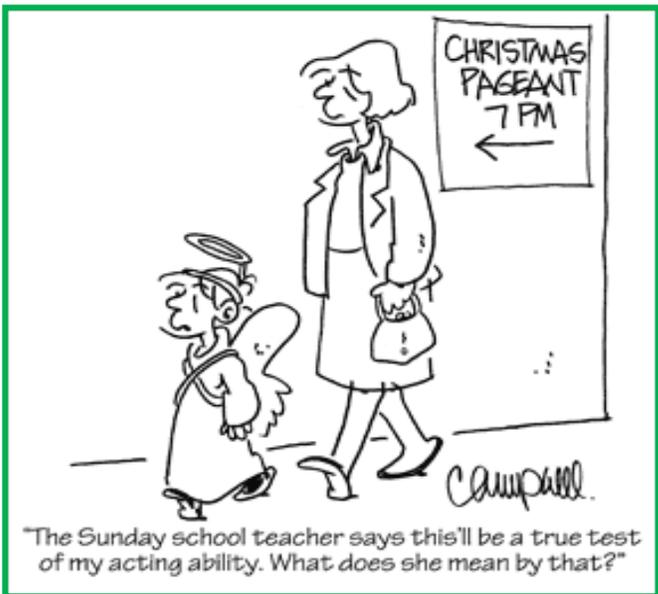
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Worship 9:30 am	5 Labor Day Church Office closed	6 Grounds 9- 11:30am  Family Fun Nite 6pm	7	8	9	10
11 Men's Breakfast Michelle's 8am  Worship 10:30am Pot Luck Dinner 11:30am	12	13 Grounds 9- 11:30am  Family Fun Nite 6pm	14	15 Trustee Mtg 7pm	16 Rummage Sale 1-6	17 Rummage Sale 9-2
18 Worship 10:30am	19 Newsletter arti- cles due today	20 Grounds 9- 11:30am Memorial & En- dowment 10am -Lounge Family Fun Nite 6pm	21 Worship Com- mittee 6:30pm	22 Task Force 6:30pm	23	24
25 Worship 10:30am  Outreach Com- mittee Mtg 11:30am	26 Finance Com- mittee 6:30pm	27 Grounds 9- 11:30am  Leadership Council 7pm Family Fun Nite 6pm	28	29	30	

**Head Usher for September: Dave Schmitt**

**Trustee on Duty for September: Max Hausermann**



- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 5 Barb Hilton      | 19 Ryan Docsa      |
| 6 Craig Laws       | 20 Marti Poolman   |
| 7 Jillian Cooper   | 20 Donna Sandefur  |
| 9 Dave Carr        | 22 Dean Clark      |
| 9 Nancy Mulder     | 24 David Schmitt   |
| 10 Hunter Born     | 25 Steven Docsa    |
| 11 Chuck Arney     | 25 Howard Portrude |
| 13 Rosalyn Meyers  | 27 Mary Lou DeGraw |
| 16 Cathy Flamm     | 28 Kay O'Boyle     |
| 16 Aimee Gillespie | 28 Michelle Smith  |
| 16 Ann Hausermann  | 29 Walter Adams    |



- 15 Bob & Barb Hilton ('56)
- 16 Dean & Verda Clark ('56)
- 21 John & Peggy Costello ('07)
- 28 Dave & Carol Schmitt ('56)

**RUMMAGE SALE!!**

Friday September 16th 1pm-6pm  
 Saturday September 17th 9am-2pm

Contact Joann Pierce 352-9361 if you are able to help a few days prior to the sale and/or during the sale itself.

**Fall Bazaar 2016 – Mark Your Calendar!**

The Fall Bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 12, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. Mark your calendar as this is the day to start your holiday shopping! Lots of special items are in the works . . . jams, jellies, gifts and more!



**Kudos to...**

- ♦ John Costello, Lay Speaker, who is “at the ready” with an interesting sermon when called to stand in for our Pastor.
- ♦ Haven Born (our Nursery Attendant) who returned recently from a missions trip to Nicaragua. What a wonderful example she sets for our youth today!

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	
August 7	81
August 14	74
August 21	68
August 28	93

# World MISSIONS



The United Methodist Churches in the United States continue to support missionary work in Africa. We will be contributing this fall to the New Life Center (supporting Missionary Delbert Groves) and to Lord's Mountain Orphanage (supporting Pastor Bernard & Betty Lumene).

The following is an excerpt from a recent email:

Greetings from Lord's Mountain Orphanage, Zambezi, Africa

*Dear Friends,*

*In April the plan has been to finish the roofing of the open part of the multipurpose room that was started 2 years ago with the financial support of the many United Methodist Churches in the United States. The builders are yet to finish plastering before working on the floors, which will be covered with PVC tiles. This is in the main room only.*

*Electricians are on site, and painters are on call and will paint everything. Carpenters are making 11 doors also.*

*We want to tell you about the importance of agriculture here as we are growing MAIZE and SWEET POTATOES with the help of the boys and girls that live here. These foods are the base of our diet. We can't close without telling you how much your support is appreciated and we give thanks to GOD for your love and prayers that have brought us this far. May the LORD'S name be glorified.*

*~Pastor Benard & Betty Lumene*

60<sup>th</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY

A decorative floral graphic with green leaves and yellow and blue flowers, positioned below the anniversary text.

The family of David and Carol Schmitt would like everyone at PUMC to join them in wishing David and Carol a very happy 60th Anniversary on September 28th.

# From Reverend Davenport

## Rally Sunday September 11, 2016

Worship returns to the Sanctuary at 10:30

We will celebrate by giving Holy Bibles to our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and up Sunday school children.

We will formally welcome and install Rev. Thomas A. Davenport as our pastor on this day.

Come and join the family of God as we worship together!

A pot luck dinner will be served after the service. The main dish and beverages will be provided.

Please bring a dish to share.

### **Update: Gordon Lunt Task Force:**

For several months, a task force has been meeting, praying, planning and working to hear the desires and ideas for how we might use the gift we have received. Many of the good folks of Parchment UMC have met in small groups (Listening Posts), to share ideas and information.

We have worked to do more listening than talking, because it is our desire to hear from the heart of the people what might be a meaningful and creative way to use this gift.

Furthermore, the Task Force has been exploring many options including but not limited to: Ways to care for the Mortgage (\$650,000 remaining). Many ideas from paying it all off, to using some of the funds to lower the principal, and invest the remaining, and continue to pay monthly. Currently our monthly obligation is \$ 4,593.77 or \$55,125.24 annually. Discussions include reducing our monthly mortgage by paying down our principal significantly. We are interested in your thoughts.

Additionally, we are dreaming about Ministry and Mission, local and globally. How might this gift shape our ministry to our youth, grow our outreach to families and friends of our Parchment community. How might this gift inspire our ministry of "Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World".

Thirdly, we have been talking with investment management firms, to strategize the best way to meet our shared goals.

At these listening posts, we hope to hear and record ideas from every member of the church. Out of that, we will do our best to develop a plan of action, which we would present before the whole church. We would then continue to listen and improve the plan, with input from all. If we are ready, we would then present the plan for a vote at a WHOLE CHURCH CONFERENCE. The timeline for all this is not yet determined, however we hope this might happen within the year.

In the meantime, the Board of Trustees functions as the custodian of the funds. The Board has moved the funds into a stable and secure investment until the time when we, as a whole church, approve the plan of action.

**Pastor Thom**

Parchment United Methodist Church  
225 Glendale Blvd.  
Parchment, MI 49004



A Purpose-Driven Church Serving Christ in  
the Heart of Parchment



Like us on Facebook!



**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday—Thursday

9:00 a.m.—1 p.m.