



May, 2023

CTC CONNECTIONS

Countryside Trinity Church - 4690 Weiss Street - Saginaw, Michigan 48603

From the Pastor

----- JANE LYNN YOUNG

I love to sing! I sing a lot! I sing "oldies", I sing opera, I sing hymns, and sometimes I make up songs! I don't have a great voice. You don't have a great voice in order to sing! Singing is about the song, not about the quality of voice. Sometimes it seems that the only appropriate response is to sing!

Happy May! What a glorious month! The weather will be wild, that we can count on. But it will be moving towards a steady stream of sunny, warm weather. And plants can be moved and/or planted outside towards the end of the month. Mother's Day is in May. Pentecost is in May! Surely singing is a proper response!

An article came across my desk this week entitled: 9 Reasons Every Church needs to Sing Hymns. I'm not going to give you all 9 reasons. I'll be a good Presbyterian and pick only three.

So, the first reason every church needs to sing Hymns is: They tell **The story**. I remember being young and in Sunday School. We had gathering time and all the elementary grades sang together before going to our classes. Singing hymns spoke to me in such a way, that I just knew I was hearing Jesus.

The second reason Congregations need to sing hymns: They allow for more authentic response of emotional expression. I sing because I'm Happy! Precious Lord, Take my Hand, I sing when I feel lost. I sing, because God gave me music. And sometimes there is no other way to pray.

And the third reason. Hymns were written for congregational singing. This is so cool. Did you know that when we sing hymns we breathe together? We automatically take a breath at the end of the sentence! Together.

The beating of our hearts is the first rhythm we hear - from the moment God knits us together in the womb. And so heartbeat and breath - when we sing together we are one body. And we know whose body we are.

Breathe in - and let it go.

Together, one body in Christ.

Hear it. Feel it. Sing it.

It is well with my soul!

Grace and truth,

Pastor Jane





May, 2023

Upcoming Lectionary Readings

<p>May 7, 2023 Acts 7:55-60 Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 1 Peter 2:2-10 John 14:1-14</p>	<p>An angry crowd stones Stephen: he prays: Jesus, receive my spirit. Deliver me, O Lord; into your hand I commit my spirit. Now you are God's people, built into a temple like living stories. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life; he prepares a place for us.</p>
<p>May 14, 2023 Acts 17:22-31 Psalm 66: 8-20 1 Peter 3:13-22 John 14:15-21</p>	<p>Paul introduces the Athenians to their "unknown god": the Lord. Bless God, who hears our prayers and keeps us among the living. Do not fear; testify to the hope that is in you through Christ. Jesus says: the Father will send the Spirit, who will abide in you.</p>
<p>May 18, 2023 Acts 1:1-11 Psalm 47 Or Psalm 93 Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53</p>	<p>Forty days after his resurrection, Jesus ascends into heaven. Clap, shout, and sing with joy: the Lord reigns over all the earth. The Lord reigns in majesty, high above the mighty waters. Christ is seated at God's right hand, above every earthly power. Jesus interprets the Scriptures; then he is carried up into heaven.</p>
<p>May 21, 2023 Acts 1:6-14 Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 John 17:1-11</p>	<p>After Jesus' ascension, the disciples go to Jerusalem and pray. God rides upon the clouds, and gives power to the people. You are suffering now, but the God of grace will restore you. Jesus seeks the glory of God and prays for his disciples.</p>
<p>May 28, 2023 Acts 2:1-21 Or Numbers 11:24-30 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 Or Acts 2:1-21 John 20:19-23 Or John 7:37-39</p>	<p>On the day of Pentecost, God pours out the Spirit upon the earth. The Lord sends the Spirit to the elders of Israel, and they prophesy. The Lord of creation sends forth the Spirit to renew the earth. In the body of Christ there are varieties of gifts, but one Spirit. On the day of Pentecost, God pours out the Spirit upon the earth. The risen Lord appears to the disciples and gives them the Spirit. Jesus promises the Spirit: living water from the believer's heart.</p>



NO SESSION MEETING WAS HELD IN APRIL



Betty Burr Samaritas Senior Living	Joan Comstock @ Home	Dawn Curtis @ Home
Betty Hauk Wellspring Assisted Living	Floyd & Lois Krzak @ Home	Marie Lemmer Wellspring Assisted Living
Fern Evon Little Swan Haven Manor	Virginia Lyon @ New Hope Valley	Norma Meacham @ daughters in North Carolina
Elaine Miner @ Home	Fran Prueter @ Home	Helen Reynolds Wellspring Memory Care
John & Leore Bethune @ Home		Judi Westendorf The Bickford



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER OBSERVANCE will be celebrated by Saginaw Township on Thursday, May 4, 2023, indoors at the Saginaw Township Fire Station #1, 6171 Shattuck Road, Saginaw, Michigan 48603 beginning at 12:00 p.m. until 1:00 p.m.

This day is a Solemn Assembly for the nation.

Each Christ-follower is called to gather, pray & petition God for His mercies & grace to once again be bestowed upon our nation. This year, please come . . . and exhort every citizen of heaven to know you know to fulfil this sacred duty.



ELDERS & DEACONS – 2023 TO 2025	
SESSION COUNCIL	DEACONS
Class of 2023 Mary Ann Parker Mary Longstreth Roger Scovill	Class of 2023 Barbara Groom Nancy Easlick
Class of 2024 Sidney Diggs Debbie Davis Sandy Redfield	Class of 2024 Lynne Groom Jackie Williams Ron Platt
Class of 2025 Darren Woodke Becky Pequignot Bethany Scovill	Class of 2025 Pat Denno Ronda Otway Duncan Redfield <hr/> Co-Opted Member Dan Groom



There are copies of the flyer on the table in Fellowship Hall. Feel free to pick one up.

Friday Night Live is a live summer concert series began in 1998 and takes place in Morley Plaza located in the heart of Downtown Saginaw. The 2022 concert series will be the 24th consecutive season. Friday Night Live is one of the many events created by Positive Results Downtown Saginaw. Other events include Harvest Days at the Farmer’s Market in September, Holidays in the Heart of the City and the Christmas Parade in November, the Outhouse Races in February, and the Memorial Day Parade in May.

Directions to Morley Plaza, Downtown

Morley Plaza is the park between the Temple Theatre and Huntington Bank. For directions, please use the address: 101 N. Washington, Saginaw, MI 48607

FREE Entertainment • FOOD Vendors • FUN Children’s Games • Adult Refreshments Available



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CTC?

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

The new Directories are finished and on the table near the East entrance and in Fellowship Hall. If you would like to have one mailed to you, please call or email the office and let us know.



SUNDAY SCHOOL AND TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES.

Ms. Sandy will take the children to Sunday School class on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month unless otherwise announced.



THESE DAYS: *These Days* magazines are on the table in Fellowship Hall if you would like to pick one up. A donation jar is on the table.

GREETING CARDS: A variety of greeting cards are on the window ledge in Fellowship Hall. Please leave your payment in the basket provided.

TWO COINS A MEAL is collected on the 1st Sunday of each month. There is a pail at the back of the Sanctuary marked as such. Please bring your coins in a plastic bag or envelope if you can do so and place in the pail either on your way in or out of the Church. Thank you.

BABY SHOWER. The CTC Women's Association held their annual baby shower to benefit the Baby Pantry and Underground RR on Saturday, April 22nd. Though there was only a few in attendance we were able to collect over 26 articles of clothing, blankets, sheets, baby wipes, diapers and the cash donations are still coming in. Thank you everyone for your participation.

TIME CHANGE FOR SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES

The Session has approved a request from the Spiritual Life Committee to change the time of special worship services such as Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday And Christmas Eve to begin at 4:30 p.m. effective immediately.

Therefore, any special worship services in the future will now begin at 4:30 p.m.

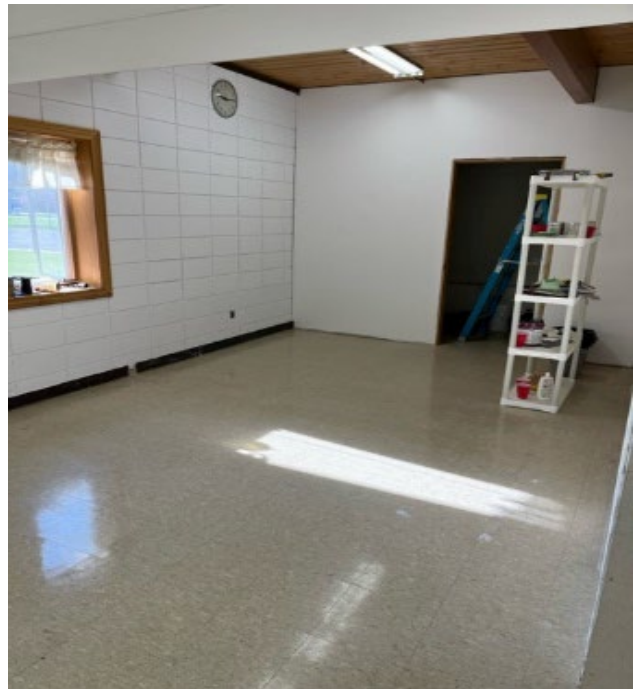


FRIDAY, MAY 12TH and SATURDAY, MAY 13TH from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. both days.

We have accumulated quite a bit of stuff over the past couple of years here at CTC and are now in the planning stages to have a sale to get rid of all the unwanted or unused items currently stored in the rear classroom on the west end of the building and around the church. If you would like to bring in items from your home, please call the church and/or talk with Kathy Loviska to arrange a time to drop off. **No clothing, please.** Those able to do so will be working on Sunday, May 7th following worship to start setting up the sale. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be posted on the Bulletin Board. Thank you.



Roger Scovill and Chuck Davis have been hard at work preparing for the move of our offices (both administrative and pastoral) to their new location. It isn't quite ready yet, but here are a few photos showing the progress being made. The new offices will be where the Christian Ed Office and Toddler Classroom were previously located. We will keep you posted on the progress. We are so lucky and blessed to have such loyal and talented members at Countryside Trinity. Thanks so much to everyone for all that you do.





May, 2023



PICTORIAL HISTORY IN THE PLANNING STAGES

We would like to create a "Pictorial History" of how Countryside Trinity Church came to be what it is today.



In that light, if you have any pictures of the buildings and/or events from Washington Avenue, Warren Avenue, Grace, or Countryside Trinity and you would be willing to share them, please see Pastor Jane or Kathy Loviska for further information. Thank you.

5th Annual 18-Hole Fundraiser Special Vision Golf Outing



Benefiting Special Olympics & Choroideremia Research Foundation

Saturday, June 10, 2023 - Valley View Farms Golf Course

\$70.00 per person includes Golf, Cart, Lunch, Door Prizes and Raffles

4-Person Scramble Format-9 a.m. Registration with a 10 a.m. Shotgun Start



Flyers are on the table in Fellowship Hall – or Call Kim: 989 860-5309 or David : 989 245-7226



BIRDS & BLOOMS GOLF CART TOUR Chippewa Nature Center

May 16, 2023

9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

400 S. Badour Rd.

Midland, Michigan 48640

989 631-0830

Event Description: Join Interpretive Naturalists to venture out in search of birds and wildflowers from the comfort of golf carts. Bring your own binoculars or borrow a pair from CNC. This program is especially designed for those with limited mobility. Pre-registration is required for this free program. FREE | All ages, children under 18 w/adult supervision. Registration Required, Space is limited.

Directions: Chippewa Nature Center 400 S Badour Rd, Midland, MI 48640



END CHILD MARRIAGE IN MICHIGAN POSTCARD PARTY

Sunday May 21, 2023

Please join me immediately after church Sunday May 21, 2023, in fellowship hall to see a quick video and put together postcards to our state legislators to end child marriage in Michigan.

Around the world, 12 million girls marry before the age of 18 each year and it happens right here in Michigan. 5,426 children were married in Michigan between 2000 and 2021, some as young as 14. Without a voice and isolation from peers and society, child marriage puts girls at risk of violence throughout their lives. Minors have limited rights. This makes escape or divorce difficult if not impossible. A girl's body is not ready for childbirth before the age of 18 which increases the risk of pregnancy complications.

The statistics are clear that early child marriage is a human rights violation. Devastating consequences of marrying before the age of 18 years old include:

- Drop out of school - 50% chance of dropping out of high school
- Cycle of poverty - 31% more likely to live in poverty
- Economic dependence - 3 times more likely to have at least 5 children compared to women who marry in adulthood
- Health - 23% greater risk for serious health conditions such as heart attack, diabetes, cancer and stroke
- Mental health - 3 times more likely to develop antisocial personality disorder and major depressive disorder
- Domestic violence - 3 times more likely to be beaten by their spouse

Michigan legislation has introduced House bills 4293-4302 and Senate bills 209-217 & 246 that will keep the marriage age at 18 and eliminate the loopholes that allow marriage before that age. The Michigan Coalition to End Child Marriage and Zonta Clubs are hosting postcard parties to encourage House Judiciary and Senate Civil Rights, Judiciary and Public Safety Committee members and local representatives and senators to pass the bills. I am a member of both. The more voices, the better the chance of getting the attention of our representatives and senators and legislation passed.

Bring your favorite pens and address labels. I will supply the postcards, state representative and senator address labels and stamps.

Mari McKenzie



May, 2023



PLEASE KEEP THE FAMILY OF DAVID JARVI IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS.

Obituary

On April 1, 2023, David Michael Jarvi passed away peacefully at his home in Grayling, Michigan surrounded by family and friends that loved him deeply. David was born in Detroit, Michigan on May 11, 1949. David was a beloved member of the Grayling community where he lived for the past 21 years with his wife Karen and their two trusty companions Rusty and Amigo. David served as President of the Grayling Eagles and Chaplain of the Grayling and Kalkaska Eagles. He also was an elder at his church, Grayling Evangelical Free. In addition, he was also a dedicated member of the DeColores Community. David and Karen loved to travel and camp in their motorhome all over the state of Michigan, their favorite spot was along the Saint Mary's River in Sault Saint Marie, MI near the Soo Locks. David also enjoyed tracking, listening to and watching the big freighters on Lake Michigan, the Soo Locks and the Navy Vessels in California. He spent much of his free time hunting with friends and was very successful with it. David was a retired Vietnam Veteran having served 20 years as a Navy Corpsman.

David is survived by his wife Karen of 27 years, his three children David Ross Jarvi (spouse Elizabeth), Brent Alexander Jarvi (spouse Kate) and Kristen Alina Wilkes (spouse Christopher). Seven grandchildren Amanda Jarvi, Madeleine Dean, Matthew Colvig, Aaron Colvig, Liam Jarvi, Isabelle Jarvi and Eliza Jarvi. Two great grand-children JP Dean and Hudson Dean. Three brothers Martin Jarvi (spouse Maria), Richard Jarvi (spouse Lois) and Ron Jarvi (spouse Cheryl) and numerous nieces and nephews. David is preceded in death by his father Dr. Rudolph Jarvi, his mother Virginia Jarvi and his first wife Nancy Jarvi.

Services will be held at Grayling Free Methodist Church on Thursday, April 6, 2023. Visitation begins at 9:00 am with services beginning at 12 noon. Immediately after services there will be a gathering at the Grayling Eagles.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to: Grayling E-Free Church, 1636 Hartwick Pines Rd. Grayling, MI 49738.



Countryside Trinity Church
4690 Weiss Street
Saginaw, Michigan 48603

prayables
image.com

Oh Lord

Thank You for spring, the
season of Your expression of joy!
Let every bloom remind me of
Your grace. Let each sunny day
bring light to my soul. As I
spring ahead let these months
give birth to warm thoughts
and kind gestures.

Amen