



# First Life

news from Ferndale First United Methodist Church

May 2017



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**Deadline for the June issue** is **May 20**, Please submit your articles to our office by that time. The late due date allows for more timely information but *requires your cooperation.*

### Our Mission:

**Believe:** *We Know Christ*

**Belong:** *We love Christ*

**Become:** *We serve Christ*

*The people of First United Methodist Church Ferndale believe in Christ, belong to Christ, and strive to become like Christ.*

# *The View From Here*

monthly reflections from Rev. Bob

## *Families, Families, Families*

We recently attended the funeral of a dear saint from my first Michigan parish. In her 95 years she had raised, nurtured and fretted over four sons and got to enjoy several grandchildren, gently loving and guiding them on their life's path. They loved and honored her in return. It wasn't always easy. One son died decades ago of AIDS. Another died of I don't know what, but too young. A third is living with bad lungs and four heart stents. Families don't come with guarantees, even for Christians.

One of our favorite families is a couple who worked diligently to be able to adopt a baby. After some anxious times, they were able to bring their new baby home to a more unusual life. Years later, he's in school now and thriving, both academically and athletically, the black son of two gay white men, both of whom love him and each other very much. What a marvelous, unique family!

Recently I've had conversations with several people who were beaten by one or both of their parents when they were young. Another was beaten repeatedly by a spouse. While physical and emotional violence can sometimes lead to similar abuse in the next generation, thank God this is not guaranteed, and the cycle of violence can be broken. As I tell couples during pre-marital counseling, if a hand is ever laid on one in violence, there is only one word to be said: *Good-bye*. If a person waits, assuming there won't be a second occurrence, one is likely already trapped in the cycle.

Sometimes children disappoint their parents. Sometimes parents' hearts hurt for their children. We have hopes for them that may never come true. Jobs are lost, rent is due, homes are foreclosed, debt burdens our souls. The way ahead looks bleak. Sometimes family relationships are strained and occasionally broken. Good things happen when we are loved in spite of differences or disagreements or failures. Sometimes we simply agree to disagree and leave it at that. As a quiet person visiting my quieter parents, there are sometimes long gaps of stillness because most of what we can safely talk about is who is sick and who died. Or we're all asleep sitting up. To venture into the world of ideas, beliefs, politics or even faith in any honest way would only convince them further that I have deserted the beliefs they tried to instill in me.

I'm really loving being "Papa" to our new grandson. Most people don't realize that I have nine other step-grandchildren and a great-granddaughter by a previous marriage. Our relationships aren't broken; they are simply not close. Facebook provides all the contact that's needed for now. That seems to be how that part of my family operates best.

In our own immediate family, we'll be celebrating the baptism of our grandson in worship on May 7. There won't be a bunch of uncles and aunts because Jill's sisters broke off all contact with her after their father's death over four years ago. No explanation was ever given. They even "unfriended" her on Facebook. The recent death of a beloved uncle must have aroused some guilt in them as they emailed saying they couldn't live with the anger anymore. Apparently getting that off their chests was enough; there hasn't been any further effort at communication on their part. How sad all this would have made their parents! Families don't come with guarantees.

Our daughter's birth father readily admitted that he wasn't a good dad, having little contact with her, sporadically coming in and out of her life for years at a time. Minimal contact became a form of emotional protection for her and maybe for him too. But he has turned out to be a giddy

*The Bible  
doesn't give us  
only one way to  
be a family*

**First Life**, a free newsletter, is published 10 or more times a year for member, friends and guest of **Ferndale First United Methodist Church**.

**Our mailing address is:**  
22311 Woodward Ave.  
Ferndale, MI 48220

**On the web at:**  
[www.ferndalefirstumc.org](http://www.ferndalefirstumc.org)  
**E-mail us at:**  
[ferndalefirstumc@ameritech.net](mailto:ferndalefirstumc@ameritech.net)

**Find and Friend us on Facebook**

**Phone: 248-545-4467**  
**Fax: 248-545-0238**

**Editor: Stacy Bellman**  
**Minister: Robert Schoenhals**

and involved grandfather much to everyone's happy surprise, and mother and baby are the better for it. Families don't come with guarantees, but sometimes things work out well anyway.

It's easy to forget that Jesus' family just "didn't get" him for most of his life. One time they tried to get him to come home with them where he could recover from his delusions. His strange ideas made them fear for his safety — rightly so, as it turned out. Judging from different reactions in various gospels, even his mother didn't always understand or approve of him. Things changed after the resurrection. Maybe the change in Jesus' family is another strong evidence for the truth of the resurrection. One's relatives can be hard to convince. His mother became the model Christian and a brother, James, became the first leader of the Christian church in Jerusalem. But before all that Jesus changed peoples' thinking on what is a family. Family was never as important in the Bible as community. Without family support, Jesus found what he needed in the community of women and men who followed him, who supported him, who believed in him and his mission. The same is true today. Sometimes family doesn't mean blood relations. Sometimes we find what we need in a loving church that gives a deeper meaning to family.

Sunday, May 14, is known in United Methodist circles as *The Festival of the Christian Home*. Granted, family doesn't always feel like a festival. But sometimes it does. Families come in many varieties, and contrary to some beliefs, the Bible doesn't give us only one way to be a family. God does, however, insist that we learn to love each other. And what better place to practice that challenge than in our families, no matter what kind they are!

Bob

I ♥  
MUM

## IN HONOR OF ALL MOTHERS

We invite everyone to bring a potted geranium of any color to our Mother's Day Service, Sunday, May 14.

Plant stakes will be available for you to dedicate your plant in memory of a loved one, special person, or occasion. Plants will be planted in the outdoor garden area around our church on Saturday, May 20th during our Spring Cleanup.

Feel free to donate any perennial plants, or cuttings from your own garden, as well. You can also bring any other annual plant(s) you wish to donate. Below are some suggestions for plants we are looking for. If you would rather make a financial donation for the purchase of plants for the church grounds please note this in your donation. Memory stakes will also be available to those making financial donation.

Questions? Call Larry S. 248-397-8065

**SUGGESTION: Perennials**—Black Eye Susan, Cone Flowers, Coral Bells, Coreopsis, Echinacea, Daisy, Lavender, Russian Sage Shasta.

**Annuals**—Coleus, Chrysanthemums, Begonias, Geraniums, Snap Dragons

### ***We are a Reconciling Congregation, which means:***

*The people of Ferndale First United Methodist Church are called to share God's love as we minister with and to all persons, providing worship, nurture, fellowship, and service. Our welcome knows no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender identity, sexual orientation, family configuration, and economic condition, physical or mental ability. We embrace and seek to preserve the beautiful, amazing diversity of God's creation. We cooperate in ministry with other local churches and groups of God's people as we participate in the worldwide mission of Christ. (based on 2 Corinthians 5.18)*

### ***We are a Sanctuary***

**Church.** *Our Church Council voted to be a church where a family of immigrants and/or refugees could be housed temporarily in an emergency to prevent them from being deported or separated. This is a major step in the life of our congregation, so we will soon be offering a training/information session on what it means to be a Sanctuary Church so our whole membership and Good Shepherd congregation can be aware of what is involved. (Meanwhile 7 of our members have received training and more information is available online from Michigan United, [www.miunited.org](http://www.miunited.org))*

# Worship at Ferndale First

## Worship at Ferndale First UMC in May \*

May provides us with some outstanding opportunities to worship together, especially with those who have returned from the south and before some head off for summer vacations. It's a great time to celebrate what we have together in Christ.

**May 7 – 4th Sunday of Easter**, Why was First Church Jerusalem the liveliest place to be in those heady days after the resurrection? Those days are long gone, but does that mean we need to settle for deadly routine? Message: *The Church That Couldn't Keep Folks Out*, Acts 2.41–47. The baptism of *Rhys Alejandro Bustamante Warren*, grandson of Jill and Pastor Bob will take place.

**May 14 – 5th Sunday of Easter; Festival of the Christian Home (Mother's Day)**; The role that mothers and other care givers have played in our lives will be the main feature of this service, and we will celebrate by bringing flowers to be planted around the church in honor of loved ones. (see p. 5 for details) Message: *Answer to an Identity Crisis*, 1 Peter 2.2–10, helps remind us who we are. *Holy Communion* and *Anointing with Oil* in dedication of our families will cap the day.

**May 21 – 6th Sunday of Easter; Heritage Sunday**; this is a celebration of those who went before us, leaving us a great example of faith and a beautiful building dedicated to God's use in Ferndale; living faithfully with that trust is our theme; Message: *The Search for the Living Christ*, Acts 17.22–31. In an age of doubt there's much more.

**May 28 – 7th Sunday of Easter; Ascension Sunday**. There are several ways to look at Jesus' farewell to his disciples. Let's see what we can make of them, since none of us had the opportunity to be there for the big event. What might they mean for us? Message: *Jesus Bids Adieu*, John 17.1–11 and Acts 1.6–12.

*Who would you like to invite to worship with you next Sunday? (Depending on whose research you read, 65–85% of all people who attend a church for the first time come because they were invited by a friend, neighbor, co-worker or relative.)*

\* All messages subject to change with circumstances.



## Serving in May

### Liturgists

7	Jim West
14	Bloesel Gordon
21	Kathy Shuller
28	Kathy Arcese

### Ushers

Liz Nasser  
Mollie Monroe  
Milzie Murdock

### Coffee Hour

7	Richard & Margaret Churchill
14	(volunteers needed)
21	Dot Carter
28	Nick & Florence Zulick

### Counters

Karen King  
Kathy Arcese  
Natalie Baeckeroot  
Diane Barrantes

### Greeters:

Margaret Churchill

**Ushers Needed.** We need a few additional ushers. We can work out a schedule that will fit your needs. If you are willing to serve the church in this way, please see Liz Nasser or Richard Churchill.

**Greeters needed:** We need people to be by the red door to greet people each Sunday morning. Would you be interested? If so, Margaret Churchill would love to hear from you. Contact her at 248-547-5769.

**FLOWERS, FLOWERS, FLOWERS!!** This is just a reminder that all are invited to celebrate, honor and remember special people and occasions by dedicating the weekly altar floral arrangements. If you are interested in selecting a Sunday to "sponsor" the altar arrangement, please contact the office and let them know, or sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office. What a wonderful way to beautify our service and make someone feel special! The cost is \$15.00 for each arrangement

# Mission and Outreach

## Parents Night Out

Parents night this month will be the 3rd Friday because of Good Friday.



Please contact Marilyn Hart or the church office or sign up at the volunteer table if you can help. All it takes is a love of children! If you want to do it regularly additional training and certification are available.

**Next Parents Night Out Sessions:** May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11

## Community Dinners Continue

A time to come together as a community in fellowship and enjoy a delicious, nutritious meal. **Free.** No reservations required.

**Next Dinners:** Wednesdays, May 31, June 28, July 26, August 30

We need people to sign up for May and beyond. If you would like to help with set-up, clean-up or cooking the meal, please see the sign up sheets on the stand alone bulletin board in the social hall or **please contact Mary Lenaway (248)229-5685.**

Thank you, Mary and everyone who helps! Cost can be reimbursed.

**The Clothes Closet** is also open until 7:00 pm on Community Dinner nights.

## Ferndale First United Methodist Spring Cleanup

### Spruce & Boost Your Church!

Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>

**8:00 am** Coffee & Donuts.

Church Rummage sale, check on room location on arrival.

**9:00 am** Work begins. We have a variety of inside & outside projects for you and your family to choose from.

**12:30 pm** Some of the inside/outside sprucing & boosting include:

**Planting plants from Mother's Day along church gardens, cleaning church parking lot area of debris, cleaning alley along the south side of 1<sup>st</sup> United, laying mulch on garden areas. Please bring work gloves, garden tools, lawn bags, wheel barrows, buckets, rags for cleaning. Indoor work may include general cleaning of the church including pews, and the cleaning and organizing of a couple of rooms.**

Questions? Call *Larry S. (H) 248-397-8065,*

**\*For the purpose of lunch please sign up by Mother's Day, Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.**

Both church families gathered to celebrate with Mike Cadotte on his ordination as Deacon in the Old Catholic Church



## Memorial Day Parade: We Need Your Feet

Another opportunity to walk for those who are no longer with their units, their families, or their friends is sponsored by Michigan's Fallen.

On Monday, May 29th a special tribute will be paid to honor 260 men and women who gave their lives serving in Michigan's military units in the Iraq and Afghanistan conflict. Ideally we would like to have one volunteer walker for every soldier. Please invite family and friends to join you on this living tribute. We will once again be meeting at the corner of West Maplehurst and Livernois. Sign in will be between 7:30 and 9:30 with the parade starting at 10:00 am.

If you are not able to participate, but know of a group or individuals who are interested in walking this year, or helping in other ways to support our tribute please pass along this information. Any financial donations (tax deductible) can be made to "First United Methodist Church" and on the memo line please add "Michigan's Fallen" to ensure your donation is passed along to the Michigan Fallen organization/committee.

Thank you ahead of time for your consideration. If you would like to speak to me, please feel free to contact me at my home number 248-397-8065 or visit our web site – [mifallenfootfloat.com](http://mifallenfootfloat.com).

# Christian Education

## Kids' Club

Kids' Club is an after school program for kids aged 3 to 6. Running from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Thursdays, the program will consist of Bible stories, music, crafts and snacks.

Please invite your children, nieces and nephews, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Contact the teachers for any questions! We would love to have you!

Ms. Alison Hastings, 248-268-4616

Ms. Kathy Arcese, 248-635-5919

Ms. Natalie Baeckeroot, 248-739-0857



**Pastor's Bible Study** continues each Sunday morning at 9:15 a.m., in the Lower Level Conference Room. We're currently learning about Bible backgrounds, the kinds of things we never learned in traditional religious education.

## Kids Club Banquet



**Who:** Mommies, Daddies, Grandmas, Grandpas, Uncles, Aunts, Special Guests

**When:** Thursday, May 11 @ 5:00

**Where:** Social Hall: Ferndale First United Methodist Church

**Cost:** \$6.00 per person (Kids' Club participants are free!)

**Payable in cash or check (make checks out to Alison Hastings) (on or before May 11th)**

**Menu:** Pizza, salad, ice cream sundaes, beverages

**Activities:** Dinner, Entertainment, Movie Fun!!

Kids arrive at 4:30 to practice, dining to begin at 5:00

**Youth Group** The Youth will meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month for discussions and planning of activities and service projects. Plus there's pizza or other great food!. For upper elementary through high school — *whoever finds it fun and interesting!*

Kofi takes a peek to see if the butterflies are out and flying yet



**Zumba Class**

**Saturdays,**

**11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon**

**Cost: \$5.00 per class**

Amy Smith, the instructor, has reserved space in our church to lead a Zumba class.

# The United Methodist Women



Greetings!!

Spring is here!! After a long winter, I am sure each and every one is ready for some sunshine. Even though we might get a little rain along the way, let us enjoy whatever Mother Nature has to offer. We are blest!! We are United Methodist Women. A warm welcome back for our President, Kathy Shuller.

Our program, *Women in Red* held on March 26, 2017, was very successful. Thanks to all who participated and helped with the planning. Our April 17, 2017 UMW meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Beverly Ratcliffe of Canton, Michigan. She was such a gracious host. Lunch was delicious, we all had an enjoyable time. We were given great information on certain birds. A job well done by our presenter. Thank you Mrs. Ratcliffe.

There are some important dates to remember. Items for the Rummage Sale can be brought in starting April 17, 2017. The setup dates start on Monday, May 15, 2017. The sale dates are Friday, May 19, and Saturday May 20, 2017. We need all the help we can get for this yearly event. Please plan on helping out. On Tuesday, May 30, 2017, members of our unit will be back at Gleaners in Pontiac to work on our mission project. Last year we did well. So let's do the same this year. More information on the time will be announced at our next UMW meeting.

Sisters continue to meet on Mondays at 12 noon. Prayers go out to UMW members who are sick and shut-in, and to those who are still away at their winter homes. Until then, may God continue to bless and keep each and every one. Remember, we are United Methodist Women. Faith, Hope and Love in Action

Blessings,  
Blosel Gordon  
Vice President

## Coffee Hour

Hi Members,

I am writing this letter a little different. I have been asked why some coffee hours are not simple, donuts, bagels, cookies, finger snacks etc. If you choose to do a coffee hour that is not simple that is totally up to you. **Just make sure that you note it in the sign up book that it is a meal instead.**

I have also had questions about paper products. The church's policy is to use as few paper products as possible because of the environment. So the church does not supply any paper products except napkins. If for your coffee hour you would like to use paper products *that is up to you* as well, but understand that the church will not supply them. The church will supply dishware and silverware along with coffee, tea, juice, sugar, sugar sweetener and coffee cream.

Please remember so sign up for a Coffee Hour in the book in the hall upstairs between the office & Sanctuary. It can be found in the Social Hall on the stand during a Coffee Hour or Meal.

I hope this answers any questions you may have. I hope you think on doing a Coffee Hour.

I thank you in advance,  
Sheila Colvin,  
Coffee Coordinator



*From the Family of Betty Charles:*

*Thank you from all of us. We thank the Lord for the blessing of our Mom and for wonderful people like you that have helped us navigate this time of grief.*

*In Christ,  
Leslie*

*I would like to thank all for prayers sent up for my aunt Gussie Fair. She has healed well from her Pelvic injury.*

*Brenda Schooler*

**Empty used prescription bottles** can be sterilized and reused by the Ferndale Free Clinic. We have a box where you can deposit them in the area outside our offices. If you have out of date medications, Fern-Care Free Clinic will take them. However, please keep them separate from the empty prescription bottles. Try putting them in a clear, sealed plastic bag.

# Worship, Music and Fine Arts

**SUNDAY, MAY 7th 2017 @ 2:00pm-3:15pm**  
**PIANO BANANZA: RAGTIME TO ROCK n ROLL**

**Rockin' Jarrod Champion, Ragtime Jon Milan, Blues Songstress Kerry Price, The Boogie Woogie Kid-Matthew Ball**

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF FERNDALE**  
22331 Woodward Ave, Ferndale, MI 48220  
Phone: (248) 545-4467  
Admission: \$10 / kids are free  
*Family-Friendly*



## May Birthdays

- 2 – Andrick Siegmund
- 2 – Jordan Altman
- 6 – William Brown
- 8 – James West
- 8 – Robert Schoenhals
- 10 – Joseph Voiles
- 13 – Reagan Carlstein
- 19 – Owen James Ho
- 24 – Jessica Coleman
- 25 – Dot Carter
- 27 – Lester Charles
- 28 – Milzie Murdock
- 28 – Elizabeth M. Hernandez
- 29 – Corey Nasser
- 31 – Matthew Ball
- 31 – Mallory Fuller



## May Anniversaries

- 13– Roger & Diana Riddle
- 15 – Edward & Renee Polzin
- 17 – Matthew & Jill Pauls
- 27 – Jeff Parker & Yoan Alfaro



## Newsletters by Snail Mail

*If you get a hard copy of this newsletter but would like to receive it by e-mail, please let us know your email address. We have discontinued mailing most, except homebound and those without internet who request hard copies so we encourage you to send us an email address for yourself or a family member or friend who can print it for you. A very limited number of printed newsletters continue to be available at the church. We are using sensible stewardship of our resources. **Please contact our office if you need to continue receiving a hard copy via Postal Service. Otherwise we will assume you get it via email or pick up a copy at church.***



## HONORING MEMORIAL DAY

Wednesday, May 24, 6:00pm light supper, 7:00 p.m. Movie

Our tribute honoring all those who served and lost their lives is an enduring film.

“Taking Chance” is based on a true story of a young 19 year old Marine killed in the line of duty while serving in the Iraq war. Lt. Col. Michael Strobl (Kevin Bacon) volun-

teers to be the military escort officer who will accompany the young marine back to his home town of Dubois, Wyoming, where his family and friends wait to honor him one last time.

If you are looking for something to rekindle your interest in Memorial Day, or view an exceptional film honoring those who gave their all, come join us for an evening that will include a light meal, a great film, and a short discussion following the movie.

**Please contribute by bringing finger food, pizza, salad item, pop/juice, or chips to be shared. A free will offering will be asked for the use of the room.**

Any further questions can be directed to Larry Saville. Feel free to contact him at his home phone 248-397-8065 and leave a detailed message.



# Giving and Living

The “*M word*.” Oh, if I could count the number of times that the word “*money*” has caused me stress or the number of times the mantra, “*I hate money*” has rolled off my lips, the numbers would be off the charts. See, I had long associated money with suffering — the suffering of my family, the suffering of the children I loved and saw starving to death in Guatemala, the suffering of the homeless I befriended, and even the suffering in my own life. In my mind and heart, a lack of money was generally the reason for suffering, and the existence of that lack could be directly correlated to the wealthy not sharing what they had. This was the perceived world that I lived in. A world where money was dirty, sinful, and hurtful... a world where I detested money and wanted to be free of it, yet I needed it to achieve the things that I had dreamed of. A world I could not escape.

Yet, the Lord is faithful, and in God’s *kairos* timing, something wonderful happened that helped change my perspective on *money* forever.

I was in my first semester at Western Theological Seminary — a journey I have never intended taking, but one that God made clear was the way for me to go — and I was trying to make it through the semester without taking out loans. I didn’t make it to my tuition goal, despite working three jobs and getting a scholarship, and I desperately needed financial help. I had no idea where to turn as, once again, tears stained my face surrounding the issue of finances.

In my moment of need, my bitterness and frustration towards money came crashing through, and crying out in anger and defeat, I called my sister in Christ to ask for prayer and her listening ear. I told her of my need of \$3,000, and asked her to pray with me. However, instead of praying she said something to the extent of, “\$3,000? That’s how much I have saved up! I have been asking God what to do with it, so I’ll send it your way!”

I was stunned. This was one of those out of left field moments where God comes crashing through. My friend was in a similar financial position to myself at the time, so asking her for financial help was never on my radar. Yet seeing a woman in such a position offer willingly all that she had for the Lord, with no strings attached... I was changed. God taught me that day, and keeps teaching me over and over again, that money is not inherently dirty, sinful, or hurtful, but the way it is stewarded in the lives of His people is what makes it a blessing or a curse. That day God taught me that with good stewardship rooted in Christ, *money* can build the Kingdom in ways I never could have dreamed. ...

*Laura Claus is the Associate Pastor of Outreach and Small Groups at Orchard Hill Reformed Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan.*



We all celebrated with Verdell Bell and her family on her birthday

## *Pastor’s Discretionary HELP Fund*

While we will still give some grocery cards and bus passes, these will be more limited in frequency and amount and will require confirmation of their use. This is so we can save larger amounts for those who come with bigger needs, such as utility shut-offs, car repairs, rent, etc. *Anyone can contribute an extra, designated gift to this fund at any time. We want to make the fund more effective and place it on a firmer footing by encouraging these extra gifts on each Holy Communion Sunday*, (gifts at other times are always welcome). Again, these are “extra” gifts, for those who wish to do something more, over and above their regular, disciplined giving to Christ’s church. We have extra envelopes available on which you may write: **HELP**.

Some people’s life journey consists of simply trying to survive, often on the street. **If you are approached by someone asking for money, please don’t be embarrassed to refer them to Pastor and the HELP Fund. You are strongly encouraged to not give cash. That is why many of you support the fund, so we can help people directly and fairly.**

*My goal is to maintain a healthy balance of \$1000 for major needs. Special thanks to Meijers for donating several gift cards in varying amounts. These are now all gone. We will not give out more cards until the fund is rebuilt. The fund is growing, and we hope to again have our base balance in the near future. Thank you for your generous support.*

# Opportunities Beyond the Local Church

## ***Swords Into Plowshares Peace Center and Gallery presents Visions of Peace 2017***

Opening March 25 Noon to 4pm. We are proud to invite you to view K-12 grades artwork. This exhibit's mission is to transform the world by encouraging peace and human rights through art education, based on the United Nations Rights of the Child. **Closes May 6, 2017**

## ***Fundraiser for Ruth Ellis Center ~ 7:00 Sunday, May 7 at Nardin Park UMC***

The Ruth Ellis Center is a social services agency with a mission "to provide short-term and long-term residential safe space and support services for runaway, homeless, and at-risk lesbian, gay, bi-attractional, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth." As LGBTQ youth continue to be disproportionately affected by homelessness, the Ruth Ellis Center remains dedicated to ensuring that these vulnerable youth and young adults receive the services and inherent protections available to all citizens. No youth is turned away or denied services. Ruth Ellis Center, founded in 1999, is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization.

**You're invited** to a fundraiser for the Ruth Ellis Center at 7:00 on Sunday evening, May 7 in the Chapel at Nardin Park UM Church in Farmington Hills. Jerry Peterson, Executive Director of Ruth Ellis Center, will speak about the programs offered to young people and their families. Desserts will be served following the presentation. The fundraiser is sponsored by DRUM (Dedicated Reconciling United Methodists) and NPUMC Church & Society Team.

Nardin Park UMC is at 29887 W. 11 Mile Road in Farmington Hills. **Note: Construction** completely blocks 11 Mile Road east of Orchard Lake Road. Approaching from Middlebelt Road, the sign on the barricade declares "Road Open to Nardin Park Church." Park near the back corner, by the rainbow balloons. Call the church office with questions, 248-476-8860, 8:30-4:30 M-F

***St. Paul UMC Outreach Committee Bowling Fundraiser*** to help raise funds for building repairs. Saturday, May 20 at 2:30 pm at Plum Hollow Lanes, 21900 W. 9 Mile Rd., Southfield. Join the fun with two hours of bowling, pizza & pop for a donation of \$20 per person (use of rental shoes included). They will also have a 50/50 raffle for \$1 per ticket. For ticket or more information contact: Janika Massey at 313-721-8880 or Cheryl Tipton at 313-580-3141

## ***Camp Changes Lives***

Walk in the woods, swim in the lake, and make s'mores over the campfire. Talk about God and how His love transforms us. Try new activities, make friends and sing silly camp songs! Yes! Michigan Area United Methodist Camping offers all this and more. Your children or grandchildren can have all the fun of summer camp and grow in their faith as well.

The new camp brochure is available *outside the church office*. You'll also find special events for adults and families (choir retreat anyone?), as well as RV/tent campgrounds you can visit on your own schedule.

Learn more and register online at <http://www.umcamping.org>.



## **Contact us:**

**Regular Office Hours:**  
Weekdays 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
(Voice mail available 24 hours)

**Minister's Hours:**\* Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.  
12:30 p.m. - 4 pm or later  
Wed., late afternoons/evenings by appointment  
\*subject to change as pastoral and family needs dictate; appointments are always welcome

## **Ways to Connect:**

**Church Phone:** 248-545-4467

**Fax:** 248-545-0238

**Website:**

[www.ferndalefirstumc.org](http://www.ferndalefirstumc.org)

**E-mail:**

[ferndalefirstumc@ameritech.net](mailto:ferndalefirstumc@ameritech.net)

Find and Friend us on Facebook

**Minister's Home Phone:**

248-268-2248

**Minister's Cell Phone:** 248-837-5608

**Minister's Church Email:**

[rschoenhals@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rschoenhals@sbcglobal.net)

## **People connections:**

Rev. Robert D. Schoenhals *Minister*  
Joseph Rush *Organist, Director of Music, Chancel and Handbell Choirs*  
Stacy Bellman *Office Manager*  
Deb Gehart *Special Needs Educator*

## **Larger church connections:**

Rev. Dr. Charles Boayue  
*District Superintendent*  
Bishop David Bard  
*Michigan Area Bishop*

## **The United Methodist Church:**

[www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org)

**General Bd of Church & Society:**

[www.umc-gbcs.org](http://www.umc-gbcs.org)

**UM Communications:**

[www.umcom.org](http://www.umcom.org) or [rethink-church.org](http://rethink-church.org)

**General Bd. of Discipleship:**

[www.gbod.org](http://www.gbod.org) or [upperroom.org](http://upperroom.org)

**General Bd of Global Ministries:**

[www.gbgm.org](http://www.gbgm.org) or [umcor.org](http://umcor.org)

**General Bd of Higher Ed & Ministry:**

[www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org)

**Publishing House & Online Bookstore:**

[www.umph.org](http://www.umph.org) or [cokebury.com](http://cokebury.com)

**United Methodist Camping (in Michigan):**

something for all ages

[www.umccamps.org](http://www.umccamps.org)



# May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 2pm Matt Ball Concert	8 7pm Board of Trustees	9 7pm Staff-Paris Relations Comm.	10 <i>Deadline to register for Parents Night Out</i>	11 Kids Club Banquet 4:30pm	12 6 pm Free Parents Night Out	13 7 pm Claw-sonaires Square Dance Club
14 <i>Mother's Day</i> Bring in potted geraniums to be planted in Honor of all Mothers	15 7pm Finance Rummage sale setup	16 7p Education Rummage sale setup	17 Rummage sale setup	18 Rummage sale setup	19 9 am -5pm Rummage Sale	20 9 am -12 pm Rummage Sale 5:30 Game Night 8:00 am Spring clean-up & Planting of potted plants
21	22	23 7pm Ad-Council	24 6pm Dinner & 7pm Movie	25	26	27
28	29 Church Office Closed	30	31	First United Methodist Church of Ferndale 22331 Woodward Ave Ferndale MI, 48220 Phone: 2485454467 Fax: 2485450238 E-mail: ferndalefirstumc@ameritech.net		

### Regular Church-related Activities:

#### Sundays:

- 9:15 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Christ the Good Shepherd Church's Mass (Chapel)
- 10:30 am Worship Service

#### Mondays:

- 12 Noon Sisters Class

#### Thursdays:

- 4:00 pm Kids Club
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

## OTHER ON GOING ACTIVITIES

### Other Regular Activities:

- Sundays:** 8:00 pm Young People Can AA
- Mondays-Fridays:** 10:00 am Overeaters Anonymous
- Mondays- Thursdays:** 6:30 pm DATC Rehearsal
- Tuesdays:** 6:00 pm **Fridays** 12 Noon Weight Watchers
- Saturdays:** 11:30 am Zumba Class

First United Methodist Church of Ferndale  
22331 Woodward Ave  
Ferndale MI, 48220

