

Countryside Trinity Church

Message from Pastor Dave: "Mid Summer Newsletter Article" - ***"For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience."*** Romans 8:24

Dear Friends in Christ: I want to thank all of you for this past year and the honor of serving as your Interim Pastor. In full disclosure, it is usually at this point in the interim process that I would announce to you that the Pastor Nominating Committee was diligently at work, and was either at the point of reading of minister's dossiers or at least narrowing down the field to possibly three candidates. My perspective has been by month 7 preliminary discussions with the congregation have taken place, the mission study has been completed, and the church is in the process of electing a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). By month 9, the PNC has completed its Mission Information Form and sent it on to Presbytery and the vocations office of the General Assembly, and soon thereafter, Pastor Information Forms, (PIF) begin to come in for the committee's discernment. This is often a longer period of time as the PNC seeks to find the right person to guide the congregation into the future. So by now, in most normal situations, I would be doing a yearly summary of all this and moving ahead with plans to welcome the new pastor within the next few months. This is usually how it goes when it goes according to MY plans, and the plans of the vocation agency of the PCUSA.

Sometimes though, God has other plans. In March of this year, I informed the Session that the Warren Avenue Presbyterian Church was in the process of determining whether to close its doors after a hundred and fifty years of mission and ministry with the people of Saginaw. On Palm Sunday they took a preliminary vote that affirmed that intention but within the conversation it was lifted up that they wished to move together as a congregation to another church body. In June a formal request was made to the Presbytery of Lake Huron to form an administrative commission to assist the Warren Avenue church with the dissolution. In discussions, the Session of Warren Avenue had hoped that they could pursue a relationship with Countryside Trinity. In this process, we have held joint worship services and have shared and will be sharing in some joint fellowshiping events. While in early discussions the language was very corporate with ideas of merger, the reality is a blending, wherein we share our mutual gifts to build one strong, active, vital congregation.

The Administrative Commission has asked if they could meet with the officers and all other interested members of our congregation on Sunday, August 12 at 1 pm to discuss any and all concerns that we as a church may have about this blending of the two congregations. It is my hope that many of you will be present at this meeting. The Administrative Commission has been given until December 4, 2018 to complete the tasks placed upon it by the Presbytery. While many of you may be feeling anxious about the future, and still others may just want to move ahead with our Call process, I ask that we look at this time as an opportunity. An opportunity to be present with and to pray for our sisters and brothers in Christ from the Warren Avenue church as they grieve the end of a ministry, for many of us in this congregation have been there before. This is an opportunity to pray for the Administrative Commission that God uphold each of them as they seek to bring a healthy, hopeful and kind resolution to the ministry of the Warren Avenue Church. And it is an opportunity for all of us in this congregation to pray for the gift of patience and to wait on the Lord remembering that ***"those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."*** Isaiah 40:31.

See you in church! *Pastor Dave*



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The Mission of the Month is the Saginaw Rescue Mission.

The Rescue Mission has been in existence since 1905. Their mission is to equip the hurting and homeless of Mid Michigan, through guidance and godly care, to lead guests toward God honoring sustainable solutions and permanent housing.

A caseworker immediately provides shelter, food and clothing. Then employment is assessed. Some times the guests qualify for Employment Readiness Training.

Services are: 3 meals a day, clothing, daily showers, referral to helping agencies, trained guidance and counseling people, access to the facility 24/7, life skill classes, and introduction to Bible based churches of denomination of choice.

There is a special Woman's Shelter.

We will also collect school supplies for Weiss School students. Watch for a list in future bulletins and on Fellowship Hall bulletin board.



First Annual Community Picnic

Food, Fellowship, Games and Song

Come join us for our **First Annual Community Picnic**. Bring the whole family, neighbors and friends, and come prepared to have fun!

We will be playing games for all ages; singing around the campfire; enjoying a great meal and snacks; and joining in an evening outdoor worship service.

Please bring lawn chairs and non-alcoholic beverages to share.

Anybody interested in participating in the "Read Program"

this fall at Weiss Elementary School, please contact

Lori Halase for more information on how to

volunteer. This very important program will be resuming in

September, following the start of the school year.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Mari McKenzie

	June				
	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers	Ending Balance
General	3,367.50	5,572.38	9,687.16	1,500.00	752.72
Memorial	9,821.83	390.00		(1,500.00)	8,711.83
Special projects	703.79	90.00	125.00		668.79
Mission					
Hunger	616.79				616.79
Heifer proj (Church School)	7.61	4.38			11.99
UCC/PCU	230.00		201.25		28.75
Good Samaritan	2,518.28	35.00			2,553.28
Muriel Lakey Scholarship	4,468.69				4,468.69
Local	50.00	135.00	100.00		85.00
Bricks	1,325.40				1,325.40
	23,109.89	6,226.76	10,113.41	-	19,223.24
Endowment	166,463.20	737.40			167,200.60
	189,573.09	6,964.16	10,113.41	-	186,423.84

Christian Education

GENESIS SUNDAY - Sunday, September 9, 2018, following Worship. Come celebrate with us as our youth come back to begin a new year of Church School. There will be games, cake walk, food, fellowship and fun for all.

GET INVOLVED

Fellowship and



Worship Opportunities

Express yourself and your faith by joining the worship, music, or usher team today.

There are so many meaningful and fun ways to get involved, and there is something for everyone to do and **YOU** are needed in order for CTC to continue to grow and move forward. If you are interested in becoming a worship helper, sing in the choir or have any questions about how you can help, please speak with Darren Woodke, Dan or Barb Groom. If you can occasionally usher, talk with Pat Denno or sign up on the sheet on the Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall.

Also, I am looking for people to highlight in the upcoming Newsletters in the **"Getting to Know You"** spot. Please let me know if you would be willing to let me do an article about you and/or your family. Thanks - Kathy Loviska.

Raising a Teenager

Submitted by Ed Halase

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and inquired of his father as to when they could discuss his use of the car. His father said he'd make a deal with his son, "You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little, and get your bloody haircut. Then we'll talk about the car."

The boy thought about that for a moment, decided, he'd settle for the offer, and they agreed on it. After about six weeks his father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm ticked off that you haven't had your hair cut."

The boy said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair, and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair."

(You're going to love the Dad's reply!)

"Did you also notice that they all **walked** everywhere they went?!!"



Friends: Thank you for making my 90th birthday a very special one. The cards, phone calls and kind words were greatly appreciated.

Norma Patterson

Congratulations



Our own Mari McKenzie has been elected to the office of Treasurer/Secretary of Zonta International and the Zonta International Foundation. Founded in 1919, Zonta International is a global organization of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

Zonta International envisions a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential. In such a world, women have access to all resources and are represented in decision making positions on an equal basis with men. In such a world, no woman lives in fear of violence.

With nearly 30,000 members belonging to nearly 1,200 Zonta Clubs in 66 countries and geographic areas, Zontians all over the world volunteer their time, talents and support to local and international service projects, as well as scholarship programs aimed at fulfilling Zonta's mission and objectives.

We are so proud of you Mari and know you will do an exceptional job in this capacity.



Bickford Assisted Living

Elaine Kraenzlein

Edgewood Assisted Living Center

Betty Huber

Health Source

Bob Gulliver

St. Francis Home

Judith Lorenz

Wellspring Memory Support

Carolyn Pendell

Swanhaven Manor

Fern Evon Little

New Hope Valley Independent Living

Dorothy Gray

Wellspring Independent Living

Bob & Marie Lemmer

Mary Ellen Sierocki

Helen Reynolds

Wellspring Assisted Living

Shirley Roof & Carol Williamson

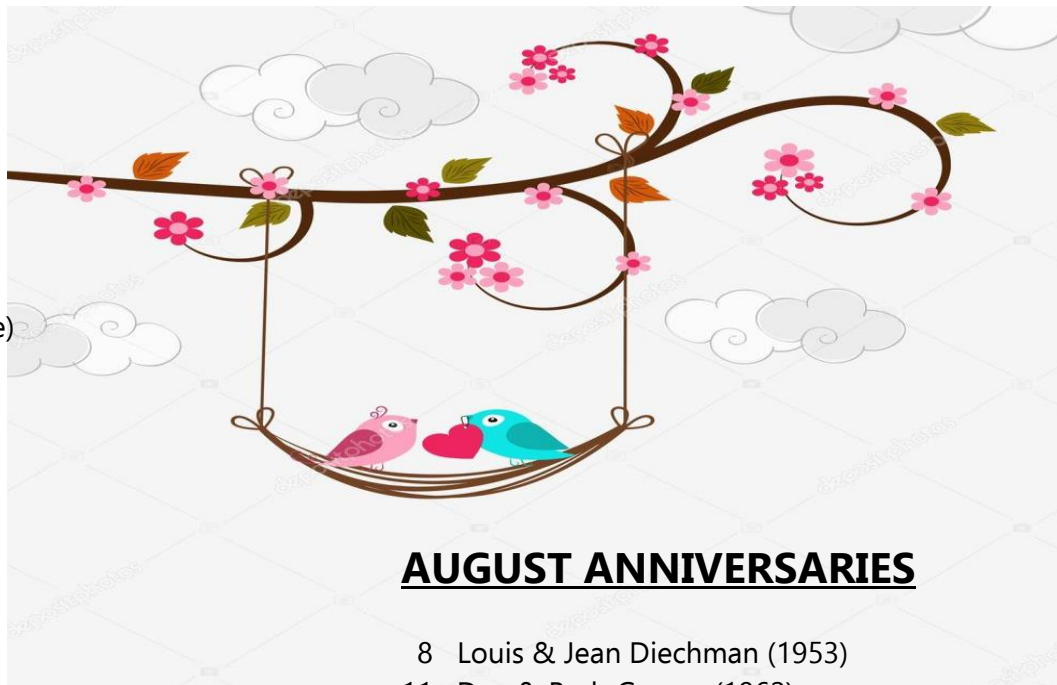
In Hospital or Private Homes

Betty Burr, Dawn Curtis, Bessie Daugharty, Betty Hauk, Fran Preuter, Fred & Kathy Williamson



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Taylor Hansen (M=Dana Woodke)
- 4 Marianne Bird
- 5 Dan Groom
- 8 Chad Parker (1968)
- 10 Randy Jacob
- 12 Fran Prueter
- 13 Kyle Redfield (1992)
- 15 Ainslee Mahan (2000)
- 15 Aubree Mahan (2000)
- 17 Joan Comstock (1935)
- 21 Karla Parker (1969)
- 21 Casey Redfield (1995)
- 22 Brooke Vernon (1994)



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 8 Louis & Jean Diechman (1953)
- 11 Dan & Barb Groom (1962)
- 17 Dallas & Jackie Williams
- 29 Darren & Joann Woodke (2002)
- 29 Duncan & Sandy Redfield (1987)

Things To Do

Downtown Saginaw Farmers' Market

- 203 South Washington Avenue
- Saginaw, MI 48607
- From: May 25, 2018 – Oct 31, 2018
- Every Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday
- Monday 12 pm-6 pm, Wednesday & Friday 10 am-3 pm, and Saturday 9 am-1 pm

If you have not been to visit our beautiful "Downtown Saginaw Farmer's Market" be sure to put this on your "To Do List". The indoor market is now open and chock full of wonderful shops, foods and fun!

Old Town Saginaw Art Fair

Date: 8/10/2018 TO 8/11/2018

Time: 10:00 AM TO 7:00 PM, 400 Block of Court Street
(Between Michigan Ave and Hamilton St)

Event Description:

Our mission is to provide the opportunity to showcase a breadth of fine art in the heart of Old Town Saginaw, while providing the opportunity for community members to view and purchase artwork, participate in free art based activities, and see live art demonstrations.

Matinee & Dinner Show: A Bit O' Buble

Date: 9/19/2018

Time: 11:00 AM TO 1:30 PM & 6:30 PM TO 9:00 PM
Bavarian Inn, 713 S. Main St., Frankenmuth, MI 48734

Bryan Dixon has wowed audiences all over the great state of Michigan with his high-energy, passionate performances that are sure to make you move your feet. Enjoy the smooth sounds as he sings and swings, in true Michael Buble fashion, with his "A Bit O' Buble" tribute show.

Serving a Hearty Chicken Plate Meal \$45 per person – Matinees include: meal, show, milk, tea, coffee or fountain soft drink, tax & gratuity. Reservations & Prepayment Required.

Events

FREE Senior Day at the Zoo

- Recurring monthly on the 1st Wednesday of the month until October 3, 2018
- From: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM
- Other Admission Prices: Zoo Admission \$5.00; Members FREE! Train and Carousel rides \$1

Saginaw County Fair

- 11350 West Peet Road
- Chesaning, MI 48616
- From: Jul 31, 2018 – Aug 04, 2018
- Recurring daily
- From: 9:00 AM to 11:00 PM
- Admission: Tue - Thu \$10.00 / Fri & Sat \$15.00 / Full Week Mega Pass \$40.00

Free Concerts in the Park

- Tuesdays-Roethke Park, 400 Leddy Rd., Shields, MI 6:30 - 9:00 pm Thru August 14
- Wednesdays-Tittabawassee Township Park, 9200 "Old" Midland Rd., Freeland, MI 6:30 to 9:00 pm Thru August 15
- Wednesdays-Jazz in the Garden, Andersen Enrichment Center & Lucille E. Andersen Memorial Rose Garden, 120 Ezra Rust Dr., Saginaw, MI-Starts at 7:00 pm Thru August 1
- Thursdays - Party on McCarty, Saginaw Township Soccer Association, 3575 McCarty Rd., Saginaw Gates open at 5:00, music starts at 5:30 and ends about 10:00 pm. **THERE IS A \$5.00 PARKING CHARGE.**
- Friday Night Live, Morley Plaza between Temple Theatre & Huntington Bank, 101 N. Washington Ave., Saginaw 5:30-9:00 pm Thru August 17

Ongoing Events

Adult Senior Exercise, 2nd Presbyterian Church, Tuesdays @ 2:00 p.m. and Fridays @ 11:00 a.m.

Chair Yoga for seniors, 1st Congregational Church, 403 S. Jefferson, Thursdays @ 11:00 a.m.

Aquatic exercises at Sherwood Pool, M W F, three classes from 7:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

USVI still reeling from fall 2017 hurricanes

June 29, 2018

Written by **Carol Fouke-Mpoyo**



Don't forget the USVI: Volunteer!

The U.S. Virgin Islands suffered catastrophic damage after back-to-back blows from Hurricanes Irma and Maria last fall, comparable to that in Puerto Rico. But the territory's great need for recovery help has received little media attention. Many in the USVI feel forgotten.

"In an effort to revitalize parts of the economy, a strong effort to bring tourism back to the islands has led to articles and information

that give the impression that recovery in USVI is complete," said UCC Disaster Ministries Executive Zach Wolgemuth. "In reality, much of the general population is still reeling from the effects of the storms, living in substandard conditions while being woefully unprepared for the current hurricane season. "

With a total population of just over 100,000, approximately 18,500 homes and businesses along with several high-rise buildings on the three major islands were damaged or destroyed. Many damaged homes remain untouched since the hurricanes. With approximately 40 percent of the population living at or below the poverty level, the need in USVI for recovery help is great.

To date, few national recovery organizations have committed themselves to recovery efforts in USVI. Among those that have is the Disaster Recovery Support Initiative (DRSI), a joint effort of the disaster ministries of the UCC, Church of the Brethren and Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

"It's not because we had lots of donations for USVI, or because we have churches there," Wolgemuth said. "We are there because in the early days after the disaster we recognized a huge gap and need.

"We've always had a mission of working in underserved communities and in 'low attention disasters,'" he said. "USVI's largest island, St. Thomas, fits both those criteria. The need for volunteers is great than as recovery for vulnerable individuals and families gets underway."

The DRSI is supporting local recovery efforts and engaging volunteer teams to do debris removal, cleaning and construction in St. Thomas. The interiors of the homes need to be stripped to remove drywall, paneling and carpeting etc. so that the structures can be dried out, cleaned and treated to remove and prevent further damage from water and mold.

"Volunteers make an enormous impact, both in the work that is accomplished and the hope that they bring to communities through sheer presence and solidarity," Wolgemuth said. "This hope is healing, it is life giving and is something that helps bring emotional and spiritual nourishment to often still-traumatized survivors."

Refugee women learn independence, sewing one STITCH at a time

Presbyterian News Service May 25, 2017

Louisville partnership creates an enterprising community of caring

by Emily Enders Odom | Presbyterian News Service



Bhuwani Rai takes part in STITCH (Sewing Together in the Caring Highlands), a ministry of the Highland Presbyterian Church, Louisville, Kentucky. (Photo by Emily Enders Odom)

LOUISVILLE – Peals of laughter and lively chatter mingled with the whirring and humming of busy sewing machines in the small, makeshift classroom that STITCH volunteers and students now call their temporary home.

STITCH — an acronym for Sewing Together in the Caring Highlands — is a mission of [Highland Presbyterian Church](#) in partnership with the Louisville-based [Kentucky Refugee Ministries](#). The six-year-old ministry provides sewing lessons for refugee women while offering them opportunities to learn and practice their English skills at the same time.

“The mission is to teach them to sew, to teach them independence, and to be able to provide something for their family, whether it’s clothes or curtains or bedspreads or actual money from selling the items that they’ve made,” says Anna Gray Slagle, STITCH’s co-director and a member of Second Presbyterian Church, Louisville. “While our primary purpose is to teach them to sew, we are also a support group and a caring environment where they can practice English conversation.”

Slagle, who has been with STITCH from its beginnings in the Highland Church, reached out in the ministry’s first year to her current co-director Janet Raderer at a time when church member and program founder, J. C. Compton, faced health challenges and moved out of the area.

“This program can’t quit,” Slagle recalls telling Raderer, a ruling elder at Highland.

Raderer — who taught at Baer Fabrics, a Louisville institution which closed its doors in 2008 after operating for 103 years — was, in a word, ‘tailor made’ for STITCH.



From left to right: Anna Gray Slagle, co-director of STITCH (Sewing Together in the Caring Highlands), a ministry of Highland Presbyterian Church, Louisville; Anne Scott, a volunteer; and Shanta Rai, a student. (Photo by Emily Enders Odom)

"We complement each other," says Raderer. "Anna Gray is our organizer — she does the business end, the volunteers, and the scheduling. I do more of the sewing and keep the machines running."

Recently the church-based program has become so popular that it outgrew its space in the church's [Pleune-Mobley Center](#), necessitating a move to temporary quarters across the street while extensive renovations are under way.

They are renovating the south end of the building, all three floors," Slagle says. "Eventually when it is done, we will have the whole third floor, which will be designed specifically for our needs. The church is funding all of this by way of a capital campaign."

"The church has been very supportive," adds Raderer. As has the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

On Friday, April 21, nine employees of the mission agency volunteered to do some of the heavy lifting as part of Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer's annual Give-A-Day Week of Service, April 15-23.

One of the volunteer movers was Joe Edmiston, a ruling elder at [Central Presbyterian Church](#) in Louisville and payroll manager for the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Edmiston was already a veteran STITCH volunteer long before the program's moving day.

"I'm just such a fan of the STITCH program," says Edmiston. "Caring for the stranger is integral to our Christian faith, and since one of my hobbies is tinkering with old sewing machines, I really enjoy the small part I have in STITCH's ministry."

STITCH relies heavily on donations — everything from thread to fabric to notions to monetary gifts. In addition to receiving support from the Highland Church, the program has received a donation every year from the Mission Committee of [Second Presbyterian Church](#) in Louisville.



Front (L to R): Sandy Johnson, Denise Hampton, Margaret Farmer. Back (L to R): Bobby Wilson, Joe Edmiston, Derrick Perkins. Middle (L to R): Barbara Betts, Lora Limeberry, TP Coleman.

The ministry also depends on the expertise of volunteers like Edmiston in order to cut down on the non-profit's expenses. Without Edmiston, STITCH would have to pay for the machines to be repaired and serviced.

Without the help of such willing volunteers, "we would have been beside ourselves," Slagle says.

Presbyterian Mission Agency employees volunteer for STITCH during the 2017 Mayor's Week of Service. "It's just such a pleasure for me to be involved with this group," says Edmiston of his Give-A-Day partners. "What can I say about my wonderful colleagues? I've always known they were good people, so I wasn't surprised that so many volunteered to help. It really was a lot of fun spending the morning with my friends from work and my friends from STITCH, and the pizza afterwards was the perfect end to the day."

And the Presbyterian Mission Agency may again have an opportunity to step up in future to assist the growing STITCH program, not only to help them move back to their renovated space when the time comes, but also

as a prospective site for its “sewing to sell” initiative if possible.

“We would love to do a fair at the Presbyterian Center,” Slagle says.

Raderer says that their intent at the beginning was never to sell things. “It had never come up,” she says, “until about four years ago, when a woman approached Anna Gray with something that she had made and asked her, ‘Can I sell this?’”

“I stood there for a while,” Slagle recalls, “and finally I said, ‘Yes, I’ll figure that out.’ By the end of 2016, we had made \$16,600 for these women in selling their products, with 100% of the money going directly to the women themselves.”

Currently STITCH sells its goods at churches around the worship hour before church, after church, or in the time between Sunday school and Sunday worship.

Whenever a woman makes an item that is to be sold at an art or church fair, it is tagged with her name on the bottom half.

“When we sell an item, we cut off the bottom half of tag as it’s sold,” explains Raderer. “That’s how we ensure that the woman who made it will receive the cost of that item when we divvy up the money afterwards. We’re not a co-op.”

When STITCH ultimately moves to its newly expanded, renovated space, Slagle says the ministry will add a third day to its current two-day-a-week teaching cycle that will be dedicated solely to “sewing to sell.”

She tears up as she speaks about the women — her family — that the program benefits.

“The most traumatic story I tell is of a woman from Congo,” says Slagle. “I noticed one time when she came in that she was wearing men’s clothes. One day when I was coming to class with some T-shirts and yoga pants that I was planning to donate to Goodwill, I just — on a whim — took out that bag, and thought to myself she could wear these. At the end of class, I took her to the side and asked, ‘Would you like these,’ and she looked at the clothes and her eyes got huge and she just grabbed me and practically squeezed the life out of me. Then she started crying and said that her husband and five ‘babies’ were all shot and killed in front of her. Since she was also beaten and shot, she takes part in the University of Louisville’s Survivors of Torture Recovery Center. She calls me ‘mama.’”

For Slagle, Raderer, the members of Highland Presbyterian Church, and the program’s many students and volunteers, STITCH is more than a program — it’s a community of friends.

“I love every single person that I’ve met here,” says STITCH volunteer, Anne Scott, a veteran ESL teacher who is now a local crafter. “I’m encouraged by the students’ bravery, and I’m completely in awe of the volunteers here, who are amazing. All they want to do is make a better life for these women.”

2018

CALENDAR YEAR

AUGUST

CALENDAR MONTH

SUNDAY

FIRST DAY OF WEEK

Countryside Trinity Church

4690 Weiss St. Saginaw, MI 48603

Email: Countryside@ctcsaginaw.com Phone: 989-793-0125

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	01	02	03 OFFICE CLOSED	04 BBQ @ CTC 5:00- 8:00 pm
05 10:25 am-Announcements Sanctuary; 10:30 am - Worship Service w/ Communion; 11:30 am - Coffee Hour: Celebration of August Birthdays & Anniversaries	06 OFFICE CLOSED	07	08	09	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11 Martinez - Private Party Baby Shower
12 10:25 am-Announcements Sanctuary; 10:30 am- Worship Service 11:30 am - Coffee Hour: 1:00 pm - Congregational Mtg w/ Adm. Commission	13 OFFICE CLOSED	14 6:00 p.m. All Committees Meeting	15	16	17 OFFICE CLOSED	18
19 10:25 am-Announcements Sanctuary; 10:30 am - Worship Service; 11:30 am - Coffee Hour:	20 OFFICE CLOSED	21 6:00 p.m. Joint Deacon Session Council Meeting	22 Deadline for September Newsletter Articles	23	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 10:25 am-Announcements Sanctuary; 10:30 am - Worship Service; 11:30 am - Coffee Hour: 4:00-6:00 pm City of God	27 OFFICE CLOSED	28	29	30	31 Office Hours: Tues-Thurs 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Worship Services on Sundays at 10:30 a.m.	01  <small>Psalms 37:5, NRSV</small>

COUNTRYSIDE TRINITY CHURCH

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Saginaw, MI 48603
Phone: (989) 793-0125

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BLESSINGS FROM COUNTRYSIDE TRINITY CHURCH

"For you will go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
The mountains and the hills will break forth into shouts of joy before you,
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

Isaiah 55:12

