

# GOD'S DREAM SEEKERS NEWS

June 2017  
Volume 4 Issue 6



Newaygo United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 366, Newaygo, MI 49337; email: [umcnew@newaygoumc.com](mailto:umcnew@newaygoumc.com); phone: 231-652-6581; website: [www.newaygoumc.com](http://www.newaygoumc.com)

## AN ENDING IS JUST A NEW BEGINNING

Change happens! Here we are as a church in the midst of a transition that will affect how we do things. A change of pastors is an opportunity to look at the past with appreciation and knowledge of lessons learned. But dwelling on the past is only healthy when we acknowledge that time but we have to move on to the present and future. For every beginning there is an ending and for every ending there is a new beginning and now is the time to look to that new beginning. It can be an exciting time for a church and I think that is how we can look at the coming of your new pastor. There will be a learning curve for both congregation and pastor as everyone works out this new relationship. I know the future holds bright promise. The church must remember that God will be in all things new and will be there to guide these new beginnings.

Newaygo is a good congregation filled with faithful people. Always remember whose you are and to include the Author of your existence in your future direction and decision making. Thank you all for your love, support, guidance, and faith. I will carry all of you with me in my heart when we walk the beach in Florida. God bless you and keep you!

*Pastor Kathy*

# You're Invited!

Sunday, June 11  
Following Worship

Pastor Kathy and Joe would like to invite you to stop down to Sportsman's following worship for appetizers. This is their way of thanking you for your support over the past 6 years.

Appetizers will be provided. If you will be needing lunch, please plan to purchase it on your own.



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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Check out the information on the new prayer chains being





*“Join us for fellowship, food and solving the world’s problems. We meet every Wednesday at 8:30am at City Limits Restaurant – (next to McDonalds)*

## MEN’S GROUP

Well men, this will be my last article. It has been a pleasure having breakfast with you all these past six years. Needless to say I learned a lot and laughed a lot, and at times I was even confused. Confused because some of the stories were way out there!!! I hope you appreciated the articles and were never offended. If the world met in small groups like we did, what a better place this would be. We had conservatives and liberals and even middle of the roaders, but we all got along and respected each other and each other's opinions. That's what makes this church family so great. So men, stop up at the City Limits on Wednesday's at 8:30. Now most get there right after 8 because the last one in has to say the prayer! Now men, it has been an honor to be with you and hear your stories. You will be missed and God Bless!!

*Joe Groff*

**Men’s Group:** Joe Groff has been writing the article about the Men’s group for the last several years...some have been funny...some have been informative....some even stood on the line of being semi inappropriate...but never the less....we will miss his funny anecdotes of what happens on Wednesday mornings when the men meet for breakfast and fellowship. If there is any one of you men who regularly meet for breakfast that would like to take over writing the article, please let me (Deb Prins) know ASAP! **Otherwise I may be forced to send a spy to your Wednesday breakfasts.....hmmmm.....whom shall I send?**

Blessings,

*Deb Prins*

## UMW-LADIES NIGHT

**Meets the second Tuesday of the month. Next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 13 @ 6:00pm**—Women gather together and support each other, pray and have fellowship. This is also the United Methodist Women’s meeting where we make decisions that affect the UMW as a whole. Please try to attend as often as you are able. Your input is important to us.



## MARY MARTHA CIRCLE



**Meets the Third Tuesday of the Month. Next meeting: June 20, 2017 @ 9:30am**—Women gather together monthly to support each other, pray study the bible, have devotional time and discuss ways we can help with missions in the surrounding community and beyond.

**GREAT JOB:** The plant and rummage sale went great. Thank you to all who donated items/plants and especially to all who helped with set up, sales & clean up. It takes all of us to have a successful sale each year and we (Mary Martha Circle) appreciate all your help and support. We raised over \$500 for missions this year.





*Prayer Chain Lists will be distributed soon. Please make sure you are signed up for your preferred prayer chain. When you have a prayer chain request please call Carline Knoll at 231-652-1147. If she is not available call Deb Prins at the church office at 231-652-6581 or cell 231-335-8737.*

## PRAYER CHAIN

**Phone Call:** you will receive a phone call from the prayer chain and will be asked to pass the message on to the next person in the chain. Carline Knoll will be the prayer chain phone coordinator.

**Text Message:** a text message will be sent and you will be asked to text the next person in your prayer chain.

**Email:** a single email will be sent to all email prayer chains by the coordinator or church office. You will not be asked to forward any information.

**Newaygo UMC App:** (didn't know we had an app? Information to download is to the left) a message will be sent via the Newaygo UMC app. You will not be asked to forward any information.

You can also get added to a prayer chain by calling the church office at 231-652-6581 or emailing Deb Prins @ [debprins@sbcglobal.net](mailto:debprins@sbcglobal.net).

**Please Notice This**



**IF YOU WANT TO REMAIN ON THE PRAYER CHAIN OR BE ADDED TO THE PRAYER CHAIN WE NEED TO KNOW BY JUNE 15TH AS NEW LISTS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AFTER THAT.**

## CURRENT PRAYER CHAIN MEMBERS

### Phone Chain:

Dorothy Besemer  
Dolores Cook  
Jane Fowler  
Carline Knoll  
Lynne Suess  
Dianna Weaver  
Jean Reynhout  
Jan Fisher  
Harriet Kiper

### Email:

Carolyn Boose  
Deb Prins  
Millie Stine  
Kathy Belew  
Jen Larsen

### NUMC App:

All who are on the app will continue to get prayer request through the app.

Text: None signed up

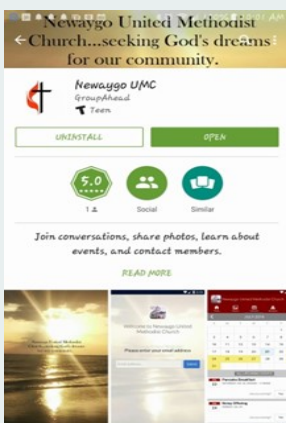
*A n Intercessory Prayer Chain consists of a group of people which has been called to the ministry of praying for others on a regular and ongoing basis. They have committed themselves to pray regularly, confidentially and individually for the people and concerns that are requested of them. They form part of a chain through which God's love flows, and they circulate prayer requests and results amongst themselves via a communications chain!*





## NEWAYGO UMC APP

(android or apple):  
SMART PHONE  
USERS – Go to your app store on your phone and search for “newaygo umc” and download our app. This is a great way to get connected and get updates and reminders. There is a current calendar that updates daily. If you need help please see Deb Prins.



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**Sunday School All Church Picnic:**  
Sunday, July 9th following worship  
@ 11am. All are welcome to come!  
Bring a dish to pass and your swim  
suit and join the fun. Help celebrate  
another successful Christian  
Education year.

**At the Hennings:** 438 Emerald  
Lake Drive, Newaygo (parking is  
limited so please carpool from the  
church as much as possible



**Vacation Bible School:** Will be  
July 31– August 2nd with possible  
celebration picnic on Thursday, July  
3rd.

Watch future newsletters and  
bulletins for more information about  
Vacation Bible School—We will  
once again be partnering with St.  
Marks and Newaygo Congregational  
United Church of Christ.

**NEXT MEETING: JUNE 12 @**  
**Newaygo Congregational United**  
**Church of Christ**

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- July 3 & 4—Church Office Closed
- July 9—9:30am—Worship, Pastor Eric Magner
- July 9—11am (following worship) All Church Celebrate Sunday School picnic
- July 11—Welcome picnic for Pastor Eric and family.
- July 31-August 3—Vacation Bible School

## SPECIAL PRAYERS NEEDED

Pastor Eric & Amy need prayers for their son Samuel (Tuck). June 12th they will be traveling to U of M to start testing for Tuck to prepare him for open heart surgery. Tuck will have his open heart surgery on June 15th and will be staying at U of M for several days. This is a time of great transition for their family by going into their first ministry position and moving to Newaygo along with Tuck's surgery. Please keep their entire family, the doctors and staff of U of M and our church family in your continued prayers.

*Lord, we ask that you wrap your arms around Eric, Amy, Grayson and especially around Samuel and the doctors and nurses that will be caring for him in the coming weeks. We know that you can and will guide everyone involved in his care. Lord we ask that you be with Samuel during his recovery and help him heal quickly and comfortably. This is a time of great change for their family Lord and they need your comfort, guidance and wisdom as they love and care for Samuel and begin their move to Newaygo. In Jesus name. Amen.*

## PLEASE PRAY

Walt Bitely family (Linda Geddes father)—Pastor Kathy & Joe—Eric & Amy  
Magner—Tuck—Doris Jacques—Marne Salacina—Edna Schilling—Fern  
Glasspoole—Nancy Ferguson—Jean Bumstead—June Wade—Susanne  
Geerdink—Barb Westbrook—Unspoken Prayers—Military Service Persons—  
Peace in the World

If you have a loved one or a concern you would like added to the prayer list,  
please contact Deb Prins in the church office at 231-652-6581 or by email;  
debprins@sbcglobal.net.



## KIDS HOPE USA

The party's over. School's out. It was fun wasn't it?

Our party was a great time. Ron and Kay had new games, the variety kept us busy. Two moms joined us, as did Harriet Kiper. She said she would mentor again in the fall and wanted to get back in the swing of things. Welcome back Harriet. The pizza and cookies were wonderful. Thank you Mary Anne, food service director at NPS, she really goes the extra mile. We celebrated AJ's graduation from the Kids Hope program. I should have told him he is still a part of our organization no longer how old he is. The connection is still there. I see older Kids Hope kids. I saw one of my "kids" at a gas station recently. She is busy taking care of a farm and family with two little ones. She said she really enjoyed being a part of Kids Hope. I really enjoyed it too.

By the time this comes out the mentoring portion of the year will be over. The praying part never ends though and I think that may be the secret to the success of Kids Hope. Just because we take a break from seeing our students, the care and

concern doesn't. It doesn't end when they graduate either, we still pray.

Keep looking up at the hill this summer when you go through town. The old building will soon come down and the new one will take its place. I am not looking forward to the cramped conditions of the next 18 months, but I know it will be worth it. We are really blessed to be able to replace our old school with a brand new building that will serve a new generation of students for many years.

The party's over, school's out, it was fun. Enjoy the summer; rest up, it will be another exciting year with Kids Hope in the fall.

*Sherry Graham*

If you would like more information about kids hope and becoming a mentor or prayer partner, please contact Sherry Graham at 231-689-5011.

*Summer blessings to you and your family!*

*"What many people need most in this world is one person, just one, willing to spend time, to offer encouragement, to prove that there is someone who cares. Who listens. Smiles."*

David Staal, show up





Dear Friends and Members of Newaygo United Methodist Church,

With "Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors", it is with great privilege and joy that I introduce myself to you as your new Pastor, my first Sunday in the pulpit will be July 9, 2017. I would like to briefly share with you a little about myself and my Ministry journey. I was born and raised in Muskegon, MI, and currently live in Norton Shores. I married

my high school sweetheart Amy; although this September we will be married 19 years, we started dating back in the eleventh grade. Amy has been a Registered Nurse (RN) for 14 years, she currently works for Mercy Health St. Mary's Hospital in Quality and Compliance: for Trinity Health's Clinical Integrated Network and Medical Management (for both the Grand Rapids and Muskegon regions). We have two young boys, I am sure they will bring a lot of energy; our lives have been graciously blessed by both children. Grayson is 7 years old and Samuel (also known as "Tuck") is currently 3 years old. Both boys were brought home from China; Grayson arrived home in 2011 & Samuel in 2015. I am an avid sportsman some of my many hobbies include: fishing, hunting, running, and golfing.

Currently, my family and I are members of United Methodist Church of the Dunes in Grand Haven, where we have been involved with volunteering at the Supper House, various children's programs, Adult Council; along with being actively involved in various committees and Bible study groups. Amy & I, along with our children have all been baptized in the United Methodist Church. As Disciples of Christ, we are strongly committed to the affirmation(s) made through the Holy sacraments of baptism and communion.

My journey to Ministry began many years ago. As a child I grew up in the Holton United Methodist Church, as I got older I had an unshakeable desire to be a disciple of Christ, it was over three years ago I received God's calling, it was with His calling I answered. I was approved by the United Methodist Church of the Dunes Congregation as Candidacy for Ministry. In April 2017, my appointment was affirmed by Bishop David Bard, District Supervisor Reverend Bill Haggard, and the Grand Rapids District Committee on Ordained Ministry.

I am delighted and eager that I have been given the opportunity to share my ministry with you. I believe the Lord binds us and connects us; together, as we are each lead by the Holy Spirit so we may continue to know and embrace God's will. I look forward to celebrating each of your unique gifts while continuing to grow as a community of faith. I am excited about the future of Newaygo UMC; through nurturing the talents of our current leaders, while empowering our youth as future leaders. I am also excited to build upon our current Children's Ministry and Missions Programs. I look forward to meeting you all and learning the wonders of your life and your faith brought to life stories. In the days ahead, I welcome hearing your insights, concerns, and aspirations as we continue to transform the world with God's love.

Grace and Peace,

*Eric L. Magner*



### **Prepare to welcome your new pastor**

- Open your hearts and decide that you are going to love your new pastor. Begin praying daily for the new pastor and family, even as you continue to pray for your departing pastor and family.
- Invite church members individually to send cards of welcome and encouragement to the incoming pastor.
- Know that welcoming your new pastor in genuine and effective ways lays the ground work for a healthy and vital relationship and the development of stable, long-term ministries together.

### **Make things move-in ready**

- Make sure the parsonage and pastor's office are clean and ready. Offer to provide help or a cleaning service if needed.
- Determine if the parsonage is in need of repairs or painting. Consult the outgoing and incoming pastors about timing so as not to disrupt the lives of either party. Do not ask a new pastor to move into a parsonage "under construction."

### **Welcome your pastor on moving day**

- Stock the parsonage refrigerator and pantry with some staples. Make sure there are kid-friendly foods and snacks in the refrigerator if children are arriving.
- Have a small group on hand to greet the new pastor and family when they arrive and to help as needed.
- Offer child care if there is an infant or toddler in the household. Invite children in the household to do things with others of their same age.

### **Continue the welcome during the entry period**

- Take food over for the first few days. Many churches continue the practice of having a "pounding" for the new pastor when persons bring food items.
- Provide a map with directions to local dry cleaners, grocery store, drug store, veterinarian, etc., and information regarding the area.
- Give gift certificates to several of your favorite restaurants in the community.
- Invite the new pastor to any social events held by Sunday School classes or other groups in the early months.
- Make sure the pastor's spouse and children, if applicable, are invited to Sunday School and other appropriate small groups.
- Continue to remember your new pastor and family in your daily prayers.

### **Help the new pastor become familiar with the congregation**

- Introduce yourself to the pastor repeatedly! You have one name to learn; your pastor has many names to learn.
- Wear name tags. Even if name tags are not a tradition, the congregation can wear them for a few weeks to help the pastor learn names.
- Make sure the pastor has a list of home bound or nursing home members, a list of those struggling with long term illness, and a list of those still in grief over recent deaths in the family. Better yet, take the pastor for an introduction to each of these households.
- Have an appropriate person offer to go with the pastor for introductions and support if there are particularly urgent pastoral situations (a member near death or the family of a member who has just died).
- Offer to help arrange small group sessions to meet and talk with the congregation.

### **Help the new pastor connect to the community**

- Provide local media with information about the new pastor.
- Provide a list of hospitals, nursing homes, and community service agencies.
- Introduce your new pastor to other clergy in the community. Provide information on any ecumenical activities or associations.
- Introduce the new pastor to public and community leaders.



## Worship Helpers –May 2017

### June 4

Liturgist: Brenda Huckins Bonter  
Inside Usher: Jean Reynhout & Millie Stine  
Outside Usher: Dianna Weaver & Jane Bode Fowler  
Acolyte: Rachel Larsen  
Projector: Deb Prins  
Sound: Taylor Prins  
Safety Team: Jean Reynhout & Jane Fowler

### June 11

Liturgist: Marilyn Witter  
Inside Usher: Vern & Carolyn Boose  
Outside Usher: Arlene Salacina & Dorothy Besemer  
Acolyte: Blake Larsen  
Projector: Gabriella Brooks  
Sound: Need Volunteer  
Safety Team: Dudley Irwin & Dorothy Besemer

### June 18

Liturgist: Joe Groff  
Inside Usher: Deb Prins & Harriet Kiper  
Outside Usher: Duane & Marilyn Witter  
Acolyte: Morgan Pope  
Projector: Taylor Prins  
Sound: Deb Prins  
Safety Team: Patti Venneman & Joe Groff

### June 25

Liturgist: Carline Knoll  
Inside Usher: Ruth Merritt & Janet Fisher  
Outside Usher: Vern & Carolyn Boose  
Acolyte: Saria Brooks  
Projector: Jen Larsen  
Sound: Need Volunteer  
Safety Team: Rob Pope & Morgan Pope

If you would like to help with worship on Sunday morning please contact the office and we will put you on our list for worship helpers.

## Fellowship Luncheons



Held on the third Sunday of the month, our Fellowship Luncheons have been well attended and have provided good food for the soul. There will be no fellowship luncheon held in June. Please watch for more information about the next fellowship luncheon on July 16, 2017 following worship.

## Social Group 2017

**June:** Church Picnic @ Jean Reynhouts Home—June 17 @ 2pm—Everyone is welcome.



**August:** Ludington beach day with bonfire/hot dog roast at Barry & Cathy Badges Campground at 3pm. Kibby Creek Campground, 4900 West Deren Road, Ludington, MI, It's located just off Piere Marquette Highway. Please see Cathy Badge if you have any questions.—August 19, 2017. Watch for more information!

## Military Prayer Chain

Please keep all persons serving in the US military branches in your prayers every day. Below are persons currently serving in the military who are loved ones of your church members.

- Staff Sargent Mandy Hagan
- Staff Sargent Frank Arnold
- Spec. Kathleen Arnold
- Ashley Friend
- Clint Walls
- Elliott McBride
- Christopher Peterman
- Jacob Shain
- Jeremy Cook



*Lord, we come to you proclaiming that you are all powerful and all loving. You are our tower of strength. You are our ever - present help in times of trouble. We come to you with thankful hearts for all the blessings you have given our country.*

*Our hearts are also filled with thankfulness to those who serve our country in the armed forces. Their love for our country and for our people is inspiring.*

*Father, we are reminded that our soldiers fight many personal battles, and we ask that today you would intervene in their lives and help each one individually.*

*Lord, we know that there are times when each one suffers from loneliness, homesickness, exhaustion, sadness, fear, extreme weather conditions, personal physical conditions, and a myriad of other difficulties. We ask that every need would be ministered to this day. We ask that you would come to each one and ease their personal challenges and give each one renewed hope and cheer. We ask that you would refresh each one this day in every way. Amen*





## Treasurer's Report

By now you should have received a statement of your giving through the month of April. Please look at your statement and if you have any questions please give me (Deb Prins) a call. Summer is a time of vacation and fun

but please remember that even if you are not here the lights are still on. Prayerfully consider how you can help support the ministries of Newaygo United Methodist Church

Contributions through

May 31, 2017 - \$ 9,177.92

Expenses through

May 31, 2017 - \$ 8,938.46

**Total \$ 239.46**

If you have any questions or would like to see a more detailed report please call Deb Prins at 231-652-6581 or see a copy of the reports posted on bulletin board in the church office.



## Safety Team Update

**Safety Teams in place for Sunday mornings during worship service.**

If you would like to be a part of a 2 person team that is (on duty) on Sunday morning, please let the church office know

as soon as possible there is still time to become a part of this important service team.

*Current Safety Team Members are: Pastor Kathy, Rob Pope, Morgan Pope, Jane Bode Fowler, Dorothy Besemer, Jean Reynhout, Jim Bode, Jo Bode, Deb Prins, Dudley Irwin, Joe Groff.*

*If you have any questions or concerns you would like to have considered please contact a Safety Team Member or contact the church office at 231-652-6581.*



## 4th Saturday Pancake Breakfast

**Saturday, June 24, 2017**

**Serving 8am-11am**

All you can eat pancakes, sausage, bacon, biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs, American fries, fruit & drink. Invite your friends and neighbors for breakfast. Cost is by donation.

If you are willing and able to help cook or serve at the breakfast, please let Stan Fisher know as soon as possible.



## June Birthdays

6/8 Candace Kroll

6/9 David Brooks

6/11 Dorothy Sibley

6/18 MaryJane Cook

6/29 Olivia Robeck

6/30 Don Shain



## June

### Anniversaries

6/4 Jon & Sherry Graham

6/9 Stanley & Janet Fisher

6/15 Barry & Cathy Badge

6/15 Norm & Alicia  
Pedelty

6/21 Steve & Brenda  
Huckins Bonter

6/21 Jeff & Julie Berwald

If your birthday or anniversary date is missing, please contact Deb Prins at 231-652-6581 and update your information.

## Mission Minutes-Peach with Justice Sunday



### United Methodist Missionaries--from everywhere to everywhere!

In more than 60 countries around the world, United Methodist missionaries come from many places and backgrounds and witness and serve in dramatically different locales and cultures.

They engage in a range of activities and professions including pastors, educators, congregational and leadership developers, regional coordinators for UMCOR, agriculturalists, health coordinators, and doctors.

This month our noisy offering will go to support our missionaries who are working tirelessly to share God's love and word. The money we send to the conference will be used to pay their salaries and support their work in the coming year.

**Your Giving Makes Possible the Proclamation of Christ's Peace**

*Janet Fisher—Missions Chair*

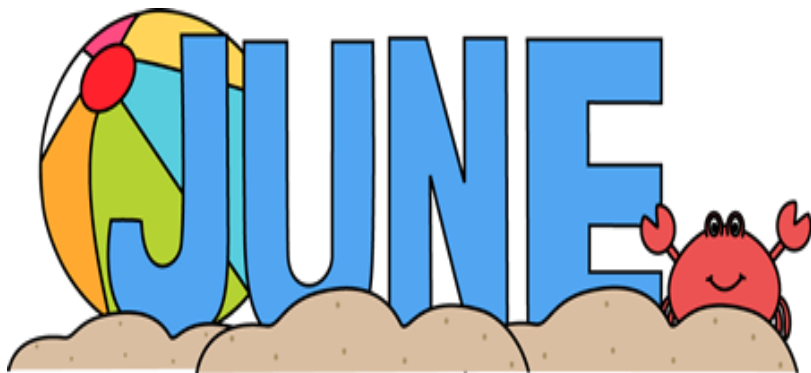
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## Michigan Music Ambassadors Program

Dylan White (Stan & Jan Fisher's Grandson) has been invited to travel to Europe this summer with MMA. Participants will be performing and traveling in 7 different countries throughout Europe including: England, France, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Austria, Italy and Germany.

Dylan is one of a handful of kids in the county chosen to represent the state of Michigan but this trip is not cheap. Dylan is much closer to his goal of raising the \$6,000 needed for this experience. He will once again be collecting pop cans from anyone who is willing to donate them to him. Please let Stan or Jan know if you have cans you would like picked up or drop them off in the collection barrel in the narthex. Thank you for your support of this great opportunity for Newaygo students and for Dylan.





# Newaygo United Methodist Church Activities

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Pastor Kathy's Day Off  4-6pm—Parenting Class	2	3
4 9:30am – Worship	5 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy Office Hours	6	7 8:30am – Men's Group @ City Limits 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy office Hours	8 Pastor Kathy's Day Off 4-6pm— Parenting Class	9	10
11 9:30am – Worship 11:00am-appetizers @ Sportsmans	12 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy Office Hours  6:30pm— Christian Ed @ NCUCC	13 6pm—UMW Ladies Night Out	14 8:30am – Men's Group @ City Limits	15 Pastor Kathy's Day Off	16	17 2:00pm– Social Group picnic @ Jean Reynhout's home
18 9:30am – Worship Fathers Day Pastor Kathy Last Day Graduation Sunday	19	20 9:30am—Mary Martha Circle 6:30pm –Finance 7:00pm—Church Council	21 8:30am – Men's Group @ City Limits	22	23	24 8am-11am - 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday Pancake Breakfast
25 Noisy Offering 9:30am – Worship	26	27	28 8:30am – Men's Group @ City Limits	29	30	

If you have something you would like added to the church calendar, please let the church office know as soon as possible. If you are planning an activity please check the large wall calendar in the church office or call the church office at 231-652-6581 to be sure the date is available for church use.

Dates and times are subject to change so check the calendar often.



**Newaygo United Methodist  
Church**

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We are God's Dream  
Seekers who seek to  
make disciples of Je-  
sus Christ in ways  
that show love, re-  
spect and service to  
our community.

Join us on Sunday Mornings for Worship at 9:30am with  
fellowship following.

*All are welcome.*

If you have any questions or would like more information  
regarding worship services and activities at Newaygo United  
Methodist Church please feel free to call the church office  
Monday-Thursday 9am-1pm.



Newaygo United  
Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 366  
Newaygo, MI 49337

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE