



CROSSROADS

What's Happening



New to Community Church, Want to Find Out More, Interested in Joining?

Pastor Brett & Kathy will be hosting a luncheon and discussion on December 10th from 1 – 3:30 or 4:00 pm at their home. We will discuss the following and answer any questions you might have:


- What does it mean to have new life in Jesus Christ?
- What does it mean to become a member of Christ’s Church?
- What are the privileges and responsibilities of being a member of Christ’s Church?
- How can I be involved and a growing participant in the life and ministry of Christian Fellowship at Community Church?

Whether you have a desire to join the church at this time or just learn more about these questions and about the church – please feel free to join us.

Please contact Pastor Brett or the church office if you will be attending so we can prepare food for the right number of people. Please let us know if you have any food allergies or aversions as well.

God’s Blessings,


Pastor Brett and Kathy



O.A.K.S. Christmas Party

The O.A.K.S. Christmas Luncheon will be Wednesday, December 6 at 12:00 noon in the church dining room. We will have a delicious meal, the singing of carols, entertainment by John Marek, and great fellowship. There will be good food, reminiscing and lots of fun. Bring a friend!


We must have a count for this event. If you have not been called by an OAKS Friend, please sign up in the Narthex. You may also call the church office, or make your reservation with Judy Bach at 843-4826.



Cookie Walk

The Annual Cookie Walk is scheduled for Friday, December 8. All women of the church are asked to donate homemade Christmas cookies. Please bring your cookies to the Fellowship Hall one day ahead - Thursday - between 9 am and 1 pm, or Friday by 10:00 am. We are also providing cookies for a bank open house, so **bake extra!** Proceeds from the Cookie Walk will go to missions supported by Christian Women’s Fellowship.

Community Church is sponsoring a **Mitten Tree** during this holiday season. Donations of handmade or store bought hats, mittens, and scarfs will be collected through Friday, December 15. The Mitten Tree is in Fellowship Hall. Donations will be distributed by the Salvation Army to those in need in our area.



Misfits



This year I was watching, for probably the 150th time (not exaggerating), Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer. Yes, if it is on, I watch it. During the scene that involves the “island of misfit toys” I was struck with the idea that we were all misfits in need of rescue. God knows this and he sent his Son, Jesus, to do just that, to rescue us to Himself.

Like the toys, we have a tendency to want to distance ourselves from misfits. Toys that are broken, missing something, a “train with square wheels,” a “Charlie in the Box,” a “bird the swims,” or a “cowboy who rides and ostrich.” Do we also do that with people? Do we avoid such people; do we keep them at a distance? Do we “place them on an island” by themselves?



Just like the toys, we even think of ourselves this way. We sit in church and focus on our flaws rather than our gifts. We think we know what the “perfect Christian” is and we lose sight of what we have to offer.

We think we can’t sing – we can’t praise God because we don’t have perfect pitch - because we don’t have a great voice (It doesn’t matter - just ask anyone who has heard me sing)...

Have you ever heard; I’m afraid to share my faith because I don’t know enough and someone might ask me a question I can’t answer, I’m not comfortable speaking in public (Moses anyone), I know I’ll make a mistake...

The truth is; we are all broken, we all have our faults and God knows this. God wants us not to be paralyzed by our faults, but to use them to show others the way to Him. Each and every one of us is critical to the functioning body of Christ.

Does it really matter if you don’t have a perfect voice (remember scripture – make a “joyful noise” to the Lord – you are not singing a solo), you don’t have to know everything to share your faith, just know that Jesus has saved you (if you don’t have all the answers – send them my way – they’ll quickly learn with you that I have more questions than answers too), as for reading or praying in a group of people (remember who you glorify when you read and when you pray – it’s God – ask some of the people in the congregation who read or sing regularly how terrified they used to be).

Drop the misfit feelings and allow God to mold you; allow God to take all your perceived flaws and shortcomings and use them for His glory.

Looking forward to celebrating Advent with you!


Love, Your Misfit Pastor!



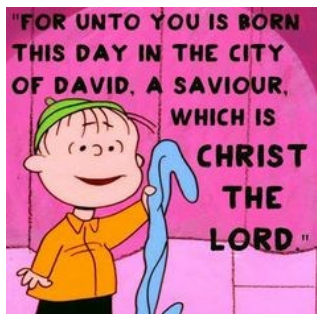
Sermon Titles and Scripture for December 2017

12/3/17: "Jesus Genealogy: A Story of Faithfulness" 2 Samuel 7:11b-17 Matthew 1:1-16
12/10/17: "The Surprise Message: Repent" Matthew 3:1-12 Luke 1:67-80
12/17/17: "Life Interrupted" Isaiah 9:1-7 Matthew 24:36-46
12/24/17: "Anxious and Confused" Isaiah 7:10-14 Matthew 1:18-25
Christmas Eve Candlelight: "Restore Us" Luke 2:1-20 Psalm 80

Staff
CHRISTMAS GIFT



The Personnel Committee is coordinating a "free will" love offering Christmas gift to our staff. The total amount will be equally divided among our paid staff members. Please give your voluntary contribution to Donna Hallin, or mail it to her at the church (109 N Harrison St, Ludington). Make your check payable to "Community Church of Ludington." Donations need to be received in the office no later than **December 17**. Thank you.



2017 COMMUNION SCHEDULE



December 3	1st Sunday of the Month	Intinction
December 24	Christmas Eve (9 pm)	Intinction



Bill Wolf	12/03
Russ Miller	12/04
Frank Petersen	12/06
Tonda Cadey	12/09
Dar Carpenter	12/09
James Cross	12/11
James Sisko	12/14
Jack Thiel	12/15
Linda Leibole	12/19
Darlene French	12/21
Diane Swathwood	12/21
Lyle Gunderson	12/22
Ric Cooper	12/28
Margaret Hansen	12/30
Cindy Reader	12/31



John & Valerie Stapleton	12/06
Kang & Inja Lee	12/07
Fred & Bev Fleetwood	12/13
Sid & Barb Sytsma	12/23



Council of Ministry Meeting Highlights

November 2017

From the treasurer:

- YTD Date Income: \$146,583.36.
- YTD Date Expenses: \$133,640.67.
- Income exceeds expenses by \$12,942.69. Yeah!!
- General Fund Balance is \$32,989.56.

From Finance & Personnel: The proposed 2018 budget and Capital Campaign were approved at the congregational meeting on October 8, 2018. The Noisy Coin offering took in \$1,276.14. Usual expenses for the Adopt-a-Family Christmas is \$2,000. The difference of \$723.86 will be made up from the General Fund. A Love Offering for the staff will be collected and due by Sunday, December 17. The annual Christmas Offering taken Christmas Eve will go to support Community Table.

Annual Reports are due December 1, so that Lisa has ample time to prepare the Annual Report. A template for the report is available.

From Worship: Looking ahead to December, decorating the church for Advent is scheduled for Saturday, December 2. There will be a regular worship service on Sunday, December 24 (Christmas Eve Day).

A Lenten study “40 Days of Prayer” by Rick Warren is planned for Lent. More information to follow.

From Christian Women’s Fellowship: The Cookie Walk is set for Friday, December 8 and Community Church will do the West Shore Bank Christmas open house from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Extra cookies are needed to be able to do the open house at the bank.

From Building Use and Maintenance (B.U.M.): New clocks have been purchased for Rooms 11 & 12. Thanks to Cheri who removed the leaves from the front area on Harrison Street. New thermostats were installed in the Pastor’s Office, Lisa’s Office and the Fellowship Hall. Let there be warmth!

From O.A.K.S: The annual Christmas luncheon will be on Wednesday, December 6 at noon. A game day is scheduled for Sunday, January 21st, 2018, at 2:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruthann Kyle, Clerk

The Sanctuary will be decorated for the Advent and Christmas Season on Saturday, December 2nd, at 9:00 a.m. This a time of great fun and fellowship. We will relax afterwards with a chili luncheon.



The sincere sympathy of Community Church is extended to the family and friends of **Florence Beerman** who passed away on November 9, 2017. Also, the sincere sympathy of Community Church is extended to family and friends of Beverly Fleetwood whose husband, **Fred Fleetwood**, died November 29, 2017.

Council and Committee Meetings—December 2017

Christian Women’s Fellowship	Monday, December 4, 9:30 am, Room 11
Finance and Personnel Committee	Next meeting December 4, 1:00 pm, Room 20a
O.A.K.S. Committee	
Worship Committee	Wednesday, December 6, 6:00 pm, Room 20a
Missions Committee	TBA
Christian Education Committee Membership/Outreach/Evangelism Committee (M.O.E.), Communications Committee	Wednesday, December 13, 6:00 pm, Room 10
Building Use and Maintenance Committee (B.U.M.)	Tuesday, December 12, 6:30 pm, Room 20a
Council of Ministries	Wednesday, December 20, 6:00 pm, Room 11




**Crossroads Deadline:
December 24**

Crossroads Folding: December 28



Monthly Update

Date	Attendance Count	General Fund Collection
October 29	69	\$2,758.85
November 5	72	\$3,671.76
November 12	69	\$2,998.00
November 19	76	\$2,911.00
November 26	68	\$1,785.00



Noisy Coin Offering for the Adopt-A-Family program in 2018 will be held on the 5th Sunday of December. Save up your coins and bring them on December 31st to worship.

Also needed: Volunteers to count the offering. We will have coin trays and coin wrappers to speed up the process. Please call the church office.



The Christmas Offering this year will be used to help defray the costs for providing the **Community Table Meals** hosted by Community Church.

Adopt A Family



As we prepare for the upcoming Christmas Season, let us prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Christmas. Christ came as the greatest gift of all from God our Father. We can use this opportunity to bring not only gifts and food into the lives of those less fortunate, but we can bring Christ the greatest gift of all into their homes and hearts.

We will be shopping and wrapping on **Saturday, December 16** and **delivering both Saturday and Sunday the 17th**. Sign-up sheets are in Fellowship Hall for donations of food and household supplies and to shop, wrap, and deliver. Questions? Call Kathy Bromley 231-843-9395. We need **EVERYONE** to make this a Christmas blessing for 8 families. Please keep them in your prayers.

Capital Campaign

I'm sure you have heard we are embarking on a capital campaign to take care of maintenance issues in the church building. The newest part of the church is 20 years old and things need replacing; the carpet in the narthex and the air conditioning units in fellowship hall, and the two offices. We are seeking \$10,000 from the congregation and using \$10,000 in memorial money to make this happen.



You should have received a letter with more detail and a pledge card. Please prayerfully consider what you could give in a one-time gift or as a weekly addition to your regular giving. You can drop the pledge cards in the box in the narthex or send them to the church office.

If you have any questions please call Pastor Brett or Donna Hallin.

CANCELLATIONS—NEW INFORMATION

In cases of bad weather, a decision to cancel Sunday worship will be made by 7:30 a.m. Cancellations will be announced on the following radio stations: WMOM, WKLA (AM and FM), KZ96, K-ROCK. It will also be shown on TV channel 13 WZZM. If school is closed during the week, all church activities will be cancelled until noon. If committees wish to cancel afternoon or evening meetings, committees should contact their members and the office should be contacted.



Charter Spectrum Cable (CableVision) Channel 190 broadcasts our worship service each week. Broadcast times are 11 am Sunday morning, 7 pm Sunday evening, and again at 7 am on Monday morning. Tune in if you had to miss worshipping with us - or if you want to listen and worship again.

"Getting to Know You, Getting to Know All About You"



Introducing our special couple of the month – (Paul) **Roger Cochran and Betty Orton-Cochran!** Roger is a recent addition to the men's section of our choir. It's so nice to hear his voice and to see him in the choir loft!

Betty is a long-time (30+ years) very active member of our church, serving on various committees and taking part in lots of activities over the years.

Betty was born in Buffalo Lake, MN, and raised in McLeod County. The youngest child of five, her parents were dairy farmers and raised related crops. She attended Steward High School, Stewart, MN. Baptized and confirmed in a Danish Lutheran church, she later was married there to Sam Orton. They were members of Scottville Methodist Church before joining Community Church. Together they raised four daughters in Scottville, where Sam was an educator and coach for Scottville schools. Betty studied at West Shore Community College and took State of Michigan Child Development classes. She was a Head Start teacher and employed at Mason County Central in the Preschool. Sam and Betty were married for 53 years, until he passed away in 2010 of cancer.

Betty is an avid gardener of flowers and vegetables, and enjoys sharing her harvest

with family and friends. She also loves to sew and craft – making wonderful gifts for others. Her passion also has been in writing family history.

In 2015, Betty met Roger at Cross-Fit in Ludington; and they were married at Christmas time in 2016. Roger was born and raised in Mt. Vernon, OH. He spent 12 years (age 8 – 20) in JAIL! His father was the sheriff of the Knox Co., OH jail, and his mother was the jail matron – hence he grew up living at the jail with his parents. Roger was raised Baptist, and studied Christian Education at Detroit Bible College. He attended Cornerstone University and University of Michigan Flint for Social Services. Roger served as a youth pastor for 9 years and served as Executive Director of United Cerebral Palsy Association for 12 years. Roger also served as a campground pastor for 5 years. Roger and his wife raised their family of two daughters and one son near Flint, MI. He was married for over 50 years when his wife passed away of cancer.

Roger's hobbies include photography and antiques. In his youth, he enjoyed raising horses. Other interests include writing, speaking, and preaching. Currently he is a busy man remodeling their farm house with Betty as his assistant advisor – not only for construction and redecorating, but also for gardening.

Roger's favorite Bible verses are Proverbs 3:5-6. Betty's favorite verse is John 15:5.

So nice to get to know you better, Roger and Betty!

PRAYER NEEDS OF OUR CHURCH'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS

IMMEDIATE PRAYER NEEDS

Bev Fleetwood, death of husband, Fred
Fred Schroeder, health concerns
Jen Kiyak, health concerns
Peg Parrott, healing
Mary Young, health concerns
Tonda Cadey, health concerns



OUR MISSIONARIES

Daryl and Leshia Beltz - both have health concerns
 Jim and Yuri Cerminaro
 Tony and Connie Johnson
 Dean and Debbie Lundberg

ON-GOING

Verne Kenney, health concerns
Bobbie Maclean, health concerns
Thad Shank, health concerns
Wendy Lanterman, healing
Jeanne Rabe, health concerns, godmother of Kathy Bromley
Judy d'Anton, continuing recovery, Dave Swathwood's sister
Terry Krystiniak, health concerns, encouragement and support
Dale Guenthardt, health issues
Barbara Peters, multiple sclerosis, Bob and Lynn Olmstead's daughter
Chuck Oleniczak, health concerns
Harold Figgins, health concerns
Daniel Williams, health concerns, Sandi Steckel's cousin
Sherrie Sanders, health concerns
Eric Lund, recovery - double arm transplant



NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Autumn Winds - Marylyn Brown
Willowbrook - Thelma Bowden
Village Haus - Hilda Parker, Dorothy Boon
Tendercare - Darlene French
Ludington Woods - Jen Kiyak
Oakview - Gary Miller, Barbara Johnson, Mary Carlson



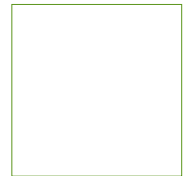
All persons placed on the prayer list will remain there for a period of two weeks. If you have a prayer need that you would like to have the members of the prayer chain pray for, please activate the prayer chain by calling Janet VanEpps at 843-3122.

December

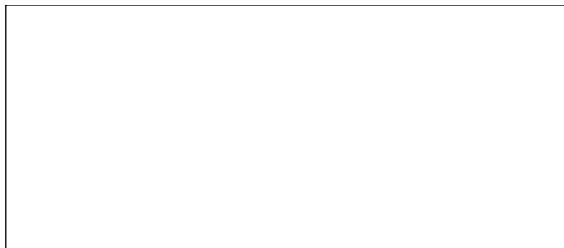
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Nov 26</p> <p><u>Worship 9:30am</u></p>	<p>Nov 27</p>	<p>Nov 28</p> <p>Ladies Bible 9:30am</p> <p>Quilters 9am-6pm</p> <p>Community Table 4:30-6pm</p> <p>Boy Scouts 7pm</p>	<p>Nov 29</p> <p>Bible Study 7 pm</p>	<p>Nov 20</p> <p>Bulletin Folding 10am</p> <p>Vocal Choir 6pm</p> <p>Bell Choir 7pm</p>	<p>1</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>Hanging of the Greens (decorate church for Advent) 9 am</p> <p>Chili Lunch to follow</p>
<p>3</p> <p><u>Worship with Communion 9:30am</u></p> 	<p>4</p> <p><u>Christian Women's Fellowship 9:30am</u></p> <p><u>Finance and Personnel Committee 1 pm</u></p>	<p>5</p> <p>Quilters 9am-6pm</p> <p>Community Table 4:30-6pm</p> <p>Boy Scouts 7pm</p>	<p>6</p>  <p><u>O.A.K.S. Christmas Luncheon, 12 noon</u></p> <p><u>Worship Committee 6pm</u></p> <p>Bible Study 7 pm</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Bulletin Folding 10am</p> <p>Vocal Choir 6pm</p> <p>Bell Choir 7pm</p>	<p>8</p> <p><u>Cookie Walk 11 am - 1 pm</u></p> 	<p>9</p>
<p>10</p> <p><u>Worship 9:30am</u></p> 	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Ladies Bible 9:30am</p> <p>Quilters 9am-6pm</p> <p><u>Community Table 4:30-6pm</u></p> <p><u>We Serve</u></p> <p><u>B.U.M. 6:30 pm</u></p> <p>Boy Scouts 7pm</p>	<p>13</p> <p><u>CE/MOE/COMM 6pm</u></p> <p>Bible Study 7 pm</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Bulletin Folding 10am</p> <p>Vocal Choir 6pm</p> <p>Bell Choir 7pm</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p><u>Adopt-A-Family Shopping</u></p> 
<p>17</p> <p><u>Worship 9:30am</u></p>  <p><u>Adopt-A-Family Wrap and Delivery</u></p> 	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Ladies Bible 9:30am</p> <p>Quilters 9am-6pm</p> <p>Community Table 4:30-6pm</p> <p>Boy Scouts 7pm</p>	<p>20</p> <p><u>Crossroads Deadline</u></p> <p><u>Council Meeting 6pm</u></p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24</p> <p><u>Worship with Communion 9:30am</u></p>  <p><u>Christmas Eve Service with Communion 9 pm</u></p>	<p>25</p> <p><u>Church Office Closed</u></p> <p>Merry Christmas!</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>Quilters 9am-6pm</p> <p>Community Table 4:30-6pm</p> <p>Boy Scouts 7pm</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Crossroads Folding 9:30am</p> <p>Bulletin Folding 10am</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>



Community Church
 109 N. Harrison St.
 Ludington, MI 49431
 Phone: 231-843-9275
 communitych@frontier.com
 www.commch.com



CROSSROADS DECEMBER 2017



Traditionally
CONGREGATIONAL / PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Brett Spalding

Music Director

W. John Clement

Membership/Financial Secretary

Lisa Dains

Custodian

Cheri Welch

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

2017 COUNCIL

3 Year Term Ending 12/31/17

Steve Iteen
 Robert Lanterman
 John Stapleton
 Jack Thiel

3 Year Term Ending 12/31/18

Tonda Cadey
 Ruthann Kyle
 Don McKay
 Janet VanEpps

3 Year Term Ending 12/31/19

Darlene Carpenter
 Maralyn Gable
 Diane Swathwood
 Lorrie McKay

Moderator

Steven Iteen

Vice-Moderator

Robert Lanterman

Clerk

Ruthann Kyle

Treasurer

Donna Hallin

Nominating Committee

Bobbie Maclean
 Stephanie Thomsen
 Teri Nedderman

Scholarship Committee

Wendy Lanterman
 Betty Orton
 Jack Thiel



Check out Community Church's **Facebook** page! Go to Facebook and type "Community Church of Ludington" in the search box. Scroll down and check out to see what is posted.