

CELEBRATING REV. KIM BOS

On Sunday, June 21, we will take time during worship and fellowship hour to celebrate Kim's ministry and offer our thanks as she and her family prepare for their new adventure with First United Methodist Church in Mount Pleasant. We invite you to join us for this special celebration. Please consider bringing a card, note, or written word of appreciation to share with Kim and her family. Whether you have known her for many years or have simply been inspired by her ministry, your encouragement will be a meaningful gift as they make this transition.

Come help us celebrate, give thanks, and send Kim and her family with our love, prayers, and best wishes for the journey ahead.

TABLE TALK: FAITH, POLITICS, AND FOLLOWING JESUS

What does it mean to follow Jesus in a time when faith and politics are often deeply intertwined? Beginning Wednesday, July 1, our regular Table Talk gathering will become a five-week book discussion centered on *The Flag + The Cross: White Christian Nationalism and the Threat to American Democracy* by Philip Gorski and Samuel Perry. We will meet Wednesdays at noon through July 29 at the Downtown Campus.

In *The Flag + The Cross*, the authors explore the history and influence of white Christian nationalism in the United States and examine how it differs from the teachings of Jesus. Through history, sociology, theology, and contemporary examples, they challenge readers to consider the relationship between faith, power, and public life while inviting Christians to reclaim a faith rooted in humility, justice, and love of neighbor.

If you've attended Table Talk before, the format will feel familiar. Bring your lunch, bring your book, and join the conversation. This will be an opportunity to gather around the table, share perspectives, ask questions, and learn from one another, so whether you are curious about the topic, looking to deepen your understanding, or simply enjoy thoughtful conversation, you are welcome to join us. Books are available for \$10 each. To reserve a copy, please contact Barb in the church office by June 25 so that we can order enough books for everyone.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PRIDE: BIG RAPIDS

On Sunday, June 28, UMMMC will once again participate in Pride: Big Rapids, and we are looking for volunteers to help staff our booth throughout the event. A sign-up sheet is available in Fellowship Hall.

Why do we participate? Because we believe every person is created in the image of God and worthy of love, dignity, and belonging. As an inclusive and affirming congregation, we want our LGBTQIA+ neighbors to know that there are churches where they are not merely welcomed, but celebrated as beloved members of God's family.

Our presence at Pride is an opportunity to listen, build relationships, share who we are, and offer a visible reminder that faith and affirmation can coexist. For many people, a conversation at Pride may be their first positive interaction with a church in years—or ever. You don't need to be an expert. You simply need to be willing to offer a smile, extend hospitality, answer questions about our church, and help create a welcoming presence in our community. If you are willing to serve for part of the day, please sign up in Fellowship Hall. Together, we can help ensure that our neighbors know they are loved, valued, and welcome.

PARIS CAMPUS WORSHIP TIME CHANGE

Beginning June 14, the Paris Campus will return to a 9:00 AM worship time. This change will allow Pastor Jeremy to be present and preach at Paris more regularly while strengthening connections across UMMMC. Pastor Jeremy will typically preach on the second and fourth Sundays each month, with Dave Hanna, Kate Hanna, and Ray Setlock leading worship on other Sundays.

What's Happening

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

9AM - Worship @ Paris (North) Campus
10AM - Worship @ First Church (Downtown) Campus

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

9AM - Director's Meeting @ Downtown Campus

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

10AM - SOUL Circle @ Downtown Campus
5:30PM - "Purpose Driven Life" Dinner / Book Study @ North Campus

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

5:30PM - Community Dinner @ Downtown Campus

SENIOR ENRICHMENT DAY - WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

Senior Enrichment Day will be held at Big Rapids High School on Wednesday, June 24, 2026. The seminar series offered this year includes a choice of more than 40 diverse educational sessions, providing a "one-stop shop" for vital information for seniors. Options include fitness classes, painting, long-term care, and financial planning options, help with Medicare, Veteran's benefits, and more. The sessions are 45 minutes in length and are designed for seniors, their children, and caregivers. Registration materials for the Senior Enrichment Day may be found in the Information Center outside of the church office. You may also register online: www.seniorenrichmentday.com

DOWNTOWN CAMPUS: WORSHIP SHIFTS TO FELLOWSHIP HALL

In recent announcements, we shared that worship at our Downtown Campus would move to the Fellowship Hall beginning June 14. Due to other events scheduled in the building, that transition has been postponed.

We will continue worshipping in the sanctuary through June 21 and plan to begin worshipping in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, June 28. Please dress comfortably for the weather, it's likely to be very warm in the sanctuary.

Thank you for your flexibility as we navigate these scheduling adjustments.

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Barbara Erb - Director of Administrative Services
barbara@ummecosta.org - (231) 796-7771

Kathy Bell - Director of Congregational Care
kathy@ummecosta.org - (231) 224-6177

Paden Clevenger - Director of Family Ministries & Community Outreach
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Rev. Jeremy Wicks - Executive Pastor
jeremy@ummecosta.org / (231) 224-6545

To schedule an appointment with Pastor Jeremy, contact Barbara Erb or schedule online @ calendly.com/jeremy-ummecosta

Week of June 14 - June 20, 2026

Family News

SENT WITH Compassion



UNITED METHODIST MINISTRIES OF MECOSTA COUNTY

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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE HOURS: TUES - FRIDAY, 9AM - 3PM
PASTOR OFFICE HOURS: TUESDAY & THURSDAY, 9AM - 12PM & 12:30PM - 3PM

NORTH CAMPUS - PARIS

109 Lincoln St
Paris, MI 49338
ummecosta.org/paris

Worship Gathering
in-person
Sundays @ 9:30AM

DOWNTOWN CAMPUS - FIRST

304 Elm Street
Big Rapids, MI 49307
bigrapidsfirst.org

Worship Gathering
in-person and online
Sundays @ 10AM

Order of Worship - June 14, 2026

"This is the Day" Call and Response - Gordon Mallett

Welcome & Announcements

Musical Meditation - Ed Mallett

*** Call to Worship** (Reader / *People*)

Come, beloved of God. Come as you are, carrying your joys and your burdens.

We come seeking the presence of the One who knows us and loves us.

Jesus looked upon the crowds with compassion, seeing their struggles, their hopes, and their need.

Jesus looks upon us with that same compassion today.

The harvest is plentiful. The opportunities for love, healing, and hope are all around us.

God is calling ordinary people to participate in extraordinary grace.

We have gathered to be renewed by God's love.

We have gathered to be sent into the world as bearers of that love.

Come, let us worship the God who welcomes, heals, and sends us forth.

Let us worship God with grateful hearts and willing spirits.

*** Hymn**

Praises and Prayers

Prayers and Praises of the People

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading - Matthew 9:35-10:8 (NRSVUE)

The word of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

*** Hymn**

Message - "Sent with Compassion", Rev. Jeremy Wicks

Silent Prayer of Reflection

Celebration of Holy Communion

Offering

*** The Doxology**, UMH #95

*** Hymn**

*** Benediction**

Postlude

* PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT

Welcome to Paris!

Welcome to Paris, the North Campus of United Methodist Ministries of Mecosta County - we're so glad you're here! This is a place where faith feels like family, where neighbors become friends, and where we learn and grow together in Christ's love.

Whether you're visiting, returning, or looking for a church home, you are welcome here. Come as you are, bring your questions and your hopes, and make yourself at home.

If you need anything or have questions, our church family is here to help. We're blessed to have you with us today.

NOTES:



Check In Here

THINK ABOUT IT THIS WEEK: SENT WITH COMPASSION

One of the most striking details in this week's Gospel reading is that Jesus does not begin with a plan, a program, or a strategy. He begins with compassion. When Jesus looks at the crowds, he sees people who are weary, overwhelmed, and searching for direction. His response is not judgment. It is compassion. Then, from that place of compassion, he calls and sends his disciples to participate in God's work of healing, restoration, and hope. The same pattern remains true today. Our calling as followers of Jesus does not begin with having all the answers. It begins with learning to see others—and ourselves—with compassion. As we receive God's grace, we become instruments of that grace in the world around us.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- Where have you experienced compassion recently?
- Is there someone in your life who may be feeling weary, isolated, or overwhelmed?
- How might your perspective change if you viewed that person through the eyes of compassion rather than frustration or judgment?
- What gifts, experiences, or opportunities has God already placed in your hands for serving others?

ACTION STEPS

- Reach out to someone you have not spoken with in a while.
- Offer a word of encouragement to someone who may need it.
- Look for one opportunity each day to extend kindness without expecting anything in return.
- Spend a few moments each morning asking God to help you see people as Jesus sees them.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Compassionate God, open my eyes to see others as you see them. When I am quick to judge, teach me mercy. When I am tempted to look away, give me courage to care. Help me recognize the opportunities you place before me to share kindness, healing, and hope. May I freely give the love I have freely received through Christ. Amen.

JUNE MISSION GIVING: PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

Throughout June, our special giving focus is Peace with Justice Sunday, one of The United Methodist Church's denomination-wide special offerings. Peace with Justice supports ministries that address the root causes of conflict, injustice, and oppression. Gifts help fund efforts that promote peace, advocate for justice, and equip communities to create lasting change both locally and around the world.

As followers of Jesus, we are called not only to pray for peace but to work toward a world where all people can experience dignity, opportunity, and hope. Peace with Justice Sunday reminds us that peace and justice are deeply connected, and that our faith calls us to participate in God's work of healing and reconciliation.

Special offering envelopes are available in worship, or you may designate your gift as "Peace with Justice." Thank you for your generosity and for helping to make a difference in the lives of others.

Your generosity makes a difference! To avoid any confusion in our giving systems, please make your checks out to Paris UMC or UMMMMC. Thank you for your continued support!