



The Weekly News of the
Northeast Church of Christ

July 23, 2017



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ESPECIALLY FOR OUR GUESTS ...

- Please pick up an information packet from our welcome table in the lobby. We also have a small gift for our first-time guests.
- We are grateful for your presence today. Please fill out an attendance card (please indicate both your first and last names) so we can have a record of your presence.
- About halfway through the service, the children kindergarten through the 4th grade will be dismissed for their own class downstairs. For those 4 years old and under, there are classes on the main level throughout the entire service. We encourage the use of our attended nursery class for those who need it.
- If you have any questions concerning our services or the church or the Bible, we encourage you to speak to one of our elders or our minister.

PULPIT EXCHANGE

This morning we welcome **Peter Morphy**, the preacher at the Royal Oak Church of Christ, who will bring us the morning message. Brian is speaking at Royal Oak this morning.



CHURCH IN THE PARK

We invite everyone to join us as we worship with other area congregations on **Sunday, August 13**, at Butcher Park in Warren. The event will begin with a picnic meal together at 4:30, followed by service at 5:30. Bringing us the message will be Lonale Stewart, the minister at the Van Dyke Church of Christ. In order to plan for enough food, we ask that you sign up in the hallway. Invite family and friends to join you as we all worship God and fellowship with other brothers and sisters in Christ.



LADIES RETREAT

Ladies, remember to pick up a registration form & flyer in the lobby and sign up in the hallway for our retreat. It will be held **Sept. 23 & 24**, at the Hyatt Place in Auburn Hills.





In Our Thoughts and Prayers



Lori Smith will have surgery on her leg on Friday.

Muriel Smith will have cataract surgery on Friday.

Bud Killebrew has returned home.

Kelsi Spurlin, Cheryl's granddaughter, had surgery last Friday.

Connie Patenaude, Russ' mother, is home and recovering from surgery.

John Ringeisen, Debbie Purgatori's father, is recovering from a stroke in McClaren Macomb Hospital.

Eleanor Wooldridge's son, Vernon, has learned that his cancer has spread and he began chemo treatments last week.

GRADUATION PARTY



Everyone is invited to a graduation open house for **Quincy Stewart** on **Sunday, August 20**, from 12:30-6:00 at Blossom Heath Park, on Jefferson just south of 10 Mile Rd. (behind Blossom Heath Inn). Please sign up in the hallway if you plan to attend.

VBS AT BAD AXE CHURCH



The Bad Axe Church of Christ will hold their Vacation Bible School **August 7-9**. We are planning to take a group up there to be assistants, helpers, or do whatever they need. They will provide all the teachers. There will be no cost to you and accommodations will be provided. If you would like to be part of this exciting adventure, please see Brian or Joe & Lori Mason. Adults & teens - you can help make a difference. Bad Axe is one of our mission fields and it would be great to let them know how much we appreciate and support them in their efforts.

STEAK & CORN ROAST



The Church of Christ Care Center will be "Celebrating the 1970's" at their 30th Annual Steak & Corn Roast, which will take place on **Saturday, August 19**, at 5 p.m. under the big tent on the Care Center grounds. Garth Pleasant, former Rochester College men's basketball coach, will share some "Sports Memories". Entertainment for the evening will be provided by Dueling Pianos. Our own Gloria Conti, her aide, and students from Lutz School will be honored at the dinner for the volunteer work they do at the Care Center. Tickets are \$75 if you purchase them before July 31, and after that the cost will be \$85. See Barb Kramer to purchase your ticket.

AREA WIDE SINGING



The Royal Oak Church of Christ will host an area-wide singing on **Sunday, August 6**, from 3-5 p.m. Everyone is invited to join together with other brothers and sisters to worship in song.

WHEN THE PRODIGAL RETURNS

By Josh Blackmer

“Here come I to my own again, Fed, forgiven and known again, Claimed by bone of my bone again and cheered by flesh of my flesh” (1-3). Joseph Rudyard Kipling, author of *The Jungle Book*, opened his poem “The Prodigal Son” with those lines. In it he writes from the perspective of the returning son. As we consider that thought, what should our response be to those that return? How should we approach the penitent brother or sister that has come back to their first love?

First, we must realize that there is already a burden of guilt upon those that return. It is not ours to make that burden any greater by subjecting them to our self-righteous judgments. Look at how those in the parable responded to the return. The father celebrated as one that received his child back from death (Luke 15:32). The older brother did not feel that his sibling was deserving of such treatment (Luke 15:28-30). The reality is nobody ever deserves the Father’s love. In 2 Corinthians, Paul writes concerning the treatment of the repentant brother in Christ that had been withdrawn from. “Sufficient for such a one is this punishment which was inflicted by the majority, so that on the contrary you should rather forgive and comfort him, otherwise such a one might be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. Wherefore I urge you to reaffirm your love for him” (2:6-8). This is exactly what the father was doing. He was reestablishing the relationship that had been severed because of sin.

Second, they need to be built back up to a measure of strength. The wayward child had been in the far off land eating very little. Desiring to eat even the slop for pigs. When he returned home, I think of him as having a feeble body, barely able to walk. Spiritually, those that have wandered away for a length time are in a similar situation. “Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted” (Gal. 6:1). The word “restore” is the same word used in Mark 1:19 for mending nets. Hebrews 12:13 talks about the concept as though you are resetting a joint that was out of place. An arm that once hung lifeless to the side is set back in place and nurtured to usefulness. When the lost son came to his senses, he returned home.

We pray that those who are off in the far country spiritually would return also. Nothing would give heaven greater joy than for the wayward to say, “Here I come to my own again, fed, forgiven and known again...”

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TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday
Bible School - 9:30 a.m.
Worship - 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday
Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.



Find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/groups/northeastcofc

Our Missions ~ Near and Far

- ✝ Bad Axe Church of Christ
- ✝ China
- ✝ Church of Christ Care Center
- ✝ Eastern European Mission
- ✝ India
- ✝ Metro Detroit Youth Chorus
- ✝ Michigan Christian Youth Camp
- ✝ Nigeria
- ✝ Shults-Lewis Children's Home
- ✝ South Africa

ELDER CHAIRMAN

Bill Nocita

WORSHIP ATTENDANTS

July 23, 2017

Opening Prayer - Kenny Cummings
Song Leader - Bill Nocita
Sermon - Brian Poe

Communion servants for July

John Kaganac Steve Karwowski
Ken Mickey Dave Anderson

Audio visual servitor for July

Dean Stewart Scott Smith

FOR THE RECORD

July 16, 2017

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| Bible School | 50 |
| Sunday Morning Worship | 109 |
| Avg. attendance for 2017 | 118 |
| Sunday Evening Worship | 25 |
| Mid-Week Bible Study | 31 |
| Contribution | \$2,680.00 |
| Avg. contribution for 2017 | \$3,765.52 |
| Budget | \$3,872.00 |
| Shults-Lewis | \$69.55 |
| Total for 2017 | \$1,081.65 |