

May 2024



Williamsburg United Methodist Church

5750 Williamsburg Road
Williamsburg, MI 49690
wumctoday.com



Pastor: Matthew Chapman pastor.matthew.chapman@gmail.com 231.342.6422
Admin: Janet Goss wumctoday@gmail.com 231.267.5792
Office Hours: Mon. 9-11, Wed. 9-11, Thurs. 9-11

Dear Williamsburg UMC Family,

As the "Annual Conference nears (May 30-June 1), I am thinking a lot about land. Partly, because I am one of the few pastors that do not need to travel to Annual Conference, I travel further between my church each Sunday. Another reason is because I am a part of the Annual Conference worship team, and I write the Land Recognition statement / liturgy that is used in opening worship. Land acknowledgment is a traditional custom that dates back centuries in many Native nations and communities. Today, land acknowledgments are used by Native Peoples and non-Natives to recognize Indigenous Peoples who are the original stewards of the lands on which we now live.

This year I am thinking a lot about Woody Guthrie's song, "This Land Is Your Land." Most of us probably know much of this song by heart.

"This land is your land and this land is my land
From the California to the New York island
From the redwood forest to the Gulf Stream waters
This land was made for you and me."

Woody Guthrie was against the concept of private property, because land is a resource that everyone needs, but it is unfairly hoarded and often violently (monetarily and physically) taken. This can be seen in his verse that is not widely sung anymore:

"There was a big high wall there that tried to stop me;
Sign was painted, it said private property;
But on the back side it didn't say nothing;
This land was made for you and me."

Our Native American siblings had the land we now claim to "own." But I think it is important for us to remember this land was stolen, whether outright or through forced treaties. Whose land is this? That is an important discussion in the United Methodist Church. Who owns church property? Well, the local church does, but they do it in trust for the greater United Methodist Church. All United Methodist Churches have what is called the Trust Clause. The United Methodist trust clause is a statement included in legal documents (deeds) declaring that the property and assets of a local church or United Methodist body are held "in trust" for the benefit of the entire denomination.

So I guess that is another bit of confusion with our understanding over land and its use. I for one, will just keep singing, "This land was made for you and me."

Blessings,

Pastor Matthew

SAVE THE DATE:
Memorial Day Parade
Monday, May 27th @ 9am
American Legion Post #289



Habitat
for Humanity®
Grand Traverse Region

**Support WESA &
Whitewater Fire
Department @
WUMC on May 11th,
4-7pm
"Taco Dinner Bar"**

Ushers:

**May 5- Jim Hockin
May 12- Jim Hockin
May 19- Chuck Walter**

*Carol is always
looking for
volunteers! Thank
you!*

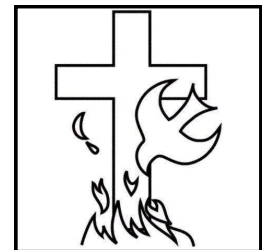


**In May we supported
Freedom Builders. We
collected \$172 for
them, thank you!**



**Noisy Offering in May
is supporting Habitat
for Humanity, thank
you!**

**Pentecost Sunday,
May 19th**



May Celebrations!

3rd Wanda Provins

5th Pete Morrison

6th Nick Lloyd

7th Chelle Lints

7th Brandon Gualtiere

7th Nate Graham

11th Grant Woods

14th Scott Graham

20th Isabelle Stapleton

24th Emma Woods

24th Rod & Kim Kuncaitis' Anniversary!

Monthly Recipe:

YUMMY SALAD

By: Grace Bloxsom

Ingredients:

1 Package Black Cherry Jello

1 Package Strawberry Jello

1 Can Crushed Pineapple (lightly drained)

1 Can Blueberry Pie Filling

1 Cup Pecans

3 Cups Boiling Water

Topping:

8 oz Package of Cream Cheese

1/2 Cup Sour Cream

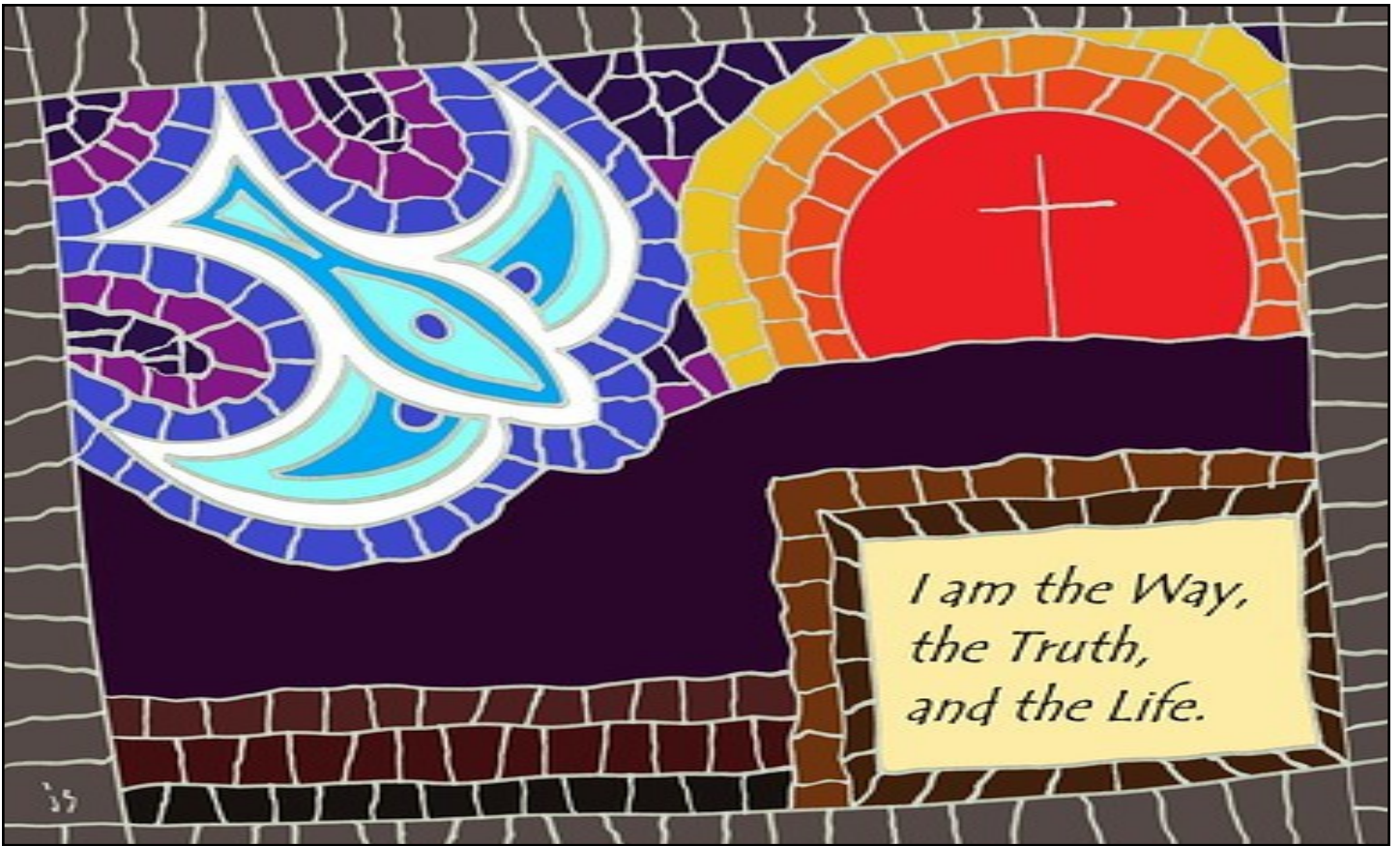
1/2 Cup Powdered Sugar

Directions:

Dissolve gelatin in 3 cups boiling water. Add remaining ingredients. Chill in a square pan. Mix cream cheese and sour cream. Add powdered sugar. Spread over a firm Salad.

May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 National Day of Prayer	3	4 Jarvis Baby Shower
5 9am Srv Communion Coffee Fellowship 	6	7	8	9	10	11 WESA Taco Bar Dinner Fundraiser 4-7pm downstairs WUMC
12 9am Worship Service Mother's Day!	13	10	15 AD Council Meeting 9am SonShine women's group 10:30 @ Traverse Bay UMC	16	17	18 Stites Memorial Gathering
19 9am Worship Service Pentecost	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 9am Worship Service	27 Memorial Day Parade 9am @ Williamsburg Post	28	29	30	31	



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