

September 2025 - Pastor Report

I continue to do continuing education via zoom and those offered from Cleveland are very enlightening about how UCC does things around the country. Michigan is not its own little island. For 'sanity' I do engage with other pastors on a regular basis and the gathering on the 2nd Friday of the month is probably the best as the gathered pastors are from other states including the New England states, NY, PA, MI and sometimes a pastor from Canada.

Once again, I encourage any to shoot onto the MI UCC site, even after a zoom has taken place. The First Wednesday with the Conference Minister, and Progressive Pastors on the First Monday. The Justice Committee meets at 10:00 AM on the 3rd Tuesdays. The Linking Board of DMA needs more lay people on it and they need more participation to have a quorum when they gather on the 2nd Thursday's at 6:00 PM.

The Committee on Ministry [COM] gathers on the 3rd Thursday's at 6:00 PM and among our duties we oversee the Members in Discernment, do exit interviews, help clergy, and assist any local church that seeks our assistance for getting a Search Committee together, and/or assisting troubled churches. There are several MID's but nobody ready or any who have completed all that is needed at the present time. The most recent EC individual (a lady) is not seeking a call actively at this time. LaToya will be a blessing and spark of excitement when she is ready and called. The COM only has a few lay people and really could use a couple more voices. The DMA COM is far more thorough than the Eastern Association was and meetings by zoom are at least an hour and sometimes longer. It is a commitment but so important.

The MI Conference Annual Meeting is around the corner on October 3-4 in Southfield and each local church can have two delegates. Information comes through the conference and it is forwarded to everyone. There is up and coming what is called the "Mitten Project" which is a program for Christian Education. Jen Ringold is overseeing it and so excited. Lawrence from MI Conference is offering media training and the most recent was on Friday, September 19. There is always something to learn i.e. his suggestion to have communication via fb on regular days and communication via email or text message.

One of our membership plans to offer a Scripture class in the New Year and many will be encouraged to hear another and engage in a different way.

Our shut-ins seem to all be doing well. No more COVID.

I continue to be so grateful for all of you and the ones who just see and do what needs to be done. It is Church and Grounds, Terry with the Memorial Garden, Rich and Terry (grounds) who always rise to any need, Ray Trombley who contributes to scrap and paint all the basement windows outside and put aluminum sills on those windows. Communion Sunday is always prepared by Donna, Kim is the Eagle Eye for the power point.

Respectfully submitted, Pastor Katie Dailey, always in progress