

# THE EAST MICHIGAN CONNECTION

*Building and Equipping Churches in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

**Jan/Feb 2010**

## ***Davison FM Addition Nears Completion***



room into smaller sections. The 10-foot high ceilings are in sharp contrast to the lower ceilings in the basement. The building also has an elevator to make it easier for older members to move from one floor to another.



On June 14, the Davison FM congregation broke ground for a new 7,500 square foot classroom addition, new carport and entrance. The project cost is \$1.2 million, with part of the money coming from reclaimed and recycled materials. Many volunteers from the church are helping with the project.

The addition will allow the church to move the children's and adult education program to the new area and free up space in the basement for a children's worship center.

Walls in the basement have been repainted and new carpeting is designed to suggest that those who walk on it are walking on water. The lower part of the walls are painted like waves lapping on the shore.

One of the new classrooms is ringed with a large window and has folding partitions to divide the

Rev. Brad Button, Sr. Pastor, is expecting the major aspect of the project to be fully operational in mid-January. He said the project is more than brick and mortar. "Our ultimate goal is really to improve our church to reach out into the community. At this particular time, people need to know that there is hope and that they are not alone."

The church's ministries include programs for children, teens and young adults. There is a family and friends camping program, ministries for the elderly and a food pantry that serves hundreds in the area as well as individuals in the church family. A community open house is planned when the project is complete.



# Women's Ministries...

## Greetings from your WMI (Women's Ministries International) Executive Committee:



We would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves and say “thank you” for the privilege you have provided us by electing us as your conference representatives. The members of your *Executive Committee* are: **Amy Thompson** (Dansville), **Judy Shinabarger** (Clio), **Sarah Dufour** (Wheeler), **Peggy Hoff** (Midland), **Karen Burt** (Flint), and **Angela Renwick** (Fenton). We are excited about what is happening in Women's Ministries all over our state, conference, the nation, and the world. We are looking forward to seeing the many ways that God is going to continue to move in the days to come.

We were very pleased with the attendance and participation in both the *Annual Brunch* and *Deeper Life Retreat* that were held this past July and November. We were thrilled to hear about how God was able to speak to the women in our conference through both of those events. We're sure the Brunch and the Deeper Life Retreat in 2010 will be amazing times of fun, fellowship, relaxation, learning, and spiritual growth; and we look forward to these events in the coming days. It is our hope and prayer that you will

be able to join us at Covenant Hills for the Brunch in July and at Frankenmuth for the Retreat in November.

The *Swap 'N Shop* is returning this year and is being held at the Bavarian Inn in Frankenmuth on April 17, 2010. It will be a time of prayer, fellowship, good food, sharing ministry ideas, and of course, shopping. More details will be coming to you soon.

It is our desire for women all over the world to be impacted by the “good news” of Jesus Christ and to learn how to share the hope and life we find in him with the people around them. We know that when women become fully “sold-out” for Christ and truly experience the fullness of his love there is no limit to the influence they can have on their families, friends, work-places, churches, communities, and the world. It is our desire to help women of all ages grow in their understanding of God's love and grow in their knowledge of who He is, who they are and who they are called to be. We want every woman to experience the full potential of who they are in Christ, and we will do our best to provide opportunities

for learning, training, and fellowship.

We know and understand that sometimes you may feel as if you are alone in your local church; that there is nobody out there who understands what you are struggling with and going through as you try to build and grow your local women's ministry. You are not alone! There are plenty of women within your conference who are experiencing the same struggles and feelings as you, and there are many resources that are available. Part of our role within this conference is to bring them all out into the open so true fellowship and growth can occur within our own personal lives and in our local churches and communities. You can look forward to hearing from us, whether by email, telephone, <gasp> texting, or even “snail-mail,” because we want to know how we can best equip you to be effective in reaching women for Christ. Thank you for your willingness to serve! May God bless you in the days to come and may our partnership blossom and grow, just as our lives will when we live in whole-hearted devotion to God.

~The WMI Executive Committee

## Live Nativity:

Nine hundred and three people rode the wagons through the hills of Bethlehem stopping to see the shepherds, angels, Joseph, Mary, the baby Jesus, and the cross before riding past 100,000 lights and scenes of Christmas, arriving at the Meeting Place where Angel shared the Christmas story in an evangelistic way. Only God and each person present knows the impact it had on each individual. An additional 300 have driven through the light display and have received a written Christmas devotional to go along with the lights.

## Scholarship Program:

By the time you read this 2010 will be here. In the times we are living in there are many kids who will want to come to camp but will not be able to afford it. Coming to camp can make a big difference in the lives of the kids. We need your help! Last year we gave out scholarships to 175 kids for over \$47,000. I am sure the demand will be as great this year. Can we count on you to help some of these kids come to camp? Just this week a gentleman stopped in and gave us \$600 for the scholarship fund. The next day he came in and added \$400 more. Next he asked for information to take to his friends. His goal is to get enough money to cover at least 20 kids. He believes in what is happening here to touch kids. Please send your commitment, clearly marked Kids Scholarship Fund, to Covenant Hills Camp - 10359 E Farrand Rd - Otisville, MI 48463 and make a difference in kids lives this summer. You will be investing for eternity!



# Summer 2010

We are already busy praying over and planning summer 2010. Our theme will be LIFE it's NOT just a game! We will be blowing up your favorite games, making them bigger than life. This years theme is brought to you by 1 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ he is a new creation, The old LIFE is gone and the new LIFE has come!" God wants to be our UNO, and forgive us when we are SORRY. If we are in TROUBLE, He is there to help. The rules for LIFE are in God's word. Jesus told us to GO FISH for men and we need to drop the things that have a MONOPOLY on our time and live LIFE for Jesus. This summer we will encourage campers to get a CLUE and get in God's game.

## We could use your help gathering things to make this summer fabulous!!!!

Clean out your game closet and donate all your old games you never play (even if all the pieces aren't there) / Ribbon (any kind or color) / Pieces of fabric (any kind or color) / Small kid portion water bottles / Old used CD/DVD

## Summer Camp Dates:

First Time Campers	Families	May 21-22	Friday—Saturday	\$90/Family
S.A.L.T.	Grades 9-12	June 11-12	Friday—Saturday	FREE
Discovery 1	Grades 2-3	June 16-18	Wednesday—Friday	\$165
Senior Teen Trip 1	Grades 9-12	June 20-26	Sunday—Saturday	\$345
Junior Explorer	Grades 4-6	June 20-25	Sunday—Friday	\$285
Discovery 2	Grades 2-3	June 27-29	Sunday—Tuesday	\$165
Ranch 1 (Boys & Girls)	Ages 10-17	June 27-July 2	Sunday—Friday	\$400
Teen Challenge	Grades 7-9	July 5-10	Monday—Saturday	\$285
Ranch 2 (Girls Only)	Ages 10-17	July 5-10	Monday—Saturday	\$400
Senior Teen Trip 2	Grades 9-12	July 11-16	Sunday—Friday	\$345
Ranch 3 (Girls Only)	Ages 10-17	July 11-16	Sunday—Friday	\$400
Junior Specialty	Grades 4-6	July 11-16	Sunday—Friday	\$305
Buckaroo Camp 1	Ages 7-9	July 18-21	Sunday—Wednesday	\$305
Buckaroo Camp 2	Ages 7-9	July 21-24	Wednesday—Saturday	\$305
I Can Camp	Ages 7-17	August 5-7	Thursday—Saturday	\$220
Day Camp	Grades 1-6	August 9-13	Monday—Friday	\$135

These two awesome weekends are jam-packed with all kinds of BIG and crazy activities such as Giant sized Yahtzee, Connect Four, & Battleship, to name a few. Also included will be some adventure activities, team competitions, indoor climbing wall and more! PLUS there will be super teaching sessions with some great praise and worship, all designed to motivate, encourage, and challenge students in their relationship with Christ. The scripture verse chosen for this winter is Romans 8:37, **“In all things we conquer overwhelmingly through Him who loved us”!** Come and join the fun as we...

# LIVE BIG

## Winter Blast



When: January 22 & 23

Who: Students 7th - 9th Grade

Time: Begins Friday @ 7 pm with Registration at our Dining Hall & Ends Saturday @ 3 PM

Cost: \$50 per person, 1 Free Chaperone that brings 5 students or more!



## Winter Blitz



When: January 29 & 30

Who: Students 4th - 6th Grade

Time: Begins Friday @ 7 pm with Registration at our Dining Hall & Ends Saturday @ 3 PM

Cost: \$50 per person, 1 Free Chaperone that brings 5 students or more!

### BABYSITTER TRAINING

Impress parents by earning your Babysitter's Training Certificate, a 3-year First Aid Certification, and a 1-year Child & Infant CPR Certification from the American Red Cross! This overnight training is fun and fast-paced with lots of hands-on activities, exciting video, role-plays and lively discussions. You will learn to be the best babysitter on the block! Plus you will gain the confidence to make smart decisions and stay safe in any babysitting situation. Call the camp office to make reservations by March 1st! We need a 6 person minimum to conduct this training!

**Date:** March 5 & 6, 2010

**Time:** Starts Friday night at 6 pm and ends Saturday at 4 pm.

**For Who:** Youth 11 – 15 years old

**Cost:** \$50.00 per person

**Includes:** 3 Certifications, Handbook, Overnight lodging, 2 meals and snack

# SCRAP BOOKING WEEKEND

**March 12-14, 2010**



We design our scrap booking weekends for you. It is our desire to create an atmosphere that inspires you to relax and be creative. You will be able to spread your stuff out and leave it out all weekend. There is no clean up and no distractions. We provide a few activities for you to participate in if you wish, but all of our activities are totally optional. Our crop area is warm and well lit. The schedule enables you to crop as long as you can still see straight. Our cabins are clean and provide a great sleep over with friends and lots of time of laughing and gabbing into the night. This is a fabulous weekend to get to know other scrappers and catch up with old friends. Our friendly atmosphere is great for bouncing ideas off each other, sharing the knowledge of other scrap bookers and learning inspiring new layout ideas. For more information call the camp and we will send you the brochure. **This weekend is too fun to miss.**

## **Cost for the weekend:**

Sleeping up to 4 in a room for one night and three meals = \$70.00 per person

Sleeping up to 4 in a room for two nights and four meals = \$85.00 per person

One day, two meals and snack = \$35.00 per person

# TEEN CAMP IN

**March 19-20, 2010**

Come join us as we pitch tents INDOORS, hang out with friends and participate in amazing spirit filled chapels! This is a fantastic opportunity to gather together after a long winter! We will worship around a campfire, play games, be inspired by amazing speakers and play INSIDE our HUGE-HEATED gym. You will have a great time sharing, encouraging, praying and spending quality time with friends and God. For more information or for a registration form call the camp.

*“Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another and all the more as you see the day approaching.” Hebrews 10:25*



**Event will start** Friday @ 6pm  
with registration at the GYM

**Cost:** \$35 per person

**Who:** Students in High School

**Event will end** Saturday @ 5pm



## Saginaw Mortgage Burning

On Sunday, November 22, the First Free Methodist Church of Saginaw held a Mortgage Burning Ceremony. Supt. Dan Shinabarger joined Pastor Larry Osweiler and the congregation to celebrate the retirement of their debt from the 2003 major renovation of it's facility. The total cost of the project was nearly \$300,000. The mortgage was paid off three years early thanks to the congregation's desire to become debt free. God is doing a great work in Saginaw.

~Pastor Larry Osweiler



### *Thank You...*

*Thank you for the kind remembrance you sent to honor our mother. She loved flowers and plants and your gift was a special blessing to all of us. She was a special lady who loved her Lord and was happy to serve the East Michigan Conference all through the years. May there be others who rise up to take her place!*

*The family of Rowena Euler*

\* \* \* \* \*

*Dear EMC,*

*Thank you for your prayers, the plant, cards, phone calls, and visits, during Rachel's hospitalization and recovery. It is a privilege to be part of such a caring community. We thank God for His healing power and for the fellowship of the EMC.*

*Steve & Rachel Tungate*

*Memphis*

## Teens for Christ Schedule

### January

9 Williamston FMC  
16 Porter FMC  
23 Central (Lansing) FMC



### February

6 Clarkston FMC  
20 \*\*\*LOL – Central (Lansing) FMC  
27 Green Oak (Brighton) FMC

### March

6 New Covenant (Clio) FMC  
27-28 Spring TFC Overnighter:  
27 (Sat) 7 pm – Gladwin FMC  
28 (Sun) 10:30 am – Grayling FMC  
28 (Sun) 6 pm – Houghton Lake Wesleyan Church

### April

17 Amazing Grace Church (Wheeler)  
24 Countryside (Sandusky) FMC

\*\*All concerts are at 7 pm unless otherwise noted.

\*\*\*LOL: "Love Out Loud" Event: on these dates, we will not have a concert, but will work in a local community/ministry to serve them.

## Sonshine Schedule

### January

10 Owosso FMC (5:30 pm)  
24 Durand FMC  
31 \*\*\*TBA



### February

12-14 Overnighter: North  
12 (Fri) & 13 (Sat) Grayling Youth Winter Retreat  
14 (Sun) am \*\*\*TBA  
21 Lapeer FMC

### March

14 Bluewater (Port Huron) FMC  
21 Grand River Community (Leslie)

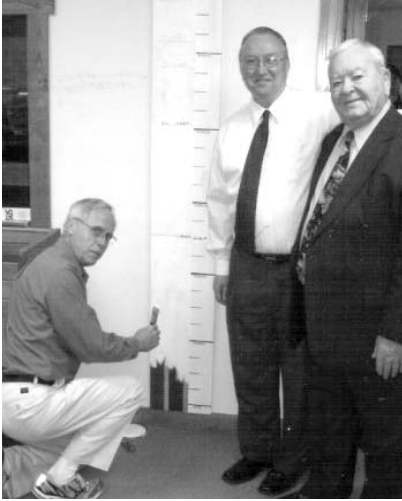
### April

18 Central (Lansing) FMC  
25 Clarkston FMC

\*\*All concerts are at 6 pm unless otherwise noted

\*\*\*TBA: "To Be Announced". Details have not been confirmed for this date yet.

## Hillman Honors Rev. Ross Wilder



On December 6, the Hillman Free Methodist Church honored Rev. Ross Wilder. Ross was instrumental in finding donors to the building fund to pay off the fellowship hall and gym area. Many of the great Hillman Church family sacrificed this past year and took on monthly payments. In November, right out of the blue, a \$10,000 gift came in to pay off the entire mortgage. We at the Hillman Church want to give God ALL the praise, but we also want to thank all the wonderful people that made this a possibility.

A mortgage burning celebration is being planned for this summer.

~Pastor Bob Coen



## Sympathy...

**Stan Panek**, long time member of the Free Methodist Church, passed away October 31, 2009. A memorial service was held November 7 at the Mt. Morris FMC, with Rev. Keith Childerhose officiating.

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**Beverley J. White**, age 61, member of Pleasant View FMC in Mayville, died Thursday, November 12, 2009, at home with her family.

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**Eldred Raymond Fulks**, age 84 of Mayville, died Thursday, November 12, 2009, at Covenant Health Care of Saginaw, MI.

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**Glenn Owens**, member of the Port Huron/Blue Water FMC, passed away December 23, 2009. Funeral services were held

December 29 at the Blue Water FMC, with Rev. Elden Lee officiating.

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*Faithful Servant  
Earns Eternal Reward*

**Rowena Euler**, widow of Rev. Lloyd Euler, passed away November 12, at the age of 97. Her funeral service was November 16, at the Cornerstone FMC in Flushing, officiated by Rev. Rick Schmidt.

The Euler's served the following EMC churches: Hillman & Pleasant Valley, Wilson & Spratt, Dansville, Hamburg & Silver Lake, Lapeer, Lapeer & Oak Grove, Bethel Park, Flint South, and Hallers Corners (Heritage Hills).

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## Mexico Mission Trip

**Mission  
Experience  
Opportunity**



IS GOD CALLING YOU TO "GO"?

If so, take some time to pray about joining a mission team to Foundation for His Ministry (FFHM): Homes for Needy Children and Outreach Ministry in Vicente Guerrero, Baja, Mexico. The trip will be leaving San Diego on July 3rd and return to San Diego on July 11th. The cost for the trip is \$525 plus airfare. There are a wide variety of jobs that team members will perform, such as rocking babies, cleaning bathrooms, working construction, visiting migrant camps, helping with child evangelism programs, and much more. Medical personnel are always needed. If interested, please contact Steve or Cheryl Smith through Lapeer Free Methodist Church (810-664-3393 or [lapeerfree@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lapeerfree@sbcglobal.net)) or email us at [lehsmith@hotmail.com](mailto:lehsmith@hotmail.com) for more details.



## SWAP & SHOP

*Reserve the Date*

**Saturday, April 17, 2010**

*Frankenmuth – Bavarian Inn Restaurant*

**11:00 a.m. – 2 p.m. Luncheon**

**\$15.00**

**SWAP Ideas - SHOP with  
your Friends**

**Theme for the Day: "Make a Difference:"**

Send Registrations to East Michigan Conference,  
PO Box 28, Clio MI 48420

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to *East Michigan Conference*.

Write "Swap & Shop" in the memo.

East Michigan Conference of the Free Methodist  
Church of North America  
P.O. Box 28  
Clio, MI 48420

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EAST MICHIGAN CONFERENCE  
**Celebrating 30 Years of  
Snowbird Reunions!**  
**Pearl of Great Price**

**Saturday, February 20, 2010**  
Light & Life Park - Hood Hall  
Lakeland, Florida - 12:00 Lunch

**\$10 per person**  
Register with  
**Judi Purdy**  
**5325 Joppa Street**  
**Lakeland, FL 33810**  
863-815-5702

Registration deadline is  
**February 13th**

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**Snowbird Committee...**

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ reservations @ \$10 per person  
for the **EAST MICHIGAN SNOWBIRD REUNION** on Saturday, February 20, 2010.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

MICHIGAN CHURCH YOU ATTEND:

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(Please return by February 13, 2010)