

# VCM UPDATE

Issue 3 - May 2019



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## A Word from Pastor Joy

*"I wonder how many people I've looked at  
all my life and never seen."*

**John Steinbeck, author**

The church is all about relationships ... with God and with one another. The ministry of Christ was all about connection. In our Vital Church process, we are increasingly aware of the ways we miss connecting with others: persons who sit alone at fellowship time or are not welcomed into a circle of conversation, the beeline out of the sanctuary as worship concludes, the cashier at the market....

What if each day, wherever you find yourself, you make a point to notice/see/ acknowledge one other person? Imagine what a difference such a practice could make. Would you commit yourself to trying this for a month? I eagerly await the stories we will share as we give this a try. ***To God be the glory.***

*-Pastor Joy*



**Chelsea First United Methodist Church**

128 Park St, Chelsea MI 48118 • (734) 475-8119 • [chelseaumc.org](http://chelseaumc.org)

# Vital Church Ministry Team Updates

## Worship Design Team

Updates from the Worship Design Team (WDT):

- Engaged services of worship consultant Cathy Townley and had an initial conference call in preparation for Cathy's in-person consultation in September.
- Used Mission Insight software to generate demographic reports of people within a 5 and 10 mile radius of Chelsea First.
- Engaged services of independent audio/visual consultant.
- Installed ProPresenter software on sanctuary computer and trained Sunday morning computer operators

A subset of WDT attended services at Main Street Church in Chelsea and 2/42 in Ann Arbor for ideas and to share out with larger group.



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## Outreach Missions Team

The Outreach Ministries Team (OMT) has completed work on a Chelsea Community Needs Assessment, through in depth interviews with leaders of many of the active public and service organizations in the community. The goal is to find ways to come alongside those who are most vulnerable in our community/neighborhoods in meaningful ways, while partnering with others who are trying to do the same.

To Love as Jesus Loved – hands on, giving, accepting, willing to be humble and vulnerable.

The OMT will be **sharing the findings of this work at the Town Hall Meeting on Sunday, May 19, and with youth at XP3 on May 12.** At these meetings, the committee will be asking for congregational input on which Community Needs they feel God is directing our hearts to embrace at this time. Everyone will have a chance to prayerfully give vote and written comment in this process.

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## Spiritual Formation Team

Since our last update, the Spiritual Formation Team (SFT) met to continue working on several projects:

1. We reviewed the youth discipleship formation curriculum. We focused particularly on new ideas for the confirmation curriculum and for mission opportunities.
2. We continued to explore different models for organizing small groups. We will review a draft proposal regarding small groups in May.
3. We discussed the need for a new adult discipleship team, which would work with Rodney Gasaway to support and implement new programming after the Spiritual Formation Team has completed its task.

# First Impressions Team

Our committee did not meet again in April; however, the First Impressions Team is continuing the work with our three new committees that are still coming together. They include:

**The Lobby Re-configuration and Welcome Center committee.** Teresa Steklac will be leading this work and is seeking members to serve on this committee. Their work includes the formation of a Welcome Center Area, as well as re-configuring the lobby to provide a more welcoming first impression.

**The CFUMC Ambassadors.** This committee will be comprised of church members “Ambassadors,” who would be responsible for greeting new visitors and others during fellowship time, as well as providing follow up connections with new visitors. Julie Deppner will be developing this committee and looking for church members to serve as our church Ambassadors.

**Exterior/Interior Signage Committee.** The Mystery Guests reported having a difficult time identifying the main entrance of the church, the church itself, parking, and interior directions to the sanctuary, social areas, classrooms, etc. This committee will be getting pricing and input on improving our exterior and interior signage in and around the church building. Church staff members, Trustees and members of the FIT and CT (Communications Team) will serve on this committee.



Some of the team’s future work includes working on new protocols and training for Greeters and Ushers when assisting new visitors. These new processes will be implemented after moving forward with the Lobby Design/Welcome Center and Ambassador work.



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# Nominations and Leadership Development Team

The Nominations and Leadership Development Team (NLDT) is currently exploring and evaluating spiritual gifts inventory tools. As United Methodists, we affirm that every baptized Christian is a “minister,” that God’s Spirit is poured out upon us, giving each at least one gift for the building up of others and sharing in the work of Christ today (I Corinthians 12:4-11). Our goal is that everyone will be engaged in some form of ministry (which is not necessarily the same as serving on a committee). A spiritual gifts inventory/survey tool will help you identify and claim your God-given gifts, which then helps in responding to the question, “where is God leading me to be engaged in ministry?” God is at work in us in myriad ways; God provides great resources in our people. ***Thanks be to God!***

# Communications Team

The Communications Team is finalizing a church Communications Policy and Guidelines to help members, friends and staff manage a robust, comprehensive communications strategy. The document will outline all communications methods that are available to promote an event, program or ministry. Our communications foundation will be our church website, which will continue to expand with helpful content.

Later this year, the church electronic newsletter will begin appearing weekly with a different format that will link to website postings. Additionally, we'd like to expand our photography gallery and are looking for members and friends who would like to provide photos for publication on our website, newsletter and other documents. Please let us know if you'd like to help tell the many important stories of our congregation!



## Announcements

### Ad Council Town Hall Meeting & Potluck

**Sunday, May 19 from 5:00-7:00 pm**

A potluck meal is one where every household brings a prepared food contribution (appetizer, salad, veggie, main dish, dessert, etc.) for the meal...whatever you choose... typically something that would serve 10-12 people. Yes, store-bought is A-OK! Also bring sufficient plates, flatware, beverage holders for your household. The church will provide cold and hot beverages. It's a great tradition which blesses us with conversation and good food – plus the surprise of “what will we eat?”

Following the meal, we will have a structured time of sharing. Child care will be provided during this portion of the evening. Among the conversation items:

- Vital Church Ministry plan updates
- Brief Updates from Administrative Council, Staff Parish Relations Committee, Trustees, and Finance Committee
- More agenda items to come

We look forward to sharing this time with you. Please contact the church office — (734) 475-8119 — to make child care reservations by May 16.

Thank you!

Ron Mourad, Administrative Council Chairperson

For more CFUMC VCM Resources, and to access our full VCI Consultation Report, please be sure to visit the website:

**<http://www.chelseaumc.org/about-us/vital-church-ministry/index.html>**

If you have questions for the VCM Teams, please contact: **[info@chelseaumc.org](mailto:info@chelseaumc.org)**