

# The Voice

## Hopkins & South Monterey United Methodist Churches July & August 2017

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ.

I would like to take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Joel Fitzgerald and beginning July 1, I have the privilege of serving as pastor of Hopkins and South Monterey United Methodist Churches.

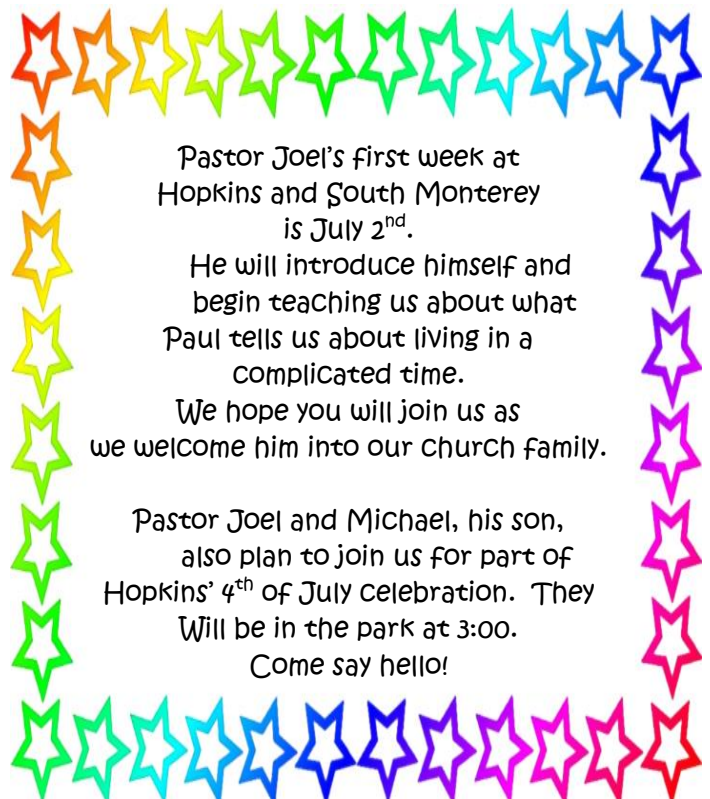
I am the son of two pastors, and so have grown up in the United Methodist Church. I primarily grew up in Kentwood and Traverse City. I went to college at Albion College, where I studied religion and public policy. After college, I spent a year of mission service in Belfast, Northern Ireland where I worked with youth and the elderly. After Belfast, I attended Vanderbilt University Divinity School, also working in a low income church in Nashville, TN. After seminary, I was appointed to Wyoming Park UMC in Wyoming, MI where I have been serving for the past five years.

I am blessed to be married to the Rev. Erin Fitzgerald, who is the pastor of St. Paul's UMC in Kentwood. Erin and I have been married for 7 years, and started dating in college. Though as you will likely hear, we actually met in High School through the Conference Council on Youth Ministry. We are the proud parents of the beautiful Michael Julian Fitzgerald. Michael is 19 months and likes to run and read books and high five. Our

practice has been to have Michael switch churches each Sunday, so you will have opportunity give him a high five.

I am blessed and honored to serve alongside you. I feel my calling is to help lead the people of God in worship, to lead the church into ministry with those on the margins, and to reconcile all people to God and each other. My hope and prayer is to use my gifts alongside of you as we live into God's call for Hopkins and South Monterey United Methodist Churches.

Peace,  
Pastor Joel Fitzgerald



Pastor Joel's first week at Hopkins and South Monterey is July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

He will introduce himself and begin teaching us about what Paul tells us about living in a complicated time.

We hope you will join us as we welcome him into our church family.

Pastor Joel and Michael, his son, also plan to join us for part of Hopkins' 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. They will be in the park at 3:00.

Come say hello!

## Local Vacation Bible Schools

### Maker Fun Factory

Hopkins Community Church  
2142 128th Ave. Hopkins, MI 49328  
Who: Children ages Pre-K - 5th grade  
Dates: August 6-10  
Time: 6:00pm - 8:30pm

Imagine a world where curious kids become hands-on inventors who discover they're lovingly crafted by God. Spark creativity with interactive decoration and experiences. Maker Fun Factory Vacation Bible School is buzzing with excitement, learning, and discovery!

Each day at Maker Fun Factory VBS, kids travel through field-tested rotations that reinforce relevant Bible Points and immerse kids in new adventures.



### CAMP OUT

#### **Getting S'More of Jesus**

Burnips United Methodist Church  
4241 30th St, Dorr, Michigan 49323

Dates: July 11 & 12 from 6:00-8:15pm

#### **Annual Conference is coming!**

We were reminded that our annual conference will be coming in the fall. One of the issues that we deal with is nominating and electing members to the committees of the church.

Please start thinking about if you'd like to become part of the Leadership Team. There is a list of the current Leadership Team on the office bulletin board.

If you have questions about the responsibilities of any of the committees, talk to someone currently on the committee. If you are interested in any of the positions, please contact a member of the nomination committee (Mike Ballard, Judy Kraft, or Debbie Lemmer).

## UPCOMING DATES

**Sunday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Pastor Joel's first Sunday  
9:30 - South Monterey  
11:00 - Hopkins

**Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>** - Hopkins Hometown Celebration  
3:00 - Pastor Joel in town  
5:00 - Parade  
7:00 - Queen's Contest

There will be many other events happening in the park. The full schedule is posted on the church facebook page.

**Tuesday, Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>** - Hopkins' first day of school

**Saturday, Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>** - Gun Lake Charity Chase\*

Some of the proceeds will go to the Hopkins Community Food Pantry.

**Wed. Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> - Wed. Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>** - Mission Trip to Henderson Settlement in Kentucky. \*\*

#### **\*Gun Lake Charity Chase**

Saturday, October 7, 2017

A 5k run/walk sponsored by Gun Lake Community Church

Preregistration (by July 31<sup>st</sup>) - \$20

After July 31<sup>st</sup> - \$25

There are registration forms in HUM Hall.

#### **\*\*Mission Trip to Henderson Settlement In Frakes, Kentucky**

Oct. 18-25, 2017

This trip is being organized by the mission team at Wayland UMC.

Cost: \$45-50/day

Week day meals are provided.

You **DO NOT** need to commit to the full week.

They welcome any help, even if it's only for 1 day. You can spend however many days fit into your schedule.

There is a flyer on the bulletin board.

For more information contact

Robin Nyenhuis at (269)792-6618

Or

Bea Stewart at (269)792-9038

**To our Family and Friends at South Monterey United Methodist Churches:**

The final week of ministry with you (in real presence) will come to an end on June 30. After many weeks of sorting stuff to go along with us, we'll finally move to our new ministry front on Thursday, June 28. Our 3 year journey with Hopkins/South Monterey Charge has been a joy and blessing. We were embraced and loved beyond seeing me as your pastor, but as family, friend, and missionary among you; and with our connectional lives in Christ in the universal Church of Christ, our fellowship in the Lord will continue till we meet at the presence of our Lord Jesus.

**Comfort** and **I** are very grateful for loving care we received from you. Thank you very much for Baby Shower given for our grandson, Jethro. Those gifts were folded in pray and love, and we'll cherish them as we use them. We also appreciate your notes and cards. Again, thank you very much!

From time to time we'll like to know how our family in Hopkins and South Monterey are doing so I have requested that our address be put in the database for Newsletters, or you can drop us a line any time.

*Dominic & Comfort Tommy  
455 Sixth Avenue, Lake Odessa, MI 48849*

**Final Benediction:**

*May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, and that with one heart you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Stay close to the heart of God. My love to all of you and the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you, now and always.  
Amen.*

Pastor Dominic Tommy



Thanks to Mike for giving me 2 weeks of vacation!

Mitzi

**Did you know Hopkins UMC has a Facebook page where we often share pictures? Check it out!**

Thank you Mitzi for all your hard work!

So excited for the air conditioning in the sanctuary! No more staying home on Sundays because it's too hot!

**Thank you for the delicious candy bar on Mother's Day! What a nice surprise!** Dawn



Thank you trustees and everyone working on the HUM Hall issue. It may take awhile but will surely be remedied with your dedication to the problem.

**Thank you for good thoughts and healing prayers which have resulted in great news! The spine surgeon has released me and the hip surgeon will see me in six months when everything should be healed. They are both pleased with my recovery - me too! Blessings to all. - Reva Daniel**

Thank you, again, for all of your support - both financial and through prayer. We had an amazing and very successful trip. I would love to tell you about it sometime.

Thanks again. Evan.



Linda

Thank you for getting "Grace Space" started. I'm anxious to watch our children enjoy the space while still being part of the service.

Mitzi



### Meals on Wheels

As you know, due to the roof issue at HUM Hall, we are not hosting lunches right now. You are welcome to attend the Wayland site which is located at the Wayland United Methodist Church.

Meals are currently served there on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

Guests start gathering at 11:00 to play games and/or visit.

The meal is served at noon.

They request an RSVP so they are sure to have enough food.

A July menu is posted in the church.

### Kid's Lunch Packs

The Party is still distributing Kid's Lunch Packs. Many of the children of our clients are eligible for free or reduced breakfast and lunch. This extra food helps replace what the kids would have been eating for breakfast and lunch at school.

Below is a list of the items that are included in the weekly lunch pack:

- Spaghettios or another Canned pasta meal
- Chicken noodle & tomato soup
- Saltine Crackers
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Tuna fish
- Cereal

Any money donated will be used to purchase milk. There is also a need for plastic bags to be used for packing the Lunch Packs.



### HUM Hall Update

This is what I know at the time of printing this newsletter.

The engineer was here and determined that the faulty trusses (7 or 8 of them) are failing due to manufacture error. Unfortunately, there's no recourse for us. Insurance will not pay for repairs.

Jim Ringler and Merle Edgell met with someone from a construction company. (If you need/want the name, you'll need to ask one of them.) His estimated cost for repairs was \$10,000-\$20,000. That's the bad news.

The good news is that he thinks they can do the repairs in July. They will add support to the trusses instead of replacing them. This will require removing some of the drop ceiling but it will not require removing the roof!!

We are holding off on talking about fundraising until we know the exact cost of the project. Be thinking!

If, in addition to your regular giving, you would like to make a donation toward the HUM Hall repairs, be sure to designate that on your check or envelope.

Keep this project in your prayers.



## Worship Volunteers

If you are unable to fulfill your "assignment", please trade with someone. If you let Mitzi know, she can make the change in the bulletin.

### JULY

**July Ushers** H - Merle Edgell, Dustin Jilek  
& Vern Kraft  
SM - Katie Collier, Trevor  
Collier & Terry Brennan  
H - The Jileks

**July Greeters**  
**July 2nd**  
**Coffee Fellowship** H - Carole Prather & Bert Tew  
SM - Carl Collier

**Liturgist** H - Bert Tew  
SM - Jim Thomas

**Communion Helper** H - Marge Panches  
**Children's Message** Pastor Joel  
**Grace Space/Nursery** Dawn Green & Jordan Jilek  
**SM Greeters** Jim & Phyllis Thomas

### July 9th

**Coffee Fellowship** H - The Jileks  
SM - Don & Judy Collier

**Liturgist** H - Judy Beck  
SM - Mary Lou Brennan

**Children's Message** Alys Edgell  
**Grace Space/Nursery** Marge Panches & Tyler M.  
**SM Greeters** Terry & Anna Brennan

### July 16th

**Coffee Fellowship** H - Mary Howard & Marge Panches  
SM - Earl & Linda Collier

**Liturgist** H - Mitzi Crowe  
SM - Don Collier

**Children's Message** Mary Howard  
**Grace Space/Nursery** Mandi Edgell & Faith Phillips  
**SM Greeters** Carl Collier

### July 23rd

**Coffee Fellowship** H - Dawn Green  
SM - Nancy Vogt & M L Brennan

**Liturgist** H - Joyce Horton  
SM - Carl Collier

**Children's Message** Lisa Jilek  
**Grace Space/Nursery** Amelia Green & Tim McDaniel  
**SM Greeters** Don & Judy Collier

### July 30th

**Coffee Fellowship** H - Darcie Mack & Alaina Lewis  
SM - Todd & Karen Collier

**Liturgist** H - Tyler McDaniel  
SM - Jim Thomas

**Children's Message** Mitzi Crowe  
**Grace Space/Nursery** Mitzi Crowe & Isaiah Brooks

### **SM Greeters**

Earl & Linda Collier

### AUGUST

### August 6th

**Coffee Fellowship** H - A. DeVries & D. Lemmer  
SM - Gordon Terry  
H - Mandi Edgell  
SM - Mary Lou Brennan  
H - Jim Ringler  
**Children's Message** Pastor Joel  
**Grace Space/Nursery** Jaron Horton & Megan Heft  
**SM Greeters** Todd & Karen Collier

### August 13th

**Coffee Fellowship** H - Bob & Judy Beck  
SM - Terry & Anna Brennan  
H - Joyce Horton  
SM - Don Collier  
**Children's Message** Linda Burton-Collier  
**Grace Space/Nursery** Joyce Horton & Jordan Jilek  
**SM Greeters** Gordon Terry

### August 20th - JOINT SERVICE at Common Ground

**Coffee Fellowship** H - Merle & Alys Edgell  
SM - Jim & Phyllis Thomas  
H - Dustin Jilek  
SM - Carl Collier  
**Children's Message** Alys Edgell  
**Grace Space/Nursery** Judy Kraft & Tim McDaniel  
**SM Greeters** Jim & Phyllis Thomas

### August 27th

**Coffee Fellowship** H - Dustin & Lisa Jilek  
SM - Nancy Vogt M L Brennan  
H - Vern Kraft  
SM - Jim Thomas  
**Children's Message** Mary Howard  
**Grace Space/Nursery** Dawn Green & Faith Phillips  
**SM Greeters** Terry & Anna Brennan

### September

### September 3rd

**Coffee Fellowship** H - Jim & Sandy Ringler  
SM - Carl Collier  
H - Tyler McDaniel  
SM - Mary Lou Brennan  
**Children's Message** Pastor Joel  
**Grace Space/Nursery** Marge Panches & Megan Heft  
**SM Greeters** Mary Lou Brennan

**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

**Happy Birthday**

### July Birthdays

1st Tom Green  
2<sup>ND</sup> Jim Ringler  
4<sup>th</sup> Bill Washburn  
7<sup>th</sup> Joey Haas  
7<sup>th</sup> Judy Collier  
10<sup>th</sup> Don Collier  
12<sup>th</sup> Alaina Lewis  
14<sup>th</sup> Matt Collier  
15<sup>th</sup> Jordan Jilek  
17<sup>th</sup> Kathy Coffey  
18<sup>th</sup> John Velderman  
20<sup>th</sup> Anthony Teed  
22<sup>nd</sup> Paul Collier  
28<sup>th</sup> Doris Reynolds  
29<sup>th</sup> Tim Brennan  
30<sup>th</sup> Lisa Washburn

### August Birthdays

2<sup>nd</sup> Amanda DeVries  
4<sup>th</sup> Dick Weick  
7<sup>th</sup> Lisa Jilek  
8<sup>th</sup> Comfort Tommy  
10<sup>th</sup> Andy Lewis  
15<sup>th</sup> Todd Collier  
26<sup>th</sup> Steven Brooks  
30<sup>th</sup> Anne Galligan



### July

4<sup>th</sup> Dustin & Lisa Jilek  
12<sup>th</sup> Trayton & Marrion Lull  
Terry & Anna Brennan

30<sup>th</sup> Geoff & Mitzi Crowe

### August

3<sup>rd</sup> Andy & Alaina Lewis

17<sup>th</sup> Rick & Darcie Mack

Rex & Carole Prather

### **Pastor Joel's Sermon Themes For July and Augusts**

**July – What Paul tells us about living in a complicated time.**

**July 2<sup>nd</sup> "Who am I" (Luke 4:16-30)**  
Meet Pastor Joel

**July 9<sup>th</sup> "Confusion" (Romans 7:15-25a)**  
We can be confused about what is the right thing to do.

**July 16<sup>th</sup> "Rebellion" (Romans 8:1-11)**  
We have a tendency to rebel against God and what God wants for us.

**July 23<sup>rd</sup> "Recreation" (Romans 8:12-25)**  
God's Spirit can make us and creation new again.

**July 30<sup>th</sup> "Love" (Romans 8:26-39)**  
Nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus.

**August – Delving into spiritual practices that can keep us rooted in the summer.**

**August 6<sup>th</sup> "Communion" (Isaiah 55:1-5)**  
In communion, God forms us into a new community and forgives our sins.

**August 13<sup>th</sup> "Silence/Prayer" (1Kings 19:9-18)**  
Sometimes God speaks to us not in loud noises but in silence.

**August 20<sup>th</sup>\* "Justice" (Isaiah 56:1,6-8)**  
Working for justice is a way to follow God's command and stay in relationship with God.

**August 27<sup>th</sup> "Scripture" (Isaiah 51:1-6)**  
In the scriptures we are reminded of God's story of love and redemption for us and the world.

Take time to read the scripture lesson before you come to church. Read from as many translations as you have. One version might speak to you more than another.

\*Joint Service at Common Ground at 10:00.