



THE BRIDGE

A UNITED METHODIST COMMUNITY

Our Vision Statement-
To be a welcoming neighborhood so that all may experience God's love and grace.

Our Mission Statement-
To meet new neighbors, nurture everyone's relationship with Christ, and transform the world together.

THE BRIDGE - A United Methodist Community • August 2025

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD...

Worship on the Lawn
The Bridge: 8 Park Lane
- downtown Milan
10:30 am

Sunday
AUG 3rd

POTLUCK LUNCH TO FOLLOW
Drinks and paper products provided.

Bring a camping/lawn chair
We will have folding chairs available.

THE BRIDGE
A UNITED METHODIST COMMUNITY

A ONE-NIGHT EVENT
AUGUST 14th
5:00-8:00pm

TIDAL WAVE THURSDAY

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FUN & FOOD FOR THE FAMILY!

INFORMATION & TO REGISTER:

THE BRIDGE
8 PARK LN
MILAN, MI

THE BRIDGE
A UNITED METHODIST COMMUNITY

OR CALL
(734)439-2421

summer @ The Bridge

FAMILY EVENT!
AUG 14: 5-8PM

MILAN 3RD THURSDAYS

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY: JULY & AUG

WORSHIP ON THE LAWN: 8/3

RELAY FOR LIFE: 8/16-17

SEE YOU IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD!

Neighborhood Closet

AUG 16th

3rd Saturdays:
10:00am - 12:00pm

FREE Clothing:
Open to all

THE BRIDGE
A United Methodist Community
8 Park Lane, Milan

The Bridge – A United Methodist Community

Matt West, Pastor

8 Park Lane, Mian, Michigan 48160

10:30 a.m. Worship In-Person
and on Facebook

Church Phone: 734-439-2421

Pastor's Emergency Number: 269-967-4444

Pastor's e-mail: pastormattwest@gmail.com

Church Office Hours: Mon-Thu, 9 am – 3 pm
(closed holidays)

Facebook: "The Bridge UMC"

Church Website: www.thebridgemilan.org

Index

In The Neighborhood...	pg 1
One Day "Tidal Wave" Family Event	
Neighborhood Closet in August	
Worship on the Lawn Aug. 3rd	
Summer @ The Bridge	
Neighborhood Notes from the Pastor	pg 2
Relay for Life in Milan: Get Involved!	pg 3
Volunteering in our Community	pg 3
"Miracles in Wood" Habitat Report	pg 3
Meetings at The Bridge	pg 4
Neighborhood Groups	pg 4
New Book Studies: "American Idolatry" and "Incompatible"	pg 4
Monthly Neighborhood Offering: August	pg 4
Study on Prayer	pg 4
United Women in Faith	pg 4
Men's Study	pg 4

NOTES FROM THE BRIDGE TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Hello, neighbors!

By the time you read this, I will have returned from camp. Regardless, I am looking forward to attending camp again this year at Lake Louise. Black Bear Camp (2nd-5th grades) is the one I will be specifically counseling at. Last year, I was invited to counsel by my former discipleship tag-team partner, Pastor Rachel Labram, from my home church. Any chance I get to return to Lake Louise is a blessing. However, I hear it might look a little different this year, after the ice storms damaged many of the trees up north. It makes no difference to me since I get to return to what I like to refer to as God's country.

I wasn't sure how counseling a younger group would go, since I had previously counseled at a camp for high school-aged students. Also, it was the summer after I had my surgery. Here I was, six months removed from having major surgery, and I was going to be responsible for a group of young boys for a week. (Well, four days to be exact. LOL) Once I arrived at camp, all my worries were washed away; I was home, and it turned out to be a wonderful experience. It must have been since I am going back again this year.

Church Camp has always held a special place in my heart. Camp was where many of my early spiritual experiences took place. In one of my messages, I shared that when we had campfires, I seemed to connect with God regularly. It was a time of fun and reuniting with old friends, but it was also a time of meaning and love. Yes, it is possible to take a week away from the usual day-to-day activities and spend time with God while having some fun as well. Unfortunately, I think many kids are missing out on this exceptional experience because we have allowed other things to fill our summer schedules. Even though it can be tiring as a counselor, I appreciate the time away because it feels like a different world when you are at camp. I've seen campers experience spiritual growth, find peace, and build lasting relationships. These are the things that make camp so special, and I hope more of you can experience it.

It's incredible to see how a little community forms in such a short time. The feeling one can have while at camp can be great if you let it happen. Camp is no different than any other part of our journey of faith. We must be willing to open ourselves up to God and allow the people God puts in our lives that week to be a part of our experience as well. I often offer similar words of caution to campers that I share with you. Camp can feel like a special place for you, but it's not just for you. We are to share this place (like the Gospel) with everyone. It's not just our camp but a camp for all of God's children (and families). For me, I often think about what it would be like if our churches lived in community the way we do at camp.

"Adventure is out there." (from the movie *UP*.)

Pastor Matt



Relay for Life: August 16 - 17 in Wilson Park



Relay for Life is around the corner and The Bridge HAS A TEAM! Unfortunately, I think all of us has had cancer affect someone we love. The American Cancer Society raises funds to help with many great programs and cancer research - Relay for Life is their main fundraiser. The MORE HELP the BETTER! A sign-up sheet is available for anyone interested in volunteering With this year's team. There are several ways you can help:

- picking our team theme • setting up at the Relay • volunteering at our team table
- collecting donations • baking for our bake sale • and, of course, walking.

More Details: The theme for the Milan Relay for life is: "Banding Together for a Cure", *like a music band*. There will be a silent auction again this year. We would like to donate 2 or 3 baskets for the auction. If you are able to put together a basket for the auction, the team would appreciate it! We will need the basket by the end of July so we can get them on Facebook before the Relay.

Lastly, if you know of anyone who is a cancer survivor the Relay is really for them. At noon on August 16 there will be a Survivors Lunch with activities and gifts so please invite them to register.

If you have questions please contact me at [BDFoster1989@gmail.com](mailto:BD Foster1989@gmail.com) or 419-356-0712

Thank you so much!! Let's all rally together to help fight cancer!!!

In God's Love, Brian Foster

Are you looking for volunteer opportunities in the Milan Community? Here are suggestions of groups with volunteer needs:

Milan Seniors for Healthy Living

Phone: 734-568-6229

Contact: Maxine Tewsley

Hours: 8a to 3p Mon - Thurs

Meals on Wheels: 11a - 12:30p Mon-Thurs. Tasks include kitchen help and delivering

Aid in Milan

Phone: 734-439-8420

Pantry Help:

Wednesday 10a - 2p

Thursday 10a - 6p

Friday 10a - 2pm

Truck Unloading: Tuesdays 9a - 10a

Deliveries: Wednesdays 2-3 hours

Compassion Ministry Food Pantry

Fridays 12:30p - 2:30p

Saturdays: 9a - 12p

(Not open on 5th Saturdays)

Sign up on Facebook.

Questions? See Marilyn Kettenstock who is a regular volunteer.

Miracles in Wood - By Rod Hill, Habitat for Humanity Team Leader

The best part of working with Habitat is the changes that take place. These changes, not just in the houses and neighborhoods we work in, happen inside us as well along the way. Having been involved for while, I tend to forget about the surprises, achievements and miracles that occur until they actually happen.

This year gave me a lot of worry about how to make the best use of our time and talents. The main one involved how we were going to get enough crew together given our difficult schedule. The basic rule is to avoid Fridays, since most of our regularly employed people aren't available to help. Two of our three dates were Fridays this year.

As it happened, our only full-crew day was on a Friday and that meant I had to find 8 to 10 people! But my first surprise that day was that there's a whole other way for churches to serve. First UMC of Ann Arbor has so many who want to work that they sent a dozen workers to help. Instead of falling short, we made two full crews! The day that I'd been dreading became a day of achievement including the return of an old friend.

One of my favorite construction tools is a sheet metal break, a tool that I learned to use about a dozen years ago. It turns rolls of sheet metal into trim pieces of finished aluminum. I used one once and got good enough with it that I wanted to buy one. I was even able to get a couple of other guys excited about using it too. As always, the miracle of Habitat is building new hope, learning new skills and making new friends along the way. — Praise God!

See you, August 22nd!

Meetings at The Bridge:

Leadership Team: Next meeting is August 21st. Everyone is welcome to attend. Meeting time is 7pm. (3rd Thursdays)

Outreach Team: Next Meeting is August 27th @ 7pm. Everyone is welcome to attend! Group Leader is Brian Foster. (4th Wednesdays)

Neighborhood Groups: Group coordinators are listed

Sundays:

Worship Team: Music and Technology Contact: Pastor Matt pastormattwest@gmail.com

Kidz Zone Worship: Contact Rose Timbers: rotimbers@aol.com

Hospitality Team: Greeters, Ushers, Coffee Fellowship
Coffee Fellowship Coordinator: Rose Timbers
Greeters and Usher Coordinator: Paul Salow

Neighborhood Study Sunday at 9:00am: Bring your Bible! Contact: Rod Hill rhill@provide.net

Mondays:

Sassy Sisters Women's Study: Watch for the Fall Start Up in September! Meets on Mondays at 7:00pm at The Owl (the 2nd Monday at Original Gravity)
Led by Melissa West mdwest622@gmail.com

Tuesdays:

United Women in Faith: 2nd Tuesdays @ 1pm.
September 9th is the first get-together of the new season.
ALL women of ALL faiths are welcome!

Thursdays:

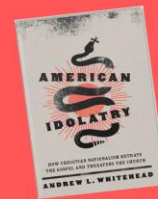
Neighborhood Coffee Talk with Pastor Matt:
Thursdays 10:00am at The Owl, downtown Milan.

Neighborhood Study on Prayer:

2nd and 4th Thursdays in the Lounge @ The Bridge.
Led by Nancy Nagle nnagle@umich.edu

Beer & Bibles Men's Study:

2nd and 4th Thursdays. Dates in July 10 and 24 at 7:00pm @ The Owl. Led by Brian Foster: bdfoster1989@gmail.com and Jim Nagle: jnnagle@yahoo.com

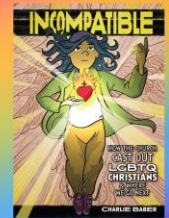


AMERICAN IDOLATRY:
A BOOK STUDY ON CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM

MEETING BIWEEKLY
SUN. - 9AM (MEDIA RM)
OR WED. - 7PM (ZOOM)
STARTING AUGUST. 3RD

POWER. FEAR. VIOLENCE. THESE THREE IDOLS OF CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM ARE CORRUPTING AMERICAN CHRISTIANITY.

INCOMPATIBLE -
A SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION
MEETING BIWEEKLY
TUES. - 7PM (ZOOM)
STARTING AUGUST. 5TH



EXPLORE HOW THE FULL INCLUSION OF LGBTQ CHRISTIANS IS A FAITHFUL WITNESS TO THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.



Monthly Neighborhood Offering:
August



Study on Prayer:
2nd & 4th THU @ 2:30pm



United
Women
in Faith

make an **impact.** Put Sept. 9th on your calendars

UWF Meets every 2nd Tuesday at 1pm,
Sept - May.
Women of every faith welcomed!

Beer & Bibles Men's Study

2nd and 4th Thursdays:
7:00pm @ The Owl