



the spirit of

# Heart O' the Lakes Church

United Brethren in Christ

7031 Jefferson Road  
Brooklyn, MI 49230  
Office 592-8623 Fax 592-8622  
February 2010  
website www.hearttothelakes.org

## Church Staff

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## Feature Stories

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## How He LOVE You & Me

Think about how many Valentines you have received over the years. Your Mom and Dad probably gave you some, your Sunday School teacher, the mass Valentines from your school classroom, and then, that first one from a boyfriend or girlfriend. What about the one just before you got married? And the first one afterwards? Those last ones were probably "mushy," and you loved them! Then your kids came along thanking you for being their Dad or Mom. I'm looking forward to receiving some from the grandkids one day! There are probably a few that you saved through the years that were special.

Let me remind you of another one - a Valentine from God:

***"Love is patient, Love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails."***

**I am those things with you!  
I LOVE you - God**

You probably expected something down these lines from your Pastor in the February issue! It's not that I want to be

predictable, but when given the opportunity, why shouldn't we be reminded of how genuinely we are loved? Who doesn't like to hear that, over and over? The scripture is, of course, from 1 Corinthians 13, the love-letter from God. It is just a partial description of how He *chooses* to love you!

Genuine love is not found in word only, but also in action. We *say* the words but we also *live* them out. People are always better for living them out. The recipients have no doubts when they see that kind of love. It validates your words. True love is backed up with such things as patience, kindness, trust, and never-ending support.

Someone has said, "*The price (value) is set by what someone is willing to pay. Christ - because of His love - paid the ultimate price for you - that is how valuable you are to God.*" He backed up His words with unique action.

Oh - how He loved you and me!  
And still does.

With God's BEST in mind!  
Pastor Kevin

*"No power on earth or heaven can separate us from God's love. . . God's love is unshakable and can always be relied upon."  
Romans 8:38-39*



**A Little Silver**



Once upon a time, a miserly man visited a minister. The minister led him to a window. "Look out there," he said, "and tell me what you see." "I see nothing but some people," replied the rich man somewhat

disdainfully. Then the clergy man led the miser to a full-length mirror. "And what do you see now?" he asked. "I see myself," answered the rich man, puffing up his chest and admiring his reflection. "That's the problem!" said the minister. "The window is made of glass, and the mirror is covered with a little silver. No sooner is a little silver added then we cease to see others and see only ourselves."



"Our arms are the only ones God has to hug His children."

**The Amazing Power of Prayer**

- Please pray for:
- Our Church & Pastors
  - Ministry Teams
  - Our Missionaries
  - Sunday School Teachers
  - President Obama and his cabinet
  - Our Military Services
  - The lost in our community
  - Unity in the Body of Christ
  - Our Elders

Each month we list individuals and families who attend Heart O' the Lakes Church and ask that you pray for their good health, work, spiritual growth and strength.

- Mike, Amy & Jayme Manville
- Rod & Roxanne Marshall & Family
- Paul, Kathy & Kacie Maybee
- Mark & Gail Maybee
- Richard & Phyllis McCloe
- Doris McClure
- Galen McMunn
- Melissa Mellinger & Family
- Paula Mikulen
- Dave & Carol Miles
- Ken & Betty Miller
- Ron & Nancy Miller & Family
- Dan & Jill Miller & Family
- Ron & Shirley Milliman
- Shawn, Beckie & Noah Minix
- Ed & Shirley Mosson
- Pam Moore
- Grace Neeb
- Iona Osterhout
- Collette O'Dell
- Jim & Mary Oyler

**Monthly Financial Up-date**

General Operating Budget

Received in January	\$24,983.31
Budget Goal for Jan.	\$24,685.10

the spirit of  
**Heart O' the Lakes**  
 A publication of  
 Heart O' the Lakes  
 United Brethren Church  
 7031 Jefferson Road  
 Brooklyn, MI 49230

Published monthly to keep members and friends informed of programs at the Church and to report news about the Heart O' the Lakes people. We welcome your articles to include in our Church newsletter.  
**Editor:** Kathy Hurst

**PLEASE NOTE: Deadline for copy is the 20th of each month.**



- 4 Jenna Ramsey  
Andrew Cox  
Daniel Hawthorne
- 5 Jacob VanZandt
- 10 Jim Oyler
- 13 Dave Horner
- 14 **Tom & Gerri Cushman Anniv.**
- 15 **Bob & Jan VerMeulen Anniv.**  
Mary Oyler  
Donna Varoskovic
- 17 Sharon Shepard  
Galen T. McMunn
- 18 Jason Cherry
- 19 Iona Osterhout
- 20 Benjamin Haeussler
- 21 June Joannette  
Pam Salazar
- 26 Brok VanZandt
- 28 Rick Talbert  
John Ashley

## volunteer schedule

### NURSERY

#### Sunday School

- 7 Debbie Jester
- 14 Phyllis McCloe
- 21 Cheryl Fosgate
- 28 Laurie Carl

#### Worship:

- 7 Marsha Horner & Emily Grajek
- 14 Phyllis McCloe & Cori Baumann
- 21 Lori Scouten & Ashley Hyatt
- 28 Emily Grajek & Linda Schatz

### JUNIOR CHURCH

- 7 Debi Hale
- 14 Mary Yarbrough
- 21 Mary Yarbrough
- 28 Doris Green

### GREETERS

- 7 Charlene Knickerbocker & Phyllis Rymer
- 14 James & Catherine Eaton
- 21 Dan & Doris Green
- 28 Jon & Debi Hale

 Oh, God, wherever I go today, help me to leave  
*Heartprints — Heartprints of compassion, of understanding and love —*  
 *Heartprints of kindness and genuine concern —*  
 *may my heart touch a lonely neighbor, a troubled daughter or an anxious mother or perhaps an aged grandmother —*  
*Lord send me out today to leave Heartprints, and if someone should say "I felt your touch" —*  
*may that one sense Your touching through me.* 

## February Memory Verse

Psalm 107:43

“Whoever is wise, let him heed these things and consider the great love of the Lord.”

Psalm 107:43

*I love you with an everlasting love, and I have drawn you with My loving kindness. You haven't seen, heard or even imagined the things which I have prepared for you. My plans for you are wonderful, to give you a future with hope.*

*I love you so much, that while you were dead in sins, I gave My one and only Son, that you might live through Him.*

*I forgive all your iniquities, heal all your diseases, redeem your life from destruction and crown you with loving kindness and tender mercies.*

*~ Your Heavenly Father*

# What's Happening at Heart O the Lakes



## *Cancer Lay Ministry Training*

### *"Our Journey of Hope"*

**Presented by**

**Rev. Percy W. McCray, Jr.**

*Director of Pastoral Care*

*Cancer Treatment Centers of America*

Cancer Treatment Centers of America is offering a **free** seminar for anyone who has been affected by cancer. Their goal is to equip you to teach what spiritual outreach is and how to reach out and support cancer patients and their families within our own church and community.

You will gain invaluable tools and multiple resources for reaching and understanding the special needs of cancer patients. Come and learn about the latest research concerning the effective role of spirituality in health recovery, and much more....

**When:** June 12, 2010

**Where:** Heart of the Lakes Church

**Registration:** 8:30 am

**Training Session:** 9:00—5:00 pm

*Lunch provided*

**To register:** Call the Church office at 592-8623



Mark your calendars with these social activities for 2010 to reserve the dates for events you won't want to miss . . .

- **March 27 - Men's Night Out** Contact persons: Gail Maybee, Rhonda Pischke, Charlene Knickerbocker
- **May 8 - Work Day (outside the church and inside)** Contact persons: Pastor Cherry, Galen McMunn, Scott Weaver
- **July 2-5 - Camping at Somerset Campgrounds**
- **August 5-8 - Camping at Hills' Haven**
- **September 25 - Road Rally** Contact persons: Rusty Schwartz, Kevin Carpenter, Dave Horner
- **December 4 - Christmas Party** Contact persons: Mark & Gail Maybee, Pastor Nate and Cori Baumann

### Other Dates to Remember:

Weeks of May 16 and August 22 - Garage Sale

## **Our Family Labels**

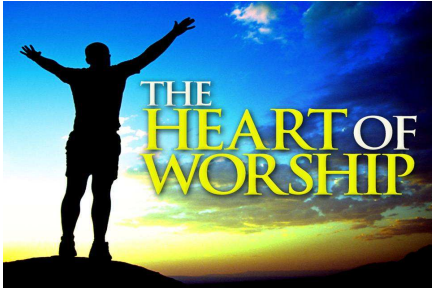


Thank you for collecting "Our Family" product labels. In 2009 we collected over 500 labels resulting in **\$100 sent to The Food Pantry!!** We need 200 more labels to make another 500. Can you help?

## **Celebration Gathering**

**Feb. 25 - 7:00 PM**

This is a night of positive reporting from our 10 Ministry Teams — what they have accomplished, what their goals are, and where they have seen God. Along with that is always a short teaching to encourage us in God's work.



I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for the confidence you've shown in me as your newly elected Music and Worship Team Leader. As you know, I love serving the Lord and have a heart and passion for worship. I pray I would be a blessing to the Lord for Kingdom purposes, and also to you as the body of Christ.

Paul Maybee and I have been working together as this transition unfolds, and we look forward to what the Lord has planned. Paul has done an amazing job heading up our music and worship here at Heart of the Lakes, and will continue in his role as Music Director. My new role as "team leader" will involve taking a considerable load off Paul's shoulders, and assisting in many areas. Please continue to keep us in prayer, as this transition progresses.

Feedback is valuable, especially if it's positive and encouraging! However, as I move into this new role and have spent time in prayer, the Lord has made me aware of His desires to "bridge the gap" between our older and younger generations, musically speaking. For this gap to be "bridged" I'd also desire additional feedback as to how our worship time is meeting your needs on a spiritual level. Music is a powerful force, and

can reach the inner most parts of your being, so I find it important to know what touches your heart musically.

My mother-in-law often speaks of her favorite hymn "How Great Thou Art", and many of us can instantly speak about what some of our favorites are. In recent years, I have grown very fond of "Mighty to Save", as the message and scripture within it reaches my heart on a deep spiritual level. The Lord does speak to us through music. In 1 Samuel we read the story of King Saul feeling tormented, and David was summoned to play his harp to soothe the King. Many of us arrive at church with all the pressures and worries of this life attached to our souls, and the Lord meets us where we are and "soothes our souls". Whether it be during worship, or a particular special or scripture being shared, or through Pastor's message, we leave a better person and feel recharged to head out into the mission field as children of light.

In closing, please be faithful in prayer over our church and the purposes of God, and let us always be yielding to His Spirit and His promptings. He is eternally there to direct and guide us, and even correct us when necessary. We've all been corrected by God throughout our lives, as it is His desire to keep our feet firmly bound and planted on the path of righteousness. I pray that is our desire as well!!

*Serving our King – who is  
"Mighty to Save",  
Sheila VanHemert*

## It's a "NEW BEGINNING!"

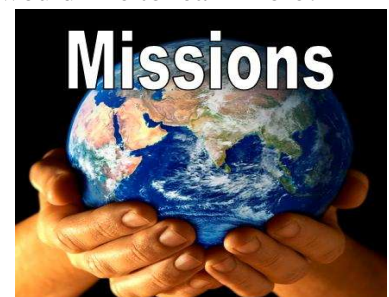
Hello from the Missions Team at Heart of the Lakes Church! Our goal for the Missions Team is to bring awareness to you and our community of all the different missions we are working with throughout the United States and the world.

Beginning in February, we will have a speaker at our Sunday service from the Mexico Mission. This is something you don't want to miss! We will also be putting together presentations and/or brochures into the weekly Sunday bulletin every other month beginning in March. A short essay will be included in the monthly newsletter as well so that you, as a congregation, can be proactive in your knowledge and efforts about various opportunities we have around the world to spread "the Word of God". These are sure to be exciting times, so don't miss out on this opportunity to learn more about our worldly neighbors.

Your Missions Team members are:

- Sharon Cherry, Team Leader
- Charlene Knickerbocker
- Cathy Schiel
- Doris Green
- Don Coward
- Bob VerMeulen

Please call any one of us if you have any questions or would like to learn more!



## Linda Kay Grajek Blood Drive Coordinator



Linda's mom was a regular blood donor and Linda loved to go with her mom to the blood drives so she could drink punch and eat cookies! That was when she was about five years old.

Then one day after church, Linda joined other members of the HOTL congregation and went to Teddy Coward's home to pray for her, as Teddy was struggling with leukemia.

At about that same time, Linda had read stories in the newspaper reporting a blood shortage. Teddy volunteered that the shortage was because of Teddy's need for blood to fight off the leukemia.

Linda took immediate action. She contacted the Red Cross in Jackson, Michigan to set up the first Teddy Coward Memorial Blood Drive on December 28, 2000, and she has been organizing them ever since. Volunteers were lined up and sandwiches were donated.

Then at a baseball game while working in the concession stand with Bob Richardson, of Subway in Brooklyn, Linda and Bob struck up a conversation and Bob indicated that he would donate sandwiches to every blood drive,

and has continued to do so until this day. Blood donors really appreciate those sub sandwiches.

Linda came to realize that persons who receive blood are at a crisis in their life, and at that particular time, they often turn to God. Linda believes that by receiving the donated blood, these people are given a second chance at life, which may include an opportunity at eternal life!

Often when engaged in friendly conversation with blood donors, the subject of attending church may come up. Donors may be thinking of attending a church, it is Linda's desire that they will remember how friendly and compassionate the HOTL volunteers were and consider attending HOTL. There have been many volunteers helping at one time or another. Roger Howe always coordinates the loading and unloading of tables, while Charlene Knickerbocker brings cheese and Marilyn Boyce works all day beside Linda assisting in whatever way she can! For Linda, this is Jesus shining through to reach others for the Kingdom!

Due to her outstanding efforts and success, last year Linda received the Jackson County Blood Drive Coordinator of the Year Award! She received this honor because her blood drives have always been among the most efficient and productive. Linda reached new heights in 2008-2009 in her goals set and productive units collected. It was also pointed out that Linda coordinates all the volunteers for her drives, makes or organizes all the food, and gives massages to donors as they wait to donate!

Some other interesting facts Linda has accomplished:

- She coordinated 53 blood

drives (roughly one every 56 days)

- She had 2,880 donors walk through the doors of her drives
- She recruited over 160 first time blood donors.
- She collected an astounding 2,490 units of blood - enough to have saved the lives of as many as 7,320 people!
- Her blood drives are always among the most successful in the county with a 102.4% of goal met over the last nine years!

**Thank you, Linda,** from all of us at HOTL!



## GOD SIGHTING

*Experiencing God Every Day*

Again, here I am in Arizona with my wife, Bert, and our dog, Theodore. I have been attending Sunday services at Parker United Methodist Church here in Parker, Arizona.

It's good to report that what I once called a "luke warm" church has become on fire for the Lord. They have put emphasis on their youth programs, having mission trips to Mexico for the older teens and after school side walk Bible school for the younger kids in the area.

Thank you, Pastor Nate, and all who are involved with our youth at HOTL. I pray our budget needs will be met for 2010, especially for our youth programs.

Now, on the subject of prayer. I have been weak in this area, but have purposely been spending more time in meaningful prayer. The class that Jon and Cindy Hawthorne taught which focused on prayer

using Pastor Jim Cymbala's book, "*Fresh Wind Fresh Fire*" inspired me to be more focused and make time every day for meaningful prayer. I have read about Christians praying for hours. I remember our first Sunday evening prayer gathering, which we now have on the first Sunday evening of the month, lasted for two hours! I know God is pleased that we dedicate that time with Him in prayer.

I walk Theodore in the morning for about two miles and find myself praying out loud along the path and along the Colorado River. I'm sure someone is talking about the old crazy guy walking his dog and talking to the Lord! Maybe someone will stop and ask me what I'm doing and I can say, "Time to get right with the Lord!"

I will be back the last of March. I'm already looking forward to our July church camp out!

May God's blessings be upon you all.

*Crazy ole Jesus Freak,  
John Hills*

## National "Bible Bee"

A national "Bible Bee" contest was held in 2009 for the first time,



distributing more than \$260,000 in prize money with \$100,000 being awarded to the first-place winner of the top age bracket.

Sponsored by the Shelby Kennedy Foundation, the Bible Bee encourages Bible memorization for children and youth from 7 to 18 years of age. Local Bible Bee Contests were conducted throughout the US, followed by a national level competition later.

The idea for the Bible Bee is based on the Scripps National Spelling Bee. "While it is certainly beneficial for our children to commit the spelling of words to memory, imagine how much more life-changing it would be for them to memorize the Word of God, said the Shelby Kennedy Foundation.

The nonprofit ministry sponsoring the competition drew its inspiration from Shelby Kennedy, a young Christian woman who died more than three years ago after an intense struggle with cancer. Much of what kept Shelby's joy alive was time spent studying the Word of God.

If you would like more information, as well as a look at the 2010 Competition Schedule and Registration dates, go to [www.biblebee.org](http://www.biblebee.org) There you will be able to check out the locate Bible Bees in our area. You will never lose out when spending time in God's Word! Make it a family event !

## UBs Raise Over \$67,000 for Haiti



*(Relief supplies that have reached UB people in Haiti)*

To date, UB churches in the United States have sent \$67,233 to Global Ministries for Haiti relief.

Also, Huntington University held a special concert January 28, to raise money and prayer for Haiti. Money raised went to Mission of Hope, a non-profit ministry in Haiti run by two Huntington University graduates!

# What is Lent ?

It is forty days of stripping down  
to the living essentials;

It is forty days of facing truth  
about one's self-indulgent  
evasions;

It is forty days of fellowshipping  
with Christ in the desert;

It is forty days of rejoicing in God's  
mercy and forgiveness.



## Prayer for President's Day

Lord of heaven and earth, we offer you our deepest appreciation for this blessed land. Stir up a sense of stewardship in every citizen so we all may care for our nation and each inhabitant of it.

We pray especially for our leaders. Prompt everyone in a position of authority, from local to national leaders, to strive for righteousness, justice and the welfare of all citizens.

Finally, we pray that we may be ever mindful of the psalmist's teaching that "*Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD . . .*" (Psalm 33:12) May that promise become real "from sea to shining sea." AMEN

# etc.

### Ponder This...

- † "Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves!"  
— J.M. Barrie
- † "In darkness there is no choice. It is light that enables us to see the differences between things; and it is Christ who gives us light."  
— Augustus Hare
- † "If you live right each day, you will be neither afraid of tomorrow nor ashamed of yesterday."  
— E.C. McKenzie
- † "Love talked about is easily turned aside, but love demonstrated is irresistible."  
— W. Stanley Mooneyham

"And now these  
three remain:  
FAITH, HOPE  
and LOVE.  
But the greatest  
of these is  
LOVE."

1 Corinthians 13:13, NIV

## Sharing Recipes

Rhonda Reed-Pischke works for a caterer and agreed to share some of their more favorable appetizer recipes.

### Fruit Salsa

- 2 Kiwi (skinned)
- 2 Quarts strawberries
- 2 Red apples (seeded)
- 2 Pears (seeded)

Chop all ingredients together as a salsa. Mix well and serve with regular or cinnamon sugar graham crackers.

### Cold Pizza Squares - Fruit or Veggie

#### Fruit Spread

- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 8 oz. marshmallow cream
- 8 oz. whipped cream

Mix together and spread on Crescent roll dough. Add choice of combination of fresh fruit such as:

Blueberries  
Strawberries  
Raspberries  
Kiwi  
Grapes

#### Veggie Spread

- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 8 oz. sour cream
- 1 pkg. powdered Ranch dressing mix

Mix together and spread on Crescent roll dough. Add choice of any combination of veggies such

Red, green or yellow peppers  
Olives  
Cauliflower  
Broccoli  
Shredded carrots

### Crescent roll dough:

Press together crescent roll dough on a cookie sheet and bake according to package. Cool. Add the spread and toppings of choice. Cut into small squares and serve. The more colorful they are, the more fun they are to eat!

### Mashed Potato Bar

Cook and mash red and white skinned mashed potatoes with garlic and butter. Serve with a selection of hot and cold toppings such as:

#### Hot Toppings

Chicken gravy  
Melted cheese

#### Cold Toppings

Chicken chunks  
Shredded cheese  
Bacon bits  
Sour cream  
Chives

Cook and mash sweet potatoes and serve with toppings such as:

#### Hot Toppings

Maple syrup  
Semi melted marshmallow topping

#### Cold Toppings

Brown sugar  
Mini marshmallows

Serve in fun shapes or colorful glasses with a spoon!

### Chicken or Turkey Salad in Roll-Ups

Make or thaw purchased bread dough. Pull apart and roll out dough in size of ice cream scoop. Flatten each scoop and bake according to bread recipe.

When cool, cut off the top of each bread ball enough to have a little bread bowl. Add the salad ingredients and sprinkle with paprika over the top.

### Salad Ingredients

Chicken or turkey cut into chunks  
Sliced grapes  
Sliced celery

Add Miracle Whip salad dressing enough to make an easy spread. (Add nuts or onions if you'd like.)

Serve in the roll-ups or on baked crescent rolls.

### Quick Bites

Thaw purchased bread dough or make a bread dough.

Roll out and cut into small circles (use a small biscuit cutter or even the rim of a small glass will work).

Top with choice of:

- Gorgonzola cheese, apple slice, and walnut
- Mozzarella with a tomato slice and bits of black olive on top



\* A JAR OF \*

# Love and Appreciation



Sometimes we forget to show love and appreciation to people who are closest to us. Use this fun craft to let everyone in your family know how much you care.

### What you need:

- Plastic jar with lid
- Heart-shaped foam pieces
- Heart-shaped stickers
- Glue
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Pencil or crayons

### What you do:

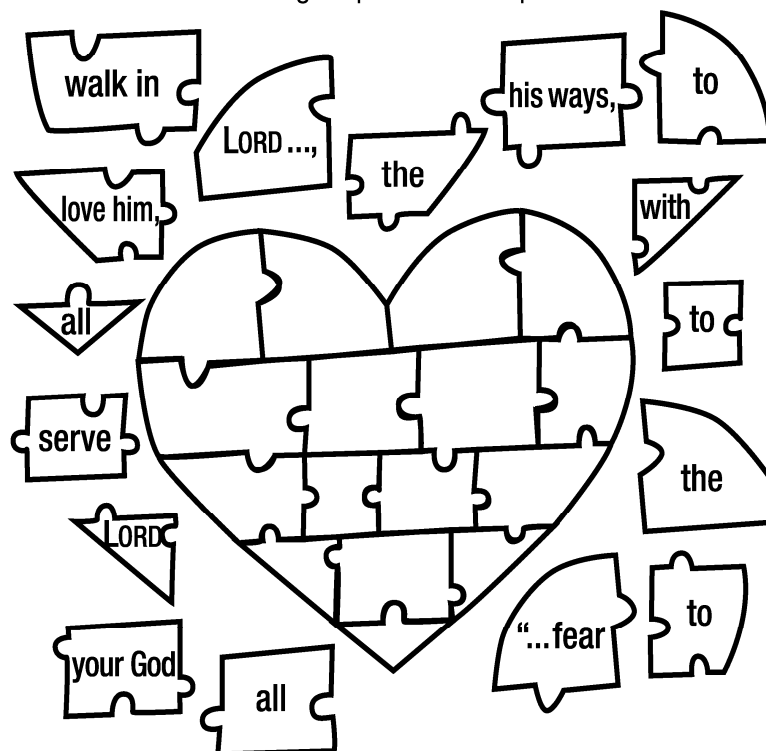
1. Decorate the jar and lid with heart-shaped foam pieces and stickers.
2. Cut out 2" or 3" heart shapes from the construction paper.
3. On each paper heart, write what you appreciate and love about your family and each member. Have all family members do this, too.
4. Place the heart messages inside the jar. Fold them in half, if necessary.
5. On each day in February, pull out one heart and read the message aloud to the family.
6. Notice the changes in your family when everyone feels loved and appreciated!

# KIDS' PAGE



In Deuteronomy 10:12 (NIV), Israel is asked a question that's also for us to answer: "What does the LORD your God ask of you?"

To find the answer, write the words from the puzzle pieces on the matching shapes in the completed heart.



*... your heart and with all your soul ..."*

Answer:  
" ... fear the LORD ... to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all ..."



**SERVICE TIMES**  
**Sunday School - 9:15 am**  
**Worship Service - 10:30 am**  
**Wednesday Bible**  
**Study/Prayer - 7:00 pm**

Sunday, **Feb. 7** - Communion  
Sunday, **Feb. 7** - Young at Heart Potluck  
Monday, **Feb. 8** - HOTL II vs. Gateway  
Tuesday, **Feb. 9** - Spiritual Care  
Thursday, **Feb. 10** - Book Discussion “*Shattering Your Strongholds*”  
Thursday, **Feb. 10** - Bunco  
Saturday, **Feb. 13** - Worship & Music Praise Team Meeting  
Saturday, **Feb. 13** - Gym rental  
Sunday, **Feb. 14** - Friendship Sunday  
Monday, **Feb. 15** - HOTL II vs. Ridgeway  
Thursday, **Feb. 18** - Gym rental  
Friday, **Feb. 19** - Jr. High Winter Retreat  
Friday, **Feb. 19** - Gym rental  
Saturday, **Feb. 20** - Emmaus Meeting  
Monday, **Feb. 22** - HOTL III vs. Fellowship II and HOTL II vs. Grace II  
Thursday, **Feb. 25** - Quarterly Celebration Gathering  
Thursday, **Feb. 26** - Gym rental



## **Heart O' the Lakes**

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BROOKLYN, MI

*“By demanding that we seek His glory alone, God is calling us to overcome the natural temptation to seek our own.”*

*Beth Moore,  
Praying God's Word Day by Day*