

The Anchor



The Great Lakes Restoration Branches

Magazine/Newsletter

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Summer 2016



News From Around the Region

Algonac-Atlanta-Dowagiac- Garden City- Lima-Oakwood Otter Lake-Port Huron-Sanilac-
St. Johns

“By faith all things are fulfilled: Wherefore, whoso believeth in God might with surety hope for a better world, yea, even a place at the right hand of God which hope cometh of faith maketh an Anchor to the souls of men, which would make them sure and steadfast, always abounding in good works, being led to glorify God.” Ether 5:3b-4

Algonac Branch



By: Val Bradley

“Therefore, let your light so shine before this world, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 5:18) It’s been wonderful to see all the ways in which the saints have been active

in “shining their light” to others this summer and glorifying God!

Fourteen of our Algonac women attended another wonderful Mother/Daughter Banquet at the Sanilac Restoration Branch on May 14. This year’s theme was “Loving Hands Garden.” First we were treated to a delicious luncheon (served by the men), followed by a variety of yummy desserts. Upon entering the sanctuary we were transported into a beautiful garden filled with flowers, a stunning backdrop, garden bench and fountain. The marvelous program included readings, poems, prayers, Scriptures, and music. Laughter is good for the soul, and as

always, Barb and Kathleen did not disappoint with their hilarious skit! What a delightful afternoon spent with our sisters in Christ. We went home with full stomachs, great gifts, and a garden-full of wonderful memories. Many thanks to the ladies of Sanilac and all who contributed to this annual event. God bless you all.

The annual spring banquet with our Algonac family was held on May 20 at Dimitri's restaurant in Chesterfield. We love meeting there, as we are able to have the back room all to ourselves! We had a great turnout and enjoyed good food and great fellowship. Our Women's Leader, Nina Powers, presented each of the ladies with ceramic candle holders with either hearts, angels, or crosses on them. They also had a scripture imprinted on them. She gave the men booklets entitled, "A New Life" ... Easter reflections from the Scriptures." Thanks for spoiling us, sister Nina!

On Sunday, June 19 (Father's Day), our service was held at Beebe Street Park in Richmond. Elder Todd Moses preached and the Moses Trio did the music special. In a special tribute to all the fathers the little ones sang, Bethany Moses did a reading, and the fathers were presented with either a cross or a Jesus pocket token. Afterwards everyone shared in a great pot luck picnic and fellowship. There were activities for the children to participate in including a piñata and making a craft for their fathers.

Our Algonac Rummage and Bake Sale was held at the church on

July 1 and 2. The sale opened promptly at 10 a.m. on Friday, and there was already a crowd waiting to start shopping! The weather was beautiful, music was playing, and the smell of baked goods was drifting throughout the church. Wendy Holmes was baking cookies in our kitchen, so the entire church smelled awesome. Great idea, Wendy! Speaking of baked goods, there was a wide array available for sale, including whoopee pies, brownies, Rice Krispy treats, cupcakes, cookies and bread. Additional baked goods were brought in on Saturday to replace those that were sold on Friday. There was also a ton of clothes and other items donated by our church ladies. There were some "regulars" who had been looking forward to the sale and baked goods. A neighbor even dropped off around 6 – 8 bags of stuff to sell. One man attended both days and said he loves to frequent church yard sales and loved ours! Elaine Harm and Tina Yaney did a great job of setting up the clothing area on Friday. Elaine brought extra tables on Saturday and re-sorted all the clothes. Amy Nagy brought in a nice assortment of items for children, which always goes over well. Kim Gilchrist brought in chicken and pork and cooked for all the volunteers – yum! Overall, the sale was a success. In addition to raising funds for our branch, it was a great opportunity to make our presence known in the community, and to spread goodwill and cheer to all who entered our church. Thank you to Wendy Holmes, Elaine King, and Val Bradley for help in setting up on Wednesday; to Wendy Holmes, Elaine Harm,

Marilyn Canham, Kim Gilchrist, Tina Yaney and Elaine Harm for volunteering their time and assistance during the sale. We'd also like to thank Wendy Holmes, Marilyn Canham, Elaine King, Nina Powers, Elaine Harm and Tina Yaney for all the baked goods they made and donated. Last, but not least, a big thanks to Wendy Holmes for organizing this event once again!

**Bethany Moses
Dakota High School**



**Magna Cum Laude
Class of 2016**

In June, Bethany Moses graduated magna cum laude, class of 2016 from Dakota High School. She will be attending Macomb Community College in the fall to begin her studies in music education. Congratulations, Bethany, we are so proud of you! Our Algonac church family attended her graduation celebration at her parent's (Todd & Liz) home on July 8. There were many tents and tables set up outside to accommodate the huge crowd of family and friends who were there to honor her and her many achievements. Lots of good Mexican food and a wide array of delicious desserts were served ... yum! We had fun visiting with her

and her guests and enjoyed seeing the wonderful display of photos and memorabilia showing all she's been involved in during her school years. The fun and laughter continued throughout the evening and was topped off by a group of her friends spending the night and enjoying breakfast together the following morning before they left. We are so happy for you, Bethany, and wish you God's blessings in all your future endeavors!

On Sunday, July 10, Joy Muir (our "honorary Algonac sister" from Independence) hosted our monthly pot luck meal at the cute cottage she frequently stays at on the St. Clair River. Tables and chairs were set up on the lawn and we enjoyed great food and fellowship. The weather was pleasant and it was fun watching the boats go by as we ate and visited. It was a real treat for the kids when the captain of a huge freighter blasted the ship's horn as it passed by. Thanks for a relaxed, delightful afternoon, Joy. Sure hope this becomes an annual event!

Our Vacation Bible School took place July 18 – 22 under the direction of Kelli Williams and Todd Moses. This year's theme was "Deep Sea Discovery ... God Is with Me Wherever I Go." The entire church was decorated with all things oceanic. There were sea creatures everywhere, including a huge whale hand crafted by Cory Eliason! Each day began with a puppet show (all written by Kelli) that went with the daily theme. Lots of new puppet characters were introduced this year (including Sally the turtle, Ollie the octopus, Nick the Camel,

Salvatore the seahorse, Vinnie the shark, Marigold the goldfish and Henrietta the hermit crab) in addition to our favorite Rainbow, the parrot. Kelli, Todd, Bethany and Liz did a fantastic job as the puppeteers! The Bible stories that were taught throughout the week were Noah & the Ark, Jonah & the Whale, Jesus (& Peter) walking on the water, the disciples learning about how to fish from Jesus, and the apostle Paul and his ministry. The young children's Bible class was taught by Cory Eliason and the older children's class was taught by Nina Powers and Val Bradley. Tina Yaney taught the craft classes and all the kids enjoyed making clever items that went along with the theme. Bethany Moses taught recreation and did a great job of tying in the activities to the daily theme, also. Todd Moses taught the music class, and taught the younger kids lots of fun, peppy songs, which they loved performing. Todd also came up with a new idea this year. He had the older kids (called the "bigs") mentor the younger children (called the "littles"). Each "big" had a "little" assigned to them (which changed daily) and they assisted them during their craft, music and recreation classes. It was great for the younger ones and taught responsibility to the older ones. Great idea, Todd! Nadine Moses and Elaine Harm were in charge of snacks. Everyone (including the adults!) loved snack time and looked forward to seeing the fun and delicious snacks they made to go with each daily theme. There were also a number of extra helpers who assisted wherever they were needed throughout the week ... Elaine King, Angie Elkins, and Maggie (Lisa's Mom). At the

end of each day, everyone returned to the sanctuary for a recap of what they learned that day, and a final song and prayer. They then received various colored wrist bands with that day's theme on them. Before heading home, they all got to go up front and pick out a fun prize from a big bin that Miss Kelli had available for them. It was a great week of fun and learning more about God and we were all blessed to be able to participate.

The Vacation Bible School program was presented to the congregation at 10 a.m. on Sunday, July 24. It began with a reenactment of one of the puppet shows that had been performed during VBS. Kelli Williams then gave the congregation a synopsis of what took place during that week. Each of the teachers shared a little bit about the classes or activities they were in charge of. The younger children (directed by Todd & Bethany) sang several of their favorite songs. Kelli thanked everyone who helped out and we thanked Kelli and Todd for all their hard work in pulling it all together.

Reported by Todd Moses:

The 2016 Michigan reunion was held from July 25-31 at the Wesleyan Woods Campgrounds. Algonac Restoration Branch had 10 in attendance for the week with many visiting throughout the reunion. Kelli Williams once again headed up the canteen along with teaching the pre-K through 1st graders. Todd Moses served as the music coordinator and choir director along with helping his wife, Liz Moses bring music to the youth classes. Bethany Moses led the campers in song each night

for campfire. Eric & Cory Eliason taught the middle school class, bringing the knowledge of Jesus Christ to our youth. Gary Holmes served as co-pastor for the reunion and his wife Marge manned the 2016 t-shirt table.

The theme for the week was “All Glory Be To God” with guest ministry Seventy Richard Neill, High Priest Paul Gage and Elder Brian Mundy from the Missouri area. The classes, preaching services and activities were filled with the Spirit and the week was a joy to be in attendance.

News and Notes:

- In May Kelli William’s preschool and childcare center sponsored a program that represented young children at the Pine River Nature Center in Goodells with games, tattoos, treats, stories in the tree house and more! The color to wear to show support was purple ... Kelli’s favorite!
- Bethany Moses played the role of Sally Brown in the musical “You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown” with 12 performances from May 26 – June 4. The cast consisted of 6 actors, (Charlie, Sally, Linus, Lucy, Schroeder & Snoopy) and the production was at the Snug Theater in Marine City. Bethany did a fabulous job transforming herself into a hilarious cartoon character of 5 years old.
- Bethany Moses was selected to compete in the Sutton Foster Ovation Awards Competition on June 11 & 12 for Best Actress 2016 in Michigan’s Statewide High School Musical Theater Award. She represented Dakota High School for her lead role as Mary Poppins in the Disney Musical “Mary Poppins.” She spent the two-days in Lansing at MSU’s Wharton Center for the Performing Arts learning new songs and choreography with the other contestants and working with theater professionals. The competition culminated with a final performance, where she also displayed her prepared solo piece from Mary Poppins. Bethany placed as a finalist and also had to perform a selected solo for the judging panel. At the end of the night, she performed fantastically and earned the First Runner-up position in the entire state. Congratulations and way to go!
- On the evening of our church yard sale, John and Sara surprised Kim Gilchrist by stopping by the church with a gift of baby bibs. It took Kim a minute to realize they were letting her know that they are

going to have a baby! Naturally, she was so surprised and excited about the news. Congratulations to John and Sara, and to “grandma” Kim!

- In their spare time during VBS (ha!) Todd Moses, Hod Powers, and Ray Moses did some work out by our church sign. They removed all the old growth of bushes, reset the paver blocks, and planted new ground cover to revitalize the area. Thanks for all your hard work, guys. It looks wonderful and is much appreciated!

Prayers would be appreciated for Tim Holmes, Dick Burns, Liz Moses Mom, Cathy Ward, Elaine King (& her Mom), Todd Yaney's Dad, Cliff, Kelli and Steve Williams, Ray Moses, Nina Powers, Dave Nagy, Bruce and Barb Krinkie. We are keeping you and your congregations in our prayers, as well.

Garden City



By: Kurt & Susan Fishwild

Reunion was a wonderful week full of spirit-filled family worship services, time to visit and fellowship, fun recreation

(swimming, games, zip-line, softball, kickball), campfires, great classes and much more. It was so good to see many “old” friends and to meet new friends. Thanks to Mick Ruch and all of the reunion committee members and teachers who worked so hard to make this Reunion possible. Thanks also to the visiting ministry (High Priest Paul Gage, Elder Brian Mundy, and Seventy Richard Neill) who shared their ministry with us through classes, preaching, counseling, prayers and their many testimonies. On July 10th, Priest Jim Schultz (from Missouri) was our guest speaker. His wife Caryl sang the Introit and the Ministry of Music for the 11:00 service. Two of Jim’s sisters, Judith Cobb and Linda Clapham, attend the Garden City branch. After the service we enjoyed a potluck with good fellowship.

Children’s Day and Father’s Day (Submitted by Betty Lou Newman)

June brings Children’s Day, Father’s Day and summer. Traditionally, in the past, Children’s Day was a day set aside for the baptism of those in the pre-baptismal class of the preceding year. Often there was a branch celebration recognizing the new lives for Christ. On June 12, we celebrated Children’s Day and Father’s Day with a summer potluck.

On this Sunday, each child received a small gift from the branch to remind them of our love for them and of the joy they bring to the branch. On Father's Day, the men were presented with their gift by the children. We hope the chocolates were yummy but more than that, we hope it showed our love and appreciation for their work and care for the branch. May we continue to support our church family and give thanks for each member's service.

Erie Beach Camp
(Submitted by Betty Lou Newman)

In 1996, thirteen campers shared a week of camp at Erie Beach with Graham Fishwild, Irene Jackson and Betty Lou Newman. In 2016 (20 years later), the camp consisted of sixteen campers and a camp team of thirteen adults plus five kitchen staff. Besides our "resident" priesthood, we are so thankful for the four elders who crossed the border to be our guest teacher each morning. "BEE" obedient to the commandments – to all the commandments – was the theme of every class and activity throughout the week. Even the centerpieces on each table in the dining room reminded campers of those

commandments.

"Commandments From the Scriptures" was the book used for our class study material. Added testimonies for the younger campers were provided by reading "Stories That Live" and discussions of daily lessons for the older youth were enriched by reading "The Quiet Miracle" by Jo Montgomery.

Special thanks to the priesthood (High Priest Paul Gage, Elder Leo Carroll, Deacon Jacob Roberts) who traveled from Missouri to share their ministry with the campers.

Beautiful weather and a beautiful spirit began the week, filled the week, and ended the week. The leaders and campers of Erie Beach Camp 2016 thank you for your prayerful support.

"I, the Lord, am bound when ye do what I say, but when ye do not as I say, ye have no promise." (D&C 81:3b)
This is God's contract with us.

Submitted by Judy Monarch:

Saturday, July 9th, there was a bridal shower held at the Garden City Restoration Branch in honor of Sarah Monarch and Casey Sillanpaa. It was beautifully decorated, great food, and attended by many wonderful people. Thank

you to everyone for helping make this a special day for the two of them.

Saturday, July 16th Elder Rex Monarch and his wife Judy traveled to Stoney Creek, Canada and joined up with others including, High Priest Paul Gage, Elder Leo Carroll, and Deacon Jacob Roberts for a baptismal service. The new candidates for baptism included Dylan Andrew James Lavigne along with Robert M. Willoughby. Both were baptized by Elder Rex Monarch. The service was presided over by Elder Leo Carroll.

The following Sunday, July 17th, both Dylan and Robert were confirmed. Dylan was confirmed by High Priest Paul Gage and assisted by Elder Leonard Else. Robert was confirmed by Elder Rex Monarch and assisted by Elder Leonard Else. Following the confirmation there was a Sacrament service presided over by Elder Rex Monarch. The sermon was brought forth by Elder Leo Carroll and was followed by some inspirational words brought forth by High Priest Paul Gage to everyone in attendance. The Spirit was there in great abundance throughout the weekend as we shared a wonderful experience, one that will not be

forgotten. Please keep the new members as well as everyone else in your prayers as we continue to look to the Lord for guidance and direction.

The following week, Robert Willoughby and his wife Rachel (who live in England), visited with Rex and Judy Monarch in Michigan. During their visit we traveled to the Kirtland Temple and many of the historic sites pertaining to the church in the Kirtland area.

The time we had together was wonderful but too short. We studied, prayed, and fasted together. I think the week's experiences were a glimpse of what Zion will be like because we truly gathered with like minds and hearts.

[Otter Lake](#)



By: Susie Daggett

Congratulations to Dakota Dufort who graduated from High School! Lynnette and Lindsey Daniels and Susie and Doug Daggett attended the older youth camp in Hawks Michigan in July. Lynnette was our nurse, Doug taught classes and Susie taught a class on marriage and helped out Shawn

Ruch with the Junior High class. Lindsey was a great camper! Kerry Horton and Bill Sutton attended the younger youth camp in Erie Beach Ontario. They reported a blessed week. We were blessed July 24th with visiting ministry from Missouri. We had Leo Carroll, Jacob Roberts and Paul Gage all give a short message/testimony. It was great to have them fill in after our scheduled speaker had to cancel last minute.

Many of our branch was able to attend Reunion in July. We all had a very great week and are thankful to all who work hard to put it together.

We are very thankful for our visiting ministry Gary Holmes, Brian Daggett, Bob Harris, Fred Brown Sr., Ed McDonald and Mick Ruch. We are looking forward to Ed Smerer, Jay Havener, Fred Brown Jr. and Jeff Stoker later this year.

Oakwood



By: Kathleen Modders

6/12/16 Annual General Squire's Park Service and Potluck

7/08/16-7/10/16 Missouri College Group came to Oakwood and blessed us with their ministry

7/10/16-7/16/16; Zion's Youth Camp was a great success this year. We had a great staff and 14 campers. Oakwoods participants

were Brandon Embree, Cruz Nagy, Drew Vandenberg, Emma Turner, Fred Brown Jr., Fred Brown Sr., Heather Mervyn, Helen Brown, Jackson Nagy, Joe Brown, Jonathon Modders, Kathleen Modders, Kyle Burnard, Lilly Konkle, Logan Evans, Michelle Turner, Parker Mervyn, Reese Nagy, Shaun Turner, Shawn Ruch, Tracy Stokes, The weather was good overall with a couple of thunderstorms that caused us to retreat from our picnic on Tuesday afternoon.

There were a number of classes that the Campers were involved in as well as group activities such as, crafts, discussions, and campfires. The kids were encouraged to share testimonies, prayers, and personal struggles so that they could learn to depend upon their Heavenly father and to one another. It is through our struggles that we draw strength from our Lord and each other.

We also had an opportunity to go to Ocqueoc Falls State Park. It is known to be the largest waterfalls in the Lower Peninsula. The kids had a blast working through some team building events, and of course swimming and splashing in the falls. It was a hot day and the diversion was well deserved.

Special prayers for Bob Modders. He had a life changing stroke and after many weeks he still has little to no movement on his left side; had a feeding tube put in recently; and has been moved to a Lapeer Nursing Home. Prayers are needed for the entire family.

7/24/16-7/31/16 Great Lakes Reunion! Great things happened because of the great people

running the show! Special thanks to Mick Ruch for being the director and his supporting wife Shawn Ruch. And the entire Reunion committee: Barent Eliason, Brian Daggett, Eric & Cory Eliason, Gary & Marge Homes, Helene Danicki, Kathleen & Mike Modders, Kelli Williams, Lynnette Danniels, Todd Moses and Wendy Nagy. All the teachers who taught the classes, and anyone else who had a hand in this year's Reunion! It wouldn't be possible without these wonderful people! Reunion was filled with many great times.

7/26/16 Wedding! Aubree and Justin Kirtanski.

8/7/16 Wedding! Kyle & Shelbie Burnard

Congratulations to both the newlywed couples! And a blessing to both couples on starting a new chapter in their lives.

8/26/16 -8/28/16 New Regional Young Adult group: Our first activity will probably be a wet one! Jay and Kathi Havener are hosting a canoe trip on the Au Sable River in Grayling, MI for all young adults aged 18 - 26ish! Young adults are those "kids" who have already graduated from high school and want to participate in church retreats/activities after the Zion's Youth Camp age. If you're interested in joining this group, contact Jay and Kathi Havener.

9/24/16 Annual Cedar Point trip! We will be meeting at the Sears parking lot at 6:00 am. You must bring your own food or money to buy food. The bus ride to and from

the park and park admission ticket will be \$79.00 Contact Kathleen Modders if you are interested, facebook, text, or call. Everyone is invited, but if you are under 16 you must be accompanied by a parent per the bus rules. Tickets will be purchased by September 12, 2016. Money must be sent in to Kathleen Modders at 4800 S Lapeer Rd. Metamora, MI 48455 by this date.

10/21/16-10/23/16 Fall Older Youth Retreat! Brian Mundy will be attending the retreat and helping Shaun and Michelle Turner with their witnessing weekend. So save the date!

Graduates from Oakwood this year: Brandon Embree, Brennen Colley, Marissa Wilson , Joe Brown, Dustin Michael and Jonathon Modders.

Support the youth group and purchase the new Zion's Older Youth Camp t-shirts. After cost is covered all proceeds go to the regional youth camp retreat fund. Contact Kathleen Modders with sizes you want! Only \$20.00! Bright Lime Green!

Upcoming Birthdays: 09/01 Dawn Modders, 09/05 Bill Hulse, 09/11 Lilah Konkle, 09/15 Eloise Boat, 09/19 Graham Fishwild, 09/19 Raven Franks, 09/22 Jann Wilson, 09/22 Michelle Turner, 09/26 Shaun Turner, 10/02 Taylor LaRowe, 10/07 Ryan Wilson, 10/08 Helene Danicki, 10/08 Fred Brown Jr., 10/13 Alec LaRowe, 10/14 Ruth Ann Hulse, 10/18 Marc Hanna, 10/23 Debbie Millen, 10/25 Shawn Ruch, 10/26 Sara Ruch, 10/27 Teri Hanna, 11/04 Ryan Hanna, 11/08 Nick Brown, 11/13 Bob LaRowe, 11/14 Brennen Colley, 11/20 Cole

Vandenberg, 11/24 Jared Carl,
12/02 Bob Ruch, 12/04 Ty Millen,
12/06 Drew Vandenberg, 12/08
Parker Mervyn, 12/09 Helen
Brown, 12/23 Amanda Ruch, 12/25
Laurie MacDonald, 12/26 Mick
Ruch, 12/26 Jonathon Modders,
12/27 Marissa Wilson

Port Huron-Sarnia Branch



By: Sharon Smerer

Greetings:

We hope everyone is enjoying their summer ... with vacations starting, our Branch has few in attendance. But we understand, every so often you need to have a vacation to see what others are doing, in other places. We hope to see you all back safe and sound and that your time away has been an adventure and a good experience.

Sherry Purcell and Sharon Smerer attended the Sandusky Restoration Branch Mother/Daughter Banquet, May 14 at 12:00 noon. This year's theme was, "Loving Hands Garden." It was a very nice time spent with all of the ladies and young children. The lunch was very good and we want to thank Gary DesJardins and Kerry Horton for serving. Well done guys!! We also, want to thank Barbara Eliason, Kathleen Palmer and all the other ladies who took part in the program. We enjoyed the humorous act of the

sister's conversation on the cell phones. Barb and Kathleen, you ladies should go into the standup comedy routine. Thank you for inviting our Branch, we had a fun time with everyone. Again, beautiful plants and flowers and other items for your garden and for you personally were given to all who attended. Sherry Purcell was asked to give the Benediction.

We have had some Ministry of Music singers, Bob Harris, Gary Holmes and Bill Hering and Sue Fagan, Scott Bolt, Bruce Reid and Gillian Bolt. We also appreciate those who play the piano, Chris, Eldon and Jane. We appreciate the talent of all!

The Starlites competitive dance teams continue to win championships. Recently, the Starlites traveled to Virginia Beach for the United States Finals and won seven championships. The Starlites were also eligible to compete in the Champions Challenge for the overall National Grand Championships and won again in all seven divisions. Ava Slossar, Abby Slossar, Allison Slossar, Brianna Slossar, Adrienne Slossar are granddaughters of Larry and Debbie Sheffler.

John DeBell has restored a half-track military vehicle and on Memorial Day weekend, has chauffeured veterans along various parade routes in the Blue Water Area. John said he's kept a notebook on the veterans that have ridden in his vehicle, recording each of their stories. We hope everyone enjoyed their Memorial Day Weekend. We are very thankful for the lives of our

men and women who sacrificed their lives for our freedom. May we all be praying for our service people and their families, each and every day.

Brown City Elementary School on June 14, 2016 held an awards presentation to recognize the good work of many of its students. Betty Milett was presented an award for Outstanding Reader. She is the daughter of Joe and Jennifer Milett and grand-daughter of John and Connie DeBell. Betty and Lowell Milett also have been playing ball this summer. Lowell is son of Joe and Jennifer Milett and grandson of John and Connie DeBell.

We would like to honor our Graduates: Owen DeBell graduated from 5th grade, from Morton Elementary School. He is the son of Jim and Marnie DeBell and grandson of John and Connie DeBell. Austin Shamblin graduated from 8th grade, from Central Middle School. He is the grandson of Chase and Michelle Miller. Keep up the good work in your studies, maybe some day you could be president. Gillian Bolt graduated from 12th grade from Port Huron Northern High School. She has earned the following awards and recognition: Quincy Jones Musicianship Award for Band and Drama Club Recognition Award, 3.5 GPA for four years and on the National Honor Society for two years. She is the daughter of Scott and Amy Bolt and granddaughter of John and Barbara Tynan. Evan Kercher graduated from 12th grade from Port Huron Northern High School. He has earned the

following awards and recognition: Director's Award for Band, 3.5 GPA for four years, National Honor Society for two years, and Student elected Hall of Fame. He is the son of Pat Kercher and Christine Kercher and brother to Andrew and Ellie Kercher and grandson of John and Connie DeBell. We are very pleased with your achievements. We wish you the best in your future plans.

We received a nice card from the parents of Glen Doan who passed away June 7, 2012. Jim and Donna Doan still miss their son and so do we. I believe his funeral was the most attended at our Branch, that I can recall, standing room only. He had many fellow firemen, family and friends who loved and cared for him. He was very well liked, by many. We, with his parents, know Glen is in a better place, with our God and his son Jesus.

Jennifer Milett made up little snack bags for Father's Day. The poem inside each bag says: Dear Dad, A treat for you, because you are neat, and you always like something yummy to eat! POPCORN - Because you are a "pop." MARSHMALLOWS - Because your heart is soft toward God. PRETZELS- Because you love and teach through all life's twists and turns. GOLDFISH - Because in the sea you are the big fish. RAISINS - Because you are "raisin' your children to love God. CHOCOLATE CHIPS - Because your children are a "chip off the old block." TEDDY GRAHAMS - Because of all the "bear hugs" you give. KISSES - Because you give the best kisses. HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

Thank you Jennifer for all that you do for our Church School and the Congregation.

We appreciate even the decorating of the worship center.

Our guest speaker for our Sunday service on Father's Day was Elder Fred Brown, Sr. (with his wife Helen), from the Oakwood Restoration Branch. We appreciate all of our out of town speakers. They give us new thoughts and ideas to ponder. We thank all of our Priesthood for their service to God.

We send condolences to the family of Florentine Whitford, who passed away on June 26, 2016. She is survived by her husband, Richard C. of 62 years and four children, Eugene (Paula) Whitford, Richard D. (Darlene) Whitford, Victoria (Harold) Zablocki and Susan (Kurt) Telfer; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren; also a brother-in-law and sister-in-law, William(Bill) and Jane Hering. Our prayers and thoughts are for all the family at this time of mourning.

We appreciate ALL of our housekeepers of our church, you know who you are. We Thank You! We also appreciate the lawnmower people and the landscape people who keep our congregation looking well maintained during summer and winter.

We want to welcome back from Arizona, Elder David and Barbara Teeple. We are so pleased to have you both back in our congregation. We wait to hear of your many blessings and friendships with the Pinon

Reservation and the Navajo people. Welcome Back!

We also want to congratulate Ariana(Ari) Britz on her becoming a Nurse's Aide. She is the daughter of Jason and Carrie Britz and granddaughter to John and Barbara Tynan.

We also await the video of Ariana and Adelia Britz from their Mission Trip to Mexicali, Mexico.

Sanilac



By: Kathleen Palmer

And one cried unto another, and said Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of glory.

May was a busy month for our congregation.

Barent and Barb Eliason traveled to Missouri for a wedding and the high school graduation of their grandson Daniel Eliason. Kathleen Palmer traveled to Arizona with family to attend the wedding of her grandson Ryan Palmer.

Jim and Stacey Bradley were married in our church with Elder Barent Eliason performing the ceremony. We all wish Jim and Stacey a happy and blessed life together.

Our branch was saddened by the passing of Elder Bob Ruch. We will miss him very much. We always felt blessed when he came to give the message in our little

church. Our condolences to his family.

Our women's group was very busy preparing for our annual Mother/ Daughter Banquet. The theme was, " Loving Hands Garden." It was held May 14th at noon. We all had fun in the garden atmosphere decorated with beautiful flowers and a special garden backdrop with the old, old path. Many dressed for the occasion with wide brim hats, gardening clothes , caps and gardening gloves. We all enjoyed a delicious lunch downstairs served by the men, who did an excellent job. Thanks all of you. The tables were decorated in a garden theme with solar lights. A delicious garden theme cake was enjoyed by all. After lunch, we went upstairs for the program, which consisted of poems, songs, a phone skit (you never know what may happen when Barb and Kathleen are involved) and a Fairy Garden time for the young girls, twirling, flying and leaping around to a song sung by all. Many beautiful flowers and gifts were given to each one attending. A big thank you to all who came. All of us from Sanilac had a wonderful time working together to put this special Mother/ Daughter Banquet together for all to enjoy. Thanks to Deanna Pirt and her daughter Rachel for all their help and gift donations. We are so blessed and thankful to the Lord for putting us together with all different talents to be able to have this special time together. We look forward to next year. Our theme will be, "Loving Angels." The date will be announced later.

On June 12th, we had a Father/Son Banquet with Dora Gutierrez in charge. Poems were read, a trumpet solo by Gary Des Jardins

and songs sang. All the children were involved. It was a lovely program. We all enjoyed a delicious pot luck dinner after the service. There were gifts for all fathers and sons.

Gary Des Jardins, Emma Thompson, Emma Eliason and Sarah Eliason, all CITs, along with Emma Des Jardins, Brandi Tomanek and Josh Bradley attended the Childrens church camp at Erie Beach July 17th-20th. They all reported a wonderful time learning, praying and being together.

There were thirty people from the Sanilac branch at the Great Lakes Regional Reunion. Some stayed all week while others attended when they could. The theme, " All Glory Be to God" was such a great theme for the week. Missy Parker taught the third thru sixth grades. This was the first time she taught and she said she loved it. Elder Barent Eliason taught the Book of Mormon class, which is always informative and interesting. Glory be to God for this special week of worshiping, sharing testimonies, prayers and fellowship together.

Justin Kurtansky and Aubree Rich were united in marriage in a very special ceremony before a beautiful birchwood cross with Mike Modders officiating. This very special cross was made by Kerri Horton. After the ceremony Justin and Aubrees son, Brendon, decided to take off in the golf cart! Just added a little excitement to the moment!! Brendon you are too young to drive! We all enjoyed a delicious turkey dinner in the dining hall after the service. The tables were lovely decorated in red, white and blue with pretty wild flowers in decorated mason jars. The wedding cake was many

layers high and very pretty and delicious. The cake was made by the brides grandmother, Yvonne Stolicker. We wish Justin and Aubree and their family a wonderful blessed life together.

On Friday, Julia Albrecht was baptized by Elder Barent Eliason in the camp pond. On Sunday Julia was confirmed by Elder Barent Eliason and assisted by Elder Jim Mc Leod and Justin was confirmed by Elder Todd Moses and assisted By Elder Mick Ruch. May your lives be blessed as you follow the teachings of the Lord. Barent and Barb Eliason left the Tuesday after church camp to go to Missouri for their Grandson Daniels ordination to priest. Daniel was ordained by Priest Barry Eliason and assisted by Jason Howard. His grandfather, Barent Eliason gave the charge. We wish them a wonderful time with family and friends.

We need to take time to thank our priesthood for all they do. We are so blessed to hear the gospel messages they bring to us. Also to those who share their God given talents and to our youth, who have so much to share with us and we with them.

Our Sanilac Branch was so blessed to have the following priesthood bring their inspirational messages to us: Elder Gary Holmes (Marge), Elder Jay Havener (Kathi), Priest Bob Harris, and Elder Ed McDonald.

Please remember the Book of Mormon Day September 24th, from 9:00 a. m. til 3:00 p.m. at Oakwood.

Also the annual Sanilac hayride and pizza party is October 16th.

Hope to see many of you at these events.

Have a blessed and colorful fall.

Regional Activities for the next quarter

(Please mark your calendar for these dates)

September 24th, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Book of Mormon Day Oakwood Restoration Branch

Contact: Barent or Barb Eliason

October 7th - 9th, Regional Women's Retreat

Wesleyan Woods Campgrounds

Contact: Kathi Havener or Val Bradley

October 16th, Regional Hayride and Pizza Party

Sanilac Restoration Branch

Contact: Barent or Barb Eliason

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