

The Anchor



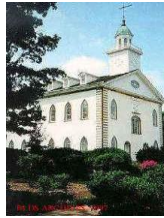
The Great Lakes Restoration Branches

Magazine/Newsletter

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Spring 2015



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

“As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.” (1 Peter 4:10) We are so thankful and blessed for the ways in which

our saints use their God-given talents and gifts in service to our Lord.

On Saturday, February 28th we were invited to take part in a community service project at the Garden City branch. Amy Nagy, Tina Yaney, Ava and David Nagy, Connie Burns and Wendy Holmes met so that we could all ride to the church together. It was a beautiful day and we enjoyed our ride there while being entertained by Connie's amusing stories. When we arrived they had already arranged the tables so that we had a production line to fill bags with personal hygiene items for the

homeless. We also had quite a large number of donations of items to fill the bags with... shampoo, conditioner, soap, Q-tips, lotion, etc., things we may take for granted. Before we got started we went into the sanctuary and started with a song and a prayer, then we had some open devotions and Connie Burns shared the testimony of her brother and Richard regarding an encounter with a homeless person. We learned it doesn't matter what they do with what we give them as long as we do what the Lord tells us. Before returning to the other room to pack bags we had another song & prayer. We quickly filled hundreds of bags. A few ladies helped prepare our potluck luncheon that was plentiful and delicious. I enjoyed the gift of receiving myself as I got a recipe for homemade empanadas from Karen's mom. We were so thankful for the uplifting fellowship and laughs. Many shared their stories of outreach and giving and how they witnessed the positive effects that even a small group can have. It would be nice to have even more next time, so we will keep you posted on our next event and in the meanwhile, save any of your sample size items for the homeless ... it will be much appreciated. Many thanks to Karen Rintz and Kim Gilchrist for organizing this event, and to the Garden City branch for hosting it! (As reported by Wendy Holmes)

Our Algonac saints met together at the church on Saturday, March 14, for a Family Game Night hosted by Jim and Val Bradley. We had a good turnout ... 30 people attended (including 8 children). The church was

decorated in a St. Patrick's Day theme. The evening started with an ice breaker quiz. We learned some interesting things about each other! There was much fun and laughter as we split up into groups and played a variety of different games. (Steve Williams plays a mean game of Jenga!) An abundance of yummy snacks were enjoyed throughout the evening, including popcorn, cracker jacks, shamrock sugar cookies and more. We'd like to thank Dick and Connie Burns for their help with decorating and setting up and to all who attended. We can't wait for our next family night in May hosted by Dick and Connie Burns!

On April 5 at 10 a.m. the children of our branch put on an Easter program, directed by Kelli Williams. Ava Nagy gave the opening prayer. Then the congregation sang the hymn, "He Lives." The children took turns reading "The Sparkle Egg" story. It was about a boy who told a lie, an Easter egg, and God's forgiveness. The congregation was then invited to go into the fellowship hall to decorate a plastic egg. There were a variety of sparkles, paints, etc. set out for us to use. We were asked to write something on a slip of paper that we were ashamed of or felt sorry for and place it inside the egg. The symbolism was that we would lay it at the foot of the cross and the egg would be empty on Easter morning and our sins would be no more. Just as the tomb was empty on Easter morning, because Jesus hung on the cross for us and took all our sins upon Him. We then went back into the sanctuary and Alyssa Marcangelo read the Scripture from John 3:16.

Bethany Moses, Laurel and Adeline Yaney sang "For God So Loved the World" and the congregation joined in at the end. David Nagy gave the closing prayer. We appreciated the efforts of Kelli and the children and it was a great way to start our day. What a wonderful reminder that HE LIVES ... CHRIST LIVES TODAY! At the 11:00 service we were treated to a beautiful solo sung by Bethany Moses and a marvelous Easter sermon by Elder Todd Moses. He posed the following questions to the congregation: "Does the Easter story get old for us? What if we were actually there and experienced it? How would we convince others that a resurrection had taken place? If we had to rely on physical evidence, where would our faith come in? He shared scriptures from the book of Acts and the Psalms. He left us with this thought: "We need to experience the joy of the resurrection with the same excitement every time ... it should not become "old news" - ever!" Thank you for your ministry, Todd!

On Saturday, April 25, four women from our branch attended the one day Women's Retreat at the Oakwood branch ... Wendy Holmes, Elaine King, Connie Burns and Val Bradley. The theme was "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say ..." We enjoyed the devotions brought by the Port Huron ladies, the song service, and the interesting testimonies and presentations by various ladies regarding their particular ministries. They were very enlightening and inspirational. The luncheon and desserts served by the Oakwood ladies were delicious! We enjoyed the

wonderful ministry of Elders Jay Havener and Fred Brown, Sr. at the Dedication Service. The testimonies that they shared were especially enjoyed and they brought such a good spirit to the retreat. Thanks so much to the Oakwood branch for hosting this retreat and for all the ladies (& priesthood) who participated and shared their gifts and talents with us. May God continue to bless and guide them as they continue in the ministry the Lord has called them to.

Reported by Todd Moses: Bethany Moses has had a year filled with musical performances. In November, she earned a perfect score for her 2 solos at MSVMA's Musical Theater Solo & Ensemble. Over the winter months she earned high ratings at MSVMA (vocal) & MSBOA (instrumental) district solo & ensembles, placing her in the state level for both. For vocal S&E, she performed both as a soloist and in 2 different ensembles. For instrumental, she performed in a wind quintet. Along with S&E activities, she landed a spot in the Chippewa District Idol Competition and wowed the audience with a theatrical piece called "Astonishing." Over all of these experiences, Bethany was in daily rehearsals with West Side Story, which she portrayed the leading role of Maria, opposite her boyfriend, Jake, who played Tony. The musical production had a fabulous 5 show run, bringing the audience to tears and a standing ovation each night. Shortly after West Side Story completed, State S&E festivals took place. She received first division rating in all events, both MSVMA & MSBOA. Her woodwind quintet scored so

well that it was a finalist for the state to perform at the Michigan Youth Arts Festival.

Throughout the year, Bethany also was involved with MSVMA's Honors Choir. In the fall, she auditioned for the Regional level and was assigned 2 solos within the Regional Choir. She progressed to the State Honors Choir, which performed at the Michigan Music Conference in Grand Rapids in January. A month later she found out that she was selected for the most prestigious level, the All-State Honors Choir, which performed at WMU this spring at MYAF. At this level, it is the top 114 singers from the entire state. Within this level, there was one soprano solo in the literature and Bethany was selected to receive the solo!

Most recently, Bethany was nominated for the Ovation Awards in Michigan from her performance of Maria in West Side Story. From this nomination, she has been selected to compete later in May at Michigan State University for the Ovation Award for Best Performance by an Actress. The winner of the Ovation Award progresses to the national level to compete in New York City for the Jimmy Award.

- We are all proud of Bethany and all of her accomplishments and are pleased that she is making good use of her God-given talents! We wish her continued success in all her endeavors.

Prayers would be appreciated for Wendy and Tim Holmes and family, Elaine Harm, Elaine King, Kelli and Steve Williams and Georgia (Steve's Mom),

Dick and Connie Burns, Gary and Marge Holmes, Ray Moses, Nina Powers, Jerry and Cathy Ward (parents of Liz Moses) and Liz and Todd, Bruce and Barb Krinkie. We are keeping you and your congregations in our prayers, as well.

May 7th National Day of Prayer

2nd Chronicles 7:14 If my people which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Garden City



By: Kurt & Susan Fishwild

We are so thankful that the weather is finally starting to warm up. The spring flowers look so beautiful and the grass is becoming quite green. We are grateful to have our pastor, Carl McKiddie back with us after his surgery in February. Thank you for all of the prayers on his behalf. Please continue to pray for the Baltzer family, Helen and Richard Ziegler, Loretta McKiddie, Joyce and George Black, and Janice Wright. New address: Richard Ziegler, 5711 Ryewyck, Toledo, OH 43614 phone number (419) 297-9080.

Our congregation continues to assist “The Homeless Angels in the Motor City”. We recently donated some extra chairs and other items to this group. They will put these un-used items to good use.

We are looking forward to a Spring church clean up in the near future to spruce up the inside and outside of the building, trim the bushes, and clean up the yard. On Easter Sunday during the 10:00 hour, the congregation shared in scripture readings, hymns, and readings. The choir sang several beautiful Easter songs (“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley” and “Mary”). Joyce Black also shared a reading entitled “Legend of the Cross”. The church was decorated with lilies and other flowers and the door to the tomb was open for Easter morning. Alleluia!

A number of congregations are working to raise money to help the saints in the Philippines to purchase a piece of land where they would like to build a church. Please contact Betty Lou Newman if you are able to contribute. The children are also holding a fundraising dinner on Sunday, May 3rd at the Port Huron Branch (during Children’s Retreat) to support this cause.

Many thanks to our guest ministers the past few months: Elder Tom Essenmacher, Elder Mick Ruch, and Elder Fred Brown Jr. We appreciate your ministry.

Submitted by: Betty Lou Newman
Amherstburg, Garden City, Otter Lake, Port Huron and Sanilac Branches came to the rescue!
Thank you so much for donating enough funds to enable our Philippines church family to

purchase the land necessary to build their new church building. Thank you very much from the kids and staff of the Children’s Retreat. May God bless you for your generous spirit.

Way to go Port Huron Branch! The special dinner served by the Children’s Retreat was a success. The “little church box” provided a large donation (\$400) for the Philippine land purchase. We enjoyed “serving” you and are saying thank you for supporting our current service project in the Philippines. (From: the kids and staff of the Children’s Retreat)

May 10th Mother’s Day



Oakwood



By: Kathleen Modders

Sponsored by all the Great Lakes Branches on 3/29 was our

Regional 5th Sunday service held at the Sanilac branch. Thank you to the Sanilac Branch who hosted it!

Kathi Havener and Val Bradley our Regional Woman Leaders held a Women's retreat on 4/25 at Oakwood. The Theme was "I heard the voice of Jesus Say" Class teachers were, Julie Fox she spoke about volunteering for service organizations , Kathleen Modders gave a testimony on her Journey to Jesus and what the voice of Jesus said to her. She demonstrated how to make your own organic toothpaste and gave samples out and gave many handouts on nutrition and how to become a healthier you. Tracy Stokes spoke on canning and brought in a few recipes and shared her experience about canning with everyone. Val Bradley spoke on her ministry through cards. Denise Carter spoke on ministering through children where she worked. Sherry Johnson spoke on home schooling. Sharon Smerer spoke on hospice care and working with the elderly. Connie DeBell was in charge of the morning devotional service and shared a video with everyone. Dawn Modders played hymns around the theme while we all sang. Connie read a story while Sherry Purcell demonstrated a Felt picture ministry. Elder Fred Brown Sr. & Elder Jay Havener held the dedication service at the end of the day and also cooked for all the ladies, 27 in attendance.

Julie Fox organized an Oakwood and Supporters group to walk in the Walk for Wishes at the Detroit Zoo on 5/2/15, where the Make A Wish foundation grants wishes of terminally ill children. Oakwood members that

attended were Bob and Dawn Modders, Priest Chet Slagor, Julie Fox, Kim Gilchrist, Tara Fox, and Bonnie Murphy,

Michelle and Shaun Turner, our Regional Youth Directors, organized the regional Zion's Older Youth Camp on 3/6/15-3/8/15! They enlisted Tracy Stokes to cook the meals. John Daniels, Nick Brown and Joshua Johnson were the CIT's. Kathleen Modders did a craft. Priest Chet Slagor taught a class. They took the children to a soup kitchen for their service project, where they set up and made ready the banquet hall where they were going to honor the volunteers that helped throughout the year. They enjoyed a trip to the Lapeer Recreational Center where they were able to swim and play basketball and Showers! Oakwood youth that attended were Jonathon Modders, Brandon and Chad Embree, Jackson and Reese Nagy, Parker and Heather Mervyn.

Kathleen Modders organized a spring time egg hunt for the youth on Easter Sunday 4/5/15. She enlisted help from a hipity hopity bunny to gather eggs with the children. Thank you to her helper Jonathon Modders and his hipity hopity ways!!!

Bev Ruch organized a Wedding Shower for Priest Mike Ruch and Amanda Leader 4/19/15! She enlisted the help of a few of the women of Oakwood (Kathleen Modders, Tracy Stokes, Michele Turner, Kathi Havener and Shawn Ruch) to help provide a special day for the upcoming newlywed's. They received so many wonderful gifts from all who attended. Good luck Mike and Amanda on your journey to a life of happiness.

Elder Robert Ruch organized a Pictorial Directory Photo Session on 3/28-29 resulting in a Pictorial Church Directory for Oakwood Restoration Branch. He met with members of a pictorial committee to instruct on what each would do to help make the photo directory a success. Elder Jay Havener, Elder Edward MacDonald, Elder Mick Ruch and Shawn Ruch, and Kathleen Modders were a part of the team.

Oakwood's Annual Squire Park Service will take place on 6/14/15. Potluck lunch following the service. A softball game will follow. All are invited to come and join the activities.

Priest Mike Modders organized a mother's day luncheon on 5/10/15. He enlisted help from some of the men to help Head Deacon Kerry Horton, John Stokes, Bob Modders, Priest Mike Ruch, Priest Shaun Turner and Joshua Johnson and Jonathon Modders, prepare a wonderful steak and chicken dinner for everyone to honor the mothers in the branch.

Betty Lou Newman organized the younger youth retreat in Port Huron on 4/24-26. Oakwood members that helped out were Head Deacon Kerry Horton, and Kayla Sadler..... Oakwood youth that attended was Emma Turner. Kerry helped with the campfires on Friday and Saturday and was in charge of some of the prayers, and both Kerry and Kayla read some of the stories out of the Little Fella Series by Pamela Price. They had a goulash fundraiser dinner after the church service on Sunday and raised over \$400.00.

Elder Ed MacDonald, Elder Jay Havener, Elder Mick Ruch organized a weekend long service

project from the youth that came from Missouri CPRS School. 26 were housed at the church for the weekend. They enlisted the help of Shawn Ruch, Kathleen Modders, and Michelle Turner, to help with the preparation of food for the youth for the weekend. And multiple women from the congregation cooked many baked good treats for the youth to snack on throughout the weekend. They enlisted the help of Priest Mike Modders, Priest Shaun Turner, Dennis Smith, Bill Hulse and Jonathon Modders to help with the direction of what the youth would work on during their service project at the church. They enlisted Shaun Ruch to organize a ministry of service at two nursing homes in Lapeer, where the youth helped with an ice cream social for the elderly, and put on a 30 minute song service for both. The youth, which comprised of 6th – 12th graders, enjoyed swimming and showering at the Davison Recreation Center on Saturday Night, and on Sunday they put on the 10 o'clock prayer and testimony service and shared with the congregation their testimonies and ministry of music. Hard work by all who participated, and it was a wonderful experience.

We had two funerals in the past couple of months, the first David Jones Sr. passed away 3/6 Funeral Service was held on 3/12/15 . A great man, father, husband and American Veteran. The Husband of Lily Jones and Father of Twyla Burnard. And the second, Gladys Kirylo, who passed away on 4/14 and her funeral was held on 4/18. They both will be greatly missed.

Garden City along with Kim Gilchrist put on a multi-branch

Women's gathering for soap making and hygiene bag assembly to be distributed to the homeless at the Garden City Branch on 3/7/15.

They organized an assembly line to fill the gift bags. There was devotions in the morning and prayer and testimony service held afterwards. Oakwood ladies who attended were Tracy Stokes, Kathleen Modders and Kim Gilchrist.

Julie Fox and Kathi Havener volunteered at Forgotten Harvest, a food bank in Southfield on 3/7/15.

Fun Tidbits.... Fred and Helen Brown along with Jay and Kathi Havener went to the tigers game 5/9/15. Kathi won the tickets through Facebook-Hollywood market e-mail address raffle! She also won \$100.00 to spend during the game! How fun! They had VIP seats with rocking chairs and tables and they enjoyed \$20.00 on that for hotdogs!

We have to congratulate Parker Mervyn, he is starting HIGH SCHOOL! 9th grade here he comes! And Cole Vandenberg will be graduating this year! More information to come once this happens! Our youth are growing up so fast!

Shawn Ruch, Oakwood's Woman's Leader started a "Secret buddies at work" and we are sending cards to our single and widowed members throughout the year for holidays and special occasions. What a fun idea!

Upcoming Oakwood Birthdays are: 06/02 Kerry Horton, 06/06 Bob Modders, 06/06 Gage Slagor, 06/11 Matt Mervyn, 06/12 Bonnie Murphy, 06/14 Kim Slagor, 06/16 Beth Fabian, 06/17 Kathleen Modders, 06/18 Julia LaRowe, 06/24 Shirley MacDonald, 06/25

Chad Embree, 06/27 Cruz Nagy, 07/03 Mike Modders, 07/04 Jay Thrift, 07/06 Brad Millen, 07/08 Joshua Johnson, 07/20 Kathi Havener, 07/20 Mallory Johnson, 08/01 Ken Burrows, 08/02 Jan Burrows, 08/02 Julie Fox, 08/05 Candy MacDonald, 08/09 Bernard Pearl, 08/11 Wendy Nagy, 08/17 Tracy Stokes, 08/18 Hannah MacDonald, 08/26 Sandy Kline, 08/28 Melanie Brown, 08/28 Mark Wilson, 08/30 Jordan Moore.

As reported by Shaun Turner:

Michelle and Shaun Turner organized the Great Lakes Restoration regional youth camp "Zion's Youth Camp" on 3/6/15-3/8/15. They enlisted Tracy Stokes to cook the meals. John Daniels, Nick Brown and Joshua Johnson were the weekend's CIT's. Kathleen Modders did a craft. Chet Slagor and Fred Brown Jr. taught a class. There was a service project at the Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac where they helped to set up and organize a banquet for needy families. The Oakwood youth that attended were Jonathon Modders, Brandon and Chad Embree, Jackson and Reese Nagy, Parker and Heather Mervyn.

This summer Michelle and Shaun Turner along with their great staff will be hosting the "Zion's Youth Camp" at Bethel Youth Camp in Hawks, MI. The theme will be 'Set Apart'. We will be teaching and learning why this church is unique and why it has been established in these latter days.

One of the activities will be a trip to Mackinac Island on Wednesday, July 8. We will be given a horse drawn carriage tour of the island

along with some worship and fellowship throughout the day. Just have your kids remember to bring a day pack for water and a sack lunch and money for souvenirs.

The camp will be from Sunday, July 5 - Friday July 10. Children ages 12 - 18 years old or children going into 7th grade are welcome to attend the older youth camp. Please contact Shaun or Michelle Turner for details.

Shaun at shaun.cell74@gmail.com/616-951-2138 or Michelle at 616-881-6309,

Otter Lake Branch



By: Susie Daggett

Congratulations to the granddaughters of Bill and Linda Sutton who are graduating this year. They are Megan Shaw and Paige Parker.

Landon Grant, son of Krystal and Rick Grant recently received a bad burn on his ankle and foot when he fell in to coals from a fire. Please pray for him to recover fully and the pain to go away. We recently welcomed back our snowbirds Vickie and Ed Ervin. They go to Texas every winter and help build homes in Mexico. We want to thank Bonnie Sutton for continuing to offer her home as a place to worship. Thank you to the visiting ministry we have had recently. They include Gary Holmes, Jay Havener, Bob Harris, Fred Brown

Jr, Tom Essenmacher, Ed Smerer, Brian Daggett, and Hod Powers.

Port Huron Branch



By: Sharon Smerer

Hello 2015 Spring:

In the last newsletter an article was left out about Donna Hamilton's Flamingo Motel which caught on fire. We pray that she will be able to get all the rooms available to rent again. I am sorry, for not realizing, that the Motel was Donna Hamilton's in January. I found out at the Potluck in February after the deadline for the Winter issue.

We had our first Potluck on February 8, 2015. Always good food and plenty to go around and good fellowship with the Saints.

We start out by giving condolences to the families of Orville Parker who passed away on January 23, 2015 and the families of Eunice Lewandowski who passed away on February 20, 2015. Condolences to the families of Reva Harris who passed away on March 9, 2015. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the families. On May 30, 2015, there will be a Memorial Service at our Branch, at 1 P. M. for Reva Harris. Our prayers and thoughts for comfort to William(Bill) and Helen Allison and family for

the loss of their son, Paul Allison who died, April 11, 2015 in Sarnia, Ont., Canada.

If you would like to send condolences, send to [www.McKenzie-Blundy Funeral Home of Sarnia, Ontario](http://www.McKenzie-Blundy Funeral Home of Sarnia, Ontario and click on (add condolences).) and click on (add condolences).

The younger youth had their Winter Retreat February 20-22, 2015 at Garden City, Michigan. Always, fun and interesting topics for the growth of our upcoming youth.

In our older section of our Church we had to install a new furnace. Everything is up and running and nice and cozy warm. We pray that everyone at the other Branches are keeping warm and cozy during our freezing, snowy, cold weather.

The University of Wisconsin Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Professor Scott Teeple was invited to perform at Carnegie Hall in New York on March 9, 2015. I remember another bandleader, Benny Goodman also made it to Carnegie Hall. What an honor! Good Luck in the future with your next Symphony you will be directing Scott. Congratulations to David and Barbara Teeple in having a very talented Music Conductor.

The Marching Band of Port Huron Northern High School went to Washington D. C. to perform at the National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade on Saturday, April 14, 2015.

The Band will perform, "Saturday Night's Alright for Fighting," by Elton John. Our very own, Gillian Bolt and Evan Kercher will be attending. Some of the parents went as chaperones.

Arianna Britz, and her father, Jason Britz have gone to Mexico with the Lutheran Church to do Missionary work. Can't wait to see their slide presentation this year. Hoping to see more improvements in the families that they go down there to help.

The Huron Physical Arts Center, Starlight's senior dance team will be going to the Dance Worlds International Dance Championships, April 24 to 28 at the Epcot Center of Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida. The Starlight's qualified for the event by performing well at the Championships in Chicago, Illinois, on March 7 and 8. The Starlight's received a bid to the invitational only Dance Worlds for their hip-hop routine and will face competition from countries that include the United Kingdom, Scotland, Japan, Slovenia, Mexico, Ireland and Australia. They will need to place within the top three among the United States teams to advance into the final day of the competition. They will only get one opportunity, however, to do their three-minute routine, which features dynamic moves and tumbles that will hopefully draw the judges favor.

The Starlight's have had tremendous success throughout the season on many different levels. The Tiny, Mini and Youth teams will compete at the U. S. Finals National Dance Championship's in Virginia Beach, Va., on May 10, 2015. To the Slossar and Blais families, we wish all the girls safety and good

sportsmanship. We hope for the best!

The parents and grandparents, Larry and Debbie Scheffler of the girls must be very proud of their daughters and grand-daughters.

Our thanks to Val Bradley and Kathi Havener for getting the Ladies Retreat together this past weekend. It was an uplifting time together with the ladies. Our theme was, "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say." Kathi welcomed all the ladies attending and then we went into the sanctuary for our Devotions which were done by Connie DeBell and Chris Kercher and Sherry Purcell had the prayer. A reading by Connie and a slide show of pictures of Christ as to the theme, by Chris Kercher. Then we had several hymns plus our theme song, "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say."

Val Bradley had a class on Card Ministry, and her sister, Denise Carter, spoke on Ministry in the Workplace. We then took a short break and Julie Fox spoke on Ministry of Community Service and Sherri Johnson spoke on Homeschooling Ministry. Then it was time for lunch. Thank you to all the Oakwood ladies who donated the food. Very tasty!! The afternoon sessions went with Kathleen Modders speaking on Ministry of Natural Remedies. We came home with samples of Peppermint, Cinnamon toothpaste or Orange flavored toothpaste. Then we had a Food Preservation Ministry by Tracy Stokes. She does a lot of canning, such as meats, vegetables and fruits, bread, etc. Another short break, with dessert. Then it was a Children's Ministry with a flannel graph

demonstration by Sherry Purcell and the story read by Connie DeBell. Last but not least, Sharon Smerer did a testimony on her 22 1/2 years of Hospice Ministry.

Well done ladies, a great job by everyone.

We would like to thank, the Oakwood Branch for hosting our retreat and we would like to thank Elders Jay Havener and Fred Brown Sr. for Jay's singing at the beginning and they both were available for our Dedication Service.

We would like to ask prayers for these families:

Bill and Helen Allison and family
Don and Sandy Dailey
Brian Dailey
Dan and Ellen Dailey and sons
Glen and Mary Dailey and family
Norris and Shirley MacDonald and family

Bob and Sue McLeod
Daryl and Marsha Dugas
Bob and Beverly Ruch
Dennis Smith

Judy Searle
Esther Hunter
Rick and Janice Henderson, from
Thunder Bay, Ont.

Graham Fishwild
Karen Loxton
Derrick and Joy Daggett and
family

Our college students and our
youth
Our shut ins

Sue Fagan went to Poland to visit her son, Tyler and daughter-in-law Jackie and her four month old grandson, Henry David Fagan over Easter. We hope you enjoyed your travels and your visit with your son's family.

I hope everyone has a healthy, safe summer. With Christ's Love and Prayers, Sharon.

Sanilac



By: Kathleen Palmer

I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord. Psalms 122:1

February was a month to remember. Snow, snow, and more snow and cold, cold and more cold! The cold weather reached down into the southern states also. Bill and Kathleen Palmer spent the month in Florida where it was cooler than normal, but had warm days also, warmer than Mich.

Gary Des Jardins, who plays the trumpet, achieved a #1 rating at his solo ensemble. He went on to the state level where he received a #2. Gary is a sophomore at Peck Schools. Great job Gary. We are proud of you. Becca Bradley received a #1 at her solo ensemble. Becca is a senior at Sandusky Schools and plays the flute. Great job Becca. We are proud of you.

The women's department had a movie night on March 4th. They watched the movie "God is not Dead." Refreshments were served. A good time was had by all.

A hand bell choir was started in March with Kerri Daniels directing.

On March 15th, Gary Des Jardins was ordained to the office of Deacon. We celebrated this special day in honor of Gary and of Mike Daniels ordination to priest with a pot luck dinner. The Lord has truly blessed us with these callings and ordinations.

Our church hosted the Regional 5th Sunday night service on March 19th. Barent Eliason gave an inspirational message and Todd Moses provided the ministry of music.

Barb Eliason had a very serious back surgery in March. It was more involved than originally thought. This has been a rougher than originally thought, surgery. She is home bound for six weeks while recovering. Barb is healing and blessed that the surgery has helped her walk without the pain she previously was experiencing.

Becca and Josh Bradley are on the Sandusky Honor roll. Good job you two.

April 2nd was our Maundy-Thursdays Candlelight Service with Barent Eliason in charge. It was a very special service for all. We had an early morning breakfast on Easter Sunday. The inspirational message was brought to us by Elder Jim McLeod. Special music was played by the Bell choir, which sounded wonderful.

Since the weather has improved greatly and daylight savings is in effect, we are now having prayer service every Wed. night Instead of twice a month.

Our women have been busy preparing for the annual Mother/Daughter banquet on May 16th at noon. We invite all of you to join us. The theme is "Anchors

Aweigh.” Come see what we have planned for you. See ya there!

A special thanks to all our congregation who give freely of their God given talents. The singing, playing of musical instruments, beautiful worship centers and so much more. It pleases the Lord when we use our talents to praise Him.

We are so blessed for our own priesthood and those who travel to feed His sheep with their inspirational messages. Priest Bob Harris, Elder Brian Daggett(Cathy), Elder Jay Havener(Kathi), Elder Gary Holmes(Marge) and Priest Mike Reeves.

Have a very blessed spring everyone and praise the Lord for our many blessings.

Regional Activities for the next quarter (and beyond)

(Please mark your calendar for these dates!!!)

July 6th – 11th Zion’s Youth Camp (Contact Shaun and Michelle Turner)

July 19th – 25th Children’s Camp (Contact Betty Lou Newman)

July 27th – August 2nd Great Lakes Regional Reunion at Wesleyan Woods Conference Center, Vassar, MI. (Contact Helene Danicki – Registrar)

September 19th – 20th CRE Kirtland Priesthood Retreat (More information to come)

September 26th Book of Mormon Day at Oakwood Restoration Branch (Details to come)

From The Editor’s Desk:

Anyone having new email addresses, phone numbers, articles or historical facts (that would be of interest to everyone), etc. please send them to me for future use. Please keep them to one page or less, as space is very limited and expensive. Thank you.

Send to:

Jim Bradley

69250 Campground Rd.

Romeo, MI 48065

Home 1-586-752-5965

Cell 1-586-876-3227 Email to: zionswatchman@sbcglobal.net **Email is highly preferred**

February 9, 2015 Dear Saints:

At our last regional priesthood meeting, we decided to continue to hold 5th Sunday services again this year. What is a 5th Sunday Service, you may ask? Four times in a calendar year there are 5 Sundays in certain months. Our area branches have volunteered to hold evening services for the region during the month when there are five Sundays. This will provided the Saints in our region the opportunity to get together outside of reunions, retreats, and camps for worship and fellowship.

Each month this year that there is 5 Sundays, one of our branches will host an evening worship for the region. Here are the dates and branches that will hold 5th Sunday services at 6:00 P.M.:

March 29th – Sanilac Branch

May 31st – Oakwood Branch

August 30th – Algonac Branch

November (probably an alternative date due to Thanksgiving Holiday) – No Branch has volunteered (How about it Garden City – maybe a 4th ?)

The regional priesthood encourage the Saints to participate. We are told in the scriptures that the Saints should gather together often. This should not only apply to our gathering often in our branches but also gathering together often as a region to strengthen our relationships within the Church and to exhibit that we are unified in our efforts to build up the Kingdom of God.

I personally hope to see a good representation from all the regional branches at all of our 5th Sunday services. I believe it will benefit us in many ways including:

- Learning what is happening in each of the branches (special events, programs, etc.)**
- We have the opportunity to hear sermons from priesthood we don't often get to hear in our own branches**
- We can become aware of needs in each of the branches (who needs to be remembered in prayer)**

Please take these opportunities to get to know your brothers and sisters a little bit better.

In Gospel Bonds,

**Elder Jay Havener
Regional Priesthood Chairman**