

"PIVOTAL CIRCUMSTANCES"

John 11

"God brings trials into our lives to test and expand our faith. He is more interested in the growth of our faith than he is in our comfort."

Three Insights:

1. There is a big difference between, "God is doing something to me", and "God is doing something in me."
2. Phillip Yancey said, "There is only one thing worse than disappointment with God, it is disappointment without God."
3. The difference maker into whether we lean into God in a tough circumstance or run from Him is the people we have in our life.

Opening Questions:

How do you respond to this statement, "God brings trials into our lives to test and expand our faith? He is more interested in the growth of our faith than in our comfort?"

Discussion Questions:

1. Read John chapter 11. What do you see about pivotal circumstances in this passage?
2. How do you feel knowing that Jesus didn't go to Lazarus in his time of need? John 11:1-6
3. In John 11:4 Jesus introduces the idea that God uses human pain for His glory. How does that sit with you?
4. In John 11:14 Jesus says that He is working "for our sake". Are you able to see that in your life, even in tough situations?
5. Respond to this statement. "When it feels like God is allowing something to happen to us, it is easy to lose faith. But when we accept that his is doing something in us, we are candidates for the grace we need in order to endure."
6. Respond to this statement, "there is only one thing worse than disappointment with God, it is disappointment without God."
7. What can you learn from Jesus about pivotal circumstances?

Daily Scripture

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| Day 1
John 11:1-4 | Day 2
John 11:5-16 | Day 3
John 11:17-27 |
| Day 4
John 11:28-37 | Day 5
John 11:38-45 | |

Opportunities to Connect, Grow, Serve & Go at WFMC this week.

Sunday, November 13

- 9:30 a.m. 4th/5th Grade Sunday School LL RED Room
- 9:30 a.m. 2nd/3rd Grade Sunday School..... LL Purple Room
- 9:30 a.m. PreK Sunday School.....LL Yellow Room
- 9:30 a.m. Kindergarten/1st Grade Sunday School..... LL Green Room
- 9:30 a.m. Youth Get Rooted (Grades 6-12)..... Fellowship Hall
- 9:30 a.m. Have the Funeral LL Rm 105
- 9:30 a.m. Love & Respect: Marriage Enrichment LL Rm 106
- 9:30 a.m. A Nation is Born ML Rm 204
- 10:45 a.m. Kidventure (Grades PreK-5)..... LL Youth Room
- 5:30 p.m. Children's Christmas Musical Practice Sanctuary

Monday, November 14

- 6:00 p.m. Financial Peace University Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. Quilting & Crafts Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, November 15

- 7:20 p.m. Spark (Grades 6-8) LL Youth Room

Wednesday, November 16

- 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast Sunnyside Cafe, Williamston
- 6:30 p.m. A Time of Prayer (Led by Pastoral Staff) Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Leadership Meeting Conference Room
- 7:20 p.m. Reverb (Grades 9-12)..... LL Youth Room

Thursday, November 17

- 12:00 p.m. Coffee Club Office Conference Room
- 7:00 p.m. Griefshare Office Conference Room

Saturday, November 19

- 10:00 a.m. Serving the Community.....WFMC

Note: For the most up-to-date calendar, view the WFMC Calendar at www.williamstonfmc.org. If your WFMC group needs to schedule use of a room, facilities or the sanctuary, download, complete and submit a Church Facilities Request form from www.williamstonfmc.org under the About Us section.

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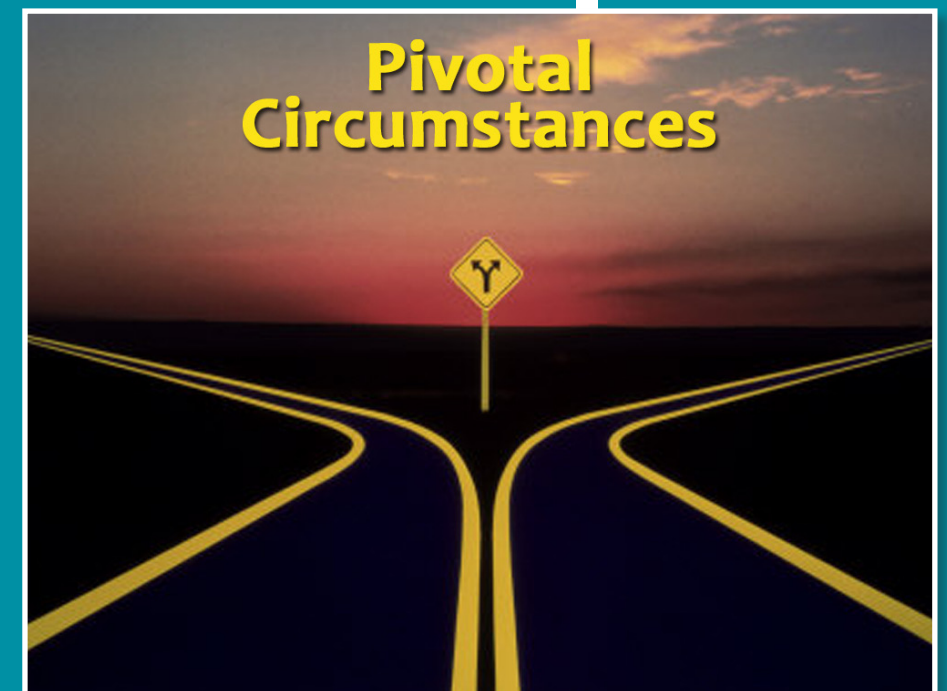


Office Hours: M–Th, 8 am–3 pm
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Send **Sunday Paper** submissions to info@williamstonfmc.org

SUNDAY PAPER

Pivotal Circumstances



You can help serve our community Saturday (11/19). We meet here at 10am!



November 13, 2011

NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES

1st TIME GUESTS

We have a gift for you at the Welcome Center in the main level Lobby.

The morning message audio is available online (no charge) tomorrow.

Service Times
9:30 a.m. Sermon Only
11:00 a.m. Traditional

2011 GENERAL FUND UPDATE

2011 Budget	\$555,424.00
Contributions to date	\$464,582.16
Expenses to date	\$480,655.38

2011 ATTENDANCE

Monthly Average	Annual Average
417	340

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

We need names of families we can bless with food at Thanksgiving. Please give the information to Pastor Dave @ 655-3668.

PASTOR APPRECIATION

Our pastors, Doug, Dave, Lori, Brad, Micah and Erin work hard to make a difference in each one of our lives. Our Leadership team would like to encourage each of you to take time to show your appreciation for our pastors within the next 2 weeks. Your individual sentiment can be expressed in so many different ways—just do what you would want people to do for you if you were the pastor.

BRING US YOUR NON-PERISHABLES

You can start bringing your non-perishable food items now! We will be accepting food items until the WFMC Charity Concert on November 20th. We will also be accepting winter clothing for our clothing giveaway at the Williamston Light Parade in December.

DIRECTORY CHANGES

Please make the following change in your 2011 WFMC Directory.

- Bret & Jenn Wakeman's address is 11150 Dawn Drive, not 1150.
- Scott Kushion's phone number is no longer valid.
- Jonathan Merkle's phone number is no longer valid.

WOMENS MOTHER'S DAY RETREAT

Join Karen McKay and other WFMC ladies for a weekend away (May 11-13) at Springhill Camps. The cost is \$115 per person and includes lodging 4 meals, a Friday night snack, meeting room for worship, zipline and horseback riding. We need \$25 For your deposit by Nov. 13th. Sign up in the lobby or see Karen McKay for details at kjbruiser@frontier.com

MARK KROOS CONCERT

Mark Kroos plays 2 guitar necks at the same time and last visited Williamston Free Methodist Church in December 2010. Mark will be at People's Church, 200 W Grand River, East Lansing on November 20 at 7pm for a FREE concert of explosive and energized guitar playing!

LAUGH YOUR WAY COMMITTEES

Peggy Weiss is looking for volunteers who would like to help on the following committees for our February Marriage seminar: refreshments, promotion, facilities, prayer, registration & childcare. If you would like to help please email peggy at weissp@gowcs.net.

BELL RINGERS

Wouldn't you love to help the Salvation Army? You can by standing at Merindorf Meats and ringing a bell! The dates to choose from are November 21, 22, 23 or December 20, 21, 22, 23 or 24. Contact the church office @ 655-3668.



CHILD MINISTRIES



Pastor Lori Dowdy—Children Ministries, lori.dowdy@williamstonfmc.org

BRING US YOUR LITTLE ONES!

Our nursery is open during both the 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services for your infants and toddlers. We also feature a Sunday School lesson in the toddler room during both services. You can feel comfortable with your precious ones just down the hall.



KIDVENTURE IS THE BEST HOUR OF THE WEEK!

Kids from 4 through 5th grade can join us every Sunday downstairs at 10:45am for games, laughs and fun biblical teaching. We begin with an open play time, followed by a large group lesson and we finish with small groups divided by age. It will be their favorite hour of the week!

TEAMKID STARTS THIS WEEK!

Come hang out with the rest of your friends after school on Tuesdays, beginning this week in the Discovery Elementary Cafeteria! TeamKID is a fun, high-energy ministry that encourages kids to know Jesus Christ and grow in a relationship with Him. All parts of TeamKID—Bible stories, Scripture memory, life application, missions, and recreation—connect to teach life lessons to kids! Want to volunteer to be a TeamKID coach? Contact Pastor Lori at 655-3668.



YOUTH MINISTRIES



Micah & Pastor Erin Valenti—Youth Ministries, micah.valenti@williamstonfmc.org

Looking for the latest youth information or a calendar of events? Check out the Youth Ministries page at www.williamstonfmc.org. There you can find the most up-to-date info, pictures and videos from some of our events.

Get Rooted is happening each Sunday morning! Both Jr. High and Sr. High will meet in the Youth Room at 9:30am and will continue to meet together throughout this curriculum.

Nov 13 Deposit due for Spring Hill 2012. Get your \$50 to Micah to reserve your spot at Spring Hill (February 24-26).

Nov 13 Spag's Sr. High meets at Spag's at 7pm. \$5 for pizza and pop!

Nov 19 Serving the Community meet at 10am at WFMC.



SR. HIGH (Grades 9-12)

Reverb - Our midweek ministry that includes hanging out with friends, food, fun videos, games skits, talking about every day issues and finding God in it all. We meet on Wednesdays at 7:20pm in the Youth Room (Lower Level).

JR. HIGH (Grades 6-8)

Spark - Our midweek ministry that includes obnoxious fun, food, videos, games, skits, hanging with friends, talking about every day issues and finding God in it all. We meet on Tuesdays at 7:20pm in the Youth Room (Lower Level).

GROWTH MINISTRIES

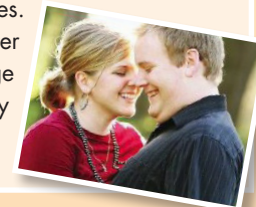
Pastor David Krueger—Serving Ministries, david.krueger@williamstonfmc.org

HAVE THE FUNERAL: GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR PAST

This class will help you come to a better understanding of the consequences of unforgiveness, the reasons we often don't forgive and the common rationalizations for refusing to forgive. The end result is understanding forgiveness as God does: not forgetting – but choosing not to remember. Beginning this morning at 9:30am in room105, this small group experience will challenge members to bury the past once and for all and to find the path to a life of forgiveness and freedom.

LAUGH YOUR WAY TO A BETTER MARRIAGE!

"Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage presents a two-day Video Seminar on February 17 & 18. This is a wildly entertaining and informative marriage event designed to bring hope and positive change to marriages. It creates better communication in marriages, helps spouses better understand each others' needs, and rekindles romance in marriage relationships. Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage appeals widely to men, even those who may typically resist marriage ministry!"



PRAYER WALL

CONCERNS

Tasha Hagelberger while she recovers from surgery at home
Griffin Gaffner with an infection in his leg, doctors are concerned the infection may be in the bone.
Mariah Mackie, 4th grader at Haslett beginning chemo and radiation
Marlene, coworker of Cammie Krueger, diagnose with Leukemia, awaiting bone marrow transplant

HOSPITALIZED

Jewell Richards, Florida

DEATHS

Amy Hinkle's grandmother

WEEKLY FAMILIES TO PRAY FOR

Helen Minch
Richard & Amanda Miner, Aidan & Addison
John & Cathy Mishoe, Jordan McOwen, Logan & Leya
Michael & Laura Moody, Anna, Caleb, & Lydia

WINDOW ON THE WORLD

Kenya: Debbie Hogeboom asks us to pray for security in Kenya. Within the last two weeks, Kenya's military has been pursuing Al Shabab insurgents into Somalia with the objective to eliminate the terrorist threat of this organization that has links with Al Qaeda. Since the Kenyan military has penetrated into Somalia, Al Shabab has threatened attacks within Kenya, and within the last week, two sites in Nairobi have had grenades set off. Kenya is not fighting the government of Somalia but an anti-Somalia militia. Please make this a matter of prayer.

Would you like to join our prayer warriors? God answers prayers and He is listening at any time you talk with Him. We have a new and exciting way to submit your prayer requests and let others know you've prayed for them. Visit our new prayer site at www.williamstonfmc.org/prayer-requests. If you would like to get the prayer requests via phone, please call the office, 655-3668.