



## Clare United Methodist Church

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To the Members & Friends of Clare United Methodist Church,

As Chair of the Staff Parish Committee, it is my joy and privilege to announce to you the appointment of Rev. John Kasper as our new pastor, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013.

This past Thursday evening, Rev. John and Debbie Kasper their son Gabriel were introduced to our Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) by our District Superintendent, Rev David Hills. Over the course of nearly two hours we spent time getting acquainted, talking about life in ministry, and learning about one another. It was a wonderful meeting, and we are all enthused about the gifts and abilities that Rev. Kasper and his family will bring to ministry here in Clare!

Rev. Kasper has previously served at Hersey (and thus knows Camp Albright well), Galien & Olive Branch, and currently serves as pastor at Dowagiac First. John and Debbie have 5 children: Gabriel, Amelia, Caleb, and Anika Kasper, and Faith & Steve Wick. The only child still living at home, Gabriel is currently a Sophomore in High School and a member of the marching band. The Kasper family are all deeply devoted to Christ and have a long history of involvement in camping ministries as campers, counselors, and camp staff. In the coming weeks a brief introductory letter from the Kasper's will be included in the (Newsletter name).

In advance of their move to Clare we hope to have the Kasper's join us for worship or some social event in the life of our congregation so you can begin getting acquainted. John will also be spending time with Dennis to get familiarized with the community and our ministries so we have as smooth a transition as possible. Following their arrival, and after having had a little time to settle in to the parsonage we will be planning a some welcome and "get acquainted" opportunities for the Kasper family. We will also be planning a Farewell and Celebration of Ministry for Rev. Dennis and JoAnn Bromley, so that we all have the opportunity to show our appreciation for their ministry with us over the past 9 years. In the midst of these changes, we trust in God's Spirit to move in our midst, in ways that will enliven and sustain us through the coming days.

We are so pleased to make this announcement to you, and know that you will enjoy meeting the Kasper's in the coming months. Please keep in your daily prayers the Kasper and Bromley families, and all of the churches that will be moving into seasons of change. While change is an inevitable part of life, as John Wesley said: "The best of all is, God is with us."

Grace, and peace:

  
Larry Wyman, Sr.  
SPRC Chairperson