

# WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

As a result of our “New Beginnings” sessions in 2014, the Douglas UCC Church Council established seven “Spiritually Active”\* groups for church members to connect and serve. Since then, church members have also become involved with other local and affiliated groups. All these groups are listed below in alphabetical order:

**\*Christian Neighbors:** Members of our congregation volunteer at the Christian Neighbors Food Pantry in Douglas. To volunteer, please contact facilitator, Ruth VandenBosch (ruthvandenbosch@yahoo.com).

**Community Pride:** Members of our church are involved with this local group, which organizes the annual Douglas Community Pride event. Please contact church member, Dale Lower (daleglower@gmail.com).

**\*Congregational Care:** Members of our congregation volunteer to provide assistance to those in need by providing meal preparation, rides, child-care and yard work. If you are in need of care or are interested in volunteering, please contact facilitator, Lynne Snyder (lynne\_snyder@hotmail.com).

**\*Creation Justice Team:** Our Creation Justice Team organizes and participates in highway cleanups, beach cleanups, recycling events, book reads, and educational seminars. If you are interested in joining, please contact the group’s facilitator, Sarah Swift (swiftadrift@gmail.com).

**\*Growing Together Spiritually:** At Douglas UCC, various workshops and spiritual classes are presented throughout the year. Classes have been held on the Enneagram, Meditation, Centering Prayer, and Metaphysical Bible Study. To stay informed of these classes, contact Pastor Sal Sapienza (pastor@douglasucc.org).

**Lakeshore Community Chorus:** Several church members are part of this group of local singers who perform concerts in the community throughout the year. For more information, contact Nancy Plantinga (createpeace4us@gmail.com).

**Out on the Lakeshore:** Members of our church volunteer at *Out on the Lakeshore*, an LGBTQ Center in Holland, which also encompasses PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) and Holland Pride. For more information, please contact director, Jeff Sorenson (info@outonthelakeshore.org).

**Saugatuck/Douglas Art Club:** Several of our church members are involved in this group of amateur and professional artists who come together to create and learn. Contact Betsy York (byork832@gmail.com).

**\*Social Justice Team:** Our Social Justice group selects areas of concentration (e.g., Gun Violence, White Privilege) and raises awareness and takes action aimed to influence local, state and national decision makers on such matters. If you are interested in joining, please contact facilitator, Bob Kenny (robertckenny@gmail.com).

**Spring Street Men:** A monthly meeting of local men for social comradery and emotional/spiritual support. If you are interest in joining, please contact facilitator, Max Brown (sibro@aol.com).

**\*Stephen Ministry:** Providing one-to-one care for people in crisis, be it from divorce, death of a loved one, job loss, medical issues, etc., Stephen Ministers commit themselves to two years of service and receive 50 hours of training. If you would like to receive care from a Stephen Minister or sign-up for the next training class, please contact our Stephen Leaders: Laurie VanDenBeldt and Paul Burdick (stephenleaderpaul@gmail.com).

**True North:** A monthly meeting of local women for social comradery and emotional/spiritual support. If you are interested in joining, please contact Kathleen Mueller (klm4words@aol.com).

**\*Tutoring Program:** Members of our congregation participate in the tutoring program at Douglas Elementary School. Please contact facilitator, Mike White, if you are interested in joining (mjwhite1953@gmail.com).

**Wishbone Pet Rescue:** Members of our church volunteer at the local animal shelter in Douglas. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Susan Smith (susan@wishbonepetrescue.org).