

Quarterly Issues Programs for WMPC 1230 AM / 106.9 FM

First Quarter

January 1, 2020 – March 31, 2020

Placed in Public File April 10, 2020

Section I: Issues

The following issues were determined to be of interest to the community this quarter:

- A. Government: Local, State, and National Issues
- B. Economy: Issues impacting the local and Michigan economy
- C. Politics: Local, State, and National topics of interest to listeners
- D. Family Outreach: Issues and activities affecting Michigan families
- E. Health: Issues impacting the health of Lapeer and Michigan citizens
- F. Community Outreach: Organizations and events available to the public
- G. Environment: Issues impacting Michigan's natural resources
- H. Education: Issues affecting Michigan's students and their families

Section II: Responsive Programs

Community Forum: January 10, 2020 @ 7:30 a.m. Duration: ~8:00 Annette Schlaud, Manager of Adult Community Education (ACE) with the Lapeer Intermediate School District, was our guest via phone today. She gave an overview of ACE in Lapeer. They offer classes for adults for high school diplomas and the GED. At their hub at the Lapeer Educational Technical Center, they offer night classes and child care is available. Winter registration will take place Monday, 01/13/20, and Tuesday, 01/14/20, with some make-up days for new students and returning students as well. Other classes include mechanical trades and certified nurse aid. Mechanical trades include electrical, plumbing, construction, and welding. The diploma and GED classes are always free for students. The mechanical trades program is now free through a grant from the State of Michigan. The CNA is also free and would normally cost about \$1,000. Regarding job placement, the Adult Education Navigator helps students find a job and puts employers together with grads. Contact info: 810 664-1124 – Office hours 8-4 at a minimum. {H. Education; D. Economy}

Community Forum: January 13, 2020 @ 7:30 a.m. Duration: ~12:00 Erika Hale, Director of the Pregnancy Center of Lapeer, was our guest via phone today. She gave a health update, stating that she is cancer free and knowing that prayer helped her in healing. Erika gave us an overview of her background: 15 years @ the Pregnancy Center of Oxford prior to coming to Lapeer. She had an abortion at 16 and a baby at 19. She started as a volunteer and is still telling her story and shedding light on the evil of abortion. She briefly discussed the impact of Abby Johnson's movie, which revealed the physical and emotional damage of abortion to the baby and mother. Erika is able to relate to the moms and dads. Her abortion story is not unique: 1 in 4 women in America have had an abortion. She understands their reasoning and provides information for women to make their decision. Her son is 25 years old now and she sees his birth as the fork in the road that lead her to Christ away from a life of abusing drugs and alcohol. Science fights abortion: THE PCOL staff do not argue from a political or faith perspective but argue from the science, explaining the development of the baby and furthering it with

an ultrasound. Seeing the heartbeat shifts perspective to mothering instincts: "This is a life, this is a child." 95% - 97% of moms who see an ultrasound choose life. Erika shared a story of life. A woman who was newly divorced came to the PCOL. She had three young children and was unexpectedly pregnant. She called three times and had decided to get an abortion. Erika was bold with her. PCOL staff did options counseling and an ultrasound. The woman chose life and to parent with joy. The PCOL is giving material aid. She is due in two months and was willing to write out her testimony. Mentors at the pregnancy center have come around her and support women throughout the process for first couple of years after birth. Contact: (810) 667-0055. They are launching a donor website: www.pcolfriends.org. People can also text 81018 to join the new digital prayer team. (D. Family Outreach; E. Health; F. Community outreach)

Community Forum: January 17, 2020 @ 7:30 a.m. Duration: ~14:54 State Representative Gary Howell (District 82) was our guest in the studio today. He discussed two big issues. First, he chairs the House Natural Resources Committee. In Metamora there is an ongoing legal battle to put in a gravel mine near a toxic Superfund dump that has been going on for 30 years. The gravel companies have lost in court so they are trying to change the law to take away the township's power to have any input. Citizen control would be taken away. Gravel mining lobbyists did a bogus study at taxpayer expense and it has been verified to be fraudulent by the Auditor General. It has gone to the Senate for a hearing, bypassing the House. It will be a 1-hour hearing, with 45 minutes for the lobbyists; "we must be vigilant." Second, there is a proposed nuclear waste dump on the shores of Lake Huron in Canada, directly across from the Thumb on the Bruce Peninsula. A new proposal wants to bring spent nuclear fuel from every nuclear plant in Canada and bury it a mile from Lake Huron. The Michigan House is urging Washington and the Canadian government to take action. Rep. Howell has a bully pulpit but in the end it's a federal issue / Canada issue. A third issue is the New Year: Governor Gretchen Whitmer tried to impose a huge gas tax last year and her State of the State Address is in two weeks. Such tax money for roads would not benefit Lapeer County. The legislature proposed \$400 million for road repairs, which was vetoed by the governor. Also, the Pure Michigan campaign is on the agenda but not being funded right now. And fourth, regarding vocational education: the Michigan Merit Curriculum is totally oriented toward university admission and not vocational students; a new bill on the House floor would allow vocational students to take Financial Literacy rather than Algebra II. Public schools need to be more oriented toward careers for many students. A fifth and final issue: should the government forgive student loans? Rep. Howell says "NO!" People take out loans and need to fulfill their obligations. This would be bad for taxpayers and unfair to people who pay back their debts. There is no free lunch. This would be unfair to honest citizens, most of whom do not have college degree. {A. Government; B. Economy; E. Health; G. Environment. C. Politics}

Community Forum: January 31, 2020 @ 7:30 a.m. Duration: ~19:00 State Representative Gary Howell (District 82) was our guest in the studio today. Greg commended Rep. Howell on his being awarded 4 medals, presented by Congressman Paul Mitchell, that Rep. Howell had earned in his Army service in Korea. Regarding the State of the State Address by Governor Gretchen Whitmer last Tuesday, his guest was Kelly Martin, the president of the village of North Branch. Governor Whitmer will give the Democrat response to President Trump's State of the Union address. The main issue continues to be Michigan roads. No Democrat or Republican was willing to introduce the .45 cent gas tax as legislation. Rep. Howell says that the State of the State address was too partisan. Her next road proposal is to borrow \$2.5 billion for roads, with no money going to rural roads as in Lapeer County. The loan would

go to Democrat counties with urban areas. No matter who buys the bonds, it's going to mean \$300 million per year in interest for the State of Michigan. On another issue, the Michigan Reconnect Program will get people into jobs that fit them; the House wants more flexibility to the Merit Curriculum. It doesn't work well for vocational trades, because it is tailored to college-bound students. The student and family should pursue their vocational route. Rep. Howell wants to replace Algebra II with a Personal Finance curriculum. Next, he discussed the ongoing battle in Metamora regarding the proposed gravel mine adjacent to Superfund site with toxic chemicals. The current bill would strip citizens of input on what happens in their locale. The people of Metamora came to Lansing for the hearings. The current trend is undemocratic and the bill favors the lobbyists. Another huge issue is the proposed nuclear waste dump in Canada a mile from Lake Huron. A resolution was introduced in the House by Rep. Howell to encourage the Feds to engage in the fight to stop the storage of nuclear waste on the Bruce Peninsula. The fight continues. Next week is the Budget Presentation by the governor and the Appropriations Committee. A possible issue is health care: the Democrats tend to racialize the needs. Americans are Americans not tribes. Rep. Howell is against budgeting based on race. {A. Government; B. Economy; C. Politics; G. Environment}

Community Forum: February 6, 2020 @ 7:30 a.m. Duration: ~9:03 Denise Wampler of Gateway Assembly of God Church in Imlay City was our guest via phone today. She gave a brief introduction to Gateway. They have been in their "new" building over 6 years. The congregation loves the community and strives to be the hands and feet of Jesus. "The Heart Loves" Food Giveaway will be held at the church on Saturday, Feb. 8th, from 10 to 1. They have two semi-trailers full of food. There is no requirement to receive food, just some paperwork to help them know where the food is going. Gateway people want to be extravagant with the giving. They have a wide variety of meat, boxed goods, bread, etc. Greg asked why is this meeting of needs is so important for the people of Gateway. "This is a mission field and our local people have needs, too," said Denise. They don't know why someone is hurting financially and it doesn't matter. It also doesn't matter if they don't attend church. Gateway is just showing love no matter what. How is "The Heart Loves" Food Giveaway financed? They took an offering in May; the people have given: no outside group is funding this. It is the heart of Gateway. It takes many volunteers to meet the needs of the people who are in need and hurting. Denise finished by giving the location of Gateway Assembly, a mile south of I-69 on Van Dyke in Imlay City. {D. Family Outreach; E. Health; F. Community Outreach}

Community Forum: March 6, 2020 @ 7:30 a.m. Duration: ~18:11 State Representative Gary Howell (District 82) was our guest in the studio today. A listener sent an e-mail, asking if we could stop the borrowing of funds for road repair by Governor Gretchen Whitmer. The response was no. The legislature cannot stop the \$3.5 billion bond debt for the next 25 years. Costs come out of the road funds. Authorization is pre-existing to the Transportation Commission appointed by the governor. The bigger picture is that \$400 million for roads was vetoed; the budget this year smaller than last year for roads. Rep. Howell wants to squeeze the budget (\$60 billion) for money for roads. New bills change the law so that the gas tax will only go to roads (6% sales tax) and not to schools, etc. This would increase road funding by \$1 billion. Will the roads get fixed with the new bond? No. The \$3.5 billion is only for state roads, not for Lapeer County except for two small segments of I-69. Rep. Howell said that we need a new formula for road commissions, cities and villages. Two texts asked about auto insurance rates: when will we get a break? Rep. Howell said that as of July 1st of the coming summer, nobody will be forced to buy unlimited health insurance as part of their auto insurance anymore. You still CAN buy it

if you choose to do so. But you can also choose lesser coverage as well, esp. if you have other health insurance. Catastrophic insurance costs will drop from \$220 to \$100 and eventually to \$0. Next, Rep. Howell addressed the prospect of a new mass transit system. This is a huge and contentious issue, a proposal for a new rapid transit tax for Oakland, Wayne, and Macomb Counties. The citizens of Northern Oakland County are skeptical. Rapid rail would cost billions upon billions. If Oxford votes no but Pontiac votes yes, all will pay for the rail system. The proposal evades the constitutional limits on mills on property tax. The Republican caucus voted no and it seems to be a dead issue now. The Detroit Urban Railway used to run from Lapeer to downtown Detroit, but building a new rail line would be massively expensive for taxpayers. Coming up is the budget season – The governor wants to increase spending and Rep. Howell does not want more taxes. {A. Government; C. Politics}

Community Forum: March 17, 2020 @ 7:30 a.m. Duration: ~21:00 Chuck and Diane Breznau of Healing of the Heart Ministries in Lapeer joined us via telephone today. “Coping with the Quarantine” was today’s theme for our discussion. They gave a background of the ministry: HOTH is a ministry of reconciliation through the power of Jesus Christ in healing relationships and bringing revival to the churches through couples and families. Right now couples and families have a lot of together time: challenges for married couples? Chuck looks at it as a blessing but we need to devote ourselves to our spouse. Dealing with anxiety? Lot of fear out there right now. Diane says that she is seeing how God is using this for good. Trusting Him, rest in Him – God knows all about this. Ask Him, What do you want me to do? Listen for His voice – music, prayer, a prayer journal. Also we can reach out to others and also start a gratefulness journal. Pray for revival – how can we share on social media? Have devotions, get outside and sing and play Christian radio and listen to uplifting music ... apps can give us access to sermons (e.g., Pastor Jim Cymbala at the Brooklyn Tabernacle). Watch FB services. People are lonely so reach out the way you can. Also pray for health care workers. What about for families? Chuck spoke to men / husbands – Men should commit to use the time available to encourage himself and his family in the Lord daily and to bring comfort (“It’s going to be okay.”) Project the calmness. Diane: as homeschoolers, here’s some practical tips. Look at it scripturally: write letters and cards to long-term care facilities; check on neighbors; keep some structure and schedule with your kids; play board games, do puzzles and crafts, do chores! Regulate screen time; teach them new skills; cook and bake; put the phone down and listen, tell stories, go to the park, have a picnic, take walks, shoot hoops, daily outside time, pray with your children, older teens can work at Kroger etc. In dealing with fear and anxiety: how to cope? Read II Cor. 1:3-4 – Ours is “the God of all comfort” so we can comfort others. “Disappointments can be God’s appointments.” Not being glib, but God will take care of us because He loves us. We are His children. We are learning how to trust Him more and more. We can rest in our loving Father. God is faithful. {D. Family Outreach}

Community Forum: March 20, 2020 @ 7:30 a.m. & 6:15 p.m. Duration: ~12:10 Dr. Neena Sharma was interviewed by Ed LeVoir and their conversation was broadcast at the above times. The topic was COVID-19. Why is this different than other outbreaks? Dr. Sharma said that it has such an unsure incubation time period: you may show no symptoms and give it to someone else. Thus practice social distancing and work from home if possible. You can be spreading it and not know it. The virus can spread --- call your doctor, don’t go to her or his office. Symptoms include cough, fever, and shortness of breath. You should fight cough and fever at home but if you cannot breathe call the ER – don’t just go! Get instructions. Numbers are increasing and many people have it and don’t have it; we need to test medical professionals. There is no treatment, so most people don’t need to be tested. This is not

a drill, this is the real thing – people need to stay at home. How is Dr. Sharma dealing with it? Follow CDC guidelines; get a phone consultation, postpone wellness visits, and consider phone and video conferencing with your doctor. The virus can survive for three hours in the air and much longer on surfaces. Dr. Sharma recommends washing with soap and water for 20 seconds: take extra time. How do we keep our minds and bodies healthy? Gyms are closed but online workout groups are available. We are safe in the yard as long as we are socially distant. Dr. Sharma says to stay active and that fresh air is good for you. “Flattening the curve” is key; we don’t want to overwhelm the healthcare system. Go to cdc.gov for the best information; call your doctor; social distancing is key; we need groceries but don’t wipe out the supplies. There is a correlation with 1918 (the Spanish Flu). They shut down in St. Louis to stop the spread whereas Philadelphia had a Navy parade and as a result flu patients overwhelmed the healthcare system. {E. Health; D. Family Outreach}

Community Forum: March 26, 2020 @ 7:30 a.m. Duration: ~15:20 Local attorney Timothy Denney was interviewed by Ed LeVoir this morning. Part 1: can the government close churches and what is the right thing to do for churches? There is a ban on gatherings of 50+ so closing churches is probably legal in the short term. Michigan courts apply the compelling interest test: is it appropriate in this case for short-term suspensions in the face of a worldwide pandemic? Michigan has a strong rule so freedom is protected. Governor Gretchen Whitmer has removed some penalties for churches who violate the rule, but the state will not punish churches if they meet for worship services. Part 2: What about the Biblical perspective? A pastor in Flint met for church and is now positive. We are to “Love your Neighbor” so don’t spread the disease by meeting at our churches. It is best to sacrifice for a few weeks. Flattening the curve: don’t overwhelm the healthcare system! This is love for our neighbors. Part 3: What about being closed for Easter? Using technology – FB, Zoom, e-mail videos – has softened the blow of the government rule. Some pastors disagree – they say we should obey God rather than man – but “Love your Neighbor” trumps this in Mr. Denney’s opinion. He misses singing with his brothers and sisters in Christ. We can listen to broadcast archived hymns etc. {A. Government; D. Family Outreach}

Community Forum: March 30, 2020 @ 7:30 a.m. Duration: ~16:00 Marine Corpsman Curtis Terry, President, K9 Companions for Heroes in Deerfield, MI, was our guest on the phone today. – He gave his personal background. He was in the Marines from 2003-13 and then was medically retired. He served on 2 tours in Iraq and was injured by an IED on second tour. Now he and wife raise German Shepherds and were selling them to first responders. So they made it a non-profit. Curtis had PTSD and he and his wife started K9 Companions for Heroes. Depression and suicides are high for veterans and first responders: 22 veteran suicides daily and 1 first responder daily. Everybody’s brain is wired differently and how they respond to trauma is unique; the dog gives support for first responders – Why does a connection with dogs become so important? Curtis was in the hospital 18 months to relearn to walk and talk etc., isolated with nothing to do. But, “a therapy dog comes in and your outlook changes and the anger etc., goes away and relieves the stress, it’s a comfort.” God gave man a best friend here on earth. Dogs can sense when things are wrong. K9CFH gets donations and their dogs come from kill shelters and foster parents, and some breeders will donate a dog from a litter, they train the dogs for emotional support. What about expenses? Vet fees, shots, licenses are paid = \$610.45 per dog. K9CFH provides four bags of dog feed, bowls, toys, bed, crate, leash – An ADA dog takes \$10,000 to \$20,000 to train, but an emotional-support dog is cheaper and is still trained. The dog can be in the community and have a vest and credentials to go to hotels, planes, and restaurants. The waiting list for an ADA dog is 2 years. A success story: a Marine corpsman was struggling with severe PTSD. He was an Afghanistan

vet and was looking for a job. Curtis and his wife provided him with a German shepherd, and getting the dog turned his life around. The dog relieved depression, gave the man a better outlook, and he found a job. Having a dog changed his whole life and he wanted to live. Contact: Call (614) 256-4744. k9companions4heroes@gmail.com and check them out on FB. {E. Health; D. Family Outreach}

All interviews were conducted by Program Director Greg Bullen unless otherwise noted.