

TEVA

Summer Newsletter 2026

Founder's Letter ~ Online Directory ~ Summer Weekly Events ~ Michigan State Parks~ Dark Sky Viewing ~ Recipes ~ Prayer
~ Meet Members Zander & Elizabeth
~ 4th of July Family Craft Activity~
~Sample Village Businesses ~

Letter from the Founder

Dear Members,

Summer has arrived in all its fullness. The gardens are growing, the fields are green, and the days invite us outdoors to enjoy the beauty of God's creation. Everywhere we look, we see reminders of His faithfulness. The same God who sends the rain and sunshine in their proper season continues to work in our lives, often in quiet ways that become evident only with time. Studies continue to show that spending time in nature

can lower stress, improve mood, reduce blood pressure, and increase feelings of gratitude. It's no wonder so many people feel closer to God while walking through His creation!

This year has been especially encouraging as we've welcomed many new members into our growing Village. It is exciting to watch God bring together people from different backgrounds. Through gatherings, classes, conversations, and simple acts of service, I have witnessed people encouraging one another, sharing knowledge, building friendships, and strengthening their respect for God and His creation.

Two other encouraging aspects of TEVA's growth is the launch of our online member directory and our partnership with Prolife Payment Processing company. You can read more about these further down in the newsletter.
May this summer be a season of growth, not only in our gardens and landscapes, but in our faith, our relationships, and our commitment to serving others. Together, may we continue building a community that reflects God's love and shares the hope of the Gospel through our farms, businesses, ministries, and everyday lives.

Thank you for being part of TEVA. Your participation, prayers, and support help make this community possible. And remember Nature is God's first classroom make sure you get outside this summer! He has so much to teach us!
Serving in the light of Christ's love,
Kathy Johnson
Founder, TEVA
The Ecclesiastical Village Association

Get To Know Our Online Directory!



My hope is that this directory becomes more than just a list of businesses, ministries, products, and services. I pray it becomes a tool for connection by helping members support one another, discover resources within our community, and strengthen the bonds that make TEVA feel like a village once again.
In a world that often feels disconnected, God calls His people into fellowship. Whether you are a lifelong Christian, exploring faith, or simply seeking a healthier, more natural

way of living, everyone needs positive, life-giving relationships. At TEVA, our desire is to build a welcoming community where people can learn from one another, encourage one another, and experience the love of Christ through authentic friendships.

The early believers shared their lives, encouraged one another, and cared for each other's needs. While our modern world looks very different, the need for genuine Christian community remains the same. Every friendship formed, every prayer offered, every service provided, and every act of kindness reflects the love of Christ to those around us. So, check out the directory! Please note that your login link is time sensitive and expires in 24 hours. If your link has expired simply text me and I will send you a new one. Kathy 517.960.6486

From Our Garden To Yours



Kathy's Natural Gardening Tip

One of the easiest ways we improve our garden soil is by using grass clippings as mulch around our plants. Instead of bagging them up, we spread a thin layer around vegetables and flowers to help retain moisture, reduce weeds, and naturally feed the soil as the clippings break down.

It's a simple way to recycle nutrients right back into the garden while reducing the need for watering during the heat of summer. Just be sure the clippings haven't been treated with herbicides and avoid piling them too thickly around plant stems.

Sometimes the best gardening solutions are the simplest ones!



We never throw away grass clippings. Instead, we use them as mulch in our garden beds. They help keep the soil cool, hold moisture during dry spells, suppress weeds, and eventually break down into organic matter that feeds the soil.
Nature has a wonderful way of recycling God's provisions. What many people consider waste can become a valuable resource in the garden.

Village Member Highlight
16 year old
Zander Morlock

Custom mobile butcher specializing in birds and rabbits. We believe in humane, low-stress processing . Custom exemption butcher, for the exclusive use of the owner.

Village Member Zander Morlock



Zander and Joel Salatin

Hi! I had an idea to start a mobile processing business and found a mentor. As I was starting, a local processing facility was sold to a halal meat group. Calls started to pour in as people, especially Christians, did not want their birds processed in this manner. I have been meeting so many Christians, homeschoolers, homesteaders, and people willing to support me. God has brought many awesome opportunities my way through my business. In fact, I had the opportunity to meet and discuss my business with Joel Salatin!

Call 517-262-4368 to reserve a spot on his busy schedule.

Village Member Highlight
Elizabeth Wiley



THE Seasonal HOMESCHOOL



My name is Elizabeth and I am a second generation homeschool mom, co-op teacher, & former early childhood education student. I have three kiddos and am currently teaching grades 2nd, 5th, and 7th. I've always dreamed of homeschooling my kids. In fact, just for fun, I started designing my own lesson plans and curriculum ideas at the age of fifteen! Talk about being a nerdy teenager! But really...I do truly think there is something so incredible about getting to craft an individualized education experience for your child and then having the opportunity to walk them through it. I suffered a stroke when I was thirty-one and by the grace of God I was able to regain the ability to continue with my passion for writing. I thank Him daily for healing me! I consider it a blessing to help others find the joy in teaching.



HOMESCHOOL PLANNER

340 PRINTABLE PAGES





This summer season, I encourage you to spend time outdoors with a heart of worship. Take a walk through the woods, sit beside a lake, watch the birds, tend a garden, or simply pause beneath a shady tree. Let creation remind you of the Creator. Let the rhythms of nature draw your attention to the One who sustains all things.



Ideas For Enjoying God's Creation This Summer!

• Visit one of Michigan's 103 State Parks for hiking, swimming, fishing, camping, or boating.

• Explore a local river or lake by kayak or paddleboard.

• Take a family nature walk and identify birds, wildflowers, or trees.

• Pack a picnic and spend the evening watching a sunset along one of Michigan's Great Lakes shorelines.

• Visit a dark-sky area for stargazing and enjoy the wonder of God's creation after sunset.

Places such as Port Crescent State Park.

The park is located just outside the town of Port Austin at the tip of Michigan's thumb, is set along 3 miles of sandy Lake Huron shoreline. The park boasts a modern campground featuring waterfront views and unique overnight lodging options, such as geodesic domes, camper cabins and cottages. The park is also home to the

Pinnebog River, trails, breathtaking sunsets and opportunities for fishing, canoeing, birding, cross-country skiing, hunting and more.



The park's low light pollution allows for clear views of the night sky, with a specific **observation platform** near **Parking Lot D** recommended for birding and astronomical viewing.

Visitors can enjoy **exceptional stargazing** and meteor shower viewing, with the area certified by the International Dark-Sky Association. For the best experience, look for the viewing platform located near Parking Lot D, which provides an elevated vantage point away from campground lights. Note that the **day-use area** and the **modern campground** (where most overnight visitors stay) are **two miles apart** with separate entrances, so plan your arrival accordingly to access the best stargazing spots.



"The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of His hands." — Psalm 19:1

1775 Port Austin Road, Port Austin, Michigan, 48467

Please note: The day-use area and campground/overnight lodging options are two miles apart, each with separate entrances.

Exciting News!



Pro-Life Payment Processing Partnership

Online donations require a payment processing company. Although TEVA is a new and relatively small association, Pro-Life Processing believed in our mission and enthusiastically approved our application to partner with them.

We are honored to partner with Pro-Life Processing, a company that donates 15% of its top-line revenue—not merely its profits—to organizations that protect the lives of unborn children and support women in need.

15% of top-line revenue is much more generous than donating 15% of profits. That means every online donation made to TEVA has an even greater impact.

In addition to supporting TEVA's mission, the payment processing itself helps fund life-saving work for mothers and their babies.

Together, we can strengthen our communities while helping protect and support both women and their precious babies.

Pro-Life Payments
saving babies with every swipe



Christian Payment Processing

At Pro-Life Payments, we're a Christian merchant service provider offering secure credit card processing software, POS systems, and payment terminals

tailored for faith-based businesses, ministries, churches, and pro-life organizations. We primarily process payments for Evangelical and Catholic merchants, but we will proudly serve any organization that shares in our commitment to protecting life.

Our 15% Promise

The best of the firstfruits of your ground you shall bring into the house of the Lord your God."

— EXODUS 23:19

15% of our gross revenue directly to pregnancy resource centers (PRCs) and sidewalk counselors across the United States — turning your everyday transactions into a movement that helps build a culture of life!



Healthy Summer Travel Snacks & Simple Meal Idea To Take With You To Michigan State Parks!

Whether you're heading to the lake, campground, or a family gathering, packing wholesome foods can help you stay energized and avoid expensive convenience foods.

Healthy Travel Snacks

• Mixed nuts and seeds

• Apples, pears, or clementines

• Dates stuffed with nuts
• Homemade trail mix (nuts, seeds, and dried fruit)
• Roasted chickpeas
• Hard-boiled eggs
• Carrot sticks with hummus
• Air-popped popcorn
• Whole-grain crackers with cheese or nut butter

These snacks provide a balance of protein, healthy fats, and fiber to keep you satisfied during your travels.



Simple Summer Meal: Garden Wraps

Ingredients:

• Whole-grain tortillas
• Hummus
• Lettuce or spinach
• Sliced cucumber
• Shredded carrots

• Bell peppers
• Tomato slices
• Optional: grilled chicken or hard-boiled eggs

Spread hummus on the tortilla, add vegetables, roll tightly, and enjoy. These wraps travel well and make an easy picnic or road-trip lunch. Inspired by dietitian-recommended travel meals that combine vegetables, whole grains, and protein.

What do these children & keys have in common?



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majestic mountains to crystal blue seas & oceans!

Nature points to the Divine Creator!

This Creator deeply loves his creation, especially the people he created. That includes YOU! The KEY to knowing his love is only found in Jesus Christ. He, too, is our Creator. Our Creator is the highest spiritual triune being that exists. Our Creator is perfect in power, wisdom, love, & holiness. Holiness means without sin.

Sin is any wrong action. Lies, cheating, stealing, immoral thoughts or actions, even pride & self-centered thoughts are sinful. So you see, we have all sinned. The consequence of our sin is everlasting death beyond earthly life. That is frightening news! But don't lose hope. Our Creator is so perfect in his love for us that he provided a way to deliver us from our sins. For while we were still sinners, he came to earth as the holy perfect man, Jesus. He took the full punishment for our sins, past, present, & future. That punishment cost Him his life! However, since he is the powerful Creator of life, he came back to life! In doing so, he broke the chains of death & sin of mankind! That is the best news you and I could ever hear!

So, right now, as you are reading this, your loving Creator offers you the Belief Key, which opens the door for you to go from spiritual death to spiritual Life. How do you take this key that opens the door to eternal life? You sincerely confess that you are a sinner who will never be good enough to stand in the presence of your perfect Creator & that you want to turn away from living a sinful life to living a life pure in the eyes of your Creator. The Key of Belief unlocks the door to Jesus, your Creator! Please take the Belief Key right now.

If you made the decision to believe in Christ, please contact us at
www.visitteva.com Facebook@VisitTEVA



Practical skills. Biblical truth.
A faith that burns bright.

TEVA Riverside Gathering at Mill Pointe Park

Each Monday morning at Mill Pointe Park in Eaton Rapids, I arrive not always knowing who will be there. I simply walk by faith, trusting that God will orchestrate each meeting.

So far, these gatherings have included Bible reading, hands-on activities, and even opportunities to pray with strangers.



Recently, these boys learned how to start fires using ferro rods. As they practiced this practical outdoor skill, we talked about how our faith also needs the right ingredients to stay strong: obedience to God's Word, a faithful prayer life, and fellowship with other believers.

"Fan into flame the gift of God..."

(2 Timothy 1:6)

Practical skills. Biblical truth. A faith that burns bright.

Please pray for God's blessing upon these meetings.

TEVA Highlighted Events Below:

You can search for other member events by logging into the directory and selecting event on the domain button.

ATTENTION our TEVA Friday Gathering for July is canceled. We will be attending Tribe Day!

Come Join us for the Day or the whole weekend!

Tribe Day: A Homestead Conference for DIY Farmers!

Dates: July 11 and 12, 2026

If you're ready to really elevate your homestead game, and to do it in the company of other serious homesteaders, you're in the right place. Spend a weekend, or just the day, with like-minded homesteading folks to learn homesteading skills, talk around the campfire, and share good food. Participate in workshops designed to help you gain self-



Join us on Mondays in Eaton Rapids



Mill Pointe
Park
Eaton Rapids



Mondays at 10:30 AM
Faith ~ Nature ~ Activities





EMPOWERING YOUR BIRTH JOURNEY

Naturally
From Pre-Pregnancy to Postpartum

DATE: 9/20/26 ~ 1 pm to 3 pm

A Healthy Lunch will be Provided
Space is limited; a $20 donation is required to secure your spot, which will be returned upon your arrival

Dr. Debbie Swena is an OBGYN and lifestyle medicine physician. She is passionate about supporting women in making healthy choices. She loves creating new recipes that are delicious while also preventing and reversing disease. In her free time, she enjoys spending time outside with her husband Mitch and two small children. She will share: **"Fueling your pregnancy - how healthy choices impact your kids and grandkids."**

Heather McDougall is a Christian, a wife of 32 years, a mom of 4, a Certified Natural Health Educator, a Holistic Birth & EOL Doula, a Dementia Caregiver, a real-food advocate, and a WAPF supporter. She will share: **"What a doula is and why it is wise to have one."**

Brittany Swafford is a Certified Breastfeeding Specialist and owner of Lotus Lactation Services. She is a mother to 3, with almost 5 years of personal breastfeeding experience and 3 years of professional experience helping mothers of all ages.
She will share: **"Breastfeeding dos and don'ts based on frequently asked questions."**

Marcie Houska has been a physical therapist since 2008. She graduated from Grand Valley State University's Physical Therapy program. She has worked in many populations, including chronic pain, sports medicine, orthopedics, vestibular, and neuro rehab. She has worked in hospital-based systems, private practices, and home care. She has recently started her own physical therapy business, Wellness Physical Therapy, PLLC, which is self-pay. **She offers home visits!** Marcie will focus on **strengthening techniques for pre- and post-pregnancy.**

Use this link or the QR Code to reserve your spot
Location: Nutrition Zone
125 N Main St Eaton Rapids, MI 48827

www.visitteva.com

Help TEVA Grow and Serve Our Community

TEVA is a nonprofit 508(c)(1)(a)ministry dedicated to connecting people to **God, nature, and one another**. As our community grows, we are working to improve the tools we use to serve, communicate, and stay connected.
Our **directory is now complete**, and we are seeking support to upgrade our website with new features, including:

- A community event calendar
- A community blog
- Event listings and updates

- Better tools for sharing resources
- Improved ways to keep members and visitors informed

Would you prayerfully consider making a donation to help support this important next step in TEVA's ministry development? And remember that we use ProLife Payment Processing who donates 15% of their gross income to saving precious babies!

Every gift matters, and every contribution is greatly appreciated.

We are also looking for volunteers to help with:

- Social media outreach
- Community events
- Outdoor classes
- Gardening
- Outdoor art classes
- Livestock care
- Fitness activities
- Food preservation
- Nature-based learning
- Other faith-centered community programs

If you have time, skills, resources, or ideas to offer, we would love to hear from you. Together, we can continue building a vibrant, connected community rooted in faith, service, and fellowship.

Serving in the light of Christ's love,

Kathy Johnson

TEVA founder

Donations can be made online by using the QR code below or by check.

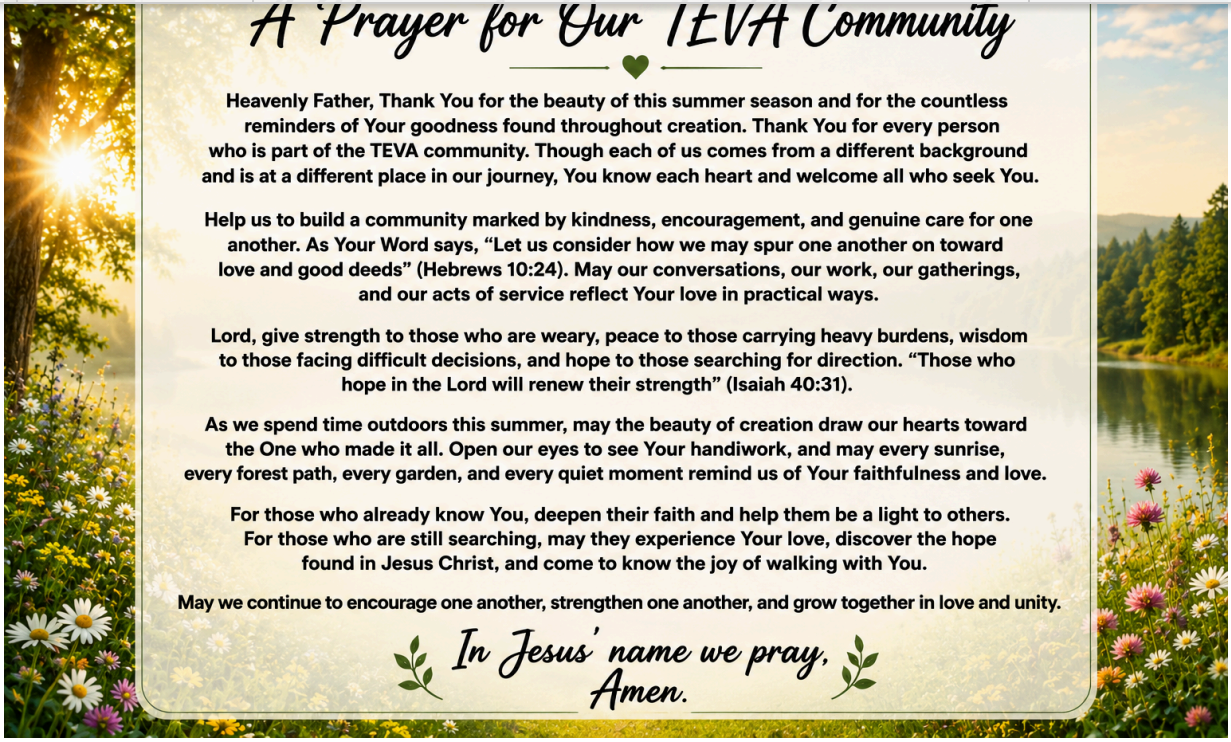
Make check out to:

TEVA and mail to:

TEVA C/O Kathy Johnson

1871 Arch Road,

Eaton Rapids, Michigan 48827



Village Members Sampling Below!

Use the online directory to view more!

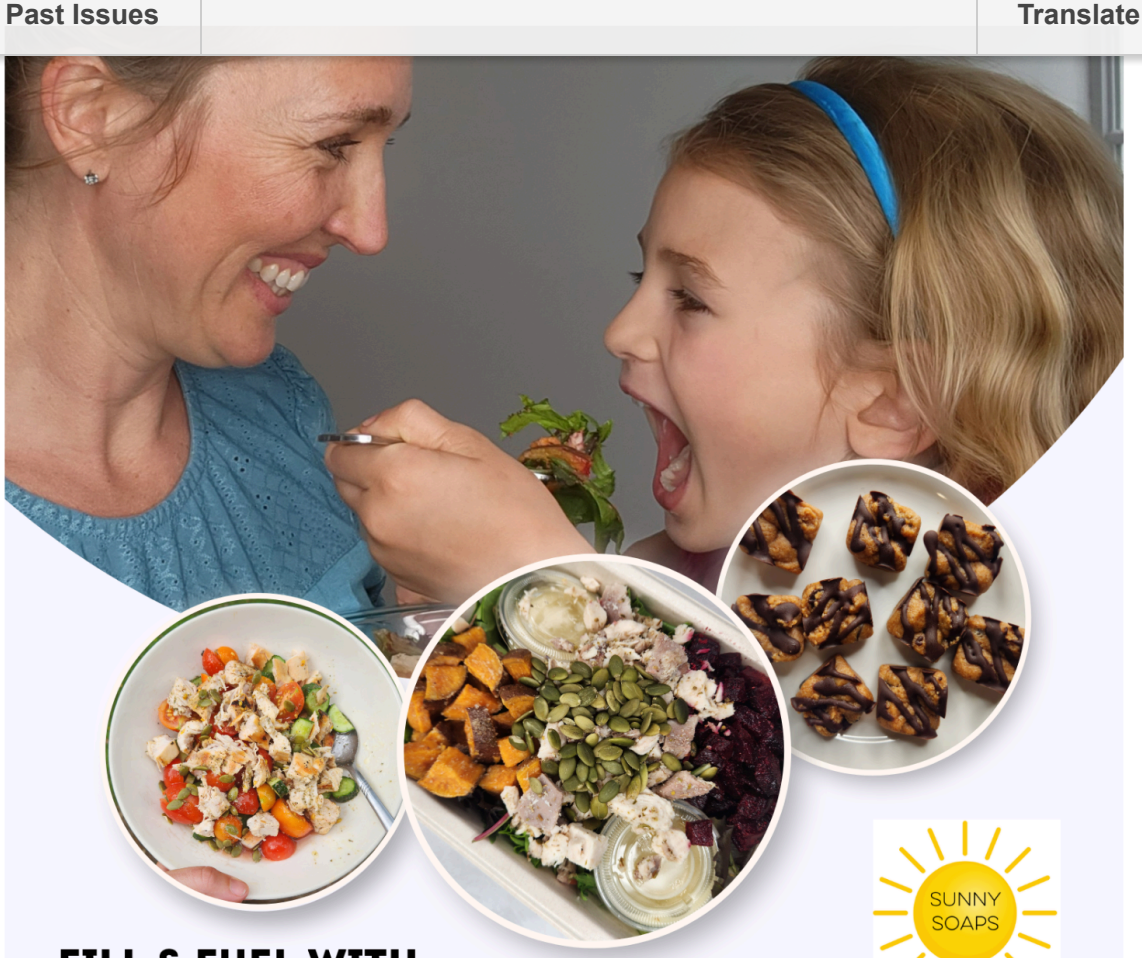
If you need help logging in contact me at info@visitteva.com

Encourages members to use their God-given talents to spread the Gospel.



**“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed,
do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”**

~ Bible: Colossians 3:17 ~



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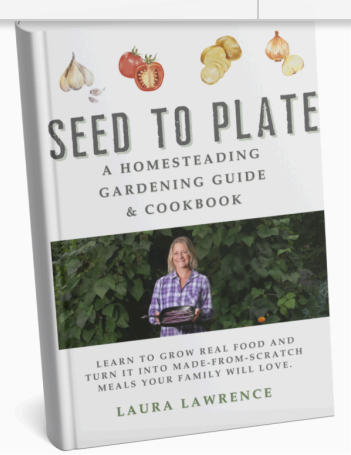
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Village Member Austin Martin

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Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward." – Psalm 127:3

HEATHER MCDOUGALL

CNA, CHBD, NATUROPATHIC EDUCATOR & FOUNDER

EVIDENCE-BASED RESEARCH
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517.522.5017

Brittany from Lotus Lactation Services Phone #517.930.0923









Click for details



Organic Gardening Course With Village Member Laura Lawrence!

See The Online Directory For More



Got 2.5 minutes? 🕒 Take TEVA's quick survey and let us know what kind of events you'd love to see! Your feedback helps us plan the best experiences for our members!

View email in browser

update your preferences or unsubscribe