

WELCOME!

Welcome to the 78th National Cherry Festival, noted as one of our nation's most loved festivals.

As we celebrate our 78th season, we recall the traditions that have made our Festival what it is today — traditions like community pride, beauty of our region, volunteerism, and the promotion of our most prized fruit — the cherry, are paramount to the National Cherry Festival. We are proud to have the largest celebration of cherries in the World.

This year is very special. The U.S. Navy Blue Angels will be our featured opening weekend act, July 3 and 4. We will welcome visitors and competitors from all over the world for this year's inaugural International Beach Volleyball World Cup event. There are new fun events along the shores of West Grand Traverse Bay, including the Boardman River Canoe Race, Dock Dog Jumping Contests, and even wakeboarding and kiteboarding. There are 150 events in all.

We hope that you will find time to enjoy all that the Festival has to offer. Don't forget to sample the loads of cherries tucked into everything imaginable during your stay — from cherry pancakes to cherry salsa, cherry pie to cherry lemonade, and cherries jubilee to cherry wine. It's all here in the Cherry Capital of the World.

And a special thanks to...

I want to extend special thanks to our corporate sponsors who financially invest in our civic celebration and make it possible to keep 85% of our events free

to our guests. To all of our volunteers who put in thousands of hours, a warm and sincere thank you. Without you we could not produce a "Top Ten" festival. To the citizens of the City of Traverse City and the Grand Traverse Region, thank you for hosting the eight-day celebration. To the Cherry Industry, we look forward to partnering with you for the many years to come, and to our National Cherry Queen, Kelly Plucinski, thank you for your tireless hours in your travels and support given to me, you are awesome!



Cherry Wishes,
George Wertman
National Cherry Festival
President 2004

Greetings from the governor

Dear Friends,

As Governor of the State of Michigan, it gives me great pleasure to invite visitors to the 78th National Cherry Festival and to Traverse City, the Cherry Capital of the World!

The National Cherry Festival is a fun-filled, fami-

ly event that celebrates the rich history of the cherry industry in the Grand Traverse region — the nation's largest exporter of tart cherries.

While you are here, we hope that you and your family will take time to explore and enjoy the scenic beauty of Northern Michigan. In

Traverse City, you will find all the amenities of a metropolitan area, packaged in a small town America atmosphere.

Enjoy your stay in the heart of cherry Country.

Jennifer M. Granholm,
Governor





Cherry Festival Week at Central United Methodist Church "Cherry Angel Headquarters"






JULY 4th
Church in the Park - 9 am
Sunset Park next to Holiday Inn.

JULY 5th & 6th
Food Drive Sponsored by Central Youth
Bring non-perishable food items to the church for our local food pantries.
Clothing Drive Sponsored by Central Youth
Bring new clothing for infants to older youth to be sent to Russian orphanage.

JULY 6th Heritage Day
Open House 9 am - 4 pm
See Traverse City's first "Downtown" Church since 1913.
Guided Tours followed by Organ Concert 9 & 10 am, 2 & 3 pm
Lunch 11 am - 2 pm
Central Café in Main (Cass Street) Entry & Fellowship Hall
Hospitality All Day
• Artists' Displays • Americorps Volunteers Sharing Cherry Samples
• Water Available • Supervised Parking • Restrooms Open M-F

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