



The Beacon

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MAY 2018

The Pastor's Page

Well...maybe April snow showers do bring May flowers. As the ice is beginning to finally melt, the daffodils are blooming, and there is new growth within our world once more.

The past few weeks the lectionary has focused on the book of Acts. The theme of many of these stories is about the growth and extension of the Christian message within our world. Peter healed a man who had been lame from birth, and the message of God's love and forgiveness in Christ was shared with his own people in the temple. Philip was led into a conversation with an Ethiopian eunuch. The result was the man being baptized and continuing in joy to carry the gospel into Africa. Again, Peter was led to enter Cornelius' home, and we see the Holy Spirit being poured out upon those who were not Jewish. With every turn the Holy Spirit was leading the church to reach out and across boundaries with the message of salvation. The man who was lame and overlooked became a sign for people to repent and be forgiven. The strange foreigner gathered a message to take home to others. Those outside of the law were gathered into circle of God's grace. To many of the Jews these were unlikely recipients of God's grace. This was a change in what they knew and understood about their faith, but there was no doubt that this was God's doing. For the recipients, they experienced a transformed life.

The work of Jesus within our world continues: the lame walk, those who sin receive forgiveness, and those who are excluded get included. But all of this is to the glory and praise of Jesus Christ and within the joy of Holy Spirit. Also, I think every time this includes a change of perspective about life in those who are saved, and a continuance of the message that does save. If good news has come a person's way, then there is the desire to share it.

All of this pushes the church to consider the role of change within the life of the church. I think too often churches find themselves stagnate or declining simply because they are unable to perceive what God wants of the church today. How can we further the message of repentance and forgiveness to the people around us? How can we cross the self-imposed boundaries to reach the people that God would have us reach? How can we celebrate in the joy of knowing that God's grace is for even me? Do we allow that grace to transform our lives that we might walk in the Spirit? (Galatians 5:25)

The season of growth is also about a season of change for both the giver and the receiver. It is about being willing to reach out and perhaps do something different. Some of the greatest moments of growth include some of the most dramatic ways of responding to the Spirit of God in a new way. Therefore, as we think about the church and desire to see our church grow, we too must be willing to try new ministries and speak to new people. Maybe we need to go down some paths that are less tried. We need to change, but that which doesn't change is the need for repentance, forgiveness, and our God who in love has given us both in Jesus Christ; who is Lord of all.

Blessings.

Pastor Russell Logston



Check out the book rack in the UMW Corner for 2018 books to read!



United Methodist Women

Mini-Retreat scheduled for May 8

Everyone is cordially invited to attend a mini-retreat day on **Tuesday, May 8 at 11:00 AM**, for a time of prayer, a program, a craft and fellowship. Darlene Logston Bonner will present a program on the **US2 Missionary work** she has done. She also has become active as an Origami Owl jewelry designer and will offer a "jewelry bar," splitting the profits to raise funds for the UMW.

After Darlene's presentation, Kay Coombs will lead a craft project - painting pine cones for table decorations. Please bring prepped pine cones to the meeting. To prepare pine cones:

- Fill a 5-gallon bucket 1/2 full of water, add 1 cup vinegar for each gallon of water (kills bugs, etc.)
- Soak pine cones 30 to 45 min. stirring every 5 to 10 minutes.
- Remove pine cones, place on towel to dry for 2-3 days or dry in a 200 Degree oven for 30 minutes.
- Spray with acrylic Mod Podge, keeps pine cones from becoming brittle.
- Bring paint brush and pine cones to meeting. Kay Coombs will provide paint

Save the Date!
May 7
Lions Dinner

Volunteers Needed
Make pies
Prepare meal
Set up hall
Clean up



Monday Morning Men's Group @ 9:00 AM

THE LECTONARY study with Pastor Russell

Tuesday Morning Group Study @ 9:30 AM

New study to be announced. Pastor Russell, leader

Thursday Bible Study @ 2:30 PM

Books of the Bible: Joshua, Judges and Ruth Pastor Tom Petersen, leader

Everyone welcome!!!

Loud Offering this Month



Pastor's Discretionary Fund

This fund is frequently emptied for emergency needs of people who are out of work, or ill, and in need of help with rent, gas, or utility payments quickly. The LOUD Offering on May 27 will be used for these purposes and greatly appreciated by the recipients. **Thanks for sharing!**



GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, May 21 - 5:00 PM "Potluck Dinner"

Please bring updates on your plans and projects.

The Governance Board also consists of 2017 teams/committee members, who were asked to serve one additional year until the new governing set up is considered "working." Please plan to attend the meeting! Your input is vital.



GOVERNANCE BOARD - April 24, 2018

PRESENT: Roger Noonan, Pastor Russell Logston, Kay Coombs, Jean Petersen, Roy Pentilla, Sandy Mallory, Jim & Gerri Sorbie, Bill Lyon

5:00 PM Potluck Dinner – Prayer Pastor Russell

District information – Jean Petersen reported on the organizational meeting held at First UMC, Gaylord on Sunday. Our district is now known as Northern Waters District, consisting of 73 churches from Lake Michigan to Lake Huron. New leaders were elected. Anita Hahn will continue as district superintendent. Tom Petersen is District Lay Servant Coordinator until July 1.

NURTURE

- **WORSHIP** – Holy Week services (Seder Meal, Good Friday) were held. Easter Sunday services totaled 86 in attendance. Annual Conference is scheduled for the first week of June in

Acme.

- **SUMMER WORSHIP** – Kay Coombs stated that housing arrangements for speakers have been made; compiling a list of places to distribute information about the Summer Speakers Series; seeking special music; emailing speakers for their sermon titles and scriptures to be used.
- **EDUCATION** – Update from Jan Lyon - working with Pat Smith and Sara Guffey on coordinating Sunday school activities; Pastor Russell is planning a confirmation class in the fall; have children participate during worship services.
- **NURSERY** – Pat Smith
- **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** – will be held June 25-29 at Empire UMC; “Super Heroes” is the theme; more details to follow.

OUTREACH

- **MISSIONS** – Church World Service Blanket Sunday \$510 in donations.
- **COMPASSIONATE CARE** – M. Johnson is at home, continue care.
- **PRAYER CHAIN** – Laurie Taghon is back from Florida and assuming these duties.

HOSPITALITY – May have Sunday school children participate in welcoming visitors during the summer.

OPERATIONS

- **PROPERTY/TRUSTEES** - Furnace repairs done; custodial needs discussed. Custodian will be notified and compensated if extra cleaning is needed after funeral services. Waste Management Company needs to be contacted regarding the dumpster (broken wheels).
- **SANCTUARY IMPROVEMENTS** –sound system proposals - Roger Noonan and Pastor. Approval to accept proposal from Marshall Music for \$3,541.99. A generous donation has been made to make this purchase possible. Jim Sorbie proposed that sanctuary audio/visual enhancements be phase II, and sound system in fellowship hall be phase III. He will research software programs for the a/v phase.

FINANCE/STEWARDSHIP – Roy Pentilla reported first quarter income and expenses. Giving is down \$4,017 as compared to 2017. Three Sunday worship services were cancelled due to weather conditions. Report will be posted on south wall bulletin board.

- **STEWARDSHIP** – Gerri Sorbie – in the planning process; stewardship article published monthly in The Beacon.

2018 1st Quarter as of March 31:		
INCOME	\$22,865	
EXPENSES	\$27,545	DEFICIT: (\$4,680)

STAFF/PASTOR-PARISH RELATIONS

- **Lay Leadership** - Lay Leader vacancy

OTHER BUSINESS:

- **ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW, MAY 19** – 16 vendors have applied to date; 2 dozen reusable generic signs (\$280) purchased
- **Highway Pickup** – this quarter – will be scheduled
- **Empire Village Yard Sale** – community outreach – checking to see if one is planned for the first weekend in June.
- **Men’s Breakfast, May 12** – need volunteers for landscape work crew afterwards

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Next scheduled meeting: May 22 at 5:00 PM with potluck dinner.

Sandy Mallory, GB Secretary



Sunday, May 13

Bishop David A Bard gives thanks for five decades of sharing God's love as a United Methodist Church.

In Dallas, Texas, on Tuesday April 23, 1968, Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke of the Methodist Church and Bishop Reuben H. Mueller of the Evangelical United Brethren Church joined hands and shared these words: "Lord of the Church, we are united in Thee, in Thy Church, and now in The United Methodist Church."

Consider that this was only a couple of weeks following the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and only a few weeks before the assassination of presidential candidate, Senator Robert F. Kennedy. It was a year of incredible civil strife within the United States, and yet that same year Apollo 8 became the first human inhabited spacecraft to orbit the moon. It was the year of Prague Spring in Czechoslovakia and the Tet Offensive in Vietnam.

Into such a world two churches came together to form The United Methodist Church, a church dedicated to sharing God's love in Jesus Christ with the world and dedicated to making a positive difference in the world in the name of Jesus Christ through ministries that brought food, healing, education, and work for justice and peace.

In the past 50 years this church has changed dramatically, but so, too, has the world in which we minister. Even as we pose significant questions about where we are going, I hope we pause today to give thanks to God for all the lives touched through the work of The United Methodist Church. These past 50 years countless thousands of persons have heard good news, hungry have been fed, wells have been dug, disasters have been responded to, hospitals and schools have been built, children have been nurtured and instructed, the elderly have been cared for, lives have been celebrated.

The world continues to need the witness of the Church to the power of God's love in Jesus Christ, and I hope you join me in giving thanks to God for the way The United Methodist Church, imperfect as we are, has and continues to be such a witness.

God's Grace, Peace, Joy, Love and Hope, *Bishop David Bard*



The United Methodist Church was officially formed on April 23, 1968 with the unification of the Methodist Church and the Evangelical Brethren Church, along with the dissolution of the Central Jurisdiction, a segregated group of African American congregations. Fifty years ago, 1,300 delegates and 10,000 visitors met in Dallas, Texas on April 23, 1968 to celebrate the formation of the newly-constituted United Methodist Church. This merger of 10.3 million Methodists and 750,000 members of the EUB Church resulted in one of the largest Protestant denominations in the world. Flags from fifty-three countries testified to the breadth of the new reality. We celebrate this anniversary throughout 2018, especially around [Heritage Sunday on May 20](#).

A Major Fundraiser to support church ministries...

Arts & Crafts

FAIR

Sat., May 19 ... 10 - 4

Empire United Methodist Church

LOCAL ARTISANS

Jewelry – Paintings – Rock Art – Wood Work
Scented Candles – Soaps & Lots, Lots More
Located in Fellowship Hall & Outside on Church Grounds

Light Lunch \$\$ Fresh Baked Goods

by United Methodist Women

Drawings for "vendor sample" gifts -- Drawings for Gift Baskets

FREE ADMISSION



SAVE THE DATE

Volunteers are needed!

*Kitchen Workers - Gift Basket Makers - Vendor Assistants
Clean Up*



MONTHLY CALENDAR



1ST Sunday of every month:

Holy Communion served – *“Take communion as often as you can. It is food for the journey.” All are welcome.*

Leelanau Area Food Pantry Collection

Donations of canned goods and packaged food are collected for the Leelanau Area Food Pantry. The pantry is always in need of volunteers. Please contact Pastor Russell or Elaine Pentilla for more information.

Men’s Breakfast – 2nd Saturday of the month at 8:30 AM

United Methodist Women meet – 2nd Tuesday of the month at 11:00 AM

Last Sunday of every Month: Loud Offering – to help a wide variety of charities and the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund (for people in need).

Our Vision Statement:
Be a Companion in Faith to All, That Jesus Christ May Live in All.



COUNTERS:

5.06	Bill Lyon	Sandy Mallory
5.13	Jan Lyon	Beth Noonan
5.20	Tom Petersen	Gerri Sorbie
5.27	Rod Meade	Kay Wilcox

USHERS/GREETERS:

5.06	Tim Egeler	Jim Dorsey
5.13	Pete Mallory	Jim Fowler
5.20	Bill Lyon	Jan Lyon
5.27	JoAnne Beare	Dan Davis

READERS:

5.06	Carole Merillat
5.13	Meredith Goodrick
5.20	Sandi Flack
5.27	Jean Petersen



Trinity Sunday

May 27

The Hands & Feet of Christ

134 Years in Empire

1884 – 2018

The Beacon is published monthly by The EMPIRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. Our mailing address is: PO Box 261 – 10050 Michigan Street, Empire, MI 49630. We can be reached at 231.326.5510 or www.empireumc@centurytel.net. Information and items for publication must be received at the church office by the 3rd Wednesday of the month.



EUMC Mission Statement

"To live out a faith in Jesus Christ through our efforts to hear others, share in God's truths, join in worship, and celebrate in the Joy of God's grace."

10:30 AM
10:45 AM
8:00 PM

Worship Service
Sunday School & Nursery
AA Group

MONDAYS

9:00-1:00
9:00 AM
10:00 AM

Church Office open
Men's Bible Study - Pastor Russell Logston
Worship Team

TUESDAYS

9:30 AM

Bible Study with Pastor Russell Logston

WEDNESDAYS

9:00-1:00
8:00 PM

Church Office open
NA Group

THURSDAYS

9:00-1:00
10:00 AM
2:30 PM
4:00 PM

Church Office open
Worship Team
Bible Study – Rev. Tom Petersen
Choir rehearsal



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