

The MESSENGER

Rev. Paula Timm-Potrykus

989-324-7930

December, 2022 Vol.12.22

Sunday Worship at 10:00 am

News from Around the Congregation

Mio United Methodist Church

1101 W. 8th St, Mio, MI 48647

989-826-5598

Office Hours – Friday 9 am – 11:15 am

CELEBRATE THE SEASON

Join us for worship and special events
during this Advent & Christmas Season.

OUR ADVENT SERIES: *"Be Born in Us Today"*

* Sunday November 27th, *FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

"Bring Blessing" with Adult Sunday School Class after worship

* Sunday December 4th, *SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

"Bring Renewal" with Adult Sunday School Class after worship

* Sunday December 11th, *THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

"Bring Guidance" with Adult Sunday School Class after worship

* Sunday December 18th, *FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

"Bring Power" with Adult Sunday School Class after worship

* Sunday December 18th - Community Christmas Caroling at 4 pm.

Invite family & friends to this fun sing-a-long

* Saturday December 24th CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP at 7pm.

Family friendly service with candlelight

* Sunday December 25th, CHRISTMAS DAY - NO SERVICE

Please enjoy time with your loved ones

* Sunday January 1st, 2023 NEW YEARS DAY 10am

Casual worship and activities in the fellowship hall

December Newsletter, 2022

Paula's perspective

Many years ago I met a song whose words have stuck with me: *"Christmas isn't Christmas, till it happens in your heart. When you feel its Christmas, is when Christmas really starts. So give your heart to Jesus, and remember when you do, then its Christmas, really Christmas, for you."*

As this special season quickly comes upon us, I am reflecting over that which makes it seem real to any of us. We all have some traditions we hold dear that help to make the Christmas spirit register into our souls: decorations, sparkling lights, favorite movies, carol singing, loved ones gathering, gift sharing, worship experiences, etc. But the truth is, the spirit of the season does not come in any of those events alone. The spirit of the season comes when it gets thru to our hearts! When the wonder of the unfathomable gift from God penetrates our world wearied spirits, we consider what the simple innocent infant brought to the world as he arrived in the humility of the barn. When that message speaks to our hearts...then we too are humbled that God would reach across the distance of the universe to come to us in this amazing expression of love. We are transformed at the wonder of it all. Then the Christmas spirit happens! Then we are bathed in the hope that we are not bound to the limits of this world, but that God holds far more wonder and mystery to delight our very souls, should we dare believe in the possibilities of a different kind of world that awaits the transformation of its heart into the light of Christ.

May your heart not wait for a dramatic seasonal event to be the trigger but may the holy spirit of the Christ child spill over you in the most simple of ways, to bring your Christmas celebration to profound depths and dizzying heights at the realization of just how much God loves YOU.

Merry Christmas in your heart!

Peace be with you,

Rev. Paula

Ad Council

- The 2023 church budget was accepted.
- Trick or Treat made 325 kids happy.
- 150 prayer bears have been given this year.
- Community Christmas Caroling at the church on Dec. 18th.



Christmas poinsettias may be purchased from Roma Galbraith. There are 10 red ones and 5 white. They are \$ each. Get your request in today!

DIRECT \$\$\$ now stands at \$128,00. Please continue to bring in your Family Fare receipts. You must use the Glens/Family Fare card and the receipt must be complete.

Prayer Concerns

All Prayer Concerns will be removed after this publication. It will be started over in January. To keep someone on the January list see Marlene and it will be on the name will be added to the new list.

Please help keep all prayer concerns up to date. Some have been on a very long time and it may not be necessary.

A REPEAT REQUEST! CAN YOU HELP?

BE A MAGICIAN! HELP SPECIAL THINGS APPEAR AT THE CHURCH!

Be a Volunteer! Help is needed to bring things to fruition at our church. It truly is not magic.

Could you be the one to take over a ministry. Yes, a ministry. You know everything that is done in our church is a way that we show our love for God and others.

Right now there are just a few ways that you could take charge and see that they get accomplished each week or month. But believe me others will come up in the near future.

Don't wait to be asked. VOLUNTEER!

1 - Become the Messenger (church newsletter) editor. It is printed each month. Church news and happenings, articles by others, clip art, filler, etc. will be available. Also help to learn the ropes will be gladly offered. See Rev. Paula or Marlene to **VOLUNTEER** for this position.

2 - Become the someone who takes care of the altar in the sanctuary. A calendar for special times will be provided with other information as needed. This can be weekly, monthly, or seasonally. Can you **VOLUNTEER?** Again see Rev. Paula or Marlene.

3 - Become the someone who knows the ins and outs of the church. A person is needed to "shadow" Marlene to learn what she does and what she knows about the church workings. This is not an everyday or even every week situation now but the more knowledge you gain the better off the church will be in the future. More than one person needs to know what makes the church tick other than worship. **VOLUNTEER!** See Rev. Paula or Marlene.

December 2022 Missions Report

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

A huge thank you to all who participated in the collection of shoebox gifts for Samaritan's purse. We collected a total of 22 filled shoeboxes. What a blessing for those who filled the boxes and the children who will receive them!

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

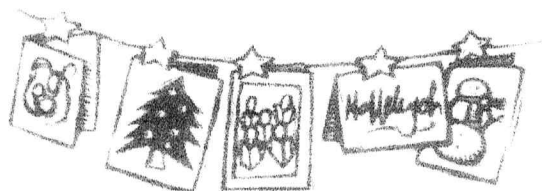
This program is also referred to as Community Giving and gives us, here at Mio UMC, the opportunity to give gifts to those in need of Christmas Blessing. By the time you get this the wish list tags should be on the tree in the Fellowship Hall and we can begin fulfilling those Christmas wishes. Thanks for your generous participation in this mission program.

Please see me or call if you have a heart for Missions and want to learn more about the opportunities that present themselves during the year.

Susan Hegel, Mission's Chairman
989-745-4467

ADVENT ENVELOPES

On the front of this newsletter is an Advent Envelope. The Mission's Team is asking that you consider making a donation towards some of the gifts and food vouchers for the families of the Adopt-a-Family program. (See above article). This contribution along with what is received in the Lent Envelopes goes directly to this need. Please put your envelope number on this envelope and the Financial Secretary will record it with your regular giving.



Merry Christmas

From

Your Staff

Rev. Paula Timm-Potrykus

Marlene Gordon Roma Galbraith

Don & Ellen Peters

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3 – Don Peters
12 – Jerry Doll
14 – Nick Kowaleski
 Rosemary Locher
15 – Hugo Burzlaff
21 – Larry Lee

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

NONE

DECEMBER LECTIONARY

Week of December 4th

Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:107, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

Week of December 11th

Isaiah 35:1-10
Luke 1:46b-55
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

Week of December 18th

Isaiah 7:10-16
Psalm 80:1-7,17-19
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:1-25

Week of December 25th

Isaiah 52:7-10
Psalm 98
Hebrews 1:1-4
John 1:1-14

PRAYER CONCERNS

Charlie Abbott
Jill Allen
Corinna Anderson
Joe Arbaugh
Irene Burger
Debbie Butler
Glen Curtis
Janet Devarmond

Taylor Duda
Tonya DeGryse
Nancy Dercher
Sherry Fletcher
Gary Frazho
Jim Fuhr
Gerald & Joslin (missionaries)
Dan Harmon
Tasha Kann
Katie & Baby
Brenda Klacking
Monica Kent
Jan Matlock
Barb McCue
Dennis & Dorothy McNamara
Jackson McIntyre
Randy May
Craig Meyers
Dale Neff
Laura Nixon
Marna Olds
Clarice Peters
Paige Reyelts
Angie Rizzardi
Don Smith
Marty Smith
Kim Stitt
Barry Sworand
Taylor & Jackson
Andrea Walz
Avery Walz Simone
People in Ukraine

SHUT-INS

At The Brook – Grayling
Marge Bryant
Jane Lord

At Fairview
Esther Socia
Irene Miller

MILITARY

All Armed Forces
Corey Brown
Whitney Kann
Marshall Socia

All names will be removed at the end of December.
A new list will begin the first of January.

2023 MIO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH LAY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ad Council Chm	Dave Gordon
Ad Council Vice-Chm	William Kusey
Ad Council Secretary	Marlene Gordon
Lay Leader	Nancy Crane
Lay Member to MAC	Bob Hegel
Alternate Lay Member to MAC	TBA
SPRC Chm	Lynn Galbraith
Church Treasurer	Kris Vaughn
Asst' Treasurer	Barb Kann
Financial Secretary	Dave Gordon
Asst' Financial Secretary	CarolLynn VanNorman
Finance Chairperson	Kris Vaughn
Worship Co-Chairperson	Roma Galbraith
Worship Co-Chairperson	Marlene Gordon
Mission Chairperson	Susan Hegel
Memorial Co-Chairperson	Kathy Dudek
Memorial Co-Chairperson	Marlene Gordon
Kitchen Co-ordinator	Dawn Hall
Member Care & Development Chm.	
United Methodist Women Pres.	Nancy Crane
United Methodist Men Pres.	William Kusey
Love INC Representative & Grief Share Facilitator	Barbara Butler

AD COUNCIL MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Glen Hall	Dennis Maier
Becky Sidebottom	Jerry Doll
Dennis Kann	

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Class of 2023

Carol-Lynn VanNorman
Dennis Maier
Sue Kowaleski

Class of 2024

Becky Sidebottom
Ellen Peters
Barbara Butler

Class of 2025

Marlene Gordon
Sharon Contner

STAFF/PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Class of 2023

Bob Hegel
Barb Kann
Becky Sidebottom

Class of 2024

Sue Kowaleski
Shar Lee
Gloria Phillips

Class of 2025

Lynn Galbraith

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Class of 2023

Dawn Hall
Dennis Kann

Class of 2024

Gary Sidebottom
Glen Hall
Don Peters

Class of 2025

Sue Kowaleski
Bob Hoffman

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Carol-Lynn VanNorman

**ALL NEW OFFICERS WILL ASSUME
DUTIES ON JANUARY 1, 2023 AND
CURRENT OFFICERS WILL
CONTINUE THEIR WORK.**

December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
10:00 AM Worship 4	5	2:00 PM Grief Share 6	9:00 AM Kitchen In- spection 7	6:00 PM Ad Council 8	9	
10:00 AM Worship 11:15 AM Trustees 11	1:00 PM UWF Lunch at Ellie's 12	13	14	15	16	
10:00 AM Worship 11:15 AM UMM 4:00 PM Community Christmas Caroling 18	9:00 AM NO UWF 19	20	1:00 PM NO Prayer Bears 21	22	23	7:00 PM Candlel Service
10:00 AM NO Wor- ship 25	26	27	28	29	30	