

The Spark



“Delight in the Lord”, from Psalm 37

Our daughter **Emily** just turned 24, but I remember all the silliness and the pure joy that we experienced when she was a toddler, and then a preschooler, and then an elementary school student. No matter how distressed I was with the challenges of daily life, she always came running to me when I came home from work. **Terri’s and my** love for our daughter was beyond words, and our joy in her was a profound gift from God.

Likewise, our relationship with him should be centered in our pure delight in just spending time with him. This was true for the Apostle Paul, as he was able to find joy even when he was imprisoned, because his joy was in Jesus alone. Psalm 37:1-2 says “Don’t worry about the wicked or envy those who do wrong. For like grass, they soon fade away. Like spring flowers, they soon wither”. In Psalm 37:4, the bible tells us to “Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart”. All of us have seen (or personally faced) some level of injustice. But what is the greatest injustice ever to occur here on Earth?

I would suggest to you that the greatest injustice in history was when Jesus was found guilty and sentenced to death. Yet, he faithfully went through it and God allowed it for His divine purposes because it was the only way that your and my sin could be paid for

and death be defeated once and for all time. When we see injustice, read where Psalm 37:3 says: “Trust in the Lord and do good. Then you will live safely in the land and prosper”. A couple of verses later, it says: “For the wicked will be destroyed, but those who trust in the Lord will possess the land”. God is not unaware of our present troubles, and He is at work with His provision and protection. We need to stop, breathe, listen, pray, and trust in the one who loves us, provides for us, and strengthens our faith. He is the one who sent his only begotten Son to face the ultimate injustice by going to the cross, because it was the only way to bridge the canyon that sin had created between us and Him.

God remains “large and in-charge”, and He is with us through all those moments in our lives, even unto that moment when we walk through the valley of the shadow of death. Our faith, our trust, and our Hope is not in people, or in things, or in ideas - but In Christ alone. Be blessed friends and have faith.

Pastor Jim Huber

**October
2022**

**First
Union
Church**

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- Wisps from Willow
- Board Hi-Lights
- College Students



A Matter of Prayer...

Here are a few quotes to help us think about the power of prayer:

"Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the one who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference." - Max Lucado

"True prayer is a way of life, not just for use in cases of emergency. Make it a habit, and when the need arises you will be in practice." - Billy Graham

"Prayer lays hold of God's plan and becomes the link between his will and its accomplishment on earth. Amazing things happen, and we are given the privilege of being the channels of the Holy Spirit's prayer." - Elisabeth Elliot

"Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?" - Corrie ten Boom

"To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing." - Martin Luther

"The prayer offered to God in the morning during your quiet time is the key that unlocks the door of the day. Any athlete knows that it is the start that ensures a good finish." - Adrian Rogers

Please pray for Cedar Cove and especially our church members that are there

Pray also for our national government, local government and for Ukraine.

Please continue to keep these people in your prayers.. .

- **Candy Perkins**, ongoing health issues and Covid & still recovering from a brain bleed
 - **Jack Hays**, recovery from surgery
- Prayer for **Del & Eunice Newville** as she struggles with kidney failure and health issues
- Pray for **Little Doug** (sent in by **Kim Dunn**) who is going through many heart troubles and surgery (Read about it on prayer chain)
 - **Maggie**, Victoria Gulder's friend who is home recovering from surgery
- Paul Kuiper's sister, **Ruth Oleneack**, who was his only living sister left, has just died of her third recurrence of cancer. Prayers for **Paul** and his wife **Ruth** and their families.
- **Mike & Gay Moxness** always send a nice informational newsletter to our church, which sends support to them. You can sign up for their email or I imagine it is on the prayer chain. I love reading them, it's all about their family and what they are doing as missionaries. And while you are at it, sign up for the prayer chain as well!!

Baby **Winnie Hovland** has doubled her weight and is now just over 5 # and feeding from a bottle. She has done so well in the NICU in Grand Rapids (where Cass & Terry Moore's daughter is a nurse, although at any given time they run 75-100 babies in the unit) , it's all amazing!

Pray for Florida and South Carolina hit by hurricanes Ian. Damage is extensive and we all know people who live or winter in these areas. **Flooding is rampant in FL and there have been many deaths also.**

How About You?

Did you ever wonder where our Zip Codes came from?

It all started in July 1963 by the postal system designed after a system used by the military to sort mail in World War II. ZIP which is short for Zone Improvement Program has since been used by insurance companies to adjust rates in areas of higher claims and by banks to set their rates.

The Zip Code is also used by businesses to target products to specific people. Did you know that our ZIP code is known to be an area that does a lot of on-line buying and catalog ordering?

The postal service has since felt that they did not get in on the profit that everyone else seems to be making from their program.

I would like to think that God's Zip Code is

49719. It would be great if businesses, insurance companies and banks recognized our Zip Code as a bunch of people who attend church on Sunday, and in general, look out for the welfare of others. We follow the laws of the land and are proud of our country with an awesome 4th of July parade and fire-works!

Mike Davis



Just Off the Highway...

Pancake Bay Provincial Park

Just off highway 17 in Ontario, Canada, about 70 or 80 miles north of Cedarville, is the Pancake Bay Provincial Park. **June and I** had the privilege of staying there, this fall, with our RV, on the way home from a fishing camp northeast of WaWa. This beautiful park is on the sandy beaches of Lake Superior. The cool clear water and the sparkling colored gravel near the shore, proves that there has to be a God to create such a beautiful variety of sights and sounds of this Great Lake.

The price is reasonable (\$50 Canadian) with electric and it is a short walk to the sandy beach which is very long and provides plenty of room to spread out away from others. We saw paddle boards, kayaks, and a few swimmers. I did get my shorts slightly wet but as I have

gotten older, cold is not as welcome to my body as it once was. We just enjoyed the view all the



The Recipe Box



Hi everyone.. it's now Fall out. I've discovered that Fall is the favorite season for a lot of people. I know it is for my daughter and she thinks we don't have enough of it. Her theory is that we go from summer to winter and winter to summer, with no spring or fall and she may be right! So to make myself feel better, I eat spaghetti. I love spaghetti of all kinds. I love Ang-gios spaghetti with marinara sauce! And this lemon spaghetti sounded so good that I'm anxious to try it.

Lemon Spaghetti

12 ounces spaghetti, cooked al-dente and drained

2 T extra-virgin olive oil

Finely grated zest of 1 lemon plus juice of 2 Lemons

6 T unsalted butter, cut in small pieces

1/2 cup grated parmesan cheese, with more for serving

Kosher salt

Coarsely ground pepper

Combine olive oil, lemon zest and juice in a large skillet. When you are about to drain the spaghetti, turn the heat on under the skillet to medium. Reserve 1 cup of the pasta cooking-water, then drain the spaghetti and transfer to the skillet. Add 3/4 cup cooking-water and toss to combine. Add the butter and cook, tossing quickly, until the sauce glazes the spaghetti, about 30 seconds; add more cooking

water 2T at a time if the spaghetti seems dry. Add the parmesan cheese and toss to melt; season with salt.

Divide the spaghetti between 4 bowls and top generously with more parmesan cheese and coarse black pepper.

Mushroom and Spinach Quesadillas

2 T butter

1 T extra-virgin olive oil

8-12 oz small button mushrooms coarsely chopped

1 bundle green onions, sliced including tops

1 4oz can green chilies, chopped

2-3 cups baby spinach, rough chopped

(Optional: small shrimp, chopped)

Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

Garlic salt to taste

Pinch cayenne pepper to taste

6...8 to10 inch flour tortillas

2 cups of a cheese that melts well

In a large, nonstick skillet, cook the mushrooms, onions and green chilies in the olive oil and butter 3-4minutes. Add the spinach and optional shrimp, cook another 3-4 minutes. Add the garlic, cayenne, S &P. Cook this down and transfer to a bowl. Wipe skillet clean, reheat, place tortilla in skillet, top with cheese, 1/2 cup mixture, another layer of cheese and top with 2nd tortilla.(can also do a foldover quesadilla) Cook first side 2-4 minutes flip over and cook other side til golden. Cut into fourths.

On the side, shredded lettuce, tomatoes, sour cream, salsa avocado etc...



Enjoy the

Sue Rye

To Your Health...

Safety First

It is important that we practice preventive measures to avoid falling at any age in the life cycle.

Falls for those over 65 occur more often causing fractures, hospitalization and disability.

Some ideas for your consideration: regularly doing strength and balance exercises will help with stability when moving around. Walking daily is an excellent way to maintain your strength and stability. Standing in front of a counter and raising up on your toes while holding on to the counter 10 times when you are in the kitchen will also help your balance.

If you are on medications, be sure to ask your doctor what side effects you may expect from your medications. You may need to take some extra precautions to prevent falling if your medication may cause dizziness or light headedness.

Standing up slowly can also help prevent dizziness as your body adjusts to changes in position.

Night lights strategically placed allow you to see where you are going when you get up at night. They are also helpful in maintaining your balance when you can see the environment around you.

Throw rugs should be removed to prevent tripping. It is all too easy to catch a toe or shoe on the edge of a throw rug causing a stumble or fall.

How is your vision? If you have not had your vision checked in the last year, it is important not only to have the proper correction in your glasses but also to check on the health of your eyes.

Look around your home for places that need to be made safer for you to move around. Items on the stairways need to be relocated. What about your floors? Now would be a good time to clear those areas where you will be walking made safe for you and others in your home.

Remember to get someone to help you when reaching for objects on higher shelves. Avoid pulling a chair over and climbing up yourself and risk a fall.

More ideas for staying safe and lowering your fall risk can be found on the following websites. Hope you remain upright and safe by following a few easy, simple suggestions.

Source:

www.nia.nih.gov/health/infographics/six-tips-help-prevent-falls ;
go.usa.gov/xN9XA

For He will give His angels charge concerning you, to guard you in all your ways.

Psalm 91:11



Betty Mitchell BSN

Christian Music...thinking outside the box

This month the hymn is *"Fill my cup, Lord"*. Both the music and lyrics were composed by Richard Blanchard around 1964 and became an immediate hit, reaching #1 Gospel Song in America for over 20 years. After developing a thought/theme or reading Scripture, he would write the words to his pieces and then to write the music 'by ear' to fit the words rather than composing the melody on paper. The music style of the Big Band era was a big influence for him as he used combinations of chords and harmonies to create the Christian message of Southern Gospel Music.

Scripture references are Psalms 23:5; 116:13; 118:12; John 4:4-15; John 6:31; and John 6:35.*

Fill my cup, Lord

*Like the woman at the well, I was seeking for things that could not satisfy.
And then I heard my Savior speaking..."Draw from MY well that never shall run dry".*

Chorus:

*Fill my cup, Lord; I lift it up Lord; come and quench this thirsting of my soul.
Bread of Heaven, feed me till I want no more.
Fill my cup, fill it up and me whole.*

*There are millions in this world who are seeking for pleasures earthly goods afford.
But none can match the wondrous treasure that I find in JESUS Christ my Lord.
Chorus.*

*So, my brother if the things that this world gives you leave hungers that won't pass away,
My blessed LORD will come and save you if you kneel to HIM and humbly pray.*

This song touches my heart deeply. I love it. But thinking outside the box, I do have to wonder... when would *'I want no more'*?

*Information for this article was gathered from Discipleship Ministries and www.richardblanchardmusic.com



“Wisps from Willow” Greg Wagner



“A preacher of a small church would occasionally call on one gentleman to pray, and every time this one particular guy would pray, he would end with the strangest

statement, “And, oh Lord, prop us up on our leaning side.”

Finally, the pastor pulled him aside, and he said, “I love the way you pray, but I don’t understand your little closing phrase.

What are you talking about – prop us up on our leaning side?”

He responded, “Well, Pastor, I’m a farmer. I live out on the farm and, you know, I live in the country.

I’ve got an old barn, and it’s been there a long time.

It’s been through a lot of weather, and a lot of storms, and a lot of bugs have eaten at it.”

He said, “I got to looking at it one day when I was riding on my tractor, and I noticed that it was leaning to one side.

So I thought to myself, oh my goodness! The barn is leaning, and it’s a matter of time before the whole thing falls.

He continued, “So, you know what I did? I went and got some pine beams, and I propped it up on its leaning side.”

He said, “It still leans, and probably always will. But I propped it up on its leaning side. And it’s not going to fall down because I propped it up on its leaning side. And I got to thinking about it. When I was on the tractor, Preacher, and was

riding in the field, I thought about the kind of year I’ve had, and some of the storms I’ve been through, and some of the people that are bugging me, and eating away at my joy and eating away at my spirit.

And I just got to thinking, you know, I’m still here! I’m still standing after all that stuff I’ve been through. The storms, and the howling winds – they couldn’t topple me.

I’m still standing by the grace of God.”

He concluded, “From time to time, I find myself leaning.

Leaning toward my old desires, leaning toward anger, leaning toward becoming bitter or hateful at the people who are bugging me, or leaning toward going back to the old habits and the old life I used to have.

And when I feel myself start to lean toward that tendency, I just remember that old barn, and I pray out loud - “Lord, thank you for propping me up on the leaning side.”



Greg Wagner

Board Highlights

First Union Church - board meeting Monday August 22, 2022

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm. Opening prayer and pledge to the flag led by **Dave St. Onge**.

Minutes of the July meeting were reviewed. No corrections were recommended. **Bolcer/Jacob** - passed unanimously.

Treasurer report (**Greg Wagner**) - Discussed the projected August 31, 2022, year-end financial report. The September board meeting will include final figures for the 2021-22 fiscal year.

The proposed budget for 2022-23 recommends a 5% reduction in budgeted revenue for a total of \$212,850 (and is a balanced budget). This seems to be a prudent move and is consistent with the recommendations of most church consultants. It is good stewardship.

Perkins/Buehler to recommend the proposed 2022-23 budget for congregational approval – passed unanimously. July treasurer report was presented and approved.

Pastor's report –

As a pastor's wife does not automatically become a member of the church, we need a motion to do so. **Bolcer/Buehler** to accept **Terri Huber** as a member - passed unanimously.

A draft of the proposed Youth Coordinator job description was shared and discussed. **Greg Wagner/ Deb St. Onge** moved to accept the proposed description, contingent upon approval by the membership at the annual meeting on August 28, 2022. Passed unanimously

The draft of the updated Security policy was distributed and discussed. description). Motion passed unanimously to approve.

Deacons & Elders: **Terry Moore** has accepted the nomination for a 4-year term and **Stan Jack** has accepted a nomination for a 2-year term (both to begin Sept 1, 2022). **Wayne Brood** has agreed to stay on the Elder board for an additional one (1) year. These names wil-

be recommended to the congregation for approval at the Annual Meeting on August 28, 2022

Del Jacob gave update on a few projects at the Manse. Reverse Osmosis system is installed and both garage door openers are now operating. Still needing to power wash the Manse (Del Newville). There was discussion of various needs for maintenance at the church (such as carpet cleaning, brightening up the hallways with LED lights, et al). No specific action taken at this point as the list of ideas is still under development.

There was discussion regarding the Annual Meeting process and sequence, etc. This was for the purpose of ensuring that we conduct the meeting in accordance to the by-laws.

Women's Committee report (**Deb St. Onge**) - updated the board on upcoming events. A meeting of this committee is planned for September and will bring more info at the next board meeting.

Christian education committee (**Marcia Perkins**) meeting tomorrow night (Aug 23). Information to be shared at next month's board meeting.

Annual Meeting is this Sunday August 28th around 11:45am. A light lunch is provided between the morning service and the meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 9:05pm.

Passed...Submitted by **Dave St. Onge**



College Students & Recent Grads

Alyssa Cloud



Alyssa graduated this spring from *Michigan State University* in three years with a Bachelors degree in Human Biology. She is taking this year to gain experience working at My Michigan Health in the Sault before attending medical school in the fall of 2023.

Alyssa Cloud
432 S Lakeside Rd
Cedarville, MI
49719

Ben Davis



Ben is currently attending Lake Superior State University. He is pursuing a degree in Computer Science
Ben also plays saxophone for the jazz and pep bands.

Ben Davis
Brady Hall Room # 105
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I'm sure the students that will be profiled here and in the months to come would appreciate hearing from home. Maybe a card or call or text to let them know you are thinking of them.

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