

The Messenger

"Church News Around the Congregation"

Mio United Methodist Church
1101 W. 8th St. Mio, MI 48647
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Rev. Michelle Forsyth
989-826-5521 or 903-5264
April, 2021 Vol. 04.21

Holy Week Events



March 28th at 9:30 am



April 2nd at 12 - Noon



April 1st at 4:00 pm



***Sunrise Service at 8:00 am
Coffee Hour after service
Easter Worship at 9:30 am
With Communion***

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. (Mark 16:6)

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Let us sing Hallelujah! Rejoice! Easter has arrived! Let us rejoice and be glad that Christ our Lord has indeed risen. Let our hearts overflow with the hope of the promise of eternal life. My brothers and sisters in Christ, the cross transforms all our suffering and pain, and the Resurrection guarantees our eternal life. The Resurrection is a joy that cannot be contained. Jesus' Resurrection is proof he overcame death once and for all. As St. Peter explains, *"God raised Him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him (Acts 2:24)."*

Regrettably, for some, the celebration of Easter day will wane, and Monday, April 5th, will be an ordinary day. Rejoicing and celebrating that our Lord, Jesus Christ was victorious over everything that keeps us in bondage to the world and ourselves will diminish. Yet, for some, that is, Christ's disciples, we will continue to rejoice and proclaim that we have a new life on this side of heaven and eternal life when God calls us home. St. Paul, in his epistle to the Romans, eloquently says, *therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life (Rom 6:4).*

In other words, death has lost all power. We don't fear death anymore because it doesn't separate us from God, end our life, or stop us from serving and praising Him. The suffering, death, and Resurrection of Christ is something we are called to live out every day of our lives. To the first disciples, Easter was a way of life.

The call to be a witness of Christ is why the Easter season lasts until Pentecost. Easter is so much more than Easter Sunday or the Easter Season. The Resurrection of Christ not only assures us of eternal life with God, the source of joy and love, but also the hope of new life here and now.

So, Easter doesn't end on Easter Sunday. We are Easter people and will continue to celebrate Easter until Pentecost Sunday. So, we will explore the good news that Christ is risen and very much alive in every aspect of our lives and our world for seven weeks. We will search for a deeper understanding of how the world is resurrected in the Spirit of Christ. However, I will be asking for your help in our journey.

There will be an insert asking you to share how you have seen and experienced the risen Christ in your own life and the world in our Sunday bulletins. By sharing our testimony, like the "witnesses" to the Resurrection of Jesus, we are proclaiming to the world we serve a risen Christ, or in the words of St. Theresa, we declare, "Christ has no body on earth but ours!

Your humble servant in Christ,

Michelle Forsyth

Two Mothers

Long time ago, so I have been told,
Two angels once met on streets paved with gold.
"By the stars in your crown," said the one to the other
"I see that on earth, you too, were a mother.

And by, the blue-tinted halo you wear
"You, too, have known sorrow and deepest despair..."
"Ah yes," she replied, "I once had a son,
A sweet little lad, full of laughter and fun."

"But tell of your child." "Oh, I knew I was blessed
From the moment I first held him close to my breast,
And my heart almost burst with the joy of that day."
"Ah, yes," said the other, "I felt the same way."

The former continued: "The first steps he took-
So eager and breathless; the sweet startled look
Which came over his face - he trusted me so."
"Ah, yes," said the other, "How well do I know"

"But soon he had grown to a tall handsome boy,
So stalwart and kind - and it gave me so much joy
To have him just walk down the street by my side"
"Ah yes," said the other mother,
"I felt the same pride."

"How often I shielded and spared him from pain
And when he for others was so cruelly slain.
When they crucified him - and they spat in his face
How gladly would I have hung there in his place!"

A moment of silence - "Oh then you are she -
The mother of Christ"; and she fell on one knee.
But the Blessed one raised her up, drawing her near,
And kissed from the cheek of the woman, a tear.

"Tell me the name of the son you love so,
That I may share with your grief and your woe."
She lifted her eyes, looking straight at the other,
"He was Judas Iscariot: I am his mother."
~Author Unknown

MY TESTIMONY by Mary May

I was in the hospital August 11, 2020 for pneumonia. Thank God I had pneumonia because I didn't know I had cancer in my abdomen and also ovarian cancer. God is with me all the time. The CAT scan showed me I had cancer in my ovaries.

The doctors drained my abdomen 3 times. The liquid was full of cancer. I had stage 4 cancer.

I'm telling you all this to show you what our God did for me.

I had 6 chemo treatments. Then I had surgery to take my ovaries out and my fallopian tube out. The doctor was surprised he didn't see any cancer.

God healed me. God heard all my friends' and family's prayers for me.

God is so good. God healed me. I am going to have 6 more chemo treatments. My surgeon said there might be small cells of cancer in me. My doctor is being careful.

I give my Lord all the credit. The Lord healed me.

PRAISE GOD!

APRIL MISSION MOMENTS

I want to paraphrase a devotion I read by Jonathan Cahn in the Book of Mysteries. He was talking about the difference between the Sea of Galilee and the dead Sea. They are both in the Promised Land and they both get their water from the Jordon River but there the similarities end. The Dead Sea only has one opening, no outlet, so the water becomes dead. The Sea of Galilee, however, is alive, freshwater filled with fish. So, the one sea only receives and never gives but the other is always giving what it receives. As we take on this new effort to give each month to a specific mission, I found this to be a profound picture for us here at Mio Church. We want to be a church that is always giving what it receives. The author says "the life that gives of what it receives, the life that bless others, that is the Sea of Galilee. It's always filled with life. But the life that only takes and doesn't give, that life becomes dead and barren...and all with the same waters. It's not what you have in this life, how much or how little, that, in the end, will matter. It's what you do with what you have."

"Live this day after the pattern of the Sea of Galilee, always receiving and always giving. Live to be a blessing in the constant flowing of His Love."

Be Blessed Friend

Our Aril mission emphasis will be for the support of missionary Randy Hildebrandt. Randy oversees the God's Country Cooperative Parish. This is in the Eastern Upper Peninsula and is comprised of seven small Methodist churches spread over 250 miles. Randy has his hands full ministering and working with this active parish where he and his family have served for 13 years. We here at Mio have supported Randy many years and have been able to send him \$500 per year. Let's bless Randy with a generous and grateful donation of support for his work in Newberry. We will send all the money we collect that is designated for Randy Hildebrandt at the end of April.

Thank you and be a living river of love.

Susan Hegel, Mission Chairman

Please write "Randy" on the envelope with your donation along with your name to receive credit for giving.



NOTICES:

*If there is an emergency or you need one-to-one pastoral care, please call Pastor Michelle at 989-903-5264 or email her at pastormichelleforsyth@gmail.com.

DIRECT \$\$\$\$

ONLY \$10,000.00 TIL THE GOAL OF \$150,000.00!!! Yes, only \$10,000.00 in Family Fare Receipts is needed to reach our goal and receive \$1,000.00 for the UMW and church. How fast can we make it? Soon and Very Soon!



It's time to clean it all out! The closet, the garage and even the attic. On Friday & Saturday, May 28th & 29th there will be a yard sale at the church. Items may be brought on the preceding Sunday or Monday, May 23rd & 24th.

Please NO electronics, large furniture, or clothing.



**SATURDAY, APRIL 17TH
8:30 AM - 5:00 PM**

See Pastor Michelle for more info.

FOOD PANTRY

We are still on hold with St. Bart's Food Pantry. The church has not reopened so therefore the Food Pantry is not open.

An announcement will be made as soon as it is open and we can bring our donations of non-perishable food to fill the box.

FAMILY CIRCUS



"That sure made me hungry when we sang
'Lasagna in the Highest'."

from *The Joyful Noiseletter*
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APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4 – Barbara Butler
8 – Ken Lantz

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

7 – Dale & Betty Baker
20 – Glen & Dawn Hall

PRAYER CONCERNS

The Abused & Hungry
Charlie Abbott
Kathy Cay
Bob Deyarmond
Roma Galbraith
Gar Keith
John Kent
Gladys & Fred Lawson
Shar Lee
Jack Locher
Rosemary Locher
David Oetting
LaNita Olsen
Rosiland Reha
Andrea Walz
Pat Wood

SHUT-INS

At The Brook – Grayling
Marge Bryant

MILITARY

All Armed Forces
Corey Brown
Whitney Kann
Lars Shied



April 11th
First Reading Psalm 133
Scripture Reading John 20:19-31
April 18th
First Reading Psalm 4
Scripture Reading Luke 24:36b-48
April 25th
First Reading Psalm 23
Scripture Reading 1 John 3:16-24
May 2nd
First Reading Psalm 22:25-31
Scripture Reading John 15:1-8
May 9th
First Reading Psalm 98
Scripture Reading John 15:9-17
May 16th
First Reading Psalm 47
Scripture Reading Luke 24:44-53
May 23rd
First Reading Acts 2:1-21
Scripture Reading
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15



April 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:30 AM Palm Sunday Worship	29 2:00 PM Grief Share	30	31 4:30 PM Lenten Bible Study	1 4:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	2 2:00 PM Good Friday Service	3
4 8:00 AM Sunrise Service 9:00 AM Coffee Hour 9:30 AM Easter Worship 10:45 AM Trustees	5 2:00 PM Grief Share	6	7	8	9	10
11 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM UMM	12 2:00 PM Grief Share 7:00 PM Ad Council	13	14 1:00 PM Prayer Bears	15	16	17 8:30 AM Women's Retreat
18 9:30 AM Worship	19 2:00 PM Grief Share	20	21	22	23	24
25 9:30 AM Worship	26 2:00 PM Grief Share 6:00 PM UMW	27	28 9:00 AM Happy Crafters	29 9:00 AM Happy Crafters	30 9:00 AM Happy Crafters	31

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Visit our Web Site at:

www.MioMethodist.org

Also check us out on Facebook

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Mio United Methodist Church Mission Statement

As believers in God, thankful for the Father's faithful provision,
The Son's loving sacrifice for our sins, and the Holy Spirit's
Enabling presence in our lives we strive to:

- Worship, serve, and obey God
- Grow closer to God
- Teach the Bible
- Share God's love with others
- Be a community of fellowship and encouragement...

So that all may hear and receive the forgiveness and friendship of God.