

Mio United Methodist Church
1101 W. 8th St. Mio, MI 48647
989-826-5598

Pastor Brenda Klacking
989-826-5521
March, 2020 Vol. 03.20

Beef Dinner

Saturday, March 21st

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

Adults \$10.00

Children 12 and under \$5.00

Lenten envelopes

Every Lent and Advent we include an offering envelope with the church newsletter. These are a reminder of our special push at these times of the year to share the blessings of Jesus Christ with others; material blessings as well as spiritual. As Jesus himself has told us, *"And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward,"* (Matthew 10:42).

These offerings will all go into the Missions fund. From there, we are able to fund the major program of providing Family Fare gift cards along with Christmas gifts.

So if the Lord moves you to share your material blessings, we make these envelopes available to give you one very good way to answer that desire to care for others. You can put your envelope in the Sunday offering, or mail it to the church inside your own mailing envelop. Please include your name and/or 2020 envelope number. Our financial secretary will also record the amount on your record of giving.

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS...

Well, here we go into spring (we hope) and as in all changes, sometimes we feel like something is missing. We should be farther along in our to-do list or our spring cleaning or our spiritual walk with God. I recently read a devotion by Sharon Jaynes about that same topic. Here are her words:

One spring, our family hosted a 10-year-old Russian foreign exchange student. Alex's English was very limited, and we depended on hand signals and facial expressions to get by. On one occasion, I was trying to get him to write a letter to his parents. I pulled out the stationery, handed him a pen, and then pointed to a picture of his mom and dad. "Why don't you write a letter to you parents?" I suggested. He had no idea what I was talking about. For 20 minutes I drew pictures and tried to get him to understand what I wanted him to do. Finally, with tears in his eyes, he looked up at me and said, "What do?" I just hugged him and put the pen and paper away.

Oftentimes I feel like our little foreign exchange student, I see beauty mingled with pain and suffering and wonder...What do? I feel close to God but not close enough, and I cry...What do? I see glimpses of God's presence, but the ache never quite goes away, and I pray...What do? I worry about the future and fret about the present and whisper...What do? Yes, there are Bible verses that help steady our feet, but the ache for something more, something different, will never completely go away this side of heaven. The Bible says we are aliens and strangers in this world in which we temporarily live. Our real citizenship is in heaven, and we're just passing through this wonderful, sometimes painful thing called life.

We were made for eternity, for glory, and as long as our feet are here on this earth, we'll experience a glory-ache that only heaven can fully satisfy. We will always feel a certain something missing that may be hard to define. Not until we see Jesus face to face will the lingering ache completely subside. I can almost hear the collective "Ahhhh" to come when we believers exhale our last earthly breath and inhale eternity for the first time. For the longest time, I felt there was something wrong with me...that I was fatally flawed because I never felt total peace. "What do" echoed in my heart as I tried to figure out my problems—why I had that unrest in my soul. But now I realize total, sustainable, uninterrupted peace will never come this side of heaven. We simply get glimpses. But glimpses come, and they go. The choir stops. The sunset fades. The rose drops its petals. The kiss ceases. Thunder quiets. The wind stills. The stars disappear. We want to live in a constant state of awe, but we can't. Our human limitations won't allow it. Our minds, our bodies, our emotions couldn't contain it...Don't get swallowed up in guilt because you're not totally satisfied—like something's missing. It is! You're not home yet. Until then, let's savor the moments when God's presence is strong and look forward to the day when there will be nothing missing at all.

With all that is going on in the United Methodist Church there may be days when we just have to say, "What do?" If we can remember that God has a peace waiting for us at the end of all this mess and at the end of our lives, we can answer "what do?" while we wait for the peace that comes with eternity as we walk together on this path called life. Blessings...

Pastor Brenda



GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help rebuild your life after losing a loved one. Our group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through the difficult days ahead.

We know it hurts, and we want to help.

When: Thursdays 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
March 5th – May 28th, 2020 (13 week series)

Where: Mio UMC (across from the school)
1101 W. 8th Street

Cost: \$15.00 (for workbook)

Contact: Barb Butler @ 989-390-6617

Being a part of a GriefShare grief recovery support group

“I’ve never been to a support group like this before. I don’t know what to expect.”

Most people quickly feel comfortable and accepted in their GriefShare group. They discover there are others who have the same kind of feelings they do and who understand the hurt they feel and the loss they have experienced. Here is an overview of the GriefShare experience:

You’ll probably feel a little nervous about going to GriefShare the first time. Those feelings go away quickly for most people, usually during the first session they attend. GriefShare is a warm, caring environment designed to help you.

You’ll discover there are people who understand your hurts, emotions, and painful experiences! When someone you love dies, it’s common to feel isolated. In GriefShare, you’ll find that you are not alone, that there are others who understand what you are going through.

You’ll learn helpful, practical information that will help you recover from the pain of grief and loss. The GriefShare DVD videos feature top experts on grief recovery subjects and case studies of people just like you, who have been through the grief experience.

You’ll have the chance to talk about your experiences. It can be very healing to tell others what you are going through. The support group sessions include a time to talk about what you’ve seen on the GriefShare videos and what is going on in your life. And while you have the opportunity to tell your story, there’s never pressure for you to do so if you don’t feel like it.

You’ll have a workbook for personal study and to write down things you’ve learned. The workbook provides opportunity for further study about the grief process and personal reflection about your grief. The weekly journaling questions help you sort through your emotions. You can tear out and carry with you the perforated “Care Cards” for words of encouragement during the lowest points of your day.

You’ll begin to gain closure in your loss. It’s sometimes hard to move on in life when you are still dealing with the grief and emptiness that happens after a loved one dies. You’ll learn how to go through a healthy season of grieving, then begin transitioning to emotional and spiritual wholeness. We call this “your journey from mourning to joy.”

You’ll become part of a “family.” GriefShare group members often tell us that they feel like their group has become a family, that they made new friends and are around people they can relate to.

You’ll discover hope for the future. While things may look bleak now, you’ll learn ways to restore your hope and rebuild your life. Many GriefShare alumni tell us the program helped them move from deep grief to peace and a sense of joy again.

Nearly all the talk lately has been about how the United Methodist Church is headed for a “split”. While this is accurate, for me and many others it is only part of the story. Maybe even a small part of a much bigger and exciting future.

What I am getting at is looking over the horizon at the contours of the new Wesleyan focused, “traditional” church, yet to be officially named. For the rest of this note, let me simply call it the NEW church. Maybe that means New Evangelical Wesleyan Methodist Church

As a small participant in this NEW thing, I am starting to become really excited. You see, the label “traditional” certainly applies to some fundamental doctrinal and Biblical authority issues. However, this NEW church intends to abandon any excess baggage and habits that do not support the central efforts of bringing the Good News of Jesus rescue of sinners and His mandate of mercy and comfort for the afflicted.

Part of the excess baggage that will be left behind is a large centralized bureaucracy that gradually lost touch and accountability with members.

Please understand that the actual rules and policies of the NEW church will not be finalized until late 2020 after a convening conference. In the meantime, I have assembled my own observations based on the stated opinions of leaders who will be central to this new formation. My observations of key characteristics to the proposed NEW church will be:

- Within the first year in the US, about 500,000 members and before 2024, between 1 and 2 million members as individual churches move away from the UMC.
- It will retain the “Episcopal” style of governance which includes a church wide book of Doctrines and Policies, and regional leaders likely called Bishops. These Bishops will be term limited, not lifetime appointed.
- Individual churches will have the option of accepting a recommended pastoral appointment from regional leadership or can initiate a search on their own from among pastors who have been admitted to, and credentialed by, the NEW church.
- Between Bishops and local churches, each group of local churches will be guided by a “Presiding Elder” who is a full time pastor at one of the local group of churches. No more full time DS.
- All Pastors, either Seminary graduate Elders or Local Licensed, will be full voting members on all matters and Licensed Pastors will be able to achieve full Elder status through a course of study path while doing ministry.
- Missions will be organized more toward local churches “partnering” with churches or organizations, either local or far away, so more specific actions are identified, and a real two-way link is formed.
- The reduced amount of central organization from NEW church structure will result in Ministry Shares at about 50% of current levels.
- The NEW church will likely become a sponsor of UMCOR which is the well run disaster relief agency currently supported only by the UMC. Since the UMC will be much smaller, UMCOR will need both groups support in the future.
- The NEW church book of Doctrines and Discipline will affirm the traditional definition of marriage as between a man and woman. Thus, same gender marriages will not be carried out by the NEW church.
- Radical hospitality in all local churches for all people will be expected. The NEW church will emphasize that God welcomes all people into fellowship. This does not mean that the behavior any person has acquired that falls short of God’s perfect plan should be accepted simply because the surrounding culture tolerates or encourages it. A God honoring fellowship cares about helping every member increase their holiness before God.
- The NEW church will have no claim or restrictions on local church property and assets. This will be a denomination of the willing, not the chained.

I believe we are on the beginning of a revival of church vitality and rededication to the Great Commission. The UMC has somehow become side tracked by social justice warriors who have misused God’s call and even distorted the Bible to fit secular causes.

Church News & Notes

Food Panty Needs

March items are canned soup and mac n' cheese.

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DIRECT DOLLAR UPDATE

We now have \$60,000 towards our next \$150,000. Good Job! Let's keep it up.

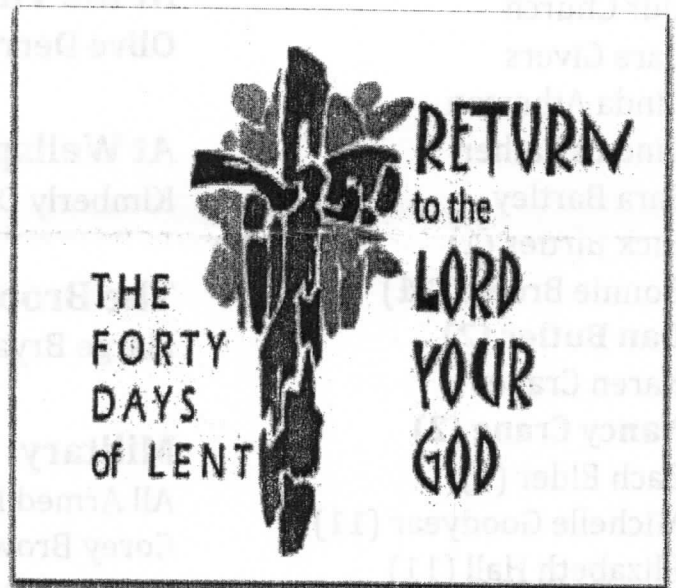


Daylight savings time begins March 8th. Don't forget to spring clocks ahead 1 hour.



SAVE THE DATE

On Saturday March 21, 2020 from 10 am until Noon, the Michigan Wesleyan Covenant Association will hold a statewide meeting in Charlotte. This will be a chance for updates and plans for the upcoming General Conference in May as well as the Michigan Annual Conference in June. (Yes it is the same day as the last Roast Beef Dinner but that's not until late afternoon.)



Holy Week Events (April 5th - March 8th)

- April 5th - Palm Sunday
- 9th - Maundy Thursday Service
w/communion
- 15th - Good Friday
- 12th - Sunrise Service, Breakfast,
Easter Worship

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

4 - Irene Miller
9 - Mike Dorn
12 - Dawn Hall
30 - Kathy Dudek

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

None

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our Church
Care Givers
Linda Atherton
Linda's Father
Sara Bartley
Rick Birtles (1)
Bonnie Brown (11)
Dan Butler (2)
Karen Crane
Nancy Crane (2)
Zach Elder (9)
Michelle Goodyear (11)
Elizabeth Hall (11)
Doug Henry (1)
Janet Kann (2)
Lynn Kann (2)
Terry Kann (2)
Gar Keith (1)
Mert Keith
Gary Klacking
Ken Lantz (1)
Dorothy Nereson (11)
Nan McLeod (10)
Dorothy McNamara (10)
Greg Miller (2)
Corbin Morse (11)

Laura Nixon (10)
Ellen Peters (1)
VeraRose Phillips (10)
Harland Schultz
Hanna Sherwood
Laurie Sikes (12)
Marshal Socia (2)
Cayci Swisher (10)
Andrea Walz

At Home

Irene Miller
Charlotte Peters

At the Villa

Olive Derrick

At Wellspring

Kimberly Derry

The Brook - Grayling

Marge Bryant

Military

All Armed Forces
Corey Brown
Harley Foust
River Grishaber
Joe Johnson
Dennis Kann III
Whitney Kann
Kalvin Kezeli
Lars Scheid

Family of

Dana Esch
Susan Esch
Anthony Barajas
Ronald Knott

Lyle Troyer
Richard "Dick" Handrich

ANSWERED PRAYERS

Dawn Hall had neck and spinal surgery, to fuse bones together with metal rods. Her surgery was successful. She has improved and lowered pain levels by 60% and most of the feeling returned in right arm.

Paul Shaw partial and then full removal of leg from sepsis. He also had treatable lung cancer. Prayers brought him through.

Nancy Crane had infection and other colon issue, also a hole in colon. Laparoscopy surgery found hole closed, infection gone and surgical procedure successful. Nancy is recovering. Lord answered prayer.

Dawn Halls friend Nan McLeod had surgery for colon cancer. Surgery went well and Nan is recovering.

March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 ■ 9:30 AM Worship ■ 10:45 AM Trustees	2	3 ■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	4	5 ■ 2:00 PM Grief Share	6	7
8 ■ 9:30 AM Worship ■ 10:45 AM UMM	9	10 ■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	11	12 ■ 2:00 PM Grief Share	13	14
15 ■ 9:30 AM Worship	16	17 ■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	18 ■ 1:00 PM Prayer Bears	19 ■ 2:00 PM Grief Share	20	21 ■ 5:00 PM UMM Beef Dinner
22 ■ 9:30 AM Worship	23 ■ 6:00 PM UMW	24 ■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	25	26 ■ 1:00 PM Worship Team ■ 2:00 PM Grief Share	27	28
29 ■ 9:30 AM Worship	30	31 ■ 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	1	2 ■ 2:00 PM Grief Share ■ 6:00 PM Girls' BB Banquet	3	4 ■ 5:00 PM UMW Chili Supper

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Phone Number 989-826-5598

Visit Our Web Site at:
www.MioUMC.org
Also check us out on Face Book
E-mail Address: Office@MioUMC.org

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.