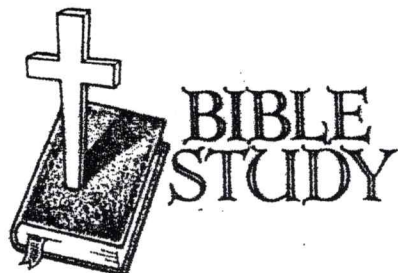


The MESSENGER

Rev. Michelle Forsyth
989-826-5521 or 989-903-5264
March, 2022 Vol. 3.22

News from Around the Congregation

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



**Wednesdays, MARCH 2nd thru APRIL 5th
At 1:00 pm**



**SERVICE
At Noon on Wednesday, March 2ND**

LENT WORSHIP SERIES

MARCH 6TH - "God Moves into the Desert"

MARCH 13TH - "God Moves Past All Obstacles"

MARCH 20TH - "God Moves Over the Fence"

MARCH 27TH - "God Moves Down the Road"

God on the Move

Recently I received a phone call from a beloved congregant who wanted to celebrate an incredible blessing she received from God. We had the most delightful and encouraging conversation. And during our joyful chat, we both agreed that we could and should do better at praising God for all the incredible blessings we receive. For it's these blessings that we experience God's presence, that God is with us, and we are never alone.

Honestly, knowing God is always with us makes the unbearable bearable, makes the heaviness of the world tolerable. You know how much I dislike clichés. There is one adage that I particularly don't care for, which is, "God will not give you more than you can handle." My beloved siblings, this is NOT scripture. There have been times in my life I had more than I could handle. So, I had to go to God and my brothers and sisters in Christ for strength, godly wisdom, encouragement, and so forth. God didn't create us to be self-sufficient. We need God and each other! We need God and one another to become more spiritually mature, transform, and become more like Christ.

The Lenten season is when we do the hard work of self-examination. We become transparent and open ourselves to God so that God can change us into the person God created us to be. In other words, the goal of Lent is for us to leave it a more vital, more vibrant person of faith than when we entered. Every year we should see the transformation God is doing in our lives and praise God for the gift of making us better people, for changing us to be more and more like Jesus. God is constantly developing, altering our life stories for our betterment. So, God is always moving with us in our lives.

This Lenten season, we will be moving with Jesus from one place and encounter to the next. We will experience Jesus moving through every part of the human experience, encountering temptation, joy, suffering, and death. I hope that we discover the life and ministry of Jesus in such a profound way that we cannot help but want to change. For God, in Christ, through the Holy Spirit, moves us to grow and change to be the gospel to others. So, may we see how God is on the move in our lives, walking with us every step as we travel the road to Easter.

As always, God has truly blessed me with the gift of traveling life with all of you. I am grateful to be on this life journey with all of you.

Your sister in Christ,

Michelle Forsyth

DIRECT \$\$\$\$ now stands at \$62,000.00.
Keep those Family Fare receipts coming! When we get to \$150,000.00 we will receive another \$1000.00.

A NEW ROOF for THE CHURCH

After much deliberation and examination, the Trustees have determined that a new roof is needed on the entire church. The one on the Fellowship Hall is at least 25 years old and the sanctuary roof even older.

With this determination bids were sought and received from 5 different roofing companies and one was selected. The bid came in at #37,000.00. With the approval of the Ad Council the trustees were advised to go ahead with the project.

The suggestion was made that a "ROOF FUND" be started immediately so that the project may begin as soon as ½ of the bid is collected. To donate to the Fund just put "Roof Fund" on your check or envelope and it will be designated for the roof project.

Please do not take from your regular weekly giving for the Roof Fund. This fund will be over and above our regular General Fund that services the needs of the Church.

Thank you for your help!



Status of the Formation of the Global Methodist Church and separation plans- March 2022- RWH

Looking back—In 2016 after a contentious 2016 General Conference, traditionalist UMC members formed the Wesleyan Covenant Association (WCA) to provide a structured voice for its members and supporters. After another contentious General Conference in 2019 intended to "solve the problem", the WCA began the process of promoting a fair and peaceful separation for traditional congregations and pastors. In 2020, key leaders in the UMC and leaders of advocacy groups from all sides developed a fair separation plan called "A Protocol of Reconciliation & Grace Through Separation". It was expected that a 2020 General Conference would adopt the associated legislation to make this available for all UMC churches, Conferences and Pastors.

The 2020 General Conference and the 2021 General Conference were both cancelled due to travel restrictions and health concerns. Thus, no action has been taken to start a separation process using the Protocol format.

Most observers believe that the 2022 planned General Conference in August 2022 will take place and the Protocol plan will be enacted. Key supporters, including several UMC Bishops, continue their endorsement.

In 2021 the new denomination was given a name and leadership was announced. As soon as September 2022, the Global Methodist Church will become a reality and within 6 months, several US Annual Conferences will move to the Global Methodist Church, giving it the needed credible and durable size to insure stability.

In Michigan, local churches will need to individually decide whether to leave or stay with the UMC. Churches will have a four year window for switching under the Protocol terms. Pastors will make their own decision independent of the decision of the church they currently serve.

Mission Report

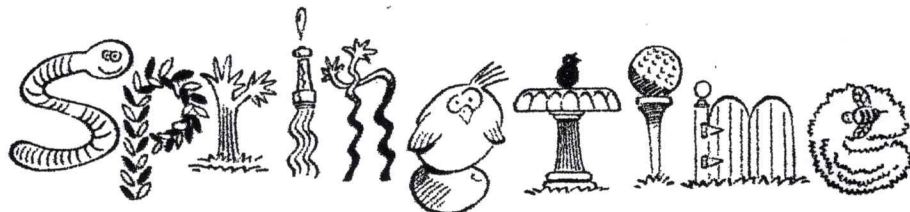
March 2022

Our mission focus for **January** was UMCOR, United Methodist Committee on Relief. Our congregation's generous response for relief for tornado victims in Kentucky and surrounding areas was \$1,560. That, my friends is a huge "Praise Be to God"!

For the month of **February** our focus is Henderson Settlement and since I'm writing this in February, I cannot report a total donation as there is still time to give to that ministry. I mentioned in my write up of Henderson Settlement last month that their work camp was of interest to me and maybe would be to some of the rest of the congregation as well. The response to the possibility of a Mio Methodist Mission trip overwhelmed me and so let me put the thought out there again for you to pray about. I'm just now collecting information concerning this possibility so look for more on this on the table in Fellowship Hall. There is a Workcamp and Volunteer information brochure available for you to look over with costs for accommodations and meals. Transportation would be on our own. Their schedule of work opportunities and times of various work camps will be on their website March 1st and that will be the deciding factor on a time to go.

March Mission Focus:

Last year we gave \$458. to help Camp Michigamme to reduce their interest free loan that made it possible to build Agape Wigwam. This building makes it possible to extend the use of the campground from just rough camping experience to include a conference space with indoor toilets and a small kitchen so groups like Emmaus walk can use the facilities. If further funds are needed to reduce the debt our contribution will be used for that and if that debt has been retired by the time our money is received, then the money will be designated to purchase tables and chairs and storage units. These are two items on the wish list for Agape Wigwam. If anyone travels to the Upper this summer, please visit this Methodist Campground and give us a firsthand report. The address is 3667 US 41, Michigamme, MI. I have heard it is a beautiful setting on Lake Michigamme.



LUNCH WITH GOD

A little boy wanted to meet God. He knew it was a long trip to where God lived, so he packed his suitcase with Twinkies and a six pack of root beer and he started his journey. When he had gone about three blocks, he met an old woman. She was sitting in the park just staring at some pigeons.

The boy sat down next to her and opened his suitcase. He was about to take a drink from his root beer when he noticed that the old lady looked hungry, so he offered her a Twinkie. She gratefully accepted it and smiled at him. Her smile was so pretty that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered her a root beer. Again, she smiled at him. The boy was delighted.

They sat there all afternoon eating and smiling, but they never said a word.

As it grew dark, the boy realized how tired he was and he got up to leave, but before he had gone more than a few steps, he turned around, ran back to the old woman, and gave her a hug. She gave him her biggest smile ever.

When the boy opened the door to his own house a short time later, his mother was surprised by the look of joy on his face. She asked him, "What did you do today that made you so happy?" He replied, "I had lunch with God." But before his mother could respond, he added, "You know what? She's got the most beautiful smile I've ever seen!"

Meanwhile, the old woman, also radiant with joy, returned to her home. Her son was stunned by the look of peace on her face and he asked, "Mother, what did you do today that made you so happy?" She replied, "I ate Twinkies in the park with God." However, before her son responded, she added, "You know, he's much younger than I expected."

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.

People come into our lives for a reason, a season, or a lifetime. Embrace all equally!

Therefore send this to people who have touched your life in a special way. Let them know how important they are. Have lunch with God.

Author Unknown

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

4 - Irene Miller
12 - Dawn Hall
16 - Scott Burzlaff
30 - Kathy Dudek
Bob Hoffman

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

NONE

PRAYER CONCERNS

Charlie & Barb Abbott
Mike Butler
Nancy Dercher
Gerald & Joslin (missionaries)
Glen & Dawn Hall
Glen Hall, Jr.
Rev. John Kasper D.S.
Mary May
Craig Meyers
Dale Neff
Marna Olds
Kim Stitt
Sativa
Taylor & Jackson
Andrea Walz
Avery Walz Simone

SHUT-INS

At The Brook - Grayling
Marge Bryant

MILITARY

All Armed Forces
Corey Brown
River Grishaber
Whitney Kann

TESTING A WORD FROM GOD

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. God Leads | Devil Pushes |
| 2. God Stills Us | Devil Rushes |
| 3. God Reassures | Devil Frightens |
| 4. God Enlightens | Devil Confuses |
| 5. God Encourages | Devil Discourages |
| 6. God Calms | Devil Agitates |
| 7. God Convicts | Devil Condemns |

- | Good | Evil |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Exalts God | Exalts a Person |
| 2. Stands the Test
Of Time | Rushes to a Fast
Conclusion |
| 3. Aligns with the
Word | Paints Outside the
Lines |
| 4. Upholds Purity | Allures to
Perversion |
| 5. Promotes Sound
Doctrine | Promotes Twisted
Beliefs |
| 6. Values Community | Advocates Isolation |
| 7. Values Humility | Values Elitism |



Turn your clocks ahead!

**Daylight Savings Time
begins March 13th**

March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:30 AM Worship ²⁷	1:00 PM UMW ²⁸	2:00 PM Grief Share ¹	12:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service 1:00 PM Lent Bible Study ²	³	⁴	⁵
9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Trustees ⁶	⁷	2:00 PM Grief Share ⁸	1:00 PM Lent Bible Study ⁹	¹⁰	9:00 AM Office Closed ¹¹	¹²
9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM UMM ¹³	¹⁴	2:00 PM Grief Share ¹⁵	1:00 PM Lent Bible Study 1:00 PM Prayer Bears ¹⁶	¹⁷	9:00 AM Office Closed ¹⁸	9:00 AM Office Open ¹⁹
9:30 AM Worship ²⁰	²¹	2:00 PM Grief Share ²²	8:00 AM Happy Crafters 1:00 PM Lent Bible Study 2:30 PM Worship Team ²³	8:00 AM Happy Crafters ²⁴	8:00 AM Happy Crafters ²⁵	²⁶
9:30 AM Worship ²⁷	1:00 PM UMW ²⁸	2:00 PM Grief Share ²⁹	1:00 PM Lent Bible Study ³⁰	³¹	¹	²

Mio United Methodist Church
1101 W. 8th St
Mio, MI 48647

Phone Number 989-826-5598

Visit our Web Site at:

www.MioMethodist.org

Also check us out on Facebook

E-mail Address: MioMethodist@gmail.com

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.