

GUNNISONVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Est. 1888

September 2009

Mark Johnson, Pastor

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Dear friends,

One of the greatest gifts God has given us is the privilege of prayer. Anytime, anywhere we have direct access to the almighty Creator of the universe! Yet, we hesitate to fully take advantage of this opportunity. Perhaps it's because we can't believe we're worthy of this honor or maybe we don't think we know how to approach the throne of grace.

The act of prayer is shrouded in mystery. Well, this fall we will do our best to dispel some myths that get in the way of a fruitful prayer life. My messages in the coming weeks will draw from a fascinating book, *How to Pray After You've Kicked the Dog* by Terry Teykl.

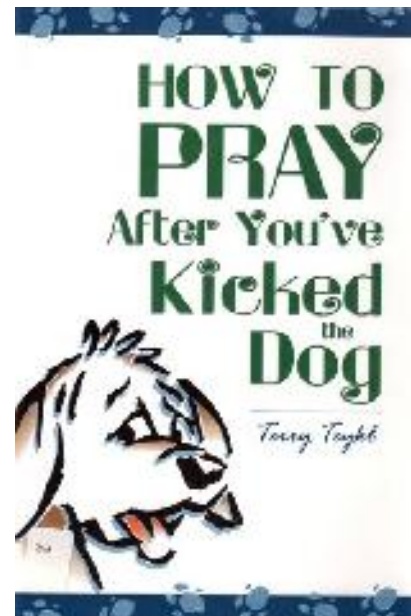
Starting on September 15th our Tuesday morning study group will begin a fourteen week discussion of this book. I would love to organize another group that would meet in the evening or on the weekend for folks who cannot meet on a weekday.

Let me know if you are interested in participating in either of these groups or if you would simply like to read this book on your own and I will order a copy if it for you.

May God bless us all as we follow the example of the disciples of Jesus who asked him, "Lord, teach us to pray."

Your pastor,

Mark



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

02 Steve Reed
05 Barbara Price
07 James Wicker
09 Alan Demmon
09 Larry Drolett
09 Bernie Zeeb
10 Phillip Chalfant
11 Kay Jolley
12 Katie Drolett
12 Stan Murray

14 Alice Clark
14 Dennis Johnson
16 Julie Reed
18 Sarah Hundt
18 Nancy Kay Drolett
19 Leif Swanson
21 Ileen Wilkinson
23 Elaine Cable
26 Thelma Hays

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

12 Marvin & Jamie Boyle
20 John & Laurel Headley
30 Sam & Darlinda VanEtten

SEPTEMBER HOSTESSES

06 Faye Hagy
13 Kathy Hundt
20 Doreen Allen
27 Joyce Barker

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Lois Baumer has provided semi-annual statements for mid-year contributions. Please check yours over and let Lois or Johanna Balzer know if you find an error. Thank you for your generous contributions that continue to keep our church financially healthy. Committees: The Finance Committee will be putting the 2010 budget together in the fall. Please give your budget figure needs to Johanna Balzer by Sunday, October 4, 2009.

SERVICE CLUB

The next meeting of the Service Club will be held on Wednesday, September 9, 2009 at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall. Our speaker will be our own, Kathryn Reed who will tell us about the three day summer camp she helps organize at MSU called, "Grandparents University". Please bring a sandwich. Everyone is welcome.

BIRTHDAY POTLUCK Sunday, September 20 at 12:30

Bring a dish to pass and table service

CHURCH SCHEDULING

For scheduling of church events, please call: Florence Hartman (517) 668-0489

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

20 September 2009 bbest@4wbi.net

2.

FROM THE KITCHEN OF Jane Casler

Sauerkraut Salad



2lbs sauerkraut in bag, drained
1 small jar of pimento
1 cup chopped celery
1 green pepper chopped
1 cup sugar
1 cup white vinegar
½ cup chopped onion
Mix all together and let stand for 24 hours

Hope you enjoy.

CONGRATULATIONS

Ten Michigan State University professors have been named University Distinguished Professors in recognition of their achievements in the classroom, laboratory and community. One of the ten was Thomas Glasmacher, Department of Physics and Astronomy; Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory. Congratulations, Thomas

CONGRATULATIONS

In the July/August edition of the Michigan History magazine, it was a delight to read an article written by Catherine Reed on the years her and her husband owned a gas station on US. 27. Very interesting and well written. Congratulations, Catherine.

COOKIES

The emergency cookie supply for coffee hour is getting low. Your cookie contribution would be welcome and will be stored in the freezer for future use. Thank You.

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

Ron and Johanna Balzer's new email address is: rjbalzer.1@gmail.com

3.

LETTER

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I do truly hope the summer is restoring, recreational and restful for you. As you plan for the fall season, please calendar and promote our Lansing District Welcoming Event for our new Superintendent.

Date: Sunday afternoon, September 13 at 3:00 PM

Place: Christ United Methodist, 517 West Jolly Road, Lansing

At three o'clock we will worship together and Bob will present his goals as he is called to be our leader. There will be a refreshment fellowship following. We hope many of your lay persons will want to attend in welcoming presence for Bob and Pigeon Hundley.

Blessings,
Chuck Grauer
Christ UMC

Welcoming our new District Superintendent!

On Sunday, September 13th, United Methodists from the Lansing District will gather at Christ United Methodist, 517 West Jolly Road, Lansing, to officially welcome our new District Superintendent, Bob Hundley and his wife, Pigeon. At three o'clock we will worship together and Bob will present his goals as he is called to be our leader. There will be a refreshment fellowship following.

FLU SHOTS

Monday, October 5, 2009 9:00AM to 1:00PM

Tuesday, October 6, 2009 9:00AM to 11:00AM

Flu shots: \$28.00

Pneumonia shots: \$40.00

Medicare: Free

Cadgewith Farms Club House. Call Billie Gladstone 346-5764

OCTOBER 11 CROP WALK

We need pledges, walkers and rockers

OCTOBER 23 BAZAAR-BAKE SALE-LUNCH

FUN AT THE WATER PARK



CALVARY

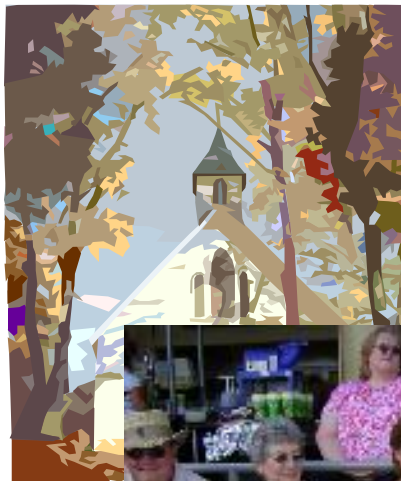
Jesus Christ, 33 of Nazareth died Friday on Mt. Calvary, also known as Golgotha, the place of the skull. Betrayed by the apostle Judas, Jesus was crucified by the Romans by order of Pontius Pilate. The causes of death were crucifixion, extreme exhaustion, severe torture, and loss of blood.

Jesus Christ, a descendant of Abraham was a member of the house of David. He was the Son of the late Joseph a carpenter of Nazareth and Mary, His devoted Mother. Jesus was born in a stable in the city of Bethlehem, Judea. He is survived by His mother Mary, His faithful Apostles, numerous disciples and many other followers.

Jesus was self educated and spent most of his adult life working as a Teacher. Jesus also occasionally worked as a Medical Doctor and it is reported that he healed many patients. Up until the time of his death, Jesus was teaching and sharing the Good News, healing the sick, touching the lonely, feeding the hungry and helping the poor. Jesus was most noted for telling parables about His Father's Kingdom and performing miracles, such as feeding over 5,000 people with only five loaves of bread and two fish, and healing a man who was born blind. On the day before His death, He held a Last Supper celebrating the Passover Feast, at which He foretold His death. The body was quickly buried in a stone grave, which was donated by Joseph of Arimathea, a loyal friend of the family. By order of Pontius Pilate a boulder was rolled in front of the tomb. Roman soldiers were put on guard.

In lieu of flowers the family has requested that every one try to live as Jesus did.
Donations may be sent to anyone in need.

Submitted by Beri Wolford





September's Sunday School Update

After three months of recycling past Sunday school materials and being creative with the lessons and the crafts we are back to our Live Big curriculum.

The September B.I.G. Theme

God Created the World

September's B.I.G. Idea

We believe that God is the Creator of the whole world.

September's Bible Verse

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. Genesis 1:31

Weekly Lesson:

September 6: God Made the Earth – Genesis 1:1-10; John 1:1-2

September 13: God Made Plants and Animals – Genesis 1:11-25

September 20: We Are Made in God's Image - Genesis 1:26-31

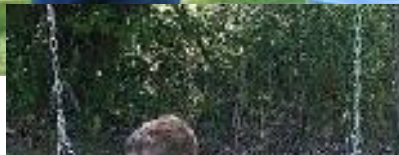
September 27: God Rested – Genesis 2:1-4

October Outing- The Sunday School will again travel to Genesee County's Crossroad Village and Huckleberry Railroad in October this year (exact date yet to be determined). We welcome everyone to come with us (adults have as much fun as the kids). The group had a wonderful time last year and believes you would also. The village and the train are handicap accessible and very easy to get around. Watch for more details or ask Ande and Kathryn.



PLAYSET DEDICATION

The children's play set was dedicated on Sunday, July 12 after the outdoor church service. Sarah Hundt presented the play set to the children of Gunnisonville Church and Ursula Glasmacher accepted the gift on behalf of all the children. Pastor Mark led the dedication and offered a blessing to close the short ceremony. The play set was Sarah's Girl Scout Gold Award Project and she is extremely thankful for all those who helped and those who made donations to make this play set possible.



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FUN DAY





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JULY AND AUGUST BIRTHDAY DINNERS



JULY

Lyle Sample, Ross Hill, Jerry Taylor,
Phyllis Murray, Dorothy Harris,
Bonnie Placer, Phyllis Rhynard
and Dustin Cable

AUGUST

Jane Casler, Katey Kelly, Virginia Zeeb and Nicholas Reed.



BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday morning Bible Study will begin Tuesday, September 15 at 10:00.

THIS WEEK'S "GOOD REASON TO COME TO CHURCH"

There are many studies that suggest that going to church every week, over the long haul, can greatly contribute to your social life, as well as to your health. A 29 year long study published in 2001 measured subjects' health behaviors, social relationships, marital stability and mental health. The results showed that church attendance increases survival, improves mental health and social relationships. Weekly attendees showed an even stronger correlation to these and other healthy benefits.

Taken from *52 Good Reasons To Go To Church (besides the obvious ones)* by Paul McFate.

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OPEN DOOR MINISTRY

Open Door Ministry is holding its annual Banquet and Silent Auction featuring the Clarkston Band on September 26, 2009 from 5:30 to 8:00 at the Central Methodist Church 215 N. Capitol Ave. Lansing located across from the State Capitol. For questions or reservations, call Mary Hilliard (517) 347-4225 or Open Door (517) 485-9477 Ex 33 or email

crisodm@yahoo.com

SUPER SUNDAY

Lansing District of United Methodist Church is holding Super Sunday September 27, 2009 from 2:30 to 5:00 at the Holt United Methodist Church 2321 Aurelius Road, Holt. There will be several workshops led by world class leaders to equip and inspire you for practical ministry. There is no charge. For information call (517)694-8168 or email holtumc@acd.net.



BRIDGET AT HOME

It has been a while since you have had an update on Bridget, her life and adventures. I'm sure you have been eagerly waiting (maybe) to hear what she has been up to.

Starting out I have to say, Bridget is a good dog, she has a good sense of humor, fun to be with and follows me everywhere then sits at my feet until I am ready to move on. Those are the good things.

This is the bad one. Anyone she sees, she has to jump on as her way of a welcome greeting. How to break her of this is not always clear, but if I don't find a solution that really works, I will be friendless by the end of summer. Somehow people don't like to be jumped on when they walk in the door.

Since I last wrote about her we have been to Obedience School and she has the certificate of graduation to prove it. There were 2 other dogs in the class and we learned such things as sitting, staying, come, walking loose leash and making eye contact before getting a treat. Treats were the big thing in that class and they all vied for a position to be with the instructor because she had the most expensive and tastiest treats and they knew it. When the class was over each night, the dogs were allowed to play together and that was fun for them. Loose teeth littered the floor afterward and we were all exhausted. Bridget and I slept all the way home. Oh wait a minute, I was driving.

But don't think it is all fun and games. I want her to be a Christian dog and have taught her to say a prayer before I put her dish down on the floor. This consists of her nose touching the bowl that is in my hand and looking straight in my eyes while I tell her to say her prayer. I wonder what she prays about, but I suspect it is something about a full bowl.

She has been a handful and at times and that worn out phrase "why did I do this"? comes up often, but I enjoy working out in my garden and having her run past me full speed in her haste to get to the other end of the yard. It's nice too to have her lying at my feet while I am busy at the computer and her presence as she follows me from room to room is comforting. At times she hauls her 47 pound body up on my lap so we can rock together. She never ceases to enjoy the game of me throwing the ball and her bringing the wet offering back and dumping it in my lap. That can go on all night until sopping wet I say, "I've had enough, it is bed time."

God gave me a gift
It's a dog big and white
She plays in the yard
And chases everything in sight.

She is my companion,
She sits on my lap
But, Oh what a relief
When she just takes a nap. B. Best

As long as the earth endures
Seedtime and harvest
Cold and heat
Summer and winter
Day and night
Will never cease.

Genesis 8:22