

## April Anniversaries & Birthdays

1 — Theresa Weber  
 4 — David Lawrence  
 5 — Hank Weinert  
 5 — “Mike” Muller  
 12—Bill & Gayle Tufnell (1958)  
 13 — Lindsie VanDyck / Kason Lewis  
 15 — Gayle Tufnell / Tom TeVelde  
 18 — John Norrington  
 19 — Jennifer Jahn  
 20 — Janet Peterson  
 30 — Martha Weeks / Lynn LaRose  
 Margo Gleason / Brandon Ash



First United Methodist Church  
 190 N. Cedar Street  
 Manistique, Michigan 49854



## First United Methodist Church Worship Service 11:00am



**First United Methodist Church**  
**Church Phone: (906) 341-6662**  
**Secretary: Kali M. Lewis**  
**Pastor: Rev. B.J. Ash Cell: 906-286-1492**  
**email: [pastorbjash@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbjash@gmail.com)**  
**Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9 am—1pm**  
**[www.manistiquemethodist.org](http://www.manistiquemethodist.org)**  
**email: [1stumcmanistique@gmail.com](mailto:1stumcmanistique@gmail.com)**

### PASTOR'S WORDS



## THE CHRISTIAN CALLER

**First United Methodist Church**  
**190 N. Cedar Manistique, MI**  
[www.manistiquemethodist.org](http://www.manistiquemethodist.org)  
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In last month's newsletter, I shared with you what a wonderful gift of the Lion and the Lamb that Jesus has represented for us. As I was finishing up writing my sermon for Palm Sunday, I couldn't help but think of what a wonderful gift Jesus gave of himself for us. So much so I pondered in what ways we are giving of ourselves to be more like Him?

I think back to the many years of collecting maple sap from trees, trudging through snow, hauling buckets, constantly managing the fire to produce a desirable level of heat to evaporate off the water without burning the sugar dissolved in it. I don't collect the maple sap because it is a business or even a notable source of income. Instead, most of it given away to those that need some sweetness in their life, or at least those that start salivating immediately upon me mentioning the words maple syrup. Yes, there are a few people who insist on paying me for a pint or half gallon at their request and it helps to cover the costs of the supplies used each year, but it isn't my primary reason for continuing to collect maple sap and turn it into maple syrup each year.

My reasoning for continuing to perform this arduous effort each year is evident in the smiles and goodwill from those who receive the maple syrup. It also is a servant ministry for me, through me showing humility to serve others without receiving anything in return by me showing others love and compassion as Jesus would for us. It is my prayer that the maple syrup that I freely offered after last Sunday's worship service reminds each of you of the sweetest grace of all that is afforded to each of us at no cost.

PASTOR'S  
WORDS

In the presence of such a gift for all of us, all we can do is to wonder at the amazement of it all. Take that feeling of amazement and share it with someone. Also, take a look at what you surround yourself with in your life and ask God in prayer just what he wants you to do with it to change this world. In Matthew 19:29, it reads:

“And everyone who has given up houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or property, for my sake, will receive a hundred times as much in return and will inherit eternal life.”

While I am not a financial investment advisor, I can tell you that the return on investment on that decision is out of this world, and that’s the whole point of it: why not give of your time and talents? Ask God in prayer just what he wants you to do with them to change this world.

Pastor B.J.

Thankful  
for you

I want to give thanks to God for bring Pastor B.J. and his family to our church. Now we have Pastor B.J. as our leader—and what a great job he has done! He came to us in a crisis situation; we had just lost two pillars of our church, Norma Johnson and Gene Hastings; we were going into the Pandemic; the “lift” was inoperable; and the church closed for a period of time due to the pandemic; the UMW also quit meeting so of course, no more pasties so the yearly donation from UMW was stopped. But he brought us through it all and we are a stronger church as a result of this leadership.

We also give thanks for his knowledge in getting our “online” services to the community—and then some; actually as far as the Philippine islands! Again, we thank God for Pastor B.J. and his family.

Mary Prater













First United Methodist Church

We exist to joyfully share God’s love, preach the Good News, and make disciples.

April

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

				1 Theresa Weber	2	3
						
4 David Lawrence	5 Hank Weinert	6 UMW 1:00	7	8	9	10
 * Worship 11 am	“Mike” Muller 					
11	12 Bill & Gayle Tufnell (1958)	13 Lindsie VanDyck	14	15 Gayle Tufnell	16	17
 * Worship 11 am		Kason Lewis 		Tom TeVeldt 		
18 John Norrington	19 Jennifer Jahn	20 Janet Peterson	21	22	23	24
 * Worship 11 am						
25	26	27	28	29	30 Martha Weeks	30 (continued)
 * Worship 11 am					Lynn LaRose Margo Gleason	 Brandon Ash





## Prayer Chain

As many of you know, we have a group in this church called the Prayer Chain, that offers daily prayers for individuals, situations, and problems brought to them. Prayer requests can also involve individuals, situations, etc. outside our church community.

These prayer requests may be called in to Pastor B.J. Ash at 341-6662 (church) or 286-1492 (cell). You may also call Carol Weinert at 341-4499.

This notice will appear monthly in the church newsletter.



Newsletter suggestions are always welcome! If you have anything you wish to have published in the May newsletter submit before the **April 19th** deadline. Pictures and other additions and can be emailed to :



Visit [www.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) and search 1st United Methodist Church where you see the magnifying glass at the top of the page. Live worship services each Sunday at 11AM.



### **April 4th** — *Easter Day*

Acts 10:34-43, Ps 118:1-2,14-24, 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Jn 20:1-18 or Mk 16:1-8

### **April 11th** — *Second Sunday of Easter*

Acts 4:32-35, Ps 133, 1 Jn 1:1-2-2, Jn 20:19-31

### **April 18th** — *Third Sunday of Easter*

Acts 3:12-19, Ps 4, 1 Jn 3:1-7, Lk 24:36b-48

### **April 25th** — *Fourth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 4:5-12, Ps 23, 1 Jn 3:16-24, Jn 10:11-18



## FOR OUR PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION

Let us please keep the following people in our prayers: Hank Weinert, Willie Chittle, Joel Prater, Ted Burson, Penny Tracy, Connie Whitsitt, Jason Coryell, Larry Billings, and Martha Weeks.



A View From the Belfry

April 2021



# HURRAH!!!! YES!!!!

At long, long last, the lift has passed inspection and is now in use as a lift rather than a thorn in everybody's side! A very big thank you to everyone who worked long and hard on that lift to make this happen! Hopefully the lift will last a very long time, provide reliable service, and once again be a real asset to the church! A special thanks to Vic Vanderville (We're delighted to see you up and around, Vic!), Gordie Barry, Brian Louwsma, and everyone else who have been working on this and other projects around the church. Work is underway on moving some heating flues so the doorway to the pastor's office can be widened enough so that it can accommodate wheelchairs. Other projects which are being considered include strengthening or replacing the back steps to pastor's office so they don't give the user the feeling that they are going to collapse on contact; replacing the pasty ovens before they all quit working, building a deluxe bat house complete with pantry for keeping a large supply of mosquitoes ... Well, I guess perhaps that wasn't one of the items on the church's to do list, but maybe next year... I understand that sometime this spring or summer we may have a work bee day to spruce up the church a bit by painting a few places which need paint, maybe removing some shrubbery which is beyond its prime, and tackling a few other odds and ends here and there. All are welcome to kick in a and help! You know, this church congregation really does work well as a church family! All are welcome, all are wanted and needed in this church community, and all have a place in the hearts and minds of all the others. No one person has all the talents and gifts to contribute, and together, I bet you great church people can do anything! An even bigger plus is that you all seem to work well together and get the job done! You even seem to enjoy yourselves while you're working hard! You know, I think maybe that's how the world is supposed to work, too! Anybody want to tackle making that happen???



THIS LIFT WAS REPLACED IN  
2020  
IN MEMORY OF  
WILLIAM AND DONNA MORDEN  
BY  
THEIR CHILDREN





## April 2021 United Methodist Women Submitted by Carol Weinert

Thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic, the scheduled events of the church have been very unpredictable for the past year. But now with a vaccine available, we are able to see the light at the end of the tunnel and things are able to get back to "normal."

After several months of absence, we are finally able to schedule a United Methodist Women's meeting. We plan to meet Tuesday, April 6, at 1 PM at the church. We hope all of you church women will be able to attend so that we can plan upcoming events. It will also be good just to be in the company of our Christian sisters and worship together. The UMW is open to all interested women.

There have also been some changes in the UMW Reading Program. Due to the pandemic, the program has been extended to the end of 2021. See program chair person Mary Prater for more information.

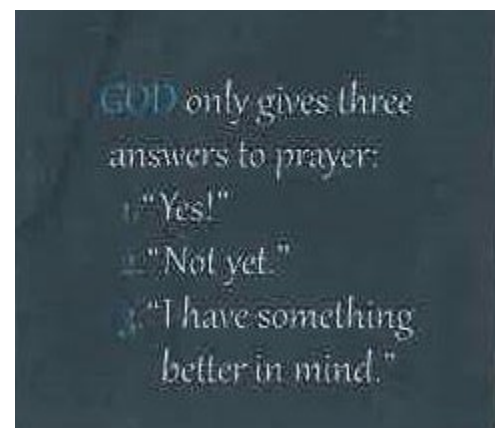
Because gathering restrictions have been lifted in other areas, we are now allowed to sing the hymns at our Sunday worship services! A welcome return for all. Seating restrictions are still in place but being able to lift our voices in song makes the worship experience more meaningful.

Hope to see you in church and at the next UMW meeting April 6.

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Find us on  
**YouTube**

Visit [www.youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search Manistique First UMC where you see the magnifying glass at the top of the page. Live worship services each Sunday at 11AM.



## Lay Leader Lines April 2021

**Q: Are we going to have any special services for Good Friday and Easter Sunday? How about an Easter Sunrise service? It just doesn't seem much like the Easter season, and without those special services it won't seem like we are having Easter at all.**

A: Yes! There will be special services! The Good Friday will be an ecumenical one, to be held at the First Baptist Church at 1:00 pm on Friday, April 2. Readers for this service will be provided by all of the participating churches. Social distancing and the wearing of face masks will be required. There will also be an Easter Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday, April 4, at 7:00 am at the Lakeview Cemetery here in town. If the weather is bad the service will be at the First Baptist Church. Easter Sunday services will be held in each of the participating churches at the regular time for each of the participating churches at the regular time for each church. Again, social distancing, the wearing of masks, and other precautions will be observed at each location according to the guidelines established in each of the participating churches. We believe that we can safely celebrate the Easter season this year, if everyone will observe the established safety procedures.

