



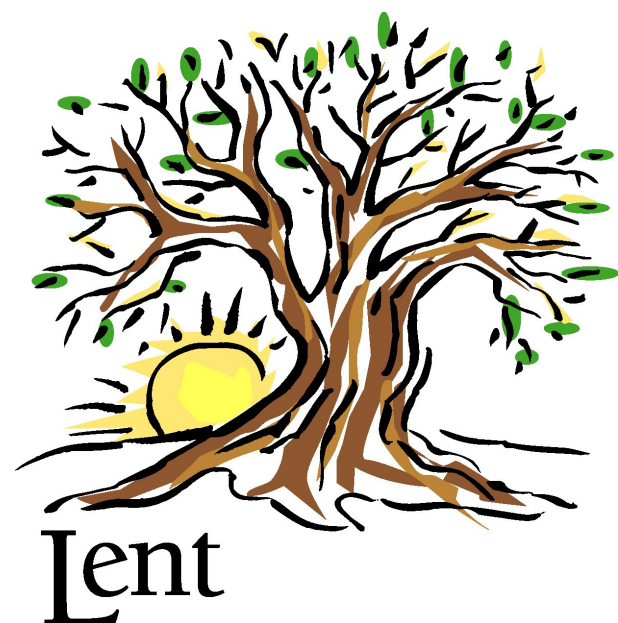
- 1 Mary Whinnen
- 7 Carol Weinert
- 17 Curt Norton
- 23 Kerry Billings

First United Methodist Church
Worship Service 11:00am



First United Methodist Church
Church Phone: (906) 341-6662
Pastor: Rev. B.J. Ash Cell: 906-286-1492
email: pastorbjash@gmail.com
Office Hours: Pastor B.J. M-F 10 am-2pm, Off Wed
Connie M-T work from home 10-2, W-TH 10-2 office
www.manistiquemethodist.org
email: office@manistiquemethodist.org

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



Visit 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.



PASTOR'S
WORDS

THE CHRISTIAN CALLER

First United Methodist Church
190 N. Cedar Manistique, MI
www.manistiquemethodist.org
office@manistiquemethodist.org

Mmmm....soup! This time of the year (March), it sounds good to have a nice, warm bowl of soup at the end of a cold day after several months of winter. It's something to look forward to and it's also something that is coming up starting on March 9th as we resume our Lenten Soup and devotional time together on Wednesdays at 5:00 PM through April 13th (just before Easter). For each gathering time, we will have 2 varieties of homemade soups, several kinds of home-made breads, and at least 1 dessert. I almost forgot the best part: the devotional and fellowship times to follow!

Yes, you understood my excitement correctly, although some of you may be questioning me and asking "Isn't this the season that always asks us to fast, pray and give of our things to others?" These are really fine practices, but Lent actually asks of us to enter a journey, a personal journey in our "own" desert! I find a personal journey to the desert a very distressing experience if in fact we can become brutally honest with ourselves! It calls us to contemplate our dark side, confront it, and finally enter into a personal conversion process where we make amends with God, each other and most importantly ourselves, which may be the most difficult.

PASTOR'S
WORDS

You see, it's all about developing, growing and refining new and current relationships. So, this Lent we have the opportunity to examine our personal part and responsibility in restorative justice, forgiveness and accountability. These elements ask us to get down and honest about what we bring to a family, community and society. During this Lent every prayer, meditation, and contemplation can be enhanced by what we personally choose to do as we make our journey!

God Bless and have a safe and fruitful journey!

Pastor B.J.



Mission Team has met and are planning

Monthly Mission Noisy Offerings

Help support various mission projects by dropping your donation into the glass jar, located in the back of the sanctuary. Loose change makes a great ringing sound to remind us that God is working through us. However, all donations will be accepted. Feel free to drop it in as you enter or as you exit the sanctuary!

March Monthly Mission Noisy Offering is

UMCOR

Thank you for your donation! The Missions Team will give monthly updates on your contributions.



First United Methodist Church

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

March

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 10 Trustees 1 UMW 5 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner Mary Whinnen 🎈	2 Ash Wednesday Service 5PM	3	4	5
6 Adult Sunday School 9:30 am * Worship 11 am	7 11 Bible Study 12 Prayer Group Carol Weinert 🎈	8 11 Pasty Prep	9 🥞 7:30 Pasty Prep 10-1 Pasty Sales 5PM Lenton Soup & Devotion	10 🥞 7:30 Pasty Prep 10-1 Pasty Sales	11	12
13 Adult Sunday School 9:30 am * Worship 11 am	14 11 Bible Study 12 Prayer Group	15	16 5PM Lenton Soup & Devotion	17 Curt Norton 🎈	18	19
20 Adult Sunday School 9:30 am * Worship 11 am	21 11 Bible Study 12 Prayer Group	22	23 5PM Lenton Soup & Devotion Kerry Billings 🎈	24	25	26
27 Adult Sunday School 9:30 am * Worship 11 am	28 11 Bible Study 12 Prayer Group	29	30 5PM Lenton Soup & Devotion	31		



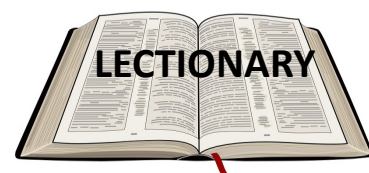
As many of you know we have a group in this church, called the Prayer Chain, that offers daily prayers for individuals, situations, and problems brought to them. Prayer requests can also involve individuals, situations, etc. outside our church community.

Prayer Chain

These prayer requests may be called in to Pastor B.J. Ash at 906-341-6662 (church) or 906-286-1492 (cell). You may also call Carol Weinert at 906-341-4499.



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March 2 — Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17, Ps 51:1-17 (UMH 785), 2 Cor 5:20b-6:10, Mt 6:1-6, 16-21

March 6th — 1st Sunday in Lent

Deut 26:1-11, Rom 10:8b-13, Ps 91:1-2, 9-16 (UMH 810), Lk 4:1-13

March 13th — 2nd Sunday in Lent

Gen 15:1-12, 17-18, Ps 27 (UMH 758), Phil 3:17-4:1, Lk 13:31-35

March 20th — 3rd Sunday in Lent

Isa 55:1-9, Ps 63:1-8 (UMH 788), 1 Cor 10:1-13, Lk 13:1-9

March 27th — 4th Sunday in Lent, UMCOR Sunday

Josh 5:9-12, Ps 32 (UMH 766), 2 Cor 5:16-21, Lk 15:1-3, 11b-32



FOR OUR PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION



Let us please keep the following people in our prayers: Family of Tom Burge Jr., Jo Nell Rubick, Hank Weinert, Martha Weeks, Joel Prater, Ted Burson, Penny Tracy, Connie Whitsitt, Jason Coryell, Kali Lewis, and health concerns for the Chittle family.



Newsletter suggestions are always welcome! If you have anything you wish to have published in the March newsletter submit before **March 24th, 2022** deadline. Pictures and other additions can be emailed to : office@manistiquemethodist.org

**MASK NOT REQUIRED
BUT ENCOURAGED**



A View From the Belfry March, 2022

Salutations from the belfry! Well, I've noticed that once again you United Methodists are busily working around the church, sprucing up the little things before they become big things. For example, Candace Haskell and Lynn LaRose have done some painting touch-ups in the social hall and the library. Mary Prater has removed some old petrified books from the library and put them downstairs in the social hall, where people can look them over and help themselves to any which interest them. Mary says that they have been around here since her son, now in his 60's, attended Sunday school here as a child. Now, a man in his 60's usually has several good years left in him, but a children's book? Not so much. She has also cleaned out the out-of-date books in the UMW reading program to make room for more new books in the UMW space in the library, and anyone who wants may also take these books from the table down in the social hall. Many of these books are very interesting and relevant in today's world. Although they no longer can be counted in the reading program, they are still fairly current.

As you all know, Pastor B.J. is working toward becoming a licensed local pastor. As part of this process he is taking courses, some of which are on-line. He was comparing notes with some of his classmates, many of whom are working in churches with less than spring-chicken aged members. Needless to say, he is one of those people with a congregation which is like a fine cheese or wine, properly aged to bring out its best qualities. Some of his classmates may have been commenting about the difficulty they are having getting their older congregations involved in church projects because they no longer can tote that barge and lift that bale like the younger members can. Pastor B.J. pulled out a photograph of the members of this church, working at jobs they are supposedly too old to handle. A man in his 60's was scampering up a ladder, while a man in his 70's was on the roof of the stairway downstairs, awaiting the arrival of the ladder climber. A man in his 80's was standing on the ground supervising the project. Pastor B.J.'s comment to his classmates was that he may have an older congregation, but they are getting the job done. Perhaps they aren't doing it the same way as a younger group might have, but getting it done they are! Good going, all you energetic oldsters! Now all he needs to do is show those classmates a picture of the pasty crew, most of whom are in their 60's, 70's, and 80's. We've sometimes had members in their 90's helping as well! A few years ago we even had a man who was over 100 serving this church as a soloist during church services! Well, what can you expect from people who are following the example of Moses from the Bible? Moses was 80 years old when God called him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, and he was their leader for 40 years, which means that he lived to be 120 years of age. Take note, all you very mature United Methodists! If Moses could do it, why not you? Maybe this church can produce the next Moses! Or maybe we'll have a Grandma Moses, a renowned artist who didn't even start painting until she was well over retirement age! I wonder how old that would be in bat years? Hmmm. That's something to look up, but maybe I'll take a batnap first. All this pondering has worn me out!

**Lay Leader Lines
March, 2022**

Q: I am thinking of coming to this church, but I don't want to get involved in anything. I just want to come and worship now and then. Can I do that?

A: Yes, you certainly can come here to worship without joining the church, serving on committees, or doing anything else. Of course, that's sort of like swimming without moving your arms and legs. You'll get wet, and hopefully you'll float rather than sink, but you won't get anywhere. Like any other endeavor, you'll get out of church what you put into it. We will welcome you, and we will offer you opportunities to participate in the life of the church. It will be up to you how much you actually participate. Please keep in mind, however, that the heart of the church is not the Sunday morning service, as important as that is. The heart of the church is the community of believers who reach out to others, provide compassion and support when things are tough, rejoice when things are going well, and strive to do the work God has given to each and every person He has created, including you. Why not consider trying us out? If you choose to simply come and sit through a worship service now and then, you'll be welcome, but may find it isn't very satisfying. If you open yourself up to participating in some of the activities and offerings of the church body, you may find yourself becoming a participant, rather than a pew warmer, and you may find that you like it a lot better than you thought you would!

**Be sure to pick up the new
Upper Room Devotional.**

It is available in regular
and large print.

Thank You

Thank you Mary Lynn Bauman for the
beautiful dream catcher!

**Are you looking for a way to
make your offering/giving
process easier?**

Stop by the office and fill out an Electronic
Fund Transfer Authorization form.

Bless you all for the cards, memorials,
and prayers for our family at the loss
of our son, Tom Jr.
Tom & Phyllis Burge and family



**United Methodist Women News
Submitted by Carol Weinert**

After a two-year absence, it was decided at the February United Methodist Women's meeting to reinstate the traditional Reflection Breakfast. It will be held Saturday, April 9, at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall of the church. Guest speaker will be Christy Ryan. Due to the fact that the Pandemic remains, even though the number of cases is dropping, the event will be open only to the members of our congregation.

The Reflection Breakfast is always held the day before Palm Sunday to help us spiritually prepare for Easter. Hope to see you there.

The next general meeting of the Manistique UMW will be held Tuesday, April 5, at 1 PM in the Fellowship Hall. The UMW is open to all women interested in the welfare of women and children.

Mary Prater reminds the congregation that there are many interesting books in the UMW library shelves located just west of the lift. These books are available to anyone wishing to read them. You don't have to be a UMW member. She only asks that you sign out your selections in the book provided and return them when you are through reading them.

She also encourages us to check out the table of FREE books located in the Fellowship Hall. These are available to anyone who would like them. "Take as many as you like," she said. "They are yours to keep. Please don't bring them back," she added.

Just a Few Words

I would like to tell you about the United Methodist Women's Reading Program. The books are on the right side of the "lift". There is a "library" of books that are no longer in the Reading program and you may select any of those you might choose to read—the only requirement is that you "sign them out"—and return them when you have read them.

If you should decide to get into the Reading Program, please contact me and I will give you the information you need.

A third option is downstairs—there is a whole table of books that are yours to keep—you may take as many as you choose.

We welcome you to take part in our library of books! "Reading" is a great habit to take part in!

....from Mary Prater