



- 5 Dan & Connie Kelsey, 1991
- 9 Joe Kolder
- 12 Larry Billings
- 14 Sharon Feichtenbiner
- 16 Mary Prater

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
Pastor: Rev. B.J. Ash Cell: 906-286-1492
email: pastor@manistiquemethodist.org
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

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make your offering/giving
process easier?

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



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.



THE CHRISTIAN CALLER

First United Methodist Church
190 N. Cedar Manistique, MI
www.manistiquemethodist.org
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PASTOR'S WORDS

I seem to have lost something and I'm not sure where it went. No, it's not my keys, although there have been times... Its name was 2022 and it seems to have quickly disappeared, but not without a trace. Oh, there were lots of great things that happened during the past year, but the calendar months seemed to have flown by. I started out the year on my journey to losing weight and have lost almost 100 lbs. while on that journey. Our church sponsored the Feeding America Food truck for 1 month in our community. The pasty ovens finally arrived after waiting for 2 years and we successfully installed them in about a week thanks to the help of many men and a few brave women who supported us with lunch and cleaning up after us. We also started planning for our 150th Anniversary of Methodism in the Manistique area.

WOW!

When we look back at what our Body of Christ has accomplished during those 150 years, we must also look forward into the future to see where our story will continue. This is called visioning and it allows us to coordinate our efforts into effective ministries and achieve more than we have done individually. Sometimes it leads us to partnering with other organizations and other churches. This is a part of our connectional ministry within the United Methodist Church and how we work together as the Body of Christ with each other ecumenically.

As we enter our sesquicentennial anniversary year, I see endless possibilities for us and I pray for God's guidance so that we can see His vision

PASTOR'S
WORDS

for us. I ask for your prayers as we work together as one church to envision what God wants us to achieve. Some of these conversations may be radical as we talk about possibilities that we have never before dreamed about. I encourage everyone to keep an open mind as we look toward our future of doing God's will in ministry to our community and the world.

Pastor B.J.



We are a Congregation that Cares for All!

We appreciate those who have been reaching out to the various needs of our congregation. We have people stepping up every day to offer a ride, a visit, a prayer, call or card. If you know of a need that we can assist with please pass it on to Pastor B.J. or Connie Kelsey. We love that everyone looks out for one another!



First United Methodist Church

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

January

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 New Year's Day Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM	2 Office closed	3 UMF (UMW) 1 PM	4	5 Dan & Connie Kelsey	6 Epiphany	7
8 Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM	9 Bible Study 11 AM Prayer Group 12 PM Joe Kolder	10 Pasty Prep 10:30	11 Pasty Prep 7:30 Sales 10am-1pm	12 Pasty Prep 7:30 Sales 10am-1pm Larry Billings	13	14 Sharon Feichtenbiner
15 Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM	16 Education 9:30 Bible Study 11 AM Prayer Group 12 PM Mary Prater	17 Ad Council 1 PM	18 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18th-25th)	19	20 Vitality 10 AM	21
22 Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM	23 Bible Study 11 AM Prayer Group 12 PM	24	25	26	27	28
29 Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Worship 11 AM	30 Bible Study 11 AM Prayer Group 12 PM	31	Mission Noisy Offering — Ministerial Association God is working through us. All donations will be accepted, drop it in as you enter or as you exit the sanctuary! Include your church envelope number if you want it tracked in your financial giving. Thank you for your support!			

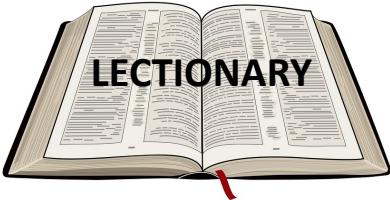
Prayer Chain

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 906-341-6662 (church) or 906-286-1492 (cell). You may also call Gayle Tufnell at 906-341-2379.



Visit 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.



Newsletter suggestions are always welcome! If you have anything you wish to have published in the February newsletter submit before **January 20th, 2023** deadline. Pictures and other additions can be emailed to : **office@manistiquemethodist.org**

December Mission Noisy Offering for Adopt-A-Family Christmas Boxes will be announced soon!
Thank you for your support!



- January 1** — *New Year's Day*
- January 6** — *Epiphany*
Isa 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-7, 10-14 (UMH 795); Eph 3:1-12; Matt 2:1-12
- January 8** — *Baptism of the Lord*
Isa 42:1-9; Ps 29 (UMH 761); Acts 10:34-43; Matt 3:13-17
- January 15** — *2nd Sunday After Epiphany; Human Relations Day*
Isa 49:1-7; Ps 40:1-11 (UMH 774); 1 Cor 1:1-9; John 1:29-42
- January 22** — *3rd Sunday After Epiphany*
Isa 9:1-4; Ps 27:1, 4-9 (UMH 758); 1 Cor 1:10-18; Matt 4:12-23
- January 29** — *4th Sunday After Epiphany*
Micah 6:1-8; Ps 15 (UMH 747); 1 Cor 1:18-31; Matt 5:1-12



FOR OUR PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION
Let us please keep the following people in our prayers: Rita Salter, Angela Allen, Carol Weinert, Connie Meade, Mary Prater, Katie Putnam, Bob Whinnen, Phyllis Burge, Jo Nell Rubick, Martha Weeks, Joel Prater, Ted Burson, Penny Tracy, Connie Whatsitt, Jason Coryell (cancer free), Kali Lewis, Billings family, health concerns for the Kelsey family.



A View From the Belfry January, 2023

Happy New Year, and greetings from the belfry! I hope everybody had as merry a Christmas as I did! I watched the church being decorated beforehand, enjoyed the lights in the entry all night long every night during the Christmas season, and peeked in (very quietly) on the movie during our second movie night. Once again the attendance was a bit low, but everybody seemed to enjoy themselves (and all the candy, popcorn, and other goodies!). I also had a chance to enjoy the children's Sunday school program in church the week before Christmas. Those two Ash boys did a great job playing handbells during the program, and the women who played with them and in the bell quartet were pretty phenomenal also! The bell ringers welcomed Candace Haskell to their group, and she did very well. Some day we may have a full bell choir again at this church!

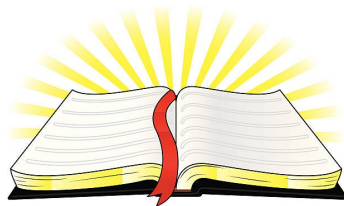
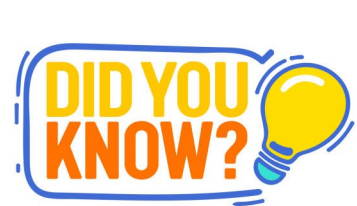
You hard-working United Methodists were all very busy during the weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas...well between Halloween and Christmas...well, actually between about the Fourth of July and...well, even before that! You know, this church is full of busy people all the time, and somehow, you seem to enjoy all that busyness! While you may slow down a little temporarily, like for an hour or two here and there, it's amazing how much you all do to help each other and to keep spreading the Word! Coming up in January there will be a resumption of the Bible study class, with an emphasis on the passages in the lectionary. (That's a list of various scriptures from which Pastor B.J. chooses the Bible passages he will use in his sermons.) You'll also be planning ahead for the Lenten season and Easter (relax; you won't be doing that immediately!), and for a number of other activities as well. Some of you church members have shown an interest in a series which deals with people getting older which is going on at the First Baptist Church, and anyone who wants to do so can register to attend. I think it's amazing how well the various churches in this town work together! We bats don't have denominations and can't quite understand the concept, but we do have different species of bats (fruit bats, vampire bats, etc.). As far as I know the different species don't do anything together, but they also don't live in the same area so they don't have contact with each other. As a result they go around criticizing each other and acting as if no other bat is worthy of being called a bat if there are some different species. It would be a shame if humans of different denominations lived so far apart that they never came in contact with each other, wouldn't it? Since, as far as I can tell, all you various Christians of different denominations seem to have the same purpose, that of spreading the Good News about Jesus, I guess it's only natural that you WOULD work together and get together now and then! Now if churches could pull this off, maybe some day entire nations could do the same! Wow! On that note, I think I'm tired enough of all this thinking that I'll go take a nap. After all, we bats are known for taking long, long naps in the winter! **Yawwwnnnn!**

The trustees have been busy getting a number of projects of the church taken care of: replacing the new ovens, upgrading the smoke detectors to now include carbon monoxide warning, entrance key pad door locks, first aid kits in visible locations (narthex and fellowship hall), outside doorbell at the main entrance, installation of rear speakers in the sanctuary, and finishing the rear outside stairwell as parts have been shipped in to D&D. It was also a part of our responsibility to update the policies of our church in the areas of building and equipment use. These policies share the information needed to use our building and equipment, as well as a form that everyone needs to fill out for everyone's safety and accountability. If you are thinking about using the building and/or equipment, please go to the church office and pick the form you need, fill it out, and return it to the office. Thank you all for your support and hard work in what has been done around the church!

Lay Leader Lines January, 2023

Q: Is there a procedure to use when turning in a bill to the treasurer in order to be paid? I've heard something about a form we're supposed to complete. Why do we need to do all this paperwork?

A: There is a form to complete when submitting a bill to the treasurer. You can find a supply clipped to a wooden box hanging on the wall beside the entry to the secretary's office. The form is very simple. It asks for your name, the committee for which you are making the purchase if it is requested by a committee, what has been purchased, the place it was purchased, and whether payment should be made to the vendor who sold it to you, to you if you bought it with your own money and need repayment, or to someone else. Also note if you used the church credit or debit card, in which case the church will either receive a bill or it will be deducted from the church bank account and will show up on the bank statement. If the vendor still needs to be paid and will send us a bill, please note that as well. Please put the form with the bill attached in the file box labeled "treasurer" in the stack of plastic drawers right inside the "Servant's Entrance" door to the social hall downstairs. If the purchase is for the United Methodist Women (United Women in Faith) instead of for the church, please put the bill in the drawer labeled "UMW MAIL." We are asking that this procedure be followed because bills are sometimes submitted with only an amount to be paid specified. Sometimes we can't tell from the information we get what the purchase was for, who made it, or much of anything else. It can be very time consuming and frustrating trying to track down who should be paid, what was purchased, and for what purpose. Your help with this will be very much appreciated.



After the Wise Men visited the baby Jesus in Bethlehem, Joseph was warned in a dream that Herod intended to kill the newborn babe, and that he should take Mary and the baby to Egypt for safety. Later, after Herod had died, Joseph was told in another dream to return to Israel. He did so, but was afraid to settle in Judea because of the new ruler, so went to Nazareth in Galilee instead. Who was the new ruler in Judea?

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Herod the Third | 2. Herod's son, Antipas |
| 3. Herod's son, Archelaus | 4. Herod the Great |
| 5. Herod the Horrible | |

You can find the answers to these questions in Matthew, 2:22.

The *Bible* study group will resume meeting on January 9th at 11 AM. We will begin a new study, using the passages from the lectionary as the focus of our study. We'd love to have you join us!



United Methodist Women News Submitted by Carol Weinert

The Manistique United Methodist Women closed out 2022 with the annual Christmas Tea. Due to the continuing Covid concerns, the event was not open to the public, but a large group of our church community attended.

Featured in the program was a stirring devotion on "Faithfulness," presented by Char Crosby. The presentation completed the year's study of the "Fruits of the Spirit" (Galatians 5:22-23).

Another highlight of the tea was the revealing of the secret prayer partners which were assigned as "Stars" at last year's tea. There were many cheers, hugs and laughter when the partners were matched up.

The Secret Prayer Partner idea was so well received that it was immediately decided to continue it next year. Those in attendance were told to bring their stars to the next meeting to be redistributed. Many thanks to Sharon Feichtenbiner for developing the idea and making the colorful stars.

A big thank you, too, to the committee who worked so hard to make the Christmas Tea a success.

In other business, Phyllis Burge reminds those taking part in the Reading Program that the 2022 program ends Dec. 31, and it is important to turn in your completed forms as soon as possible to her. This is important so that our UMW unit will receive credit for participation.

The regular schedule of UMW meetings will resume on Jan. 3, 2023, at 1 PM at the church. The Manistique UMW (known nationally as "United Women of Faith") is open to all women interested in the welfare of women and children. Contact President Bette Jahn for more information.



**Just a friendly reminder that our
handicap parking spaces are for
those that need them most!**

Poinsettias

Thank you everyone for your donation of the beautiful poinsettias:

Pastor B.J., Kelly, Brandon & Alex - To The Glory of God
Curt & Celie Norton - In Memory of Parents & In Honor of Grandchildren
Vic & Sharon Vanderville - In Honor of the People of Ukraine

Also for those giving a paper poinsettia with a financial gift:

Ted & Louise Burson - In Memory of Loved Ones & In Honor of children and grandchildren
Carol Weinert - In Memory of Henry "Hank" Weinert
David Hokenson - In Memory of Ed & Gunhild Hokenson and Mary Ann Mills
Dan & Connie Kelsey - In Memory of Gene Hastings and Norma Johnson & In Honor of Mary Prater
Norm & Sharon Feichtenbiner - In Honor of our Parents
Bill & Gayle Tufnell - In Memory of George & Emma Tufnell and Joseph & Theresa Carlson
Rita Salter - In Honor of Great Grandchildren
Kerry & Mackenzie Billings - In Memory of Alvin Lalonde & In Honor of Larry Billings
Gordie & Susan Barry - In Honor of our Children and Grandchildren