



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

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](mailto: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](http://www.manistiquemethodist.org)  
email: [office@manistiquemethodist.org](mailto:office@manistiquemethodist.org)

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Visit [www.youtube.com](http://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  
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[office@manistiquemethodist.org](mailto:office@manistiquemethodist.org)

PASTOR'S  
WORDS

*"I normally don't do requests. Unless, of course, I have been asked to do so."— Victor Borge*

Every child of God is filled with the power of the Holy Spirit, specially gifted to play a unique and valued role in the body of Christ. No one is without gift or purpose.

Spiritual gifts are not our talents or skills. They are the grace of God at work within us, empowering us to match our deep passions with the world's deep need. The gifts are given to individuals, but they are given to build and strengthen community and to meet the needs of those around us.

Begin the journey. Discover your gifts. Talk about your gifts with others. Strive together to understand your gifts and how you can use them to serve God, neighbor, and world. You have been gifted. You have been given a purpose.

The 20 gifts below are those listed within the Pauline epistles to Rome, Ephesus, and Corinth (Romans 12, Ephesians 4, 1 Corinthians 12–13), and recognized by the first-century church. While all of life is a gift from God, these twenty gifts are lifted up within Scripture as the gifts of the Spirit, given specifically for the upbuilding of the body of Christ. They are listed below in alphabetical order (not necessarily in order of importance):

## ADMINISTRATION

The gift of administration allows a person to organize people and resources for greater efficiency, effectiveness, and success.

## APOSTLESHIP

The gift of apostleship compels people to reach out to new and unfamiliar groups and individuals to invite them into relationship with God and community.

## COMPASSION

The gift of compassion moves people to action on behalf of those in need.

## DISCERNMENT

Discernment is a gift of deep intuition and insight.

## EVANGELISM

The gift of evangelism is the gift of faith-sharing and proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ to those we meet.

## EXHORTATION

The gift of exhortation is manifest in people who offer encouragement, wise counsel, unflagging support, and empowerment.

## FAITH

The gift of faith is more than belief in Jesus Christ, but an abiding foundation of confidence that God works all things together for good, and that they people of God can rise above any obstacle.

## GIVING

The gift of giving is the deep commitment to provide whatever resources are needed to support God's will and plan.

## HEALING

The gift of healing is not about transferring spiritual power to eliminate suffering and disease, but the ability to channel God's grace and healing love to those who suffer physical, emotional, or

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<p><b><u>March Mission Noisy Offering —</u></b></p> <p><b><u>UMCOR Relief</u></b></p> <p>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!</p>			<p>1</p> <p>Lenten Soup/ Devotion 5 PM</p> <p>Mary Whinnen</p> <p>Ken &amp; Cyndi Burgin</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>World Day of Prayer</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM</p> <p>Worship 11 AM</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Bible Study 11 AM</p> <p>Prayer Group 12 PM</p>	<p>7</p> <p>UMW 1 PM</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Pasty Prep 7:30 Sales 10am-1pm</p> <p>Lenten Soup/ Devotion 5 PM</p> <p>Carol Weinert</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Pasty Prep 7:30 Sales 10am-1pm</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM</p> <p>Worship 11 AM</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Vitality 11 AM</p> <p>Bible Study 11 AM</p> <p>Prayer Group 12 PM</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Lenten Soup/ Devotion 5 PM</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Ad Council 10 AM</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Curt Norton</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM</p> <p>Worship 11 AM</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Bible Study 11 AM</p> <p>Prayer Group 12 PM</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Lenten Soup/ Devotion 5 PM</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Kerry Billings</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM</p> <p>Worship 11 AM</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Bible Study 11 AM</p> <p>Prayer Group 12 PM</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Lenten Soup/ Devotion 5 PM</p> <p>Kathleen Haynes</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	
<p><b><u>Pastor B.J. will be out of the office March 28th-31st</u></b></p>						



# Prayer Chain

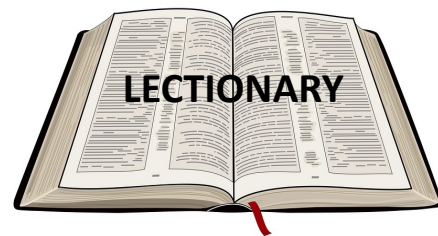
As many of you know we have a group in this church, called the Prayer Chain, that offers daily prayers for individuals, situations, and problems brought to them. Prayer requests can also involve individuals, situations, etc. outside our church community.

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



Visit [www.facebook.com](http://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 April newsletter submit before **March 20th, 2023** deadline.

Pictures and other additions can be emailed to : [office@manistiquemethodist.org](mailto:office@manistiquemethodist.org)

February Mission Noisy Offering for God's Country Cooperative Parish-Randy Hildebrant will be announced soon! Thank you for your support!

## March 5 — 2nd Sunday in Lent

Gen 12:1-4a; Ps 121 (UMH 844); Rom 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

## March 12 — 3rd Sunday in Lent

Ex 17:1-7; Ps 95 (UMH 814); Rom 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

## March 19 — 4th Sunday in Lent

1 Sam16:1-13; Ps 23 (UMH 754 or 137); Eph 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

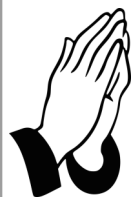
## March 26 — 5th Sunday in Lent

Ezek 37: 1-14; Ps 130 (UMH 848); Rom 8:6-11; John 11:1-45



## FOR OUR PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION

Let us please keep the following people in our prayers: Karen Klaus, Connie Meade, Mary Prater, Katie Putnam, Michael Haynes, Mary & Bob Whinnen, Phyllis Burge, Jo Nell Rubick, Martha Weeks, Joel Prater, Ted Burson, Penny Tracy, Connie Whatsitt, Jason Coryell (cancer free), Kali Lewis, Kerry Billings family health issues, and Gail Little (Connie Kelsey's sister).



## A View From the Belfry March, 2023

**Howdy from Benny, your friendly belfry bat!** Well, you people had your Shrove Tuesday pancake supper and your Ash Wednesday ash smearing service, which as I understand it, means that it's now Lent. Those pancakes and all that sweet cinnamon syrup smelled sooo good! You have a wonderful kitchen crew! A special recognition bat sticker should be given to the cooks and everybody else who helped out. Those cooks included Candace Haskell, Bette Jahn, Connie Kelsey, Gayle Tufnell and Bob & Mary Whinnen. In addition, many of you helped clean up afterward, even though you weren't asked! I think it's great the way you all help each other! They say that many hands make light work, and I think that's certainly true! Of course, in my case it would be many wings, and I'm not at all sure just how well even a few thousand bat wings would help in a kitchen. I'd be willing to try to help, but somehow I have a feeling that my wings wouldn't be all that appreciated. Maybe another time. I could give you some help in the recipe department, however. Maybe next year you'd like to try a favorite of mine, mosquito syrup for those pancakes! It's sure to be a hit! However, I would suggest that you gather your mosquito supply during the spring and summer when the mosquitoes are plentiful and freeze them ahead to keep them in good shape for Lent. I've heard rumors that Jack's doesn't carry mosquitoes at all!! Not fresh, not canned, not frozen, not dried. What's wrong with that store, anyway??? Oh, well. They do pasty supplies very well indeed, so I guess I shouldn't complain. Meanwhile, I have another puzzle to puzzle about. Why do they call it Lent? Did somebody loan something to somebody? What? To whom? Maybe by next year I'll have the answer to that one. Meanwhile, have a contemplative Lent!

## Vitality Committee Update... by Jim Blanchard

The Vitality Community will be putting on a First United Methodist Church family game night on Saturday, April 22. This is the 3rd event we held that is focused on inviting people in our community to experience our church family's hospitality in unique ways.

In part, our thoughts are driven by asking ourselves what the gaps in our community are that we can address. Can we make a difference?

The first two events, held last year, were called kids movie night. Pastor BJ donated a popcorn popper and supplies, and we added some other movie type treats to make the kids enjoy it more. There were 5 kids who watched movies at our first movie night, and 9 attending the second event. The committee has 8 events planned for 2023. We received positive feedback from parents and interest in forming a mother's group. The committee will explore the options we can provide to support the needs of the families.

The costs of these events are budgeted by the Ad Council and the committee will be providing a report to the Ad Council mid-year so we can prayerfully consider what are the best efforts we can make to bring people to God.

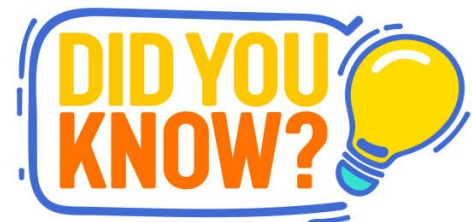
You don't have to be on the committee to participate in this effort if you want to help or provide feedback. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy any or all events.

**Lay Leader Lines  
March, 2023**

**Q: I understand that the money we raised with the pie auction for new showers at Camp Michigamme won't be used for new showers after all. Why not?**

A: Several weeks ago we received a letter from District Superintendent Scott Harmon that following the fund raising effort, it was learned that the amount which will be needed to complete the new shower facility will cost over 3 times as much as was originally anticipated, or about \$300,000. Raising that much money through fund raisers simply isn't deemed feasible. As a result, all of the churches in the Northern Skies District were contacted, and after explaining the situation, each church which contributed money was asked to decide locally how we wanted the donated money to be spent. The options were to use the money for repairs and maintenance of the Camp Michigamme properties, to use the money for camp scholarships, or to request that the money be returned to the local church. We held a brief Administrative Council meeting after church one Sunday, and after a short discussion decided to ask that the money be used to fund repairs and maintenance of the camp buildings. At this point we have not heard anything about any additional plans to deal with the situation regarding the showers. The need to replace them still exists, but the plans on how to fund the repairs or replacements are unknown at this time.

The next Trustees Committee will be meeting April 4 at 10 AM. They are busy wrapping up projects! Their next major project will be installing a new entrance door!



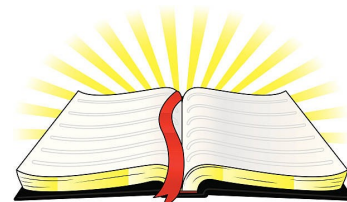
1. When Jesus talked with the Samaritan woman at the well, how many husbands did He tell her she had had?

- |          |          |        |
|----------|----------|--------|
| 1. Four  | 2. Five  | 3. Six |
| 4. Seven | 5. Eight |        |

2. What was the reaction of Jesus' disciples when they saw Him talking with the Samaritan woman?

1. They rebuked Him because she was considered a fallen woman.
2. They were astonished and Peter scolded Jesus for associating with her.
3. They were astonished but said nothing about it.
4. They asked the woman what she wanted.
5. They asked the woman to dance for them.

You can find the answers to these questions in John 4: 16-27.



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

"Grace" was the topic of discussion at the February meeting of the Manistique United Methodist Women (known nationally as Women United in Faith.) Led by Penny Tracy, the group pondered the meaning of the word and drew the conclusion that the definition of "grace" in the theological term is "favor or good will"; or as expanded, an UNDESERVED gift.

Next month's topic will be a study of "Body and Spirit," led by Candace Haskell. There also will be a continuation of the legacy discussion led by Bette Jahn, who encourages the group to bring in photos of significant events and/or persons in their lives as well as corresponding stories. The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 7, at 1 pm at the church.

Final plans for the annual Reflection Breakfast will also be discussed at this meeting. This event is always held on the day before Palm Sunday. This year the event will take place Saturday, April 1.

Currently, the 2023 edition of our UMW program booklet is being compiled. Watch for distribution and be sure to get your copy.

The Manistique UMW is open to all women interested in the welfare of women and children. Please join us! Contact President Bette Jahn for more information.

*Thank You*

Thanks to everyone for the prayers, cards and well wishes during and after my recent surgery. All went much better than I had hoped and I am progressing well. God is good all the time -- all the time God is good. -- Carol Weinert

Books are available on the table  
in the Fellowship Hall.  
Help yourself, they are Free!

Greetings from Godfrey, Illinois from Connie Meade and family.  
It has been a busy couple of weeks getting Connie moved. We had wonderful teenage helpers from the high school, plus Connie's sister, Cathy, her niece, Michele and her nephew, Mark. We emptied her house in 4 days and drove the truck and car to our destination. On Friday, February 17th, we moved her in to her new assisted living building! She is adjusting well and so are the kitties! But I know she misses her friends, her church and her town. I am including her address below and her phone number for anyone who would like to communicate with her! My thanks to all her wonderful friends who stepped up when she needed to get places and brought food, treats and kept her in their prayers! I can never repay your kindnesses!

Connie Meade  
Cedarhurst Assisted Living  
1000 Airport Road  
Room 209  
Godfrey, IL 62035  
618 433-1088