

First United Methodist Church

Church Phone: (906) 341-6662 www.manistiquemethodist.org

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

Office Hours: Pastor M-F 8-12pm , Off Wed/Connie M-T work from home 10-2, W-TH 10-2pm office

Office Administrator: Connie Kelsey email: office@manistiquemethodist.org

Visit www.youtube.com and search Manistique First UMC where you see the magnifying glass at the top of the page.

August 13, 2023 — August 19, 2023

"11th Sunday After Pentecost"

Usher / Greeter: Mike & Kathleen Haynes Organist: Cynthia Burgin
Liturgist: Connie Kelsey/Janet Helmbold Children's Worship: Natalie G./Needed
Altar Flowers: Connie Kelsey Fellowship: Congregation
Monthly Mission Noisy Offering: Backpack Buddies/Zion Lutheran Church

Monday (8/14) Bible Study 11 AM / Prayer Group 12 PM
Tuesday (8/15) Ad Council 10 AM / Vitality 1 PM
Wednesday (8/16)
Thursday (8/17) Missions 11 AM
Friday (8/18)
Saturday (8/19)

August 20, 2023 — August 26, 2023

"12th Sunday After Pentecost"

Usher / Greeter: Needed Organist: Cynthia Burgin
Liturgist: Sharon Feichtenbiner Children's Worship: Natalie G./Needed
Altar Flowers: Connie Kelsey Fellowship: Ed & Mary Atwood
Monthly Mission Noisy Offering: Backpack Buddies/Zion Lutheran Church

Monday (8/21) Bible Study 11 AM / Prayer Group 12 PM
Tuesday (8/22)
Wednesday (8/23)
Thursday (8/24)
Friday (8/25)
Saturday (8/26)

Lectionary Calendar—Bible Study

8/13/23 Gen 37:1-4, 12-28; Ps 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Rom 10:5-15; Matt 14:22-33

8/20/23 Gen 45:1-15; Ps 133; Rom 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matt 15:(10-20), 21-28



Let us please keep the following joys and concerns in our prayers: Family of Rudy Lawrence, Sharon V. & Celie N.'s brother, Lynn LaRose, Ken Burgin, Karen Klaus, Connie Meade, Katie Putnam, Mary Prater, Michael Haynes, Phyllis Burge, Jo Nell Rubick, Martha Weeks, Joel Prater, Ted Burson, Penny Tracy family health concerns, Kerry Billings family health concerns, Connie Whitsitt, and unspoken requests.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

190 North Cedar St., Manistique, MI 49854

Pastor B.J. Ash

August 13, 2023



**"WE EXIST TO JOYFULLY SHARE GOD'S LOVE,
PREACH THE GOOD NEWS AND MAKE DISCIPLES."**



First United Methodist Church
August 13, 2023
“11th Sunday After Pentecost”



WORSHIP 11AM

PRELUDE: Sing with All the Saints in Glory (1873)

GREETING Bishop David Bard

INVOCATION

PSALM 50:1-6

*PRAISE CHORUS: UMH 63 Blessed be the Name (1887)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: 150 years ago a Methodist Episcopal minister found his way through forest and marsh from Fayette to Manistique, where he gathered a few residents together and held a worship service. Thus began the congregation of today’s First United Methodist Church.

P: **Let us give thanks for those early circuit riders who through thick forest and marshy ground, through black flies and mosquitoes, through deep snow and wintry blasts, valiantly came to a wilderness village from a busy industrial community to carry God’s word to a settlement which at that time had no churches.**

L: Today that little church, a congregation with no church building at that time is still here, carrying on the mission and the purpose of spreading God’s Word to a world hungry for the Good News of the Gospel.

P: **We now have a church building, but more importantly, we have a vibrant congregation, still doing the work of spreading the Word, still supporting each other through good times and bad, and still welcoming all who will come to participate in this church family.**

L: Let us trust in the Lord to lead us through the next 150 years, knowing that as long as we are willing and receptive to God’s will for us, there will be a need for our ministry.

P: **Lord, give us the will to do Your work. Remind us that we do not minister in exactly the same way as those early followers of Christ did 150 years ago, and it is very unlikely that this church will minister in exactly the same way in 150 years as we do now. Help us to remain steadfast in responding to the call, yet flexible in the manner in which we do this, so that as our world changes, we can meet the unchanging needs for Your Word in the lives of those who live now and those who will be here in 150 years.**

HISTORY OF OUR CHURCH

In 1873, a lone circuit rider started out from the bustling community of Fayette, Michigan, on the Upper Peninsula’s Garden Peninsula, and made his way, mostly on foot, to the new but growing lumbering community of Manistique, some 25 miles away, and began the first church congregation in that village. The little church was without a building, and for several years met in various locations until the congregation was able to erect a church building of its own, which they did in 1886.

Now, 150 years after its humble beginnings, the little Methodist Episcopal Church, as it was first known, is still present in the City of Manistique. The original church building still stands, but has been expanded, added to, rearranged, jacked up and put atop a basement, and changed so much that the original building is hard to find. The denominational name has also undergone changes, from the Methodist Episcopal Church, to the Methodist Church, to the United Methodist Church. Regardless of the many changes, it is still a lively, thriving church community in a city that has both grown and declined in size over the years, but is also still thriving. Fayette is better known as a ghost town which has become a State Park, and as such still attracts many visitors who are interested in a glimpse of the past.

Throughout its history, this church congregation has offered a large continuum of services, including adult and children’s Sunday School, Vacation Bible School during the summer, a *Bible* Study class, a weekly prayer group, and a prayer chain which is available at all times to pray for specific needs. For more than 75 years the women of the church have baked pasties to raise money for various causes. They first began this project to raise money to pay for the coal needed to heat the church. More recently, the money has been used to support a wide variety of charitable causes, both locally and around the world. The church as a whole also bakes pasties for FolkFest, again to support local causes. In addition to offering many opportunities to serve others, this church offers a pleasant place in which to worship God, be spiritually fed, and both receive and provide the care, support, laughter, and love of a friendly and welcoming congregation.



SPECIAL MUSIC: The Blind Ploughman by Robert Coningsby Clarke
Maurita Holland/Roger Chard

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY: I Know Whom I Have Believed (1883)

***DOXOLOGY:** UMH 95 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

***HYMN:** UMH 369 Blessed Assurance (1873)

COMMUNION: SERVICE OF WORD & TABLE II

After receiving Holy Communion, you are invited to sign the covenant as you return to your pews.

I Need Thee Every Hour (music 1873)
Beneath the Cross of Jesus (music 1881)
O Jesus, I Have Promised (music 1881)

***CLOSING HYMN:** UMH 467 Trust & Obey (1887)

*BENEDICTION

***PARTING HYMN:** UMH 420 Breathe on Me Breath of God (words 1878, music 1888)

POSTLUDE: Lead On, O King Eternal (1887)

August Noisy Offering: Backpack Buddies/Zion Lutheran Church

This local organization helps any school aged individual that is in need of supplemental food assistance for weekends. If you know of a need, contact Zion Lutheran Church.

* DENOTES CONGREGATION STANDING (AS ABLE)

* PLEASE BE SURE TO SILENCE ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES DURING THE WORSHIP SERVICE

***OPENING HYMN:** UMH 133

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms (1887)

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

L: Let us give thanks for all of God's mercies.

O God, our Covenant Friend, you have been gracious to us through all the years of our lives. We thank you for your loving care, which has filled our days and brought us to this time and place.

P: We praise your holy name, O God.

L: You have given us life and reason, and set us in a world filled with your glory. You have comforted us with family and friends, and ministered to us through the hands of our sisters and brothers.

You have filled our hearts with a hunger after you, and have given us your peace. You have redeemed us, and called us to a high calling in Christ Jesus. You have given us a place in the fellowship of your Spirit and the witness of your Church.

You have been our light in darkness and a rock of strength in adversity and temptation. You have been the very Spirit of joy in our joys and the all-sufficient reward in all our labors.

You remembered us when we forgot you. You followed us even when we tried to flee from you. You met us with forgiveness when we returned to you. For all your patience and overflowing grace we praise you.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

***SCRIPTURE LESSON:**

2 Chronicles 34:29-33

MESSAGE

PROCLAMATION

Brothers and sisters in Christ, the Christian life is redeemed from sin and consecrated to God. Through baptism, we have entered this life and have been admitted into the new covenant of which Jesus Christ is the Mediator. He sealed it with his own blood so that it might last forever. On the one side, God promises to give us new life in Christ, the Source and Perfecter of our faith. On the other side, we are pledged to live no more for ourselves but only for Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us.

From time to time we renew our covenant with God, especially when we reaffirm the Baptismal Covenant and gather at the Lord's Table.

Today, however, we meet, as the generations before us have met, to renew the covenant that binds us to God. Let us make this covenant of God our own.

WESLEY'S COVENANT SERVICE INVITATION

Janet

L: Commit yourselves to Christ as his servants. Give yourselves to him, that you may belong to him. Christ has many services to be done. Some are more easy and honorable, others are more difficult and disgraceful. Some are suitable to our inclinations and interests, others are contrary to both. In some we may please Christ and please ourselves. But then there are other works where we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves. It is necessary, therefore, that we consider what it means to be a servant of Christ. Let us, therefore, go to Christ, and pray:

P: Let me be your servant, under your command. I will no longer be my own. I will give up myself to your will in all things.

L: Be satisfied that Christ shall give you your place and work.

P: Lord, make me what you will. I put myself fully into your hands: put me to doing, put me to suffering, let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you, let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and with a willing heart give it all to your pleasure and disposal.

L: Christ will be the Savior of none but his servants. He is the source of all salvation to those who obey. Christ will have no servants except by consent; Christ will not accept anything except full consent to all that he requires. Christ will be in all, or he will be nothing.

Confirm this by a holy covenant. To make this covenant a reality in your life, listen to these admonitions:

First, set apart some time, more than once, to be spent alone before the Lord; in seeking earnestly God's special assistance and gracious acceptance of you; in carefully thinking through all the conditions of the covenant; in searching your hearts whether you have already freely given your life to Christ. Consider what your sins are. Consider the laws of Christ, how holy, strict, and spiritual they are, and whether you, after having carefully considered them, are willing to choose them all. Be sure you are clear in these matters, see that you do not lie to God.

Second, be serious and in a spirit of holy awe and reverence.

Third, claim God's covenant, rely upon God's promise of giving grace and strength, so you can keep your promise. Trust not your own strength and power.

Fourth, resolve to be faithful. You have given to the Lord your hearts, you have opened your mouths to the Lord, and you have dedicated yourself to God. With God's power, never go back. And last, be then prepared to renew your covenant with the Lord. Fall down on your knees, lift your hands toward heaven, open your hearts to the Lord, as we pray:

COVENANT PRAYER

P: O righteous God, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, see me as I fall down before you. Forgive my unfaithfulness in not having done your will, for you have promised mercy to me if I turn to you with my whole heart.

L: God requires that you shall put away all your idols.

P: I here from the bottom of my heart renounce them all, covenanting with you that no known sin shall be allowed in my life. Against your will, I have turned my love toward the world. In your power I will watch all temptations that will lead me away from you. For my own righteousness is riddled with sin, unable to stand before you.

L: Through Christ, God has offered to be your God again if you would let him.

P: Before all heaven and earth, I here acknowledge you as my Lord and God. I take you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for my portion, and vow to give up myself, body and soul, as your servant, to serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.

L: God has given the Lord Jesus Christ as the only way and means of coming to God.

P: Jesus, I do here on bended knees accept Christ as the only new and living Way, and sincerely join myself in a covenant with him. O blessed Jesus, I come to you, hungry, sinful, miserable, blind and naked, unworthy even to wash the feet of your servants. I do here, with all my power, accept you as my Lord and Head. I renounce my own worthiness, and vow that you are the Lord, my righteousness. I renounce my own wisdom, and take you for my only guide. I renounce my own will, and take your will as my law.

L: Christ has told you that you must suffer with him.

P: I do here covenant with you, O Christ, to take my lot with you as it may fall. Through your grace I promise that neither life nor death shall part me from you.

L: God has given holy laws as the rule of your life.

P: I do here willingly put my neck under your yoke, to carry your burden. All your laws are holy, just, and good. I therefore take them as the rule for my words, thoughts, and actions, promising that I will strive to order my whole life according to your direction, and not allow myself to neglect anything I know to be my duty.

L: The almighty God searches and knows your heart.

P: O God, you know that I make this covenant with you today without guile or reservation. If any falsehood should be in it, guide me and help me to set it aright. And now, glory be to you, O God the Son, who have loved me and washed me from my sins in your own blood, and now is my Savior and Redeemer. Glory be to you, O God the Holy Spirit, who by your almighty power have turned my heart from sin to God.

O mighty God, the Lord Omnipotent, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you have now become my Covenant Friend. And I, through your infinite grace, have become your covenant servant. So be it. And let the covenant I have made on earth be ratified in heaven. Amen.