

# GOD'S DREAM SEEKERS NEWS

April 2016  
Volume 3 Issue 4



Newaygo United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 366, Newaygo, MI 49337; email:umcnew@newaygoumc.com; phone: 231-652-6581; website: www.newaygoumc.com

## Pastors Ponderings

By Pastor Kathleen Groff

### *Booms and Blooms*

Spring is a great reminder of how wonderful creation really is. The earth continues to renew itself in acts of resting (winter) and growing (spring). It is a cycle that continues in spite of humanity's continual disruption in the process. We, as humans seem to be in the midst of a fairly destructive cycle with terrorists, dictators, and some mental instability persons blowing things up or gunning down innocents. It is so easy to get caught up in a negative mindset, that our world is falling apart if that's what we pay attention to. Of course there is a need to pay attention and to be vigilant. We must do our small parts in reporting suspicious activity. But to live in consummate fear that we will be victims of the next terror plot can be as destructive as the act itself. Winter is a prime time to dwell on such fear if we are confined to our homes and have the TV on continually. But something happens in spring. We begin to see, hear, and smell the signs of new life. Green things begin to emerge from the ground and the hill across the street is showing a wonderful tinge of green as trees begin their process of leafing out. Hope rises when the warming sun kisses our faces and the birds begin their melodies of the desire to spawn new life. Sporadic warmer days break the cycle of bundling up and shivering. This has been a tough year for life on our planet, especially for those who have lost loved ones in senseless violence. Illnesses and not so great diagnoses have caused concern

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and fear. But I wonder if part of the solution to the downward spiral of "bad news" is to be vigilant about the emerging new life that spring creates time and time again. We celebrate Easter in a time when new life abounds, first in the green quiet peeking through the ground, then in the fullness of spring leaves stretching to give and take what the trees need to sustain life. The process of "springing out" reminds me of the quietness of an early dawn when the women discovered the empty tomb and how that message grew into a world-wide message of hope, one that sustains us to this very day. No matter how dismal the world seems to us, spring always comes! Life goes on and creation is wonderfully healed. It's almost a matter of choosing between light and darkness, choosing between the booms and blooms of life as we react to the news and happenings of this world. God is good all the time!!!!

*Pastor Kathy*

### **Greif Share Support Group**

@ Vera's House (St. Marks Episcopal Church)

Are you grieving a recent or past death of a loved one? For 13 weeks starting April 11th at 6:30pm-8:30pm please join us for a time of sharing and support. Workbook, CD, group discussion and support. Please call Anne Vandekieft at 231-250-3620 to register or for more information.



Happy Spring. There is good news all around. Blessings are everywhere if you look. Longer daylight hours and warmer temperatures make life seem a little brighter. My chickens have decided they remember how to lay eggs after all. New life and new beginnings are all I see.

We have a kids hope blessing, a substitute mentor. It is a relief to know someone will be with my student if I can't be there. Everyone needs time off sometimes and it is good that we have this covered. I would officially like to welcome Jen Larsen to our kids hope team. Jen has stepped in to mentor Dawson while Susanne is taking some time off for health reasons. Jen currently works at Vera Wilsie so she knows our students there. She is also working towards a paraprofessional degree at MCC. Be sure to welcome Jen when you see her. You'll recognize her, she's Blake and Rachel's mom. Mentors, you may want to exchange contact information, just in case. Jen has us covered.

Mark it on your calendars: our end of the year kids hope party is scheduled for Friday, May 13, 2-3 pm at the Velma Matson cafeteria. Prayer partners are invited too. Let me know if you are interested. There will be pizza and games.

*Sherry*

### **New Mailing Addresses:**

Nancy Clark  
782 W. Brooks Apt. 218  
Newaygo, MI 49337

Doris Jacques  
6153 Division St.  
Newaygo MI 49337  
*(all mail will be delivered to Newaygo Medical Care Facility for Doris)*

PVT Friend, Ashley, T  
MATSG-23 AMS-1 BKS H  
211 Farrar Rd.  
Pensacola, FL 32508



Men, come join us on **Wednesdays at 8:30am**  
**at the City Limits Restaurant**  
(next to McDonalds).

"Well, after almost five years attending men's group, I learned something about one of the members. When Dale came in, he called one of our members "Father Wisdom." Anybody want to guess who that member is? All I know is that it fits perfectly for this ah, gentleman! Of course we had to play it up some and then I went to look up Father Wisdom. Garrison Keillor had a quote for Father Wisdom.

"**The** father of a daughter is nothing but a high-class hostage. A father turns a stony face to his sons, berates them, shakes his antlers, paws the ground, snorts, runs them off into the underbrush, but when his daughter puts her arm over his shoulder and says, "Daddy, I need to ask you something," he is a pat of butter in a hot frying pan.

*Garrison Keillor quotes "*

That certainly doesn't fit me, so again, guess who Father Wisdom is? If you really want to know, come to City Limits on Wednesday at 8:30 (be early) and join the rest of the men to discuss politics, religion, family life and what ever else might not be on the agenda!!! God bless.

*Joe Groff*

### **United Methodist Women's Meetings**

Each meeting is open to all women. Please join us for which ever one you are able to attend. You are always welcome.

- **Longcore Circle** – We will meet on April 5<sup>th</sup> at Dorothy Sibley's home.
- **Ladies Night Out** –Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at **6:30pm** at NUMC. All women are welcome. We will have a short UMW meeting and start a new study.
- **Mary Martha Circle** – Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am at the church. Please join us. All are welcome.



## Pastor's Resource List

We all love our Pastor and would love to keep her as long as possible. One way to do this is to give her all the help we can. We all know that we are an important part of the ministry of the church of Love. The Pastor cannot be expected to do it all. Here is one way we can help: We can become part of a resource team to help our Pastor minister to those in need.

There are many ways you can help. Please check the signup sheet in the coffee area at church or call the church office at 231-652-6581.

John Wesley's philosophy is "DO GOOD". Here is our chance to do good. We can become part of our **Pastor's Resource List**. Look for volunteer signup sheets at coffee hour on Sunday Mornings.



## Mission Minutes

Do you ever wonder just exactly what are missions??? The terms "missions or missionary" are never mentioned in the bible. So what exactly is missions? The term itself "mission" dates back to the late 1500's. The Jesuits were sent abroad on a mission which translates from Latin as 'act of sending' or 'to send'. They were sent to preach God's name and Jesus Christ. But how does a little church like Newaygo get "sent" to do God's word. Let's take a look at Romans 10:13-15

***For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"***

Every time we do good in God's name we are on a mission. Do we talk to the stranger, do we help the needy, do we feed the hungry, home the homeless, visit the sick and lonely, bake a pie for the pastor's husband (just throwing that in to see if anyone reads this), or give whatever we can of ourselves, isn't that part of missions? I really like the phrase "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" How beautiful are your feet? Maybe when my feet hurt, they're telling me get up and start walking with Christ. Do you know of any walkathons that are coming up???? Just ask me!

*Joe Groff - Missions Chair*

**THE HOPE PROJECT**  
Bringing Light to Those in Darkness



Cal Deitz & Family  
 Duane Witter  
 Keith Johnson & Family  
 Edna Schilling  
 Fern Glasspoole  
 Nancy Ferguson  
 Jean Bumstead  
 Wayne Bumstead  
 Bill & Freda Corrigan  
 June Wade  
 Al Winchel  
 Chuck Suess  
 Ashley Friend  
 Mike Richardson  
 Unspoken prayers  
 Military Service Persons

## April Birthday's

4/3 Debra Prins  
 4/8 Andy Belew  
 4/9 David Cain  
 4/12 Gabriella Brooks  
 4/13 Cindy Ryan  
 4/13 Steven Dietz  
 4/15 Ron Pardonnet  
 4/22 Dustin Prins  
 4/29 Trevor Cutler  
 4/30 Julie Cain



## April Anniversaries

4/5 Denisen & Mercedes Gort  
 4/19 Robert & Kathryn Pope  
 4/28 Ray & Melissa Webb

If your birthday or anniversary are not listed we apologize. Please send Deb Prins your updated information. You can call 231-652-9581 or send an email to [debprins@sbcglobal.net](mailto:debprins@sbcglobal.net). Thank you for your help in updating our information.



## Treasurer's Report

Please prayerfully consider how you can help support the ministries of Newaygo United Methodist Church in 2016.

Contributions through March 31, 2016 -	\$ 10,057.81
Expenses through March 31, 2016 -	<u>\$ 9,144.78</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>913.03</b>

If you have any questions or would like to see a more detailed report please call Deb Prins at 231-652-6581 or see a copy of the reports posted on bulletin board in the church office.



Sunday School for all ages  
 at 11:00am  
 (following Sunday Worship)

**Watch for date and time of next meeting we will be planning Vacation Bible School for this summer!**

**We will be hosting another 3 day Ecumenical VBS with other local churches. Watch for more details.**



## The Wired Word Bible Study

Monday's at 1:00pm  
 At Newaygo United Methodist Church

Join us for a discussion and biblical look at current events happening in our world. Each week is a different study so please come whenever you are able.





## Social Club

Below you will find a schedule of what we have planned. Notice some months are open for a host/hostess to sign up. The idea is to do at least 1 fun gathering a month and try to stay within a 2 hour drive from Newaygo. Most activities are family friendly but may have some cost involved. If you have any questions please see Joe Groff. All are welcome to join the fun!

- **April** – Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> Amish dinner @ 6pm at Mary's bakery in Lakeview, MI Cost \$12.50
- **May** –
- **June** – Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 – Dinner and talent show sponsored by the kids. Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup> – Progressive Dinner – Dorothy Besemer
- **July** — BBQ @ Jean Reynhout's home - Jean Reynhout, Joe & Kathy Groff possible tubing/canoeing before BBQ
- **August** – White Caps Baseball Game – Date/TBD – Paul & Melanie Grey
- **September** – Shrine of the Pines, Jones Ice Cream, possible jaz in the park behind Joans – Ken & Kathy Cain
- **October** -
- **November** - Potluck & game night – Carline Knoll & Jen Larsen
- **December** -



*If you have any questions please see Joe Groff or Deb Prins or contact the person listed for each planned event. If you have other ideas or would like to plan something please let us know that also.*

## Memorial Weekend Rummage Sale

Sponsored by Mary Martha Circle

United Methodist Women

Sale will be May 27 & 28

### We need your help:

- Donate items—when spring cleaning please save your household and other items and donate them for the sale. (No clothing please! You are encouraged to donate your clothing to Love INC)
  - Children's clothing from infant to size 6X will be accepted.
- Time—We will need help with setting up the sale upstairs and we will also need persons to help during the sale to watch the sale and take money. Clean up after the sale is also needed. (sign up sheets will be put out closer to the sale date)
- Plants—We sell repotted or excess plants from our yards. As you start your spring plantings, please plan to donate plants to the plant sale. We take any plants and you can repot, recreate (upcycle) planters or just bring in extra plants you have dug out of your yard. This is a huge hit during the sale.



# Worship Helpers

## April 3

**Liturgist:** Ron Pardonnet

**Acolyte:** Saria Brooks

**Inside Ushers:** Jean Reynhout & Jen Larsen

**Outside Ushers:** Vern & Carolyn Boose

**Projector:** Deb Prins

**Sound:** Need Volunteer

## April 10

**Liturgist:** Carline Knoll

**Acolyte:** Elizabeth Brooks

**Inside Ushers:** Ruth Merritt & Jean Reynhout

**Outside Ushers:** Millie Stine & Dolores Cook

**Projector:** Jen Larsen

**Sound:** Need Volunteer

## April 17

**Liturgist:** Kay Pardonnet

**Acolyte:** Blake Larsen

**Inside Ushers:** Jane Fowler & Jen Larsen

**Outside Ushers:** Carline Knoll & Joan Faulkner

**Projector:** Tyler Friend

**Sound:** Need Volunteer



## Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, April 23, 2016

Serving 8am-11am

If you are able to help or donate items needed please see Jean Reynhout as soon as possible. A list of needed items is on the table in the coffee area at church.

## April 24

**Liturgist:** Nancy Clark

**Acolyte:** Rachel Larsen

**Inside Ushers:** Ruth Merritt & Janet Fisher

**Outside Ushers:** Ron & Kay Pardonnet

**Projector:** Deb Prins

**Sound:** Need Volunteer

If you would like to be included in helping with; liturgist; ushering; acolyte; sound or computer on Sunday mornings, please let Deb Prins know and we will work you into the schedule.

A vertical poster for 'The Hope Project Freedom Walk'. At the top, it says 'The Hope Project' with a heart and wings logo. Below that, 'FREEDOM WALK' is written in large, bold letters. The main text reads: 'Help Us Stop Human Trafficking. SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2016 Registration 9 to 9:30AM Followed by the Walk at the Fremont Middle School 500 Woodrow Street, Fremont, Michigan'. It also mentions 'Organizations, business and corporate sponsors are needed to join us in this effort.' and 'PRIZES to the Highest Fund-raisers! Water &amp; Snacks Provided'. At the bottom, it says 'To register and print sponsor forms, go to www.hopeprojectusa.org' and 'Have Questions? Call (231) 924-3948'. There are small photos of people on the sides and bottom.

The Hope Project is a faith based organization that raises awareness of human trafficking and brings restoration and healing from the effects of sex trafficking. They are in the process of opening a home in West Michigan for girls who have been rescued out of sex trafficking, ages 11-17 years old. This home will provide wrap around care in a loving environment to help the girls not just survive, but thrive in society.

***One way to help raise money is by participating in the Freedom Walk in Fremont on April 16, 2016. If you would like to walk please see Joe Groff or Deb Prins to get registered as a walker and to pick up your pledge form.***

***Pledge forms are in the coffee area!***

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
<b>3</b> 9:30am – Worship 11am – Sunday School For All Ages	<b>4</b> 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy Office Hours 1pm – Wired Word	<b>5</b> 2pm – Longcore Circle	<b>6</b> 8:30am – Men’s Group @ City Limits 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy Office Hours 7pm – Choir Practice	<b>7</b> Pastor Kathy’s Day Off	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 9:30am – Worship 11am – Sunday School For All Ages	<b>11</b> 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy Office Hours 1pm – Wired Word	<b>12</b> 6pm– Ladies Night Out	<b>13</b> 8:30am – Men’s Group @ City Limits 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy Office Hours 7pm – Choir Practice	<b>14</b> Pastor Kathy’s Day Off	<b>15</b>  6pm – Amish Dinner @ Mary’s Bakery	<b>16</b> 9am – Freedom Walk for Project Hope
<b>17</b> 9:30am – Worship 11am – Sunday School For All Ages	<b>18</b> 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy Office Hours 1pm – Wired Word	<b>19</b> 9:30am – Mary Martha Circle	<b>20</b> 8:30am – Men’s Group @ City Limits 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy Office Hours 7pm – Choir Practice	<b>21</b> Pastor Kathy’s Day Off	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 8am-11am – Pancake Breakfast 8an-5pm – Sheepdog Seminar @ First UMC
<b>24</b> 9:30am – Worship 11am – Sunday School For All Ages  <b>NOISY OFFERING</b>	<b>25</b> 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy Office Hours 1pm – Wired Word	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 8:30am – Men’s Group @ City Limits 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy Office Hours 7pm – Choir Practice	<b>28</b> Pastor Kathy’s Day Off	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>

## Newaygo United Methodist Church Activities –2016

*There may be groups or individuals using the church space that are not included on this calendar of Church Events. Please check the large wall calendar in the office or the printed calendar on the desk in the office for a full list of building use. If you have any questions please call the church at 652-6581. Thank you.*

*Deb*



**Newaygo United Methodist  
Church**

P.O. Box 366  
Newaygo, MI 49337

**Phone:**

231-652-6581

**Fax:**

231-652-6601

**E-Mail:**

umcnew@newaygoumc.com

**Mission**

We are God's Dream Seekers who seek to make disciples of Jesus Christ in ways that show love, respect and service to our community.

Join us on Sunday Mornings for Worship at 9:30am with fellowship following.

*Sunday School for all ages at 11am.*

*All are welcome.*

If you have any questions or would like more information regarding worship services and activities at Newaygo United Methodist Church please feel free to call the church office Monday-Thursday 9am-1pm.

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*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

[www.newaygoumc.com](http://www.newaygoumc.com)

or check us out on

facebook: Newaygo  
United Methodist Church

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