

GOD'S DREAM SEEKERS NEWS

March 2017
Volume 4 Issue 3



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

A Time for Renewal

Caution, don't blink! Spring is upon us and if we blink summer will be here. If I could be granted one wish, it is that spring would last a bit longer. Spring is a time of enormous activity going on in earth's time of new life. It is about the warm sun kissing our faces and the beauty of blossoms filling our eyes. It is a time when we begin to hear the first rustling of new leaves as they once again clothe the winter worn trees. What a great time for Lent and then our Easter celebration. After all it is the time we celebrate the ultimate in new life. But also we are reminded that God is faithful in bringing us the regular rhythms of life. We know we can make it through those dark winter months and the wonder of spring will be upon us. God is indeed a very good God. Everything has to work together to bring about a most welcome change.

And we have our part in working together to tell the ultimate story of New Life offered in what Jesus did and said and does and says. This hope of New Life has lasted for more than 2000 years. Why is that? It is because God gave us the gift of Jesus because we needed him and God will not take the gift back. It is up to us to receive it and work with it to bring about the ultimate transformation of the world. And we can start by proclaiming how good this earth is, especially when it is wrapped in the beauty of new life itself. But more than that we can proclaim the beauty of the ultimate New Life expressed in the person of Jesus Christ. We can

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proclaim that death itself is not the final answer, that something else lies beyond its doors. We can proclaim that we can experience glimpses of Heaven as we walk this earth in faith. We have a chance to grasp life as it should be, lived in God with Jesus at the center of our being.

So, let us look forward to spring and to new glimpses of God's kingdom as we behold the beauty around us.

Caution, don't blink!

Pastor Kathy

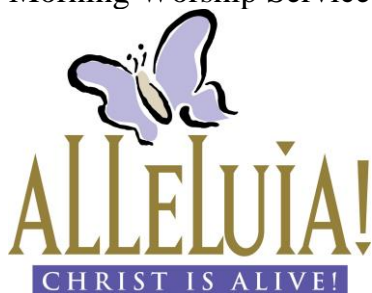


Doris Jacques	Marne Salacina
Edna Schilling	Fern Glasspoole
Nancy Ferguson	Al Winchel
Jean Bumstead	June Wade
Susanne Geerdink	Barb Westbrook
Unspoken Prayers	Paul Gray
Military Service Persons	Peace in the World

Lenten Activities

All activities are at Newaygo United Methodist Church unless otherwise noted.

- Wednesday, March 1 @ 7pm – Ash Wednesday Worship Service
- Sunday, March 5 @ 9:30am – First Sunday of Lent Worship Service
- Wednesday, March 8 @ noon – Soup's On for Lent @ St. Bartholomew Catholic Church
- Sunday, March 12 @ 9:30am – Second Sunday of Lent Worship Service
- Wednesday, March 15 @ noon – Soup's On for Lent at Family Of God Community Church
- Sunday, March 19 @ 9:30am – Third Sunday of Lent Worship Service
- Wednesday, March 22 @ noon – Soup's On for Lent – Place to be determined. Watch Bulletin
- Sunday, March 26 @ 9:30am – Fourth Sunday of Lent Worship Service
- Wednesday, March 29 @ noon – Soup's On for Lent @ Newaygo Congregational United Church of Christ
- Sunday, April 2 @ 9:30am – Fifth Sunday of Lent Worship Service
- Wednesday, April 5 @ noon – Soup's On for Lent @ Newaygo United Methodist Church
- Sunday, April 9 @ 9:30am – Palm/Passion Sunday Worship Service
- Thursday, April 13 @ 7pm – Maundy Thursday Worship Service
- Friday, April 14 @ 7pm – Good Friday Worship Service
- Sunday, April 16 @ 9:30am – Easter Morning Worship Service



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

Well, the men met for breakfast and fellowship four times this month...every Wednesday at 8:30am....we talked about many things.....they are a secret.....if you want to get "IN THE KNOW"...then you have to come and join us for breakfast.

See you soon.....

Mary Martha Circle

Mary Martha met the 3rd Tuesday in February. After tasty goodies - we love to eat - and a short devotion we talked about where we donated money earned in 2016, how we could help the church and about who needed our prayers.

Then we talked about our favorite things. In a nutshell we love Newaygo wildlife especially birds - snowy owls, bald eagles, Canada Geese flying overhead and nesting osprey.

Then the group went down the street for pizza and more good conversation. We are a loving, caring group of women.

Come join us in March

United Methodist Women's Meetings

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

- **Longcore Circle** –Please watch bulletin and future newsletters for next meeting time
- **UMW Ladies Night Out** –Tuesday, March 14 @ 6:00pm @ the church. We will have a time of study/fun and a business meeting. (All Women are a part of UMW and this is where we make decisions for the group as a whole. Please join us.)
- **Mary Martha Circle** – Tuesday, March 21 at 9:30am @ the church. We have a short meeting and devotionals.



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–Native American Ministries Sunday

Today Native Americans use their unique languages and cultures to honor their heritage, and live as Jesus-followers, led by Native American pastors.

Through Native American Ministries Sunday (**Noisy offering, Sunday March 26th**), we're able to equip and empower Native American pastors, congregations and seminary students to do what only they can do: authentically worship and serve Jesus.

As a member of The United Methodist Church, your gift, on this day, equips Native congregations to worship and serve as only they can.

When you support Native American Ministries Sunday, you equip seminary students who will honor and celebrate Native American culture in their ministries. And you empower congregations that are finding fresh new ways to minister to their communities with the love of Christ.

Our noisy offering this month will go to support these efforts.

Mission chair- Jan Fisher



**TOGETHER, WE EMPOWER
LOCAL SPIRITUAL
DEVELOPMENT AND
EDUCATE NATIVE AMERICAN
SEMINARY STUDENTS TO
SERVE GOD FAITHFULLY.**



March Madness is upon us and I don't just mean basketball. Open the windows. Clean the windows. Where are the shorts? Mardi-Gras and Fat Tuesday; be sure to have a paczki before they're gone, Girl Scout cookies arrive in March. Girl Scouts; if you asked me to buy a box, you'll have to remind me that I owe you money. I am excited to try the gluten free ones this year. Spring squishes in on March 20th I believe. The season of mud has begun in all its brown to green glory. Wicked March quite often has a storm or two left to go with that windy bite. The rebirth of the world is a messy process. Leprechaun folk, Fat Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Dr. Seuss' Birthday, March has something for everyone. It's an absolute whirlwind. May we all survive springing ahead. The question for me is where is my focus?

Not where it should be usually. I am easily distracted. I'm like everyone else. It's hard to focus on the work part of my life while I'm thinking on a health issue, or the home part is interrupted by some unresolved work issue. Sometimes the best I can do is make it through the day. I feel like most times I don't have enough information to make the right decision. It's exhausting. Then I remember all I need do is be still and listen, which is really hard for me whirling around like I am. Kids must have that same issue. Less years and smaller size does not make the distractions or problems less difficult.

As always pray for us. March is also marks the second half of the school year. Our Kenny C, Zoey, Dawson, and Seth are half way to being third graders. Kenny B is on his way to 4th grade. AJ will move on to 6th grade with all the love we can send with him. They have accomplished so much and have so much more to do. It is an exciting promise filled, exhausting problem filled life ahead. Support us as we do our best to be still and listen.

Sherry



Treasurer's Report

January – March are traditionally low giving months and many larger bills are also due during this time including the insurances and the city special assessment. **There is however still giving for February 26th to add into the contributions for February and Payroll of \$2376.73 to add to the expenses.** Please remember that even if you are not here the lights are still on. Prayerfully consider how you can help.

Contributions through February 24, 2017 -	\$ 5,564.00
Expenses through February 24, 2017 -	\$ 5,610.75
Total	\$ (46.75)

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 Classes For All Ages

10:45 for Children
11:00am for Adults

SAVE THE DATE

SPRING EXTRAVAGANZA

March 25, 2017

At Newaygo United Methodist Church

2pm-9pm

Many fun activities planned...a little bunny told us activities will include pizza making and Easter Egg coloring....



Social Group Planning 2017

Below are suggestions of fun activities for church fellowship in 2017. Some of the activities have a small cost but we try to make most activities family friendly. There are a few activities that still need someone to take on the planning, if you are willing to do that please let Joe Groff or Deb Prins know as soon as possible. If you have other ideas for an activity please let us know. Many of the activities listed are suggestions that can be changed if you have something you would like to plan.

March		Grand Rapids Public Museum (space exhibit)	\$8-Adult \$7-Seniors \$3-children & students \$1-carousel	03/18/2017
April	Dorothy Besemer	Progressive Dinner		04/22/2017
May	Melanie Gray	White Caps 1pm game - 30 tickets reserved - total # by April 7	\$11.50	05/07/2017
June	Jean Reynhout	Pot Luck @ Jean's - Celebration for Pastor Kathy Retirement		06/17/2017
July		Grand Lady River Boat picnic Cruise - Bring own picnic lunch-drinks, sundaes, rootbeer floats & candy bars for purchase on boat.	\$15-Adult 10yr/under free with adult ticket	Sunday 07/16/2017 1pm-3pm - board at 12:30pm
August	Barry & Cathy Badge	Ludington Beach with Hot Dog roast @ Campground around 4pm		08/19/2017
September		Michigan Herritage Park, Muskegon		09/16/2017
October	Deb Prins	Lewis Farm Market & Country Dairy -New Era	\$12	10/21/2017
November	Jen Larsen & Carline Knoll	Pot Luck and Game Night		11/18/2017
December	Stan & Jan Fisher	Grand Rapids-Christmas Concert of some kind	\$	12/16/2017



PLEASE let us know if you are willing to plan an activity even if it is not the activity listed for the month. These are just suggestions!

Safety Team Update

Safety Teams will be utilized beginning Sunday March 5th during worship service.

If you would like to be a part of a 2 person team that is (on duty) on Sunday morning, please let the church office know as soon as possible there is still time to become a part of this important service team. Training will be provided and will take you through what you should be checking and watching for on Sunday mornings.

- February 27, 2017 – The combination to the door for the church will be changed. If you need the code for any reason, please contact the church office. The code will be changed yearly after this to help make Newaygo United Methodist Church a safer place for everyone.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 15 @ 5:30pm. If you have any questions or concerns you would like to have considered please plan to attend or contact the church office at 231-652-6581.



March Birthday's

3/3 Diane Boyd
3/5 Elijah Brooks
3/6 Olivia Jenerou
3/7 Janet Fisher
3/17 Jeanette Newfer
3/19 Joyce Dreyer
3/21 Bri Brooks
3/21 Shelley Shain
3/22 Madison Berwald
3/24 Erik Larsen
3/26 Mitch Ryan
3/27 Joan Faulkner
3/27 Autumn Brooks



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. Thank you for your help in updating our information.

Girl Scout Cookies Cookies are IN

Thank you to the members who ordered Girl Scout cookies from Rachel and Morgan!

Cookies will be available at church on February 26. The Troop can take cash or check as payment.

Thank you again for your support!



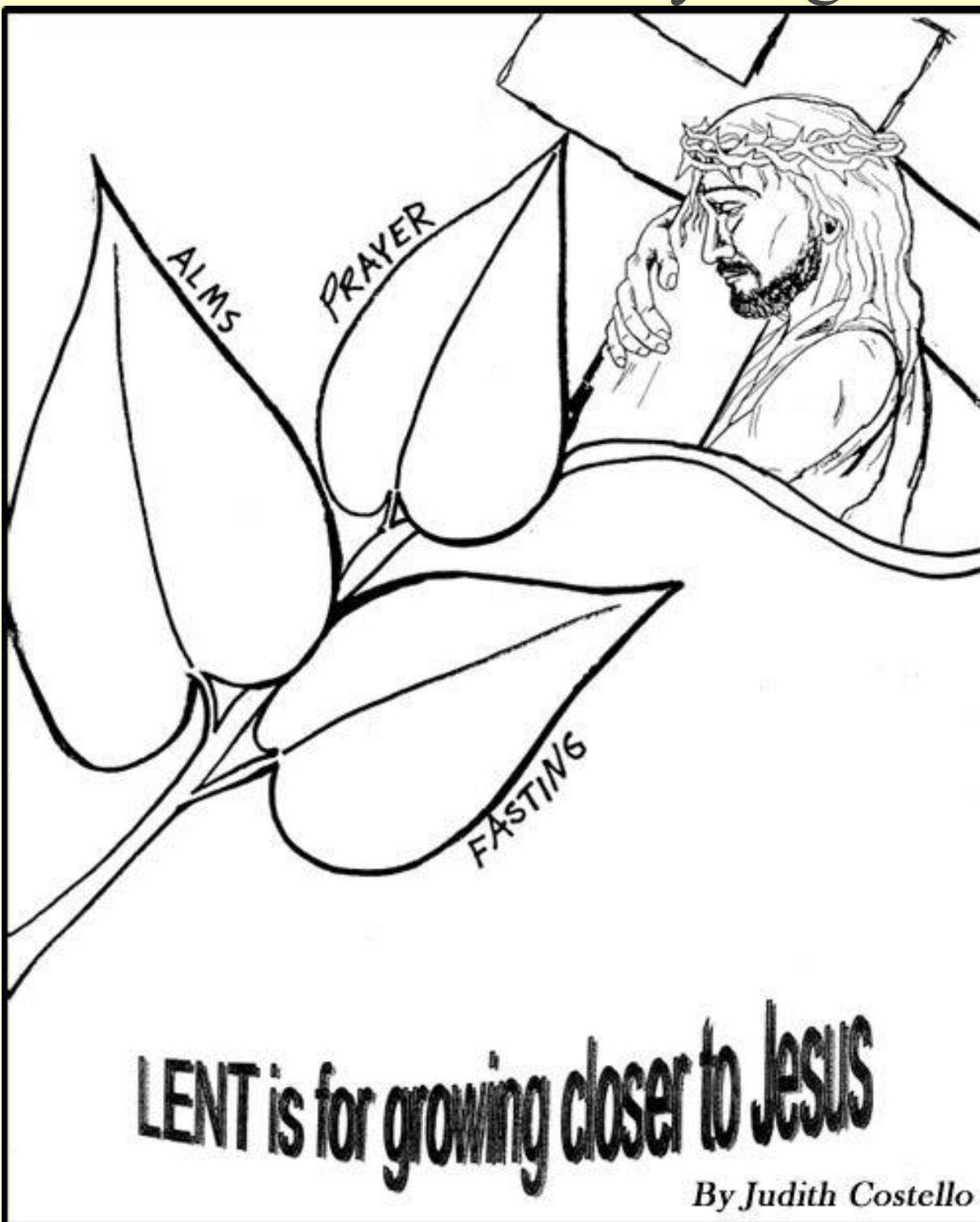
Custodian

We want to say thank you to Karen Winchel for her great job of keeping the church looking nice for all of us. She (along with Al's help) has done a wonderful job and we appreciate it so much. We wish her well in her new career as a nurse. THANK YOU Karen!

We want to welcome Erik Larson to the church staff as our new custodian. He has been doing a wonderful job so far and we appreciate his willingness to make this part of his ministry.

Thank You!

Children's Activity Page



LENT is for growing closer to Jesus

By Judith Costello

Military Prayer Chain

Please keep all persons serving in the US military branches in your prayers every day. Below are persons currently serving in the military who are loved ones of your church members.

- Staff Sargent Mandy Hagan
- Staff Sargent Frank Arnold
- Spec. Kathleen Arnold
- Ashley Friend
- Clint Walls
- Elliott McBride
- Christopher Peterman
- Jacob Shain
- Jeremy Cook

We thank you Lord for your love and protection for all of our loved ones and ask that you continue to protect all who serve in the armed forces.

Amen

Worship Helpers for March 2017

March 5

Liturgist: Ben Lester
Inside Usher: Amelia Stine & Dolores Cook
Outside Usher: Sue Osborn & Janet Fisher
Acolyte: Blake Larsen
Projector: Jen Larsen
Sound: Stan Fisher

March 12

Liturgist: Brenda Huckins Bonter
Inside Usher: Vern & Carolyn Boose
Outside Usher: Dudley Irwin & Jean Reynhout
Acolyte: Rachel Larsen
Projector: Taylor Prins
Sound: Deb Prins

March 19

Liturgist: Ron Pardonnet
Inside Usher: Ruth Merritt & Anne Henning
Outside Usher: Jan Richardson & Kate McKenna
Acolyte: Morgan Pope
Projector: Elizabeth Brooks
Sound: Deb Prins

March 26

Liturgist: Carline Knoll
Inside Usher: Ron & Kay Pardonnet
Outside Usher: Arlene Salacina & Jen Larsen
Acolyte: Saria Brooks
Projector: Deb Prins
Sound: Taylor Prins

If you would like to help with worship on Sunday morning please contact the office and we will put you on our list for worship helpers.

Lent Devotional Booklets

The Lenten Devotional booklets created using submissions of favorite inspirational writings from the congregation will be available during worship on Sunday, February 26th. You may also stop by the church Mon-Thurs 9am-1pm.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8:30am – Men's Group @ City Limits 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy office Hours 7pm – Ash Wednesday Service –Choir Practice following service	2 Pastor Kathy's Day Off	3	4
5 1st Sun of Lent 9:30am – Worship 10:45am – Children's Sunday School 11am – Adult Sunday School	6 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy Office Hours 1pm – Wired Word	7	8 8:30am – Men's Group @ City Limits 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy office Hours 7pm –Choir Practice	9 Pastor Kathy's Day Off	10	11
12 2nd Sun of Lent – Spring Forward Daylight Savings 9:30am – Worship 10:45am – Children's Sunday School 11am – Adult Sunday School	13 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy Office Hours 1pm – Wired Word	14 6:00pm –UMW Ladies Night Out	15 8:30am – Men's Group @ City Limits 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy office Hours 7pm –Choir Practice	16 Pastor Kathy's Day Off	17	18 Grand Rapids Public Museum Time TBD – Needs someone to plan please
19 3rd Sun of Lent 9:30am – Worship – DS Bill Haggard Preaching 10:45am – Children's Sunday School 11am – Adult Sunday School	20 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy Office Hours 1pm – Wired Word	21 9:30am – Mary Marth Circle 6:30pm – Finance 7:00pm – Church Council	22 8:30am – Men's Group @ City Limits 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy office Hours 7pm –Choir Practice	23 Pastor Kathy's Day Off	24	25 8am-11am - 4 th Saturday Pancake Breakfast
26 4th Sun of Lent - Noisy Offering 9:30am – Worship 10:45am – Children's Sunday School 11am – Adult Sunday School	27 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy Office Hours 1pm – Wired Word	28	29 8:30am – Men's Group @ City Limits 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy office Hours 7pm –Choir Practice	30 Pastor Kathy's Day Off	31	

Newaygo United Methodist Church Activities



**Newaygo United Methodist
Church**

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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.

10:45 –Children's Sunday School

11:00am – Adult Sunday School

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.

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.newaygoumc.com

or check us out on

Facebook: Newaygo
United Methodist Church

Newaygo United Methodist Church

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