

WINDOW TO THE WORLD

APRIL 2018

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Listed below are some of the Joys and Concerns heard during recent worship services. We carry each other's burdens and dance dances for all of God's children. Reach out and touch someone's life as you pray for them.

ALLEGAN UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
409 Trowbridge Street
Allegan Mi 49010
269-673-4236
Fax No. 269-673-8856

Email-secretary@allumc.org
Website: Alleganumc.net

Sunday Morning Worship
9:30 a.m.
Sunday School
11:00 a.m.
Robert K. Lynch
Pastor
269-673-2512



**ALLEGAN UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
is a caring, dynamic community of faith where all people are invited to encounter God and to celebrate a Risen Lord. Through God's Spirit we grow spiritually, emphasize the individual's relationship with Christ and others, and change with and serve the needs of the community.

JOYS

CONGRATULATIONS

Happy 17th Birthday - Abby Hall; Katie Anderson's Mackinaw City high school band received a #1 rating and middle school and #2 for their band festival. It was the first time the band had been to festival since 1980!; Bailey Weaver in AHS production of "Buckshot and Blossoms."

THANK YOU

Ellen Bierlein thanks everyone for their prayers for her precious granddaughter, Eliana, who had surgery and is breathing so much better.

JOYS

Kim Leslie had a phone call from a girl she had in Kids Hope years ago and the girl is now going to graduate this year and wanted Kim to go with her prom dress shopping! Barb Simpson celebrates family birthdays.

APRIL 2018 PRAYERS AND CONCERNS



Prayers for our military:

Those connected with this congregation: Ryan Balgoyen, John Barber, Sadie Clark, Andrew Cowen, Thomas DeBruyne, Evan Deniston, Matt Fullam, Stephanie Hadley, Isaiah Hadley, Michael Hileski, Aaron Maule; Gregory McIntire, Chelsea Reed, Jason Star, Dai Wessman and Dan Wrobleski.

Continued prayers for those battling cancer or having treatment:

Patty Anderson, Jane Allen, Tom Arlington, Tink Blackman, Evelyn Bierlein, Ed Bronson, Erin Brown, Paul Buckler, Bill Carr, Denise Cherry, Jim Conlon, Tammy Christy, Stacy Davis, Doug Duryea; Bud Harney; Vic Hitchcock, Ryan Howrigan, Lesley Kibiloski, Monica Kraai, Kay Kool, Kim Leslie, Bob Lynch, Ardis McIntire; Lyn McQuaid; Bruce Mejeur, Gene Modreske, John Murphy, Philip Nicolai, Gerry Olson, Larry Parrish, Linda Pullen, Michele Randal, Judie Randels, Rhonda Robinson, Mary Shaner, Rebecca Skrycki, Toby Star, Florene Stultz, Bob Thomas, Terri Stapleton, Jackson Stout, Deb Stutzman, Cessily Wotring Thackler, Nola Thole, Daniel Trevino, Trappy Truman, Danny Truong, Naomi Watts, Jenny Walsh, Jen Wessman and those known but unnamed.

Concerns & Prayers: CMU shooting; Lyn McQuaid more medical tests before surgery.

Health Concerns: Pastor's brother-in-law, Bud Harney, to starting cancer treatment; Kim Leslie to have treatment on her cervical vertebrae; Norm Pierson had a stroke and is at Bronson Commons in Mattawan for rehabilitation; Continued prayers for JoAnn Gallagher who is at Allegan County Medical Care Community; Continued prayers for Chic Heckman and her recovery, Emerson Howe in Holland hospital; Al Nielsen in AGH with cellulitis; Betty Reimink home recovering from the flu; Known but unnamed health concerns.

Sympathy: Laura Evans and the families of Paul Mata, Eddie Anderson and Leona Carple; Shipley family and friends.

Travel Mercies: Sadie Clark leaves for Boot Camp.

Please remember them in your prayers.

APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>1 Easter</i> 7:15 am Sunrise Service Hudson Corners Cemetery 9:30 am Easter Celebration Worship</p> 	<p><i>2</i> 10:30 am Vision Impaired (FH) 6 pm Pastoral Care Committee (FH) 7 pm Chancel Bell Choir</p>	<p><i>3</i></p>	<p><i>4</i> 8:30 - 10 am Tops (DS) 7 pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p><i>5</i> No Youth Praise Choir 6:30 pm Finance (FH)</p>	<p><i>6</i> 8 am Food Pantry Setup 1:30 pm Food Pantry Delivery 4 pm Briarwood Singalong</p>	<p><i>7</i></p>
<p><i>8</i> 8:30 am UMW (FH) 8:40 am. Joyful Noise 9:30 am Worship 11 am Sunday School 2:30-7:30 pm Girl Scouts(DS) 4:30 pm Boy Scouts (DS)</p>	<p><i>9</i> 4:15 pm Mission Committee (FH) 6 pm Branham (FH/KT) 7 pm Chancel Bell Choir</p>	<p><i>10</i> 12 pm Branham (FH/KT) 7 pm SonShine Circle (FH)</p>	<p><i>11</i> 8:30 - 10 am Tops (DS) 7 pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p><i>12</i> 5:45 pm Youth Praise Choir</p>	<p><i>13</i> 8 am Food Pantry Setup</p>	<p><i>14</i></p>
<p><i>15 (Proclamation Brass)</i> 8:40 am. Joyful Noise 9:30 am Worship Brunch/Potluck after Worship 4:30 pm Boy Scouts (DS)</p>	<p><i>16</i> 7 pm Chancel Bell Choir</p>	<p><i>17</i></p>	<p><i>18</i> 8:30 - 10 am Tops (DS) 7 pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p><i>19</i> 1 pm Sarah Circle (FH) 5:45 pm Youth Praise Choir 6:30 pm Ad Board (FH)</p>	<p><i>20</i> 8 am Food Pantry Setup 10 am Food Pantry Committee (FH)</p>	<p><i>21</i> 9 am Roadside pickup—Meet at church parking lot</p>
<p><i>22</i> 8:40 am. Joyful Noise 9:30 am Worship 11 am Sunday School 12 pm Newsletter Deadline 2:30-7:30 pm Girl Scouts(DS) 4:30 pm Boy Scouts (DS)</p>	<p><i>23</i> 7 pm Chancel Bell Choir</p>	<p><i>24</i> 7 pm Living Faith (FH)</p>	<p><i>25</i> 8:30 - 10 am Tops (DS) 7 pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p><i>26</i> 9 am Men's Fellowship 5:45 pm Youth Praise Choir</p>	<p><i>27</i> 8 am Food Pantry Setup</p>	<p><i>28</i></p>
<p><i>29</i> 8:40 am. Joyful Noise 9:30 am Worship 11 am Sunday School 4:30 pm Boy Scouts (DS) 6 pm Special Indian Service</p>	<p><i>30</i> 7 pm Chancel Bell Choir</p>				<p>Location Key DS - Downstairs FH - Fellowship Hall KT - Kitchen LB - Library SA - Sanctuary TP -Tops Room YR - Youth</p>	



Jan Edgerton, Director

Proclamation Brass

Sunday, April 15, 2018
9:30 a.m.

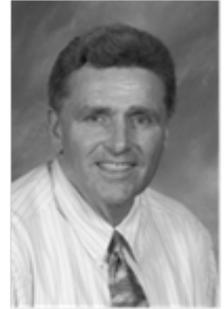
Allegan United Methodist Church

409 Trowbridge Street

Allegan, MI 49010

269-673-4236

From the Heart of the Pastor
Rev. Robert Lynch
Allegan UMC Synergy: The Power of Togetherness!
“Growing People to Love God”



This April 1, Christians will be celebrating Easter, the day on which the resurrection of Jesus is said to have taken place. The date of celebration changes from year to year.

The reason for this variation is that Easter always falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the spring equinox. So, in 2019, Easter will be celebrated on April 21, and on April 12 in 2020.

The connection with Jewish Passover

It is important to point out that while the name “Easter” is used in the English-speaking world, many more cultures refer to it by terms best translated as “Passover” (for instance, “Pascha” in Greek) – a reference, indeed, to the Jewish festival of Passover.

In the Hebrew Bible, Passover is a festival that commemorates the liberation of the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt, as narrated in the Book of Exodus. It was and continues to be the most important Jewish seasonal festival, celebrated on the first full moon after the vernal equinox.

At the time of Jesus, Passover had special significance, as the Jewish people were again under the dominance of foreign powers (namely, the Romans.) Jewish pilgrims streamed into Jerusalem every year in the hope that God’s chosen people (as they believed themselves to be) would soon be liberated once more.

For Christians, the Easter egg is symbolic of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Painting Easter eggs is an especially beloved tradition in the Orthodox and Eastern Catholic churches where the eggs are dyed red to represent the blood of Jesus Christ that was shed on the cross. Easter eggs are blessed by the priest at the end of the Paschal vigil and distributed to the congregants. The hard shell of the egg represents the sealed Tomb of Christ, and cracking the shell represents Jesus’ resurrection from the dead. Moreover, historically Christians would abstain from eating eggs and meat during Lent, and Easter was the first chance to eat eggs after a long period of abstinence. (Orthodox Christians continue to abstain from eggs during Lent.)

Easter egg hunts and egg rolling are two popular egg-related traditions. An egg hunt involves hiding eggs outside for children to run around and find on Easter morning. Eggs are rolled as a symbolic re-enactment of the rolling away of the stone from Christ’s tomb

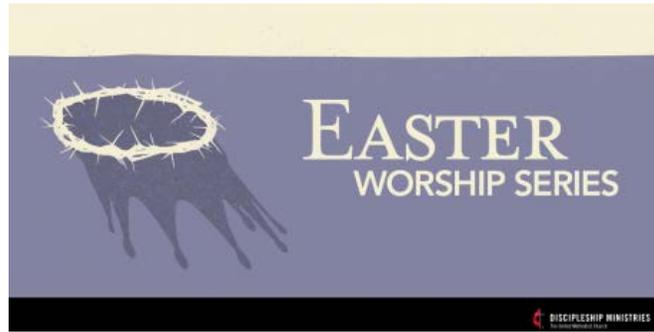
Easter eggs

From a Christian perspective, Easter eggs are said to represent Jesus' emergence from the tomb and resurrection. Decorating eggs for Easter is a tradition that dates back to at least the 13th century, according to some sources. One explanation for this custom is that eggs were formerly a forbidden food during the Lenten season, so people would paint and decorate them to mark the end of the period of penance and fasting, then eat them on Easter as a celebration.

Easter egg hunts and egg rolling are two popular egg-related traditions. In the U.S., the White House Easter Egg Roll, a race in which children push decorated, hard-boiled eggs across the White House lawn, is an annual event held the Monday after Easter. The first official White House egg roll occurred in 1878, when Rutherford B. Hayes was president. The event has no religious significance, although some people have considered egg rolling symbolic of the stone blocking Jesus' tomb being rolled away, leading to his resurrection.

EASTER PARADE

In New York City, the Easter Parade tradition dates back to the mid-1800s, when the upper crust of society would attend Easter services at various Fifth Avenue churches then stroll outside afterward, showing off their new spring outfits and hats. Average citizens started showing up along Fifth Avenue to check out the action. The tradition reached its peak by the mid-20th century, and in 1948, the popular film *Easter Parade* was released, starring Fred Astaire and Judy Garland and featuring the music of Irving Berlin. The title song includes the lyrics: "In your Easter bonnet, with all the frills upon it/You'll be the grandest lady in the Easter parade." The Easter Parade tradition lives on in Manhattan, with Fifth Avenue from 49th Street to 57th Street being shut down during the day to traffic. Participants often sport elaborately decorated bonnets and hats. The event has no religious significance, but sources note that Easter processions have been a part of Christianity since its earliest days. Today, other cities across America also have their own parades.



**EASTER SEASON 2018
IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST and
BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

In the first series, **“In the Name of Jesus,”** we will be focusing on what it means to claim the power of the name of Jesus as his followers. We will journey with the first disciples through the early chapters in the book of Acts, following them as they plant the very first Christian church and identifying how claiming the name of Jesus was the source of their strength, healing power and salvation.

Then, in our second series, **“And the Power of the Holy Spirit,”** we will explore what it means to be a church powered by the very Spirit of Christ. All of this will culminate on the final day of the season as we celebrate the name of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit that gave birth to the church on the day of Pentecost!

April 1, 2018 (Approx 7:20 a.m.) Easter Sunrise: Join us at Hudson Corners Cemetery: “Love Leads the Way” It moves from contemplation to celebration.

April 1, 2018 9:30 Easter Sunday: “Love Leads the Way” Using John 20:1-18 God pulls off the greatest April Fool event in human history! Join us for celebrating the resurrection of Jesus and kicking off the Easter Season of 50 days with Word and Sacrament!

***In the Name of Jesus...** Acts tells the story of the period after the resurrection of Jesus, when his followers established the church of Jesus Christ in his name. If I were going to give Acts a subtitle, it would be “The Book of Acts: Signs and Wonders.” The picture of the developing church painted by the author is of a growing community of believers powered by the Holy Spirit, and witnessed in the visible signs and wonders offered through the teachings and healings of the apostles.*

Week 1: April 8 “Testimony... To the Resurrection” Acts 4:32-35

Week 2: April 15 “Faith... That Makes Us Strong” Acts 3:12-19

Week 3: April 22 “Salvation Comes” Acts 4:5-12

***And in the Power of the Holy Spirit** The readings in Acts from that point forward reveal the heart and diversity of the power of the Holy Spirit at work through and beyond the communities of disciples of Jesus. They make clear just how broad, deep, and high God’s saving love reaches and seeks to reach through us, and so support the work of formation groups throughout these weeks to help persons, especially the newly baptized or confirmed, discern their spiritual gifts and identify directions for ministries they will begin pursuing after their commissioning into ministry in the name of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit at this season’s culmination, Pentecost.*

Week 1: April 29 “We Join the Outsiders...” Acts 8:26-40

Week 2: May 6 “The Outsiders Join Us...” Acts 10:44-48

Week 3: May 13 “Leaders Are Raised Up” Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Week 4: May 20 “Pentecost: Proclaim Jubilee!” Acts 2:1-21

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

THOSE WHO SERVE IN

April 2018

BIBLE STUDY

This group meets every week on Monday at 1:30 p.m. the home of Chic Heckman.

Come join us!

WHAT DO WE COLLECT? CHECK OUT THE ROUND TABLE OUTSIDE THE OFFICE

Box Tops for Education for North Ward Elementary
Lions Club - Glasses
Loose Change/Pennies - Missions
Pop Tops from cans- Burn Center in Chicago

HUMOR FROM A SECOND-GRADER

A pastor was speaking to a group of second-graders about the resurrection of Jesus when one student asked, "What did Jesus say right after He came out of the grave?"

The pastor explained that the Gospels do not tell us what He said.

The hand of one little girl shot up. "I know what He said: He said, 'Tah--dah!'"

ACOLYTES

1 - DeLaet children
8 - Allison Wiley
15 - Alex Foune
Morgan Foune
22 - Audrey Brink
Olivia Wiley
29 - Abby Hall
William Ruiz

COMMUNION SERVERS

1 - Joy Masek
Cindy Thiele
Tom and Lois Giles

FELLOWSHIP TIME

Campers

GREETERS

1 - Jack and Leslie Johnson
Matt and Kristy Milbocker
family
8 - Lisa Campeau
Chris and Patty Anderson
15 - Al and Jill LeMaire family
Nancy Brink
22 - Don and Barb Sanborn
Irene Waanders
29 - Bill and Tita Balgoyen
Cindy Thiele

LITURGIST

1 - Allison Wiley
8 - Allison Wiley
15 - Scott Dangremond
22 - Alex Foune
29 - Scott Dangremond

NURSERY

1 - Jill LeMaire
8 - Chris Jurkas
15- Lisa Campeau
22 -Allison Wiley
29 -Abby Hall

PIANISTS

1 - Susan Thiel
8 - Amanda Blom
15 - Wende Wood
22 - Ireland Armintrout
29 - Lisa Campeau

SOUND

1 - Ed Garvin
8 - Hanford Brink
15 - Tom Lindsley
22 - Jon Brink
29 - Tim Borgman

USHERS

1 - Mike and Virginia Conklin
8 - Joyce Brink
Lois Giles
15 - Jack and Becky Rininger
22 - Cindy Thiele
Lisa Campeau
29 - Pat and Leslie Ballard

VIDEO

1 - Barb Gibson
8 - Bobby Tremaine
15 - Jon Brink
22 - Clyde DeLaet
29 - Tom Lindsley

What Is the ADBOARD?

The *Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* says that the church council is the executive agency of the charge conference (§244). This means that between meetings of the charge conference, the church council is the group of leaders who guide and further the ministry of the congregation. The church council exists to create and supervise the strategic plan for an effective congregation. The church council as a group should reflect the character and population of your congregation. The decisions made by the council will shape the future and demonstrate for everyone how God's kingdom comes in your immediate community.

The work of the church council is to envision, plan, implement, and annually evaluate your congregation's ministry and mission. This broad description of the work of the church council has several implications. Here are three implications that this Guideline will expand in the following pages.

First, this description implies that the church council must hold a broad view or "big picture" of the future of your congregation. That is what visioning is – holding the "big picture" of the way your congregation will live into the mission of The United Methodist Church. The mission is stated in the *Book of Discipline*: "The mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world" (§120). Another way to think about the work of keeping a "big picture" is to recall Biblical images of the church as the body of Christ, carrying out ministry on earth. Ask how your congregation helps to carry the gospel message into your community. The church council members should remind themselves frequently of the vision they have for being God's people in your community.

The second implication for your work is that the leadership group manages and administers the on-going life of the congregation. Generally, the church council oversees and coordinates ministry among several groups including trustees, finance committee, discipleship groups, outreach efforts, pastor-parish relations, nominations, and others. However, in congregations with less than fifty people, the church council may actually be the group that works together to *do* the ministry. The work of administration must be accomplished with the vision of your congregation in mind.

The third implication is to schedule and seriously evaluate your congregation's ministry. An important role of leaders is constantly seeking ways to be more effective. There is a subtle difference between being "in the

groove” and being “in a rut.” Being “in the groove” is a good thing! An “in the groove” church has developed ministries that operate effectively to help people grow in faith and live as disciples in the world. Being “in a rut” means the church is doing the same old things in the same old way with the same old results! Sometimes the way we do things keeps us from seeing other options. Leaders must evaluate ministry, always looking for a better way to be the people of God in the community.

What Does the Church Council DO?

The church leadership group has responsibility for planning, implementing and evaluating effective ministry. This Guideline and resources listed at the end will help you with this responsibility that has been entrusted to you by your congregation and by God.

In the last several years, many congregations have experimented with new ways to describe ministry and to define leadership. The church council terminology has been replaced by other terms, such as *leadership team* or *discipleship team*. Ministry areas may be described in categories such as “Loving God, Loving Neighbor” or “Learning Together, Serving Together, and Worshiping Together.” The terminology is important only as it represents your understanding of God’s call to the congregation. In whatever form, your council will need to determine how it will be organized, how often it will meet, how it will set priorities, how it will evaluate the congregation’s plan for discipleship, and how it will allocate your congregation’s resources.

Plan, implement and evaluate effective ministry!
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The *Discipline* (§ 252) gives the church council these specific responsibilities:

- Plan and implement programs for nurture, outreach, and witness in the local church
- Provide for the administration of the church and its daily life
- Carry out the actions approved by the charge conference
- Meet at least quarterly
- Review the membership of the local church
- Fill interim vacancies among lay officers between charge conference meetings
- Recommend salary for pastor and staff to the charge conference after receiving recommendation from the pastor/parish relations committee
- Review the PPRC recommendation for the pastor’s housing and report to the charge conference for approval

LEADERSHIP SKILLS	SPIRITUAL LIFE
Work well with people of all ages, abilities	Personal prayer life
Communication skill—listening	Bible reading for study and devotion
Communication skill—speaking and making presentations	Participation in public worship
Ability to vision	Frequent Communion
Ability to recruit others and delegate tasks	Service to others
Ability to plan and lead a meeting, project, or event	Balance of loving God and loving people
Ability to lead, teach others in spiritual growth	Exhibits the fruits of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control)
Ability to complete a task (follow through)	Fasting or abstinence (not necessarily food)