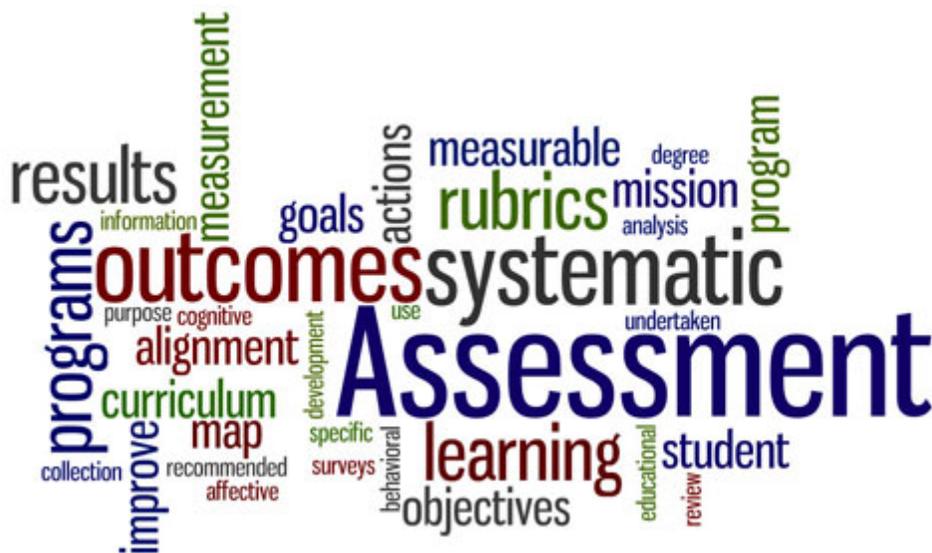


From the Heart of the Pastor
Rev. Robert Lynch
Allegan UMC Synergy: The Power of Togetherness!
“Growing People to Love God”

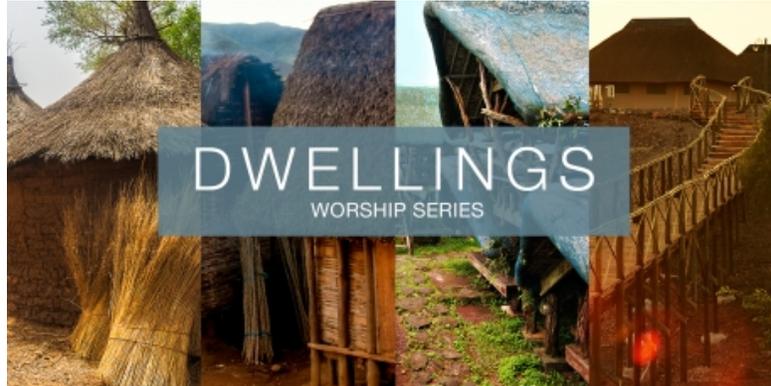
The last part of assessment is the hardest part of personal evaluation! It demands setting up realistic goals or action plans! Once we have established specific, measureable, realistic and acceptable goals from our core values, we need to set up action plans which are short term as well as long term goals based on our inward and outward ministries.

1. Continue to invite friends, neighbors and relatives to our Sunday Worship. Try to increase Worship attendance. Because of people moving or returning to the Lord, our average church attendance is low. We need to establish a better communication base when we recognize that people have missed a few Sundays. Also continue to have special Sundays that invite people from our community. Girl/Boy Scout Sunday, special music events or visiting choirs are simple ways to invite as well as increase attendance.
2. Be intentional in inviting people from our Outreach ministries (Kid's Hope & Hands of Grace) to become part of our faith community. Also every Friday we have inmates (men and women) to help bring in food from warehouse. They should be included in our invitation.
3. Develop a financial plan to have a balanced budget for 2020. We need to ask ourselves difficult questions concerning our financial budget. We need to establish better communication between the Financial Committee and membership on the financial health of the congregation.

If you would like to submit your own action plan please drop them by my office in the Library at your convenience. “We are the Body of Christ”



Sermon Themes



Beginning with All Saints Sunday and ending with Reign of Christ Sunday (Christ the King Sunday), November is a time when we look back in remembrance of the saints, but we also look forward as we await Christ's coming again, more poignantly expressed in the season of Advent. In this season, we discover the many places in which God dwells—the heavens, the earth, the church, and each one of us.

This month is also a time of great paradox because of the tension between death and life. All Saints Sunday involves remembrance, yes, but it also can be a time when death gives way to life. God is the beginning and the end, and death gives way to victory through Christ, the living and ultimate paradox.

When God is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, where then does God dwell?

November

Week 1: November 4

Hope: Communion Sunday and Memorial Service

Revelation 21:1-6a "I am making all things new!" "God's dwelling place is among the people." God's plan is ultimate redemption, and that work began with Jesus, and we've been invited to participate.

The church is the place where people from all diverse tribes and nations are affirmed in their magnificent variety. The church is a community where people can be what they are, and do what they do best.

Week 2: November 11

Victory: Veterans Sunday

Hebrews 9:11-14, 24-28 One hundred years ago, an armistice was signed. Two thousand years ago, a different armistice was signed — in blood.

Week 3: November 18

Confidence

Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18), 19-25; Jesus came to free us from the chains of shame and created the church as a place for us to be vulnerable and challenge one another in love

Week 4: November 25

Love: Hanging of the Greens

Revelation 1:4b-8 We have a God and King whose primary characteristic and value is love. We have a King who created humankind in God's image and called us "very good." We have a King who knows our pain, walked in our shoes, and showed us how to really love and be part of God's kingdom, even when it's really hard and unpopular