





## Sermon Themes

What does it mean to be deeply committed Christians, growing in faith every day? How do we become fully engaged and flourishing in the Christian life? In this series, we explore a model for Christian discipleship built around five essential practices that we engage in both collectively and individually in order to more fully follow Jesus.

**March 1, 2020** 1st Sunday of Lent Five Essential Practices for Living the Christian Life: The Walk: Worship and Prayer: Psalm 95

**5:45pm Wednesday March 4<sup>th</sup>** THE PRACTICE OF PASSIONATE WORSHIP

- People are searching for worship that is authentic, alive, creative, and comprehensible, where they experience the life-changing presence of God in the presence of others.

**March 8, 2020** 2nd Sunday of Lent; Five Essential Practices for Living the Christian Life: "The Walk: Growing in the Word" Psalm 119:97; 103-105

**5:45pm Wednesday March 11<sup>th</sup>** THE PRACTICE OF INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT

- Christian disciples strive to develop faith and grow in Christ-likeness through study and learning, and God is best able to form disciples when people do this together and not by themselves.

**March 15, 2020** 3rd Sunday of Lent: Five Essential Practices for Living the Christian Life: "The Walk: Serve: Here I am Lord, Send Me" Matthew 25:31-40

**5:45pm Wednesday March 18<sup>th</sup>** THE PRACTICE OF RISK-TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE

- God strengthens the Body of Christ through mission and service, and God empowers the Body of Christ through witness.

**March 22, 2020** 4th Sunday of Lent: Five Essential Practices for Living the Christian Life: "The Walk: Living Generously: Where Your Treasure Is..." 1Timothy 6:17-19

**5:45 Wednesday March 25<sup>th</sup>** THE PRACTICE OF EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY

- People who give generously to the church do so because they genuinely desire to make a positive difference for the purposes of Christ and because they want to align their lives with higher purposes

**March 29, 2020** 5th Sunday of Lent: Five Essential Practices for Living the Christian Life: "The Walk" "Witnesses: Going Fishing, Reflecting Light" Matthew 5:14-16

**5:45pm Wednesday April 1<sup>st</sup>** THE PRACTICE OF RADICAL HOSPITALITY

- Christian hospitality refers to the active desire to invite, welcome, receive, and care for those who are strangers so that they find a spiritual home and discover for themselves the unending richness of life in Christ.

**April 5, 2020** Palm/Passion Sunday: Communion & Confirmation "The Five Practices of the Cross" The Final Words of Jesus from scripture: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me." "Into your hands I commit my spirit." "Behold your son...Behold your mother." "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." "Today you will be with me in paradise." "I thirst." "It is finished."

**5:45pm APRIL 9<sup>th</sup>** Maundy Thursday Simple meal at 5:45 Devotion and Holy Communion

**April 12, 2020** Easter Sunday Sunrise Service at Hudson Corners Cemetery

**Easter Sunday 9:30 Worship Service:** The Cross, the Tomb and the Stone Matthew 28:1-10

### CONFIRMATION 2020

As United Methodists, Confirmation stands for the moment when a youth is ready to accept for themselves the promises made for them at Baptism. It is a special moment when the community of believers recognizes the readiness of the youth to take their positions as members of the church and move from child to adult in the Christian community. It is also a moment when the community of believers recognizes the need to bring forth new leadership in the church and foster a new generation of United Methodists.

Our Confirmation Program will begin this year on March 1<sup>st</sup> and continue through April. Confirmation is open to any of our Middle School youth or older youth that are ready to make their faith commitment to Jesus and identify their beliefs with this church.

This year we'll be using "The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life: Each youth will receive a Youth Study Book! The five week course will cover: What does it mean to be deeply committed Christians, growing in faith every day? How do we become fully engaged and flourishing in the Christian life? In this series, we explore a model for Christian discipleship built around five essential practices that we engage in both collectively and individually in order to more fully follow Jesus.

### Church and Parsonage Expenses -January 2020

**Income \$ 21,254.79**

#### Church Expenses

705	Administrative Misc.	\$	189.94
704	Advertising	\$	48.88
602	Charter (Internet, Phone)	\$	191.40
602	City of Allegan (Water, Sewer)	\$	77.06
602	Consumers Elect.	\$	709.62
1006	Cokesbury	\$	842.85
605	Lawn/Snow	\$	127.94
709	Machine Maintenance (Konica Minolta)	\$	444.13
602	Michigan Gas	\$	432.10
702	Office Supplies	\$	90.90
703	Postage	\$	26.34
505	Professional Reimbursement - Pastor Bob	\$	40.00
602	Republic Services (Garbage/Recycle) (Church & Parsonage)	\$	106.50
504	Travel - Pastor Bob	\$	348.00
	Wages	\$	9,716.32
	West Michigan Conference & Insurance	\$	3,760.92

**Total Church Expenses for January 2020 \$ 17,152.90**

#### Parsonage Expenses

603	Charter (Phone, TV, Internet)	\$	201.33
603	Consumers Electric	\$	119.65
603	Michigan Gas	\$	89.36

**Total Parsonage Expenses for January 2020 \$ 410.34**

**(Non-Audited) Total \$ 17,563.24**

# 2020 March Newsletter - Financial Corner

## CONFIRMATION CLASS SCHEDULE

The Finance Committee is happy to share the final numbers from 2019 with you. Our 2019 Budget was set up for Income and Expenses to be \$203,268.

The final Income numbers are \$213,611 received vs plan of \$203,268 an overage of \$10,343! The final expenses were \$202,497 vs plan of \$203,268, an underspend of \$771! The Finance committee wants to Thank everyone for their generous givings and support and the care in spending of our money.

The Finance Committee along with many others, helped the year of 2019 with the Garage Sale last spring and the Ag/Bake through the summer months. The Pie Sales at Thanksgiving was another helpful event that led to the raising of \$7,101.97 for the General Fund.

The 2020 Budget has been set and approved by the Ad Board on Dec 19,2019.

Income and Expense for 2020 is \$194,139 – this is a need of \$16,178 per month for the year of 2020. This approved Budget of \$194,139 does not include the \$30,657 requested for Ministry Shares from the Church Conference.

The pledge drive number of \$186,586 is actually short by \$7,553 to the approved Budget set by the Ad Board. The Finance Committee has committed to a couple of fundraisers for 2020 to help offset this shortfall in the Pledge Drive. The Ag/Bake Table will once again happen in the Summer months of 2020. A couple of other events are being looked at by the Finance Committee, if you have a good idea for a fund raiser please pass it along to a Finance Committee member.

The Ministry Shares for 2020 is very important to all of us, so the Finance Committee and Ad Board have committed to reviewing the Church Finances in November 2020 and will determine if we can make a payment towards the \$30,657 requested by the Church Conference.

Finally, - Thank you to all for your continued help and support of our Allegan United Methodist Church.  
Thank you, The Finance Committee

MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup> 11:00 A.M. AFTER WORSHIP  
MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup> 11:00 A.M. AFTER WORSHIP  
MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup> 11:00 A.M. AFTER WORSHIP  
MARCH 22<sup>ND</sup> 11:00 A.M. AFTER WORSHIP  
MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup> 11:00 A.M. AFTER WORSHIP  
APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup> CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

**If an candidate is unable to attend the Sunday Morning session, he/she can make up the class by attending the Wednesday evening Lenten gathering where we will be using the same curriculum! Thanks for Joanne Giles for assisting me in this important task!**

**Please pray for Audrey Brink, John DeLaet, Elisa DeLaet, Olivia Wiley, & Morgan Foune**



### Family Camp

We would love it if you would join us on the shores of beautiful Lake Michigan at AUMC family camp this year. Dates are 7/4-7/11/20. Campers are welcome to come for the entire week or join us for whatever part of the week they are available. Friends are also welcome so if you have a family you'd like to invite to join you we would love to have them.

Reservations are made individually now either online or by calling the camp.

**231-869-5627 OR [lakemichigancampdirector@umcamping.org](mailto:lakemichigancampdirector@umcamping.org)**

Rates are \$36/night for a campsite or a platform tent. There are 3 cabins and they are \$80/night.

Whether you come every year or this would be your first time we hope you will consider joining us in this special spot.

If you have questions you can email Terri Maule at [maulefamily1@att.net](mailto:maulefamily1@att.net) or talk with Hanford and Eilene at church.

## ANY IDEAS??

A suggestion box has been placed on the table outside the nursery.

Thoughts or ideas to help improve our church functions would be appreciated.  
These suggestions will be directed to the appropriate committees.

If this a Trustee (Building/Parsonage) issue and a NON-emergency,  
please place it in the box.

If you have a confidential matter to discuss with the Staff Parrish Relations Committee,  
please contact a SPRC member directly.

SUPPORT OUR  
GIRL SCOUTS'  
BAKE SALE

SCOUT SUNDAY  
MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup>!





Luke 24:6

# Easter Flowers Order Form (Please print)

Please make checks payable to the church and place in collection plates on Sundays or mail to the church office **no later than March 22, 2020.**

Please order (# of plants) \_\_\_\_\_ in my/our name.

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

and list them in the bulletin (CIRCLE ONE)

In Honor of, In Memory of, To the Glory of,

NAME:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The price is \$10.00 per plant. We are ordering our plants from Holiday Floral.

\_\_\_ Daffodil \_\_\_ Hyacinth \_\_\_ Lily \_\_\_ Mum \_\_\_ Tulip

\_\_\_ I will bring my own but please add the name/names above.

**You may take your flowers home following the Easter service.**



## 2020 LENTEN SERVICE SCHEDULE

Lenten Meal and Service – March 4<sup>th</sup> @ 5:45 p.m. hosted by Sarah Circle – AUMC Fellowship Hall

Lenten Meal and Service – March 11<sup>th</sup> @ 5:45 p.m. hosted by Pentwater Campers

Lenten Meal and Service – March 18<sup>th</sup> @ 5:45 p.m. hosted by the Youth Group

Lenten Meal and Service – March 25<sup>th</sup> @ 5:45 p.m. hosted by the Girl Scouts

Lenten Meal and Service – April 1<sup>st</sup> @ 5:45 p.m. Open for anyone willing to host dinner

Palm Sunday Evening Service – April 5<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 p.m. – Congregational Church

Maundy Thursday Meal and Service – April 9<sup>th</sup> @ 5:45 p.m. in AUMC Fellowship Hall

Easter Sunday – April 12<sup>th</sup>

Sunrise Service @ 6:00 a.m. – Hudson Corners Cemetery

AUMC Worship Service @ 9:30 a.m.

## AD BOARD REPORTS

2/20/20

### Food Pantry – Chris Jurkas –

**Financial:** The pantry currently has \$18,870.65, plus \$1,100 in Meijer food cards.

**Peanut Butter Drive:** Continues until February 29th. Goal is to collect 6,000 jars. Allegan area sites are: Allegan County Community Foundation, Allegan Twp. Hall, Allegan City Hall, Valley Twp. Hall, Allegan County Department Human Services Complex, Rivertown Gym, Allegan Credit Union, Dollar General (1563 Lincoln Rd location), and Hartman-Ellis Agency.

**Toothbrushes:** Perrigo’s is donating thousands of toothbrushes to the Food Pantry Collaborative. In March we will be receiving a large supply.

**Cereal Drive:** Is the month of April. We will seek new drop sites—private businesses. Pick up dates will be announced later.

**Hungry for Christ:** Pancake Breakfast is April 25th 8-10:30 am at Hungry for Christ, 4565 135th Avenue, Hamilton. They provide us with an immense amount of fresh, frozen and non-perishable food items every month. This breakfast is one way we can say Thank You by giving them a cash donation.

**Certification for Safe Food Handling:** Coordinator will be certified in Safe Food Handling by the end of March.

**Statistics for 3 Years:** Client visits have increased substantially –

2019	4,146
2018	3,754
2017	3,735

**Kids Hope – Judy Curry –** Meeting with mentors and prayer partners Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

### Living Faith – Rod Rambadt –

Signs are being installed.

AT AD Board a report will be presented from West Michigan Meals on Wheels for using the church as a dining center. More information on various projects will be obtained from the 180 Turnaround Conference in March.

**Membership –** Membership at 295.

### Missions – Trevah Dalrymple –

The only thing the Mission’s Committee has to report is the Project of the Month for March is One Great Hour of Sharing.

### Scouting – Joan L. Rininger –

Scout Sunday is March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Girl Scout Troop 80500 is now in Cookie Mode. We will be delivering pre-ordered cookies over the next 2 weeks as well as selling more through Cookie Booths at Village Market on Saturdays.

The girls continue to work on earning badges. They recently enjoyed a field trip to the library to learn how to mend and bind books. Next month they will venture to the Air Zoo to where they will practice their engineering skills by designing and testing a life vest for a corgi, a camp cabin inspired by nature, and a prosthetic leg for an elephant!

**UMW – Cindy Thiele -** Mission Recognition Pins were presented to Tom and Lois Giles and Sandy Oetman.

The 6 Lenten meals will start at 5:45 (fifteen minutes earlier so that guests will have more time to eat). Thank you to all that are signing up for coffee hour.

We have one concern. Sunday mornings Jackie and I have had to clean up the kitchen. Usually two trays of dishes for the dishwasher, clean a coffee urn, and the counters wiped up. February 9, there was a coffee pot left on a hot burner. Friday group? Who is not cleaning up after themselves? It is not John and Joyce’s responsibility to clean the kitchen.

**Worship – Judy Jennings -** The Worship Committing held a planning meeting for the Lenten season. Lenten suppers and services were planned and, new this year, the suppers will begin at 5:45 p.m. We walked through the calendar beginning with Ash Wednesday, all the way to Easter Sunday. On April 19<sup>th</sup>, we have asked a local brass group to come and be part of our worship service and the service will follow with a potluck. More information coming soon.



- Donations:**  
**December:** 24 lbs of potatoes, 6 boxes of mac & cheese, 5 packages of hamburger buns, 12 cans of pork & beans, 3 juice, 3 miscellaneous; **Village Market**-13 bread, 6 packages of stuffing, 16 bakery items  
**January:** 5 spaghetti, 5 misc. **Village Market**-9 desserts, 18 bread items, 11 miscellaneous, 7 pkgs of croutons  
**February:** 27 pasta, 4 jelly, 6 tuna, 5 pasta sauce, 42 peanut butter, 32 cans vegetables, 1 pkg of cloth towels, 1 bag of potatoes, 3 cereal, 18 cans of miscellaneous, 81 miscellaneous; **Village Market**-65 bread, 7 pies, 3 bakery items, 17 desserts, 24 bags of chips, 18 snacks, 5 miscellaneous
- Purchasing a 2000 Chevrolet 3500:** We will use this to pick up food from various places.

Donation request for March: Saltine Crackers

Month	2019 Visits	# of People	2020 Visits	# of People	# of Kids
January	90	284	190	320	102
Feb. - Dec.	1304	4,231			
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,394</b>	<b>4,515</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>102</b>



The mission for the month of March is the One Great Hour of Sharing. Through this mission, we can make a difference in the lives of communities and individuals whose lives have been upended by storms, wars, climate change, and displacement.

The special offering supports staff members who specialize in disaster response and recovery. Funds also ensure adequate training for emergency response coordinators, construction volunteers, and case managers who assist victims of disasters, chainsaw gangs and sheetrock installers.

We join our church's offerings with those of United Methodist congregations around the world, to see that this response can be quick and efficient with signs of extravagant grace and expert assistance. Let us continue to ministry together.

# March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:25 am Worship 11 am Sunday School 12-2 pm UMYF	2 9-11:45 am Food Pantry 6:30 pm Trustee 7 pm Chancel Bells	3 9-11:45 am Food Pantry	4 8:30-10:30 am TOPS 9-11:45 am Food Pantry 5:45 Lent Dinner/Service 7 pm Chancel Choir	5 9-11:45 am Food Pantry 6:30 pm Finance	6 8 am Food Delivery 9-11:45 am Food Pantry 4 pm Briarwood Sing-a-Long 5:30-8:30 pm Girl Scouts	7
8 8:30 am UMW 9:25 am Worship 11 am Sunday School DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS	9 9-11:45 am Food Pantry 10:30 am Visual Impaired 7 pm Chancel Bells	10 9-11:45 am Food Pantry 6:30 pm SPRC	11 8:30-10:30 am TOPS 9-11:45 am Food Pantry 5:45 Lent Dinner/Service 7 pm Chancel Choir	12 9-11:45 am Food Pantry 1 pm Sarah Circle	13 8 am Food Delivery 9-11:45 am Food Pantry	14
15 <b>Boy Scout Sunday</b> 9:25 am Worship 11 am Sunday School	16 9-11:45 am Food Pantry 7 pm Chancel Bells	17 9-11:45 am Food Pantry St. Patrick's Day	18 8:30-10:30 am TOPS 9-11:45 am Food Pantry 5:45 Lent Dinner/Service 7 pm Chancel Choir	19 9-11:45 am Food Pantry 1 pm Sarah Circle	20 8 am Food Delivery 9 am FP Committee 9-11:45 am Food Pantry 5:30-8:30 pm Girl Scouts	21
22 9:25 am Worship 11 am Sunday School	23 9-11:45 am Food Pantry 7 pm Chancel Bells	24 9-11:45 am Food Pantry	25 8:30-10:30 am TOPS 9-11:45 am Food Pantry 5:45 Lent Dinner/Service 7 pm Chancel Choir	26 9-11:45 am Food Pantry 9 am Men's Fellowship 6:30 pm Ad Board	27 8 am Food Delivery 9-11:45 am Food Pantry	28
29 9:25 am Worship 11 am Sunday School 12-1 UMYF	30 9-11:45 am Food Pantry 7 pm Chancel Bells	31 9-11:45 am Food Pantry				

# NEWS FROM THE PEWS

## THANKFUL CORNER

### THOSE WHO SERVE IN

March 2020



#### ACOLYTES

- 1 – Audrey Brink
- 8 – Alex & Morgan Foune
- 15 – DeLaet Children
- 22 – Audrey Brink
- 29 – Alex & Morgan Foune

#### NURSERY

- 1 – Amanda/Josh
- 8 – Cathy Foune
- 15 – Jo Anne Giles
- 22 – Kristy Milbocker
- 29 – Abby Hall

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

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

#### COMMUNION SERVERS

- 1 – Tom & Lois Giles  
Eilene Brink  
Sari Hammon

#### PIANISTS

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

#### FELLOWSHIP TIME

- 1 – Andy & Arlene Branham
- 8 – Jerry & Joy Masek
- 15 – Tom & Lois Giles
- 22 – Jon & Joyce Brink
- 29 – Mary Anderson  
Chris Jurkas

#### SOUND

- 1 – Hanford Brink
- 8 – Tim Borgman
- 15 – Willard Jennings
- 22 – Ed Garvin
- 29 – Jon Brink

#### REMINDERS

**Palm Sunday**  
**April 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Easter Sunday**  
**April 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunrise Service @ 6 a.m.**  
**Worship Service @ 9:30 a.m.**  
**(Locations on Easter Page)**

#### GREETERS

- 1 – Cindy Thiele
- 8 – Tim Dickinson
- 15 – Lane & Mindy Sturman
- 22 – Woodie & Barb Gibson
- 29 – Sari Hammon

#### USHERS

- 1 – George & Emmie Babcock
- 8 – Bill & Tita Balgoyen
- 15 – Kevin & Beth Ann DeLaet
- 22 – Jo Ann Giles  
Hanford Brink
- 29 – Joshua & Amanda Blom

#### LITURGIST

- 1 – Elizabeth Closson
- 8 – Cathy Foune
- 15 – Amanda Blom
- 22 – Alex Foune
- 29 – Mark Bolyen

#### VIDEO

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

#### TV MEDIA

- 1 – Ireland Armintrout
- 8 – Rod Rambadt
- 15 – Nathan Parrish
- 22 – Alex Foune
- 29 – Rod Rambadt

I have been struggling with a lot of things: our government, our school board, our city council, a local criminal case, and our church. These are the things that keep me awake at night and tug on my heart. I am ashamed of our government and the ways we present ourselves to other countries. Name calling and back stabbing is ridiculous. I am sad about the possible split in our church because no one is going to come out a winner if that happens. In our local church there are issues that cause me to take the church to bed some nights. As a taxpayer in the city, I question the judgement of building a hotel in the Mahan Park area thinking it will bring more people to Allegan. Mahan Park is a great setting for viewing summer concerts, viewing the river, and just a peaceful place to gather. My heart hurts over the loss of North Ward School as we know it. Perhaps this will all work out, but it still hurts as North Ward owns a piece of my heart. A local criminal case troubles me as it is so hard to believe you have known a person for 3 years and suddenly he is arrested for a cold case. Then he leads investigators to remains buried in his yard! So upsetting and horrible to digest. So much is going on and I have no control over it other than to pray that God's got this, and He can see the big picture and I can't. I know He will help us deal with the outcome of the decisions that are made. Wow, that was some really heavy stuff wasn't it? When God gives us sunshine after the rain, I take it as a sign that all will be ok no matter the outcome. There is a song called "Through it All" and the words fit how I am feeling;

"I've had many tears and sorrows, I've had questions for tomorrow, there's been times I didn't know right from wrong. But in every situation, God gave me blessed consolation, that my trials come to only make me strong. Through it all, through it all, I've learned to trust in Jesus, I've learned to trust in God. Through it all, through it all, I've learned to depend upon His Word."

And that my friends, is proof positive that anything and everything is in God's hands and we just need give them all to Jesus.

Judy

WALK BY  
Faith  
NOT BY  
Sight.



#### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

As we move into the new year we continue to explore local, national and global mission projects that we might support. There are still openings for hosting the Sunday coffee hour; see the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall if you can help. We are lining up groups/individuals to serve the light supper on Wednesdays during Lent. Recognition pins were presented to Sandy Oetman and Tom and Lois Giles for their many hours of service to our church.

