

Read: 1 John 3:1-3

FROM THE



Pastor

Grace and peace to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of Jesus Christ!

Fall is slowly giving way to winter, and we now find ourselves in the throes of the holiday season! Most Halloween decorations

are down, to be replaced by generic fall or Thanksgiving decor. Soon, spouses who love to decorate the house will begin to sneak a Christmas decoration or two into the mix. Soon, the leaves will all be gone. Already, the dreaded “S” word has fallen. There will be time to spend with family and friends, feasts to be had, and presents to be opened.

Yet this year might feel different for some. At the writing of this letter, our country feels the loss of roughly 714,000 lives to date from COVID-19. Around the world we mourn the loss of almost 5 million to a disease that has continued to upend what feels like every aspect of our lives. This year, it might be harder for some of us to gather together knowing that when we do there will be fewer places set around the table, fewer smiles, fewer stories.

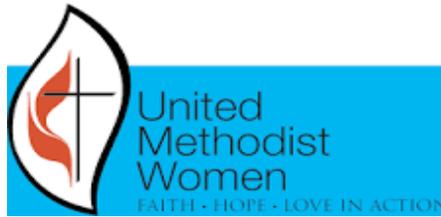
Today, the author of 1 John reminds us that we are all God’s children. What we will be when our time comes has not yet been revealed, but we

will be “like him, and see him as he is.” This is the hope that purifies us in our times of loss. It is my belief that God shares in our mourning of those we lose too soon, as a parent mourns the loss of a child. God knows what it is like to lose, experiencing it firsthand through the life and death of his Son. God invites us as we move into this holiday season to mourn as we feel called, but also to continue to celebrate and remember those who have gone on before us into glory, for as we know, Jesus’ story doesn’t end with death, but with new life through resurrection.

I truly hope that we will each take some time this holiday season to remember those who are no longer with us, while at the same time ensuring that we continue to create new memories and new stories that our children and children’s children will someday gather around to hear. For even in the midst of loss, we continue to hope, knowing that God loves each and every one of us.

Pastor Bryan Kilpatrick





MANCELONA UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

At our last UMW meeting held on October 13, our topic was Women and Water. Carol Kingsley reviewed the collective work women have done for the members of creation over the years. Our guest speaker was Renee Penny from the Kaskaska Conservation District. Renee spoke to our group about the various programs she has participated in to protect water resources in our area. She discussed ways we can help including protecting shorelines, installing rain gardens, planting native plants, and other ways to reduce soil erosion.

During the business section of our meeting, we discussed the set-up and organizing of church potlucks and coffee hours. We agreed that UMW could take on this responsibility instead of church teams as was done in the past. Coffee Hours will be held in the church lobby and potlucks in the Fellowship Hall and will resume as soon as possible after discussing with Pastor Bryan.

The bulk of our business meeting was to review and decide on fundraising proposals that were brought forth at the brainstorming session held previously in the month of October, led by Pastor Bryan. After reviewing twelve ideas, we settled on the following:

- 1) Craft Show table on November 20 at Mancelona Elementary School. RADA products and notecards featuring a black and white photo of our church will be sold. We are also asking for craft/art donations from church members. Contact Carol Kingsley if you can help.
- 2) Bake Sale at Family Fare – December 11. If you can help donate baked goods, please see Jackie Bates.
- 3) Cooking Classes – February/March. Rhonda Allen will coordinate these activities.
- 4) Church Garage Sale Beverages & Baked Goods Sale – June. Trustees run the Garage Sale and money goes to their funds, but UMW will sell baked goods and beverages at the sale. Dana Proffer and Robin Fisher will co-chair.
- 5) Note Cards – Rhonda Allen is working with Dana Proffer to get printed notecards with our church's photo on the front to sell at various events and to church members.
- 6) Travel Basket – Exploring this idea shared by Ruth Johnson – more to come!
- 7) Fall Festival – October 2022: This would be both a fundraiser and community outreach. Ideas would include simple carnival games, a dunk tank, pumpkin decorating, food, chili, hot dogs.

Our next meeting is on November 10 and our program is on the World Thank Offering. The meeting will be held at the church in the Fellowship Hall at 1:00 pm. December's meeting will be on the 8th. We are looking at doing service projects for shut-ins and community members as we did in 2020. Please join us!

Submitted by Ellen Whitehead - UMW Secretary

NURTURE & OUTREACH UPDATE

VETERAN'S DAY RECOGNITION – HONORING OUR VETERANS

On Sunday, November 14, Nurture and Outreach will honor and offer thanks to our church family who are veterans, a spouse of a veteran, or have a family member



currently serving in the armed services, we extend the invitation to honor them also! We will do this in a special way via a video presentation that Rhonda and Mike Allen have graciously volunteered, once again, to put together. We hope all veterans and their family members will be our guest for Second Sunday Potluck after church on November 14. All past participants will be included in the video. Additional information for new participants has been covered in the all-church email and church video announcements prior to this newsletter.

PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH



In October, Nurture & Outreach team collected monetary donations to honor Pastor Bryan and his family during Pastor Appreciation Month. Since Pastor let us know that Halloween is his

favorite holiday AND his sermon series in October revolved around the fanatical Alice in Wonderland stories, we decided to purchase the Kilpatrick family a gift card to Jacob's Farm and Corn Maze as well as a gift certificate to the Halloween Superstore. Thank you, Pastor, Ashley, Cece, Lucas, and Bradley for your love and leadership! We can't wait to hear all about your visit to these fun Halloween/Harvest destinations!

Submitted by Ellen Whitehead
Nurture and Outreach Co-Chair



Community Meal Update

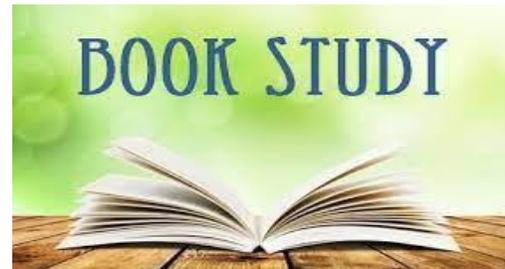
The Community Meal will continue to be postponed so that we can protect the Community Meal staff and our patrons.

Our Advisory Board does not want to get into the "policing" business, thus the decision to postpone. None of us were willing to take on that responsibility.

We look forward to reopening. Keep safe everyone.

Submitted by Sandy Neumann and Carol Kingsley

Community Meal Co-Chairs



The Heart that Grew Three Sizes: Finding Faith in the Story of the Grinch by Matt Rawle. Study will begin at Mancelona on Tuesday, 11/30 at 6pm, books will be \$15, youth study book will be \$10 if anyone wants a copy for younger ones.



MISSIONS UPDATE



November Mission- UMCOR –

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene are essential for good health and well-being. Water is used not only for drinking, but also for bathing, cooking, cleaning, waste disposal, and agriculture. Yet, 668 million people around the world do not have reliable access to clean drinking water and even more people lack access to water for agriculture and other household tasks to meet their everyday needs. What's more, 1.8 billion lack adequate toilets. The lack of access to these basic services and the education regarding healthy behaviors results in over 1,000 children a day dying from diseases, many of which are entirely preventable when WASH is addressed and sustained at the community level. UMCOR-WASH implements projects through a network of partners in countries that have the highest levels of childhood diseases and death and least access to basic WASH services. UMCOR and its partners are working on long-term solutions that start with communities' priorities and agendas and support the change that they want to make in their lives, working alongside these communities to implement projects and learn how to manage their new assets. Partners help communities gain better access to clean water by working with them to locate and develop safe water sources, educate themselves on key hygiene behaviors, and improve appropriate and simple sanitation solutions. This work is carried out in a holistic manner that addresses the fact that all aspects of life are interrelated, and so solutions and approaches must also be integrated and related. UMCOR partners are either national non-governmental organizations or local community-based organizations. Through this network, partners must present project proposals on a yearly cycle to support the communities' goals in WASH and present an overview of their capacities to carry out their plans. Your support

for UMCOR-WASH supports our partners' critical work!

December Mission – Again, this year, our church will help a Mancelona family with gifts and a food basket. More information will follow.

Don't feel obligated to give each month, but please pick the ministry closest to your heart and give generously.

We, on the Missions Committee, are grateful for your generosity to others within the community and around the world

Submitted by Brenda Lockman – Mission Chair



Alba

Robert & Kathy Olds – November 8

DJ & Ashley Reynolds – November 29

Chuck & Kathy Blasko – December 28

Mancelona

Bob & Jackie Humphrey – November 5

David & Amy Derrer – November 24

Jack & Jan Patterson – December 7

Dean & Cindy McCulloch – December 12

Ken & Brenda Lockman – December 30



Alba

Scott Coon – November 6
Cheryl Olds – November 10
Hailey Gapinski – November 14
Ruth Ann Gates – November 16
Terry Gapinski – December 3
Ron Kenny – December 4
Lea Kenny – December 12
Gary Zimpfer – December 19
Grace Smith – December 24
Judy Zimpfer - December 30

Mancelona

Margaret Chapman – November 1
Ronald Oyer – November 1
Kathy Shuman – November 2
Jackie Humphrey – November 5
Robin Fisher – November 7
Alexis Deater – November 11
Mike Allen – November 13
Wendy Aldrich – November 14
Rhonda Allen – November 16
Sandy Churchill – November 16
Sarah Nixon – November 17
Patti Dykhous – November 19
Judy Plunkett – November 21
Beth McKaig – November 26
Jackie Bates – December 4
Brenda Lockman – December 4
Ryan Naumcheff – December 18
Jason Naumcheff – December 23
Kenneth Proffer – December 24
Marian Grody – December 27
Dave Whitehead – December 28



Each week (usually Monday) an email is sent noting prayers, praises, and announcements, that have been shared in our service on Sunday, and it includes Pastor Bryan's Gospel Lesson, Music, and Message for the week which he posts on Facebook and YouTube. If you wish to be on that email list, send an email request to carolkings@torchlake.com

November 14- Potluck honoring our Veterans

November 14 – RADA orders are due. Last RADA order before Christmas.

November 20 - Craft Show table at Mancelona Elementary School from 9am to 3 pm.

November 21 – Hanging of the Greens followed by Coffee Hour.

December 12 – Potluck

December 26 - Coffee Hour.

MUMC January/February Newsletter deadline will be January 4, 2022.



Keep saving Family Fare receipts. There is a box for them in the Narthex.

Alba United Methodist Church

PO Box 136
5991 Alba Highway
Alba, MI 49611
Sunday Service @ 9:30am

Ad Board Meeting – 2nd Monday of month/Even
Months at 6PM

Mancelona United Methodist Church

PO Box 301
117 E. Hinman Street
Mancelona, MI 49659
231.587.8461
Sunday Service @ 11:00am

Ad Council Meeting - 2nd Monday of month/Odd
Months at 4PM



Join us for our
Christmas Eve
Services:

Mancelona – 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary
Alba – Time to be announced.