



What joy!!!! The months of July and August were the “Most Joyful” months to me and my family! I went back to Kenya not sure whether my family will get visas to join me in Michigan - guess what? God is never late. We got the visas, and I was once

more fully reunited with my family. Thank you to everyone who prayed for me, especially the four churches that have been praying for me: Brooks Corner UMC, Tecumseh UMC, Mancelona UMC, and Alba UMC. As a family we say, **“A BIG THANK YOU! GOD BLESS YOU ALL.”**

I would like to thank Mike and Rhonda for the ride from Tecumseh to Mancelona. My family is grateful and appreciative. We would also like to thank all the members that helped to make the parsonage look beautiful and up to date. We have everything that we need! It is now 95 percent finished! I hope the basement will be finished soon. I would also like to thank Lori Derror for taking me around the schools to make sure my kids are registered and to also to make sure Bidwell had the opportunity to join the cross-country team in which he has had a good start. I hope Bridged and Fiona will start theirs soon when their physicals are done. I would also like to thank Wendy, Ron, and Laurie for being close to us as a family to give us help when needed. We can't mention you all by name but be ASSURED YOU ARE IN OUR THOUGHTS.

No more family stress again, I promise. I plan to have Bible studies every Sunday after church for 30 minutes from 12:15 to 12:45 pm. I warmly welcome you to join so that we can learn in depth the word of God. I will give the opportunity to ask questions on my sermon for clarity so that way we can grow spiritually together. I don't want to leave others behind because of communication difficulties. I want all of us to understand me as I work to improve my accent.

I will be delighted to know everyone's birthdays so that I can visit, know where everyone lives, and enjoy some time together providing pastoral care to you and your

family. Also, this way I will be able to meet your friends who are not our members and share the love of God together as well. Pastoral care is my passion, don't hesitate to invite me to your home, your apartment, or place of work for prayers.

### **I want to give an encouraging word from 1 Corinthians 13: 2-10**

2 If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. 4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears.

The scripture is telling us about GOD'S LOVE. Even if we do everything, where there is no love, we are nothing. So as a church let us embrace love. Love surpasses all human understanding. Love helps families to communicate well, love breaks barriers that are built by humanity. So, the Love of God is everything in our daily activities. At Mancelona Church, God loves you and I also love you. Continue with that same love.

Reverend Dr. Douglas Obwoye



## MANCELONA UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS

### UMW MEETINGS

- On July 13, we met at the home of Laurie Allison. Our guest speakers were Julia Hulka, President, and Susan Wirgau, Past President, from the Northern Waters District – United Women of Faith (new name for United Methodist Women). They shared information on programs and areas of focus for the NWD, State, and National UWF/UMW organizations including Climate Justice and Racial Justice; Retreats such as the Power of Bold Day, an Annual Celebration, guides such as a Prayer Book, Mission U, and Program Book; and a Reading Program. Book recommendations can be found on the national website: uwfaith.org. We agreed to host the 2023 Annual NWD Celebration at our church on October 7, 2023.
- Rhonda Allen hosted us at her home on August 10. Our main topic of discussion was planning for our Annual Harvest Supper. It will be held on Thursday, September 15. Tickets will be \$15/Adult, \$10/Children 5 - 12, with Children under 5 free. We will just have one seating this year at 5:30 PM. There will be take-out dinners offered with pick-up times of 4:30 and 6:00 PM. (Please see the flyer in this newsletter).

Our upcoming meetings for September and October are as follows:

- Wednesday, September 14 – 9 AM. We will meet at the church in the Fellowship Hall. Our program will be prepping for the Harvest Supper.
- Wednesday, October 12 – 1 PM at Carol Kingsley's home

### FUNDRAISERS

Mark your calendars for these fundraisers we have scheduled for the remainder of the 2022 calendar year. All proceeds from these fundraisers will go to local, national, and international missions (with

emphasis on local missions). We appreciate your support!

- Harvest Supper on Thursday, September 15 (see above).
- Craft Show on Saturday, November 19, at Mancelona Elementary School (We welcome your artwork and crafts.)
- Bake Sale at Mancelona Family Fare on Saturday, December 17 (Got a favorite cookie or treat recipe? We'll take it!)

### HARVEST SUPPER HELP NEEDED!

UMW members cannot put on the Harvest Supper alone. WE NEED YOUR HELP! Here are some of the chores we could use help with: peel potatoes, cut up the roast beef, make coleslaw, prepare squash, bake a pie, be part of our waitstaff, work in the kitchen, package up take-outs, or help with the dishes. Many hands make light work! Let one of our UMW members know what you would like to do. And, of course, invite your family, friends, and neighbors.

Submitted by Ellen Whitehead - UMW Secretary

### **News from Missions**

Our September Mission is CROP WALK

Crop Walk is Sunday, September 25, sign-up at 1:30 and the walk is at 2:00 pm., starting at the Forest Home Township Hall in Bellaire across from Richardi Park.

.... **CROP Hunger Walks** are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Services and organized by local congregations or groups to raise funds to end hunger at home and around the world. Hungry people in developing countries typically walk as much as six miles a day to get food, water, and fuel, and to take their goods to market. We walk to be in solidarity with their struggle for existence. We walk because we want to end hunger, one step at a time.

Submitted by Brenda Lockman, Mission Chair



Annual Roast Beef  
**HARVEST  
SUPPER**

Mancelona

United Methodist Church  
Thursday, Sept. 15, 2022

Take-outs at 4:30 pm and 6:00 pm  
Seating at 5:30 pm

Tickets available at the door or from church members.  
For more information call 231-587-1278  
All proceeds benefit local or national mission projects.

Tickets: \$15  
12 and under: \$10  
under 5: free



## NURTURE AND OUTREACH

### CHURCH OUTINGS

In July several of us gathered at Triangle Park in downtown Mancelona for a picnic potluck and to enjoy the band Yankee Station. They were very talented! The weather was perfect, the food delicious, and the music toe-tapping! We had such fun that we plan to make the Concert in the Park an annual summer event!

Our last scheduled outing for 2022 will be an autumn hike at the Jordan River Fish Hatchery near Elmira on Saturday, October 8. We will meet at the church at 3:00 PM to carpool up to the Fish Hatchery. If you haven't been to the hatchery, it's a pretty amazing operation where they raise fish to release into our local rivers. They also have gorgeous wildflowers and at the backend of the hatchery is Jordan River Road where we will enjoy a hike along the beautiful Jordan River. We may even see an eagle flying over the autumn trees! After our visit and hike, we will drive up to the Railside Grill in Elmira for dinner around 5:30 PM. Watch for a sign-up sheet soon.

### COMMUNITY IN SCHOOLS DONATION

As you may recall, the Bike & Book Bash was cancelled. Instead, we agreed to donate \$500 to Community in Schools Northwest Michigan to be used for a Back-to-School event they are planning for Mancelona students. A check and letter were sent to their Director, Amy Burk, to help fund this event.

### BACK-TO-SCHOOL GIFT FOR THE OBWOGE FAMILY

We are so happy to welcome the Obwoge Family to Michigan and wanted to help the children with school clothes that they will need for Northern Michigan – especially once winter arrives! Thank you to everyone who donated funds for this gift. We raised approximately \$700! What a loving and giving church we have! The Welcome Potluck was delicious with such a variety of food and UMW provided a decorated cake.

Submitted by Ellen Whitehead - Co-chair Nurture Committee



Always nice to keep in touch.

Some of our church family members are in assisted living/or unable to attend church. Following is what we have, if you know of any others that would like cards, please contact Carol Kingsley.

In addition to cards, please keep them, their family, and caretakers in your prayers.

Vera Biehl  
4354 Mount Hope Rd. Apartment 214  
Williamsburg, MI 49690

Patti Dykhouse  
Eden Center  
419 S. Coral Street  
Kalkaska, MI 49646

Marian Grody  
4354 Mount Hope Road, Apt. 1116  
Williamsburg, MI 49690

Carolyn Hines  
Meadowbrook  
4543 S. M-88  
Bellaire, MI 49615

Don Johnson  
Room 104, Eden Center  
419 S. Coral Street  
Kalkaska, MI 49646

Jack Meeder  
508 Random Lane  
Gaylord, MI 49795

Barry Moeke  
PO Box 186  
Mancelona, MI 49659

Teresa Peterson  
Eden Center  
419 S. Coral Street  
Kalkaska, MI 49646

# Community Meal



There is the Energizer Bunny and there is  
Community Meal Both Keep On Going

A few blips with COVID, surgery, and the oven,  
however, the Community Meal keeps on going. Our  
longtime volunteer dishwasher, John Sterner,  
received the “all clear” to come back! John had to  
take a COVID break and finally got the “negative”  
test and release from his doctor. The “good news”  
is that each team has stepped up to wash dishes!  
And Lou Patton is always there to direct the  
excellent kitchen clean up!

When we started up in June, things were a little  
different in that the Food Rescue Truck would not  
be stopping at our church to deliver fresh veggies,  
salad fixings, and desserts. Each team now picks up  
their items from the Mancelona Food Pantry. We  
are blessed that Donna and her staff looks after us.  
They know our needs and set aside these items.  
Some things stay the same and that is the delicious  
bread available every week from Shirley’s. We are  
also blessed to have Robin Fisher who picks up and  
donates milk each week.

Pathways chief cook, Dale Stephenson, has had  
rotator cuff surgery, and will be on a break for a  
couple more months. Again, the Pathways team  
has stepped up to serve. Lucky day, when the oven  
was on a blip, Pathways, Bob Barr, was there as the  
cook and knew how to light it.

It looks like the July and August numbers to date  
have averaged around 59 including take out! Some  
excellent meals are being prepared, sloppy joes,  
baked beans, peach cobbler, chicken dishes. All of  
these meals are made possible, by our two chief

shoppers, Sandy Neumann and Brenda Lockman.  
Due to their efforts, the pantry and freezers are  
well stocked!

As Sandy Neumann, noted in her July 6 email which  
goes to each Community Meal staff person,  
“Thanks for all that you do everyone! It really does  
take a village! We rely on every one of you. We are  
all integral parts to the whole.”

Submitted by Sandy Neumann and Carol  
Kingsley

Community Meal Co-Chairs



## Anniversaries

### Alba

Bob & Jeannie March	September 8
Keith & Melissa Rusnell	September 26
Gary & Judy Zimpfer	October 23

### Mancelona

Rae Ann & Burt Thompson	September 7
Carol & Marv Kingsley	September 12
George & Ginny Moeke	September 20
Dave & Michelle Curtis	October 12
Ron & Wendy Aldrich	October 23



## Church Trustees



UPDATE

The Trustees and many trustee helpers have been busy this summer working on the parsonage. While Pastor Douglas was in Kenya collecting his family, the flooring was finished in the upstairs and the painting was completed. I'm waiting on an electrician to trouble shoot the light switch in one bedroom, and we still have the basement flooring to figure out. The carpeting in the basement was ruined due to the Kilpatrick's cats. That damage will be their responsibility.

The church garage sale was a success raising over \$550 to go towards the parsonage cleaning/repairs. We may have to eliminate accepting electronics; DVD players, coffee makers, printers, etc. next year as we don't know if they are in good working order. A big thank you to those who came to set up/take down and work the garage sale. I've taken several boxes to the resale shop and David Brooks has been taking boxes to the curb and they seem to disappear by morning.

The church yard has been well taken care of this summer. Doug Derrer, the Cummings and the Kingsleys have mowed through the summer. There is still September and October (I hope) to mow. If no one signs up Mike and I can handle those 2 months. With cooler weather, it will probably only need mowing every other week.

A snow shoveling sign-up sheet will be next on my to do list, along with installing the light over the bookshelves in the fireplace room.

Submitted by Laurie Allison- Trustee Chair

## What's Happening

Each week (usually Monday) an email is sent noting prayers, praises, and announcements, that have been shared in our service on Sunday, and it will include Rev. Douglas's Gospel Lesson. If you wish to be on that email list, send an email request to [carolkingsley62@gmail.com](mailto:carolkingsley62@gmail.com) text or call 231.360.9029

**Sunday, August 28** - Bible Study after Church in the Sanctuary.

**Sunday, September 4** - Alba hosts a welcome to our new Pastor Douglas and family at a get together after our 11:00 am service. Alba UMC is planning a backyard barbecue potluck and pool party to be held at Darline and Terry Olds' residence, 406 Jefferson St, Mancelona... corn hole, fellowship, and fun. Please bring your own chairs, beverages, and a dish to pass. Hope to see you there.

September 11 – Potluck

September 14 – UMW Harvest supper preparation.

September 15 – Harvest Supper seating at 5:30

September 25- Coffee Hour in the Welcome Center.

October 9 –Potluck

October 23 - Coffee Hour in the Welcome Center.

Saturday, November 19 – Mancelona Community craft fair at Mancelona Middle school. Our UMW will have a booth.

November/December Newsletter deadline will be October 25, 2022.



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

**Ad Council Meeting - 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of month/Odd  
 Months at 4PM**



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



<b>Alba</b>		<b>Mancelona</b>			
Carson Olds	September 5	Amanda Felton	September 2	Les Cota	October 12
Alayna Marcus	September 13	Hunter Cook	September 7	Jacob Hamilton	October 12
Macklyn Rusnell	September 20	Michelle Curtis	September 8	Michele Bates	October 13
Kathy Blasko	September 23	Jennifer Toms	September 10	Judy Cota	October 14
Chelsey Blasko	September 30	Brian Lirones	September 15	Carolyn Hines	October 24
Peggy Stevens	September 30	Ruth Johnson	September 16	Sharon Brooks	October 28
Tylor Blasko	October 1	Thomas Cook	September 19	Amy Derrer	October 31
Jason Marcus	October 5	Brian Nixon	September 20		
Leigh-Anne Marsh	October 7	David Brooks	September 24		
		Jater Castle	September 26		