

FROM THE Hope



Pastor

This message demonstrates how powerful hope is when it is placed in Jesus Christ and there's no reason to be without hope for a follower of Christ! After the death of Jesus, the disciples

had hope that he would be resurrected after three days. Some waited with hope to see Jesus alive again others doubted until they saw the marks of nails on his hands.

My question to you this season is where is your hope?

Romans 8:12-25

Therefore, brothers and sisters, of Mancelona United Methodist Church we have an obligation--but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons and daughters of God. For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of hope to be sons and daughters of God. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs-- of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed.

For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope, we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

Memory Verses on Hope

Following, from Romans 8:12-15, I note how hope is mentioned in our reading.

1. Creation was subjected to frustration [...] by the will of the One who subjected it, in hope. V.20
2. We wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope, we were saved. V.24
3. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently. V.25

In Psalm 33:20-22, it is implied three others times in the short passage of Scripture.

We wait in hope for the LORD; He is our help and our shield. In Him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May Your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in You.

Memory Verses Continuing with Hope

1. It focuses on Christ.

a. No one whose hope is in You will ever be put to shame [...] Psalm 25:3

b. But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40: 31

2. It stands on the promises of God.

a. Guide me in Your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long. Psalm 25:5

b. Remember your word to your servant, for you have given me hope. Psalm 119:49

3. It helps us to look beyond our present struggles.

a. There is surely a future hope for you and your hope will not be cut off. Proverbs 23:18

4. It helps us to see possibilities.

a. But as for me, I will always have hope; I will praise you more and more. Psalm 71:14

5. It helps us to persevere.

a. JOB 13:15 Though he slays me, yet will I hope in him; I will surely defend my ways to his face.

b. Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD. Psalm 31:24

6. It helps us to feel secure.

a. JOB 11:18 You will be secure, because there is hope; you will look about you and take your rest in safety.

Rev Dr Douglas Obwoye

			
Barry Moeke	May 1	Christian Marcus	May 22
Denise Plakmeyer-Vliet	May 4	Annemarie Rasor	May 22
Doris Felton	May 8	Emily Sheldon	May 23
Emily Nixon	May 11	Bidwell Mochama	May 26
Jan Patterson	May 11	Jeanette Rusnell	June 5
Nate Derror	May 12	Yvonne Olds	June 9
Chester Gapinski	May 12	Devon Harvey	June 9
Victoria Rusnell	May 13	Ken Lockman	June 14
Laurie Allison	May 18	Mary Ann Petersen	June 18
Elsa Brenner	May 20	Mitch Gates	June 18
Donna Simons	May 20	Oscar Brenner	June 21
Angela Gapinski	May 21	Chris Derror	June 22
Everyline Marare	May 21	Lori Derror	June 24
		Keith Rusnell	June 29
		Bob Humphrey	June 30



MANCELONA UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS

Summary of our March and April Meetings

Special thanks to Jackie Bates for leading our meetings in both March and April as our President Carol Kingsley was enjoying a well-deserved vacation on St. Simons Island. Also, thanks to Laurie Allison for taking minutes for Ellen Whitehead during April.

March Program – Ellen Whitehead was our host and led the program which was our annual pledge. We talked about ways we have “sown seeds” in our community such as our Community Meal, Sacred Grounds, and the building of the Mancelona Labyrinth of Hope. We shared our thoughts on what it means to “sow seeds,” the gifts and talents we have to share, and what it means to plant our seeds in “fertile ground.” We chose Bible verses that may bring words of comfort and hope and put them inside plastic eggs to be placed somewhere in our community for others to find. To conclude our program, we filled out Pledge Sheets and “planted” them in a flowerpot to grow our UMW programs through our donations. Ellen provided our snacks.

Notes from March meeting: Church member Gerry Deater had suggested we plant herbs in the Sacred Grounds Garden to be used for Community Meals. Jackie noted we could also harvest and dry the herbs for later use. Ellen mentioned that Paul from Au Sable Institute notified her of ways they can continue to help us by weeding, sharing information from other churches, and asked that we spread the word on this program.

April Program – Everyline Kwamboka led our program focused on Christian fellowship based on John 1:5-7. We wrote our names on small slips of paper and then drew a slip to pray for that person every day until our next meeting, keeping it a secret. Shhhhh! Everyline

explained that in Kenya the belief is that God hears women’s prayers before men’s prayers. Our snacks were provided by Everyline and Sue Thomas and included some yummy Kenyan dishes.

Notes from April meeting: UMW will be heading up a program to honor our graduates on May 21st during the church service. Rhonda will do a slide show and a \$50 gas card and inspirational booklet will be given to each graduate. Laurie will purchase these items.

Anyone is welcome to attend our meetings. We typically meet the second Wednesday of each month at 1:00 pm. Location is usually in the Fellowship Hall at church, but during the warmer months we often meet at members’ homes. Here’s an upcoming schedule:

- May 10 at 1:00 pm at the church – Carol Kingsley, Host and Program. The meeting will be in the Fellowship Hall with a visit outdoors to our Sacred Garden (weather permitting).
- June 14 at 1:00 pm – Annual “friendship” lunch at The Dockside restaurant. If you would like to carpool, meet at the church by 12:30 pm.

Submitted by Ellen Whitehead, UMW Secretary





NURTURE AND OUTREACH NEWS



News from Missions - May 2023

January – Mancelona Food Pantries. We gave \$247.00

February – Kenya Mission – Masango. We gave \$409.69

March – UMC Youth Group – We gave \$566.00

April – Cross Road Farms – Not all counted yet

Our May Mission is **UMCOR**

UMCOR, The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is the not-for-profit global humanitarian aid organization of the United Methodist Church. UMCOR is working in more than 80 countries worldwide, including the United States. Our mission, grounded in the teaching of Jesus, is to alleviate human suffering, whether caused by war, conflict or natural disaster, with open hearts and minds to all people. This cannot be emphasized enough. This offering is the source of the largest amount of “undesignated” money received by UMCOR and can be used as needed to meet emergency situations.

PROVERBS 19:17

“Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them for what they have done.”

Sometimes we need a little extra incentive to remind ourselves to be generous. Knowing that God will reward our compassion and kindness towards the less fortunate can be just that!

Submitted by Brenda Lockman, Mission Chair

YOUTH GROUP PLANS – Meet & Eat

Our March Meet & Eat Youth Group was held on Sunday, March 19th. We decided to meet in the room off the Fellowship Hall in the basement of the church. This room used to be set aside for youth meetings and activities. We started off with a dinner of pizza, soda pop, and dessert. We enjoyed a fun "get-to-know-you" activity and heard a message from Pastor Douglas. As of “press time” we had not held our April 30 Meet & Eat night. But the menu will be walking tacos. We’ll let you know how it goes in a future newsletter and/or Sunday service praise reports.

We are interested in adding some games and other items to the Youth Room. Watch for a “Wish List” coming soon!

Our May Meet & Eat gathering will be on Sunday, May 21 (a week early) because the last Sunday in May is Memorial Day weekend.

EASTER EGG HUNT

On April 8th we hosted an Easter egg hunt for children ages 1-12, we all had a great time (children and adults). Special thanks to Dottie Hublick and Lou Patton for helping to hide eggs and Gerry Deater for manning the snack and prize table and to all the special egg stuffers that helped stuff eggs the previous week. All the donations from the congregation made for a wonderful experience for almost 50 children that day. It warmed our hearts to see children who found extra prize tickets sharing them with those that didn’t find any. Not a single child left without a prize. They all turned in their empty eggs to use next year. What an awesome way to spend a day and the Blessing for the Easter season.

Submitted by Ellen Whitehead and Jackie Bates, Nurture and Outreach Co-Chairs



Community Meal

The Support Empty Bowls on April 30 sponsored by Northwest Food Coalition raises funds to support food insecurity in Northern Michigan. Our Community Meal depends on the resources of the Northwest Food Coalition. Sandy Neumann keeps up with their communications, Mike Allen is our representative to attend their monthly meetings, while Brenda Lockman submits our attendance statistics each month. For more information about the Northwest Food Coalition go to northwestmifoodcoalition.org

In March, the Coalition sent some facts: Did you know...

- In Antrim County, 14.3% of children are food insecure?
- In Benzie County, 8% of residents use SNAP (food stamps)?
- In Grand Traverse County, 9% of households visit food pantries?
- In Kalkaska County, 17% of children qualify for federal food programs?
- In Leelanau County, 7% of households are served by the Northwest Food Coalition members?

As always, we are fortunate to have some very caring folks in our church family who meet the MANNA delivery truck and stock our shelves. Thanks Brenda and Sandy! The last delivery stocked our shelves with canned peaches and pears, a case of Campbell's Cream of Mushroom Soup, cans of mixed peas and carrots, and a case of Jiffy Corn Muffin boxes. As Sandy noted in her email to the cooking

teams, "I'm so grateful that MANNA delivers right into the storeroom and they help put it on the shelves. A far cry when we used to drive to Harbor Springs and bring back the cases ourselves. Always had help unloading and putting things away but this is so much better!"

Manna Food Bank

Each year, Manna's Food Bank distributes nearly one million pounds of low cost and free food to 47 partner food pantries, community meal sites, and other agencies in Antrim, Charlevoix, and Emmet counties. (Source: www.mannafoodproject.org)

Sandy followed up on the minutes from the Food Coalition, and now our Community Meal has a great supply of free Meijer takeout containers. This is exciting because takeout containers are so costly. Brenda and Kenny Lockman helped Sandy unload the cases. Due to Health Department rules, we cannot use recycled containers unless they are brought by our guest, for that guest. We are grateful that we can provide new containers.

Our Community Meal averaged 59 meals served and 16 take outs each Tuesday for March and April. Since January 1, we have served a total of 562 meals.

Thanks to all our wonderful caring cooking teams and their staff!

Submitted by Sandy Neumann and Carol Kingsley, Community Meal Co-Chairs



Trustees May 2023

The snow is mostly gone, a few flakes in the air today. We will probably schedule a churchwide clean-up day when the weather warms up. Maybe the first or second week in May. I will be getting a summer mowing sign-up posted in the Narthex soon. Nothing needs to be done until it warms up and the grass starts growing.

The trustees will be scheduling a church and parsonage walk through soon to see what maintenance needs to be done this summer. There is always painting to be done somewhere at the church and we are still working on the replacement flooring in the parsonage basement. The double doors into the church are on the list to be replaced. Troy has been working on getting quotes.

The High School is again having a give back day. We had a group of students help rake the church yard and flowerbeds last year. They have scheduled the give back day in June. I'm hoping to have the yard work done before that, so we may have some outside painting for them to do.

Submitted by Laurie Allison – Trustee Chair

New Address for Jeanette Hayes.

Jeanette has moved to MediLodge, which offers several levels of care. Jeanette is in the independent living section. Her new address is:

Jeanette M. Hayes
MediLodge
2000 Leonard NE, Apt 312
Grand Rapids, Mi, 49505.

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 includes Pastor Douglas' Gospel Lesson and Message for the week which is posted on Facebook. If you wish to be on that email list, send an email request to carolkingsley62@gmail.com text or call 231.360.9029

May 21 – May Potluck (moved from May 14th, Mothers Day)

June 11 –Potluck

June 25 Coffee Hour in the Welcome Center.

MUMC July/August Newsletter deadline will be June 25, 2023.



Anniversaries

Don & Teena Blasko	May 2
Brian & Diane Lirones	May 10
Perry & Jeanette Rusnell	May 21
Jeremy & Grace Smith	June 6
Jennifer & Kyle Toms	June 7
Robert & Cheryl Olds	June 10
Scott & Penny Coon	June 17
Jim & Michele Jewell	June 21

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

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



SPRING

