



Hope

After the resurrection what next?

Have you ever been waiting for something with all your heart, and when it finally arrives, it's not what you expected?

That's what happened to the disciples after Jesus' resurrection. They were devastated that he didn't fulfill all of their Messianic prophecies, but then Jesus appears to them on the road and opens their eyes to see everything in a new light. In Luke 24, hearts are opened and eyes can see.

THE PENTECOST EXPERIENCE

Introduction:

In Acts 2, we witness an extraordinary event known as Pentecost, where the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples in a powerful and transformative way. This event marked the birth of the Christian church and serves as a profound reminder of God's promise to empower and equip His people for His kingdom purposes.

Reflection:

As we delve into Acts 2, we are transported to the scene of Pentecost, where the disciples were gathered in one place. Suddenly, a sound like a mighty rushing wind filled the room, and tongues of fire appeared, resting on each of them. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, proclaiming the wonders of God.

This outpouring of the Holy Spirit had a profound impact not only on the disciples but

also on those who witnessed it. People from various nations heard the disciples speaking in their own languages, and they were amazed and perplexed. Some questioned what this could mean, while others mocked and dismissed it as drunkenness.

In response to the confusion, Peter stood up and delivered a powerful message, explaining that what they were witnessing was the fulfillment of prophecy—the pouring out of the Holy Spirit promised by God. He boldly proclaimed the gospel, declaring Jesus as the Messiah who was crucified and raised from the dead for the forgiveness of sins.

Peter's words cut to the hearts of the people, and many were convinced of their need for repentance and salvation. They asked, "Brothers, what shall we do?" And Peter urged them to repent, be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of their sins and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Application:

The Pentecost experience serves as a powerful reminder of God's faithfulness and the transformative work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers. Just as the disciples were filled with boldness and empowered to proclaim the gospel, we too are called to be witnesses for Christ in our own spheres of influence.

The Holy Spirit equips us with spiritual gifts, empowers us for ministry, and enables us to bear fruit that glorifies God. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are enabled to love sacrificially, serve selflessly, and proclaim the hope of salvation to a broken and hurting world.

As we reflect on Acts 2, let us invite the Holy Spirit to fill us afresh, renewing our passion for God and His kingdom. May we be bold and courageous in sharing the gospel, knowing that we do not do so in our own strength, but in the power of the Holy Spirit who dwells within us.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of the Holy Spirit and the Pentecost experience recorded in Acts 2. Fill us anew with Your Spirit, empowering us to live lives that honor and glorify You. Help us to boldly proclaim the gospel and to be witnesses for Christ in all that we do. In Jesus' name, amen.



Conclusion:

As we meditate on Acts 2 and the Pentecost experience, may we be reminded of the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Let us walk in step with the Spirit, allowing Him to guide, empower, and transform us for the work of His kingdom. Amen.

Rev Dr Douglas Obwoye



News from Missions - May 2024

Student Assistant Fund - "The Student Assistant Fun," (known to our congregation as the Mike Hayes Apple Pie Fund) administered through Communities in Schools, provides funds for application fees for Mancelona High School students applying for post high school training whose families do not have the financial resources to do so.

Sunday April 28, we passed the plate for the Student Assistant Fund and received \$270.00.

In July we will be passing the plate on July 28th for our Community Meal.

Thank you to all that give so generously!

Submitted by Brenda Lockman, Mission Chair

Denise Plakmeyer-Vliet	May 4
Doris Felton	May 8
Emily Nixon	May 11
Jan Patterson	May 11
Nate Derror	May 12
Laurie Allison	May 18
Elsa Brenner	May 20
Everyline Magare	May 21
Annemarie Rasor	May 22
Bidwell Mochama	May 26
Earl Castle	June 14
Ken Lockman	June 14
Mary Ann Petersen	June 18
Oscar Brenner	June 21
Chris Derror	June 22
Lori Derror	June 24
Bob Humphrey	June 30



MANCELONA UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS

Welcome to Spring! After our long winter here in Northern Michigan it is so refreshing when Spring returns to us with the opening of leaf buds, abundant wildflowers like trillium and trout lilies, and the return of migrating birds like the loon. But as the Bible tells us in the Song of Solomon 2:11-12 – *“See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come; the cooing of doves is heard in our land.”*

For those of you who love baseball, the former Detroit Tigers broadcaster Ernie Harwell always used this quote at the beginning of the season. Let’s celebrate Spring!! Now on to United Women in Faith news:

Upcoming Meetings

You are welcome to join us any time! Here is our current schedule:

- Wednesday, May 8 – We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 1:00 pm for our meeting. Then we will carpool over to the Mancelona Labyrinth of Hope for a program about the importance of prayer and a walk through the labyrinth. Snacks will be served there. Ellen Whitehead will lead this program.
- Wednesday, June 12 – Our annual luncheon at The Dockside at 1:00 pm. Invite a friend! If you need to carpool, we will meet at the church at 12:30 pm.
- Wednesday, July 10 – To Be Determined (TBD)
- Wednesday, August 14 – TBD



Report on March and April Meetings

March

Our program in March was a retreat held in our Fellowship Hall titled “He Still Moves Stones” and was led by Rev. Nancy Wheeler.

Nancy welcomed us with a “goodie bag” that included her poetry book, a booklet, and an engraved stone. We sang “Take Time to Be Holy” and Nancy read scripture from 1 Samuel (the story of David & Goliath) and Psalm 46:10 – “Be Still and Know that I am God.” We talked about our need to be quiet at times and listen for God’s voice.

Members brought in different vegetables to add to our lunch of “Stone Soup” Do you remember that story? If not, here is a link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stone_Soup. It’s a classic! Laurie Allison brought in homemade bread to go with the soup.

After our business meeting, Nancy continued with our retreat program. We spent some quiet time reading, reflecting, and responding to several Bible verses that centered on waiting, quietness, silence, stillness, and listening. Our program concluded with singing the hymn “Have Thine Own Way, Lord,” a responsive reading of Psalm 23, and prayer. It was a wonderful gathering!

April

We did not have a meeting in April, but a group of our members went on a field trip to Eden Center to visit Patty Dykhouse and Tressie Petersen. They shared it was a great visit and Patty looked good.

Submitted by Ellen Whitehead, UMW Secretary





Community Meal

We give thanks for all the wonderful volunteers! So many from our Church! We should teach the world how to get along as we have teams made up of other churches and community members! Each of you do a terrific job! Never hesitating to volunteer as a substitute or do a deep clean up! Your Christian ministry is enjoyed by many!

Mike Allen represents us at the Food Coalition's monthly meetings. He reported that Food Rescue is hoping to add more farms this season. They purchased from 21 farms last year. They distributed 181,165 pounds of food rescued in February alone. YTD total is 357,558 pounds. Incredible!

Jackie Bates (Serv-Safe volunteer) initiated a health inspection to enable us to renew our license. We are inspected once a year but had not had an inspection since before Covid. She and Laurie Allison purged our community meal storeroom for the inspection, cleaned it, including the metal cupboard and shelves. Lou Patton cleaned and purged dated items from the storeroom refrigerator. Sandy Neumann learned that we cannot SERVE canned goods and other items past their due date. However, they can be USED for personal use. We have been putting these items on the free table. Needless to say, we passed the health department inspection with flying colors! *Thank you, Jackie, Laurie, and Lou!*

March and April have flown by, and each Tuesday our guests are served outstanding dinners. We served 653 meals for March and April including seconds and takeouts. Takeouts alone were 164 which ensure that another meal is there for our guests!

Why do we ask each team to keep track of meals served, seconds, and take outs? These numbers must be reported monthly to Manna and the Food Coalition. Thank you, Brenda Lockman, for doing that!

Think summer picnic! Think comfort food! Menus range from brats, baked beans, pulled pork sandwiches, Shepard's Pie, tacos with lettuce, cheese and salsa toppings, refried beans, homemade Spanish rice, salads and coleslaw, corn casserole, meat loaf, mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, creamed chicken gravy over riced potatoes, biscuits, rolls. And delicious donated bread from the Hen's Den. Of course, desserts are cakes, pies, donuts, and cookies donated from the Food Coalition. Shepherd's pie was perfect for a wet, cold snowy night! Troy and Michelle must have checked the weather before they planned their menu!

As always, it does take a Village. We have asked that **ONE SERVER** stay to help finish the kitchen clean up, usually putting dishes away and taking the trash out. Jack Porter is our official "volunteer" dish washer. Lou oversees putting the clean dishes away, cleaning up stove top, and floor, all of this as a part of her "umbrella" as our church custodian. Check with Lou Patton to see if she needs help in putting dishes away.

Thanks to all of our cooks who have got all their prep dishes cleaned up and put away before Jack and Lou arrive. I (Carol) have walked into some really clean kitchens before the meal even begins! Now, that is impressive considering the cooks have usually started cooking around noon, and days before planned their meal, stopped into church to defrost meat, check on canned goods, and picked up the weekly Food Coalition donation around noon of the day the meal is served.

As per Sandy Neumann, "Orchids to all who volunteer. We can't do it without you!"

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



Trustees May 2024

The vinyl plank flooring in the basement of the parsonage has been installed. It looks wonderful and gives the pastor and his family more useable space. Thank you, Troy, for completing this. We did have a problem with the “electric eye” on the garage door at the parsonage, it may have been bumped, but has been realigned. There was also a loose wire in the control panel which required another service appointment, and the rollers were replaced on the garage door at the same time as they were over 20 years old and rotting. Hopefully, it will continue working for many years.

We noticed some water damage on the ceiling in the Sanctuary. This had been repaired before on the inside. Troy is working on the flashing/trim around the Bell Tower which is the problem. We are waiting for warmer, less windy weather to correct the issue and then the inside ceiling repair.

I haven't heard if the school will schedule another “Give Back Day” this spring. The group of students who helped clean up the church grounds last year was great. I did pick up many pine branches that were scattered in the yard after a very windy evening. We didn't have much snow plowing damage this year.

Again, when leaving the church please make sure the doors are locked. Check the handles from the outside. The doors may be locked (the button is horizontal) but when you open the door and leave, it automatically unlocks. Two doors were unlocked when I checked the church after Bible Study. Thanks!

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 includes Pastor Douglas's Gospel Lesson, Music, 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

May 19 - May Potluck (moved from May 12th, Mother's Day)

May 26 - Snacks and Chat in the Welcome Center.

June 9 - Potluck

June 23 - Snacks and Chat in the Welcome Center.

MUMC July/August Newsletter deadline will be June 25, 2024.



Anniversaries

Brian & Diane Lirones	May 10
Jennifer & Kyle Toms	June 7

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

Boyne Falls UMC

3057 Mill St

Boyne Falls, MI

Sunday Service @ 9:30 am



**EASTER EGG HUNT AT THE
MANCILONA UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH,
2024**

