



What are Christian Beliefs? What do we believe as Christians? This is what I am going to highlight below.

Christianity is a monotheistic religion centered on the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Followers, known as Christians, believe Jesus is the Son of God and the Messiah sent to save humanity from sin.

The Core Beliefs

The Trinity: Christians believe in one God who exists eternally as three distinct persons: God the Father, God the Son (Jesus Christ), and the Holy Spirit.

Jesus Christ: He is believed to be fully divine and fully human. Through his death on the cross and his resurrection, he offers forgiveness of sins and eternal life to all who believe in him.

The Bible: The Holy Bible is the sacred scripture, consisting of the Old and New Testaments. It is viewed as the divinely inspired Word of God, outlining His teachings and instructions for life.

Salvation and Grace: Christians believe that salvation is a gift of God's grace, not something that can be earned through good works. It is received through faith in Jesus Christ.

The Afterlife: Christians believe in the resurrection of the dead, eternal life in Heaven for those who trust in Jesus, and a final judgment.

Second Coming: Christians look forward to the "Second Coming," when Jesus will return to earth to establish the Kingdom of God and judge the living and the dead.

Major Branches

Christianity is broadly divided into three main traditions, each varying in its specific practices, leadership, and theological interpretations:

Catholicism: Headed by the Pope in Rome, Catholics emphasize the authority of the church and seven sacred rituals, known as sacraments.

Eastern Orthodoxy: Primarily practiced in Eastern Europe and the Middle East, it places a strong emphasis on tradition, the writings of early church fathers, and divine liturgy.

Protestantism: Originating from the Reformation, Protestant denominations (such as Baptist, Methodist, and Presbyterian) emphasize the Bible as the sole infallible source of authority and salvation by faith alone.

Key Practices and Values

Worship and Prayer: Corporate worship typically occurs on Sundays, often involving prayer, scripture reading, sermons, and communal singing

Ordinances/Sacraments: Most Christians observe sacraments like Baptism (initiation into the faith) and Communion (the Lord's Supper, in remembrance of Jesus' sacrifice).

Love and Service: The ethical framework of Christianity is rooted in Jesus' commandments to love God with all one's heart and to "love your neighbor as yourself"

Thank you

Rev. Dr. Douglas Mochama Obwoye PhD



Summer is here! Let us rejoice and welcome the sunshine, flowers, family, and friends visiting, and the joy of God's numerous blessings He grants us!

REPORT ON MAY AND JUNE MEETINGS

May Program: Paws for Praise

Nancy Wheeler led a wonderful program that was full of joy, laughter, lessons, and spiritual reminders on ways we should pause (paws) for praising God.

Nancy has been collecting teddy bears for years and brought several bears representing all the seasons of the year.



She provided a brochure that included the history of teddy bears and other fun information about them. We sang the choruses of Christian hymns based on the 12 seasons. Bible verses with the word "bear" were also provided along with a tiny bear for each of us, bear seeds, and a coupon for bear hugs.

A big "Thank You" to Nancy, for helping us "bear" in mind that God loves us and we should praise Him.

June Gathering – At The Dockside

In June, we traditionally celebrate our Christian friendships and fellowship by having lunch at The Dockside restaurant near Bellaire. It was a perfect weather day, and we sat outside enjoying the breeze and a beautiful view of Torch Lake.

Fun Facts from "My Michigan Beach.com":

"Torch Lake's water gets its Caribbean-blue color from a combination of extreme clarity — the lake is spring-fed and glacially carved — and a bottom of white sand and limestone sediment that reflects light differently than most Michigan lakes.

National Geographic has named it among the most beautiful lakes in the world. At 19 miles long, it's Michigan's longest inland lake. At roughly 285–300

feet at its deepest point, it's also among the deepest."

UPCOMING MEETINGS

July 8 – Field Trip to Lavender Hill Farm

Our group will be going on a field trip to Lavender Hill Farm near Boyne City. We will be bringing a sack lunch and then going on a golf cart tour at 1:00 p.m. to view the beautiful gardens.

Check out this beautiful farm at:

<https://lavenderhillfarm.com/>

August 12 – A Visit to Au Sable Institute

Visit will begin at 1:00 pm. Meet at church at 12:30 pm if you need a ride. Ellen will host and bring snacks to Au Sable. Executive Director Jon Terry will provide the program to let us know about their mission and how they serve God. As part of our business meeting we will make plans for the Harvest Supper to be held in September.

Our church worked with Au Sable through the Sacred Grounds program as they provided free



native plants and helped install them at both our church grounds and the Mancelona Labyrinth of Hope.

September 9 – Planning for Harvest Supper

YES! We will be having Harvest Supper again this year. More details to come!

Submitted by Ellen Whitehead

UWF Secretary





Community Meal

Community Meal Update

As we come upon the 4th of July 250-year celebration of our country, we give thanks to all who have made our country strong.

They are people similar to our Community Meal Volunteers! Our volunteers give countless hours in making sure each Tuesday meal is nutritious. A typical meal has meat, vegetable/fruit/, salad, and of course, dessert! Our tables are attractively set and sanitized before the meal, then the kitchen left neat and orderly, and the trash is in the bins with recycle to the center.

What a blessing our teams are each and every Tuesday! Most teams even find their own substitutes! When we need to replace a team member; not a struggle at all! Within a few days, someone has stepped up! We give thanks to our cooking team leaders:

Laurie Allison and Denise Plakmeyer, First Tuesday

Rhonda Allen and Ellen Whitehead, Second Tuesday

Dale and Carol Stephenson, Bob Barr, and Pathway Community Church, Third Tuesday

Marilyn Avery-Swan and Shirley Tracey, Fourth Tuesday

Betty Sell and St Matthew Lutheran Church, Fifth Tuesday

Each meal has a set-up crew and servers. Many of these folks have filled this capacity for several years. Yes, several years! Patty Atkinson has set up for many years. As well as Robin Fisher who not only serves, but sets up for 4th Tuesdays, and sees that *each* Tuesday has milk to drink! Evalyne Magare has now added another Tuesday as a server. Each team has a designated person to pick up donated bread from The Hen's Den and Food Rescue weekly donation at the Mancelona Food

Pantry. So, it's not just being there, but running errands, too! Oh, what about the laundry? Thanks to Evalyne Magare in winter and Jackie Humphrey in summer, the weekly towels are done! We are very grateful for our set up/clean up and servers:

Patty Atkinson, June Corbett, Sharon Curell, Robin Fisher, Carolyn Grody, Jan Gruley, Kathy Johnson, Kathy Lightbody, Evalyne Magare, and Gloria Robbins.

Recently, joining our team is Karen Grody who has volunteered as our dishwasher each Tuesday. For a few years Jack Porter filled this capacity, however, due to his work schedule, Jack could no longer volunteer. Of course, we give thanks to Lou Patton, who sees that dishes, utensils, are all put back in proper place. Lou has been off for a while due to hip surgery, however, will return soon.

And then, there's opening cans, what a chore as we could be talking a dozen or more! Well, recently, Larry Swan donated a professional can opener! Thanks, Laurie Allison for installing.

Speaking of volunteers, what about Gloria Robbins who after each meal will help wash tables and put dishes away. Well, it's not good manners to state an age, however, if you are from Mancelona, you know. Then, in a pinch, we have Gerry Deater and Margaret Chapman who will step up.

For as long as I can remember, Ruth Johnson, has welcomed our guests! And let's not forget the purchasing, stocking the pantry and freezers. Kudos to Brenda Lockman and Sandy Neumann, and sometimes Carol Kingsley. Yes, it almost takes the entire Mancelona Village with a little help from the Big Twin and Pickeral Lakes! Blessed that many churches are represented on our teams, Pathway Community Church, St. Matthews, St. Anthonys, and St. Mary of the Woods.

Sandy Neumann and Carol Kingsley share every other month attending a required Zoom meeting for the Food Coalition. At last month's meeting, Sandy learned among other things that 1.8 billion pounds of food is destroyed or left in fields by farmers each year. Enough to feed 1,346,416 people. Food

Rescue works closely with farmers to “rescue” that food.

A recent routine health inspection, attended by our ServSafe volunteer, Jackie Bates, and Sandy Neumann found that we were in compliance. Great news!

And many thanks to Brenda Lockman who also completes our Food Coalition required attendance reports. Brenda notes that we have provided 230 meals in May and 226 in June as of press date.

As we gather to share the 250th anniversary of our nation, let’s remember all those who gave so much to get us to this point, and, as always, many individuals serve to make us great!

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



Cindy McCulloch	July 1
Nancy Wheeler	July 2
Dave Fisher	July 5
Courtney Rasor	July 8
Kallie Derrer	July 11
Wyatt Derrer	July 11
Ann Cole	July 12
Douglas Obwoge	July 14
Fiona Mochama	July 22
Cooper Thompson	July 28
Julie Castle	August 2
Ginny Moeke	August 2
Chad Rasor	August 16
Alexis Felton	August 21
Noah Felton	August 25
Samuel Mochori	August 24



Anniversaries

Mancelona

Jackie & Rodney Bates	July 5
David & Sharon Brooks	July 15
Dave & Ellen Whitehead	July 18
Chris & Lori Derror	July 30
Chad & Courtney Rasor	August 11





July 2026

It's hard to believe that July is upon us.

Doug Derrer has graciously been mowing the church yard when he mows at the car wash. Mike Allison has been string trimming when it needs it. Lori and Chris Derror signed up to mow in August. I'm sure Doug will appreciate the break. Dave and Sharon Brooks have also been working outside with planting flowers, mulching, trimming shrubs, etc.

We're on the schedule for Matt's Underground to correct the problem around the Memorial Garden. We have water washing out under the pavers. I've also contacted Ron Way about repairing the southside ramp, stairs into the Sanctuary and the south entrance into the Welcome Center. Work around the lower ramp entrance will wait until Matt's Underground work is finished.

Some of you have asked about the Church Garage Sale. I'm thinking that July 30 and August 1 will be the weekend. Friday all day, and ½ day Saturday. This will be at the Church.

I will also be scheduling some dates this summer for cleaning out Tressie's house. Lori Derror is helping me on Sunday afternoon, July 12, more dates will follow. I'm hoping that we can have it cleared out and an estate sale by the end of the summer or early fall. A dumpster will be needed to get it ready for sale. There are several people interested in purchasing the property. It's a solid little house on a double lot. It does need some work but would be a great starter home for someone.

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' 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

July 8 – 1:00 UWF - *Field Trip to Lavender Hill Farm*

July 12 – Potluck

July 13 – MUMC Ad Council – 4:00 pm - Conference Room

July 15, 22, and 29 – Knit Chicks, 1:00 pm – Conference Room

July 26 - Snacks and Chat in the Welcome Center..

July 30 – August 1 – Church Garage Sale – All day Friday; half day Saturday. Times to be determined.

August 5, 19, & 26– Knit Chicks, 1:00 pm – Conference Room

August 9 –Potluck

August 12 – 1:00 UWMF will meet at *Au Sable Institute*

August 23 - Snacks and Chat in the Welcome Center.

MUMC September/October Newsletter deadline will be August 25, 2026.



Knit Chicks meets every Wednesday except second Wednesday when UWF meets. They meet at 1:00 pm in the Conference Room. All are welcome. Bring your own knitting, crocheting, sewing/craft project.

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

