

FROM THE

Christian Tithing



Pastor

Many Christians struggle with the issue of tithing. In some churches, giving is over-emphasized; in others it is rarely mentioned, and believers may be unaware of

the biblical exhortations about the joy of giving. The actual “tithe” is an Old Testament command to Israel, but giving to support the work of ministry, as well as giving to those in need, is generally part of the good stewardship that God expects of each of us.

Tithing is an Old Testament concept. The tithe (or tenth) was a requirement of the law in which the Israelites were to give 10 percent of the crops they grew and the livestock they raised to the tabernacle/temple (Leviticus 27:30; Numbers 18:26; Deuteronomy 14:24; 2 Chronicles 31:5). The Old Testament law required Israelites to tithe at different times and for various purposes—to support the Levites (Numbers 18:21, 24), to celebrate the feasts (Deuteronomy 14:22–27), and to care for the poor of the land (Deuteronomy 14:28–29). Some understand the Old Testament tithe as a method of taxation to provide for the needs of the priests and Levites.

Jesus Christ fulfilled the Mosaic Law. The shadow of the ceremonial system was completed in Him. The temple was no longer needed for worship. Instead, “the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth” (John 4:23). Collectively, all who put their faith in Christ make up the church, which was instituted after Jesus’ ascension. The church is both global and uniquely expressed in local gatherings of believers.

As part of the Mosaic Law, the tithe ended with the fulfilling of the law. New Testament believers are

not mandated to give 10 percent, but we are still called to financially participate in the work of the church and to care for those who spiritually care for us. First Corinthians 9:13–14 explains, “Don’t you know that those who serve in the temple get their food from the temple, and that those who serve at the altar share in what is offered on the altar? In the same way, the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel.” First Timothy 5:17–18 says, “The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For Scripture says, ‘Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain,’ and ‘The worker deserves his wages.’” Our giving is also intended to support the work of missions (Philippians 4:10–19) and help those in need (2 Corinthians 8; 1 Timothy 5:3).

The New Testament nowhere designates a percentage of income a person should give. Christians are not obligated to give a 10-percent tithe. But Scripture does encourage believers to regularly set aside money to give “in keeping with income” (1 Corinthians 16:2; cf. 2 Corinthians 8:12). God promises His blessing on the giver: “Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:6–7). Some Christians consider the 10 percent figure from the Old Testament tithe as a “recommended minimum” for their giving.

Although the tithe is not obligatory for the Christian, the New Testament emphasizes the importance and benefits of freewill giving. We are to give as we are able. Sometimes that means giving more than 10 percent; sometimes that may mean giving less. It depends on the ability of the Christian and the needs of the body of Christ. Every

Christian should diligently pray and seek God's wisdom in the matter of giving (see James 1:5). However, much we give, we should offer it with pure motives, a cheerful heart, and an attitude of worship.

Rev Dr. Douglas Obwoye

ADULT BIBLE STUDY BEGINS

WHEN: Monthly: 1st Sunday and 1st Thursday

September 3 – 1:00 pm

September 6 – 12 noon

WHERE: The Conference Room

MICAH: WHY READ THIS BOOK?

Do you ever wonder how faith fits in a world that seems to be increasingly corrupt and violent? Micah is a book with which you will be able to identify. When God seems far away, he reminds the people that God still cares and offers hope to those who choose to remain faithful to Him.

Join us for a time of study and fellowship. You can choose which day you attend, Sunday or Thursday. We look forward to seeing you!

Nancy Wheeler

WOMEN'S BIBLE/BOOK STUDY BEGINS

WHEN; September 9th at 2:30 p.m. every 2nd Wednesday unless otherwise announced

WHERE: The Conference Room

WHAT: "The 7 Blessings of Revelation, The Beatitudes" found in Matthew Chapter 5, and A Daily Dose of Blessings.

Come, bless each other!

Nancy Wheeler



HOW TO KNOW YOU'RE BLESSED

(Printed by permission "The Word for You Today" Northern Michigan Radio Devotional)

"May I never forget the good things he does for me." Psalm 103:2

It's the bad days that help you to appreciate the good days. Without them, we'd have no comparison point. David was talking to himself one day, and he recorded his thoughts for us. "May I never forget the good things he does for me." Here are six "good things" worth thinking about:

- (1) If you woke up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than the million people who will not survive this week.
- (2) If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation, you are more blessed than five hundred million people in this world.
- (3) If you can attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture, or death, you are more blessed than three million people in the world.
- (4) If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, or a roof over your head, and a place to sleep, you are richer than 75% of the world.
- (5) If you have money in the bank or in your wallet, or spare change in a dish somewhere, you rank among the top 8% of the world's wealthy.
- (6) If you can read this devotion, you are more blessed than over two billion people in this world who cannot read at all.

There is always someone who is worse off. That doesn't mean you revel in other people's misery. It ought to heighten your Christ-like compassion and give a sense of gratitude that spills over into thanksgiving each day.

Shared by Nancy Wheeler



Here's a haiku for you in honor of the autumn season (Note: if you aren't familiar with haiku, it is a "Japanese poem of seventeen syllables, in three lines of five, seven, and five, traditionally evoking images of the natural world" – God's Creation!):

Autumn's in the air
summer fades away and then
vibrant leaves aglow!



WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

JULY TRIP TO LAVENDER HILL FARM

Our group went on a field trip to Lavender Hill Farm near Boyne City. We were escorted around the farm on golf carts, and our young guide taught us all about the various forms of lavender and the versatile ways it can be used such as culinary, cosmetic, and of course offering fragrance, as well as relaxation benefits. You should smell the candles!

Evalyne even learned that the spent stems can be used in the garden to keep rabbits away!

It was a picture-perfect experience in many ways.

AUGUST TRIP TO AU SABLE INSTITUTE

Another field trip! This time to Au Sable Institute where we learned all about what this organization does to inspire and educate people to serve, protect, and restore God's earth. Executive Director Jon Terry explained that they have several students throughout the summer from Christian colleges all over the country taking classes such as Field Biology, Forest Management, Field Botany, and more.

Also, the REYS (Restoration Ecology for Young Students) program works with local middle school students with hands-on projects such as planting native plants on school grounds and in other locations in our area.

AUGUST BUSINESS MEETING

After Mr. Terry's presentation, our business meeting included the following:

- We voted to provide a "Gift in Memory" of \$40 to UWF missions in honor of Marijo Bradley, Mike Allen's cousin.
- We are decorating wooden youth chairs to sell at the Craft Show this fall. Brenda Lockman mentioned that her daughter Jodie has already painted four of them to sell. Ellen Whitehead plans to decorate two chairs. If you are interested, see Jackie Bates or Carol Kingsley to decorate a chair – there are still quite a few!



Also, at our August meeting, we reviewed the information from last year's Harvest Supper planning, and decisions were made for 2026.

Here's the "delicious" scoop:

Our menu will be the same. All net proceeds will go to help mission programs. Tickets should be available for purchase soon. So spread the word and mark your calendars!

Date: Thursday, September 24
Time: 5:30 pm
Takeouts: 4:30 & 6:00 pm
Prices: Adults \$15, Ages 5-12 \$10,
Under 5 Free

In order to keep our ticket prices the same as last year, we are having a special homemade pie sale to help offset the cost of the beef. The evening of the Harvest Supper, there will be a dozen pies available for you to purchase for \$20 at the door. We hope to have a variety of fruit pies (cherry, blueberry, apple), pecan and pumpkin. You will pay at the door for your pie, pick it out, label, and pick up as you leave. Please call, email, or text Carol Kingsley to donate for this special pie sale! 231.360.9029 or carolkingsley62@gmail.com.

Submitted by Ellen Whitehead, UWF Secretary

Community Meal



Summer comes and summer goes, not our Community Meal teams. They keep at it all summer long! In July and August, 437 meals were served including take outs.

Our Serv-Safe person, Jackie Bates, has temporarily banned all fresh vegetables and fruits from the food truck or personal purchasing until further notice. It's the safest and easiest way for her to make sure our community patrons are safe from the cyclospora virus.

Our cooks have been impacted by the fresh fruit and vegetable food ban, but they have provided nutritious meals by offering the many canned and frozen foods that Sandy Neumann has on our pantry shelves. In the meantime, Food Rescue will be offering sweet corn, cabbage, tomatoes, and other locally sourced farm produce.

All of the local Community Meal teams and Food Pantries are blessed to have the many volunteers from the Northwest Food Coalition!

Goodwill Northern Michigan web has some statistics regarding the amount of food rescued by the Northwest Food Coalition. They rescue, harvest, repack, and distribute nearly **2 MILLION LBS** of food a year. They partner with 185 organizations to serve a five-county area, bringing nutritious food to people who need it, while keeping food out of the landfill.

- Food Rescue picks up **8,000 lbs.** of food a day from local grocery stores, bakeries, and farms.
- They deliver to **70** food pantries, community meal sites, and baby pantries in **A FIVE-COUNTY REGION** twice the size of Rhode Island.
- Food Rescue makes **275** deliveries a month to the pantries and meal sites of the Northwest Food Coalition, **at no cost** to the pantries.

- **80%** of the food they deliver is fresh and frozen bread, dairy, meat, fruits, and vegetables full of nutrients needed by children, seniors, and other neighbors experiencing food insecurity.
- From the Coalition's Farm2Neighbor program, they distribute **125,000 lbs.** of food that the pantries buy from local farms!
- Food Rescue delivers **2,000,000 lbs.** of food a year. That's \$3.34 million worth of food!

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



Carol & Marv Kingsley	September 12
George & Ginny Moeke	September 20
Ron & Wendy Aldrich	October 23



Amanda Felton	September 2
Brian Lirones	September 15
Ruth Johnson	September 16
David Brooks	September 24
Jater Castle	September 26
Les Cota	October 12
Judy Cota	October 14
Carolyn Hines	October 24
Sharon Brooks	October 28
Amy Derrer	October 31



It's hard to believe that summer is almost over and kids will be heading back to school soon.

The church yard has been taken care of all summer. Thank you to Lori & Chris Derror and Lauren Kirby for mowing in August. No one has signed up for September or October, it doesn't usually need much mowing. There will be some leaves to take care of when they come down.

Matt's Underground has corrected the problem occurring in the Memorial Garden. There are two drains on the west side of the church for water/snow melt. One drains north under the sidewalk to the parking lot and the other drains west under the Memorial Garden. They were both completely plugged. They fixed the drain problem and patched around the lower ramp where it showed signs of the washout. There is still a caution sign at the end of the drain to warn of a low spot.

The church garage sale this summer was a success. We made over \$600. Thank you to all who donated their stuff and for those of you who stopped by and purchased some treasures.

We had a work bee in July at Tressie Peterson's house looking for her brother, Elihu's WWII medals. We had no luck that day but did bag up lots of stuff for the dumpster and some stuff was taken for the church garage sale. It has been like looking for a needle in a haystack. I won't say Tressie was a hoarder, but she was a saver. On my last trip there to take another box of clothing to the resale shop, I happened to see a plastic box the size of a shoe box. It had his medals. I took the medals and two trunks of WWII mementos to the Mancelona Museum, per Tressie's wishes. One trunk had letters to Rebecca from Elihu. Jill Stephenson is in the process of cataloging them and making them available to read on their site. Now that the medals have been located, sorting and cleaning out the rest of the house won't be quite a chore. I would like to have things wrapped up before winter, at the latest. We will take advantage of the free village clean-up on September 17. I'm thinking of an estate sale at the end of September or the first of October. Then the house will be available for sale.

Next up.....the snow shoveling sign-up sheet!

Submitted by Laurie Allison- Trustee Chair

Community Meal -5:00 pm – Fellowship Hall – Every September and October Tuesday

September 2,9,16, 23 & 30– Knit Chicks, 1:00 pm – Conference Room Check with a member to confirm dates.

September 3 – 1:00 pm – Conference Room -Bible Study on Micah

September 6 – 12:00 pm – Conference Room -Bible Study on Micah

September 14– MUMC Ad Council – 4:00 pm - Conference Room

September 9 – 2:30 PM – Conference Room Women's Christian Book Study

September 13 – Potluck after Church

September 23 – UWF Harvest Supper preparation at 9:00 am. All our invited.

September 24 – Harvest Supper seating at 5:30; Take outs at 4:30 and 6:00 pm

September 27- Snacks and Chat in the Welcome Center after Church.

October 1 -1:00 pm – Conference Room -Bible Study on Micah

October 4 -12:00 pm – Conference Room -Bible Study on Micah

October 7, 21 & 28 - Knit Chicks, 1:00 pm – Conference Room – Check with a member to confirm dates.

October 11 –Potluck after Church

October 14 – 1:00 pm UWF, Fellowship Hall

October 14 - – 2:30 PM – Conference Room Women's Christian Book Study

October 25 – Snacks and Chat in the Welcome Center after Church.

October 25, 2026 - November/December-Newsletter deadline

Sunday, November 15 – Honoring Veterans during our service.

Sunday, November 15 – Potluck after Church

Saturday, November 21, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm - Mancelona Community Craft Fair at Mancelona Elementary School. Our UWF will have a booth.

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

