

Rebuilding Continues to Progress



Almost Done! The organ is back, pews should be in by the time this prints. And the community room is coming along

Grape Notes – *musings from Interim Pastor Chris Grapentine*

The Hope of Lent (not Lint)

As we continue to slog through this winter season, we are about to enter the time of year known as Lent. Growing up I knew nothing about the observance of Lent. Back in those days good Baptists didn't do such things. I remember being told one Ash Wednesday not to tell anyone they had a smudge on their forehead. I didn't understand such a seemingly strange practice, and I never knew it was the beginning of a special time called Lent. I don't think I ever heard the term Lent until I was in college. If I heard it growing up, I probably just thought the speaker was saying "lint" and couldn't figure out why anyone would want to observe lint or celebrate lint!

Although the grip of winter is not yet over, despite the ridiculously warm days of late, Lent is a time of looking forward. As the linguistic history of the name implies, we are in the period of lengthening days. In spite of the howling winter winds, which try to hold on to us, the days are getting longer, spring is getting closer, and the hope of new life, which comes in spring, reminds us that ultimately winter must release its icy grip.

This is the hope of Lent too. For many these forty days before Easter (plus six Sundays, which don't count in the forty days) are a time of remembrance of Jesus' wrestling with temptation and of repentance for their own struggles with Tempter, but we know that at the end there is new life, the conquering of sin and death. Although in this life the Tempter may seem to hold us in his grip at times, we know that through Jesus the battle has been won. The power of sin and death is broken. The Tempter's days are numbered.

Therefore, as followers of Jesus, we are a people of hope, for no matter how bad it may seem now, we know that God always has the final word. That word is life. Abundant life. Everlasting life. Fulfilling life. New life. The Creator God loves us, and we need not fear the icy hand of death or the Tempter's grip of sin. Praise the Lord!

Grace and Peace be yours this Lenten season.

Chris

P.S. Much grateful thanks to all of you who were praying for my mom over the last few months, and for your condolences at her passing on February 19th. Both the prayers and the condolences have been a comfort for me and our family. Much love to all of you!

Interim Pastor Chris Grapentine contact information

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734-971-5894 Home

734-649-3455 Cell

I plan to be in regularly on Wednesday mornings starting Jan. 4 if people need to see me or want to chat or would like me to stop by. If that time isn't convenient, I can always arrange some other time to meet with people. Best number to call is my cell phone: 734-649-3455



Music Notes



"I thank my God on every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident in this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ, just as it is right for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart...!" Philippians 1:4-7

Isn't this exciting?!!! We are so close to getting back into our building. Things are looking wonderful, thank you to those who have so carefully planned and worked so hard. I have wondered during this period of time how the Israelites felt as they were wandering around in the desert, knowing the "land of milk and honey" (aka: The Promised Land) was so close. Anticipation, watching and waiting...

We are entering into the season of Lent. A period of watching, and waiting...and preparing...for the Day of Resurrection!!! How exciting! But it is not about waiting, Lent is about preparing. We know Easter is coming! You have special opportunities to serve during this exciting season. First, to join the choir as we re-enter our worship space...with songs of jubilation! Second, to join the Community Choir for Palm Sunday Church Re-Consecration and Celebration. Some rehearsal times are different, so look below for details

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Palm Sunday Rehearsals are: Sunday April 2nd at 6 PM, Wednesday April 5th at 6 PM, and Palm Sunday at 5 PM
Good Friday Service Rehearsal: Wednesday April 12th at 6 PM
All rehearsals will be held at the Federated Church.

We will still have rehearsal for our own choir on Wednesdays at 7 PM. It would be wonderful to have a huge choir leading us to worship in the Sanctuary that God has so generously given us! There is plenty of room for you!!!

In HIS Service,
Wendy Walz
517 812-8783 imawendy@yahoo.com

"Your procession is seen, O God, the procession of my God, my King, into the sanctuary—the singers in front, the musicians last,..." Psalm 68:24-25a

THANKSGIVINGS & PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have additions to this list, please call the church (517-522-4480), email the church at glfederated@yahoo.com, or give a written note of the request to Tina Kempker, the Church Secretary. Be sure to include your name so that we know who brought the request. Thank you for being a praying church!

Thanksgivings

1. The end is getting nearer on the rebuilding of our church!
2. Thankful for support of GLUMC.

Prayer Requests

1. Pray for our homebound: Arlo and Lisle Carr,
- 2.. Lorie Kramer has had a chemo treatment and was quite sick after. She made another trip to Texas and was told her tumor had shrunk a little. She will be home 3 months before she returns to Texas for another evaluation
3. Charlotte Brandenburg mother of Lorie Kramer is a resident at Legacy Care Home
4. Rev. Chris Grapentine and family on the loss of his mother
5. Ray Perham and family on the loss of Karen. Ray and Karen had both been hospital patients for an extended period of time.
6. Terry Beerens has been hospitalized at the U of M and has had 3 stents put in and hopes to return to work soon
7. Herm Arnold will be having back surgery March 2, at Alligence Hospital. We pray this will relieve the pain in his legs.
- 8.. Our church as search for a permanent pastor- pray for wisdom and discernment for what God wants for our church.
9. Our country as we adjust to a new president
10. Our military

IN SYMPATHY

Our prayers are with the following people who have lost loved one recently

DOLLIE GILBERT'S memorial service will be held Sat. April 22, at 2:00 P.M. at the Federated Church, with Rev. Chuck McNeil and Rev. Chris Grapentine officiating. Dollie is survived by her husband Claire, twin brother William (Judy) Ellsworth, children Terry (Sheila) Crawford, Tammy Crawford, Shelly (Julian) Cole, Melissa (Gary) Wroezak, John and Scott Gilbert; grandchildren Rachele and Brandon Crawford, Mikal, Jahne, and Kierra Cole, Joshua (Jordyn) Nathan and Emily Wroezak, Lucas, Miranda and Robbie Gilbert and great-granddaughter Lenore Mellon. Dollie was preceded in death by sisters Lillian Covelle, Eileen Robinson, and Geri O'Neil and son Rob Gilbert. Claire and Dollie were long time active members of the Federated Church.

KENNETH COLE passed away Feb.7that the age of 91. He is survived by 2 brothers and 1 sister. His wife of 60 years Louise, 3 sons Richard (Elaine) of Ypsilanti, Rodney (Cindy) of Colo. and Randy (Lissa) of Grass Lake, and 1 daughter Diane (Larry) Bush of Saline, 9 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.He spent his retirement years Zepherhills, Fl. He loved watching his sons play football for Grass Lake. His son Randy is the varsity football coach for Grass Lake. His funeral arrangements were handled by Sherwood Funeral Home

WANDA (WIEDMAN) SIEGRIST passed away Feb. 9, at the age of 81, at Marengo, Ohio. Wanda was a former resident Grass Lake and a graduate of G.L.H.S, in 1953. She is survived by 3 children, Ronald, Randy and LuAnn (Judd) Dawson, 5 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. Wanda lived her high school years with her aunt and uncle Wayne (Mike) and Ellen Havens. Funeral services were held at Sherwood Funeral Home with Rev. John White officiating.

JOHN WILLIAMS was killed while walking near his Winter home in Zepherhills, Fl. at the age of 80. He lived in Napoleon in the summer. He formerly was a resident in Grass Lake where he was postmaster during 60's. John and his 1st wife Jan were active members of the Federated Church. He was preceded in death by his 1st wife Jan and is survived by two children Audrey Williams Joseph and and Albert Williams, and 4 step children Brent (Brenda) Vreeland, Peggy Adams, Jan Pate, Scott (Kelly) Vreeland, 11 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren, 2 sisters and 1 brother. Creamation has taken place and a memorial service was held at Napoleon Methodist Church. Charles Burden & Son handled arrangements

MARCH EVENTS & MEETINGS

Every Wednesday 8:00am Prayer breakfast @ Ryan's Restaurant (all invited)
9:30am Bible study @ GLUMC
Every other Thursday 4:00pm Building Ministry Team

Wednesday 1st – Ash Wednesday
Tuesday 7th 7PM- Pastor Search Team meeting
Sunday 12th - FIRST service back in our new building!!!!, DAYLIGHT SAVINGS begins
Monday 13th 7:00pm Executive Ministry Team meeting
Tuesday 14th 5:45pm Harmony Food Pantry
Thursday 16th 5:45pm Harmony Food Pantry
Sunday 19 St. Patrick's Lunch youth fundraiser
Tuesday 28th 5:45pm Harmony Food Pantry

Save the Date – Holy Week

Sunday April 9th- 6PM – Palm Sunday Service at the FEDERATED Church!!!
Friday April 14th 12PM- Good Friday Service at Grass Lake United Methodist Church
6 PM- Good Friday Community Service – St. John's UCC 270 Bohne Rd. Grass Lake
Sunday April 16th TBD- Easter Sunrise service Sackrider Hill and lower lot of GLUMC

Executive Ministry Team Unofficial MINUTES

2/13/17

ATTENDEES: Linda Tengman, David Dorr, Dan Bentschneider, Scott Taylor, Larry Barnhill, Tom Smith, Eric Bernhardt, Sue Culbert, Kim Brown, and Pastor Chris Grapentine

Linda called the meeting to order & gave a great update regarding Lori Kramer. Her cancer has decreased & she gets 3 months off chemo. Pastor Chris opened with prayer.

CLERKS REPORTS: Report from January approved with correction – Sue Culbert was left off list of attendees in error

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Financial report approved by Larry Barnhill's motion, Dan 2nd, all approved. Sara's Insurance Report reviewed and Dan made a motion to accept, Eric 2nd & all approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Van – Kim pulled up blue book value on van & it's around \$3500. The insurance has been paid for the year & that cost is \$640. We will re-evaluate what to do with the van once we get a new pastor.

On 1/22/17 40 members voted to use Principal from the Raymond James fund. The vote was approved 39 to 1.

We will continue to review & edit the handbook and discuss this again at a later time.

No resumes received yet from Pastor Search team.

New Business:

Building: Open House planned for Palm Sunday & prep is beginning for this. Dave is arranging for the pews to be delivered. KSS is bringing a few types of vacuums to try out. We will pay to have the Methodist Church's chairs cleaned & will think about what else we want to do to show our thanks.

Discussion about an Ash Wednesday service – will try to have a service if it works out.

Membership class starts in 2 weeks & 3 people are joining.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by: Kim Brown

Needed: Volunteer to be the hospitality coordinator for Sunday morning services .For information see Linda Tengman or other executive team members.

RETURNABLE BOTTLE AND CANS

Also Box Tops!

ONGOING YOUTH FUND FUNDRAISER

Bring in your returnable bottles & cans and give them to Theresa Way. This will support our Youth Fund, and enable them to participate in camp and other activities. She is also collecting box tops.

Let's Support Our Students

This is a section where we will highlight activities of the youth (all ages) of our church. Please contact Tina via church email glfederated@yahoo.com to add your child's sports, music or other activities