

GOD'S DREAM SEEKERS NEWS

April 2014
Volume 1, Issue 2



Newaygo United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 366, Newaygo, MI 49337; email: umcnew@newaygoumc.com; phone: 231-652-6581; website: www.newaygoumc.com

Pastors Ponderings

By Pastor Kathleen Groff

The Worms Are Coming

One of the sure signs of spring is the plethora of worms we find on our sidewalks as the big thaw takes place after months of ice and snow. They seem to make a mess and certainly smell that curious odor that bombards our senses as they crawl from the safety of the good earth. As obnoxious as the odor may be to some of us and as slimy as those little critters are, they serve a purpose that we don't often think about. They churn the soil up so that it gets aerated and can produce healthier plants that replenish the air with life giving oxygen. Worms are useful!!! When I am reminded of what worms do for this earth, they become less obnoxious. I would rather have a worm than a mosquito any day.

Our lives are full of things that burrow around underneath the exterior of our lives and can either replenish us or bury us under mountains of anxiety and guilt and sense of unease. Not meaning to equate faith to worms exactly, faith does the same thing in a sense. Faith continues to work inside us to change our outlook on life. If we don't have faith, we can stagnate in the meaninglessness of our lives. God helps to change our lives to those that are more fully lived and meaningful in the light of Jesus, the Word and the Life.

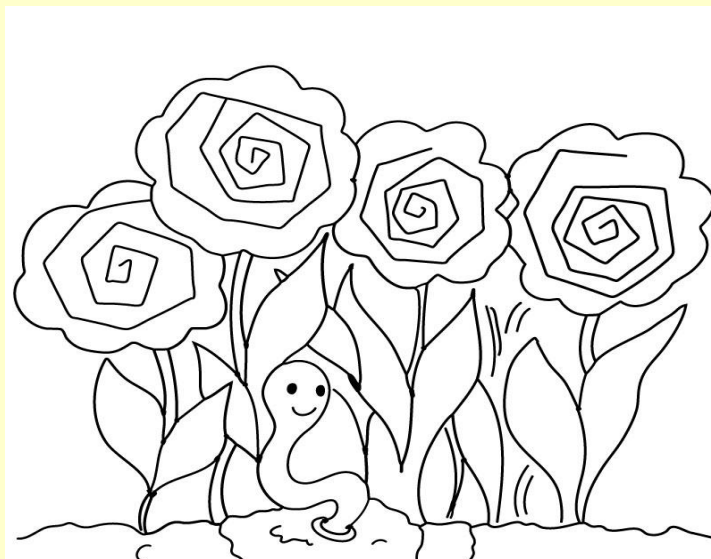
That's why this Easter celebration we are about to embark on is so important in the life of our

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churches. We remember the grand and glorious gift that God has given us, the fulfillment of all that God did in history prior to that one event. Through the suffering and the resurrection of Jesus we see clearly the full extent of God's love. God gave us a way to live our lives as they were intended to be lived, digging into the useless, non-productive, stagnated "stuff" that is within us, and filling us up with the things that make us whole and give us a better sense of satisfaction.

So when we begin to see those worms, we can be reminded what they do for the earth and when we celebrate Easter we are reminded of what God does for our lives in Jesus.



Kids: color this picture and bring it to church for Pastor Kathy.

Lent/Easter Worship & Fellowship Opportunities

Wednesday, April 2—Soup's On at Family of God Community Church @ noon

Sunday, April 6—5th Sunday in Lent Worship Service @ 9:30am

Wednesday, April 9—Soup's On at Newaygo United Methodist Church @ noon

Sunday, April 13—Palm/Passion Sunday Worship Service @ 9:30am

Thursday, April 17 – Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, April 18—Good Friday Worship Service @ 7:00pm

Sunday, April 20—Easter Morning Worship Service @ 9:30am



Soup's On @ Newaygo UMC

April 9, 2013

@ noon

Please join us for the last soup's on of the 2014 Lenten season here at Newaygo United Methodist Church. All are welcome and cost is by donation. Money raised will go to local Newaygo County charities.

NOTE: *Those of you who are bringing soup and bread please make sure your soup is here no later than 11am if it is already hot. If we have to heat it up please have it here by 10am.*



Little Dresses For Africa

Little Dresses for Africa is a non-profit 501c3, Christian organization, which provides relief to the children of Africa.

Simple dresses are made out of pillow cases, and distributed through the orphanages, churches and schools in Africa to plant in the hearts of little girls that they are worthy!

"Changing lives one little dress at a time... We're not just sending dresses, we're sending HOPE!"

For those who sew: complete kits for making Little Dresses for Haiti are available in the fellowship area. Please pick them up and sew, then return completed dresses to the church and we will be sure they are delivered so they can be shipped to Haiti.

www.littledressesforafrica.org



Children during a distribution of 'Little Dresses'

United Methodist Women

Why join? You become part of a national membership organization that offers:

- A community of women
- Spiritual growth
- A creative & supportive community
- Education & transformation through programs

You join a million other women in helping to support many worthy programs and projects related to women, children and youth.

A Community of Women

- United Methodist Women strives to follow Christ's teachings to do acts of love, justice, mercy and faith, and to serve one another on an equal basis. A community emerges through worship, sharing, praying, studying, working and serving. United Methodist Women explores ways to meet the needs of the members in our 140- year-old organization with 800,000 members.



Mary, Mother of Jesus: A woman of unusual faith and humility. Honored not only as the Mother of Jesus but as his first Disciple:

Come to Ladies Night Out Tuesday, April 8th learn more!

- **Longcore Circle** – Tuesday, April 1st @ 2pm at Dorothy Sibley's Home. We will do a short study on Elizabeth. All are welcome.
- **UMW-Ladies Night Out** – Tuesday, April 8th at 6:30pm. We will have a short business meeting, a short study on Mary, Mother of Jesus!
- **Mary Martha Circle** – Tuesday, April 15th at 9:30am. We will be meeting at the church. We have a business meeting then a time of devotion and bible study. We will be studying, 'Women of the Bible' – Mary & Martha

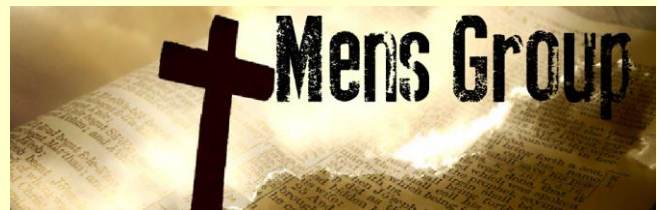
Men's Group

By Joe Groff

We will miss our early arriver, Don Pederson. He always got to the table first and reserved it for us. Now it will be hit or miss!

Many things were discussed at the last breakfast. It was decided that if you answer your cell phone at the breakfast and it was for one of the other guys, you were the secretary for the day. We also saw the new signs in the back of the church about the "clean up the dog droppings" and wondered how Deb knew the dogs could read the signs! There was a little discussion about projects that needed to be done around the church, such as our kitchen refrigerator and the expense of nursing homes or long term health care. Of course, as always there were fishing stories!

So men, come join us on **Wednesdays at 8:30 at the City Limits**. You become a regular when the waitress sees you driving in and has your coffee ready when you hit the table!!



Jackie Pederson and her family

Nancy Ferguson

Andy Belew

Sue Osborn

Arlene Salacina

Jean Bumstead

Jean Reynhout

Newaygo County Mobile Food Pantry

Newaygo County Mobile Food Pantry is scheduled at the following locations to distribute free food to individuals and families in need. Most food distributions take approximately one hour. Please do not arrive more than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled delivery time. Bring your own container to hold 50 lbs of food. You will check in upon arrival unless otherwise stated.

- Friday, April 4, 10am, St. Joseph Catholic Church, WHITE CLOUD
- Sponsored by Local Area Churches and Great Lakes Energy Peoples Fund
- Saturday, April 5, 10am, Pine Grove Comm. Church, CROTON/HOWARD CITY
- Monday, April 7, 5pm, Fremont United Methodist Church, FREMONT
- Wednesday, April 9, 5pm, Hesperia Community Ed., HESPERIA
- Sponsored by Local Area Churches
- Thursday, April 10, 3pm, Amazing Grace Acres Church, BROHMAN
- Saturday, April 12, 9:30am, First Christian Reformed Church, FREMONT

- Monday, April 14, 3pm, Big Jackson Church of God, PARIS
- Tuesday, April 15, 4:30pm, Northland Church of Christ, GRANT/NEWAYGO
- Wednesday, April 16, 10am, First Baptist Church of WOODLAND PARK
- Wednesday, April 16, 4:45pm, Second Christian Reformed Church, FREMONT
- Saturday, April 19, 1pm, Grant Assembly of God, GRANT
- Wednesday, April 23, 5pm, Hesperia Community Education, HESPERIA



Mission Minutes

2014 Mission Giving

Accident Victims Fund	\$117.09
Habitat for Humanity	173.00
Human Relations	90.00
Love Food Pantry	52.48
One Hour of Sharing	76.50

509.00

God Loves a Cheerful Giver Thank you!

Upcoming Mission Concerns

April 13- Love Food Pantry

April 27- Native American Collection

LOVE FOOD Pantry

On April 13th, we will be collecting either money or goods for LOVE INC Food Pantry. Please bring items like toilet paper, soap, toothpaste, shampoo, etc. or give a cash donation so that these items can be purchased. A box will be available in the narthex for your donations.

Native American Collection

Our noisy offering will be collected for the Native American Ministry. Up to 50% of the offering is retained by the annual conference for Native American ministries and the balance is used by the General Board of Global Ministries for similar programs throughout the United States.



Treasurer's Report

As you can see, we had an increase in giving for the month of March. You are a wonderful and faithful congregation. Thanks be to God! However, we also had an increase in expenses during March. We understand the weather this winter played a part in attendance, but please when considering your giving, remember the lights and heat are still on even if you are unable to make it.

Contributions through March 27, 2014 -	\$ 9,381.00
Expenses through March 27, 2014 -	\$ <u>9,499.00</u>
Total Overage	(\$ 118.00)

If you have any questions or would like to see a more detailed treasurer's report please call Deb Prins at 231-652-6581 or see the copy of the reports posted on bulletin board in the church office.



4th Saturday Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, April 26, 2014
Serving 8am-11am

All you can eat pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, biscuits & gravy, fried potatoes, drink and fruit. Free will offering.

If you can help cook or serve, please see Jean Reynhout.

Invite your friends and neighbors!



Worship Helpers for April

April 6

Liturgist: Carline Knoll

Acolyte: Elizabeth Brooks

Inside Ushers: Harriet Kiper & Anne Henning

Outside Ushers: Ardie Tanis & Jan Fisher

Projector: Joe Groff

Sound: Mark VanDyke

April 13

Liturgist: Joe Groff

Acolyte: Morgan Pope

Inside Ushers: Ruth Merritt & Joan Faulkner

Outside Ushers: Dianna Weaver & Deb Prins

Projector: Jen Larsen

Sound: Deb Prins

April 20

Liturgist: Nancy Clark

Acolyte: Saria Brooks

Inside Ushers: Jen Larsen & Carline Knoll

Outside Ushers: Ron & Kay Pardonnet

Projector: Taylor Prins

Sound: Deb Prins

April 27

Liturgist: Ron Pardonnet

Acolyte: Blake Larsen

Inside Ushers: Dorothy Besemer &
Jane Bode Fowler

Outside Ushers: Steve & Liz Moore

Projector: Deb Prins

Sound: Mark Vandyke

Reminder: there will be a newsletter for May then June & July will be together which you will receive the first week of June. Please keep this in mind when submitting information to be printed.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 8:30am – Men’s Group @ City Limits 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy’s Office Hours 12pm – Soup’s On @ Family of God Community Church 7pm - Choir	3 Pastor Kathy’s Day Off	4	5
6 5th Sunday in Lent 9:30am – Worship 11am – Sunday School for All Ages	7 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy’s Office Hours 1:00pm – Wired Word Bible Study	8 2:00pm – Longcore Circle @ Dorothy Sibley’s 6:30pm – Ladies Night Out	9 8:30am – Men’s Group @ City Limits 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy’s Office Hours 12pm – Soup’s On @ Newaygo UMC 7pm - Choir	10 Pastor Kathy’s Day Off	11	12
13 Palm/Passion Sunday 9:30am – Worship 11am – Sunday School for All Ages	14 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy’s Office Hours 1:00pm – Wired Word Bible Study	15 9:30am – Mary Martha Circle 6:30pm - Finance 7:00pm – Church Council	16 8:30am – Men’s Group @ City Limits 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy’s Office Hours 7pm - Choir	17 Pastor Kathy’s Day Off 7:00pm – Maundy Thursday Worship Service	18 7:00pm – Good Friday Worship Service	19
20 Easter Sunday 9:30am – Worship 11am – NO Sunday School for All Ages	21 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy’s Office Hours 1:00pm – Wired Word Bible Study	22 6:30pm – Christian Education	23 8:30am – Men’s Group @ City Limits 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy’s Office Hours 7pm - Choir	24 Pastor Kathy’s Day Off	25	26 8am-11am – 4 th Saturday Pancake Breakfast Returns
27 9:30am – Worship 11am – Sunday School for All Ages	28 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy’s Office Hours 1:00pm – Wired Word Bible Study	29	30 8:30am – Men’s Group @ City Limits 9am -12pm Pastor Kathy’s Office Hours 7pm - Choir			

Newaygo United Methodist Church Activities
April 2014

Church Staff

Pastor: Kathy Groff

Pastor Kathy is in the church office on Monday and Wednesday Mornings and other times by appointment.

Phone: 231-652-6581

Email: kthlngrff@gmail.com

Administrative: Deb Prins

Deb is in the office Monday -Thursday from 9am to 2:15pm

Phone: 231-652-6581

Email: debprins@sbcglobal.net

Kids Hope Co-Directors: LeeAnn Hesse

Phone: 231-652-7435

Email: l.hesse@sbcglobal.net

Shelbi Hesse

Phone: 231-225-2974

Email: shelbijean78@yahoo.com

Organist: Lois VanDyke

Phone: 231-924-2329

Email: loisvandyke@hotmail.com

Choir Director: Cathy Badge

Phone: 231-652-1478

Email: bbadge@riverview.net

Custodian: Karen Winchel

Phone: 231-689-0677

Email: sahoka_farms@yahoo.com

April Birthday's

4/3 Debra Prins

4/8 Andy Belew

4/9 David Cain

4/12 Gabriella Brooks

4/13 Cindy Ryan

4/13 Steven Dietz

4/15 Ron Pardonnet

4/22 Dustin Prins

4/29 Trevor Cutler

4/30 Julie Cain



“Son of God” Movie

We have purchased tickets to see the “Son of God” movie. There are still about 13 tickets available and they are good through May 23rd at any theater that is playing the movie. If you are interested in going, please call the church office at 231-652-6581 to reserve your tickets.

If you want more information or would like to watch the trailer for the movie go to www.sonofgodmovie.com



April Anniversaries

4/6 Ray & Melissa Web



**Newaygo United Methodist
Church**

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Mission

We are God's Dream Seekers who seek to make disciples of Jesus Christ in ways that show love, respect and service to our community.

Join us on Sunday Mornings for Worship at 9:30am with fellowship following. Sunday School for all ages at 11am.

If you have any questions or would like more information regarding worship services and activities at Newaygo United Methodist Church please feel free to call the church office Monday–Thursday 9am–1 pm.

May God Bless you this Easter Season.

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.newaygoumc.com

or check us out on

facebook: Newaygo
United Methodist Church

Newaygo United Methodist Church

P.O. Box 366

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