

Sunday
February 16, 2020
10:30 a.m.

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Pastor Greg

Becoming disciples,
serving God's world.



217 S Main St
Vicksburg MI 49097
269-649-2343
vicksburgumc.org

Pastor Greg Culver
231-675-4452
gpculver@mac.com



Plain print indicates worship leader.

Bold print indicates the people.

*Indicates please stand as able.

Prelude

Video: "Conflict vs. Comfort"

Stanley Hauerwas is professor emeritus of Theological Ethics at Duke Divinity School.

***Call to Worship:** "Come, love the Lord your God!"

Come, love the Lord your God! Let your eyes gleam with joy at the reunion of your spirits!

God is like the father who holds us when we tremble, who cries over us when we are lost.

Hear and obey the sound of the Lord's voice! Let your ears catch God's step approaching the door!

God is like the mother who teaches us to climb the stairs, who catches us from falling and lets us try again.

Cling to the Lord's hands! Let your hearts warm at God welcoming you home!

Let us know God better, let us hear the Voice well, that we may live by the Lord's will and walk in the way of holiness.

*Invocation

Wise One of the Universe, send your Holy Spirit, that we may see what no human eye has ever seen. Send your Holy Spirit, that we may hear what no human ear has ever heard. Send your Holy Spirit, that we may understand what no human heart has ever understood. Reveal to us the Way you have prepared for those who love you. We cannot know your way except through your Holy Spirit, which lights its fire within us and kindles the soul of the world. With obedient hearts we await the Holy Spirit's coming.

Come, Holy Spirit! Amen!

***Song:** #390 Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

***Scripture Lesson:** Matthew 5:21-37

Song: #191 Jesus Loves Me (vs. 1)

Children's Time ~ *Hank Stamm*

Following Children's Time the kids may either attend children's worship or remain here and worship with the grown-ups.

Song: #2155 Blest Are They (vs. 1-4)

Ushers collect prayer requests.

Prayers of the People, and the Lord's Prayer

Anthem: Come Thou, Almighty King ~ *Bell Choir*

Scripture Lesson: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Sermon: "How to Fight Fair"

Offertory: What Wondrous Love Is This ~ *Bell Choir*

Thank you for your prayers, presence, talents, treasure, and witness.

***Doxology (#94) and Dedication of Offerings**

Opportunities to Serve

Please refer to the bulletin and church newsletter for general announcements.

***Song:** #89 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Prayer for Family and Friends

Praise

Thanks again for all the prayers, calls, cards, and support I have received. ~ *Myrna Forsythe*

Praise for the outpouring of love as our church family so graciously offer food during coffee hour. ~ *Jeff and Cathy Johnson*

Updates and New Requests This Week

Shelly Bolton (Phyllis Barrett's daughter) is recovering from serious surgery in Arizona and will have more to come.

Jessie Farr (Joyce Newton's great-niece) has Crohn's Disease.

Lauren Frantz is back in the hospital with double pneumonia.

Amy Hofmeister (Vera Walker's dear friend and ex-neighbor) is back in the hospital with pancreatitis. Prayers are needed.

Prayers for Lynne Melvin and family at the death of her nephew, Danny Cole. Danny was only 52 years old and died of a sudden heart attack with no previous symptoms.

Ron Monroe (a very close friend of Dee's and Beth's) is recovering from hip replacement.

Joyce Newton will have surgery tomorrow afternoon.

Jason Myers (Rich and Betsy's son) update: "The doctor has decided since the aneurysms have shrunk they will just monitor him every 6 months! He can't drive till March (that's 6 months from initial TBI so he's bummed). But he can get back to normal life and have strength PT now to build his stamina back. Good news all around. It's a second miracle for sure. All your prayers and care worked. Thank you."

Previous Requests

Prayers for Emily Hansson's grandma as she transitions into assisted living.

Jennifer (Dee and Beth's friend) has some serious family issues and would like prayers.

Please continue to remember Janet Zang and all the family and friends in prayer.

Prayers for our loving church family that are so willing to give of their time and talents as well as their offering.

Prayers for our older members as we get through the winter. Be with our church family as we invite friends to join us in worship.

Pray for persecuted Christians around the world.

Today's altar flowers are provided by Tom and Beth Aitken in honor of Laverne Swinehart's 97th birthday. Designed by Heirloom Rose in Schoolcraft.

February 9 attendance:
Worship 100 Sunday School 36

For Cheer and Hello

David Bretz
Barb Griner
Flossie Lang
Nona Mattheis
Beverly Nimmo

Robert & Carmen Parsons
Marv & Kitty Starbuck
Mina Willett
Betty Witcher



Rev. George Stanford

Dr. George Stanford was a much beloved pastor during his stay from

1948-1958. Before and until 1981, he was our longest reigning pastor. He really loved our church, the village and its residents, according to his granddaughter, our own Melva Kohler.

Finances were still a little tight after WWII, so he worked a part-time job as a village mail carrier to supplement his wages from the church. Melva told me he really liked this job because he could visit and become acquainted with his people on the mail route, witnessing the *Good News from the Bible*.

He especially had a soft spot for children and wanted to be able to give them the best possible Sunday School. While here in Vicksburg, he began plans and securing funds to build an education wing to be attached to the back east side of our church. He had never been in a church with a building project so looked forward to it with much enthusiasm. Plus, we had so many children and adults in Sunday School, and we were out of spaces for them. Every inch of our church was utilized, even corners of rooms! The two-story wing cost \$80,000 to build. The construction of the second floor was such that a third floor could be added.

He had to leave before the wing was completed, so he never got to use the pastor's office in the church. Prior to this, his office was in his home on S. Main St. He did return for the dedication, and you can see him smiling from ear to ear in the pictures of the paper.

Plus, he is still known as the pastor who started an event called *Christmas in July*. He wanted the children to get an appreciation of the Christmas story and its real meaning. News spread of this event, and he was on the CBS TV show, *What's My Line?* Quite a celebrity.

On Jan. 12, 1958, in the Sunday bulletin, he reported that we had paid \$36,087 during 1957 toward the debt of \$60,000. Also, on this date, he reported that in 1957 he made 1,188 pastoral calls on sick, shut-ins, new friends and old friends, attended 288 meetings, taught 1,661 boys and girls in the high school class, funerals, weddings, 50 sermons, traveled approx. 20,000 miles...studied and fiddled around some!

I would say, "no grass grew under his feet."

Thoughts, memories and research
by Nancy Fulton

This Week's Calendar

Today

- 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class in the youth room
- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for everyone
- 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. High School Youth in the youth rooms

Monday, February 17

- 6:30 p.m. Pickleball in the FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop in the Taylor Room

Tuesday, February 18

- 2:00 p.m. Sew What Now God, Taylor Room
- 3:00 p.m. HELIX (middle school youth), FLC
- 6:30 p.m. Scout Pack in the FLC, Taylor Room

Wednesday, February 19

- 10:30 a.m. SCCS Wednesday Winners, Taylor Rm
- 6:00 p.m. Bell Choir practice, Sanctuary
- 6:30 p.m. Pickleball in the FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Choir practice in the Sanctuary

Thursday, February 20

- 9:30 a.m. Susanna Wesley Circle, Taylor Room
- 2:00 p.m. Discipleship study at the Franklin home
- 7:00 p.m. Discipleship study at the Franklin home

Friday, February 21 - Pastor's Day Off

no church activities are scheduled

Saturday, February 22

no church activities are scheduled

Next Week

Sunday, February 23

after church Special Charge Conference, Sanctuary

Monday, February 24

- 11:00 a.m. Worship Committee in the Library
- 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee in the Library
- 8:00 p.m. SPRC in the Library

Wednesday, February 26—Ash Wednesday

- 12:00 p.m. Imposition of Ashes
- 6:00 p.m. Imposition of Ashes

In Service to Our Country

Ryan Miller
Walker Polsinelli

Tyler Smith
Geoff White

This Week's Celebrations

Birthdays

- 2/16 Walter Gose
- 2/17 Jolene Cron
Cande Vermeulen
- 2/18 Jill Barton
- 2/19 Frances Howard
Anna Sponseller
- 2/20 Laverne Swinehart

2/21 Betty Gruber

Anniversaries


- 2/17 Chuck & Vera
Walker
- 2/18 Larry & Sally
Kohler
- 2/22 Billy & Barbara
Adams

DRIVING
Miss Daisy



We're looking for drivers willing to pick up some of our members this winter to get them to church. If you can serve, please let Polly in the office know (649-2343). Details will follow.


VUMC's Mission Statement



The General Rule of Discipleship

To witness to Jesus Christ in the world, and to follow his teachings through acts of compassion, justice, worship and devotion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.


Winter weather is here, so please remember to slow down and be very careful in the church parking lot and on the sidewalks.




Children in K-5th grades are invited to go to Children's Church right after the kids' message, and parents may pick them up in the Taylor Room after church.

Please be sure your child has a name tag with grade and your cell phone number.

Generous Hands Wish List



- 18 oz. peanut butter
- fruit cups
- applesauce cups
- granola bars
- Ramen noodles
- microwave popcorn
- small peanut packs
- instant oatmeal packets

Sunday morning snacks

The sign up sheet is located at the welcome center, but you are also able to bring in a small snack to share at any time.

You do not have to bring a snack to enjoy the food! Everyone is welcome to join us each week for food and fellowship!

We welcome suggestions for snack types, so please feel free to leave a suggestion at the welcome center, or talk to Cathy Johnson.

Coming deadlines

- ScripCents orders are due in the church office by 2:00 tomorrow.
- Items for the March newsletter are due in the church office by Monday, Feb. 24.

Mission Moment—Plus 10 Families

Thank you to these families who bring \$10 worth of groceries for South County or \$10 for Generous Hands:

- Feb. 16: Marshall Linebaugh
- Feb. 23: Joe and Betty Gruber

Prayer requests are available by phone

You can hear the weekly prayer requests by calling the church (649-2343) before 9:00 a.m. and after 1:00 p.m. When the answering machine answers, dial 370.