

Sunday
February 23, 2020
10:30 a.m.

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Pastor Greg

Becoming disciples,
serving God's world.



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Plain print indicates worship leader.

Bold print indicates the people.

*Indicates please stand as able.

Prelude

***Call to Worship:** "Turning a Cheek" (inspired by 1 Samuel 17:1-58; Matthew 5:38-42)

Strength is commanding the wind and sea to obey, Strength is wielding a slingshot in the face of a raging giant. Strength is accepting vulnerability from inside the boat, Strength is standing in solidarity with the powerless.

**Strength is turning a cheek, Strength is loving an enemy.
We come to worship a God who redefines our vision of strength.**

***Invocation:** Psalm 119 33-40 (NIV)

Teach me, Lord, the way of your decrees, that I may follow it to the end.

Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law and obey it with all my heart.

Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight.
Turn my heart toward your statutes and not toward selfish gain.

Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to your word.

Fulfill your promise to your servant, so that you may be feared.

Take away the disgrace I dread, for your laws are good.
How I long for your precepts! In your righteousness preserve my life.

***Song:** #258 O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair (vs. 1, 3, 4)

***Scripture Lesson:** Matthew 5:38-48

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

Children's Time ~ *Joanne Culver*

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

Song: #2173 Shine, Jesus, Shine
Ushers collect prayer requests.

Prayers of the People, and the Lord's Prayer

Choir Anthem: Let's Have Some Old-Time Religion

Scripture Lesson: 1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23

Sermon: "The Master Mixer"

Song: #545 The Church's One Foundation (vs. 1)

Offertory: Down to the River to Pray

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:** #545 The Church's One Foundation (vs. 2-5)

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Prayer for Family and Friends

Praise

Thank you Connections Class friends for your planning efforts and teamwork toward the 150 year community picnic! ~ *Kris Miller*

Updates and New Requests This Week

Camery (Teegan Phillips's friend) is battling cancer.

Jodie (Charlene Taylor's daughter) is having a very difficult surgery tomorrow and will be off work for 6 weeks. Charlene will be staying with her for a while.

Lynne Melvin's mother-in-law is moving from her home of almost 50 years. Prayers for comfort and peace.

Joyce Newton is home, recovering from surgery. Monique's mother (Amy Phillips's friend) is in the hospital due to cancer that is now in her liver.

Prayers for Debbie Young for healing.

Previous Requests

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.

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

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.

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

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.

For Cheer and Hello

David Bretz
Barb Griner
Flossie Lang
Nona Mattheis
Beverly Nimmo

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

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.



In Service to Our Country

Ryan Miller
Walker Polsinelli

Tyler Smith
Geoff White



Building the Education Wing in 1958

Why did Rev. Stanford have such a strong desire for our congregation to build an education unit? **Because we were bursting at the seams with over 200 enrollees, both adult and children! Literally, we were holding classes in corners of rooms.**

As you sit here this morning, look around you and try to imagine finding Sunday School space in the sanctuary and east wing, but without the west wing. Basement, we only had the Taylor Room and kitchen. Folding screens were our only way to create some sense of privacy and noise control. Are we not spoiled with luxury in 2020, letting lots of rooms go unused?

To meet this need, we built a 2-story building on the east side of, but separate from, the church. The entry to the new unit faced the back side of the church, and the back side of the new unit faced Kalamazoo St. (We most likely built over the spot where the tennis court had been.) Construction of the second floor was such that we could add a third floor without much ado. It may sound confusing because in our 2005 addition we enveloped the education unit into the new plans, which we have dubbed "Family Life Center Unit."

We loved this new building! It added 10 small classrooms plus a pastor office and waiting room and a medium size secretarial space on the second floor, west side. This was the first time we ever had office space for the pastor in our building! Pastor Al Frevert, who arrived in mid summer of 1958, was the beneficiary of Pastor Stanford's efforts and plans. And we built a new ranch style parsonage, so Pastor Frevert hit the jackpot.

On Jan. 12, 1958, in the Sunday bulletin, Pastor Stanford mentioned we had paid \$36,087 during 1957 toward the debt of \$80,000. Good job. I bet we were cooking and eating a lot to finish off the debt.

Thoughts, memories and research by Nancy Fulton

February 16 attendance:
Worship 102 Sunday School 32

This Week's Calendar

Today

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for everyone
- 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
after church Special Charge Conference, Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. High School Youth in the youth rooms

Monday, February 24

- 11:00 a.m. *Worship Committee in the Library*
- 6:00 p.m. *Finance Committee in the Library*
- 6:30 p.m. Pickleball in the FLC
- 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop in the Taylor Room
- 8:00 p.m. *SPRC in the Library*

Tuesday, February 25

- 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 26—Ash Wednesday

- 10:30 a.m. SCCS Wednesday Winners, Taylor Rm
- 12:00 p.m. *Imposition of Ashes in the Sanctuary*
- 6:00 p.m. *Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary*
NO BELL CHOIR OR CHOIR PRACTICE
- 6:30 p.m. Pickleball in the FLC

Thursday, February 27

- 2:00 p.m. *Discipleship study at the Franklin home*
- 7:00 p.m. *Discipleship study at the Franklin home*

Friday, February 28 - Pastor's Day Off

no church activities are scheduled

Saturday, February 29

no church activities are scheduled

Next Week

Monday, March 2

- 7:00 p.m. *Church Council in the Taylor Room*

Tuesday, March 3

- 7:00 p.m. *Trustees in the Library*

Saturday, March 7

- 1:30 p.m. *Special Session of Michigan Annual Conference at Goodrich Chapel, Albion College*



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.

This Week's Celebrations

Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2/26 Andrew Falconer | 2/27 Judi McNett |
| Diana Girolami | 2/28 Brian Eberstein |
| Lilly Puckett | Edward Haberle |
| 2/27 Sara Carrier | Kip Young |

Special Church Charge Conference Today

Dear VUMC Siblings in Christ,

Bishop David Bard has called for a special session of the Michigan Annual Conference to be held Saturday, March 7, 2020 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Goodrich Chapel on the campus of Albion College in Albion, Michigan. The sole purpose of this session of the Michigan Annual Conference will be to consider whether the Michigan Conference will send the legislation based on the Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace Through Separation to General Conference 2020 so it might be considered by the delegates to the General Conference.

On Jan. 3, 2020, a diverse, 16-member group of United Methodist bishops and other leaders offered a proposal that would preserve The United Methodist Church while allowing traditionalist-minded congregations to form a new denomination. The proposal has since been developed into legislation that on March 7th The Michigan Conference will consider sending to the 2020 General Conference.

Because our lay-delegates, Rachel and Bob Ball, are currently in Arizona, I have asked that Vera Walker and Kathy Phillips attend to represent VUMC (*The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* ¶1602.5).

The procedure now is to formalize the nomination with a vote as indicated in the minutes of a SPECIAL CHARGE CONFERENCE. Accordingly, members of our congregation will have a **SPECIAL CHARGE CONFERENCE RIGHT AFTER WORSHIP THIS MORNING** to receive the nomination of Vera Walker and Kathy Phillips as VUMC lay-representatives to the Special Annual Conference session on March 7. Should there be other nominations from the floor, those persons will be considered as well.

Thanks for your patience. This is very new to all of us.

In Christ, *Greg Culver*

Coming deadlines

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

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. 23: Joe and Betty Gruber

Mar. 1:



Starting Ash Wednesday, February 26, 6:00 p.m. A Series of Nine Worship Services for the Season of Lent "By His Wounds We Are Healed"

Synopsis: The innocent Son of God had no sins of his own for which he deserved to die, yet his enemies falsely accused him of violating every commandment of God. In each worship service during Lent (including Maundy Thursday and Good Friday) we will consider that it was our sin, our disobedience, that Jesus bore in his body on the cross. "The iniquity of us all" was laid upon him. Jesus suffered death in our place, and "by his wounds we are healed." Our healing will be celebrated on Easter Sunday!

There will be two options on Ash Wednesday — an informal imposition of ashes in the sanctuary at noon, and/or the first service ("Wounds of Blasphemy" — Jesus accused of misusing God's Name) of our Lenten worship series in the sanctuary at 6 p.m.

All are invited (encouraged!) to attend the worship of the church as we re-devote ourselves to Christian discipleship in preparation for a joyous Easter.

Crop Walk

Few local churches are participating in Crop Walk this year. Do we want to continue this tradition? Brad Addis feels it is important and is willing to do his part to make it happen, but not without some folks stepping up to help run and organize it, even if it is just our church. Please contact Brad to let him know what you think.