

Sunday  
**February 24, 2019**  
10:30 a.m.

## Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

Pastor Greg

Becoming disciples,  
serving God's world.



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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.

### *Look*

#### **Prelude**

#### **Welcome, Announcements, Ministry Opportunities**

#### **Opening to the Creative Spirit**

Choir: In the world of the driven

**Let us be drawn in**

Let your love be a given

**Let us be drawn in**

To imagine, to dream, to create, to redeem

For the sake of the livin'

**Let us be drawn in...**

Leader: Something grossly overlooked in the creative process is the place of effortlessness and play. In the story of creation, God rested. This, too, was "good". Staying too focused on deadlines and on how every moment can be "productive" robs us of an important feature of what it means to be made in the image of God: rhythm. Pushing through is non-sustainable.

Creativity suffers if we constantly labor. Celebration is necessary along the journey. God's creativity is ongoing.

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\*Leader: Let us stand and pray together:

**Active and restful God, Your heart is our heart, Your rhythm is our rhythm. Open us to the place of rest and celebration in the rhythm of our lives. Draw us into delight. Give us the courage to breathe deeply. Amen.**

\***Opening Song of Praise:** #140 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

**\*Connecting**

Why can't we seem to keep up our creativity? Why do we get so burned out? Researcher and author, Brené Brown says, "It takes courage to say 'yes' to rest and play in a culture where exhaustion is seen as a status symbol." Sometimes hidden or not-so-hidden expectations, even and especially the ones we put on ourselves, drown out our own gut feeling that it is time to take a break.

Hear the Good News! God's love does not depend on your productivity. Your energy for the work of helping to serve the needs of the world is fed when you dare to give yourself what you need as well. You are beloved. Rest and celebrate. As our greeting and passing of the peace today, I invite you to turn to your neighbors and give them this assurance, "You ARE enough and I think God would agree!"

**The Baptismal Covenant**

*Please turn to UMH, p. 33. We welcome Brianna Bryan to receive her Baptism. Her sponsors are Ken and Debi Franklin.*



Children ages 3 yrs. to third grade leave the worship service right after the kids' message and return to the service after the offering.

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

**Listen**

**Hymn:** #2233 Where Children Belong

**Make Belief Moment** ~ Joanne Culver

*We "make our belief" that God is playing and creating through people in all places, and God plays and creates with us too!*  
Children 3 yrs. to 3rd grade will be dismissed to POP! with Jolene Cron

**The Word in Music:** Long Time Ago ~ Chancel Choir

**The Word Read Aloud:** Luke 5:33-6:11

**The Word Proclaimed:** "Welcome to the Sabbath!" ~ Pastor Greg

**Respond**

**Prayer Song:** #658 This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made

*Ushers will collect prayer requests*

**Praying for the World, and The Lord's Prayer**

**Offering Back to God**

*Offertory: Love Lifted Me~ Chancel Choir*

\***Doxology:** #95 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

\***Closing Song of Life:** #152 I Sing the Almighty Power of God

\***Benediction**

\***Postlude**

**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.

**For Cheer and Hello**

David Bretz  
Barb Griner  
Pat McClelland  
Beverly Nimmo

Robert & Carmen Parsons  
Marv & Kitty Starbuck  
Mina Willett

Today's acolytes are  
John Paul Culver and Harrison Barton

February 17 attendance:  
Worship 118      Sunday School 38

## Prayer for Family and Friends

### Praise

Thank you for prayers for my mom! She is feeling better already. I am praying that she'll come to church with us! ~ *Kris Miller*

### Updates and New Requests This Week

Jody Alzner (Sharon Pendola's coworker) has just been diagnosed with aggressive leukemia. She has 3 young children.

Cheryl Fleming (Tom and Karen Simpson's friend) is mourning the loss of her brother.

Leslie (Amy Moberley's sister) is looking for a job.

Jon Sherman (Den and Marlene's grandson) has health problems.

Taylor (Mystical Townsend's friend) is struggling through his walk with God.

Mystical Townsend wants God to continue guiding her in the right direction.

Ronald Vermeulen (Brianna Bryan's grandfather) is battling lung cancer and will start chemo soon.

Prayers for our church. Love is kind. Love is patient. Love does not envy. Love accepts all things.

### Previous Requests

Jack and Cynda Buckallew

Carol Eaton

Rexalee Goecker's second surgery to repair her hip and femur has gotten infected.

Tyler Lynch and family are mourning the loss of his great-aunt Ruth, who passed away at the age of 99.

Pray for safe travels home from Gulf Shores for Joyce Newton.

Prayers for those suffering from the winter blahs. May God's great love show them they are worthy.

Please pray for the United Methodist General Conference meeting in St. Louis on Feb. 23 to 26 as it deliberates the future of the denomination in regard to matters of GLBTQ inclusion.



### **In Service to Our Country**

**Matthew Kohler**

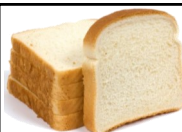
**Ryan Miller**

**Walker Polsinelli is in Kuwait**

**Tyler Smith**

**Geoff White**

5112 Hickory Ln  
Klamath Falls OR 97601



### **Kalamazoo Gospel Mission needs bread**

We are continuing to collect bread for The Kalamazoo Gospel Mission. If you would like to contribute, please bring loaves of sliced white bread to the church, and they will be delivered to KGM.

### **Happy Birthday Ed Haberle**

Ed will turn 97 on Feb. 28, and he recently moved to Illinois to be with his family. His family would like to shower him with birthday cards from his friends at VUMC. His address is:

404 S. Stillwater Dr., Apt. 215  
Chillicothe IL 61523

### **This Week's Celebrations**

#### **Birthdays**

2/26 Andrew Falconer  
Diana Girolami  
Lilly Puckett  
2/27 Sara Carrier  
Judi McNett

2/28 Brian Eberstein  
Edward Haberle  
Kip Young  
3/1 Trace Puckett  
3/2 Harrison Barton  
Tyler Hawkins

### **Mission Moment—Plus 10 Families**

Feb 24: Joe and Betty Gruber

Mar 3:

### **The Opioid Dilemma**

**Sunday, March 10 at 12:30**

Vicksburg United Methodist Church

#### **Potluck lunch at noon followed by Guest Speaker**

Join us to hear Dr. Bruce Springer from Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Service speak about:

- The opioid crisis
- The impact on families and communities
- Available treatment & services



**Bring a dish to pass!**

**Invite a friend to church for fellowship, food, and learning!**

## 24-Hour prayer vigil

We would like to have prayer for our church, our church family, and others for 24 hours a day, if possible. If you would like to sign up for an hour (as many as you would like), please write your name in available spaces on the chart near the welcome center.

## Coming deadlines

- Newsletter items are due in the church office by tomorrow.
- ScripCents orders are due in the church office by 2:00 Friday, Mar. 1.

## Weekly Donations

### Needed each week

General Fund:  
\$ 5,288.50  
Building Fund:  
\$ 1,140.66

### Received Feb 10-16

General Fund:  
\$ 6,744.50  
Building Fund:  
\$ 1,388.00



(Everyone!) Please join us on  
**Saturday, March 9**

for our annual Euchre Tournament and Family Game Night, sponsored by VUMC Connections Sunday School Class.

This year's donations will go to assist the building fund. Suggested donation amount is \$5-\$10 per person for those joining the Euchre tournament, but please join us no matter what you can donate.

This is overall meant to be a fun event. The class will provide soft drinks, but it is suggested that each participant or family bring a snack to share.

For anyone not playing Euchre, please bring a game or two that you'd like to play with other family game night participants.

**Registration is at 6:45 p.m.  
with the tournament starting at 7:00.**

## This Week's Calendar

### Today

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for everyone  
10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary  
*after Worship: Soup & Sandwich Luncheon, Taylor Rm*

### Monday, February 25

6:30 p.m. Family volleyball in the FLC  
6:30 p.m. Scout Troop meeting in the Taylor Room

### Tuesday, February 26

2:00 p.m. Sew What Now God, Taylor Room  
6:30 p.m. RAW (high school youth) in Rm 107  
6:30 p.m. Scout Den meeting in the FLC

### Wednesday, February 27

10:30 a.m. Wednesday Winners, Taylor Room  
2:45 p.m. SHED (mid. school outreach), Rm 107  
5:00 p.m. HELIX (middle school youth), Rm 107  
6:00 p.m. Handbell Choir practice, Sanctuary  
6:30 p.m. Pickleball in the FLC  
7:00 p.m. Choir practice in the Sanctuary

### Thursday, February 28

7:00 p.m. Apprentice class, Room 125

### Friday, March 1 - Pastor's Day Off

*no activities are scheduled*

### Saturday, March 2

9:00 a.m. Pickleball in the FLC

### Monday through Friday

9:00 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. Heart & Hands Preschool

### Next Week

#### Monday, March 4

1:00 p.m. Caring Ministries in the Library  
6:00 p.m. Finance Committee in the Library  
7:00 p.m. Worship Committee in the Library  
8:00 p.m. SPRC in the Library

#### Tuesday, March 5

7:00 p.m. Trustees in the Library

#### Wednesday, March 6 - Ash Wednesday

11:45 a.m. Imposition of Ashes, in the Chapel  
7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary

**NO BELLS OR CHOIR PRACTICE**

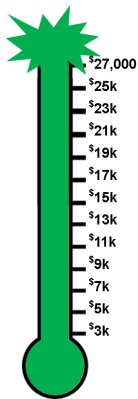
#### Saturday, March 9

6:45 p.m. Euchre Tournament in the FLC

## 17th Annual Peace Service

This year's speaker for the Interfaith Peace service is Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, founding president of Pax Christi USA, and one of the founders of the Michigan Coalition for Human Rights.

The service will take place on Sunday, March 24, at 5:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 936 Lake St., Kalamazoo. For information, contact Joe Schmitt at [jhschmitt@charter.net](mailto:jhschmitt@charter.net) or 327-1822.



## Where We Stand

We have received

more than

**\$ 30,000**

toward our share of the grant we are seeking for cement board exterior renovation.

Thank you so much!



**PRAYING OUR WAY FORWARD**

We are One in Christ  
 UMCprays.org • A UMC Prayer Community

## Sunday February 24, 2019 - Congregational Prayer for United Methodist Church

Gracious and loving God, who leads, teaches and guides, You who offer compassion, grace and mercy, be with us now. We passionately seek Your presence during challenging times and circumstances, and we trust that you are moving in and around our lives. We, as one part of your Body, the Church, go into the days and weeks ahead seeking to discern Your deep desire for us as The United Methodist Church.

Give us courage as we continue to live and respond to Your invitation to be Your hands, feet and voice. We ask for a fresh wind of Your Spirit and guidance for each of us as individuals, for the faithful congregations, and for this global community of United Methodists. We ask for Your wisdom and presence for those among us who have been called to serve as delegates as the Special Session of General Conference gathers today. Grant them clarity and a discerning spirit as they seek to listen for You in their midst. Reveal to them Your deep desire for our future as a church. Give them and us the faith to lay aside our personal wants and needs so that we can be truly present to You, sit with You in reverence and awe, and listen deeply for the still small voice that woos us, comforts us, and invites us to that place where we can live fully and wholly into the Kingdom life that You desire for us.

We lay all this before You as the deep desire of our hearts and minds in the name of Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

## Help is needed at the Welcome Center

Monthly Welcome Center "welcomers" are needed. Please sign up at the Welcome Center.



*Soup & Sandwich  
 luncheon*

*and birthday celebration*

**TODAY  
 after Worship**

Proceeds go to the building fund.

please see more on the other side

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