

# GraceNotes

The monthly newsletter of

## The United Methodist Church of Manton

April, 2014

### Pastor Noreen's Notepad

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."* 2 Corinthians 5:17

This morning my dog Moses saw the fresh snow, jumped in, stuck his face in it and romped all around the yard. He didn't sigh or get discouraged but simply enjoyed the moment for what it was - a chance to play in the fresh snow. Each day is an offering to God. Will your offering today as begrudgingly filled with worry, anxiety, boredom or anger or will you give your offering joyfully - sticking your face in the snow and praising God for all that He has given you?

This song is on my heart this morning: *"This is a Day of New Beginnings*, time to remember and move on, time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone. Christ is alive and goes before us to show and share what love can do. This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new."

Peace and Blessings,  
—Pastor Noreen

Community Good Friday Service  
at our church on Friday, April 18 at 6:30 pm.

#### Easter Services

9:00 am Early Easter Service

9:30 am Easter Brunch

11:00 am Easter Service

*No fellowship, Sunday School or Youth Group*

## Monthly Scriptures

April 6 - Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 130

Romans 8:6-11, John 11:1-45

April 13 - Liturgy of the Palms

Matthew 21:1-11, Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

April 13 - Liturgy of the Passion

Isaiah 50:4-9a, Psalm 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11, Matthew 26:14-27:66

or Matthew 27:11-54

April 20 - Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Colossians 3:1-4, John 20:1-18 or

Matthew 18:1-10

April 27 - Acts 2:14a, 22-32, Psalm 16

1 Peter 1:3-9, John 20:19-31



## Christian Cartoons





There is a need for the personal products at St. Theresa's pantry. They serve over 90 families a month. They can also use monetary donations made payable to St. Theresa's Church and write *personal pantry* in the memo line of your check.



Thank you for supporting our recent food drive for the Family care Network.  
—Linda Wallender, Carolyn Baker, Erin Moore, and Carol Swanson

Manton UMC,  
Thank you for your faithfulness to missions. You are a Six Lanes giving church which means you are attentive to missions both locally and globally! It also means you have faithfully supported the ministries and missions of the connectional church by paying 100% of your ministry shares.  
Thank you – God Bless,  
—Anita Hahn



- April 02 – Serving at CCT meal
- April 06 – Youth can and bottle drive
- April 12 – Spring Splash
- April 13 – NO Youth Group
- April 20 – Easter Sunday, NO Youth Group
- April 27 – Yard work beginning at 1 pm until done  
(weather permitting)

## Mission Moment

The Biblical Guide to Mission Giving

The Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Philippi concerning their generous financial support of his mission and ministry (Philippians 4:10-20). Paul provides instructions for mission support through four principles for giving:

1. Mission support is a voluntary response to the gospel call, a spiritual investment in God's mission with faith that God will provide.
2. Mission support is an expression of the community of believers as a whole, and individual gifts should contribute to the needs and focus of their church community.
3. Mission support should be faithfully consistent. "Just as God cares for our needs daily, regularly, no matter what our needs are," so also must our mission giving be regular, no matter what the perceived need.
4. Mission support should be channeled through responsible agents noting accountability in the process.

## Manton Weekend Backpack Program

The Manton Weekend Backpack Program is in the planning stages. This is a community-based program that will help to feed Manton elementary aged children from pre-school through fifth grade who attend Manton School and who have little or no food on the weekends. The program is intended to assist our needy families by providing a backpack each Friday filled with six weekend meals for their children.



You can sponsor a child for \$150 which provides weekend meals for an entire school year. Any size donation will help. We're hoping the program will be ready to begin in October, 2014.

Make your tax deductible donation payable to EG Ministries. Our local contact person to receive donations will be Jill Sinkel-Juliet, 314 S. Michigan Avenue, Manton, MI 49663.

Programs similar to this one have been going on around us. We're using their models to get a program in place for Manton students. If you have questions, direct them to Linda Wallender (942-8835).

## FYI

For those of you who may be interested in the ministry of Care Net of Cadillac, this is an update. They have just changed their administrative name to "Life Resources of Northern Michigan, Inc." Their recent flyer is on the downstairs mission board.



3.

## Mission Committee Update

The mission committee met on March 13. Mary Roth, speaking on behalf of Nancy Beecraft and herself, was asking for help in funding the CCT dinners. The first year and a half or so was self-sustaining. Now, not as many donations are coming in. We spoke about fundraisers, applying for grants, applying to the Advance, and sending letters to area businesses.

Linda presented a comparison chart of monies donated for the Six Lanes of the Advance for 2012 and 2013. She also showed this in a pie chart.

We made some changes in our projects for 2014 as follows:

Lane 1 – Missionary Support – Paul Webster, agricultural specialist in Mujila Falls, Zambia

Lane 2 – World Mission Projects – Mujila Falls Ag Project

Lane 3 – Red Bird Mission – essential services to people in rural Appalachia

Lane 4 – Global Projects – UMCOR (quarterly), Heifer Project International, Imagine No Malaria, and Water and Sanitation, Society of St. Andrew

Lane 5 – Racial and Ethnic Local Church  
Greensky Hill Indian Church

Lane 6 – Conference and District Projects, Habitat for Humanity

At our next meeting we will discuss our fundraising ideas and dates for our events.

Mission chairperson, *Linda Wallender*

## What do you see?

Take a look at this line of type:

GODISNOWHERE

Did you read it as "God is nowhere?"

Or are you an optimist who read it as

"God is now here?"

8.

## Lifeline Screening

The United Methodist Church of Manton is pleased to offer a preventive health event. Life Line Screening, a leading provider



of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings on May 16, 2014. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms

which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners).**

## The 24-Hour Canvas

It is blasphemous for any of us to say "I am not creative." All we *do* is create. We have desires and we create experiences from our desires. We have experiences and we create stories about those experiences. We hear the stories of others, and we are moved to tell our own, turn them into songs or poems or YouTube movies. We wake up every day to an empty canvas of twenty-four hours and every night we go to bed having created our masterpiece for the day. We can do this consciously or unconsciously, but we all do it nevertheless.

From *No Ordinary Time - The Rise of Spiritual Intelligence and Evolutionary Creativity* by Jan Phillips.

## Rollins Dress Boutique Ministry

The Rollins Dress Boutique Ministry is the newest ministry through Love INC. If you have a gently used dress you would like to donate, the drop off location is at our INC Spot store here in Manton. Their office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday from 10 am to 5 pm and Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm. Be sure to designate the donation for the *Rollins Dress Boutique*.



Donations are also welcome towards dry cleaning or purchasing a dress. Make checks payable to Rollins Christian Fellowship Church (address: 10975 East M-42, Manton, MI 49663). Add *Dress Boutique Ministry* on the memo line. In the future Rollins hopes to add wraps, purses, shoes and jewelry to make a complete special occasion package and

perhaps one day add young men's shirts and ties. This new ministry especially covets your prayers and they endeavor to reach out to youth in need – one dress at a time.

## Easter Flowers

Mission project to benefit Mujila Falls Ag Project

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Suggested donation is \$5.00 per name.

*If you would like an Easter plant to take home on Easter Sunday following the 11 am service, the cost is \$13.00.*

## Women's Ministry Update

First of all praise God for all of the women in the church who are using their God-given gifts for His Glory.

There are UMW monies that must be utilized according to the purpose of that organized unit. Suggestions to date are as follows.

- Memorial for Helen Bos
- Make school kits
- Donate some for fellowship fund
- Pay toward postage of We Care Packages

### You're Invited

Who? Women

What? Birthday Luncheon

Where? Northside Restaurant

When? April 17, 12 noon

Why? Fun and fellowship

Upon your first time coming, bring a small wrapped gift for our birthday grab bag. Those ladies whose birthday we're honoring will get to "grab" a present from the bag. We will meet bi-monthly on the third Thursday. On April 17 we're celebrating March and April Birthdays.

### Fellowship together

That's what we do on Sundays after worship. You are invited to bake/prepare food for Sunday fellowship time on Thursday, April 10 at 10 am at the church. Together we will prepare for fellowship time to be served on Sunday, April 13. Bring ingredients, dishware or utensils the church may not have, and we'll "make it happen". Keep Easter in mind when choosing your recipe

### CCT Dinners

As women of the church, are you willing to participate the fourth Wednesday of each month to serve, team lead, make a dessert or help clean up? This would ease the burden of calling for Char. Let Linda Wallender know.

5.

### Other

Would you help make recycled cards?

Would you help put together school kits?

Would you serve as a speaker/demonstrator on a topic of your choice?

## Newsletter deadline

Please be respectful of the newsletter deadline. Most months I only have two days to type and format it. That's six hours out of my eight hour week. This is very stressful. Now add a day for proofing, a day for me to make any corrections and a day to copy the newsletter. I have a deadline myself. To get the newsletter ready for the volunteers who come in to fold it and prepare it for mailing.

There are exceptions to late articles, of course, and one includes the meetings held on the second Thursday of each month. I welcome any articles from our committees. But late articles have me spend an extra day rearranging the newsletter so the articles fit.

The newsletter is not difficult and it is enjoyable to put together but it's very time consuming. Let's be respectful of the deadline.

Thank you.

—Mary Kibbe



6.

**April, 2014**

## **Greeters & Ushers**

06 – Darel and Stephanie Wolke  
13 – Sally Thomson  
20 – Youth Group  
27 – Steve and Suzanne Harrison

## **Junior Church**

06 – Elizabeth Dykgraaf  
13 – Jessica LaFreniere  
20 – Jessica VanderBrook  
27 – Cheryl Peterson

## **Fellowship & Potluck**

06 – (Potluck)  
13 – Women's Ministry  
20 –  
27 – Hissong family

## **Special Offerings**

03 – UMCOR Offering  
27 – Missionary

Do we have your birthday, anniversary or email address on file?



Bring the **WHOLE** family!



05 – Brian Hinman  
07 – Larry Johnson  
08 – Luke Bonczyk  
08 – Lynn Foxworthy  
14 – Teresa Lutke  
15 – Keefe Brotherton  
15 – Jessica VanderBrook  
21 – Tom Brettschneider  
23 – Zachary Moffit  
25 – Guy Hissong  
27 – Aleks Hissong  
29 – Savannah Larrabee  
30 – Sherry Ramsay  
30 – Marian Robinson

**Celebrating**   
*An Anniversary This Month*

02 – John & Joanne Jacobs  
11 – Bob & Terri Swanson

## **Lights/Sound System**

Mark Huston or Mike Brettschneider

*See Mark if you are interested in training for the sound board.*

## April 2014

### Tuesday, April 1

9-11 am Pastor's Office Hours  
1:30 pm Small Group  
6:30 pm Small Group

### Wednesday, April 2

3-3:30 *Prayer Focus*  
5:30 pm CCT  
6:15 pm Second Helping Praise Service  
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, April 3

9-11 am Pastor's Office Hours

### Friday, April 4

OFFICE CLOSED  
8 pm AA & Al-Anon

### Saturday, April 5

Fellowship Hall booked.

### Sunday, April 6 (Fifth Sunday in Lent)

9:30 am Sunday School for all ages  
9:30 am Small Group Study  
11:00 am Worship with **potluck**  
1:00 pm Youth Group can and bottle drive

### Monday, April 7

Office closed

### Tuesday, April 8

9-11 am Pastor's Office Hours  
1:30 pm Small Group  
6:30 pm Small Group



### Wednesday, April 9

3-3:30 *Prayer Focus*  
5:30 pm CCT (Youth Group serve)  
6:15 pm Second Helping Praise Service  
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, April 10

9-11 am Pastor's Office Hours  
6 pm Education Meeting  
7 pm Finance Meeting

### Friday, April 11

OFFICE CLOSED  
8 PM AA & Al-Anon

### Saturday, April 12

Youth Group at Spring Splash

### Sunday, April 13

#### PALM SUNDAY

9:30 am Sunday School  
9:30 am Last Small Group Study  
11 am Worship with fellowship  
NO YOUTH GROUP



### Monday, April 14

OFFICE CLOSED

### Tuesday, April 15

9-11 am Pastor's Office Hours  
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

### Wednesday, April 16

3-3:30 *Prayer Focus*  
5:30 pm CCT  
6:15 pm Second Helping Praise Service  
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, April 17**

9-11 am Pastor's Office Hours  
12 pm Birthday Luncheon at Northside

**Friday, April 18**

**GOOD FRIDAY**

OFFICE CLOSED  
6:30 pm Good Friday Service  
8 pm AA & Al-Anon

**Saturday, April 19**

**Sunday, April 20**

**EASTER SUNDAY**

9:00 am Early Service  
9:30 am Easter Brunch  
11 am Worship with fellowship  
NO YOUTH GROUP

**Monday, April 21**

OFFICE CLOSED

**Tuesday, April 22**

9-11 am Pastor's Office Hours

**Wednesday, April 23**

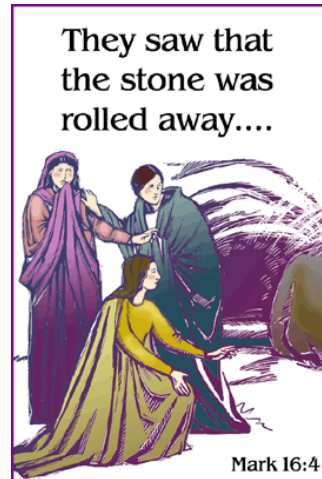
3-3:30 pm *Prayer Focus*  
5:30 CCT  
6:15 Second Helping Praise Service  
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, April 24**

9-11 am Pastor's Office Hours

**Friday, April 25**

OFFICE CLOSED  
8 pm AA and Al-Anon  
*World Malaria Day*



**Saturday, April 26**

**Sunday, April 27**

9:30 am Sunday School for all ages  
11 am Worship with fellowship  
1 pm Youth Group *yard work until done*  
(weather permitting)

**Monday, April 28**

OFFICE CLOSED

**Tuesday, April 29**

9-11 Pastor's Office Hours

**Wednesday, April 30**

3-3:30 pm *Prayer Focus*  
5:30 CCT  
6:15 Second Helping Praise Service  
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

**HAVE YOU**  
**TALKED**  
**TO GOD**  
**TODAY?**