

***WE THANK THOSE WHO SERVE:***

Ministers - Every Member of the Church  
Pianist - Dee Ritter      Organist - Carrie Hier  
Keyboard - Steve Clark    Bass - Cary Cornwell    Drums - Dave Hunt  
Song Leader - Jim Ladiski  
Acolyte Coordinator - Sue Graham  
Greeter Coordinator - Lena Trowbridge

**Serving This Week**

**Serving Next Week**

Greeters –  
Acolytes – Cassie Robison  
Lay Reader – Linda Lupu  
Nursery – Janell Kebler  
Children’s Church –Renee Denison, Michele Moore  
Coffee Hour – Ben & Erica Cook  
Welcome Ministry - Shelley Shimunec

Michael Perez  
Ruth Clark  
Becky Dahlke  
Linda Lupu, AnnMaire Buchner  
Russ Westbrook

***LAST WEEK’S STEWARDSHIP REPORT***

**Attendance:** Worship Service – 94    Christian Life Classes - 6

**Finance Report:**

General Fund:		\$6664
Special Funds:	Building	\$50
	Mission	\$27
	Projection	\$16

**The United Church of Ovid**  
**131 West Front Street, PO Box 106, Ovid, MI 48866**  
**989-834-5958 / [www.unitedchurchofovid.org](http://www.unitedchurchofovid.org)**  
(Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am -12pm)

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Secretary - Sue Casler email: [sue@unitedchurchofovid.com](mailto:sue@unitedchurchofovid.com) - office 989-834-5958  
[www.unitedchurchofovid.org](http://www.unitedchurchofovid.org) (webmaster - Steve Clark)



**Growing in God’s word ~ Living in Spiritual unity ~ Sharing faith in Christ**

***WELCOME!***

This morning you’ve chosen to worship with us and we thank you for doing so. Whether family, friend, or guest, it’s our hope that you will feel welcome in this place as we worship our God through Jesus Christ together.



**Remembering Our Baptism**  
**Baptism of our Lord Sunday**  
**January 10, 2010**

# Welcome and thank you for joining us this morning!

(\*\* - notes where to stand physically and/or spiritually)

*Theme for Today: new beginnings and repentance*

**Music to “Bring Us In” - Opening Song** “This is the Spirit’s Entry Now” UMH #608

**Greetings** (see your “News You Can Use” insert)

Leader: At the United Church of Ovid, our purpose is to...

**People: Grow in God’s word, live in Spiritual unity, and share faith in Christ!**

Leader: And why are we here? **People: To worship!**

**\*\*Time of Praise & Opening Prayer** (see insert) “More Love, More Power”  
“White As Snow”

**\*\* Call to Worship**<sup>1</sup>

Leader: Sisters and brothers in Christ, through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated into Christ’s holy church.

**All: We are incorporated into God’s mighty acts of salvation.**

Leader: We are given new birth through water and the Spirit.

**All: All of this is God’s gift...God does it...offered to us without price.**

Leader: Through the reaffirmation of our faith, we renew our faith. If we have not been baptized, this is a day to remember God’s invitation of love and grace.

**All: We acknowledge what God is doing and that God is always calling, always leading, always loving.**

Leader: Do we renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness; reject the evil powers of this world and repent of our sin? Do we accept the freedom and power God gives us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression?

**All: We repent and we accept.**

Leader: Do we confess Jesus Christ as our Savior, put our whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as our Lord?

**All: In union with the church which Christ has opened to everyone...we do.**

Leader: According to the grace given to each of us, will we remain faithful to Christ’s holy church and serve as Christ’s representatives in the world?

**All: By God’s grace...we will.**

Leader: Let us then join together in professing the Christian faith...

**\*\*Affirmation of Faith** “The Apostles’ Creed” UMH #881

**Special Moment - Recognizing our 101-401 Graduates**

**Giving Back to God - \*\*Response** - “Praise God from...” UMH #95 - **\*\*Prayer**

<sup>1</sup> adapted from UMH #50 – “Congregational Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant”

**Special Moment** “We’ve Been Baptized in Christ Jesus”<sup>2</sup> Choir

**Children’s Time** (Immediately following, 0-4 year olds are invited to the nursery upstairs or those 5-10 years old are invited to Children’s Church downstairs.)

**Noisy Offering** – for the Emergency Fund

Chorus – “Count your blessings name them one by one. Count your blessings see what God has done. Count your blessings name them one by one. Count your many blessings see what God has done.” (4 times)

**Response** – “Thank you Jesus, amen! (three times) Alleluia Amen!”<sup>3</sup>

**Scripture Reading** Isaiah 43:1-7 & Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 pgs. 704-705, 994

Reader: This is the word of God.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Time of Reflection** – Please take this time to reflect on God’s word for your life.

**Prayers of the People**

When indicated in the pastoral prayer, you are invited to lift up your spoken and unspoken prayers as we pray to God together. On the enclosed insert you are also invited to record your praises and prayers for next week’s bulletin.

**Pastoral Prayer & Lord’s Prayer** (using “sins/sin” for “trespasses”) UMH #895

**Response** “Amen” - A-men. A-men. A---men. UMH #898

**Message** “Three Questions Worth Contemplating” Pastor Greg

**Remembering Our Baptism**

**Song of Invitation** “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian” UMH #402

**\*\*Blessing and Congregational Response** - “This is a Day of New Beginnings”<sup>4</sup>

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.

**“Sending Us Out” Music** - Please join us in the family center (on the opposite end of the end of the building) for a time of refreshments, community-building and fellowship.

<sup>2</sup> “The Faith We Sing” #2251 by John Yivisaker based on Romans 6:3-5

<sup>3</sup> “The Faith We Sing” #2081

<sup>4</sup> UMH #383 (first and last verses)

## News You Can Use

*THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR - January 10 – January 17, 2010*

<b>Sunday</b>	9:15 am - Christian Life Classes (opening - worship area) 10:30 am - Worship with a fellowship following (worship area/family center) 11:30 am – United Women (family center)
<b>Monday</b>	3:30 pm – United Kids (basement) 7 pm- Boy Scouts (basement)
<b>Tuesday</b>	9 am – Paint Class (basement) 12:30 pm - Senior Luncheon (family center) 3:30 pm – Seasons of Grief (basement) 6 pm – Girl Scouts (basement)
<b>Wednesday</b>	7 pm – Choir (worship area)
<b>Thursday</b>	12:30 pm – Senior Luncheon (family center)
<b>Saturday</b>	1 pm – Family Center in use 6 pm – Leadership Meeting at Ovid Café
<b>Sunday</b>	9:15 am - Christian Life Classes (opening - worship area) 10:30 am - Worship with a fellowship following (worship area/family center)

### Upcoming Events

**“Seasons of Grief” – Bereavement Support Group** – will be starting to meet this week on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month at 3:30 pm. Johanna Workman (MAFS), from Heartland Hospice, a grief survivor, will be leading the ongoing classes. Please if you or a loved one or friend is in need of a healthy, safe place to find grief support, pass this along to them. For more information, contact Johanna at 1-888-670-7448.

**Tweens Christian Life Class** began today at 9:15 am. This class will be for 4<sup>th</sup> graders – 8<sup>th</sup> grade with AnnMarie & Brenda Wiegel teaching. We will meet in the worship space for opening exercises and then go to the Upper Room above the kitchen for class.

**Emmaus Walks** are coming soon (March 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> for men and March 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> for women.) In fact two of them will be happening this Fall at United Church of Ovid! If you're interested in Emmaus and have some questions, contact Pastor Greg or Sue and they'll fill you in or for more information you can check it out at [www.lansingemmaus.truepath.com](http://www.lansingemmaus.truepath.com) or [www.upperroom.org/emmaus](http://www.upperroom.org/emmaus).

**“United Kids” After School Ministry** – happening every Monday, 3:30-5 pm for all 4 year olds – 8<sup>th</sup> graders. The program includes a healthy snack, games & activities, singing, dancing, puppets and skits. For more info, call Erica (517-202-2522) or Jessi (834-9795).

**NOOMA**, Do you believe that God has something to say right here...right now. On Sunday mornings at the 9:15 am Adult Christian Life Class, we are sharing the NOOMA series which is based on that truth. Each class is unique so you can jump in at any time.

**Deadlines:** Bulletin announcements - Wednesday of each week.  
February newsletter - Please have everything in by Jan. 15. Thank You!

### Volunteers needed for...

**Nursery Care** – The 2010 Nursery Schedules are in your mailbox in the Library. If you would like to help as a stand-in or have any other questions, please contact Rosemary Baese at 834-2841.

**Greeters and Coffee Hour Hosts** – There are plenty of opportunities for you to be involved in both of these necessary areas. Please sign up at the sign-up table and contact the church office if you have any questions.

**Sound Tech Personnel** – We are putting together a rotating list of those who are interested in working the sound for our Sunday worship experiences. Training will be provided. See the sign-up sheet at the Front Street entrance.

**Upper Room Helpers** – Each Sunday we have a group of kids that like to use our Upper Room which is why it's there! To make it more safe, we'd like to have supervisors up there if possible with the kiddos. If you're willing to watch the kids for a Sunday see the sign-up sheet at the Front Street entrance.

### Community Corner

**UCO Birthdays & Anniversaries** - If we've missed your special day please let the church office know!

**January Birthdays:** 1-Dave DePond, Dan Lupu 3-Victoria Parmenter 4-Barb Vanderhoof 6-Dee O'Bryant, Rosemary Baese 7-Tom Sandbrook 10-Jim Ladiski, Becky Dahlke, Avery Kirschensteiner 12-Dave Sinclair 13-Julie Hunt 14-Ron Paksi 15-Audrey Bancroft 18-Matt Cook 20-Fred Huntoon 22-Steve Clark 23-Ashley O'Bryant, Sherri Kast, Erik Foerch 25-Gerald Strachota, Doirs Darling, Ed Vanderhoof, Melva Kelley, Brad Carman 27-Nathan Taylor 28-Irene Hunt 31-Brittany Pierce

**January Anniversaries:** 7-Greg & AnnMarie Buchner 14-Dick & Julie Hunt

## **Praise and Prayer List**

Last Updated: January 7, 2010

If you would like your praise, prayer request, or update put on this list for next Sunday, please use your "let us know" sheet, call the church office before Wednesday, or use the "prayer bulletin board" in the main hallway. Otherwise, please be sure to lift up your prayer or praise during the pastoral prayer when indicated. Thank you!

Praises and prayers on the four lists below will remain for two weeks unless updated.

**We give God praise for:** Amanda (Wieber) and Matt Ashmore had a baby girl - Lauren Joy - born on December 22 weighing 8lb. 12oz. and 20 1/2 in. long // A wonderful Christmas Eve celebration / Howard Bryant who celebrated his 103 birthday on Christmas Day,

**We pray for the health & healing of:** James White-surgery recovery / Kathy Hunts mother – tests / Ryan Baese – ankle injury / Pat Toy – cancer – friend of Allane Wieber / Layne VanDyke – Kidney Surgery - 7 yr old great grandson of Russ Westbrook / Bea Shirey – hospital with heart failure – grandmother of Ben Cook / Warren Dennison – heart attack – father of Bob Dennison / Tim Doyen – knee surgery – Son-in-law of Harold & Lois Bracey / Armond Shinabury – shoulder surgery – friend of the Bracys // Joe Denison – cancer – brother of Jody Denison / Bob Senison father / Becky Geisenhaver – high blood pressure

**We share our sympathy with the families of:** Tracey Bossel / Joe Courter

**We lift up our general requests of:** traveling mercies / people that are shut in \ People having a hard time during the Christmas season / Brighton Hospital rehab / Ovid Town Hall meeting / travel mercies / Dr. Huff and Dr. Park – legal situations continue / local fire and ambulance facilitates / couples who are having marital issues / Local government / state and national government

Prayers on the three lists below will remain until we receive some update or request.

**We lift up those who are experiencing longer term healing and treatment:** Sally Kioski – hospitalized / Jean Loznak – cancer / Norma George – recovering from back surgery / Connie Parmenter – cancer of esophagus / Gary Wilkins – cancer / Louise Rees – Home from OHC / Chris Wilkins - cancer / Buddy Ilgenfritz - home / Clyde Gilbert - Health issues / Mary Ann Wittenberg - cancer / Laurie Higgins- cancer / Kate Kelly / Joan Bracey - Alzheimer's / Katie & Faith Heinze – Niemann-Pick Disease

**We lift up those who have served or are serving in our peacekeeping efforts worldwide:** Josh Wiegel, Pete Carpenter, Kevin Hehrer, Bret Fell, Kori Sheldon, James King, Greg White, Bob Wienry, Mike Kimmel, Nicholas Passmore, Doug Betts, Chris Sodman, William Piwowarski, John Westbrook, Keith Burba, Robert Allen, Ted Olson, Kurt Doten, Scott Meyers, Tony Wieber, Jason Spencer, Dallas Blooding, Jason Westbrook, Emily (Moore) Berlo, Al Berlo, Neil Hegle, Brian Moody, Arin Monahan, Jarred Luckhardt

**We remember those who are continually in our thoughts:** shut-ins / RAVE families / UMC & UCC leaders / Christian churches in our community & around the globe / local, state, national, world leaders / those affected by famine, disease, & persecution, nationally and internationally, because of natural and human-made disasters / those in our community who need a relationship with Jesus

## ***Time of Praise***

### **“More Love, More Power”**<sup>5</sup>

*(chorus)*

More love, more power...more of You in my life  
More love, more power...more of You in my life.

And I will worship You with all of my heart  
And I will worship You with all of my mind  
And I will worship You with all of my strength  
For you are my Lord...*(chorus)*

And I will sing Your praise with all of my heart  
And I will sing Your praise with all of my mind  
And I will sing Your praise with all of my strength  
For you are my Lord...For you are my Lord.

### **“White As Snow”**<sup>6</sup>

White as snow...white as snow...  
Though my sins were as scarlet  
Lord, I know...Lord, I know...  
That I'm clean and forgiven.

Through the power of Your blood...  
Through the wonder of Your love...  
Through faith in You I know that I can be...  
White as snow.

*(repeat all the above)*

<sup>5</sup> CCLI 703014(©1987 by Jude Del Herro-Mercy/Vineyard Pub.)-Phil. 3:10, Duet. 6:4-5, John 4:23-MPW 40

<sup>6</sup> CCLI 703014 (©1990 Marantha Praise!, Inc.) – Isaiah 1:18 - MPW 35

## “Three Questions Worth Contemplating”

Isaiah 43:1-7 & Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Baptism of Jesus Sunday, January 10, 2010

Pastor Greg Buchner - United Church of Ovid

**Theme for Today:** *new beginnings and repentance*

### **Introduction** – A Baptism Primer

God does it – we don’t, that’s why we call it a Sacrament.

Because God does it – it only happens by His grace.

Because baptism only happens by His grace, we only need to receive the gift offered through water and the Spirit.

### **I – Question #1** – “What is there to fear?”

“Fear not, for I have redeemed you...Fear not, for I am with you...”

Isaiah 43:1-7

### **II – Question #2** – “Do we realize that there is Someone greater?”

“John answered, saying to all, ‘I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, who sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire...’” – Luke 3:15-17

### **III – “Do we realize that the One who is greater, knows exactly what He’s doing?”**

“When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while he prayed, the heaven was opened. And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, “You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased.” – Luke 3:21-22

### **Conclusion** –

With God, there is nothing to fear.

With God, we can trust that He knows more than we do.

With God, we can trust that He knows exactly what He’s doing.

Remember your baptism, and be thankful.

If not baptized, remember One who is greater who has enough grace and love for you too!

