

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
Fellowship Coordinator – Connie Paksi



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

Serving This Week

Serving Next Week

Greeters – Russ & Sally Kioski
Acolytes – Jacqleen
Lay Reader – Leah Lupu
Nursery - Ben Cook
Children's Church – Renee Denison, Michelle Moore
Coffee Hour – Wiegel Family
Welcome Ministry - Russ Westbrook

Rich & Lynn Givens
Saige
Dave Hunt
Sherry Kast
Linda Lupu, AnnMarie Buchner
Rich & Lynn Givens
Shelley Shimunec

LAST WEEK'S STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Attendance: Worship Service – 89 Christian Life Classes - 14

Finance Report:

General Fund:		\$	3,361.00
Special Funds:	Mission	\$	10.00
	Building	\$	80.00

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

Pastor - Greg Buchner - email: pastorgreg@unitedchurchofovid.com - cell 989-621-7782
Secretary - Sue Casler email: sue@unitedchurchofovid.com - office 989-834-5958
www.unitedchurchofovid.org (webmaster - Steve Clark)

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.

S.H.A.P.E.'d



for

Significance

March 14, 2010 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

Welcome and thank you for joining us this morning!

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

Theme for Today: discovering our abilities

(As we continue preparing for Easter, each week one more Lenten candle will not be lit symbolizing another week completed. The center Christ candle will remain lit until Good Friday. We pray that this visual reminder will help in your journey towards Easter.)

Music to “Bring Us In” – Hymn Singing

Opening Song “Take My Life and Let It Be” UMH #393

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) “Blessed Be Your Name”
“Lead Me Lord”

** Call to Worship

Leader: We have abilities.

All: But we have nothing without God’s grace.

Leader: We can do stuff.

All: But we have nothing with our faith.

Leader: We have skills that impress others.

All: But those skills are a gift from God, we didn’t earn them.

Leader: “For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

All: As we draw together in worship, may our God-given abilities impress God more than any other. Amen.

Giving Back to God - **Response “Praise God from Who All...” UMH #95
****Prayer of Dedication**

Special Moment “All the Ends of the Earth” by Nate Klinger 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 One Great Hour of Sharing - “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.”

Response – “Thank you Jesus, amen! (3 times) Alleluia Amen!”¹

Scripture Reading Ephesians 2:8-11, 19-22 pg. 1134

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 and either place them into the offering plate after the service or give directly to Pastor Greg.

Pastoral Prayer & Lord’s Prayer (using “sins/sin” for “trespasses”) UMH #895
Response “Amens” - A-men. A-men. A---men. UMH #898

Message “Defrosting our Frozen Assets” Pastor Greg

****Closing Song** - “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”²

1 - I’m gonna live so...God can use me... 3 - I’m gonna pray so (pray so)...
Any where, Lord...any time. (repeat)

2 - I’m gonna work so (work so)... 4 - I’m gonna sing so (sing so)...

****Blessing and Congregational Response** - “O How He Loves You and Me”³

“Jesus to Calv’ry did go...His love to all he did show...

What He did there...brought hope from despair.

Oh how He loves you...Oh how He loves me. Oh how He loves you and me.”

“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.

¹ “The Faith We Sing” #2081

² The Faith We Sing #2153

³ PRAISE hymnal #214

News You Can Use

This Week's Calendar – March 14 through March 21

- Sunday** 9:15 am - Christian Life Classes (opening - worship area)
(Classes available for children-tweens-and adults.)
10:30 am - Worship with fellowship following (worship area/family center)
12 noon – Liturgical Dance practice (worship area)
1 p m- Family Center in use
6 pm – Lenten Service - “Z Daughters”
- Monday** 3:30 pm – United Kids (basement)
(All children four years old-eighth grade are invited.)
6:30 pm – Discovering Your SHAPE Class (basement)
7 pm - Boy Scouts (basement)
- Tuesday** 9 am – Paint Class (basement)
12:30 pm - Senior Luncheon (family)
6:30 p m- Pastor-Parish Mt. (basement)
- Wednesday** 7:00 pm – Choir (worship area) - All joyful voices welcome!
- Thursday** 12:30 pm – Senior Luncheon (family center)
7 pm – Education Mt. (basement)
- Saturday** 9 am – Family Center in use (decorating Friday night)
- Sunday** 9:15 am - Christian Life Classes (opening - worship area)
(Classes available for children-tweens-and adults.)
10:30 am - Worship with fellowship following (worship area/family center)
12 noon – Liturgical Dance practice (worship area)
6 pm – Lenten Service - “Cornerstone”

Upcoming Events

Our Lenten Hosting Duty is Coming Soon – Sunday March 28th we will be “hosting” the memory meal program here at UCO. If you’d be interested in helping in greeting, ushering, food providing, etc., see the sign-up sheet at the Front Street entrance or call the church office.

“Discovering Your Shape” (Discovery Class 301) – meeting on Mondays, 6:30 pm through March 29th. This class will build on the information shared on Sunday mornings through Lent. If you want to know more about your spiritual hard-wiring, you’ll want to be there. Any questions see Pastor Greg.

Easter Lily Time!!! – If you would like to purchase Easter lilies in honor or memory of a loved one or event, please see the sign-up table at the Front Street entrance. (Cost is \$14.)

The Easter Celebration (egg hunt) will be Saturday, April 3 from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm. If you’re interested in helping, donating candy or financing, please contact Jessi Ladiski.

“Seasons of Grief” – Bereavement Support Group Continues – on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month at 3:30 pm. Johanna Workman (MAFS), from Heartland Hospice (1-888-670-7448), a grief survivor herself, is leading the ongoing classes.

UCO Canoe Trip – We’re planning a trip on Friday, August 13th. Please mark your calendars with the date. More information will be forthcoming.

Volunteers needed for...

Christian Life Class Teachers – With our new tweens class, a demand for our younger children’s teachers has increased. If you would be willing to teach our preschool to third grade class (all materials provided) either full time or on a rotation, please contact Sue.

Tech Table Director / Tech Volunteers – Plans are well underway for our projection system and upgrade to our sound booth. When finished, we’re going to need someone to lead and volunteers to assist. If you have a servant’s heart, a drive for quality worship, and the God-given skills needed for the director, please send a letter of interest indicating those traits to UCO, PO Box 106, Ovid, MI 48866 or to volunteer, there is sign-up sheet at the Front Street entrance.

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 or contact Connie Paksi (834-2351) if you have any questions.

Deadlines: Bulletin announcements - Wednesday of each week.
Newsletter info – 15th of the month before the month of the newsletter.

Community Corner

UCO Birthdays & Anniversaries (If we’ve missed your special day please let the church office know!)

March Birthdays: 1-Joseph Stevens, Don Moore, Sarah Martin 2-Harold Bracey 6-Darrel Astle, Samantha Casler 7-Sally Atkins, Drake Wesenberg 8-Russ Kioski 10-Dee Ritter, Janell Kebler 12-Anne Phillipson 13-Linda Lupu 14-Tom Foerch, Rylee Lewis 19-Grant Palen, Amanda Ashmore, Leah Batora, Haley McClung 20-Becky Geisenhaver 21-Charlotte Terpstra 23-Charles Palen 25-Keith Marshall 26-Linda Applebee 28-Grant Mayle-Iler, Lisa Freiburger 29-Allison Lerew 31-Jamie Buchner, Samantha Brown

March Wedding Anniversaries: 21-Brad & Amy Carman

Praise and Prayer List

Last Updated: March 11, 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: blessings of family, friends, and community / healing that has taken place / 105 Haiti Health Kits! / new safety net //Gail Peters – positive test results / Olympic Games / a clear parking lot / all the ministries of this congregation / successful H1N1 Clinic / Lane came through surgery / Sally Kioski – home

We pray for the health & healing of: Randy Scott / Pentagon police officers // Cathy Hendericks – heart tests/ family friend recuperating from open heart / Kirk Blizzard – health issues – friend of Joanne Decker / Gail Peters – cancer – friend of Lois Bracey // Colleen Mead – new mother with gall bladder problems / Rev. Lynn Grimes – hospitalized from an auto accident / Alyce Bond – multiple health problems – sister of Carol Watson / Adrian Lee Huss – bloodclots – son of Kate Kelley / Frank Winkler Sr. / Susan Tomaseck – recovery / Donna Perrien – major surgery – sister of Kate Kelley / Mary Ann Mizga – breathing problems

We share our sympathy with the families of: Brian Geisenhaver / family of the Pentagon shooter // Robert Patarick / Wayne Kline / Shirley Watson – sister-in-law of Carol Watson // Veorna June Goodall – cousin of Russ Westbrook

We lift up our general requests of: people of Haiti and Chili and all who in or serving in countries with natural disasters // our community as we make decisions around our school system / our school board and administration and teachers / our township and village over fire and ambulance facilities / those with house fires / traveling mercies / people that are shut in / couples who are having marital issues

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: James White – healing / Brad Behrens – stroke / Larry Howland – cancer / Arvilla Bunnell – strength and healing – aunt of Steve Clark / Clyde Gilbert –brother of Nancy Hehrer / Emily Ann Pruse – healing of ear / Sally Kioski / Jean Loznak – cancer / Norma George – recovering from back surgery / Connie Parmenter / Gary Wilkins – cancer / Louise Rees – Home from OHC / Chris Wilkins - cancer / Buddy Ilgenfritz - home / Mary Ann Wittenberg - cancer / Laurie Higgins- cancer / Kate Kelly / Joan Bracey - Alzheimer's / Katie & Faith Heinze – Niemann-Pick Dis.

We lift up those who have served or are serving in our peacekeeping efforts worldwide: Barry Hunt, 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

“Blessed Be Your Name”⁴

Blessed be Your name...in the land that is plentiful ...

Where Your streams of abundance flow...blessed be Your name.

Blessed be Your name...when I'm found in the desert place...

Though I walk through the wilderness...blessed be Your name. *(to chorus)*

Chorus - Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise.

When the darkness closes in, Lord still I will say...

Blessed be the name of the Lord...Blessed be Your name.

Blessed be the name of the Lord...blessed be Your glorious name.

Blessed be Your name...when the sun's shining down on me

When the world's all as it should be...blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name...on the road marked with suffering

Though there's pain in the offering...blessed be Your name. *(to chorus)*

You give and take away...You give and take away

My heart will choose to say...Lord, blessed be Your name *(repeat then chorus)*

(end with...) Blessed be Your name.

“Lead Me Lord”⁵

Lead me, Lord...I will follow...Lead me Lord...I will go.

You have called me, I will answer...Lead me Lord, I will go. *(repeat twice)*

You have called me, I will answers...Lead me, Lord I will go.

⁴MPW163-CCLI 703014(©2002 Thankyou Music) – Job 1:12, Habakkuk 3:17-18

⁵MPW108-CCLI 703014 (©1994 New Sping Publishing / Brentwood-Ben Music by Wayne and Elizabeth Goodine) – Psalm 119:33-35

“Defrosting our Frozen Assets”*

Ephesians 2:8-11, 19-22

March 14, 2010 - Pastor Greg Buchner - United Church of Ovid
(New International Version used throughout unless noted.)

Theme for Today: discovering our abilities

Introduction – My Mom and Her Big Freezer

“There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to all for their particular service.” – I Corinthians 12:4-6 (GN)

Wiktionary⁶ defines “ability” as the “quality or state of being able...”

I – Misconceptions About Abilities...

1. *Abilities must be learned through experience.* - False

This is simply not true. There are a number of skills which seem to be inborn and develop very early in infancy. When people say, “That person just seems to have a natural talent for it.” It’s probably the case.

2. *Abilities learned, are learned best in classrooms.* - False

Actually some of our most basic skills we learn at home, “in the street,” or somewhere outside of formal education.

3. *Those with abilities know their abilities.* - False

Many use a number of abilities/talents/skills that they are not aware of. It takes some process to discover what your abilities are.

4. *My work skills don’t apply anywhere else but on my job.* - False

God gave us our abilities to be used in every area of our lives.

5. *Most people only have a few good abilities.* - False

The truth is that many studies have proven that the average person possesses from five hundred to seven hundred different skills/abilities.

II – How to Defrost Your Frozen Assets

1 – Make a List – What in the world am I good at? – Romans 12:3

2 – Dedicate the List – Give them back to God. – Romans 12:1

3 – Cultivate the List – Learn all you can; practice, develop, take training, improve.
Proverbs 19:8, Ecclesiastes 10:10

4 – Liberate the List – Use them. Set them free. Don’t hide them. – I Peter 4:10

Conclusion

“We need to know what we are, who we are, and what we do. It starts by giving our lives to Christ, offering ourselves as a daily sacrifice, and then by using the gifts, the heart, the abilities, the personality, and the experiences God gives us in order to bring joy and meaning to ministry.”

personal application questions:

Of all the people in the world, why has God brought you here...here to your faith...

here to your family...here to your community...here to United Church?

Do you believe that offering your assets – your abilities – could make a difference to your faith – to your family – to your community – to the ministry of United Church?

* The resources for this message series come from “You are Shaped for Significance” by Rick Warren, our Discovery 301 Class materials, a variety of Biblical translations, and Pastor Greg’s personal study.

⁶ Wiktionary.com

Where Your Abilities Can Be Used at UCO...

At the United Church of Ovid, we have a variety of people serving in a variety of areas with their variety of abilities. Below is a list of our current teams and their general descriptions. Take a moment and see if you can match up your ability from above should go with each team.

<u>Team</u>	<u>General Description</u>
FELLOWSHIP	Provides unity and camaraderie through times of hospitality, get-togethers, and welcoming opportunities.
EDUCATION	Provides educational opportunities for those children through adults including Christian Life Classes, camping, and vacation Bible school.
WORSHIP & MUSIC	Provides the technical, spiritual, and physical support needed for dynamic, God-centered, life-changing worship.
MISSIONS	Provides opportunities to be in mission locally and globally in pursuit of reaching out to more people in the name of Christ.
MEMBERSHIP-EVANGELISM	Provides for the care of current members and preparation for new members through care of our church history, prayer chain ministry, and evangelism opportunities like parades, church sign, etc.
UNITED WOMEN	Provides educational and fellowship opportunities for all women in the church and community including local and global ministry support, ongoing programs, monthly fellowship, and funeral luncheon ministry.
UNITED MEN	Provides educational and fellowship opportunities for all men in the church by doing special projects like the Easter breakfast.

<u>Team</u>	<u>General Description</u>
FINANCE	Provides for the financial health of the congregation through budgeting, auditing, reporting, soliciting, and promoting the tithes and offerings of members and regular participants. *
PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS	Provides oversight for all paid staff of the church and enables the healthy relationship between the pastor and the congregation through setting expectations, yearly reporting, and ongoing training opportunities. *
TRUSTEES	Provide for the physical needs of the congregation through yearly reporting, ongoing structural projects, as well as ongoing maintenance and goal setting for the future ministry needs of the facility.
NOMINATIONS	Provides for finding and training of volunteer skilled leaders to serve in with their specific SHAPE for ministry in our ministry or resource teams. *
MEMORIALS	Provides for memorial giving appreciation, recording, and purchases.
ADMINISTRATION	Provides for the operations of the church office including our hospitality ministry, church communications and resource management.

Interested in any? Contact Pastor Greg if you have any questions or would like to serve in any of these areas.

(Note – The chair of each area is a member of the official board. A “*” indicates where church membership needed to officially serve in that particular area.)

S.H.A.P.E.'d



for

Significance

Sunday, February 21	“We are SHAP <u>E</u> d for Significance”
Sunday, February 28	“Unwrapping Our <u>S</u> piritual Gifts”
Sunday, March 7	“Living Our <u>H</u> earts Desire”
Sunday, March 14	“Defrosting our Frozen <u>A</u> ssets”
Sunday, March 21	“We’ve Got <u>P</u> ersonality”
Sunday, March 28	“Employing our <u>E</u> xperiences” (Palm Sunday)
Friday, April 2, 7 pm	“The SHAPE of the Cross” (Good Friday)
Sunday, April 4	“The SHAPE of the Empty Tomb” (Easter)
8:00 am	Worship with Communion
8:45 am	Breakfast
9:15 am	Christian Life Classes (for all ages)
10:30 am	Worship with Communion

“SHAPEd for Significance” Study

Monday nights 6:30 pm – February 22 thru March 29