

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

Greeters – Watson, Veale, Lupu, Besko
Acolytes – Meghan Hehrer
Lay Reader – Don Herrington
Nursery - Michelle Martin
Children's Church – Linda Lupu, Tara Ritter
Coffee Hour – Watson, Veale, Lupu, Besko
Welcome Ministry - Russ Westbrook

Serving Next Week

Ben, Leah, Michael, Aalonna, Lauren
Carol Bashore
Kathy Bracey
No Children's Church today
Larry & Carol Bashore
Carol Bashore

WELCOME!

This morning you've chosen to worship with us and we thank you for doing so. Our service is designed with a blend of music, worship styles, and interaction, so that 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.

LAST WEEK'S STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Attendance: Worship Service – 93 Christian Life Classes - 11

Finance Report:

General Fund:		\$1658
Special Funds:	Mission	\$ 120
	Building	\$ 45
	Parking Lot	\$ 56

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



**for
Significance**

The United Church of Ovid
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(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)

March 28, 2010 – Palm Sunday – Sixth Sunday of Lent

Welcome and thank you for joining us this morning!

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

Theme for Today: discovering the value of our experiences

Music to “Bring Us In” – Hymn Singing

Opening Song “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” UMH # 89

(Children are invited to join the “throng” from the back of the worship space and then bring their palm to the cross if they so choose. Once the kids have finished, then the congregation can bring their palms forward to the cross if they wish as we sing.)

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)* “I Will Enter His Gates”
“Knowing You”

**** Call to Worship**¹

Leader: We can be sure that in every detail God is working it into something good.

All: God works for the good all things, especially for those who love him...who have been called accord to his purpose.

Leader: We can be sure that, since the Father did not spare his only Son through the power of the Spirit, God will graciously give us all things.

All: If God is for us, who can be against us?

Leader: Who then will be able to separate us from the love of God?

All: No one...no how...no way! We are convincing that we are more than conquerors through him who loves us.

Leader: As we worship this morning, may our experiences become more priceless.

All: Good or bad, may each experience draw us closer to our God. Amen.

Special Moment “Commandments, Disciples, Commandments, and Bible Books”
Live B.I.G. & Tween Christian Life Classes

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

Special Moment “We Know How the Story Ends” by Mary Kay Beal 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.)

Response

“Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear; things I would ask Him to tell me if He were here: scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea, stories of Jesus, tell them to me.”²

Scripture Reading John 12:12-19 pg. 1043

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 “Amens” - A-men. A-men. A---men. UMH #898

Message “Employing our Experiences” Pastor Greg

****Closing Song** - “We’ll Understand It Better By and By” UMH# 525

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

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

He gave His life...what more could He give?

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

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 adapted from Romans 8:28-39

² United Methodist Hymnal #277

³ PRAISE Hymnal #214

News You Can Use

This Week's Calendar – March 28 through April 4

- 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 - “Memory Meal”
- 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 pm – Trustees (basement)
- Wednesday** 7:00 pm – Choir (worship area) - All joyful voices welcome!
8:00 pm – Music-Worship Mt. (worship area)
- Thursday** 12:30 pm – Senior Luncheon (family center)
- Friday** 7 pm – Good Friday Service (worship area)
- Saturday** 10:30 am – Easter Celebration (egg hunt – everyone invited)
- Sunday** 8 am – Sunrise Service (worship area)
8:45 am – Easter Breakfast (family center)
9:15 am – Christian Life Classes (opening in worship area)
(Classes available for children-tweens-and adults.)
10:30 am - Worship with fellowship following (worship area/family center)

Upcoming Events

Children's Church Update – In order for the families to enjoy the Easter events together (April 4th) and the Holy Humor “Backwards” Sunday (April 18th) there will no children's church on those Sundays. However, nursery will be available.

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. The order will be placed TOMORROW. (Cost is \$14.)

The Easter Celebration (egg hunt/games) will be Next Saturday, April 3 from 10:30 am – 12:30pm. If you're able to help, donate candy, or give to the cause, 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. Sign-up is available at the Front Street entrance.

Volunteers needed for...

We God Needs You – As our ministry expands at UCO, more servants are needed. They aren't necessarily volunteers, but servants because God has placed it on their heart to serve Him. After going through the 301 series, it's important that you take your SHAPE and find a place to serve. If you need help in that process, set up an appointment with Pastor Greg through the church office.

We are still needing a Tech Table Director and more 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: 28-Grant Mayle-Iler, Lisa Freiburger 29-Allison Lerew 31-Jamie Buchner, Samantha Brown

April Birthdays: 1-Jan Hansen 4-Helen Reichert 5-Emma Phillipson 6-Ricky Phillipson, Logan Applebee 8-Anna Fry, Michele Martin 9-Pete Taylor 10-David Graham 12-Tom Strachota 16-Norma George 17-Olivia Kast 18-Rachelle Sandbrook, Katelynn Davis 19-Adam Anderson, Talan Parsons 21-Greg Geisenhaver, Scott Cerny, Carter Hebel 22-Marge Parmenter, Kaitlyn Stevens 23-Lauren Sandbrook, Madeleine Graham 24-Lena Trowbridge, Larry Martin 26-Rich Givens 27-Ella Powell 28-Mariel Martin 30-Sandy Case

April Wedding Anniversaries: 13-Larry & Carol Bashore 20-Dave & Kay Stilwell 21-Rick & Evelyn Bush

Praise and Prayer List

Last Updated: March 24, 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: New births in Carrie Hier family / committed responses – able leaders / blessings / ongoing ministry of UMCOR / property purchases // wonderful memories of Joanne Wiegel who left us 3-22-09 to be with the Lord

We pray for the health & healing of: Lewis Crall – back surgery- father of Debbie Conklin / Karen Cook / strength fro Uncle of Jim McClelland / Pat Erickson / Ethel Mulder – heart problems / Norma Bates – seriously ill – sister-in-law of Janis Roy / Leona Carver // Mary Ann Mizga – home with 24 hour care / 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

We share our sympathy with the families of: Gerry Price / Elmer Thornton / Frances Westbrook / Donna Riechman // Carl R. Moore –childhood friend of John Graham / Brian Geisenhaver / family of the Pentagon shooter

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: Doris Darling – Alzheimer's / Alyce Bond – multiple health problems – sister of Carol Watson / 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 / 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 Piwowski, 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

“I Will Enter His Gates”⁴

I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart...I will enter His courts with praise.

I will say this is the day that the Lord has made...I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

He has made me glad...He has made me glad. I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

He has made me glad...He has made me glad, I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

(repeat as directed)

“Knowing You”⁵

All I once held dear built my life upon...All this world reveres, and wars to own.

All I once thought gain I have counted loss...spent and worthless now, compared to this

(to chorus)

(chorus) Knowing you, Jesus, knowing you...there is no greater thing...

You're my all, you're the best, You're my joy, my righteousness...

And I love you, Lord....

Now my heart's desire is to know you more...to be found in you, and known as yours.

To possess by faith what I could not earn...all surpassing gift of righteousness. *(to chorus)*

Oh to know the power of your risen life...and to know you in your suffering.

To become like you in your death my Lord....so with you to live and never die. *(to chorus)*

⁴TFWS #2270 CCLI 703014 (©1976 – Marantha! Music) – Psalm 100:2,4 – Psalm 118:24

⁵MPW30-CCLI 703014 (© 1994 Make Way Music) - Romans 14:16-18 – Philippians 3:8

“Employing our Experiences”*

John 12:12-19, Romans 8:28-39, John 13:1-7

March 21, 2010 - Pastor Greg Buchner - United Church of Ovid
(New International Version used throughout unless noted.)

Theme for Today: discovering the value of our experiences

Introduction – “Retail Experience”

S – Spiritual gifts

H – Heart

A – Abilities

P – Personality

E – Experiences

I – Experiences Shape Us

- family / relational experiences
- spiritual experiences
- emotional experiences
- educational experiences
- vocational experiences
- physical experiences

“Jesus replied, ‘You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand.’ – John 13:7

II – God Never Wastes An Experience

God intends that experiences teach us to trust Him more. (2 Corinthians 1:9)

God intends that experiences will build our character. (Romans 5:4)

God intends that experiences will accomplish His purpose. (Romans 8:28-39)

III – We Shouldn’t Waste Experiences Either

- Examine our experiences. (Galatians 3:4)
- Extract the lessons you’ve learned. (Deuteronomy 11:2, Luke 24:44-49)
- Use the experiences of others. (Proverbs 25:12, 27:17, I Corinthians 10:11)
- Use your experiences to encourage others. (I Thessalonians 5:11, 2 Corinthians 1:5-6, Titus 2)

IV – The Experiences of the Disciples

“At first the disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that they had done these things with him.” – John 12:16

Conclusion - For six weeks...

personal application questions

What are your spiritual gifts and how do you see yourself using them for God?

What is your heart and where do you see you and God doing something about it?

What are your abilities and how can using them bring glory to God and his church?

What is your personality and the personalities of those around you? Do you believe that God can use everyone’s personalities to further his kingdom?

What are your experiences? With empathy, grace, and love, can you use your experiences to learn from and then encourage others?

* 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.

Easter Week Schedule

Palm Sunday,

Today

6 pm – Memory Meal Lenten Service

This is a ‘Memory Meal’ Communion Service with all of the area UMC’s coming together to share. A service not to be missed.

Good Friday Service

Friday, April 2 at 7 pm

“Being SHAPed by the Empty Tomb”

Easter Celebration

Saturday, April 3, 10:30 am

Fun times for our kiddos, big and small, with an Easter egg hunt, crafts, and storytelling. Bring a basket or something to gather your eggs into.

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 4

8am – Sunrise Service

8:30 am – Easter Breakfast

9:15 am – Christian Life Classes

10:30 am – Worship Service / no Jr. Church

“Being SHAPed by the Empty Tomb”

Invite a friend to share Easter with you !!