

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

Serving This Week

Greeters – The McClelland family
Acolytes – Janelle
Lay Reader – Kirk Baese
Nursery - Stacie Ralison
Children’s Church – No Children’s Church today
Coffee Hour – Perez Family
Welcome Ministry - Russ Westbrook

Serving Next Week

Acolytes
Meghan
Bruce Wiegel
Rosemary Baese
Jessi Ladiski, Erica Cook
Acolytes
Carol Bashore

LAST WEEK’S STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Attendance: Worship Service – 93 Christian Life Classes - 8

Finance Report:

General Fund:		\$3068
Special Funds:	Noisey – campfund	\$ 133
	Building	\$ 280
	Parking Lot	\$ 65

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
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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. Our service is designed with a blend of music, worship styles, and interaction, so that whether you are family, friend, or guest, it’s our hope that you will feel welcome as we worship our God through Jesus Christ together.



Holy Humor Sunday
Third Sunday of Easter
April 18, 2010

Blessed are they who can laugh at themselves for they shall never cease to be amused.

Welcome and thank you for joining us this morning!

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

Theme for Today: Celebrating Christ's last laugh on death!

“Sending Us Out” Music

****Blessing and Congregational Response** - ““Because He Lives”¹ (chorus)

“Because He lives...I can face tomorrow. Because He lives....all fear is gone.
Because I know...He holds the future.
And life is worth the living just because He lives.” (repeat)

Closing Song “Spirit Song” UMH #347

Special Moment – Clean Jokes (jokes that Jesus wouldn't mind hearing)

Message “Doing It Backwards-Continuing the Celebration of Easter” Pastor Greg

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

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

Scripture Reading I Corinthians 4:9-16 (from The Message) pg. 1107
Reader: This is the word of God. **People: Thanks be to God!**

Children's Time (Immediately following, 0-4 year olds are invited to the nursery upstairs and those 5-10 years old are invited enjoy the rest of the service)

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

Special Moment “In My Heart Springs Living Water Singing” Choir

Giving Back to God - Special Moment – “I've Been Changed” Mosie Lister Cornerstone

****Response** - “Praise God From Whom All ...” UMH #95
first backwards – “Men...A Ghost...Ho...ly and Son, Father, praise...host;
Heaven...ly ye above him praise...be...low...here...
Creatures all him, praise...flow...
Bles...sings...all whom from God...Praise.

(repeat as we know it!)

****Prayer of Dedication**

Special Moment “Cartoon Song” United Kids

**** Call to Worship**³

Leader: Sometimes it seems like we're going backwards.

People: God is still great either way.

Leader: Sometimes life just doesn't go the way we had planned.

People: God has more love and more power in His plan.

Leader: On this day of Holy humor, may God be blessed by our zaniness.

People: Thank you God for creating and accepting us just as we are.

Thank you Christ for your sacrifice, mercy, and grace.

Thank you Spirit for your continued reminder of Christ's last laugh over death.

****Time of Praise & Opening Prayer** (see insert) “How Great Is Our God”
“More Love, More Power”

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!**

Opening Song “We Thy People Praise Thee” UMH #67

Music to “Bring Us In” – Hymn Singing

*To Our Guests This Morning and Others Who May Be Wondering
From Pastor Greg*

If you're unsure of what's up this Sunday, we're doing our worship order backwards as a way of reminding ourselves that Jesus often did the unexpected in His ministry including not staying in the grave! Next week, we promise, our order of worship will go back to normal...or will it? ☺ Please join us in the family center (on the opposite end of the building) for a time of refreshments, community-building and fellowship.

¹ United Methodist Hymnal #364

² United Methodist Hymnal #277

³ adapted from United Methodist Hymnal #321

News You Can Use

This Week's Calendar – April 4 through April 11

- Sunday** 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)
- Monday** 3:30 pm – United Kids (basement & sanctuary)
7 pm - Boy Scouts (basement)
- Tuesday** 9 am – Paint Class (basement)
12:30 pm - Senior Luncheon (family)
6:30 pm – Pastor-Parish Mt. (basement)
- Wednesday** 7:00 pm – Choir (worship area) - All joyful voices welcome!
- Thursday** 12:30 pm – Senior Luncheon (family center)
- Saturday** 9:10 am – Family Center in use
- Sunday** 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 Holy Humor “Backwards” Sunday (April 18th) there will be no children's church on those Sundays. However, nursery will be available.

Acolyte Spring Invitational - Sunday, April 25 – Any youth 6th through 12th grades interested in serving Christ through His Light are invited to join us right after worship.

“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.

Hanging Basket Flower Sale - We are taking orders for those beautiful 10” hanging flower baskets. If you would like to order, pick up an order sheet from the office or the information center. Please return to the office by April 25 with your payment. Keep your voucher to pick up your flowers the week of May 1-7 at Delta Gardens, The proceeds will be going toward the parking lot in back.

A card shower honoring Josephine Jackson's 95th birthday, April 13, and her successful completion of radiation for lung cancer. Her address is #104, 1103 S. Scott Rd., St. Johns, MI 48879.

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!)

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: April 13, 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: Good neighbors / Chris & Becky (Geisenhaver) Vincent marriage / wonderful Easter Celebration // New births in Carrie Hier family / committed responses – able leaders / blessings / ongoing ministry of UMCOR / property purchases

We pray for the health & healing of: Karen Cook – breast cancer – mother of Ben Cook / Carol Lee Blangsted – bone cancer / David Green – heart surgery / Leona Karber – severe pain / veterans who suffer from PTSD (pain that slowly destroys) / Pastor Bob Prange - health / Julie Richardson – serious hip problems – daughter of Russ & Sally Kioski / Kai Richardson – feet problems – grandson of Russ & Sally Kioski / Roy Wilson – Alzheimer's / Hans Schmidt – health issues / Pastor Becky Morrison – surgery / Jerry Davis – possible stroke / Andrea Bashore – testing- grandson of Larry & Carol Bashore / Frank & Gerry Winkler / Tim Bolton – Throat cancer – Brother-in-law of Kirk Baese / Lewis Crall – back surgery- father of Debbie Conklin

We share our sympathy with the families of: Debbie Phillips / family of miners / Pete House // Ruby Dunham

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: Mary Ann Mizga – at Hazel Finley / Margo Martin – health / 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

“How Great Is Our God”⁴

1. The splendor of a King, clothed in majesty...
Let all the earth rejoice...all the earth rejoice.
He wraps himself in Light, and darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice...trembles at His voice

How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!
And all will see how great...how great is our God!
2. Age to age He stands...and time is in His hands
Beginning and the end...beginning and the end.
The Godhead Three in One...Father Spirit Son...
The Lion and the Lamb...the Lion and the Lamb.

[The chorus below is sung at the same time and repeated. Follow direction.]

Group one - How great is our God! Sing with me: how great is our God!
And all will see How great, how great is our God!

Group two - Name above all names...worthy of our praise...
My heart will sing....how great is our God!

“More Love, More Power”⁵

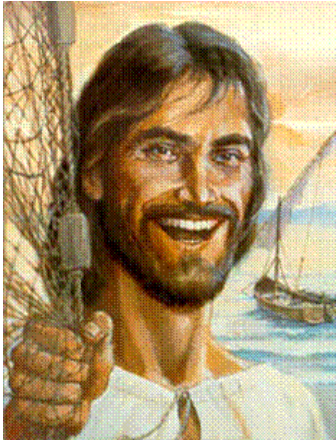
(chorus) - More love, more power...more of You in my life
More love, more power...more of You in my life.

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.

⁴ MPW117-CCLI 703014(©2004 worshipteogether.com) – 2 Samuel 7:22, Job 36:26

⁵ MPW40-CCLI 703014(©1987 by Jude Del Herro-Mercy/Vineyard Pub.)-Phil. 3:10, Duet. 6:4-5, John 4:23



“sdrawkcaB tl gnioD... Continuing the Celebration of Easter”

I Corinthians 4:9-16 (from *The Message*)
April 18, 2010 - Pastor Greg Buchner - United Church of
Ovid

(New International Version used throughout unless
noted.)

**Theme for Today: celebrating Christ’s last laugh on
death!**

Introduction – “Business is Business”

I – The Kingdom of God is Upside Down

“Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee... He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” – Luke 4:14-21

II – The Kingdom of God is Inside-Out

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.
Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say
all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad,
because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they
persecuted the prophets who were before you.” – Matthew 5:3-12

III – The Kingdom of God is Backwards

“It seems to me that God has put us who bear his Message on stage in a theater in which no one wants to buy a ticket. We're something everyone stands around and stares at, like an accident in the street. We're the Messiah's misfits. You might be sure of yourselves, but we live in the midst of frailties and uncertainties. You might be well-thought-of by others, but we're mostly kicked around. Much of the time we don't have enough to eat, we wear patched and threadbare clothes, we get doors slammed in our faces, and we pick up odd jobs anywhere we can to eke out a living. When they call us names, we say, "God bless you." When they spread rumors about us, we put in a good word for them. We're treated like garbage, potato peelings from the culture's kitchen. And it's not getting any better.” – I Corinthians 4:9-13

Conclusion – Christ had the last laugh on death so that we might live in a kingdom that seems upside down, inside-out backwards to the world.

personal application questions

Which kingdom does your life most resemble?
For you, what does it mean to be a “Messiah misfit?”
Are you ready to “do it backwards” for the kingdom
of God?





You are the body of Christ and parts of each other. 1 Corinthians 12:27 CEB

What if...

on one weekend all around the world, 11 million United Methodists came together to work in their local communities?

What if...

we unite globally to fight a preventable, treatable disease that kills one child every 30 seconds?

Would You Help?

April 24-25, 2010. Build community locally. Fight malaria globally.
Change the world!

How?

1 – On Saturday, April 24th, voluntarily do something good for our community.

2 – On Sunday, April 25th, tell what you did locally and bring an offering for Nothing But Nets to help internationally.

That's it!