

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 – Graduates
Acolytes – Meghan, Aalonna
Lay Reader – Ruth Clark
Nursery - Rosemary Baese
Children's Church – Jessi Ladiski, Erica Cook
Coffee Hour – United Women
Welcome Ministry - Carol Bashore

Scouts
Lauren
Gwen Kelley
Becky Dahlke
Rachelle Parsons, Leah Rasch
Ben & Erica Cook
Shelley Shimunec

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.

LAST WEEK'S STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Attendance: Worship Service – 99 Christian Life Classes - 14

Finance Report:

General Fund:		\$1358
Special Funds:	Mission & Noisy Offering	\$ 346
	Parking Lot	\$ 25
	Building	\$ 100



“Acting on Acts” Series

Being the Church We Started to Be

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)

Graduation Sunday
Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 16, 2010

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 and thank you for joining us this morning!

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

Theme for Today: the church shares its faith with the world

Music to “Bring Us In” – Hymn Singing

Opening Song “Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us” UMH #381

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 the Name of the Lord”
“That’s Why We Praise Him”

** Call to Worship ¹

Leader: Many voices are speaking to us today in the movie theaters, on the concert stages, on the television.

People: Today, Lord, we choose to listen to Your voice, to respond to Your desires, to follow Your highest path for us.

Leader: Many voices are speaking to us today in our homes, in our friendships, and in our community.

People: Today, Lord, we choose to listen to Your voice, to respond to Your desires, to follow Your highest path for us.

Leader: Many voices are speaking to us today through celebrities, commercials and through media.

People: Today, Lord, we choose to listen to Your voice, to respond to Your desires, to follow Your highest path for us.

Leader: Gracious God, as many voices ring in our ears, we say that we choose to listen for Your voice, to do what pleases you, and to stay true to the path You have lovingly set before us.

People: Strengthen us to choose the high road, to live up to the greatness you placed within us, and to honor You in all our ways. Amen.

Special Moment - Honoring our Graduates

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

Special Moment “Find Us Faithful” 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” UMH #277

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.”

Scripture Reading Acts 17:16-34 pgs. 1075

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 “Unknown Gods” Pastor Greg

Song of Thanksgiving “Breathe on Me Breath of God” UMH# 420

****Blessing and Congregational Response** - “Come Holy Spirit Come” ² (chorus)

Let every Christian pray...this day and every day...come Holy Spirit come!

Was not the church we love...commissioned from above...come Holy Spirit come!

The Spirit brought to birth...the church of Christ on earth...come Holy Spirit come!

Unite, instruct, inspire and fill us with your fire...come Holy Spirit come!

“Sending Us Out” Music - Please join us in the library (just behind you) for a time of refreshments, community-building and fellowship.

¹ “A Baccalaureate Call To Worship: We Choose To Listen To Your Voice” (www.DanWilt.com)

² adapted from The New Century Hymnal #261

News You Can Use

This Week's Calendar

- Sunday** 9:15 am – Christian Life Classes (opening in worship area)
(Classes available for children-tweens-and adults.)
9:30 am – Graduation Breakfast (family center)
10:30 am - Worship with fellowship following (worship area/family center)
11:30 am-ish – Congregational Meeting (worship area)
1 pm – Family Center in use
- Monday** 3:30 pm – United Kids (basement & worship area)
7 pm - Boy Scouts (basement)
- Tuesday** Office Closed
9 am – Paint Class (basement)
12:30 pm – Lenten Service meeting w/lunch (basement)
12:30 pm - Senior Luncheon (family center)
6:30 pm – Pastor-Parish Mt. (basement)
- Thursday** 12:30 pm – Senior Luncheon (family center)
7 pm – Education Mt. (basement)
- Saturday** 11 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)
1 pm – Family Center in use

Upcoming Events

Special Annual Business Meeting – Today, following the worship service, come and hear the plans for a possible new parking lot! Everyone is invited to speak and members have the added responsibility to vote.

Spaghetti Dinner – June 13th after church – The United Men will be hosting a spaghetti dinner with proceeds going toward the ministry of the United Women. A free will offering will be taken, so bring your appetites. If you would like to help, please contact Larry Bashore (834-2384).

“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.

Lugnut Ball Game – Friday, July 30 at 7:05pm. We have invited the OM Emergency Service families to be our guest as our way of expressing appreciation for them. If you plan on attending, please sign-up at the Front Street entrance. If you would like to support our gratitude to our Emergency Service families, please mark your giving ‘Lugnut Outreach’ and place in the offering plate.

Volunteers needed for...

We God Needs You – As our ministry expands at UCO, more willing servants are needed. They aren’t necessarily volunteers, but servants because God has placed it on their heart to serve Him. Where has God shaped you for ministry? If you need help in finding that, set up an appointment with Pastor Greg through the church office.

Vacation Bible School will be July 12-16 from 9am – 12noon. If you feel God nudging you to be a part of VBS, please contact Jessi Ladiski or Sue Casler. We need your help to make this a wonderful experience for the kids!!

We still need 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!)

May Birthdays: 1-Greg Martin 3-Carol Bashore 4-Cal Martin 6-Opal Parker, Jena Ladd, Bryon Taylor 7-Dale Crosslan, Lynn Givens, Areal Wesenberg 8-Maxwell Farver 10-Elizabeth Bracey, Hannah Orweller 14-Randy Perry 15-Willann Casler, Eva Barton, Kasondra Davis, Amy Davis 16-Cassie Taylor, Brian Bracey, Loren Hunt 17-Pam Cook 18-Denise Dennison 19-Jerry Meredith, Barb Mills 20-Sawyer Astle 21-William Zemla, Chloe Taylor, Gunnar Barrett 23-Karen Batora 25-Carol Stevens, Gene Ward 27-Elaine Swanson 28-Connie Paksi, Jordynn Todosciuk 29-Sally Kioski 31-Joan Wrather, Cari Chadwick

May Wedding Anniversaries: 4-Chad & Cathy Wilkins 5-Tom & Jackie Sandbrook 14-Clarence & Lena Trowbridge 15-Don & Michele Moore 17-Ron & Connie Paksi 31-Aaron & Sarah McClung

Praise and Prayer List

Last Updated: May 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: Opportunities to serve / Robert Kebler – no surgery / Mothers / James King home for a visit // Mary Paksi – 86th birthday

We pray for the health & healing of: Lois Bracey – upcoming surgery (please pray day of May 21st) / Diana Frank – knee replacement recovery / Dorothy Yerrick – recovering from heart surgery / Herb Hicks – test – son-in-law of Russ Westbrook / Kristy King-Thelen – home – daughter of Deb Conklin / Margie Jones – shingles / Gerald Pulver – cancer – uncle of Alene Ward / Robert Kebler – possible surgery / David Green – recovering from heart surgery / Wade Kioski / Meredith Doyen – hip surgery – granddaughter of Braceys / Karen Cook – breast cancer – mother of Ben Cook // Pastor Susan Poynter – surgery recovery / Olivia Whitman – 7 yr. old – brain surgery / Shawn – surgery recovery – friend of Aaron McClung / Burt Ashtown / Violet Courtney / Leona Karber – severe pain / Carol Watson – pain therapy / Keri (Hudson) Dingy – cancer

We share our sympathy with the families of: Steven May // Mary Ann – friend of Sue Graham

We lift up our general requests of: Lena & Clarence Trowbridge – relocating? / Emily & Al Berlo – training // Pastor's families in transition / Rev. David Hill and family in their transition / Oil spills / stressed out college students / people of Haiti, China and Chili and all who in or serving in countries with natural disasters

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 / 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: Joshua Rosekrans, 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, Jason Spencer, Dallas Blooding, Jason Westbrook, Al & Emily (Moore) Berlo, Neil Hegle, Brian Moody, Arin Monahan, Jarred Luckhardt

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

Time of Praise

“Blessed Be the Name of the Lord”³

1. Blessed be the name of the Lord...Blessed be the name of the Lord...
Blessed be the name of the Lord most high! (*repeat then to chorus*)

chorus:

The name of the Lord is a strong tower.
The righteous run into it and they are saved!
The name of the Lord is a strong tower.
The righteous run into it and they are saved!

2. Glory is the name of the Lord... (*to chorus*)
3. Holy is the name of the Lord... (*to chorus*)

“That’s Why We Praise Him”⁴

He came to live, live a perfect life. He came to be the living Word of light.
He came to die, so we'd be reconciled. He came to rise to show His power and might! (*to chorus*)

chorus: That's why we praise Him, that's why we sing.

That's why we offer Him our everything.

That's why we bow down and worship this King.

'Cause He gave His everything... 'Cause He gave His everything

He came to live, live again in us. He came to be our conquering King and Friend.
He came to heal and show the lost ones His love. He came to go prepare a place for us. (*to chorus*)

Halle Hallelujah (4x)

That's why we praise Him, that's why we sing

That's why we offer Him our everything

That's why we bow down and worship this King

'Cause He gave His everything. 'Cause He gave His everything

'Cause He gave His everything.

³MPW12-CCLI 703014(©)

⁴MPW94-CCLI 703014 (©)



“Unknown Gods”

Acts 17:16-34

May 16, 2010 - Pastor Greg Buchner
United Church of Ovid (Graduation Sunday)
(New International Version used throughout unless noted.)

Theme for Today: the church shares its faith with the world

Introduction – Recap: The church exercises its faith.
The church serves in love.
The church shares its faith.

I – In the midst of unknown gods...our God sounds strange to many.

““May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we want to know what they mean.” (Acts. 17:19-20)

II – In the midst of unknown gods... even our God is represented.

“Men of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD...” (Acts 17:23)

III – In the midst of unknown gods...our God has the best offer!

“For in him we live and move and have our being. As some of your poets have said, ‘We are his offspring. Therefore since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by man’s design and skill...” (Acts 17:28-29)

Conclusion – In the midst of unknown gods...God will only put up with this for so long.

“In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the Man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising Him from the dead.” (Acts 17:30-31)

“A few became followers of Paul and believed.” (Acts 17:34)

personal application questions

In the midst of unknown gods...how does our God sound to you?

In the midst of unknown gods... how is God represented in your life?

In the midst of unknown gods...do you believe that our God has the best offer?

In the midst of unknown gods...does it make you joyful or fearful to know that God will only put up with this for so long?