

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 Coordinator - 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 – Ken & Marge Parmenter
Acolytes – Michael Perez
Lay Reader – Dave Hunt
Nursery - Janell Kebler
Children's Church – Sue Casler, Tara Ritter
Coffee Hour – Ken & Marge Parmenter
Welcome Ministry – Shelley Shimunec

Larry & Carol Bashore
Cassie, Janelle, Saige
Janell Kebler
Kathy Bracey
Jessi Ladiski, Erica Cook
Larry & Carol Bashore
Russ Westbrook

LAST WEEK'S STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Attendance: Worship Service –154 Christian Life Classes – 10

Finance Report:

| | | |
|----------------|-------------|---------|
| General Fund: | | \$ 2522 |
| Special Funds: | Memorial | \$ 250 |
| | Building | \$ 90 |
| | Parking Lot | \$ 695 |
| | Mission | \$ 140 |
| | VBS-mission | \$ 178 |
| | Projection | \$ 125 |

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. 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.



**The 2010 Return of the...
"HOT TOPIC"
MESSAGE SERIES**

- Today **"Being True to Oneself – Witnessing in a Family Setting"**
(Ephesians 5:22-6:4)
- August 1st **"The Private and Public Practice of Prayer -
Six Types of Prayer and How to Use Them"** (I John 5:14-15)
- August 8th **"Caring For the Dying – A Pastoral Look at End of Life Care
(Including Issues Around Cremation)"** (2 Corinthians 4:7-18)
- August 15th **"Is Suicide an Unforgivable Sin? – Relooking at the Samson &
Delilah Story"** (Romans 8:38-39, Judges 16:26-31)
- August 22nd **"How Are Christians Supposed to Deal with the Islamic Faith? –
Isaac vs. Ishmael"** (John 3:36, 14:6, Acts 4:12, Genesis 21:1-21)

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost - July 25, 2010

Welcome and thank you for joining us this morning!

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

Theme for Today: practicing our faith in difficult circumstances

Music to “Bring Us In” – Hymn Singing

Opening Song “What A Friend We Have in Jesus” UMH#526

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)* “Everlasting God”
“No Higher Calling”

**** Call to Worship** – adapted from Acts 1:8

Leader: We are called to be witnesses to our friends.

People: Sometimes it’s difficult.

Leader: We are called to be witnesses to our neighbors.

People: This can be challenging.

Leader: We are called to be witnesses to our world.

People: Sometimes this is easier.

Leader: We are called to be witnesses to our family...our kin.

People: This can be the hardest of all.

Leader: As we come worshipping Christ this day, may we find comfort for our weariness, hope for our desperation, mercy for our failure, love in the midst of the objectionable, and a clear, strong voice to share the message...

People: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again. Amen.

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

Special Moment “God’s Touch” Zach Denison

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 Ephesians 5:22-6:4 pgs. 1136-7

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 “Being True to Oneself – Witnessing in a Family Setting” Pastor Greg

Song of Thanksgiving “When Love is Found” UMH#643

****Blessing and Congregational Response** “May (We) Run”¹

May we run and not be weary...may our hearts be filled with song.

May the love of God continue to give us hope and keep us strong.

And may we run and not grow weary...may our lives be filled with joy!

And may the road we travel...always lead us home.”

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

¹ The Faith We Sing #2281 – words adapted

Praise and Prayer List

Last Updated: July 22, 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: A wonderful & exciting VBS / Camp experience

We pray for the health & healing of: Goerge & Katie Russell – friends of Carol Watson / Richard Latz – heart valve replacement – step-father of Kathy Hunt / Kathy Hehrer - surgery // Alex Pung – 18 yr old in a quad accident / Kevin Beach – farm accident / Norma George – fall // Herb Hicks – heart surgery – Son-in-law of Russ Westbook / Josie Yesmont – recuperating at home / Joan – cancer – Aunt of Dee Ritter / Erica Cook – recovering from surgery / Morris Swanson and his family facing tough decisions / Frank Winkler Sr. – heart surgery

We share our sympathy with the families of: Norma Coon – Great-aunt of Pastor Greg // Sarah Maville – friend of Russ Westbrook // Doris Darling / Kari (Hudson) Diny – daughter of Jo Easlick / Helen Adams – friend of Bud & Willann Casler / 45 year old Flint man

We lift up our general requests of: a tech director / people searching for a job / Traveling mercies / Camping families in Arkansas / Oil Spill disaster / 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: Barb Jones – shingles / Mary Ann Mizga –health / Margo Martin – health / Alyce Bond – multiple health problems – sister of Carol Watson / James White – healing / Brad Behrens – stroke / Arvilla Bunnell – strength and healing – aunt of Steve Clark / Clyde Gilbert –brother of Nancy Hehrer / Emily Ann Pruse – healing of ear / 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

“Everlasting God”²

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord.

We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord.

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord.

We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord.

Our God...You reign forever...our Hope, our Strong Deliverer...

You are the everlasting God...the everlasting God...

You do not faint...You won't grow weary.

You're the defender of the weak...You comfort those in need...

You lift us up on wings like eagles.

“No Higher Calling”³

Down...at your feet, oh Lord...is the most high place.

In Your presence, Lord, we seek Your face...we seek Your face.

There is no higher calling...no...greater honor

Than to bow and kneel before Your throne.

I'm amazed...at Your glory, embraced...by Your mercy.

Oh Lord, I live to worship You. (repeat)

There is no higher calling...no...greater honor

Than to bow and kneel before Your throne.

I'm amazed...at Your glory, embraced...by Your mercy.

Oh Lord, I live to worship You.

Oh Lord, I live to worship You.

²MPW182-CCLI 703014(©2005 Thankyou Music, worshiptogether.com Songs) – Isaiah 40:31

³MPW70-CCLI 703014(©1989 Doulos Publishing) – Psalm 46:4, 132:7, Nehemiah 5:6, Romans 12:1

News You Can Use

This Week's Calendar

- Sunday** 9:15 am – Christian Life Classes (opening in worship area)
(Classes available for children-tweens.)
10:30 am - Worship with fellowship following (worship area/family center)
- Monday** 7 pm – “The Shack” Book/Bible Study (library) – Join us anytime.
- Tuesday** 12:30 pm - Senior Luncheon (family center)
3:30 pm – Seasons of Grief (library)
6:30 pm – Trustees Mt. (library)
- Wednesday** 9 am – SE UMC Cluster Mt. (basement)
7 pm – Cornerstone (worship area)
8 pm – Music-Worship Mt (worship area)
- Friday** 7 pm – Lugnut Baseball Game
- Saturday** 11 am – Family Center in use
- Sunday** 9:15 am – Christian Life Classes (opening in worship area)
(Classes available for children-tweens.)
10:30 am - Worship with fellowship following (worship area/family center)

Upcoming Events

Lugnut Ball Game – Friday, July 30 at 7:05pm. We have only a dozen tickets left over in our block. If you plan on attending, please sign-up at the Front Street entrance today. If you would like to support our gratitude to our Emergency Service families (32 attending!), please mark your giving ‘Lugnut Outreach’ and place in the offering plate.

UCO Canoe Trip – There is still plenty of room for our canoe trip up north on Friday, August 13th. Sign-up is available at the Front Street entrance. While hot dogs will be provided for a quick lunch before the trip, we’re asking that each family also bring some finger foods to share. For more information contact Denise Dennison at 723-7192.

The 2010 Return of the...“HOT TOPIC” Message Series...Starting Today! Sundays, July 25th – August 22nd, Pastor Greg is going to preach on topics that may be...well...controversial.” Don’t miss out on these relevant, timely, and informative messages based on congregational questions.

“FAITHLINKS”- a take home study connecting faith and life - are available in the brochure rack opposite the nursery stairs. A new study is added each week. We’d love to run out of them! Please check them out and see if they would assist your discipleship.

“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.

Please note...July 26th through 30th there will be no regular office hours. Pastor Greg will be checking the answering machine or you can get him on his cell at 989-621-7782 if you’re unable to catch him in the office. (Sue will be on vacation this week.)

Custodial Help Needed - We are looking for someone who would like to take care of the custodial work the week of August 16-22. This will take approximately 7 hours and will be paid \$100. If interested, please contact Janell Kebler at 834-1420 or email her at janellward@yahoo.com

Pictures from VBS - If you would like a copy of a picture from VBS, please contact Paul Love or the church office.

Volunteers needed for...

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.

We God Needs You – Volunteers and Willing Servants are always appreciated!

As our ministry expands at UCO, more volunteers and equipped willing servants are needed. You may be thinking, “But where has God shaped me for ministry?” If you need help finding that answer, give the church office a call and we’ll help you find a place.

Deadlines: Bulletin announcements - Wednesday of each week.
Newsletter info – August 15th for September newsletter.

Community Corner

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

July Birthdays: 5-Emily Vanderhoof 6-Sherry Nicholson, Alaina Martin, Amelia Cook
7-Dawn Moore, Cayleb Carman 9-Jolene Hebler 11-Caleb Love 12-Gwen Kelley, Kyle Stehlik, Wyatt Dahlke 14- Jeff Davis 16-Bud Casler, Katelyn Pierce 18-Pam Coven
20- Alyson Moore 21-Renee Fluke 24-Conor McClung 25-Clarence Trowbridge, Harry Todosciuk, Alyssa Farver, Jacqleen Wilkins 29-Roger Matthies, Jacob Cooper
31-Daniel Lupu

July Wedding Anniversaries: 10-Jason & Rachele Parsons 19-Ken & Shirley Austin, Ed & Barb Vanderhoof 21-Dennis & Carolyn Long 30-Dave & Kathy Hunt



***"Being True to Oneself -
Witnessing in a Family Setting"***

Ephesians 5:22-6:4 & I Peter 3:1-12

United Church of Ovid - July 25, 2010

(all scripture references are from the NIV unless noted)

Introduction – God has THE plan

(The “a” plan but “the” plan.)

Family rules in the NT. (Ephesians 5:22-6:4)

- Wife and husband serve one another. Children serve too.
- Consider the other before you consider yourself.
- Don't waffle on belief, but live out belief as a witness.

Point #1 – Be true to oneself starts with asking for, giving, and receiving forgiveness. (Matthew 6:14-15)

Often being the first to do so.
Forgetting the grudges of the past.
Admitting your weaknesses.
Giving yourself forgiveness.

Point #2 – Being true to oneself happens when we find ways to demonstrate love, empathy, compassion and understanding to others close to us. (I Peter 3:8-12)

Serve in a way that puts others first.

Don't claim to be perfect! Don't place anything on anyone!

Stop the “hypocrite” label –
Non-Christians shouldn't be expected to be Christian.
Christians should at least be trying. ☺

Point #3 – Being true to oneself happens when we check out our motives, attitudes, and our before we use our tongues.

Praying before you speak, counting to ten before you respond, taking a deep breath, etc...

Angry comments made in haste without thinking often sting the worst. (James 3:5-12)

Point #4 – Being true to oneself happens when we understand the “yoke” principle.

If you're in a relationship with someone who doesn't practice...do your best to show them Christ.

If you're thinking about being in relationship with someone who doesn't practice...wait until they do or don't. (2 Corinthians 6:14-16)

Point #5 – Being true to oneself happens when we respect one another.

“...so that they may be won over without words...”
(I Peter 3:1-2, 7-9)

Conclusion – The Facebook Comment...Keeping our witness pure.

Being true to oneself happens when we strive to be more like Christ and when we quickly admit when we've fallen short. Thankfully, God's grace, mercy and love are available here as well.

practical application questions...

- How's your witness? How can you be more Christ-like in your family?
- Does your witness need forgiveness...from God...from others?
- What's stopping you from asking for it...receiving it?
- Are you living out your witness through your words and actions?