



Manchester United Methodist Church

The Chimes

413 East Butler St.

April 2023

Phone 563-927-4439

www.umcmanchester.com

E-mail: mumc@umcmanchester.com

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday: April 2nd

Jews for Jesus: April 5th

Maundy Thursday: April 6th

Good Friday: April 7th

Easter Sunday: April 9th



April 1st Spring Cleaning

April 19th Chimes Deadline

April 2nd OCC Brunch

April 30th OCC Bakesale

Scrip News

April 30th Missions Potluck

A note from Pastor Phil...

***See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.-Isaiah 43:19***

There came a time in God's relationship with humanity that the people of God- the Israelites- turned away from God's ways to follow their own human desires and Idol's of their own making. God describes it as choosing to be blind and deaf to God's ways and presence. The consequence of this was that God pulled His blessing from the land and people of Israel, they were conquered and eventually ended up in exile in Babylon for about 70 years. Somewhere around the midpoint of exile (Around the 35th year) God spoke through the Prophet Isaiah about their plight in a foreign land of pagan beliefs.

Isaiah 43 is a wonderful prophecy of encouragement for God's chosen people.

In verse 1 God reveals; *"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine."* God assures His people, I have not forgotten you, you are not separated from my love...

In verse 5 God reveals; *"Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west.* God's promise is that He will be with them in their trials, and make a path to return to Him and the promised land for their children.

In verse 12 God proclaims; *"You are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "that I am God."* There is judgment for turning away from God, but as God's chosen people judgment does not result in loss of love, nor does it result in a brokenness that is without mending. The Israelite people are still chosen to be the witnesses of God's love for this and all generations to come.

Verse 18 states; *"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past."* What God is saying here is that our past may inform us going forward... but that it should not form us. Do not live into the brokenness and shame that sin has brought to you, but instead live into a new life as God's chosen people...

And then we come to the scripture highlighted above in psalm 43 verse 19... God promises that God is doing a new thing! Can you not tell? Stop dwelling in what sin created your current trials, and focus on this new thing- God's unmerited grace!

This is not the grace of the cross- this is a moment of grace so that God's people can return to the Law... One would hope that this grace was enough... But God knows that we have much to learn and yet overcome... Eternal grace is only welcomed when humanity is ready to acknowledge that eternal grace is necessary. The Law is beyond the ability of the human condition... We all- every-one- need a Savior.

In this time as a church we may feel we are in exile... We have spoken through our voice and vote that the United Methodist Church has turned their eyes from the faith of our ancestors, and are leaving those of us who hold to the authority of scripture and covenants behind as they move in a direction where with integrity of faith we just cannot follow.

Continued —>

But what next? As described at the end of service back in January, our Single Board was charged with wading through all the possible options for us going forward in a new tradition or perhaps looking towards becoming independent. This has been a difficult journey as there are significant time constraints, we have to be aligned somewhere by July 1, 2023, and also many options. There was just no reasonable way to inform the church of all options and narrow it down within the required time frame. I remind all again, the legislation 2553 that allows for disaffiliation was designed for a three year process, not the 9 months that the Iowa Conference of the UMC has required. The Single Board split responsibilities in January with one subgroup working on the requirements of disaffiliation with our attorney, and another focusing on a recommendation for the best next step for our church to continue being a place of acceptance and worship for all with a focus on biblical authority and service to the glory of Jesus Christ from this unique place in this unique time.

At the March meeting of the Single Board the subcommittee presented the two top options they have narrowed it down to that would not require us to change who we are and how we believe.

The Free Methodist Church would be a good fit on polity (supporting that which we already believe) but there is a trust clause. There would be apportionments though less than what we experienced in the UMC.

The Global Methodist Church would be an easy fit as this is the denomination that has grown from the conflict in the UMC. So the things we appreciated we get to keep, and the things that caused us to leave are changed so that once again the entire denomination is in line with the polity that we support. The GMC is transitional at this time but should we join we would have a vote and voice in how it is ultimately structured. There would be apportionments but significantly less- guaranteed by written polity to be significantly less than the UMC, and no trust clause. The GMC is a coalition of the willing... Should there be moves away from our defining beliefs we can just move on... Which is what makes this Wesleyan tradition and leadership much more accountable to the individual churches.

The subcommittee ultimately recommended to the Single Board that We recommend to the body of the church that we go forward in joining with the Global Methodist Church. The Single Board unanimously voted to affirm this recommendation.

Your Single Board will announce several opportunities for informational meetings for the congregation to be informed of what they are recommending and why. On April 16th, immediately after service, we will hold a Church Conference to vote to either support the recommendation of the Single Board or to send them back to consider other alternatives. We will also vote on a new name for the church, which the Single Board unanimously voted to recommend "Manchester Methodist Church."

If you have any questions please be sure to attend the informational meetings, Conversations with Pastor on Thursdays, or ask a Single Board member or Pastor Phil.

God is doing something new in Manchester, Iowa! The time is shortly upon us to not look back on the conflict that has brought us to this place, and instead begin to dream God sized dreams about how we respond to God's call to come and see, find your rest, and go and tell!

Peace

Pastor Phil

MUMC Single Board
March 21, 2023
6:00p.m.
Wesley Hall

Present: Lori Snyder, Wayne Birkenholz, Bill Scanlan, Ruth Voshell, Mark Reth, Charlie Dighton, Bruce Nodurft, Sherry Goranson, Kathy Dolan, Shirley Davis, Jean Gross, Pastor Phil.

Mark called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. followed by a devotional from Matthew 6:7-8 which reminded us again that our Father knows what we need even before we ask Him. Seek Him and His goodness.

Prayers and praises were lifted up followed by the Lord's prayer. We need to especially keep Dennis in prayer as he has some upcoming surgeries this month and next.

Ministry Reports

Finance: Bruce reported that Year-to-Date actual expenses were \$36,146 and actual income was \$34,716 leaving us with a small shortfall. Our contributions are behind last year at this time by -\$4,433. The Brick-by-Brick campaign has a balance of \$87,160 as work continues on the bathrooms. February contributions for this fund were #320.

Trustees: The upstairs bathrooms are nearing completion. Four old pews have been removed from the building. Some sidewalk needs to be replaced on the south side of our parking lot by July 1st. Trustees are looking at someone to professionally re-wax the Wesley Hall flooring. Additional janitorial work is needed to clean the church. There was discussion on usage of rooms in our church and it was shared that Trustees are the committee that needs to be contacted with ideas of how to use rooms before any work proceeds with changing a room. Many different groups use rooms throughout the week and they need to be available for various purposes. April 1st there will be a general church cleaning day before Holy Week for anyone who is available. Jean is in charge and will have lists of areas to be cleaned.

Missions: Wayne announced there will be a potluck and fellowship time at the church on April 30th. There will be a brief presentations on the history of our church at that time. Pastor is working on a board for the Rahab House mission as well as mentoring teams. Al Saunders will do a walk through to determine what repairs and materials will be needed. There was discussion on possible projects for Paint by neighbor this summer. We will be joined by a youth group from Altoona who will be staying in our church that week. The clothing closet needs to upgrade their space.

Congregational Care: Sherry mentioned that several cards had been sent to those experiencing health issues and Marlene Reth visited and delivered Chimes and Upper Rooms to the GNH and Meadows. Phone calls have been made to shut-ins.

Action Items: It was moved by Charlie, seconded by Kathy to hire an additional person for up to 30 hours a week for janitorial services. Staff Parish will pursue applicants as soon as possible. Motion carried.

Motion by Ruth, seconded by Kathy that the new name for our church after disaffiliation will be **Manchester Methodist Church** pending church approval. Motion carried.

Motion by Bruce, seconded by Charlie that we adopt the new denominational affiliation of the Global Methodist Church as recommended by committee after presentation, discussion and approval by the congregation. Motion carried.

April 16th will be the date for a church conference to vote on these matters so we can get our application work all done and approved by July 1st. There will be information and discussion times in the coming weeks. Some members of the Single Board will be available after church in Wesley Hall on March 26th. There will be a discussion session immediately following church service on April 2nd. We need to have our application work done in a timely manner so we are ready to go July 1st.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. followed by the Lord's Prayer and singing of the Doxology.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Gross, secretary

Financial Report as of February 28, 2023

01 General Fund

Expenses for February: \$20,397

Income for February: \$17,682

Balance for February: -\$2,715

Expenses year-to-date: \$40,684

Income year-to-date: \$34,716

Balance year-to-date: -\$5,968

Brick-by-Brick Remodeling Project:

Cash in hand on February 28, 2023:
\$87,169 (\$320 in donations in February; \$19,083 in expenses).

Commitments initially given but not

being honored: \$35,000

SERVING OUR CHURCH

April 2nd

8:30

Liturgist: Dave Gaskill
Scripture Reader: Carol Dighton
Children's Sermon: Zach Rogers
**Communion: Marilyn Feldmann, Evan Maifeld,
Wayne Birkenholz**

April 9th

Easter Sunday!

8:30

Liturgist: Jean Gross
Scripture Reader: Mark Reth
Children's Sermon: Kristin Milroy

April 16th

8:30

Liturgist: Kaci Reth
Scripture Reader: Julie Porter
Children's Sermon: Darla Gaskill

April 23rd

8:30

Liturgist: Darla Gaskill
Scripture Reader: Roger Mueller
Children's Sermon: Tom Fetter

April 30th

8:30

Contemporary Service
Children's Sermon: Terry Larson

Pianists & Music Coordinators:

Beth Mueller and Lynne Rasmussen
Piano/Organ Substitute: Duane Philgreen,
Mark Philgreen, Marianne Sandberg
Tech Team: Michael Stocks, Ruth Voshell

If you would like to be part of the
Serving Our Church Team
please contact

**Communion Server, Liturgist,
Scripture Reader, Children's Sermon:**

Jeff Larsen @ 927-5089 or
call the office @ 927-4439

Door Greeter:

Lori Snyder @ 920-6692

Tech Team:

Ruth Voshell & Michael Stocks
mumctechteam@gmail.com

Nursery:

Mary Jane Fetter @ 920-2006

Acolyte and Usher:

Lori Snyder @ 920-6692

Or

Sign up at the Welcome Center



Christ In the Passover

An Exploration of Passover, the Last Supper,
& Your Communion Experience

Please Join Us for a
Special Presentation from
Jews For Jesus

Manchester United Methodist Church
413 E Butler St.

**Wednesday, April 5th
at 6:15pm**

Indeed Christ, our Passover,
was sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep
the feast.

1 Corinthians 5:7-8

JEWS
FOR
JESUS[®]



Palm Sunday: April 2nd 8:30AM



Maundy Thursday: April 6th 7:00PM



Good Friday: April 7th 7:00PM



Easter Sunday : April 9th at 8:30AM



MUMC

March
2023

SCRIP NEWS

On February 19, the Scrip team presented two checks to the church for 2022 Sales.

\$1084.50 was presented to the education department from Fareway card sales

\$2500 was presented to the church from all other card sales.

Want something we don't have?
WE CAN ORDER IT!

Stop and see us each Sunday before or after service, or call the church office and talk to Kat!

To call in
563-927-4439

NEW CARDS AVAILABLE!

McDonalds
Burger King
Visa Gift Cards
Dollar Fresh
Bushel and a Peck

MISSIONS

Spring has finally arrived and we can look forward to the changes it brings. Soon lawns will be become green again and the trees will leaf out. It won't be long now until planning for the Garden of Hope begins. And while we wait for that time, our Food Pantry continues to used by many in our community. With the warmer temperatures, we can go back to placing canned goods in the pantry without the likelihood of freezing. Thank you to all who have provided products to the Food Pantry. Its success can be measured by how often its stores are used. In my estimation, we were turning over the contents 3-4 times per week last fall.

Here are the remaining first half Missions of the Month:

March/April—Heifer International

May/June—Paint by Neighbor

Speaking of Paint by Neighbor, this effort for 2023 is scheduled for the week of June 19th. This year we will host 10-15 youth (plus their chaperones) from the Altoona United Methodist Church. Zach Rogers is coordinating with their Youth Pastor, Logan, in working out the details of their time with us. We have identified at least 2 properties needing attention. More information will be forthcoming.

The Missions Team will be hosting a potluck brunch after services on Sunday, April 30th. We invite all to come for a meal and fellowship. Bring your favorite breakfast or lunch casserole to share. Particularly, we invite those who find it difficult to attend the 8:30 service. It's time for all of our church family to come together in one place at one time. Wouldn't you agree?

Blessings,

The Missions Team



It's time for a little spring cleaning!

Your church board has designated Saturday, April 1st at 9 o'clock as a church spring cleaning day. You can choose from a list what area of the church you would like to tackle and dig in. We thought it would be nice to have the church spruced up for Holy Week and Easter Sunday. If you can help please bring some cleaning supplies such as window cleaner, paper towels, furniture polish and a vacuum if you like. There are rags here that can be used if needed. See Jean Gross if you have any questions.

The Church Bathrooms

Work on the church bathrooms continues. Construction has begun on the downstairs bathroom earlier than expected because in order to fix the plumbing in the upstairs bathroom the downstairs bathrooms will be torn apart. Please note that the downstairs bathrooms as well as the bathroom in Wesley Hall will be available for use on Sunday for church but will look a little rough because of the construction process. **The upstairs bathrooms are not completely done but are now available for use.** Thank you for your patience.



The Face of Forgiveness

SMALL GROUPS

Would you like to join a small group?

Would you like to lead a small group?

Sign Ups are located in the Narthex for this year's Lenten Study. Our study began on March 5th. Group leaders please see Kat in the office to pick up your leader and student guides for the study.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Cheryl Syren.....4/02
- Norma Vande Vegte.....4/03
- Betty Brauer..... 4/04
- Julie Porter.....4/07
- Barb Davis.....4/08
- Kaci Tutton.....4/09
- Carol Dighton4/12
- Carolyn Mellody4/12
- Gary Feldmann.....4/18
- Donna Hankins.....4/20

Happy Anniversary

- Gary & Kathy Evarts4/04
- William & Donna Scanlan4/05
- Sam & Kristin Milroy.....4/12
- Jim & Julia Hopkins.....4/24
- Chris & Mary Jo Larsen4/25

FLOWER SIGN UP

Please sign up in the hallway to donate flowers for the altar. Please let Kat in the office know if there is a special occasion or in memory of a loved one.



Good Neighbor Home

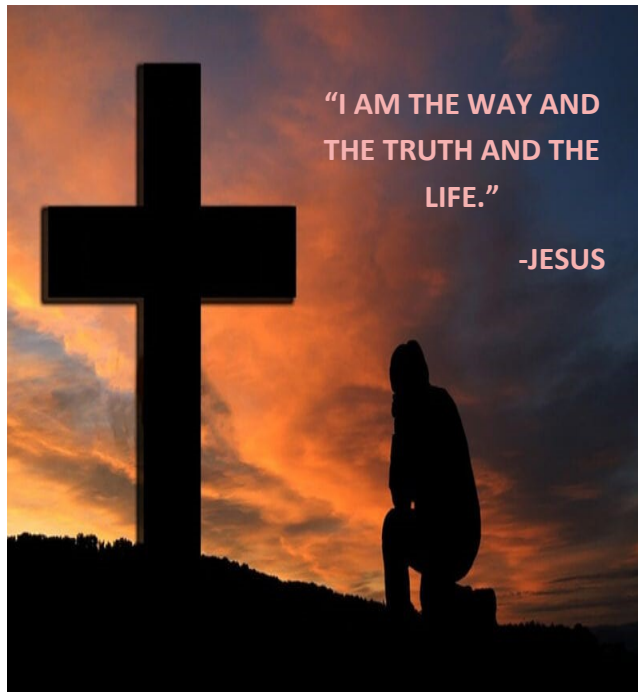
105 McCarren Drive, Manchester

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ROOM #</u>
Arlene Jones	
Karen Slife	#208
Jeane Taylor	
Delores Timmer	
Joe Vap	
Bill Welcher	





The Meadows

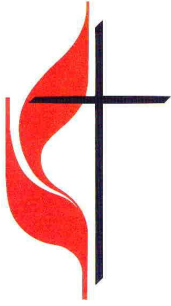
220 McCarren Drive, Manchester

Louise Reth	
John Tyrrell	109



Happy April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Service 8:30AM Fellowship 9:30AM Sunday School/Small Groups 9:45- 10:30Am	Second Helpings 4:30-5:30	April 19th CHIMES DEADLINE	WOW 5:30 Dinner 6:15 Worship 7:00 K-4thKids/Youth/ Small Groups	April Mission: Heifer International		1 8:00PM Community Meeting
	Clothing Closet Open 4:30-5:30 During Second Helpings		Clothing Closet Open 10:00pm to 2:00pm			8 8:00PM Community Meeting
2 Palm Sunday 	3	4	5 Jews for Jesus 	6 Maundy Thursday 	7 Good Friday 	8 8:00PM Community Meeting
9 Easter Sunday 	10 Second Helpings & Clothing Closet 4:30-5:30	11	12 WOW	13	14	15 8:00PM Community Meeting
16	17 Second Helpings & Clothing Closet 4:30-5:30	18	19 CHIMES DEADLINE	20	21	22 8:00PM Community Meeting
23	24 Second Helpings & Clothing Closet 4:30-5:30	25	26 WOW	27	28	29 8:00PM Community Meeting
30 OCC Bakesale Before and after service			Sunday, April 2: Brunch after service (Free Will Offering) to support the shoebox shipping costs! God Bless.			



Manchester United Methodist Church
413 E. Butler St.
Manchester, IA 52057-1612



Return Service Requested

TO _____

Office Hours

Monday & Wednesday

9:00am-5:00pm

Tuesday & Thursday

9:00am-3:00pm

Friday

Church is Closed

**We invite you to join us for
worship on Sunday mornings at 8:30am,
visit our website www.umcmanchester.com
Or listen to KMCH 94.7 at 6:00pm on
Sunday Nights**



The MUMC Chimes
Official Newsletter of the
Manchester United Methodist Church
413 E. Butler Street (563) 927-4439

The Ministry Team at MUMC includes:
The Entire Congregation
Reverend Phil Rogers
Secretary: Kat Rogers
Church Custodian:
Dennis Porter
Christian Education Director:
Mary Jane Fetter
Choir Director & Organist: Beth Mueller
& Lynne Rasmussen
Bell Choir Director: Beth Mueller
Mission Coordinator:
Wayne Birkenholz
Articles printed as submitted.

Prepared, printed and prepped-to-mail
at MUMC.

Please forward any new addresses to
the church at
413 E. Butler or call 563-927-4439
Thank you!