

# The Second Mile

The Newsletter of the First United Methodist Church of Marlette, Michigan

## Reflections and Refractions

Faith reflections arouse deep thanks to God and deep thanks to God's people. We remember and reflect on God's mighty acts of salvation through Jesus Christ. We remember and reflect on God's might acts of ministry through his Church.

This kind of reflection strengthens our faith. It produces more hope. And, it encourages us in God's love that endures forever. "We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Thessalonians 1:3)

Faith refractions stir up our faith, pointing to God's glorious and victorious future. This is the light of Christ shining through us sending forth rays of positive change. Refraction of light refers to change when it passes through a new or different medium.

We are God's chosen vessels to refract the light of Christ. It will surely bless us and absolutely change us. Jesus says we are the light of the world. (Matthew 5:14) As reflectors and refractors of Christ's light we are transformed; and we are God's change agents to transform the world.

God continues to provide; continues to bless; continues to equip us for the work of ministry. God has given us the keys to success in our faith journeys and our ministry together. We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. (Philippians 4:13) God does triumph over evil. God does give us the victory. Thanks be to God!

In my thanksgiving to God I repeat again and again my thanks for this church, for the love and support in our shared ministry; providing food to the hungry, assistance for shelter & utility bills; providing visits to the lonely, the sick, the imprisoned, the hospitalized; providing counsel to those in transition, encouragement to the discouraged and depressed, hope to the hurting and faith to the lost.

I repeat again and again variations of this prayer from Ephesians 3:14-19 that says, "For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Yes, the reflections kindle deep, deep thanks. And, the refractions kindle a great hope because they shine a great light. One shining example is "Teen Challenge Sunday" that was on Sunday December 18 when eleven guests from Mid-Michigan Teen Challenge joined us for worship and a Christmas dinner feast.

The testimonies of transformed lives and the effectiveness of this faith-based recovery ministry truly blessed us and enriched our lives. New bonds were formed; personal gift bags were shared. And, a generous love offering was given.

So, once more I say, "Thank you Lord God Almighty! Thank you Church!"

Always in Christ's love,

*Pastor Dave Mulder*



## **Food Pantry Bids Farewell to Judy Hostetler**

The Food Pantry provided many boxes of food for people at the December distribution.

Judy Hostetler prepared boxes which provided necessary groceries to prepare good meals. You would be proud of what our food pantry offers when compared to many pantries who pack the boxes with snacks and other less healthy foods.

Judy has announced her retirement from her volunteer job at the Food Pantry. December was her last distribution. She has worked the volunteer job for more than 10 years, establishing and organizing the Food Pantry distribution processes. Please thank her for her years of service. Heaven Sent is looking for a volunteer to take on this work. Call Gina Titus at 989-635- 0077 if you would consider this job.

## **Heaven Sent to Host Food Pantry Distribution on January 19th**

Volunteers from our church as well as other churches will meet at the Heaven Sent Community Ministries building on Main Street on Thursday January 19, 2017 for the regular distribution. If you would like to help with the distribution, show up at Heaven Sent at 4:30 that day.

Meanwhile the Second Chance Clothing Shoppe continues to operate from their building from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday and from 10-2 on Saturday.

Men, Women, boys and girls: Add to your winter wardrobe for the right price. Check out the selection; remember it changes all the time! Drop-offs can now be made at the back door. **NOTE: When the temperature drops to 10 degrees or lower, call the store (989-635-0077) to be sure it is open.**

Heaven Sent sponsors another food distribution on the last Saturday of the month at the VFW Hall Parking Lot

in Marlette. Your volunteer help would be most appreciated. Call Gina at 989-635- 0077 for details.

## **Job Assignments for a New Year**



### **Sunday, January 1, 2017**

*Greeters First:* Jack &

Dorothy Kelly

2nd: Jill & Jason Bell

*Ushers: 1st:* Tom Fritz

2nd: Brock Welshans, Tom & Tommy Skakle

*Nursery:* Amy King & Kyle Abbott

*Children s Church:* Cheryl Lewis and Grace Decker

### **Sunday, January 8, 2017**

*Greeters First:* Mary Lou Prowse

2nd: Rachel Bennett

*Ushers: 1st:* Ralph Hunt

2nd: Jason Bell and Mike Hutchens

*Nursery:* Kristie Seaman & Elizabeth Skakle

*Children s Church:* Byronna & Nicole Brydon

### **Sunday, January 15, 2017**

*Greeters First:* Jackie Reid

2nd: Mary Ann Fick

*Ushers: 1st:* Scott Bohms

2nd: Shane Kady, Gerald Foote & Ben King

*Nursery:* Marty and Hunter Kelly

*Children s Church:* Melissa Findlay & Emily Schaub

### **Sunday, January 22, 2017**

*Greeters First:* Inez Stephens

2nd: Nicole & Rod Friday

*Ushers: 1st:* Lon Dunsford

2nd: Dick Schell, James & Isaac Seaman

*Nursery:* Linda Bush and Hannah Skakle

*Children s Church:* Brock & Krissa Welshans

### **Sunday, January 29, 2017**

*Greeters First:* Orpha Thompson

2nd: Shari & Brian Hirsch

*Ushers: 1st:* Paul Dunsford

2nd: Pat Wilson, Don Potter & Tom Decker

*Nursery:* Kristy Naracon and Grace Decker

*Children s Church:* Cheryl Lewis

***If you cannot serve at the time assigned, please make arrangements for a sub or call the office by Wednesday before the Sunday assigned.***

## Prayers for Healing & Protection

### Avoiding winter weather

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN DECIDE TO MEET AGAIN IN APRIL

Minutes December 6, 2 216

Our meeting started about 11:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Present were Gerry Smith, Acting Chair, Betty Kiteley, Mary Ellen Linton, Elizabeth Snow, Cinda Nelson, Pastor Dave Mulder and Mary Ann Fick.

We started the meeting by signing Get-Well, Birthday and Christmas cards.

We had our Christmas dinner with lots of goodies.

After our dinner Gerry Smith gave a report of the money we donated to different charities. We are still collecting clothes for the Before K and Elementary at the Marlette Schools. We need shirts, sox, underwear and sweatpants sizes 4-12. A tote is in the Fellowship Hall for donations.

Judy Hostetler stopped by to report on the gifts she bought for the man and the woman who were picked at the City Hall Christmas tree drawing.



We received a thank-you for the money that the UMW gave in honor of Laura Brown, a faithful member of our church for years (pictured on right) for the remodeling project at the Hannah Wolfe Residence. Laura resides at that facility.

Gerry Smith reported 35 pairs of slippers and 50 quilts have been made by Helping Hands and delivered.

We played a mind-teasing game formatted from the Bible telling about Jesus and the birth of Christ.

Elizabeth Snow read a short article about the candy cane—what the shape meant along with what the red and white stripes mean.

Elizabeth closed the meeting with prayer.

NO MEETINGS in January, February or March. Our next scheduled meeting will be April 4, 2 2017 at 1 p.m.

- ✓ For Jill Thomas who continues to deal with health challenges and will soon be starting a new chemo treatment.
- ✓ For Chris Dost, Penny Ruchgy's sister-in-law, who is doing well after a short stay in the hospital.
- ✓ For Janet Wilson, daughter of Ila Cook, who is recovering from a heart attack. She later had to return to the hospital to deal with pneumonia. She is doing better now.
- ✓ For Florence Dunsford who continues to deal with health issues.
- ✓ For Gerry Smith who is recovering from foot surgery.
- ✓ For Tanya Hobson who is recovering from gall bladder surgery.
- ✓ For Viviene Huntoon who has returned to Marlette and is recovering from a broken hip. She is currently living in a home called a *Touch of Love* near Imlay City and receiving good care. Her address is 1776 Brown City Rd., Imlay City, MI 48444 and she would love to hear from her church family.
- ✓ For Don Phillips who is now living at the Sanilac Medical Care Facility in Sandusky.
- ✓ For Ken Linton who continues to have health problems. Hospice is providing home health services.
- ✓ For Hortensia Prince, Cindy Elias mother, who has health issues and is on dialysis
- ✓ For Carol Sarles, Rodney Friday's aunt who is fighting cancer.
- ✓ For Katelyn Smith, a half-sister of Jill Bell & Sarah Kady, who was diagnosed with cervical cancer.
- ✓ For Marilyn Witucki & Mike Southall; Grant Wilson's sister Marilyn and Jan's brother Mike are battling cancer.
- ✓ For Ryan Rich who has health concerns.
- ✓ For Lori Nicol who continues to deal with health issues.
- ✓ For John Mulder, Pastor Dave's brother, who continues to wait for a double lung transplant.
- ✓ For Patty Tatgenthorst who continues to deal with health concerns.
- ✓ For Jane Grant who continues to reside in Sandusky at the Medical Care Facility.

25455, Seattle, WA 98165 with the memo "Atkins Vehicle", or online at [www.JasonAndEmilyAtkins.com/car](http://www.JasonAndEmilyAtkins.com/car)

### The Atkins Family

## Our Missionaries to Guinea-Bissau



### Need Some Newer Wheels

6 years 22,573 miles 3 wheel bearings 1 blown strut Thousands of pot holes 3 flat tires 2 plank bridges crossed 3 sets of brake pads 1 evacuation Hundreds of speed bumps A lot of ministry
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Our trusty 2003 Explorer has served us (mostly) well for the past six years! Being mobile to source material, move equipment, visit other missionaries, and go to job sites magnifies what we're able to accomplish during our time in Guinea-Bissau.

However, after all of the bumps, jolts, and fluctuations between sappy humidity and dry heat, maintenance is becoming a bigger issue. With our move to Canchungo, we're also doing a lot more driving on bad roads in the middle of nowhere, and the Explorer has left us on the side of the road a few times too many.

In addition, being in a more rural setting has spread the geography of the projects we're involved in quite a bit, and increased the importance of being able to get around reliably.

We've been mulling over this change for more than a year, and are hopeful we can switch to a younger vehicle with some more capacity. We expect the difference between selling the Explorer here and buying, outfitting, shipping, and importing a newer more capable truck from the USA to cost about \$11,000.

If you would like to make a special donation toward this need, checks can be sent to WAVS, P. O. Box

### Prayers of Thanksgiving

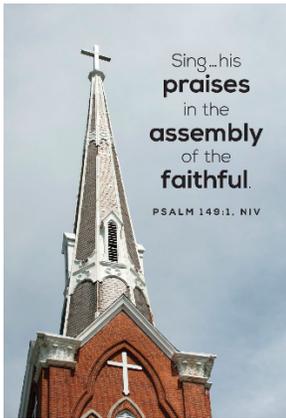
- ✓ For the donation in honor of Laura Brown to the Hannah Wolfe Residence Remodeling Project by the United Methodist Women.
- ✓ For the kids who did such a great job on their performance of *Sing a Song of Christmas!*
- ✓ The Linton family would like to thank their church family for all the cards, calls and support they have received during Ken's illness and recuperation. They would like to thank Kim Schell and her class for the special card the kids made and signed. God bless!
- ✓ For Priscilla Foote who directed the kids' performances.
- ✓ The church thanks Rod & Connie Armstrong for their donation to the church in honor of Gordon Pabst. Rod was a student of Gordon's as well as one of his faithful workers.
- ✓ For Dan and Suzie Potter who gave an excellent lesson on the keys to the New Year on New Year's Day.

### Prayers of Condolence

- ✓ For the family of Grace Gehring, Pastor Jack's sister, who passed away earlier this month.
- ✓ For the family of Lois June Thompson, Amy King's grandmother, who passed away this month
- ✓ For the family of Jerry Solgat; Jerry passed away at 53 December 13<sup>th</sup>; Jerry was the husband of Susan (McLaren) Solgat, a Marlette teacher

### Additional Prayers

- ✓ For Ruth Wilson, Joe Watson's mother-in-law, who fell and broke her hip while visiting the Watsons in Grand Rapids. She has had surgery and is recovering there.
- ✓ For Pastor Dave who continues to recover from an eye infection.



# That Was the Year that Was!

## Church Events-

### How many did you attend?

- Monthly Free Community Lunch in Fellowship Hall
- Weekly Small Groups in various homes
- Weekly Sunday School for all ages
- Weekly Sunday Worship Services at 9 and 10:45
- Weekly Prayer Services on Tuesday Nights
- Weekly CLC (Christian Life Club) on Wednesday nights
- Weekly Mid-Week Meal
- Weekly Men of Emmaus reunion group
- Off Campus Worship Services at Hannah Wolfe Residence, Extended Care Facility, Sanilac County Medical Care and Meadow Ridge.
- UMW Annual Harvest Dinner
- Carrying the Cross from Pastor Mike's church to ours at Easter
- Ladies' Luncheon featuring Wheeler Trunk
- Concert on the Lawn featuring Cool Lemon Jazz
- Happy Birthday Concert featuring Marlette All Stars
- Special Blue Grass Concert with Krissa Welshans & Kyle Thom
- Christmas Shoebox Program for kids in foreign lands (We sent 70+)
- Two Crafters' Palooza events
- Two Women's Retreats
- Gideon Speaker at worship service
- Mid-Michigan Teen Challenge at worship service
- Cring and Clazzy special program at worship service

**2016**

## Births

*We celebrate the new lives added to our church family this year. Keep these little ones in your prayers. Each of these was mentioned in an earlier prayer sheet. We regret an unintentional omissions.*

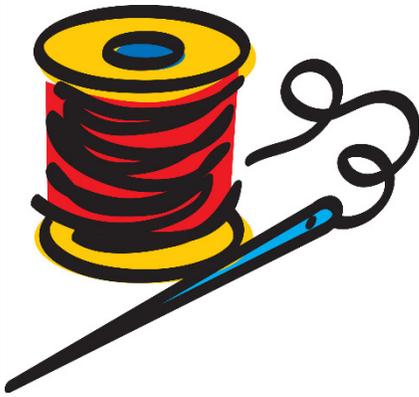
- Harper Hines, granddaughter of Christy Hines
- **Celeste Howard, daughter of Alijah & Miranda**
- **Bradley Meyer, son of Stephanie & Ryan**
- Barrett Bloor, grandson of John & Jan
- Blake Carlson, grandson of Brad & Mary Guilds
- Jameson Thom, nephew of Krissa & Brock Welshans
- River Austin Ball, grandson of Butch & Marlene Kolomak
- Maddox Welke, granddaughter of Duane & Sue Lange
- Taylor and Gaven Stone, twin great- grandchildren of Paul and Florence Dunsford
- Haley and Henry Smaglinski, twin great grandchildren of Don Phillips

## Deaths

*Please keep the families of the following in your thoughts and prayers. Each of these was mentioned in an earlier prayer sheet. We regret an unintentional omissions.*

- Joanne Bartelt, Blue Water District Superintendent of UMC
- Phyllis Blatt, Chris Bell's mother
- **Jim Brydon, Sue's husband**
- Elaine Collins, former member of UMC
- Jim Fleming, Linda Warner's father

- Delores Haag, member of UMC
- **Karren Harneck, member of UMC**
- Ron Harneck, former member of UMC, brother to Karren
- Kim Hunt, daughter of Ralph and Cheryl
- Jerry Marshall, husband of Janet, grandfather of Justin
- **Justin Marshall, member of UMC**
- **Joyce Nicol, wife of Carl**
- **Delbert Potrykus,** significant other of Jane Grant
- Harold Titus, father of Pastor Chris Titus
- Ruth Howard's sister Joanne
- Ken Morgan, Kay Severson's uncle
- Frank Bliss, Norm's brother
- Jerry Solgat, Susan's husband
- June Thompson, Amy King's grandmother
- Dennis Chard, Lindy Starr's father-in-law
- Margie Hoig, neighbor and special friend of the Dunsfords
- Terry Hudson, Judy's husband
- Frankie Jickling, Charlotte Turner's mother
- Florene Abraham, Pat Leveille's mother
- Jeremy Johnson, Russ and Bonnie Liebler's nephew
- Bonnie Vennenay, Arvilla Hobson's sister
- Paul Appel, Joel's father
- Ralph Schultz, former member UMC
- Richard Heintz, Ace's (George's) brother
- Evelyn Kraft, former florist for UMC
- **Robert Fick,** Mary Ann's son
- Grace Gehring, Pastor Jack Allan's sister



### Helping Hands

will meet this **Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>** from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. for a special work day sewing **pillowcases for Eva's Place**. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. If you are willing to help, please join us.

Bring along any fabric of a yard or more which you are willing to donate. See Gerry Smith with questions. We will plan to make soup for lunch; please bring something to add to the soup pot!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*\*\*\*\*The *Upper Room* for January/February is on the window sill in the Sanctuary or on the table in the Fellowship Hall. Please help yourself and take a copy for family or friends. The *Upper Room* is available in large print also at the same locations.

\*\*\*\*\*Our Methodist youth group is planning to raise funds to gift kids in foreign lands with a goat or other animal which will combat hunger. You can help by donating your empty cans and bottles. They can be left at the church office or given to Kyle Abbott.

\*\*\*\*\*If you are baking cookies for the family, why not bake a couple dozen for the church fellowship time next Sunday? Let Linda Warner know if this works for you!

\*\*\*\*\*Viviene Huntoon would love to hear from her church family. She is now living at 1776 Brown City Rd., Imlay City, MI 48444.

\*\*\*\*\*If you would be willing receive your church giving statement for 2016 by e-mail, saving the church the postage, please call Gerry Smith, our church treasurer, at 989-274-6795.

\*\*\*\*\*Your church envelopes for giving for 2017 are on table in the Fellowship Hall; please pick yours up.

\*\*\*\*\*The Administrative Board is scheduled to meet on Monday, January 16 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone interested in the business of the church is welcome to attend.

\*\*\*\*\*The United Methodist Women will not meet in January. Their next regularly scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, April 4, 2017.

\*\*\*\*\*The Mid-Week meal will be served on Wednesday this week at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All are invited to dine with us. CLC (Christian

Life Club) will meet a 6:30 p.m.. Let your kids know and we'll see you and them there!

\*\*\*\*\*Attention Men: You are invited to a Men's Breakfast at the Imlay City Reformed Church on Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m. Tom Harmon will be the guest speaker. See poster at the Kilgour Street entrance for details.

\*\*\*\*\*Attention Crafters: The next Crafters' Palooza will be in our Fellowship Hall on Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Make an opportunity to finish that project (whether it be quilting, sewing, knitting, scrapbooking or whatever) and set aside that day for fun, fellowship, snacks and some work too. See Linda Warner or call her at 989-635-3336 with questions. Registration form is printed below.

## Crafters Palooza

Free Lunch and Smart Snacks Fundraising Event

**Saturday, February 18, 2017 9 a.m.-9 p.m.**

\$25 for ALL DAY Saturday

Fee Includes: **8' Table, Meals, Snacks, Beverages, Prizes and MORE!**

Marlette First United Methodist Church  
3155 Main Street  
Marlette, MI 48453

All Crafters Welcome!

Room for scrapbooking, quilting, sewing, knitting, etc.  
Plenty of food and fellowship available

Please make checks payable to:  
Marlette UMC

Mail Registration to  
**Linda Warner**  
**2739 Applegate Road**  
**Marlette, MI 48453**

\_\_\_\_\_ *cut here*

Please complete registration form and mail with fee

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Individual(s) you wish to be seated with:

\_\_\_\_\_

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> NEW YEAR'S DAY 10 a.m. One Service	<b>2</b> 7 p.m. SG @ Wayne & Chris Bell's 7 p.m. Trustees @ FH	<b>3</b> 9:30 a.m. Helping Hands in FH NO UMW IN JANUARY 7 p.m. Little Women 7 p.m. Prayer Service @ Church	<b>4</b> 6:30 a.m. Promise Keepers 5:30 p.m. Mid Week Meal 6:00 p.m. CLC	<b>5</b> 7 p.m. AA in basement 7 p.m. SG @ Tapson's	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9 a.m. Traditional Worship 10 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship	<b>9</b> 7 p.m. SG @ Wayne & Chris Bell's	<b>10</b> 10 a.m. Helping Hands Work day with lunch in FH 7 p.m. Little Women 7 p.m. Prayer Service @ Church	<b>11</b> 6:30 a.m. Promise Keepers 5:30 p.m. Mid Week Meal 6:00 p.m. CLC	<b>12</b> 7 p.m. AA in basement 7 p.m. SG @ Tapson's	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9 a.m. Traditional Worship 10 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship	<b>16</b> 7 p.m. SG @ Wayne & Chris Bell's 7 p.m. Ad Board meetin in FH	<b>17</b> 9:30 a.m. Helping Hands in FH 2 p.m. Worship Service @ Hannah Wolfe 7 p.m. Prayer Service @ Church 7 p.m. Little Women	<b>18</b> 6:30 a.m. Promise Keepers 2 p.m. Worship Sersvice @ Sanilac Medical Care 5:30 p.m. Mid Week Meal 6:00 p.m. CLC	<b>19</b> 5-6 p.m. Food Pantry Districution @ HS 7 p.m. AA in basement 7 p.m. SG @ Tapson's	<b>20</b> 6-9:30 p.m. Cub Scouts in FH	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9 a.m. Traditional Worship 10 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship	<b>23</b> 7 p.m. SG @ Wayne & Chris Bell's 7:30 p.m. Memorial Committee in FH	<b>24</b> 9:30 a.m. Helping Hands in FH 7 p.m. Little Women 7 p.m. Prayer Service @ Church	<b>25</b> 6:30 a.m. Promise Keepers 5:30 p.m. Mid Week Meal 6:00 p.m. CLC	<b>26</b> 7 p.m. AA in basement 7 p.m. SG @ Tapson's	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9 a.m. Traditional Worship 10 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship	<b>30</b> 7 p.m. SG @ Wayne & Chris Bell's	<b>31</b> 9:30 a.m. Helping Hands in FH 7 p.m. Little Women 7 p.m. Prayer Service @ Church	<b>Notes:CLC=Christian Life Club, SG= Small Group, FH=Fellowship Hall, HS=Heaven Sent, UMW=United Methodist Women, AA=Alcoholics Anonymous</b>			