



August 2022 - Newsletter

Coldwater United Methodist Church

Pastor's Ponderings *Pastor Scott Marsh*

In 2006 Charles Robert IV broke into an Amish school in Lancaster, PN and killed 5 children, he then turned the gun on himself and ended his own life. Perhaps you remember this, or maybe its all awash in the numerous other school shootings since then (there has been 332 since this 2006 incident by the way). As someone who grew up with bomb threats and school shootings, including a shooter in my home school system where a young man ended his own life in my middle school hallway in 1998 with a rifle, I think its important to continue to seek a way to better care for our children/young people in the midst of this chronic crisis.

I know very well that addressing gun violence is complicated. I know that many members of our congregation likely own guns or have some sort of connection to them. I know we all have different solutions to how we think it should be addressed. I know it's sad and depressing and hard to talk about this stuff because as gun violence continues to happen we are continually faced with the what ifs. What if this would happen here, in our schools, to our kids? What if someone would come into my church, my work, my theater? The "what ifs" can be demoralizing, they can keep us from living due to fear... But I also know that this will continue to happen unless we collectively focus on ways to stop it. For me, and the prophets, this work is done partly through judgement, lament, and restoration.

The Bible is no stranger to pain, anger, grief, or any emotion for that matter. Our scripture carries with it the fullness of humanity and taken with a grain or two of context can still guide us through the darkest valley. Don't believe me? Check out the Psalms, these alone express a variety of emotions and situations that we are still experiencing thousands of years after being written. Betrayal, loss, trust, assurance; you name it the Psalms likely have it. But is goes further, read the prophets, there you can find figures who are sick and tired of being sick and tired, folks with a sharp tongue and a calling from God to use it. They speak of society ills, ways in which we have fallen off the beaten path and ceased construction of God's Kingdom for man's pride, jealousy and greed.

One of these prophet is Micah. You may know Micah for the famous verses 4:3 "...they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks" or maybe 6:8 "... what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?". Both of these are great verses, but Micah has so much more to offer us. This is

why I'm going to be leading a Bible study on the book of Micah through the month of August with a focus on gun violence.

We will use the book of Micah to guide folks through a five week study on gun violence and lament. This will be a study that that doesn't seek conformity of feelings or opinions about what actions we need to take to end gun violence but one where the skills are given to express these feelings and opinions through a prophetic lens. Over the course of five weeks we will learn the context of Micah, learn the structuring of Biblical lament, hear Micah's judgement and call to justice, and end the study by beating guns into garden tools. That's right, you read that right, beating or modern swords into modern plowshares.

I hope you can join me for this study and I hope that we can all agree that ending this needless violence is needed for the kingdom Christ calls us to build. A sign up sheet for this study will be in the Narthex on the "sign up board". There will be three study times available (Sun noon, Tues 6 pm, Wed 1 pm) and multiply sessions can be offered if interest is shown. A light meal will be provide at each.

May these prophetic words guide our feet,

Pastor Scott Marsh

Connect with Us

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<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRGbDaBqke3ctmHq1ctf37w>

****The Church doors** are scheduled to be open 15 minutes before the start of each service and 15 minutes after the start of each service for safety reasons. Please plan accordingly.

Service Times & Church Office Hours

Service Times

9:00 am Classic service
10:30 am Casual service

*No children's Sunday school until Sept.

Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday
9:00 am — 3:00 pm

"Special" One-Service Sundays

September 25 Service with our Neighbors
& Stewardship Kick-Off

December 11 Christmas Cantata/
Christmas Music Special

"Mark Your Calendars"

School is just around the corner

Giving Sundays

October 2 – World Communion Sunday

- *Together, we enable national and international graduate students to change the world.*

November 27 – United Methodist Student Day

- *Together, we educate students so they can make a difference in the world.*

Nurse's Notes

Being a pollen allergy sufferer, I have been wondering why I felt so lousy this summer. Then I wondered if it was because of the weather that we have been experiencing. I found out that's exactly why my allergies are so bad this year. Climate change is probably the culprit!

The warming temperatures are allowing the plants and trees to pollinate earlier and continue for longer periods. Experts say to blame this on climate change. The elevated temperatures produce more pollen and the sticky particles that cause our eyes to itch and our noses to run has started sooner and last longer.

According to Kathleen Slonager, the executive director of the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America's Michigan chapter, states that more folks are complaining

about allergies this and last year than ever before.

Almost 60 million Americans suffer from allergies. This is when the allergen (pollen) triggers an immune response. Unfortunately, there's no cure. For relief most allergy sufferers result to over-counter medicine or immune-boosting shots.

As it gets hotter, and spring comes sooner and pollen-producing plants flower earlier and longer it makes for longer opportunities for pollen to get into the air and into our noses.

Yingxiao Zhang, a University of Michigan graduate student, authored a study that linked a longer allergy season to climate change.

In her study, she found that over the past 30 years, pollination production over North America has increased by 31 percent. Wow! Zhang concluded her study that pollen emissions could begin 40 days earlier by the end of the century. This conclusion was made because there is a correlation between intense pollen production and warming temperatures.

Michigan has three allergy phases. March trees start pollinating. May grass begins its pollination cycle then in July the weeds start their pollination and lasts into November. Soon allergy season will encompass the whole year.

My sympathy goes out to all my fellow allergy sufferers. Unfortunately, there is no end in sight to our suffering.

Resource: bridgemi.com

Next blood pressure check, Aug. 21st.

*Keep healthy!
Lana Hunter, R.N.*

Groups

All God's Children meets on the first Monday of each month at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please come and find out what we are all about. Please bring a friend.

Faith & Food - A Bible Study for those in their 20's, 30's & 40's—The group is now meeting on the first and third Wednesdays monthly from 6:00-7:15 pm.

Committee News

The UMW will be meeting on Wednesday, August 17th at 1:30 pm. Our program will track our heritage of United Methodist Women.

Announcements and Updates

Financial Secretary Needed @ Coldwater UMC—Coldwater UMC is seeking someone to serve in the leadership role of Financial Secretary. This volunteer position keeps track of individual, family and organization giving to Coldwater United Methodist Church and oversees the Teller Teams. An ideal candidate for this leadership position is organized, can keep confidences and is willing to learn our Shepherd Staff tracking software. If you are interested, please contact the office. Please pray about it if you possess these gifts.

We will be collecting school supplies thru the month of August. Backpacks, pens,

pencils, crayons, markers, paper, glue sticks, erasers, sharpeners, etc. You may also include individual healthy snacks to be added to backpacks. Thank you, Backpack Buddies, (Cindy Stevens)



Accessing Amplify Media

Here is how to access Amplify Media:

- Go to my.amplifymedia.com
- Find the person icon on the far right and click on it.
- You will see a drop-down menu. Click on "Enter Access Code"
- Once you get to that page, input our Congregation Access Code which is YMDBXS and click on "Verify."
- From there, you will input your information and set up your account.

Amplify Media offers a variety of video studies for all ages to grow in faith and understanding of God. Once you have an account, you can access Amplify Media from a computer, smartphone, tablet or smart tv. If you need help setting up your free account, please contact the church office and someone will assist you.

M&M workers and guests:

I understand there's some confusion.

- Because St Marks has changed their meal and to provide more variety to our dinners we have rearranged some of our meals.
- The **TEAMS** have **not** changed even if what we are serving has changed.
- Schedules are in the kitchen and on the tables.

Feel free to call if you have any questions.
Thanks.

Sharon Shenefield 517-617-4643

MARY AND MARTHA help wanted:

Looking for a co-leader for one of our teams. **Hours:** Thursday afternoons once every seven weeks. **Pay:** lots of happy people, gratitude from the M & M team and a free meal. Apply to Tom 517.227.6311; Sharon 517.617.4643

Beginning Sunday, July 31, baby bottles will be set up for Beginnings Care for Life Center baby bottle campaign in the Narthax. Bottles will be collected through the end of August. See Bev Zeluff for more information.

Judgement, Lamentation and Restoration in the book of Micah: A study on gun violence and our faithful response. Get to know our new pastor and help him with his ordination process by participating in a 4 weeklong bible study on the book of Micah. Participants will gain an understanding of the judgement made in Micah, be guided through a process of lament surrounding gun violence and discover the restoration possible through God's call to justice. Dive into this rich prophetic word and see the real-world implications of this living faith.

Sign up outside of Friend's Place. Session options are Sundays at 12 noon; Tuesdays at 6 pm; and Wednesdays at 1 pm. A light meal will be provided.

Study dates are as follows:

- Tuesdays, August 2, 9, 16, 23
- Wednesdays, August 3, 10, 17, 24
- Sundays, August 7, 14, 21, 28

Mary & Martha Menu

4-Aug	Pulled Pork Sandwiches
11-Aug	Spaghetti
18-Aug	Chicken & Noodles
25-Aug	Pork BBQ
4-Aug	Pulled Pork Sandwiches



Prayer List

Annette
Jean Brayton
Kenneth & Phyllis Briggs
Barbara Burkhardt
Ann Carlisle
Tom Clark
Danny Davis
Mike Davis
Nelda Frederick
Nikki Fullbright
Rich & Jan Johnson
Lisa H.
Kim K.
Henrietta Kerkstra
Cathy Marbaugh
Cindy Paul
Jenna Purdy
Ann Smoker
Ashley Wilcox
*Those diagnosed with COVID-19
*Our leaders, our nation, our world



Vacation Bible School Thank You

The 2022 Food Truck Party ran from July 17-21 and welcomed 23 children with over 20 volunteers! The event wouldn't have been successful without the help from so many members of this church as well as Girard UMC. Thank you to everyone who helped provide this fun and faith building experience to the children of our church and community!

Ally Aker	Beth Karney
Jack Aker	Christine King
Kaesynt Butler	Amanda Malefyt
Michele Broughman	Pastor Scott Marsh
Chelsea Edwards	Alyssa Miller
Sailor Fraley	Emily Parshall
Pat Furney	Becky Pridgeon
Beth Griggs (& brothers)	Abby Robison
Marge Harris	Tracy Rowland
Lana Hunter	Alexis Shenefield
Heather Hyliard	





Liturgical Holidays 2022

September 11 Back to School Sunday
October 16 Laity Sunday
November 6 All Saints Sunday
November 27 First Sunday in Advent
December 18 Blue Christmas
December 24 Christmas Eve

Birthdays & Anniversaries

1st Dorothy Young
3rd Iva Dart
6th Ron Bercaw
Katy Lenhardt
Janet Treacher
Chris & Suzanne Allen
Jerry & Sandra Brown
9th James Robison
11th Rick Furney
14th Peter Malefyt
16th Travis Vorce
18th David Kahler
21st Jessie Lillis
22nd Amanda Malefyt
25th Philip Furney
Joan Schafer
Krista Searls
Hayley Wuori
26th Alan O'Leary
30th Leo Marsh
Haley Robison
Beverly Zeluff
Heath & Theresa Gillette
31st Julie Nelson
Casey Putnam

August 2022



July '22							September '22						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2					1	2	3
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31													

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 12:30 pm Prayer Group 6:30 pm All God's Children	2 6 pm Study in Micah	3 <i>Bulletin Deadline</i> 1 pm Study in Micah	4 7:00 am Rotary 4:00 pm M&M Diner	5 <i>Church Offices Closed</i> 10 am Knit Wits 6 pm Kids Safe Space	6
7 <i>Communion</i> 9am Classic Service 10:30 am Casual Service 12 pm Study in Micah	8 12:30 pm Prayer Group	9 6 pm Study in Micah	10 <i>Bulletin Deadline</i> 1 pm Study in Micah 6:00 pm Faith & Food	11 7:00 am Rotary 4:00 pm M&M Diner 6:30 pm Trustees Mtg	12 <i>Church Offices Closed</i> 10 am Knit Wits 6 pm Kids Safe Space	13
14 9am Classic Service 10:30 am Casual Service 12 pm Study in Micah	15 12:30 Prayer Group 6:30 pm Care & Outreach	16 6:00 pm Finance Meeting 7:00 pm Admin Council Mtg 6 pm Study in Micah	17 <i>Bulletin Deadline</i> 1 pm Study in Micah 1:30 pm UMW Meeting	18 7:00 am Rotary 4:00 pm M&M Diner	19 <i>Church Offices Closed</i> 10 am Knit Wits 10:30 am SERA 6 pm Kids Safe Space	20 10:00 am Worship Mtg
21 <i>Blood Pressure Cks</i> 9am Classic Service 10:30 am Casual Service 12 pm Study in Micah	22 12:30 Prayer Group	23 6 pm Study in Micah	24 <i>Bulletin Deadline</i> 1 pm Study in Micah 6:00 pm Faith & Food	25 <i>Newsletter Deadlin</i> 7:00 am Rotary 4:00 pm M&M Diner	26 <i>Church Offices Closed</i> 10 am Knit Wits 6 pm Kids Safe Space	27
28 9am Classic Service 10:30 am Casual Service 12 pm Study in Micah	29 12:30 pm Prayer Group	30	31 6:00 pm Education Mtg	1	2	3
4	5	Notes				



Coldwater United Methodist Church
 For the most current information view our online church calendar at
www.coldwaterum.org

