

The Methodist Message



2025

Pastor's Page.....

Till the Storm Passes By Mosie Lister

*In the dark of the midnight have I oft hid my face.
While the storm howls above me, and there's no hiding place.
"Mid the crash of the thunder, Precious Lord, hear me cry,
Keep me safe till the storm passes by.*

*CHORUS: Till the storm passes over, till the thunder sounds no more,
Till the clouds roll forever from the sky;
Hold me fast, let me stand in the hollow of Thy hand,
Keep me safe till the storm passes by.*

*Many times Satan whispered, "There's no need to try,
For there's no end of sorrow, there's no hope by and by"
But I know Thou art with me, and tomorrow I'll rise
Where the storms never darken the skies.*

*When the long night has ended and the storms come no more,
Let me stand in Thy presence on the bright peaceful shore;
In that land where the tempest, never comes, Lord, may I
Dwell with Thee when the storm passes by.*

That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, "Let us go over to the other side." Leaving the crowd behind they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"

He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!" (Mark 4)

INSIGHT

The story of Jesus calming the storm in Mark 4: 35-41 is the first in a series of four miracles in chapters 4-5 that demonstrate Christ's power. In stilling the sea, He demonstrates His power over the chaos of nature. The disciples ask, "Don't you care if we drown?" (4:38). Jesus' calming of the storm is a concession to their doubt. (v.40)

But the next three miracles show that Christ does, indeed care for the plight of the hurting, the desperate, and the grieving. He demonstrates His authority over demons (5: 1-20), over illness (vv 21-34), and over death itself (vv.35-43). He expends His power not to gain influence or fame but to serve those who are suffering. Jesus' miracles point to the future, where one day, fear and pain will completely disappear. When we face difficulties and trials today, we can trust His same power and presence to help us.



CALMING THE STORM (Continued from Page 1)

My three-year-old niece is beginning to understand that she can trust Jesus in any situation. As she prayed before bedtime during a thunderstorm, she closed her eyes, and said, “Dear Jesus, I know You’re here with us. I know You love us. And I know that the storm will stop when You tell it to stop.”

She had recently heard the story of Jesus and the disciples as they crossed the sea of Galilee. It’s the one where Jesus fell asleep in the back of the boat just before a squall nearly capsized the vessel. The disciples woke Him and said, “Don’t you care if we drown?” Jesus didn’t speak to them but instead addressed the natural world: “Quiet! Be still!”

Immediately the water stoppled splashing into the boat. The howling wind subsided. There in the silence, Jesus looked at His followers and said, “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?” What if we could live with the awe the disciples felt? What if we could view every concern with a fresh awareness of Jesus’ authority and power? Maybe then our childlike faith would chase away our fear. Maybe then we would believe that each storm we face is at God’s mercy.

-Jennifer Benson Schuldt

-adapted from October 2025, Our Daily Bread

Love in Christ,

Pastor Billie Lou



The **Book Club** will meet on October 22 at 2pm to discuss their next book choice: “Tom Lake” by Ann Patchette. The Book Club meets on the lower level (elevator) at the St. Louis facility and is open to the public. A couple copies will be made available at both churches to share. If you choose to use one of the shared copies, please read it as quickly as you can and then bring it back so someone else can use it. Be prepared to discuss your thoughts at the meeting. Bring a new friend!



United
Women
in Faith

Dear Friends,

Fall is near! It doesn’t seem possible with the high temperatures of August, but cooler days will soon replace the warm. With that comes the completion of summer activities. Our class reunion dinners are done with the St. Louis Class of 1960/61 on August 6th. Thank you Brenda Siefka, Kay Clark, Connie Clarke, Nancy Hodges and to those who furnished cake; Brenda, Nancy and Eric Johnson. We had a small but very efficient group and it was a success!

The ladies have one more Sandwich Supper in September to finish our rotation with the “Soup Group” for the fourth Tuesday drive thru meal. September is also filled with a general business meeting, a memorial luncheon and Special Sunday honoring United Women in Faith. The UWIF Sunday is September 21st. It is also Brunch Sunday with the ladies hosting...so plan on attending. It will be a fun time!

Please mark your calendars:

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| September 3 | General Business Meeting @ 9:30 AM , Carrie Knause Circle hosts |
| September 13 | Memorial luncheon for James Farrough @ Noon —Carrie Knause Circle |
| September 21 | United Women in Faith Sunday, followed by brunch |
| September 29 | Sandwich Supper—Dorcas Circle |

Blessings,
Sue



CHRISTIAN TOOLS FOR LESSONING ANXIETY & FEAR

A FEW WEEKS AGO Pastor shared “tools” that she uses to lesson or eliminate anxiety and fear on her Christian walk... prayerfully they’ll work for you too...

- 1) **Read and Study God’s Word** for yourself... if you need a Bible, Pastor has one you may have or will help you purchase a study Bible that will meet your needs
- 2) Spend time with God in **Prayer**... find a prayer partner (someone you can confide in) — join the One call Prayer Chain— share your prayer needs with the Prayer Chain
- 3) Use the **Breath Prayers**... “Jesus in... (hole your breath) Garbage out.” It may only take a few breaths before you feel calm, but keep breathing in and out as long as you need to.
- 4) Use “**Visual Prayers**.” In your mind “draw a picture” of where you’d like to meet Jesus for His reassurance... the beach, golf course, farm field, garden, kitchen, rocking chair, etc. Go to your place of peace and talk with Jesus and listen.
- 5) Listen to **Christian music**. On the radio, in your car, cd’s, tapes, etc. turn off the media of the world: TV, phone, etc.
6. Get involved in **helping others**. Volunteer at church and in the community. Get “beyond” yourself
7. Spend time in **quiet meditation**. Use a devotional. Just be quiet and listen for God.
8. Sleep, get **extra rest**. Eat healthy.
9. **Be patient**... with yourself... with others.

LAY LEADERSHIP TEAMS (FORMERLY Nominations) WILL BE MEETING SOON...

The Lay Leadership Teams from both congregations will be meeting to pray about and look for those in the church family that they believe God is calling to lead each church in 2026. The teams will be looking at whether a person is active on a regular basis in worship, ministry opportunities and small groups. Leaders must be regularly involved in the life of the church to be an elected leader. Some tasks require persons to be members of the church, others do not. If you get a call from one of the Lay Leadership team, prayerfully consider whether God is calling you to serve this coming year.

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Here’s a list of some of the small group ministry opportunities that need your unique gifts and talents... please find a place to be involved... God is calling YOU!

Writing Notes, Making Visits, Soup/Sandwich Supper, BHMW Food Pantry, Personal Needs Pantry, Adult Study, Usher/Greeter, Clean Up crew, Handbells, Choir or musical group, 5th Quarter, Church Full ‘O Treats, Homecoming Tailgate Party, United Women in Faith, Young at Heart Always fellowship, Art & Music Camp, Health Care Team, Matthew 25, Lending Library, Decorating the facility, Fellowship and/or Brunch Host, Creating Prayer Shawls, Advent/Christmas Family Day, Weekender Bags for Kids, Funeral Dinners, Audio Visuals, Library, Kids Church, Village and City holiday Parades, decorating a fall light pole, Financial Counters, One Call Prayer Chain team, watering flowers, shoveling snow, mowing grass, trimming bushes. You can probably think of other ways to be involved—you are needed!



September Birthdays



2. Sharon Howie
3. Matthew Ruszkowski
5. Bill Rohn
7. Ted Sherwood
12. Colton Shelley
14. Lynn Matthews
30. Diane Colbry

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Kevin & Sheri Murphy— Sept 7, 1985
 Ray & Karen Rohn—Sept 8, 1972
 Jim & Paula Brown—Sept 12, 2020
 Randy & Cheryl Reeves—Sept 27, 2008
 Ken & Nancy Federspiel—Sept 28, 2019

COMING UP @ BUMC

Fri. Sept. 5	8-11pm	5th Quarter
Sun. Sept. 7		Health Care Team
Thur. Sept. 11	noon	Y.A.H.A.
Sun. Sept. 14	9:30 am	Rally Day
Mon. Sept. 15-Oct. 4		Pastor on vacation
Fri. Sept. 19	5:30-6:30pm	Tailgate in the Park
Sun. Sept. 21	9:30am	Sweet Adelines lead worship
Tues. Sept. 23	4:30 pm	Free community Meal – Sandwich Supper @ SLF
Sun. Sept. 28	9:30am	History of the BUMC
Fri. Oct 3	8-11pm	5th Quarter
Sun. Oct 12	2:30 pm	Annual Church Conference @ SLF

A LETTER FROM DS JOHN KASPER

Below is an email he wanted shared with the congregation.

With understanding of all the reasons Breckenridge UMC is deficient in paying your 2025 Conference Ministry Shares, I challenge you to consider fulfilling this responsibility to some greater degree by year end. This represents your commitment not only to the Michigan Conference but also to God and the greater Church as we seek to complete our mission to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ.

Malachi 3:10 reminds us that as we trust God and give faithfully, God promises to bless abundantly.

May you know Gods abundant blessing!

DS John Kasper

5 th QUARTER
FRIDAY SEPT 5th
8:00-11:00pm
ALL HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS ARE
WELCOME!



SEPTEMBER 14TH

HOMEcoming TAILGATE PARTY
IN THE PARK

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 19th
5:30-6:30PM
FUN, FOOD AND
FELLOWSHIP IN THE PARK!

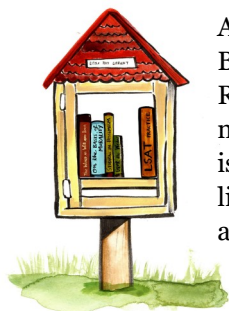




Thank you to Sheri Murphy for volunteering to coordinate the **Matthew 25 medicine bottle ministry**. Remember to bring in your empty and clean prescription medicine and vitamin bottles; place them in the tubs provided. They will be mailed to Ohio ministry collection center to be used in 3rd world countries.

Thank you also to Sheri Murphy who volunteered to tidy up the SLF Library. Thanks!

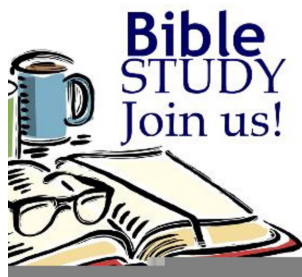
Ladies Choral Group is being formed—a quartet, sextet, octet... style of music is country/folk Gospel. You don't have to read music or have a solo voice—just want to praise the Lord. Music is already available and we already have a quartet but we're hoping for a few more ladies. If this is something you're interested in contact Pastor. Practice day and time will be determined shortly.



A “**Little Lending Library**” is being created for each church in memory of Roger Brown. BUMC's is already up and being used by the community—it was created by Ryan Randall. SLF will be installed shortly and is being crafted by Eric Johnson. You may donate or borrow books if you wish. Roger was an avid reader and developed a reading ministry called “Literacy for All” which serviced the Flint Soup Kitchens by taking discarded library books and sharing them with the soup kitchen clients for decades before the appointment to SLF & BUMC. This will carry on his passion for reading.

Liturgists/Worship Leaders are still needed... if you'd like to try this out, please talk with Pastor. A bulletin is emailed early in the week and then a printed highlighted copy with any readings is in your spot on Sunday ready to go. **Audio Visual technicians** are also needed at both churches—we have good teams, but can use others to help. The program is simple and training is available.

**Volunteers
Needed!**



A fall adult **Bible Study** will be offered on Thursdays at both 2pm & 6:30pm from Oct 16—Nov. 20. The study will be based on the *Extraordinary Men and Women of the Bible* based on a study by Rev. John MacArthur. There are 12 men and women in his two studies, but the group will pick three men and three women for this 6 week study. We will use both facilities—3 weeks at one and then switch locations. A sign up sheet and list of the extraordinary men and women to pick from will be coming out shortly.



Annual Church Conferences for Connexion Zone 6 churches (BUMC/SLFUMC, St. John's 1st, Lincoln Rd., Carson City/Maple Rapids, Elsie/

Shepherd, Ovid, & Alma) will be at the St. Louis 1st facility on Sunday, October 12 @ 2:30pm. Pastor Billie Lou expects all Leaders to participate, and encourages members and others to come and learn what's happening in the District and Conference of the UMC. Refreshments will be provided by BUMC & SLFUMC.



SECRETARY OFFICE HOURS:

Nancy—Thursday 8 am—1 pm

Email Address:

breckenridgeumc@yahoo.com

THE METHODIST MESSAGE

“SERVING ONE ANOTHER AND SHARING GOD’S LOVE”

United Methodist Church

125 Third St.

Breckenridge, MI 48615

Billie Lou Gillespie—Pastor

Office phone: 989-842-3632

9:30 AM worship

“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.”

**Please notify the church if you wish to be taken off the mailing list.

United Methodist Church

125 Third St.

Breckenridge, MI 48615

Return Service Requested

