

The Methodist Message



2025

Pastor's Page.....

HANNAH MARCHET
ILLUSTRATIONS

SYMPATHY PAIN

The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

INSIGHT

Of the many metaphors Paul uses to describe the church's identity and mission (for example, temple, fellow citizens, God's family), "the body" is probably his favorite, using it often to promote the oneness, unity, and solidarity of all believers in Jesus under the headship of Christ (*see Ephesians 5:23*)

He uses the body metaphor in 1 Corinthians 12:12: "Just as body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ." He highlights the church's unity in diversity and instructs believers to prioritize their mutual concern for each other's well-being, saying that everyone "should have equal concern for each other" (v.25). Elsewhere, he instructs believers to "be devoted to one another in love" (*Romans 12:10*) and to step up to serve each other in practical ways (vv.13-14). Particularly, he tells believers to "be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep" (v.14 NLT).

When I injured my ring finger, I expected months of pain before regaining its full function. As I practiced the prescribed exercises, the finger next to it began to throb, so I consulted my doctor. "Sympathy pain," he said. A branching between the nerves of the ring and pinky fingers causes dependence on one another. If one finger hurts, the other aches in sympathy.

The apostle Paul uses the human body to illustrate the uniqueness and unity of God's people. In 1 Corinthians 12: 21-26, he reinforces how valuable each individual member is to the healthy functioning of the whole. Then he turns his attention to the unity achieved when we connect with each other: "If one part suffers, every part suffers with it." (v. 26). His description of the church's interconnectedness is echoed in these verses, as we ought to "mourn with those who mourn," and "carry each other's burdens" (*Romans 12: 15; Galatians 6:2*).

Today as I extend my hand to greet someone or grab a spoon to prepare a meal for guests, I notice the strain in both my ring finger and my pinky. The various parts of our physical bodies work together to express pain and to strengthen each other toward health. I thank God that He reveals our need for connection to each other in His spiritual body, the church, through sympathy pain.

Elisa Morgan, Our Daily Bread, Oct 2025

How is God inviting you to suffer with another in order to strengthen you both? How have others suffered with you?

Dear God, please help, me be open to Your invitation to suffer with my brothers and sisters that we might all be strengthened.

Pastor Billie Lou





United
Women
in Faith

Dear Friends,

Fall is officially here and the United Women of Faith's summer projects have come to a close. Our reunion dinners were a success and the groups voted to continue this tradition if requested. September was the last preparation of sandwiches for the 4th Tuesday drive thru meal. A total of 500 bag lunches were made from May-September. The soup supper crew will start in October. A big thank you is extended to Brenda Siefka for chairing September along with helpers Lena Nelson, Pam Amiels, Connie Clarke and Nancy Hodges.

Our fall Potato Bash is October 19th. It is a fun time and proceeds help fund our mission projects. We hope to see everyone there!

Blessings,
Sue Baker

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Dorcas Circle —

Wednesday, October 8th @ 1:00

Hostess: Sue Baker

Program: Sue Baker

Carrie Knause Circle—

Wednesday, October 15th @ 9:30 am

Hostess: Mary Reichard

Program: Peggy Mikek

BUMC Adds to the Breckenridge Homecoming Celebration

The BUMC provided a tailgate event for Breckenridge football fans at the homecoming parade on Sept. 12. Between 70 – 80 people enjoyed walking tacos, cookies, water, and fellowship either before or after the Homecoming parade. Karen and Dave Stoneman, Loretta and Dave Briggs, Tiffany and Wendy Bott, and Ginger Vetter served at this event.

**United Women In Faith
Fundraiser**

Potato Bash



Who: United Women in Faith

When: October 19, 2025, after the church service

Where: Fellowship Hall

Cost: Donation Only

All proceeds will go toward Mission Projects

***** Take Out Available*****

HALLOWEEN TRUNK OR TREAT

Bring the whole family for a night of safe, festive fun!

Join us for a fun, family friendly Trunk or Treat. This special event offers a safe and welcoming environment where kids can dress up and collect candy in our church parking lot. We look forward to seeing you there! October 31 @ 5:30-7:30pm



All Saints Sunday will be held on Sunday, November 2nd. The families of all those who passed into eternity during the last 12 months (November 28-November 24) will be invited to join us as we honor and remember how they have touched our lives. A candle will be lit for each person.. Non-members

will also be remembered and the congregation will be invited to light a candle for anyone they wish to remember.

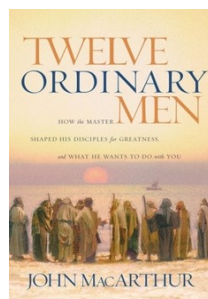
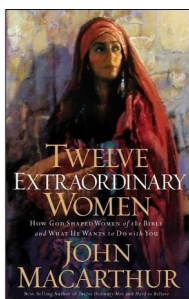


A fall adult **Bible Study** will be offered on Thursdays at both 2pm & 6:30pm from Oct 16—Nov. 20. The study will be based on the *Extraordinary Men and Women of*

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 is on the table in the gathering area.



A 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.





2. RANDY CRAMBELL
3. NANCY GEE
6. LAURALEI MCGILL
LINDA NAGEL
7. BRANDON POSEY
11. MARILYN KATT
13. CHASE GULICK
16. MADISEN SIGAFOOSE
18. JACOB MCGILL
GARRETT SIGAFOOSE
21. DENISE GULICK
BRIAN POSEY
25. MAKENZIE CZARNECKI
27. SANDY HUMM
30. NORA GULICK



DALE & CHARLOTTE
BUSHRE
OCT. 23, 1954

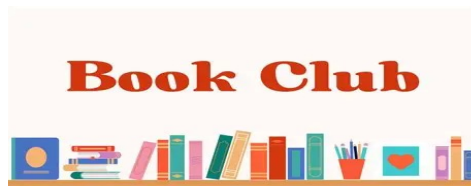


Communion is served the first Sunday of every month. October 5th we will have a special communion as we will be observing World Communion Sunday. There will be a special second-mile offering. Reminder: Everyone is welcome to take communion at SLFUMC.



SOUP'S ON....

This month soup returns for the Free Community Supper. There will be 4 types of soups to choose from as well as a salad, bread and a cookie. This month's dinner will be held on **Tuesday, October 28th from 4:30—5:30** or until we run out. So mark you calendars and warm up with a nice bowl of soup! @ SL



The next book club meeting will take place on **Wednesday, November 5th at 2:00 pm at SLF**. The book that will be discussed is **Tom Lake** by Ann Patchett. It is a New York Times best-selling book that takes place in Northern Michigan. If you would like to participate in this month's book club, you may get your own book or you may sign out a copy at either church. We'd love to have you join us!

UPCOMING EVENTS



- Friday, October 3—5th Quarter
- Sunday, October 5—World Communion Day
- Wednesday October 8—Dorcas Circle Meets @ 1:00 PM
- Thursday, October 9—Y.A.H.A @ noon
Quartet practice 1:30 @ BUMC
- Saturday, October 11—Game Night 6:30-9pm
- Sunday, October 12 —Charge Conference @ 2:30 PM at SLFUMC—Leaders are expected to attend, church family is encourage to attend.
- Wednesday October 15—Carrie Knause Circle Meets @9:30 AM
- Sunday, October 19— Buck Bucket for Food Pantry
- Tuesday, October 28—Soup Supper—4:30-5:30@ SLFUMC
- Friday, October 31 - Trunk or Treat 5:30—7:30



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.

MATTHEW 25 MINISTRIES

Do you have old medicine bottles that are piling up in your home? Would you like to help the less fortunate? Then this is the ministry for you! All you have to do is bring in your EMPTY bottle, with the labels and sticky substance removed. Place them in the 5 gallon pail located in the gathering area. They will be mailed to Matthew 25 Ministries in Ohio to be used in third-world countries. Medicine bottles may be: prescription, over-the-counter and vitamin containers .



Breckenridge Church Family opportunity: On Oct. 23, 24, 25 & 26 there is going to be a community **garage sale**. Donated items from the Church family will go towards the Education Wing Windows Project costs. The garage sale will be at Ginger Vetter's home—see Ginger with questions.

Get ready for a night of laughter, fellowship and fun at our **CHURCH FAMILY GAME NIGHT!** This is a great opportunity for all ages to come together, build connections and enjoy a relaxed evening filled with board games, card games and friendly competition. Whether you're bringing your best strategy or just coming for the snacks and smiles, there's something for everyone. Bring a snack to share, a friend, and let's make some joyful memories as a church family. 6:30-9pm



SECRETARY OFFICE HOURS:

Nancy—Thurs. 8am-1pm

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**

