

METHODIST MESSAGE

Pastor's Page...

In our Lenten sermon series we've been focusing on the seven last words or phrases of Christ: Forgive, Paradise, Behold, Forsaken, Thirst, Finished, Hands, For You, and on Easter, Alleluia!

We are blessed to know the words that Christ spoke and to be able to use these words to get closer to our Triune God: Creator, Savior, Spirit. In the sermon dialogues we've considered epitaphs—the words engraved on tombstones. Words that are chosen to depict how our lives were lived out. But Christ had no epitaph, no words to stand throughout the ages to describe what He did for all humankind.

What other portions of Scripture give us a glimpse of who Christ is?

The Old (or Hebrew) Testament prophet Isaiah wrote a prophetic picture of Christ hundreds of years before Jesus lived among us. Isaiah 53: 1-12 (CEB) is called the Suffering Servant chapter...

- 1 Who can believe what we have heard, and for whose sake has the Lord's arm been revealed?
- 2 He grew up like a young plant before us, like a root from dry ground. He possessed no splendid form for us to see, no desirable appearance.
- 3 He was despised and avoided by others; a man who suffered, who knew sickness well. Like some one from whom people hid their faces, he was despised, and we didn't think about him.
- 4 It was certainly our sickness that he carried, and our sufferings that he bore, but we thought him afflicted, struck down by God and tormented.
- 5 He was pierced because of our rebellion and crushed because of our crimes. He bore the punishment that made us whole; by his wounds we are healed.
- 6 Like sheep we had all wandered away, each going its own way, but the Lord let fall on him all our crimes.
- 7 He was oppressed and tormented but didn't open his mouth. Like a lamb being brought to slaughter, like a ewe silent before her shearers, he didn't open his mouth.
- 8 Due to an unjust ruling he was taken away, and his fate—who will think about it? He was eliminated from the land of the living, struck dead because of my people's rebellion.
- 9 His grave was among the wicked, his tomb with evildoers, though he had done no violence, and had spoken nothing false.
- 10 But the Lord wanted to crush him and to make him suffer. If his life is offered as restitution, he will see his offspring; he will enjoy long life. The Lord's plans will come to fruition through him.
- 11 After his deep anguish he will see light, and he will be satisfied. Through his knowledge, the righteous one, my servant, will make many righteous, and will bear their guilt.
- 12 Therefore, I will give him a share with the great, and he will divide the spoil with the strong, in return for exposing his life to death and being numbered with rebels, though he carried the sin of many and pleaded on behalf of those who rebelled.

Many of you have probably seen a copy of this Obituary for Christ somewhere in the past, but it's a good reminder...

The Jerusalem Gazette Obituaries 33 AD

Jesus Christ, 33, of Nazareth, died Friday on Mount Calvary, also known as Golgotha, the place of the skull. Betrayed by the disciple Judas, Jesus was crucified by the Romans, by order of the Ruler Pontius Pilate. The causes of death were crucifixion, extreme exhaustion, severe torture, and loss of blood. Jesus Christ, a descendant of Abraham, was a member of the house of David. He was the Son of the late Joseph, a carpenter of Nazareth, and Mary, His devoted Mother. Jesus was born in a stable in the city of Bethlehem, Judea. He is survived by His mother, Mary, His faithful disciples, and many other followers. Jesus was self-educated and spent most of His adult life working as a Teacher. Jesus also occasionally worked as a Medical Doctor, and it is reported that He healed many patients. Up until the time of His death, Jesus was teaching and sharing the Good News, healing the sick, touching the lonely, feeding the hungry, and helping the poor.

CONTINUED...

Jesus was most noted for telling parables about His Father's Kingdom and performing miracles, such as feeding over 5,000 people with only five loaves of bread and two fish, and healing a man who was born blind. On the day before His death, He held a Last Supper celebrating the Passover Feast, at which He foretold His death. The body was quickly buried in a stone grave, which was donated by Joseph of Arimathea, a loyal friend of the family. By order of Pontius Pilate, a boulder was rolled in from of the tomb. Roman soldiers were put on guard. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that everyone try to live as Jesus did. Donations may be sent to anyone in need.

See you in worship and ministry, Pastor Billie Lou



This adult study will be based on
the television series
The Chosen.

The series will be 8 weeks long on
Wednesday nights from 7-8:30pm
Beginning April 10th and ending May
29th.

We will once again travel between
both church sanctuaries.
You may choose to just watch the
movie (time lengths vary...) or
watch the movie and remain for
the study/discussion.

The Chosen leads us to learn more about Jesus by combining what we know from the four Gospels and imagining the rest of the story of those that were called and followed Jesus.

We will begin with season 1:	<i>What Does It Mean to Be Chosen?</i>	
April 10 @ SLFUMC	(Movie Segment) (Study))	<i>I Have Called You By Name</i> <i>You Are Called</i>
April 17 @ BUMC	(Movie Segment) (Study))	<i>Shabbat</i> <i>You Rest</i>
April 24 @ SLFUMC	(Movie Segment) (Study))	<i>Jesus Loves the Little Children</i> <i>You Are Cherished</i>
May 1 @ BUMC	(Movie Segment) (Study))	<i>The Rock on Which It Is Built</i> <i>You Change Course</i>
May 8 @ SLFUMC	(Movie Segment) (Study))	<i>The Wedding Gift</i> <i>You Are a Witness</i>
May 15 @ BUMC	(Movie Segment) (Study))	<i>Indescribable Compassion</i> <i>You Are Made New</i>
May 22 @ SLFUMC	(Movie Segment) (Study))	<i>Invitations</i> <i>You Are Established</i>
May 29 @ BUMC	(Movie Segment) (Study))	<i>I Am He</i> <i>You Are Carried</i>

Beverages will be provided (may be taken into either sanctuary) You may share rides. Please sign up so that we will have enough study notes printed. Free of charge. Bring or borrow a Bible.

Holy Week and Easter Schedules

Thursday, March 28

HOLY/MAUNDY THURSDAY

5:30-6pm Short term Easter Choir @ BUMC

6-6:45 Soup & Salad Supper @ BUMC

7pm Communion, optional hand/foot washing- BUMC

Words That Last Forever Word 8: For You!

Friday, March 29

GOOD FRIDAY (3 choices of locations/times)

Noon-Parkside Assem. Of God – SL

1pm-Free Methodist - Wheeler

5:30-6pm Short term Easter Choir @ SLF

6-6:45pm Chili/Soup & Supper @ SLF

7pm **Stations of the Cross Prayer Walk @ SLF**. Walk to the 14 stations located in the sanctuary and gathering area, read the Scripture for each part of Jesus' last walk, then follow the directions to experience that station.

Saturday, March 30

Scavenger Hunt @ Parkside Assembly-SL 11am

Sunday, March 31

EASTER Celebrations 9:30-BUMC, 11-SLF

Words That Last Forever Word 9: Alleluia!

Alpha & Omega scavenger hunt for kids during the service and Indoor Egg Hunt following worship

Sunday, April 7

Easter Hymn Sing (some hymns will be chosen and you will have an opportunity to pick some of your favorites too)

A short-term **CHOIR** is being pulled together for Easter Sunday...please join us in singing **The Easter Song** from the W & S hymnal (green) # 3090 (we'll provide the music.) Practices are Wed. Mar. 28 (BUMC) & Thurs. Mar. 29 (SLF) from 5:30-6pm. You do not need to be able to read music, just a desire to praise the Lord! Most will know the familiar tune to this hymn.



Open House for Lillie Hoard's 90th birthday is Saturday, April 6th from 1 -4 pm at Arbor Grove. Stop in for a visit or send a card. Lillie's birthday was March 19th. Address is Arbor Grove Assisted Living, 1320 Pine Ave #39, Alma MI 48801.





Upcoming Events:

Wednesday, April 3—UWiF General Meeting @ 1 PM

Wednesday, April 10—Dorcas Circle Meeting @ 1 PM—Adult study week 1 @ SLFUMC

Wednesday, April 17—CK Circle Meeting @ 9:30 AM— Adult study week 2 @ BUMC

Sunday, April 21—Sunday Brunch following the service

Wednesday, April 24—Adult Study week 3 @ SLFUMC

Tuesday, April 23—Soup Supper @4:30. There will be 4 delicious soups to choose from! @SLFUMC

Friday, April 26—Annual Food Pantry Benefit Dinner & Raffle 5-7 pm @BUMC

6. Lillie Hoard
15. Dakota Colthorp
16. Sophia Bramer
19. Ryan Randall
25. Carin SanMiguel
26. Jeff Short
27. Sebastian SanMiguel
28. Barb Shankel



15. Ted & Sandy Humm

“I love My St. Louis City”

I Love My City Sun. Apr. 21st Volunteers needed for outside projects at people’s homes and around the city. Please sign up to help. Resurrection Life will host a simple lunch at 1pm and then teams will be assigned a project to work on. We have our monthly brunch following worship that day so you’ll already have enjoyed lunch and fellowship at SLFUMC.

Do you know of someone (or yourself) that could use a helping hand with yardwork or light repairs? “I Love My City” is Sun. Apr. 21. We are looking for people who need help—you don’t have to be a member of any of the churches. Contact Pastor Billie Lou with a name, address, & phone #.

If you know of anyone in St. Louis that might need a helping hand with some yard work or light repairs, please let Pastor Billie Lou know.

SECRETARY OFFICE HOURS:

Nancy—Thur. 8:00-1:00

Email Address:

breckenridgeumc@yahoo.com

THE METHODIST MESSAGE

“SERVING ONE ANOTHER AND SHARING GOD’S LOVE”

United Methodist Church

125 Third St.

P.O. Box 248

Breckenridge, MI 48615

Billie Lou Gillespie-Brown—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**

