



Messenger of Christ

Christ United Methodist Church
5200 South 48th Street
Greenfield, WI 53220
Rev. Mao Her, Pastor

August 2020

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THE PRAISES OF THE OPPRESSED!

“So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

~ Galatians 3:26-28 (NIV)

We live in probably one of the most polarized time in our country today. I have been in this country for over forty years, and have experienced many racist remarks, discriminated against and looked down by people of different background and nationality. I know we do not live in a perfect country ... *we do not live in a perfect world for the matter*, but I have never seen our country so divided over race issue; over the color of our skin.

I have shared with you many times that the Hmong people is probably one of the most marginalized and oppressed group of people in the world. We do not have a country of our own but survived living in other people's land. Because we depend on the mercy of the people of the land, we have learned to work hard at building relationships and live peacefully with our neighbors. In general, the Hmong are peaceful people because we know firsthand what war and oppression looks like.

As much as the Hmong people had been marginalized and oppressed by others, our own culture and tradition in many ways, has marginalized and oppressed some of the most vulnerable people in our own community. For example, orphans were used as slaves even though they share the same bloodline of the same family. I have heard numerous stories about brothers putting the sons or daughters of his own dead brothers into slavery. Another group of people that the Hmong culture and tradition have marginalized and oppressed are women. Girls and women traditionally were prohibited from getting an education. It is expected that they will take care of the needs of their husbands, their children, and their in-laws. As such, it is not necessary that they be educated. Due to the nature of the tribal and clan family system, it is normal for girls or women to not be educated or to not pursue higher education.

This is a perfect example of how the oppressed, if not liberated by Christ, can turn around and become the oppressor. Oppression comes in many forms and anyone can be the oppressor or the oppressed. Everyone has on their own blinder when it comes to oppression. Oppression is not limited to a certain group or groups of people ... it does not discriminate!

So, what is oppression? Oppression is when a person or a group of people is held hostage by another to limit their potential. Oppression occurs when the oppressor seeks to control the oppressed through whatever means to dominate them physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. Their goal is to use and abuse the oppressed in order to take advantage of them.

In the next six weeks, I like for us to look at oppression from God's perspective. The bible has much to say about oppression. In this sermon series, we will look at what the bible has to say about oppression, and as followers of Jesus Christ, how are we to respond.

The apostle Paul writes in Galatians 3:26-28 that as believers in Jesus Christ, we are one people no matter the color of our skin, nationality, ethnicity, social status and whether we are male or female. The Good News about our Lord Jesus Christ is the only message that can truly make us one people.

And as one people united in the grace and mercy of God, it is our mission to bring relieve to the oppressed by not with words alone, but also through our deeds. Our actions and attitudes toward those who disagree with us, and toward those who do not share our traditions or values speak volume to who we are as followers of Jesus Christ.

As believers, we know firsthand of what it is like to be oppressed by our sins. At the same time, we know firsthand of what life is like living in freedom and liberty under the ruling of King Jesus. Because of that, we give praises and thanksgiving to God as his people on earth.

May we never stop praising the one who gave His own life so we can be set free from our sins and oppressions. To Him be all glory and praise!

May you be blessed in all you do!

Pastor Mao Her



THE PRAISES OF THE OPPRESSED!

July 26th

Luke 17:11-19... *“Faith and Social Distancing”*

August 2nd

Luke 8:26-39 ... *“Once Upon the Tombs”*

August 9th

John 9:1-41... *“I was Blind, now I See”*

August 16th

John 4:1-45... *“No More Shame”*

August 23rd

Philemon 1-25 ... *“From a Bondservant to a Beloved Brother”*

August 30th

Galatians 5:1-15 ... *“From Slavery to Freedom”*

CUMC Back To Church Guidelines

Date we returned: July 5, 2020

Time: 10:15

-DO NOT ATTEND IF: you feel sick, have a cough, fever, chills, muscle pain, shortness of breath, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell.

-Church building is disinfected before each Sunday of worship.

Entering the Building

-Arrive close to worship time as there will NOT be a coffee fellowship

-Masks are not required, but recommended. Masks are provided if you don't have one.

- ABSOLUTELY NO HUGGING OR HAND SHAKING

-Masks and hand sanitizer will be offered at the entrance

Sanctuary

-There will be no ushers. Bulletins will be placed on a table for you to pick up as you enter the sanctuary.

-Seats will be marked off for proper social distancing. If you are a family, living together, you may sit together. Otherwise please maintain a physical distance of six feet, indicated by the blue tape on the pews. An usher can assist you in finding a seat.

-There will be NO passing of the peace, or singing or offering during this first phase of return.

-Offering: please drop your envelope in the basket marked "Offering" as you exit the sanctuary.

Communion

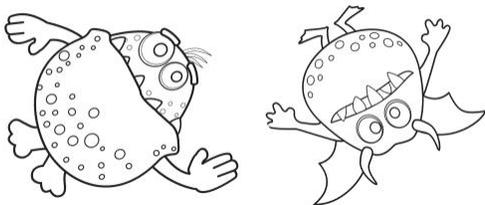
-Bread will be served on a tray with the bread placed in individual, disposable containers.

-Juice will be served on a tray with the juice poured into individual, disposable containers.

Exiting the Sanctuary

-Please exit keeping in mind the safe distance of six feet

GO AWAY, CORONAVIRUS!



Birthdays This Month...



- 2nd Diane Stinson
- 3rd Flo Graham
- 4th Marilyn Bender
- 4th Tyler Steeno
- 7th Marge Freitag
- 7th Rae Jean Lukaszewski
- 13th Logan Lukaszewski
- 14th Dorothy Pike
- 17th Mary Ann Carr
- 22nd Jayda Allen
- 23rd Art Pulizos
- 26th Sue Thomas

Please wish them a HAPPY BIRTHDAY
when you see them!

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR AUGUST

- 2nd Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 17:1-7, 15 (UMH 749)
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21
- 9th Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b (UMH 828)
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-23
- 16th Genesis 45:1-15
Psalm 133 (UMH 850)
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15(⊕)10-20), 21-28
- 23rd Exodus 1:8-2:10
Psalm 124 (UMH 846)
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20
- 30th Exodus 3:1-15
Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b (UMH 828)
Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 16:21-28

VOLUNTEERS FOR AUGUST

LAY LITURGIST

- 2nd Steve Montgomery
- 9th Janet Brown
- 16th Carrie Montgomery
- 23rd Ron Stinson
- 30th Pam Seri

If you feel comfortable coming to
church and helping with the Counting
for now, please let Jo in the church
office know. Thanks!



UMW CORNER

Martha Fellowship

August already! Hoping to social distance at our meeting on Wednesday, September 16th!
Hostess: Carol Olson

More info in the next newsletter - enjoy the rest of the summer!

We will plan to have a Craft & Bake sale in November.

The UMW Caring Circle

What can we write? No activities to report. UMW ladies are home and staying quiet. We do not know when our next meeting will be ... stay tuned!

If anyone has flowers from their garden they would like to share with the church to decorate the altar for the Worship service, please contact Nancy Wolski or call the church office.



Thank you!

Movie Series Movies



Due to the Virus Epidemic and all the issues involved...

As of this date I do not plan on doing the movie series this fall! If anything changes for the better I will reconsider and make the announcement concerning any opening date!

Thanks to all for your past support!

Ron Stinson



Jo Rivers - on a personal note - on behalf of the Hospitality group - thank you SO much for cleaning and organizing the kitchen!

Actually, the entire church, during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Carol Olson, Kitchen & Hospitality



Please make a note of it...

Joanne Jones

Linden Ridge Apt 131
841 E Veterans Way
Mukwonago, WI 53149

My phone & email are the same.



The Men's Breakfast, which is held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 AM, is held at George Webb's Restaurant on S. 76th Street in Franklin. We hope you will join us there, *when they are open & when you feel safe!*

Mountain T.O.P.

The Mountain Top mission trip for this fall has been cancelled.

The organization made the difficult decision not to hold the Fall Festival this year due to COVID-19.

We'll see if October 2021 will be a good year to venture to TN.

Thanks for your support and interest in mission trips!

Denise Edlund



In case you haven't heard, Pastor Mao's daughter, Zsong and her husband Denny are having a baby. Congrats & good luck to all!

A special request from Jo...

After going through the church, I have noticed quite a few things. The main one is, we have an overabundance of **many things**.

So, I am asking that before you buy anything you think the church needs, please call the church office and ask Jo, to see if we really need that item at that moment, as we only have a limited amount of storage space.

Thank you!

Church Building Update

While on COVID-19 watch, several tasks were being accomplished here at CUMC. Thought you might be interested in what's been done!

- Sold riding lawnmower
- Replaced both water heaters
- Sold the Sanitizer
- Bought a Dishwasher
- Installed Live - stream Equip
- Installed CCT Cameras
- Eradicated rodents & bugs
- Parking lot improvement (1/3 of lot)
- Hired cleaning service

Something that we would like to bring to your attention is that Jo Rivers temporarily stepped in to deep clean the church. She went room by room, closet by closet, shelf by shelf, drawer by drawer, and she Emptied, Sorted, Tossed/Kept, Swept, Scrubbed Organized and Polished from floor to ceiling!

You cannot put a dollar to a job done with such efficiency and care for this building – her hourly rate paled in comparison to the job well done. PLEASE thank her if you talk to her.

Look around and see how shiny and nice the place is!



August 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 10:15 AM - WORSHIP SERVICE Holy Communion	3 	4 6:00 PM - Jazzercise	5	6 6:00 PM - Jazzercise	7	8
9 10:15 AM - WORSHIP SERVICE	10 6:30 PM – ZOOM ALB Meeting	11 6:00 PM – Jazzercise	12 	13 6:00 PM - Jazzercise	14	15 
16 10:15 AM - WORSHIP SERVICE	17 	18 6:00 PM - Jazzercise	19	20 6:00 PM - Jazzercise	21	22
23 10:15 AM - WORSHIP SERVICE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	24	25 6:00 PM - Jazzercise	26	27 6:00 PM - Jazzercise	28 	29
30 10:15 AM - WORSHIP SERVICE	31					

**The NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE FOR
September is:
August 23rd**

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The Sacrament of Holy Communion is served on the
First Sunday of each Month
Rev. Mao Her.....Pastor
Church Office 414 421-0202
Email..... christumc1@sbcglobal.net
Website..... <http://greenfieldchristumc.org/>
Rev. Dr. Hee-Soo Jung.....Resident Bishop
Rev. Forest Wells.....District Superintendent



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