



Tanner Valley Voice



Tanner Valley United Methodist Church

March 2018

Repentance Brings Wisdom

The modern world does not like the word REPENT. We all have this tendency to not apologize, to make excuses, or to avoid self-examination at all cost. The word repent brings to mind street preachers standing on corners with signs, arguing with people, and handing out pamphlets. However, we modern Christians must face up to the fact that repentance is a foundational practice in the Christian life. A great deal of the meaning of repentance has been lost but I will tell you that it is a lot more than a choked down, good for you but you'll hate it, proposition. Repentance isn't suffering through a kale salad, it's a feast that you share with God and the dinner table conversation leaves you fuller than the meal itself.

Having said thus, it does make sense that repentance gets so much bad press. In particular, the word "repent" is derived from Latin and means "to crawl". Later it became connected with the concepts of shame and sorrow. The definition therefore is: *1. to feel sorry, self-reproachful, or contrite for past conduct; regret or be conscience-stricken about a past action, attitude, etc. 2. to feel such sorrow for sin or fault as to be disposed to change one's life for the better; be penitent.* Let's be honest, nothing about any of that sounds fun.

However, we must remember that the concept of repentance must be understood in and around the experience of Jesus. Jesus' ministry changes our view of what repentance looks like. Think about the moments we see repentance in the stories of Jesus. In Luke 5:1-11 we see Peter telling Jesus, "Go away from me Lord, I am a sinful man..." Instead of saying, "Yeah I see that... gross." Jesus invites Peter to join him on the road and the fisherman becomes the Apostle.

The woman caught in the act of adultery in John 8 is literally moments from dying as a result of her sin. The crowd around her are calling for her death. What does Jesus do, calms everyone down, and reminds them. We are all like this woman. "Let he who is without sin cast the first stone." says Jesus. The woman gets to walk away from the crowd with an entirely new lease on life.

In this way the call to repentance isn't just about crawling up to God in bent sorrow, but a marvelous call to adventure. It means leaving behind sin and fault so that you can walk, leap, jump, dance, and run. In repentance you actually get to learn, even explore, all the possibilities God wanted for you when he designed and created you.

Now that we are in the season of Lent, a time designated for self-reflection and repentance, let us not allow our sorrow from our sin make us slink away from the work of repentance. As the name implies, let us crawl that we might learn to walk. Repentance invites us to recover a sense of wonder in the same way a child learning to walk becomes open to new experiences and opportunities. Therefore I invite you to partake in the wonder of repentance. Start with this prayer (on page 2) and go from there.

Rev. Michael Lawson

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Michael Lawson,
Pastor

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Adult Sunday School
Sundays—9am

Worship
Sundays—10am

UMW
2nd Thursdays—
7 or 12 pm
Check Calendars

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UMW Update

When I was a young girl I thought that God lived at church. It made sense to me...everyone always got dressed up when we went to church. Everyone smiled a lot, said nice things to each other. Acted with kindness and patience toward each other, as if God was watching.

As I grew older I realized that God is everywhere and actually lives inside of anyone who invites His presence. God sees into our hearts and knows our innermost thoughts each day. God also smiles when we perform small acts of kindness, you know the things you do without expecting anything in return. God smiles on our quiet acts of faith.

I am glad to know that God's presence is not limited to one address or to one day of the week!

Do something nice for someone today and make God smile!

We had a great lunch at our last UMW meeting. Thanks to Bonnie Knox's invitation to the President of the Dearborn Hospital Auxiliary, Rocky Schroeder joined us. He spoke to us regarding the work of the auxiliary and their need for hospital volunteers. Volunteers to greet, direct, work in the gift shop or the cafeteria. If you want to know more about what the volunteers do, talk to Bonnie Knox, Paul Titkemeyer, John or Barbara Vandermuellen, and probably others from our congregation of whom I am not aware.

If you might be interested in getting involved with acts of kindness at the Dearborn County Hospital, I have left some envelopes on the table in the lobby, giving you the information you need.

Hmm...another way to make God smile!

Our next meeting will be **March 8 at 7:00p.m.** Our hostesses will be Sharon and Kelli Huddleston.

Please join us!

Nancy



Prayer of Repentance

*We repent, O God most merciful; for all our sins;
for every thought that was false or unjust or unclean;
for every word spoken that ought not to have been spoken;
for every deed done that ought not to have been done.*

*We repent for every deed and word and thought inspired by selfishness,
and for every deed and word and thought inspired by hatred.
We repent most specially for every lustful thought and every lustful action;
for every lie; for all hypocrisy;
for every promise given but not fulfilled,
and for all slander and back-biting.*

*Most specially also, we repent for every action that has brought ruin to others;
for every word and deed that has given others pain;
and for every wish that pain should befall others.*

*In your unbounded mercy, we ask you to forgive us, O God,
for all these sins committed by us,
and to forgive us for our constant failures
to think and speak and act according to your will.*

Finance Report

The Finance Committee meeting is scheduled to occur after this newsletter is published, so the Treasurer's Report has not been reviewed. However, the report is available and is subject to change but not likely.

- ◆ For the General Account for the month of January, there were deposits of \$7,542 and withdrawals of \$9,504.35 leaving a balance of \$10,518.55. The weekly average giving through four weeks is \$1,885.50 which is \$722.83 below the weekly budget amount of \$2,608.33.
- ◆ For the Special Account for the month of January, there were deposits of \$1,095.85 and withdrawals of \$574.19 leaving a balance of \$18,388.14.
- ◆ The Capital Improvement fund has a balance of \$4,081.67. (Note: through February 11th, the balance is \$4,141.67.) Per Bill Robertson, the ceiling repair is to be done in February at an estimated \$1,700, which would leave a balance of \$2,439.67.
- ◆ On March 1st, the AC repair charge of \$4,800 will be due. There are alternatives to meet this charge which will be discussed at the up-coming Finance Committee Meeting.
- ◆ The Trustees have identified other issues at the parsonage that should be addressed this year. Input from the Trustee Committee on the timing of those issues and their potential costs need to be identified so funding can be addressed.

Christian Education

About fifteen years ago, I decided to start running. I found running enjoyable, because it required little equipment and it gave me time to think. I wasn't fast. In fact, the regimen I used for training was to run for five minutes and then walk for one minute. After months of training, I was ready for my first big race. The minute I crossed the start line, I became so excited that I forgot all my training and ran for at least the first two miles. I eventually calmed myself down and got back into the rhythm of my routine. If I had kept up the pace I had for the first two miles, I never would have finished the next eleven!

Aren't we lucky that when it comes to our excitement and love of God that we don't have to slow down? Isaiah 40:31 says, "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

I'm writing this article in February and I feel like our Christian Education Committee is at the beginning of our yearly "race." First comes the Easter Egg Hunt; then Vacation Bible School. Along the way, we have monthly meetings and other activities to plan. Please pray with me that we will be able to run and not be weary.

Amy Delp

Upcoming Events:

March 24, 2018, is the Easter Egg Hunt at Schnebelt Pond in Greendale. Registration begins at 12:30 and the hunt starts at 1:00 p.m. The Easter Bunny will be on hand for photo opportunities, too! If you would like to help with this event, there is a sign-up sheet in the lobby.

Vacation Bible School will be held on **June 3-7, 2018, from 6-8:30 each evening.** (Please note that this is a new date, as VBS was originally scheduled for the end of June.)

Our theme is **"The Sweet Shoppe: Taste and See that the Lord is Good!"**

WORSHIP SERVANTS

March 4 Greeter

Bev Graf

Acolyte

Christopher Delp

Reader

Nancy Hesse

March 11

Greeter

Norma Dean Fox

Acolyte

Christopher Delp

Reader

Kim Schmeltzer

Ushers

Paul & Nella Hoffbauer,
Bill & Debbie Robertson

GIC

Nancy Hesse, Billie Stockum

March 18

Greeter

Terrie VanVolkenburgh,
Joe Trentman

Acolyte

Christopher Delp

Reader

Larry Delp

Ushers

Dave Chapman, Bryan Delp, John
Huddleston, John Vandermuellen

GIC

Donna Morgan, Volunteer

March 25

Greeter

Bonnie Knox

Acolyte

Christopher Delp

Reader

Tracy Meyer

Ushers

Paul Meyer, Paul Titkemeyer,
Larry Delp, Rich Hesse

GIC

Jean Schmeltzer, Pam VanDyke

NOTE: Assigned Worship Servants are requested to find a replacement if they will not be able to fulfill their duties on the date indicated. Trading places a week or so before avoids any confusion on the assigned date.

Thank you for volunteering and for serving.

We're on the web:
tannervalleychurch.com

...MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST...

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**Tanner Valley United
Methodist Church**



Lent 2018: 40urty Bags for 40urty Days

The holy season of Lent is here. Lent is a forty day season of repentance and self-examination in preparation for Easter. It is a time to lay aside distractions and concentrate on the life saving work of Jesus. As a spiritual discipline in this holy season, we are encouraging congregants to simplify their lives. Fill forty bags of varying sizes with things to donate, give away, recycle, or disposal. We all have a junk drawer, a neglected closet, or cabinet in need of our attention. By simplifying our lives we can help ourselves concentrate on what is truly important. Remember: Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven!

Holy Week Schedule:

Palm Sunday—March 25th; Procession of Palms Service at 10:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday—March 29th; Service at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday—March 30th; Hour of Remembrance Service at 2:30—3:00 p.m., Good Friday Service at 7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday—March 31st; Service of Prayer and Repentance at 1:00—1:30 p.m., Church Preparation/Decoration at 1:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday—April 1st; Resurrection Breakfast at 8:30 a.m., Easter Day Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.



...MAKING DISCIPLES
OF JESUS CHRIST...

March 2018



	sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
					1	2	3
4		5	6	7	8	9	10
				4p High Hope Café 6p Prayer Service & Communion	6:30p Heart House 7p UMW Meeting		12p Delp in Fellowship Hall
11		12	13	14	15	16	17
	Daylight Savings Time Begins	7p Missions Committee.	1:30p Nursing Home	6p Prayer Service & Communion 7p Church Council	7p UMW Meeting		
18		19	20	21	22	23	24
		7p Christian Ed		6p Prayer Service & Communion 6:30p Feed My Sheep 7p Rivertown Quilters			6p Knife & Fork
25	6p Lullaby Nights 	26	27	28	29	30	31
			6p Prayer Service & Communion				

BIRTHDAYS: 9-Bonita Cline; 10-Paul Meyer; 15-Joyce Quillen;

16-Christopher Delp; 17-Oliver Carpenter; 18-Connie Fox;

21-Lois Blodgett; 22-Jean Taylor; 26 Kristina Brooks, David Chapman;

30-Sue Goble

ANNIVERSARIES: 1-June SeEVERS; 5-Rodney & Donna Morgan; 12-

Paul & Pat Titkemeyer; 18-Gary & Holly Honchell; 25-Clara Lewis;

31-Tom & Judy Landrum

...MAKING DISCIPLES
OF JESUS CHRIST...

April 2018



	sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
8		7p Missions Committee. 1:30p Nursing Home 9	10	6p Prayer Service & Communion 11	6:30p Heart House 12	13	14
15		7p Christian Ed. 16	17	6p Prayer Service & Communion 18	7p UMW 19	20	10a Rivertown Quilters 21
22	6p Lullaby Nights 22	12:30p Teacher's Banquet 23	24	6:30p Feed My Sheep 7p Rivertown Quilters 7p Finance Committee 25	26	27	6p Knife & Fork 28
29	29	30		7:30p Recovery Prayer Service 30			

BIRTHDAYS: 7-Brittany Hooten; 8-Joshua Hooten; 16-Lori Blanco;

23-Sylvia Waltz, Norma Skidmore

ANNIVERSARIES: 2-William & Lenore Gehring, Rich & Nancy Hesse