



Marble Memorial United Methodist Church

June 2021

Love. Grow. Serve.



Good News House: Habitat 2021- Join Marble's Work Team

Marble supports Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley through the partnership with the "Good News House" team: *A collection of different churches coming together to strengthen neighborhoods.* We have four work dates in 2021:



Work Days for 2021:

- Saturday, June 12th
- Friday, June 25th
- Friday, July 23rd
- Saturday, August 7th

Workdays start at 8:30 and we're done by 3:00, or so. We bring our own lunches, gloves and hydration. Our coordinator, Rod Hill, suggests you bring: a tape measure and pencils and your own hard hat (if you have one). Actual tools are provided and sanitized by the crew leadership after use. You do NOT need to be a member of Marble – Neighbors are invited to help! **If you are available for any of these dates, please contact the church office: office@marbleumc.org or Rod Hill: 734-645-0864**

Aid In Milan: Help Stock the Pantry

Aid in Milan helps our local neighbors every day. Donating pantry items is one way we can help. Their current needs are:

- sliced bread
- canned pastas
- ramen style noodles
- full size shampoo & conditioner
- laundry detergent
- juice boxes
- individual applesauce

Drop items at Aid in Milan during their business hours. Pull up to the building and call their office: 734-439-8420.

Tell them you have a donation. They will come out to your vehicle. They appreciate every donation!

**Marble Memorial
United Methodist Church**
Rev. Matt West, Pastor
8 Park Lane, Milan, Michigan 48160

Church Phone: 734-439-2421
Pastor's Emergency Number: 269-967-4444
Church Website: marbleumc.org
Church E-mail: office@marbleumc.org
Church Office Hours: Mon-Thu, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
(closed holidays)
Facebook: "Marble Memorial UMC"

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A Message from the Pastor's Desk...

Hello, neighbors!

Summer is almost here, and it is already heating up. As we enter the month of June, I have many things I have been thinking about for the summer.

Our mission statement is ***"To meet new neighbors, nurture their relationship with Christ, and transform the world together."*** So, how do we live this out over the next few months? Thankfully, the weather should help us get out in the neighborhood and do some fun stuff.

One of the questions I have been hearing is, "When will Traditional Service be in person?" This is a good question with what I consider a simple answer. When we have more volunteers to help us with this service, I will make it in person. I know some of our people would prefer to come to this service, but are you willing to serve to make this happen, or are you just wanting to be served? If it is the latter, then now may not be the time, and we continue to offer it online only. I am not opposed to doing this service in person, but we have to have volunteers to make it happen weekly.

Next, I have been thinking about doing service outdoors again this summer. When I arrived last year, having service outdoors was a great way to start considering everything going on with the pandemic. Doing service outdoors requires the help of volunteers for things to run smoothly. There are some logistical things that we have to figure out as well. Something I will share about outdoor services: On August 8th, we will be holding "Church in the Park" along with a couple of other churches in Milan. The Outreach Team is working with the other churches on something to go with the service, too. I am looking forward to this day of worship outside!

Another thing I would like to get back to would be some small group time. I have been thinking about seeking out a couple of different people to lead some groups this summer. We could meet on the lawn and enjoy the weather while we can for now. It would be nice to offer a book study, a Bible study, and a couple of other options for everyone to choose from. Do we have people willing to serve in this capacity? If we do, then we will make some groups happen.

Does anyone notice a trend with these things I am discussing? That's right! We are looking for willing volunteers to help us carry and live out our mission. Again, it is one thing to say we want to do this or that, but it will take the church to do whatever we decide to offer. We are asked to give of our time, gifts, and talents as members of the church. This ideal seems to be a bigger task than it should be because we allow other things outside of the church to consume us. We rely on God being there for us, especially in our time of need, but are we holding up our end of the relationship? Yet, this is the reality we live in currently. A lot of us have forgotten what it means to be a part of the body of Christ. Or we feel like we have done our time, and it is time for someone else to take over. What if there isn't anyone else? Do we depend on the few willing to help and don't want to see things not get done? Those people will burn out, and then there won't be anybody to help. We are not a large church with a huge staff, and even if we were, we would still need volunteers to help live out our mission and vision.

Last month, I wrote a piece based on Bo Schembechler's "The Team, The Team, The Team." I still want everyone to be a part of the team or body of Christ. But if everyone does not do their part, then we will not be as strong as we could be for our neighbors. Don't forget that our work goes beyond the walls of the building we worship in as well. Community involvement is vital for meeting new neighbors and inviting them to be a part of what we can offer them. Let us set aside what we want personally and consider how we can help the team and offer our neighbors to transform Milan and the world together.

Peace be with you, neighbors
Pastor Matt



Your Input Please - Rod Hill, Lay Representative to Annual Conference

The 2021 Michigan Annual Conference will begin soon and as Marble's Lay Delegate, **it is incumbent of me to ask you all for your thoughts regarding a number of legislative topics that we will be discussing.** There are a total of 20 proposed resolutions and among them we will be considering a number of fairly combustible issues. Praise God!

There are always matters related to clergy and district administration, especially since we're still combining our two former conferences. In addition to the regular changes in clergy compensation, retirement and health care we're updating rules for on-line meetings and counseling sessions. The Bishop has called for an **Anti-Bias Anti-Racism working group** and there are **proposed resolutions for refining policies including for cross-racial/cross-cultural appointments for clergy and district staff.**

There are **two proposed resolutions for changes in the conference anticipating a schism between our churches related to changes in Methodist discipline related to LGBTQIA+ rights and roles** within the church. One includes formation of a group for redrawing district lines to reflect churches leaving the denomination. **I have been assigned to actively debate on changes in how to spend the proceeds from the sale of closed church properties.**

I've also drawn the resolution affirming and defining the Michigan Conference position regarding the rights of **all persons to be eligible to attend worship, participate in programs, receive sacraments, be baptized and become professing members of the church.** The resolution protects people and groups of persons from local attempts to exclude them or deny them access to an equal role in the life, ministry, and governance of the Michigan Conference. There was a straw poll of this resolution at our last full legislative session and this provides official guidance to the Conference going forward.

This year's docket includes a great deal of passion from all of Michigan's delegations and our delegates will be needing your prayers in the conduct of our sessions starting on June 1.

Please keep us in your hearts, and if you have any questions about the 2021 Annual Conference, please contact me directly:
rod@tglyph.com or 734-645-0864.

Yours in Christ, Rod



Youth Service Project Team: 2021

Youth Service Project Dates:

Leaving Milan: Saturday, July 10 and return Saturday, July 18.

Sunday Worship with the Mission Team: You will hear from the YSP Team at both Worship Services on Sunday, July 19 (in person/on-line).

Drinks & Snacks for the YSP Team:

Needed: donations of bottled water, sports drinks and snacks.

These are used during travel and, most importantly, on the work-site.

Snack item ideas are: individually packaged snacks that won't melt like: pretzels, chips, granola bars, breakfast bars (like nutrigrain). We are collecting these items in the nursery, next to the church office.

**** The Team is looking to borrow an enclosed 8-10' trailer.**

Please contact Tim Kartje if you have one the team can use: kartjet@comcast.net

THANK YOU for such a wide showing of support for the YSP Team! All miles have been covered and, with your help, the team got to Henderson and back in a record amount of time! *THANK YOU!*

If you have questions about the Youth Service Project Team, contact Kevin: kevin.jarema@dundee.k12.mi.us.

Henderson Settlement is a United Methodist supported mission at the heart of Appalachia in Frakes, KY



Marble Meetings

Trustees: Tue, June 1, 7 p (In person)

SPRC: Tue, June 8, 7 p (In Person & ZOOM)

Finance: Tue, June 15, 7 p (ZOOM)

Church Council: Tue, June 22, 7 p (In Person & ZOOM)

Outreach Committee: Tue, June 29, 7 p (In Person)

UMW Circles:

Sister's Aglow: Mon, June 14 (details TBA)

Sarah Ruth: TBA

Susanna Wesley: No meeting in June

SPRC is Hiring: Technology Director

The Technology Director will be responsible for providing technical & multi-media support for the Pastor, church staff, volunteers, and the congregants of the church by managing the technology operations in support of community involvement and in-person or online worship at Marble Memorial UMC. This is a part-time position.

Responsibility Highlights:

- Update and maintain church online social media presence including but not limited to the church website, Facebook, YouTube, etc.
- Coordinate, direct, and monitor technology production of Sunday and other holiday services as scheduled, such as Christmas and Easter.
- Recruit, train, and schedule technology staff/volunteers on service presentation applications, including hardware & software.
- Inspect and test technology equipment periodically; coordinate maintenance with Trustees.
- Support Church office with technology issues/concerns.
- Troubleshoot any technical issues as they arise.
- Coordinate online content and worship presentations .

Contact the church office for the complete job description and posting.

Office contact:

office@marbleumc.org

734-439-2421

now hiring

Please share with your friends and anyone you may know has the drive and interest in growing or using their experience in this field.

Coming Up This Summer

Red Cross Blood Drive: Wed. July 14

You can make an appointment at:

www.Redcrossblood.org

Third Thursdays are Back on June 17th:

Keep an eye out for your opportunity to volunteer.

Community Worship in the Park: Aug. 8th

Details will be shared in worship, on Facebook and on our website.

Mark your calendar so you can be sure to be there!

Outdoor Worship: Plans are Underway

We do need people to take on tasks in order to have a successful outdoor worship season, call Pastor Matt: 269-967-4444 to help make it happen!

Do you want to know what pastors talk about when they are together?

Or, maybe, how they help each other problem-solve real-time church and worship issues?

Watch episodes of "The Good News Gang" on our Facebook page - you can find them under "videos".

Pastor Matt and his colleagues tackle modern topics in their series discussions.

