



Hello, Neighbors!

Our Vision Statement-

To be a welcoming neighborhood so that all may experience God's love and grace.

Our Mission Statement-

To meet new neighbors, nurture everyone's relationship with Christ, and transform the world together.

Marble Memorial United Methodist Church • March 2024 IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

BREAKFAST FOR DINNER

FREE Neighborhood Meal
Sat, March 16 5:00 - 7:00P



MARBLE MEMORIAL UMC
8 PARK LANE, DOWNTOWN MILAN

SATURDAY
MARCH 30

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Marble Memorial UMC
8 Park Lane,
Downtown Milan

EGG HUNT AT 11:00AM
COME EARLY FOR
CRAFTS: 10-11AM
SEE THE EASTER BUNNY!

FREE FOR ALL



Holy Week and Easter

PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30AM

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP 7:00PM

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP TBD

EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30AM

Neighborhood Closet Shop or Swap

3rd Saturdays
11am-1pm and 5pm-7pm



Marble Memorial
United Methodist Church
8 Park Lane, Milan
marbleumc.org • 734-439-2421

March 16: A FREE EVENT



Marble Memorial United Methodist Church

Matt West, Pastor

8 Park Lane, Milan, Michigan 48160

10:30 a.m. Worship In-person

Facebook and YouTube

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 am - 3 pm

(closed holidays)

Facebook: "Marble Memorial UMC"

Online Giving: [Tithe.ly Giving](https://tithe.ly/giving)

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Neighborhood Notes from our Pastor

Hello, neighbors!

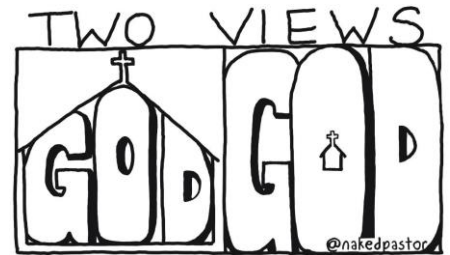
The first two months of 2024 have certainly been interesting. For me to start preaching the first Sunday in January and then be gone for the next six Sundays seems bizarre. Thankfully, the Lord has been watching over Marble in my absence, and the preaching team I brought together did a fantastic job filling for me. Thank you to Vicki Charter, Dierdre Fudge, Brian Foster, and Jim Nagle for your willingness to share the message with God's people! During my recovery, I didn't require many extra things. My wife and mother were incredible those first couple weeks after returning home from the hospital. Since I knew I would be taken care of at home, I would be lying if I didn't admit that I was more concerned about worship and Marble than myself. From Lisa in the office to everyone who assisted in leading worship and handling the tech part, all my worries were washed away quickly. Great job everyone!

I did not provide a lot of updates regarding my progress until my return. Everyone has often heard me state, "We aren't meant to do this alone." At other times, on an individual or family basis, I said, "Let us know how we can help." Unfortunately, I am not always the greatest at following my advice. Trust me, I am working on it, but I do things in a way that does not draw much attention to myself. It is nice to have people care for you and send you cards. My surgery aside, I do not do what I do for praise. Yes, recognition occasionally is nice, but that is different from praise in my mind. The problem is we live in a society where some people want to be praised for everything, or they want the spotlight on them. I am not looking for that. Do I want to be remembered for the things I do? Yes, but a big deal doesn't have to be made about whatever it is. So, please do not take it personally or that I wanted to keep frequent updates private. I have been taken good care of and progressing in my recovery to my surgeon's liking.

Alright, now that everyone is updated, let's move on. Our Lent series this year is titled "Questions to God." Each week, we explore a question we might have or other Christians have related to our faith journeys. For this piece, though, I want to ask you a question. What does "church" mean to you? I am not just talking about worship, either. In all the different facets of the church, what does it represent or look like to you?

Worship is a big piece of what we do, and I have heard a lot of what people think we are missing or what they think we should be doing during our time together. I appreciate those thoughts being shared with me, but go further and deeper in your responses. Consider education, hospitality, fellowship, relationships, service, care, etc. Before we answer the question, we need to determine how important the church is to us or which church we are talking about (big C or little c). Either way, what we discuss is different now than

20 years ago. One problem I am trying to figure out is that we all assume an awful lot versus setting expectations. How we set those is different as well. One approach used to be the "my way or the highway." Today, we will be hard-pressed to find many to follow this way. We must also consider how things have changed without realizing it, or if we have, how we refuse to accept the change(s). Put yourself in your parent's place for a minute. What were some things you wish were different about church when you were younger? I am sure what you thought church meant differed from your parents' explanations.



What does church mean to you now? What are the expectations, and are we sharing them? If we do not know what each other thinks, we cannot adjust what we do for each other and those in our neighborhood. It's like, "If we don't know what is broken, we can't fix it."

Between leadership and myself, we are trying to figure out answers to these questions. The process might be more straightforward if we knew everyone else's thinking. We want to be intentional about everything we do. We want to be excited about everything we do. We want everyone to be reassured about sharing their thoughts and asking questions. We want everyone to know about Marble. We want everyone to learn how to live like Jesus. We want everyone to be our neighbors. How do we do that, or what does it look like?

Well then, what does "church" mean to you?

*Peace Be With You,
Pastor Matt*



Easter is upon us
Praise be to GOD!



Our Worship Series for Lent and Holy Week

Who is God? Why do bad things happen to good people? How can I face the future? Asking questions is a normal part of human life. Having doubts is part of the human experience. We do not have to be ashamed of our doubts or hide our questions before God. In fact, God fully welcomes them and welcomes us.

This Lent, we will practice bringing some of our biggest questions and doubts to God. We will practice embracing this deeply human part of ourselves as we move together toward the great and joyous mystery of Easter resurrection.

Daily Scripture Readings for Lent in March:

Week 3: Why Should I Go to Church?

Sunday March 3– Psalm 100
Monday – Hebrews 10:23-25
Tuesday – Ephesians 4:1-16
Wednesday – Luke 4:16
Thursday – Psalm 150
Friday – Matthew 18:20
Saturday – Acts 4:32-35



Week 5: How and Why Do I Forgive?

Sunday March 17 – Matthew 6:9-15
Monday – Luke 11:1-4
Tuesday – Luke 23:34
Wednesday – Luke 7:41-42
Thursday – Matthew 18:23-35
Friday – Luke 15:11-32
Saturday – Luke 6:37



Week 4: Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People?

Sunday March 10 – Psalm 137
Monday – John 11:23-25
Tuesday – Romans 8:26-30
Wednesday – Jeremiah 29:11
Thursday – John 9:1-41
Friday – Revelation 21:1-4
Saturday – Psalm 10:1-18



Week 6: Why is Jesus Special?

Palm Sunday March 24– Matthew 21:1-11
Monday – Matthew 26:1-13
Tuesday – Matthew 26:14-16
Wednesday – Matthew 26:17-30
Maundy Thursday – John 13:1-7, 31b-35
Good Friday – Colossians 2:13-14
Saturday – John 19:38-42



Week 7: Why Be a Christian

Easter Sunday – Mark 16:1-8
Monday – John 20:1-9
Tuesday – John 20:10-18
Wednesday – John 20:19-31
Thursday – Luke 24:1-12
Friday – Luke 24:13-35
Saturday – Matthew 28:1-20



Monthly Neighborhood Offering: March



Ministry Shares

Meetings @ Marble

Leadership Team Meeting:

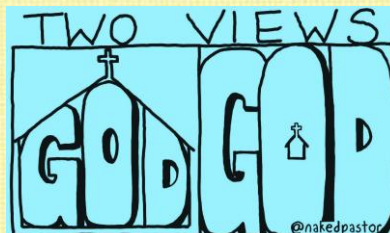
Wed, March 20, 7pm
Media Room

Outreach:

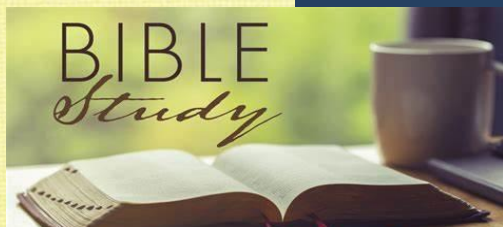
Wed, March 27, 7pm
Room #25

United Women in Faith:

All Women age 16 and over of ANY faith are invited and welcome!



SIGN UP FOR...



We are developing new studies!
Give us your information and days/times and types of groups you are looking for!

3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt "Eggstravaganza" (3/30)

- Volunteer
- Donate Candy
- Tell your friends and neighbors!

Free Neighborhood Meal helper (3/16)

Hospitality (every Sunday)

Kidz Worship helper (every Sunday)

Need information on "Safe Gathering" Training?

Pick up a card from the sign-up station or contact the office.

Neighborhood Groups: Group coordinators are listed

Sundays:

Worship Team: Music and Technology Contact: Pastor Matt pastormattwest@gmail.com

Kidz Worship Contact Aby Cryderman: acryderm@emich.edu

Hospitality Team: Greeters, Ushers, Coffee Fellowship

Contacts: (greeters) Tammy Balk coachbolz@gmail.com (coffee fellowship) Rose Timbers rotimbers@aol.com

Neighborhood Study Sunday at 9:00am in room #25. The current study is "Meeting God in Mark" by Rowan Williams. Contact: Rod Hill rhill@provide.net

Mondays:

Neighborhood Coffee Talk with Pastor Matt: Mondays at 10:00am at The Owl, downtown Milan.

Sassy Sisters Women's Study: Mondays at 7:00pm at The Owl on Main Street.

Led by Melissa West mdwest622@gmail.com

Thursdays:

Neighborhood Study on Prayer: Second and Fourth Thursdays, 3/14 and 3/28, 1:30pm @ MMUMC

Led by Nancy Nagle nnagle@umich.edu

Beer & Bibles Men's Study: Meeting only on March 14 this month due to Holy Week.

7pm at Original Gravity. Led by Brian Foster: bdfoster1989@gmail.com and Jim Nagle jnnagle@comcast.net