



Marble Memorial United Methodist Church

November 2021

November Community Meal: Saturday, November 13, 5:00 – 7:00pm

We hope you will join us in the dining room for great food and for great fellowship!

Date: Saturday, November 13th, 5:00-7:00p
 Reservations strongly encouraged by: Mon, Nov 8th at 12p
 Menu: Turkey, stuffing, green beans, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, roll, and pumpkin pie for dessert.
 Cost per meal: \$10.00*



** If you or someone you know cannot afford a meal, contact the Church office: 734-439-2421*

Many Volunteers Needed: Call the church office!

Aid in Milan: Empty Bowls Fundraiser



Tuesday, November 16
 For more information and to buy tickets to the event:
<https://aidinmilan.org/emptybowls>

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.

Current needs are:

- sliced bread - canned pastas/canned meals - soup - healthy snacks: trail mix, granola bars - pasta and rice boxed helpers - cereal -
- canned meat: tuna, chicken - macaroni & cheese cups - oatmeal cups - juice boxes

You can bring items to the church or, drop them off directly at Aid in Milan.

Marble Memorial United Methodist Church

Matt West, Pastor

8 Park Lane, Milan, Michigan 48160

9:00 a.m. Worship on Facebook Live

10:30 a.m. Worship In-person and Facebook

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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From the Pastor's Desk

Hello, neighbors!

This month, I want to share with everyone an article written by the Midwest District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Margie Crawford. She speaks to something all of us as individuals and churches are experiencing. We are boldly going where churches have never gone before to reach new people and frontiers. I hope you enjoy what Rev. Dr. Crawford writes for us to think about in the days ahead. Enjoy... Pastor Matt

“One evening as I was channel surfing, I landed on CNN. William Shatner was being interviewed by Anderson Cooper a week before he was due to fly on Jeff Bezos’ Blue Origin spacecraft. It was a very delightful interview. Shatner spoke about how nervous he was, and yet he couldn’t contain his excitement about the journey he was about to take. I encourage you to [watch the interview on YouTube](#) or find Shatner’s New York ComiCon segment, as it was similar.

A week later, I watched the launch of the Blue Origin spacecraft. I was almost as excited as I usually am when I watch a NASA launch. Even though it was only the second flight for Blue Origin, the audience was still able to view some traditions. Each astronaut was dressed in a blue uniform, as was Jeff Bezos. They rode to the launch site in a truck. As they walked toward the capsule, each astronaut rang a bell. Engines ignited, and the rocket lifted off. The main engine separated and returned to earth, only a few feet off its target location. The capsule made its return trip several minutes later. Trucks made the trip to the landing site to escort the astronauts back to the Space Center. And another chapter of pioneering has been written.

As a lifelong [Trekkie](#), I am pleased that William Shatner was able and willing to truly go where few have gone before. The opening words to the original series have played over and over in my mind, and I prefer Spock’s version. In his interviews, Shatner did not share how he was contacted by Bezos to become part of the second suborbital journey. We were able to witness all of the emotions Shatner was experiencing before and after the flight.

Although Michigan United Methodists will probably never reserve a seat on a suborbital space flight, each of us is still a pioneer. This is a very transformative time for our faith and for what it means to be children of the living God. We have been called to serve.

There continues to be much for us to accomplish in the name of our Lord. We are encouraged to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, to make disciples of all nations and to shape our lives to be more like Jesus in all that we say and do.

You and I are the example of selfless love for others to follow. We are the herald, declaring in the wilderness of a pandemic that is still too much a part of our lives, that we are about to give birth to something new, something exciting, something that will bring a new harvest for the salvation of the world. We are the instruments of God, who are meeting others just beginning their journeys of faith. We are called to bear witness and testimony for those who are ignored, forgotten, oppressed, and abused.

The tasks before us will not be easy. All of us are being asked to see ourselves, our faith, and our relationship with our Lord in a different way. God is with us in all we say and do. How do we tell our Lord’s story in a way that engages rather than rejects? How do we care for all of God’s creation in ways that are helpful rather than destructive? How do we view the world through God’s eyes of steadfast love, rather than seeing it through lenses which divide and separate us? How do we plant seeds of growth and understanding rather than allowing weeds and thorns to choke and strangle what we hope to accomplish?

These are some of the questions before us as we continue our journeys. [The words of a Gospel song inspire me, and I hope they will inspire you, to remember who we are and who’s we are.](#) “*We’ve come this far by faith, leaning on the Lord, trusting in His holy word. He’s never failed me yet.*”

Our Lord goes before us in all we do, preparing us to bring others to the new frontier. Michigan United Methodists are rethinking, reimagining, and redefining what it means to serve now and, in the days to come. May we each be blessed as we listen and respond to what God asks of us. “

Amen. *Pastor Matt*



Join our Neighborhood Groups!



Neighborhood Study: Sundays, 10-11a – Room #25
Explore the Adam Hamilton book, “Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White”. Themes are: religion, morality and politics.

Sassy Sisters: Mondays, 7-8:30p, - at The Owl. It’s a “book study- hanging out- catching up outside of work and home”, relaxing place to be.

Beer & Bibles: Every other Monday, 8:30-10p, Nov 8 & 22 – at The Owl. Men of all ages and stages of life are invited as books are read, scripture studied and life in Christ is discussed. Non-alcoholic beverages also sold at The Owl.

Neighborhood Coffee Talk: Tuesdays Mornings at 10:00a – at the Owl. Kick off your day with Pastor Matt, chat over a cup of coffee or maybe a smoothie. If you have something on your mind, it’s a great place to start.

Caregiver Support: Every other Wednesday, 7-8:00p, Nov 3 only (for this month) - on Zoom. This is a safe and confidential space to share your challenges and joys as a caregiver. Learn how Jesus walks with us all.

Pray and Go: Thursday Mornings at 10:00a – at the church. We will join together to walk around the neighborhood and pray for our neighbors. Get a little activity in, love on our community, and meet new neighbors.

Neighborhood Chat: 2nd Thursdays, 6:30-7:30p, November 11 - at the church. Leadership would like to hear your questions and thoughts and work together to nurture communication in our faith neighborhood.

Game Night: Second Fridays, Nov 12, 7-9:00p at the church. An evening of playing games and a chance to fellowship. Bring a snack to share.

Community Dinner: Sat. Nov 13, 5:00-7:00p.
Pre-order no later than Mon. Nov. 8 by 12 noon.
See Page 1 for All the Dinner Details!

Outreach @ Marble: Community Connections –*Brian Foster, Coordinator*

A thank you to everyone who helped out with Third Thursdays this year and special thanks to Jason Balk for running it! We had a lot of neighbors come by to see us this and it was a great time to interact with everyone.

Get Ready to Host Santa after the Christmas Parade on Sat. December 4 **We Need a Santa Coordinator:**

The coordinator will work with the Milan Christmas Parade group to coordinate their needs, times and our volunteers.

Our Santa Coordinator would also recruit a decorating crew and make sure our our space is ready.



Marble Christmas Parade Coordinator:

We are planning to participate in the Christmas Parade on December 4. Whether we decorate a truck and hand out candy – or go “all out” with a float – we need that point person to set the action in motion.

Step Up and Volunteer by contacting Brian Foster: 419-356-0712 or, the Church office: 734-439-2421.

Outreach meets November 17 at 7 p.m. If you have an outreach idea, you are welcome to submit the idea to the committee or attend the meeting to share what you think would be a great project for Marble.

To paraphrase John F. Kennedy:

“Do not ask what Outreach is doing – ask what YOU can do to Reach Out.”

Giving, THANKS! – Rod Hill, Lay Rep. to Annual Conference

As part of getting our feet back on solid ground after last year's turmoil, I have decided to amp up my reporting of Marble's donations to Aid In Milan. First and foremost, to all who have brought in food and necessities donations this year, WELL DONE! It is a joy and a blessing to witness the good works of people who, during a time of extreme stress and no small danger to themselves, still find the time and the means to share their love with neighbors they may not have even met! Praise God!

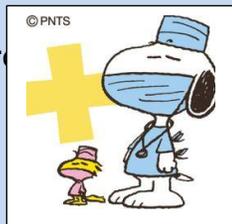
Di and I keep a regular eye on the big basket at the top of the south stairs and it always brings me a smile when I see a new opportunity to visit the good folks at A.I.M. They are part of the reason we moved to Milan in the first place. We've always been grateful to know that we have friends who have our back in case we ever need a meal or any of the other assistance that A.I.M. offers. And, since we haven't felt that need, we're grateful to participate and contribute to this neighborhood. Hallelujah!

From mid-July (when I started keeping track) to October 20, Marble donated over 79 pounds of food and necessities. I know that we've given more besides but this represents confirmation of what we can do and have done! Since we still have a couple of months to go, I'd like (Di thought of it, really) to challenge us to make it 200 pounds by the end of the year. Also, I want to call out that AIM's new director, Joy Whitenburg is coming to Marble on November 14th to share what they do and how we can continue to serve.

Love and Joy

Masking @ Marble:

Marble Leadership Team/Church Council has extended the masking mandate for indoor (worship, meetings, gathering) until further notice.



Congregational Care Team:

Seeking volunteers to become active in a new "Congregational Care Team" that is organizing right now! This group will be the "hands, feet, eyes and ears" of Christ to our church neighbors.

Interested? Contact Pastor Matt:

pastormattwest@gmail.com

Marble Meetings

Trustees: Tue, Nov 2, 7:00 p (in person)

SPRC: Tue, Nov 9, 7:00 p (in person/Zoom)

Finance: Tue, Nov 16, 7:00 p (in person)

Outreach: Wed. Nov 17, 7:00 p (in person)

Church Council: Tue, Nov 23, 7:00 p (in Person)

UMW Circles:

Sister's Aglow: TBA

Sarah Ruth: Tue, Nov 9, 1:00 p @ Church

Susanna Wesley: Mon, Nov 15, 7:00 p @ Church

Other Church Calendar Items:

Boy Scouts: 7:00 p every Tuesday

Cub Scouts: 6:30 p Nov 4, 11 and 18

Cub Scouts: 8a – 2p Sat. Nov 6

Girl Scouts: 6:00p, Nov. 8, 15 & 22

Milan Garden Club: Nov. 10, 17, 24, 6:45p @ F. Hall

Community Meal here at Marble on November 13

See page 1 for details.

Home-Made Noodles for Sale

A United Methodist Women Fundraiser

Noodles can be purchased during church office hours, Monday-Thursday 9a to 3p and Sundays while supplies last.

Each 8 oz bag costs \$2.00 each. Please pay by check or with exact change. These are the best noodles for the upcoming soup season so stock up!

All proceeds from the sale will go toward missions and financial obligations to the District UMW.

Heartfelt Thank You

"Thank you to everyone that helped with the Noodle Bee and especially afterward, breaking them up, weighing and bagging them."

– Mary Dennison

THANK YOU!