



Marble Memorial United Methodist Church

Love. Grow. Serve.

October 2020

Serving our Community

Aid in Milan Volunteer Opportunities:

- Wednesdays and Thursdays: For the “school weekend food distribution” (*on these days because school buildings will be closed on Fridays.*) If you are interested in this opportunity, please call Aid in Milan and leave your name and contact information. **Aid in Milan number is: 734-439-8420.**
- Tuesday mornings (between 9 and 11 a.m.) AIM receives a food delivery which includes heavy items (canned goods). AIM is looking for someone who can handle lifting boxes of cans and heavier items. If this is you, and you are available, please contact Aid in Milan.
- Every day/many open opportunities: Aid in Milan is always looking for pantry help and volunteers for other areas. Give them a call at the number above and they will get you started!
- **Current Pantry Needs:**
 - ✓ Laundry items
 - ✓ diapers (larger sizes 3 – 4 – 5)
 - ✓ sliced bread
 - ✓ full-size personal care items (shampoo and conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, bar soap)

You can bring pantry donations to the church on Sundays or, take them to Aid in Milan during business hours.

Aid in Milan is a 501(c)(3) human service agency which provides an emergency food pantry and monthly food distribution to low-income people, and helps with the distribution of Home-Delivered Meals to our homebound seniors. By also supporting rent and utility crisis intervention and job search assistance, AIM promotes the well-being of residents of the Milan school district area while preserving respect and personal dignity.

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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Exercising Flexibility and Showing Grace - Pastor Matt West

Hello, Neighbors!

The Re-Entry Team and I are happy to share with everyone that we are going inside for worship starting on Sunday, October 4th. To begin with, we will continue to offer one service at 10:00am. Worship will continue to be streamed on Facebook as well. Please understand that we are doing everything to **respect and protect** everyone that comes to worship with us.

With that being said, we ask for everybody to **be flexible and show grace** as we continue to work our way through this situation. Also, please understand that how we approach and attend worship inside is going to look different than before the shutdown. We realize that a lot of churches have been meeting and there are some that are still worshipping online only. Avoid trying to compare apples to apples. Let's make sure we continue to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

Keep in mind there is no single way to go about what we are doing and no instruction manual to help figure out what to do. Marble Memorial is only as strong and loving as its people are. Again, **be flexible and show grace**.

Below, are the key guidelines Marble is following each week we gather for now. Thank you.

- Masks are still required along with social distancing protocols.
- Entering will be through the Parking Lot door on the southside of the building.
- Temperatures will be taken at the door before entry. If a temperature of 100 or higher is registered, then you will be asked to return home.
- Colored bracelets will continue to be utilized to show a person's comfort level.
- No congregating in the hallways before or after service. Please head directly to the sanctuary.
- No reservations/reserved seats. Ushers will direct you to your seat. No switching seats.
- The upstairs restrooms by the elevator will be available for use.
- Coffee areas will be closed, but you are welcome to bring something to drink.
- Masks will remain on while in the building and for singing.
- No programs, hymnals, or Bibles will be available for use.
- An Offering Station will be available to leave your gifts before or after service.
- Ushers will dismiss everyone by row at the end of service.
- Exiting will be through the Bell Tower Doors.
- There will be no receiving line with the pastor, and everyone will be asked to go outside to visit.
- Communion will continue to be served by the pastor in pre-packaged kits.

Besides what is listed above, here are a couple of other things to keep in mind for now:

- No programs, hymnals, or Bibles. (You may bring your own Bible from home.)
- The Nursery is not open until we can get volunteers to staff the room.
- Pastor Matt and The Re-Entry Team are available to answer questions: Brenda Kempfer, Barb Bachant, Lisa Jarema, Mike Sweet, Dave Ludwig, Paul Salow, Tim Kartje, and Justin Murray are on the team.

After each service, Pastor Matt will re-evaluate the steps we are taking and discuss changes with the Re-Entry Team. We realize there will be questions after reading this, and we have also taken households into account for seating. Things are going to look and be different for a little while. Remember, **be flexible and show grace**. We look forward to worshipping with everyone each Sunday!

Let your faith be bigger than your fear.

Marble Meetings

Crafting at Marble: Mon. Oct 5, 7 p (church)

Financial Seminar: Tue, Oct 13, 1 and 7 p.m.

Staff Parish Relations Committee:

Tue, Oct 13, 7 p (ZOOM)

Trustee Committee: No meeting in October

VCI Outreach: Thu, Oct 15, 7 p (ZOOM)

Finance Committee: Tue, Oct 20, 7p (ZOOM)

Church Council: Thu, Oct 22, 7p (ZOOM)

UMW Circles:

Sarah Ruth Circle: Oct 8, 1 p.m. (at church)

Sister's Aglow Circle: Oct 12, 7 p (info TBA)

Susanna Wesley Circle: Oct 19, 7p (info TBA)

Financial Seminar: Trust and Estate Planning

Tuesday, October 13

1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Seating is limited.

Seminar will also livestream on Facebook

Event is Free, you must pre-register by 10/12.

***Face masks must be worn**

Hosted by Marble Memorial UMC

Guest Speaker:

Gwen Hodges, AAMS

Edward Jones Financial Advisor

Pre-register by calling: 734-439-2421 or,
register on Facebook:

Marble Memorial UMC

Music Ministry – Justin Murray, director

Due to the reentry team committee's decision, choir will be postponed until further notice. Any questions please contact Justin Murray.

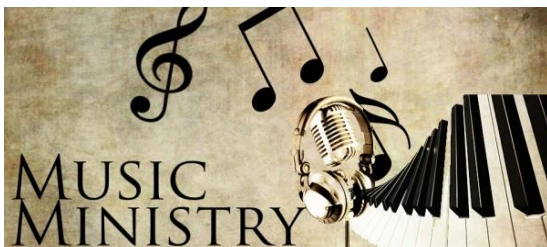
Interested in singing in a praise team? Please contact Justin. Current praise team members, please indicate which Sunday of the month you would like to sing. We are trying to create a fixed schedule for singers to plan services more easily.

Contact Justin either by email:

justinmurray252@gmail.com

or, by phone/text: 330-224-8575

We are always looking for musicians!
If you or someone you know may like to share their skills, please contact Justin.



Finance Update – Brenda Kempfer, Finance Chair

The Finance Team is meeting on October 20 at 7 p.m. It is that time of the year when we begin working on the 2021 budget. This meeting will be on ZOOM.

We ask that you please keep us in prayer as we put together this budget and also pray about keeping Christ's church in your budget for 2021.

Please feel free to contact Brenda Kempfer, Dave Ludwig, or any of the Finance team if you have any questions or concerns.

Crafty Creations Group - Sharon Early

Marble's Crafty Creations Group will meet on Monday, October 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the church.

Precautions will be in place to assure social distancing.

This invitation is open to everyone!

Questions? Contact Sharon at: 734-439-2848.

Our Share – Rod Hill

With all of the crises we've faced this year, it's been easy to overlook some of the ways our church serves outside of ourselves. In our budget, as members of the greater United Methodist Church, we are obliged to contribute to missions that we call "Ministry Shares". They have always been a part of our church tradition and they cover a whole world of need. Their needs are genuine and our commitment to them is serious. And the grace with which we meet these responsibilities is a blessing we annually share with each other here at Marble. Praise God!

Among our first responsibilities are those we have to our clergy, particularly as they refine their ministerial education and when they go on to an honorable and deserved retirement. Supporting them has always been a privilege and a blessing. As Methodists, we do this. Hallelujah!

In the same way, we support the Methodist denomination that serves us. Our contributions to the operation of the worldwide Methodist Church, our conference administration, our bishop, and our district enable us to connect with the whole of United Methodism as a powerful resource. Most recently for example were their instructions for coping with COVID. Those comprehensive guidelines covered everything from communions to vestibules and had to be researched, compiled and made relevant to every church size and arrangement there could be.

Another mission that has always been key to Methodism is the nurture of churches among emerging Christians in Africa, Asia, the Americas and even parts of Europe. We have been graced to host pastors from around the world in our own homes, and those bonds with other cultures strengthen the Kingdom for all of us. Ministry Shares remind us that there is a church bigger than we could ever be.

Love and Joy!

Vital Church Initiative –Paul Salow

This is the final summarizing VCI Implementation report. Our Ministry Plan implementation efforts commenced in June 2018 and spanned two pastoral changes and ran into a historic pandemic.

60% of the Ministry Plan tasks were completed.

Those tasks not completed (such as Name Change Review and Children's Ministry) were delayed due to denominational factors or due to current Marble membership considerations. The Facility Upgrade plan will continue to be carried-out as resources allow. Worship Design and Outreach teams continued their work until and even into the pandemic period. The Spiritual Growth work was not formally launched.

Marble showed that its members are passionate in ministry. The energy and dedication of so many who volunteered for and completed their assigned Ministry Plan tasks was remarkable. We acknowledge that all change is not easy nor was all change carried-out in a perfect fashion.

We all are doing our best. We are growing in our experience. We continue to pursue our Marble ministry aspirations in Milan. Thank you!

***Your Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
VCI Implementation Team***

(Brenda K, Brian F, Erin T, Mary K, Mike S, Paul S, Sam B, Tim T)



Planning for Scouting at Marble

We are working with the scouting leaders to help them make a safe transition indoors as we head into cooler temperatures.

You may begin to see an increase in activity at the church on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Sanitation guidelines are in place as are attendance limitations. If you have questions, please contact the church office.