

Good Day, Horton Bay

December 2009 and January 2010

Horton Bay United Methodist Church

www.hortonbayumc.org

Sharing the love of God so that all may continually grow as followers of Jesus Christ

Pastor's Ponderings

Our focus during this Advent season is "**Enter The Story**" of God's gift of love in becoming flesh and dwelling among us. It is titled **Advent Conspiracy** because we are conspiring together to enter God's story and not our societal story of consumerism. Through entering God's Story of giving love through Jesus we can enable others to enter God's story and experience God's love in Jesus Christ. Our worship themes are directed toward this: Worship Fully, Spend Less, Give More, and Love All. I encourage you to check out the web site adventconspiracy.org for more great articles, videos, and real life stories.

This concept of "**Enter The Story**" brings about a question that is extremely valuable every day of our lives: "What Story Do You Live By?" There are many stories that other people, institutions, and our society would have us base our value and identity on. Whose story defines success for you? What story defines your value? What story are those things in your life that are burdens, hold you back, or weigh you down? Often when we discern answers to these questions and compare them to the story of God's loving us found in the Bible we can then perceive foundational differences in the stories. When we truly base our lives ("Enter") God's story, the salvation history found in the Bible that continues to eternity, our lives become abundant, fulfilling, peaceful, joyful, and free no matter what our circumstances.

As you journey into the new year, I encourage you to ask those questions listed above of your life and compare them to God's story of unconditional love through Jesus Christ. How can you enter God's story with your whole life?
Grace, Pastor Tim

Christmas Opportunities

Sunday, December 6 at 5:30 P.M. Family Christmas Potluck

"Christmas is for Giving"

Everyone is invited to join us for this yearly celebration which includes a short program with the singing of carols, a children's presentation, and some surprises!

In addition, in the spirit of the season, UMW is having a "shower" for Safe House in Petoskey and any of the following products would be appreciated: boxed food like cereal and macaroni and cheese, paper products such as toilet paper, or cleaning supplies like dish soap or scouring powder.

You may bring these items to the potluck or before and they will be delivered to Safe House. Thanks.

If you would like to make a prayer request, contact Marion Church by phoning 582-7413, emailing at mc490@core.com or writing your request on the attendance sheet on Sunday in church.

Upcoming Events

-Weight Loss Surgery Support Group:

This group meets the third Monday of every month at the Charlevoix Hospital. Phone Jody Potter@347-4028 for more information.

-Cookie Ministry: On 12/6 please bring the names of neighbors or friends who would enjoy receiving cookies.

12/8-(note change) Bake sugar cookies at the church and also bring 2 dozen favorite recipe cookies.

12/13-Pick up cookies & distribute. Questions? Call Jeannie, 582-9008.

Advent Conspiracy Giving: On Dec. 20 a collection will be taken that will be divided equally between Nehemiah House in Petoskey which provides shelter for those in need and Water for Life which works to provide clean water where there is none.

***Christmas Eve: A service will be held at 6:00pm.

Bits and Pieces

Over \$700.00 was donated to Crop Walk by five energetic crusaders: Judy Caldecott, Hannah Robinson, Melissa Word, Karen Williamson, & Jan Ruback. Good walking, ladies!

Sue Pepper reports that she received 32 boxes for Samaritan's Purse.

Marion Church reports she received \$250 in World Thank Offerings.

Birthdays

"Time and tide wait for no man."

December

2 Carol Anderson
6 Don Pepper
7 Steve W. Johncheck
12 Gordon Koteskey
18 Madison Morgan
31 Brandon Babbitt

January

2 Jody Piper
14 Marion Church
18 Christine Maskaluk
18 Allan Dhaseleer
21 Mary Jane Jewell
26 Susie Frisk

Anniversaries

Dec 30 Ed & Ruth Chamberlain

Thoughts on Moebius Syndrome

By Mary Ellen VanDeCar

"Want some place for your coins to go?

Medical research needs them so. So much more they need to know."

11/5/09

Moebius Syndrome is "a rare developmental disorder present at birth that is characterized by facial paralysis. Affected individuals are not able to smile or frown because two important cranial nerves are absent or not fully developed."
(<http://children.webmd.com/moebius-syndrome-10863>)

