## **The Community Gathers**

PRELUDE AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Sue Gustafson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cindy Kocher

PASSING THE PEACE

OPENING HYMN

A Charge to Keep I Have

#413

**CALL TO WORSHIP** 

LEADER: Come! Now is the time to worship!

PEOPLE: We come to worship God who guides us.

LEADER: Jesus tells a story of a vineyard owner and his tenants who choose violence instead of giving the owner the fruits of the harvest, challenging us to choose—will we reject the Cornerstone or find in Jesus our sure foundation?

PEOPLE: God guides us as we learn to pattern our lives after the rhythms of God's grace.

LEADER: Too often we fall back into the pattern of rejecting what is good for us, forgetting that the life of faith is always about following God who provides for us and loves us.

PEOPLE: When we follow God's guidance, we learn to live God's new pattern of life described in the commandments and demonstrated by Christ.

SONG OF PRAISE

Grace Alone

#2162

**OPENING PRAYER** 

Liberating God, you give us commandments not as a burden to bear but as an invitation to live the life you have for us. Grant us open hearts ready to accept your invitation, that we might become a people who bear the fruit of the freedom and new life you give us. Amen.

JOYS, CONCERNS AND GOD SIGHTINGS
PRAYER FOR OUR COMMUNITY

PRAYER SONG Depth of Mercy

UMH#355

**Thanksgiving** 

SCRIPTURE SENTENCE

"The goal I pursue is the prize of God's upward call in Christ Jesus"

~Philippians 3:14

TITHES, GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

DOXOLOGY #94

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Generous and giving God, you have offered us a deep and soul-satisfying relationship with you, one that extends far beyond our earthly journey; and too many of us have opted for a "faith-lite" experience. One day a week or a couple of times a month has been a better fit. We have rejected what you so generously offer us, even as we dwell in and are sustained by your vineyard. As we offer our gifts this day, may we better receive the relationship you offer us and may we walk more closely. In Christ's holy name, we pray. Amen.

Hearing and Responding to the Word

SCRIPTURE LESSON Philippians 3:4b-14

HYMN Sanctuary #2164

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Pastor Mark

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 21:33-46

**AFFIRMATION** 

The word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "The Extreme Picture" Pastor Mark Crist

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Going into the World to Serve

SENDING SONG Be Thou My Vision UMH#451
TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing UMH#671

(First stanza only)

POSTLUDE

## Events this Week:

Sunday, October 8, 2023 9:30am Crusaders 9:30am Searchers 10:30am Worship Potluck after Worship 5:30pm Yoga in the Choir Room 6:30pm Emotionally Healthy Spirituality Class

Monday, October 9, 2023 5:30pm FUMC Council

## Wednesday, October 11, 2023

5:00pm Sitting with Jesus 5:30pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Table Talk Meal 6:30pm Classes begin

Thursday, October 12, 2023 5:00pm Girl Scouts Meeting

## Sunday, October 15, 2023

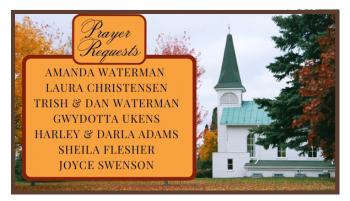
9:30am Crusaders 9:30am Searchers 10:30am Worship 3:30pm Meet at church Havrack ride at Loren & Joyce Swenson's

5:30pm Yoga in Choir Room 6:30pm Emotionally Healthy Spirituality Class

> **Upcoming Events:** Ocotber 16-23 School Fall Break

October 22, 2023 2:00pm Community Baby Shower

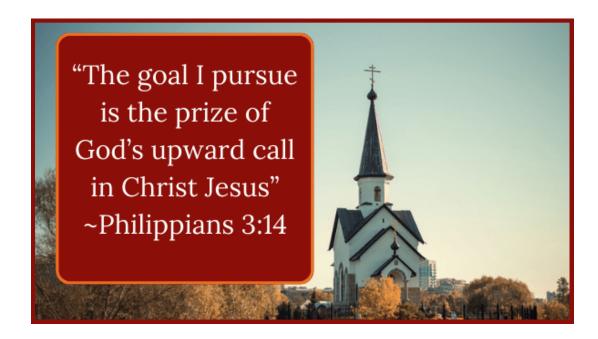
October 29, 2023 2:00pm Church Conference in Courtland

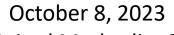














Church (785) 243-4560

Office Hours: Monday —Thursday 9:00-4:00pm Friday Closed

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Rev. Mark Crist, Pastor

Do No Harm ~ Do Good ~ Stay in Love With God. **John Wesley**