

# GREENSKY HILL TIDINGS –APRIL/MAY 2009

## Pastor's Pondering

I am writing this as I prepare to have shoulder surgery later today. I will be homebound to allow healing to happen and not able to drive for at least two weeks. I am thus forced to come face to face with my dependence on others for aspects of life that up to now I was capable of doing on my own.

I have been wondering about my perceived need for independence and disdain for being dependent. Why is it that I, and most others I know, have a deep seeded desire for independence? Our level of independence is often where we derive our value from. A line from the book, **The Shack**, has been bouncing around in my brain. God says this to Mack, "Jesus didn't hold on to any rights (*independence*), he willingly became a servant (*dependent*) and lives out of his relationship to Papa (*God the Father*). He gave up everything, so that by his dependent life he opened a door that would allow you to live free enough to give up your rights (*independence*)." I added the words in italics.

Here are some questions I invite you to consider and discuss with others. I don't have any solid answers yet, but they have helped my relationship with God grow closer. What would it mean for me to be free by being dependent on God? How do trusting God and dependence go together? How do I risk (become more dependent) my relationship with God to experience God's love more in my life? Is dependence always involved in a growing relationship?

Pastor Tim

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Luke, Kevin, and Emily	George & Marcie	Rose Greane
Phyllis John	Russell & Karen	Margo & Kala
Calvin Hill	Trimper Family	Glen & Linda
Dan Pardee	Kim & Mary	Rosemary & Howard
Debra Bellamy	Ty Russell	Don & Carol
Rose Kassube	Chris & Libby	Lucy Funk
Little Nicole	Joyce McClellan	Tim McClellan
Mildred Speigl	Caroline Kelly	Janice Smith
Moe Kyawtttoo	Jane Bailey	Jackie Wassenaar
Harry & Betty	Jackie & June	Matthew Cross
Oldman Family	John	Clay
Kay	Marsha	Katie
Clydell	Elizabeth	Matthew B.
Irene	Mary K.	Border Patrol

The Military: Phillip Slocum, Joshua Gloria, Courtney Marulli, and Brittany Shute.

Homeless and oppressed people throughout the world.

### LITURGISTS

## APRIL

5 Alice Harvey  
 12 Richard Tunison  
 19 Jim Ledahl  
 26 Wendy Sloan

## MAY

3 Craig Adams  
 10 Richard Tunison  
 17 Alice Harvey  
 24 John Rohde  
 31 Judy Johnson

## BIRTHDAYS

## APRIL

8 Nancy Acker  
 8 Rene Demanaeus  
 9 Mary Black  
 12 Mitch Kalilimoku  
 15 Mike McCreery  
 16 Quintin Walker  
 16 Sam Black  
 17 Tom Sutton  
 19 Nicole Swadling  
 21 Hunter Johnson  
 24 Bob Peterson  
 25 Kim Marchewitz  
 25 Joyce McClellan  
 27 Dale Willis  
 28 Paul Johnson

## MAY

5 Byron Wright  
 12 Kevin Willis  
 12 Chris Dominic  
 15 Jacob Elzinga  
 17 Madlyn Johnson  
 19 Madlyn Heise  
 20 Judy Johnson  
 20 Colleen Wright  
 21 Theresa Mac Donald  
 21 Matt Evans  
 23 Susanne Peterson  
 25 Katherine Slocum  
 28 Dwain Walker

## ANNIVERSARIES

## APRIL

19 Mike & Kim Marchewitz  
 30 Craig & Carol Adams

## MAY

11 Daugherty & Judy Johnson  
 20 Mike & Lynette McCreery  
 21 Pastor Tim & Paula Wright

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE AT GREENSKY HILL ( APRIL 2009)

The Holy Week Schedule at Greensky Hill Church will be as follows:

Palm Sunday- April 5<sup>th</sup>

9:00AM- Worship

5:00PM- Worship with Sam McClellan

Maunday Thursday- April 9<sup>th</sup>

7:00PM- Worship at Greensky Hill

Good Friday- April 10<sup>th</sup>

The Good Friday Service is a Community service starting at 12:00 Noon at the First Congregational Church in Charlevoix.

Easter Sunday- April 12<sup>th</sup>

7:00AM- Sunrise Service at Greensky Hill.

8:00AM- Breakfast/Potluck in Susan Hall (please bring a dish to share).

9:00AM- Easter Service at Greensky Hill

5:00PM- Easter Service with Marshall and Mary Collins.

### AN EASTER THOUGHT TRIUMPH OF HOPE OVER DESPAIR

“ We need to add this final word that Easter comes to turn disaster to triumph, to provide victory for our Christian hope over the despair that seems so wide spread today. One cannot see the cross without looking beyond and seeing the tomb in the garden. Today at the center of our worship we have the empty cross. There is no Christ hanging there, for the cross is the symbol of God’s triumph over evil and death and despair.

When you see the cross, remember the sacrifice made there; never sell short the agony of those hours of sacrifice and death. But don’t stop there in the depths of despair because the Lord is gone. Look beyond and see the empty tomb and then see the empty cross. Here are the symbols of eternal triumph and they should say something of hopefulness and encouragement to you today.

From the cross to the empty tomb, from death to life, from despair to hope- this is the direction of our faith. And if you despair today, if you have lost hope, be assured that you are simply looking in the wrong direction. For the direction of the Christian points Godward and hopeward in every situation regardless of how despairing it may seem to be.”

Excerpt from an Easter sermon by Hoover Rupert.

### I CALL UPON HIS NAME

Whenever I am burdened  
I call upon His name.  
I tell it all to Jesus.  
Then the burden isn’t the same.

He died for me at Calvary:  
From sin He set me free.  
Through Him there is salvation.  
Oh, how much He loveth me.

I can’t get along without Him  
His spirit shall always remain,  
So whenever I am burdened,  
I call upon His name.

Edna Massimilla

### CONGRATULATIONS, DEBBY !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Debbly Slocum has been selected as our lay person of the year at Greensky Hill. She came to us looking for a church for herself and her children. Greensky was a perfect match because we needed someone of her abilities, compassion, and love of life. She

has provided much joy for all of us, but especially for the children, as she presents a mini-sermon during children's time during worship and then Sunday school.

She beautifies our church wall with banners and also with her own personal stylishness. She is of Native American descent and has become our woman's drum group's lead singer. She has six children and is a role model for us all. We are grateful that she is a part of us at Greensky Hill.

Judy Johnson

#### UMW CRAFT SALE- SATURDAY, MAY 9<sup>th</sup>

The United Methodist Women will be holding their 5<sup>th</sup> annual Craft Sale in Susan Hall on Saturday, May 9, 2009 from 9:00AM to 2:00PM. Last year's event was great fun and was well attended.

Articles for sale include woodworks, native jewelry, baked goods and lots more items of interest. New this year will be an art and antique appraiser who will appraise your art works and antiques. The cost for each item appraised will be \$10/item. You must have an appointment before you come to the Craft Sale. For an appointment, call 231-599-2915.

The Craft Sale will be a great place to get a nice gift for your mom or special person for Mother's Day on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 17<sup>th</sup> annual Greensky Hill Church Benefit Golf Scramble will be held at the Antrim Dells Golf Course in Atwood, Michigan on Sunday, May 17, 2009. The event will start at 1:00PM.

The cost is \$70.00 per person (4 person team only); no handicap scramble. ALL ENTRIES ARE SECURED BY ADVANCED RESERVATIONS ONLY, with a deadline to register by Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009. All U.S.G.A. rules apply.

There will be contest holes, prizes, and a dinner buffet immediately following the tournament. Prizes will be given in 3 divisions- Men's, Ladies, and Mixed Play. For more information or to register your team, please call Mike McCreery at (231) 487-9146. All proceeds support Greensky Hill Native American Methodist Church, Charlevoix, Michigan.

#### MEN'S CLUB RAFFLE

A 36 inch authentic Odawa Canoe replica will be raffled off at Camp Meeting in August. The canoe can be seen on the fireplace mantle in Susan Hall. Tickets will be available at the Church and at the Craft Sale in May. The canoe will include two bottles of Greensky Hill maple syrup and other regalia.

#### IMPORTANT TIDBITS

1. Congratulations to Debby Slocum for being selected Greensky Hill's Lay Person of the Year for 2009. (See related article about Debby in this issue of G.H. Tidings).
2. Greensky Hill's Summer Camp Meeting dates have been changed from the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in July to August 14, 15, and 16, 2009.
3. Anyone interested in the W. Michigan Conference United Methodist Camping programs for Summer 2009, can pick up a brochure on the mailbox table in Susan Hall. Camps are available for all ages; registration forms must be in by May 15, 2009. Some scholarships are available based on financial need and first come basis.
4. Charlevoix Food Pantry- donations for the Pantry can be placed in the large basket inside the door of Susan Hall. Thank you for your donations.
5. Women's Resource Center- please help with our donations to the Resource Center; there is a tub for donations in Susan Hall.

#### INDIAN WORKERS' CONFERENCE

This year's Indian Workers' Conference will be held at the Bradley Indian Mission on April 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Greensky Hill is part of a community of faith that includes all ten Native American Churches in Michigan. There are seven churches in the West Michigan Conference and three in the Detroit Conference. The Indian Workers' Conference distributes the funds from the Native American Ministries Sunday Offering, supports the Native American Course of Study and Lay Speaking Courses, and is a time of fellowship and support.

#### NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY

Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009 is the day designated as Native American Ministries Sunday. The purpose of this day is to remind the Church of the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to our society and to collect a special offering (most churches in our Conference do this). This offering is split between the National Native American Board and our Conference. The National part helps put on programs, offers scholarships and grants to Native American Churches around the nation. Our share is distributed by the Indian Workers' Conference. We help churches with special projects and support Native American programs in our conference.

#### ANSWER TO MARCH'S BRAIN PAIN (see March 09 G.H. Tidings )

1 knife = 2 spoons  
 3 spoons = 1 knife and 1 fork  
 1 plate = 1 knife and 1 spoon  
 1 fork = 4 ounces  
 3 spoons = 1 knife and 1 fork  
 3 spoons = 2 spoons and 1 fork  
 1 fork = 1 spoon  
 Therefore:

Spoon= 4 ounces

Knife= 8 ounces

Plate= 12 ounces

.....

### MOTHER'S DAY TRIBUTE- " WHAT MAKES A MOM"

God took the songs of Angels  
 The warmth of a Summer breeze  
 The strength of rushing water  
 The beauty of Autumn leaves

The gentleness of early morn  
 The quiet sounds of night  
 Comfort for every child  
 The courage to let them take flight

The hope of a brand new day  
 The faith to move mountains  
 Patience that's unequalled  
 A love that never ends

When God combined these qualities  
 There was no more need to bother  
 He knew His masterpiece complete  
 And so He called it .... Mother  
 GOD'S ANGELS

Mothers are the angels sent by God to touch our lives with the light and the warmth of His caring. Through their guidance, we seek and find the path to our future. By their inspiration we make our own contribution to life and posterity.

Edith Lederberg

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY !!!!!!!!!!!!!

### SUCCESS

If you have a good name, if you are right more often than when you are wrong, if your children respect you, if your grandchildren are glad to see you, if your friends can count on you, and you can count on them in time of trouble, if you can face your God and say, "I have done my best", Then you are a success.

Greensky Hill UMW Council Meeting  
 February 10 2009

The meeting opened with prayer at 7:10 PM. Attending were: Judy Johnson, Madlyn Heise, Richard and Carol Tunison, Bonnie and Dennis Dominic, Mike McCreery, Al Colby, Pastor Tim Wright and Susan Bice.

The minutes of the January council meeting were approved with corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Our checking account has been moved from Citizen's Bank to Bay Winds Credit Union. Motion made to approve this change and motion was approved.

The Treasurer's Report was approved.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Tim and Paula want to thank the congregation for the Christmas gift they received.

Pastor will be inviting a young adult ministry to speak at our church in April or May, and will need people from our church to attend. More details will follow.

The theme for Lent this year will be "Journey into Radical Renovation."

Book Study will begin Feb. 22 at 7PM and will meet for six weeks.

Feb. 22 "god's aren't angry" video presentation at 5PM service.

Maundy Thursday--anyone who may be interested in helping plan this service, please contact Pastor and a time to meet will be arranged.

Pastor Tim would like the congregation to consider "why are we here—what is our mission?"

Standing Committee Reports

Trustees have not met.

Men's Club met and discussed dinner plans. March 21 at 6PM and entertainment will start at 7.

Visitation, UMW, Finance, and Worship Committees have not met. Newsletter: no report.

Open Comments:

Mike McCreery reported on fund balance from last year's golf tournament. He wanted to give this money back to the church, but it was agreed to use part of the balance for the May tournament start-up money. The balance can then be given to the church fund.

Old Business

Motion made to rescind decision made at last month's meeting to pay for Sunday evening music. It is hoped we will have volunteers to provide music on 2 and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays. Motion approved.

New Business

The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Snow Sculpture was a lot of fun for all; probably about 24 people attend. Everyone was especially impressed with Daugherty Johnson's snow sculpture. Everyone felt this would be a good activity for next year.

Evening Services: Motion to change evening service from 5PM to 3PM starting with the time change next fall. Approved.

Camp Meeting. We will need someone to be in charge and Judy will mail out letters. Date was not set.

Motion made and approved to place information about our church in Charlevoix Courier ad.

Planning Committee Meeting. Al Colby suggested have planning meetings throughout the year to set dates, goals, and any other church business for the year. These meetings are open to everyone interested in the goals and missions of the church. The first meeting will be Sunday Feb. 22 at 4PM.

Upcoming dates:

Feb. 22, 4PM Planning Committee Meeting

Feb. 22, 5PM Evening service, "god's aren't angry" video presentation

March 7, Kalkaska UMC, Grand Traverse District, "Day With Bishop"

March 28, Horton Bay UMC will present "Jesus of the Passover" program

March 21, Men's Club winter swiss steak dinner at 6PM, entertainment to follow.

Open comments: Application will be submitted to the Tribe to secure funds for summer Sunday services at the Casino.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn was made and approved. The next meeting will be March 10. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Bice