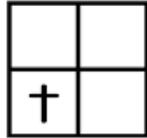


August 2018



# The Cornerstone

... prepared for the friends and members of Menominee First United Methodist Church

Rev Ryan Low Edwardson, Pastor

## Imperturbability

By Steve Goodier

I think Charles Allen said it first. "When faced with problems which threaten to steal your peace of mind, learn the meaning of the word 'imperturbability.'"

I heard of two artists who were asked to illustrate peace. Each was assigned the task of depicting a peaceful scene on canvas.

The first artist drew a beautiful picture of a countryside on a warm, spring day. A soft sun illumines green grass. A picturesque farm house and grazing cattle are bathed in its warmth. A farmer walks contentedly behind strong plow horses making his field ready for spring planting. The picture is one of beauty and quiet tranquility.

The other artist took a different approach. He drew a majestic, rugged cliff. Gnarled trees, twisted by years of violent winds, jut from the craggy mountainside. Dark clouds hang low and fierce while jagged streaks of lightning slash across an angry sky. The picture is one of violence, chaos and rage.

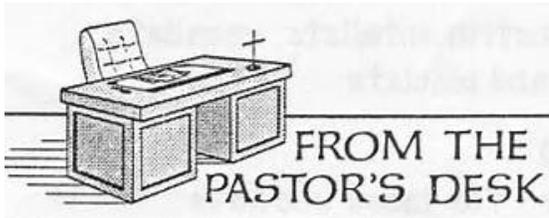
But as one looks closely, something else becomes visible. There in one of the crevices of the rocky mountain, tucked back just out of reach of the wind and rain -- a nest with two small birds. Apparently unconcerned about the impending storm, they appear calm, cozy and peaceful as they patiently wait for the turbulence to pass.



And isn't that the way it so often is? We may want to be surrounded by peace, but storms rage. Problems and pressures without threaten to steal peace of mind within.

The answer is imperturbability: inner peace which doesn't leave when circumstances change. It's a peace which is greater than the problems of life, built on assurance that the tempest will finally pass, we will survive the storm, we may grow stronger because of it and, in the meantime, we will not endure it alone.

***Imperturbability -- it's the result of a peace which passes understanding.  
For serenity is not freedom from the storm,  
but peace amid the storm.***



Earlier in July I went along with the youth group from Escanaba First and Central UMCs on a weeklong mission trip to Detroit. Some of you have asked that I share from that trip, so I thought that this newsletter article could serve as an opportunity to do so. Our group of thirteen stayed in the basement of Cass Community UMC and spent most of our time doing various work with the church's partner organization, Cass Community Social Services. The first day of our work included a morning in the kitchen where a group of us peeled and diced seven 30-Lb boxes of potatoes. It took us all morning, and several of the kids never wanted to see a potato again. Cass' kitchen has a self-imposed budget of zero, meaning that all the food that is served for three meals 365 days a year must either be donated or funded by work done in the kitchen. The kitchen takes on catering jobs as a means to fund the free meals served to shelter residents. The potatoes we peeled became potato salad served at a large corporate picnic event that makes the kitchen enough money to sustain their feeding program for roughly four months.

The afternoon of our first day of volunteering entailed much yard work and landscaping. We pushed lawn mowers, wielded weed-eaters, picked up brush, weeded, weeded, and weeded some more. One motivation for all the lawn work is that the Ford family, who donate to Cass, would be on campus later in the week. Another was that a publication was preparing to take photos of Cass' tiny homes, and they wanted them to look nice for the photo shoot. The most important though, is that cutting grass and pulling weeds in a neighborhood dotted by burnt out apartment buildings and abandoned churches say something. It communicates that we care enough to cut the grass and pull the weeds; that we care about this community enough to make it look nice. There isn't a lot of that goes on in certain neighborhoods of Detroit.

One anecdote that stuck with me happened while I was preparing to edge a sidewalk. One of the summer interns, Brandon, put me on the edger without the knowledge that I had exactly zero experience using one. I mentioned this to him after he showed me the area he wanted edged, and his reply surprised me. With no hesitation he simply stated, "That's great, we'll figure it out together." We did, and I edged a lot of sidewalk that week. Not knowing how to do something can often function as a barrier that keeps us from doing it. Yet here was this 20 something year old guy working at Cass for the summer who didn't even consider the possibility that my lack of prior edging experience would be a problem.

What impressed me most about Cass was their willingness to figure stuff out as they go. They are constantly thinking outside the box, having ingenuity, and creatively using the resources they have to achieve their mission of fighting poverty and creating opportunity. Much of the mission and ministry of Cass is specific to Detroit, but the ingenuity mindset that is constantly seeking creative ways to serve God and neighbor can be applied anywhere.

In Christ,  
Pastor Ryan

A man dies and goes to heaven. Of course St. Peter meets him at the Pearly Gates. St. Peter says, "Here's how it works. You need 100 points to make it into heaven. You tell me all the good things you've done, and I give you a certain number of points for each item, depending on how good it was. When you reach 100 points, you get in."

"Okay," the man says, "I was married to the same woman for 50 years, and never cheated on her, even in my heart." "That's wonderful," says St. Peter, "that's worth three points!" "Three points?" he says, "Well, I attended church all my life and supported its ministry with my tithe and service." "Terrific!" says St. Peter. "That's certainly worth a point." "One point?! I started a soup kitchen in my city and worked in a shelter for homeless veterans." "Fantastic, that's good for two more points", he says.

"Two points!!!!" Exasperated the man cries, "At this rate the only way I'll get into heaven is by the grace of God."

***"Bingo! 100 points! Come on in!"***



There was a little old cleaning woman that went to the local church. When the invitation was given at the end of the service, she went forward wanting to become a member. The pastor listened as she told him how she had accepted Jesus and wanted to be baptized and become a member of the church. The pastor thought to himself, "Oh my, she is so unkempt, even smells a little, and her fingernails are not clean. She picks up garbage, cleans toilets—what would the members think of her?" He told her that she needed to go home and pray about it and then decide.

The following week, here she came again. She told the pastor that she had prayed about it and still wanted to be baptized. "I have passed this church for so long. It is so beautiful and I truly want to become a member." Again the pastor told her to go home and pray some more.

A few weeks later while out eating at the restaurant, the pastor saw the little old lady. He did not want her to think he was ignoring her so he approached her and said, "I haven't seen you for a while. Is everything all right?"

"Oh yes," she said. "I talked with Jesus, and he told me not to worry about becoming a member of your church."

"He did?" said the pastor.

Oh, yes" she replied, "He said even He hasn't been able to get into your church yet, and He's been trying for years."

## Summer Recess

**The Sunday morning Adult Bible Study**

**And the Wednesday night Bible Study**

**are in recess for the Summer.**

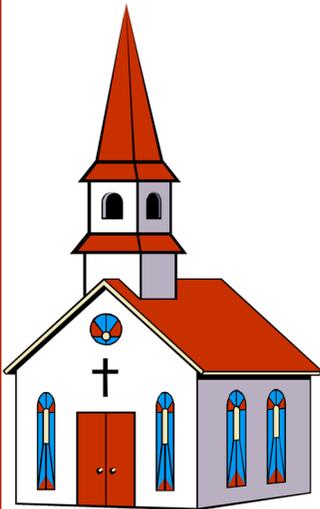
**Watch the newsletters and bulletins for information as to when they will resume.**

**Enjoy your Summer!**

## 9 THINGS GOD WON'T ASK ON THAT DAY

1. God won't ask what kind of car you drove, He'll ask how many people you drove who didn't have transportation.
2. God won't ask the square footage of your house, He'll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.
3. God won't ask about the clothes you had in your closet, He'll ask how many you helped to clothe.
4. God won't ask what your highest salary was, He'll ask if you compromised your character to obtain it.
5. God won't ask what your job title was, He'll ask if you performed your job to the best of our ability.
6. God won't ask how many friends you had, He'll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.
7. God won't ask in what neighborhood you lived, He'll ask how you treated your neighbors.
8. God won't ask about the color of your skin, He'll ask about the content of your character.
9. God won't ask why it took you so long to seek Salvation, He'll lovingly take you to your mansion in heaven, and not to the gates of Hell.

### Why Go To Church?



If you're spiritually alive, you're going to love this! If you're spiritually dead, you won't want to read it. If you're spiritually curious, there is still hope!

Why Go To Church? A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday.

"I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons.. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them... So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all." This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher: "I've been married for 30 years now.. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this. They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Be thankful for your physical AND your spiritual nourishment!

~Author Unknown

# August 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1 9a Prayer 4:30p N.B.T.	2	3	4	
			————— Pastor Ryan at Camp Michigamme —————				
5 Holy Communion 10:30a Fellowship 11:00a Worship Waterfront Parade Hot Dog Giveaway	6 4p Men's Prayer	7	8 9a Prayer 4:30p N.B.T.	9 6p Trustee	10 Pastor's Day Away	11	
	PASTOR RYAN IN MENOMINEE		OFFICE CLOSED		OFFICE CLOSED		
12 10:30a Fellowship 11:00a Worship	13 4p Men's Prayer	14	15 9a Prayer 4:30p N.B.T.	16	17 Pastor's Day Away	18	
19 10:30a Fellowship 11:00a Worship	20 2p Meno Care 4p Men's Prayer	21 10a Newsletter Deadline	22 9a Prayer 4:30p N.B.T.	23	24 Pastor's Day Away	25	
26 10:30a Fellowship 11:00a Worship	27 4p Men's Prayer	28	29 9a Prayer 4:30p N.B.T.	30	31 Pastor's Day Away		

N.B.T = Neighborhood Bible Time

## AUGUST MINISTRY SCHEDULE

### USHERS:

Aug 5 Lisa Vary & Jerry Sundquist  
Aug 12 Nancy Gibout & Keith Akins  
Aug 19 Todd Thoune & Dawn Thoune  
Aug 26 Ron Young

### GREETERS:

Aug 5 Kathleen Kewley  
Aug 12 Loren Dausey  
Aug 19 Muriel Dausey  
Aug 26 Jane Yaeger

### LITURGISTS:

Aug 5 Keith Akins  
Aug 12 Judy Rost  
Aug 19 Nancy Gibout  
Aug 26 Mary Balfour



## Birthday Greetings for August

Aug 9 Ron Young  
Aug 13 Barb Akins  
Aug 17 Loren Anderson  
Aug 22 Helen Brukart  
Aug 29 Connie Kewley  
Aug 29 Joette Seaberg  
Aug 30 Ralph Gibout

### Remember to bring sunshine into the lives of our shutins:

**Pat Picard** Luther Manor, #F1, 831 Pine Beach Rd.,  
Marinette

**Dorothy Johnson** 1110 10th Ave. #320,  
Menominee

**Joan Millimaki** Rennes West, 501 N Lake St.,  
Peshtigo

**Kelly Schweitzer** 3325 Pierce Ave. #524,  
Marinette

**John Clark** Marla Vista 1006 N Military Ave,  
Green Bay 54303

**Bob & Mary Kahl** 831 Pine Beach Rd, Marinette

Our church will again hand  
out free hot dogs and  
bottled water during the  
Waterfront Parade on  
Sunday, August 5th.



Any questions, contact Lil Kewley at  
906-863-2938



## First United Methodist Church of Menominee

**Rev. Ryan Low Edwardson, Pastor**

601 10th Avenue,  
Menominee, MI 49858  
906-864-2555

Mailing Address: PO Box 323  
Menominee, MI 49858

Office Hours: Pastor Ryan: Wednesdays & Thursdays 9a-12n  
Secretary: Tuesdays & Fridays, 9a-12n

Church email: [menomineemc@gmail.com](mailto:menomineemc@gmail.com)

Pastor Ryan's email: [umcpastorryan@gmail.com](mailto:umcpastorryan@gmail.com)

Our Website: [umcmenominee.com](http://umcmenominee.com)

### Sunday Worship Schedule

Fellowship 10:30-11:00a

Worship 11:00a

