

GUMC NEWS

Serving God, Serving Community, Connecting Community with God

Pastor Ashlei Horn

Pastor's Email: ashleiumc@yahoo.com

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 9:30-1:00pm

Pastor's Day off: Friday

Cell Phone: 269-247-1927

Church Office Phone: 269-628-2263

Church Email: info@goblesumc.org

Sermons are available on the webpage at www.goblesumc.org, under sermons tab.

Services are available on Facebook at Gobles UMC, or you may also leave a message at 628-2263 if you would like a copy on DVD.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/goblesumc/>



Men's Gathering: Breakfast/Dinner

Canceled until further notice

United Methodist Women - UMW

Canceled until further notice

Book Club

Canceled until further notice

Bible Study

Advent Zoom Bible Study, Thursday's at 10:00am. Check with Pastor Ashlei for information.

Pastor's Corner

Advent Activities

This Christmas season there are a number of things my family will not be able to do. We won't be taking our annual trip to see the Christmas decorations in Chicago. We won't be gathering in large groups or going house to house to exchange gifts with extended family and friends. We also won't have a big crowd at our Christmas dinner. Traditions that have taken place for thirty years or more in our family will look pretty differently this year.

As I was pondering how to make December feel as special as it always does, I began to reflect on how we can celebrate the birth of Christ, get in the spirit of the season, and connect with family safely this year.

1. Watch our Sunday worship service on Facebook. You do not have to have a Facebook account to watch. Don't have the internet? Please let us know as we may have a couple of other options available to get the service to you.
2. Watch our Christmas Eve Service online. This year Gobles UMC will be putting together a program called "The ABC's of Christmas" which will be posted to Facebook on December 24.
3. Join our Zoom Advent small group/study which will take place Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. Not able to access Zoom? Read the same devotional as a friend and discuss it by phone.
4. Exchange Christmas cards by mail with friends and family. It is always a joy to open your mailbox and find a pretty card inside.
5. Listen to your favorite hymns and Christmas Carols at home or in the car.
6. Make a homemade gift for a loved one.
7. Decorate for Christmas even if it is in a small way.

Although we may do some things a little differently this year, the reason for the season has not changed and never will. On Christmas we recognize Christ. Born in a humble stable yet destined to change the world forever. Let us use the season of Advent to prepare our hearts for the coming celebration.

Pastor Ashlei

United Methodist Women News

Our District Annual meeting was cancelled back in September, but the speaker that was going to be there, Deacon Sandra Bibilomo, recorded her message; and it can be viewed on-line. Her topic was on racial inequality, is only about 30 minutes long, and brings up many issues to think about. To hear her message, go to umwmichiganconference.org. Look on the left side of the page toward the bottom and click on Greater Southwest November 2020. This takes you to our district page. On the right side of page, click on Greater SW speaker Sandra Bibilomo.

The above Michigan Conference website has a lot of good articles on current topics. There is a link to a Bible study on School to Prison Pipeline, and the spiritual study, Finding Peace in an Anxious World, among many others. Check out this website along with the Greater Southwest District website. They are a good way to stay informed on topics that are important to United Methodist Women on a local, national, and global level.

Following is a website for a United Methodist Women Faith Talks podcast on Advent: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5whruLgXRMKyBkq03Whn3g. It is happening on December 3 at 2:00 pm.

Check out these sites and stay informed. Also Stay Healthy, everyone!!

*Thanks,
Cheryl R.*

*Dear God, help us to find Your
Grace everywhere we look*

Where You Can Help

Food Pantry Needs for this month:
Pancake mix, syrup, cooking oil, dish soap, and personal care items, toothpaste

Pantry is open the following days in September:
Dec 5, 9 AM to 12 noon for the food pantry
Dec 19, 9 AM to 12 noon for the food pantry

Commodity Distribution for seniors:
Dec 19, 10 AM to 11:15 AM.

Troops Overseas (Pkgs for our troops):

Dec Item(s) **chapstick and toothbrushes**
hotel size shampoo, conditioner, soap and lotion can be donated anytime.

Pocket Prayer Patch – both knit and crochet patterns are available on the bulletin board.

MISSIONS

Christmas Families

Our Christmas family ministry is going very well! So far, we have been in contact with four families with a total of eleven children. We will be providing these families with gifts for their children and a holiday meal.

Thank you to everyone who donated or prayed for the success of this project which helps to make Christmas even more bright for four local families.

Worship Servant Ministries

	<i>December</i>	<i>January</i>	<i>February</i>
Liturgist	Diane Corradini	Joann Boyer	Chris Pomeroy & Keith Shaw
Ushers & Greeters	<u>Dec 6, 13</u> Deb & Dale Siwula <u>Dec 20, 27</u> Dave & Cheryll Goodwin	<u>Jan 3, 10, 17</u> Bob & Michal Wiseley <u>Jan 24, 31</u> Dale & Deb Siwula	<u>Feb 7, 14</u> Dee Clement & Diane Corradini <u>Feb 21, 28</u> Rich & Cheryl Rumery
Hospitality			

Secretary Finance Report

Thank you all for your generous giving this year even though we haven't been in church very regularly. Checks can always be mailed to me or dropped off at the church. Thank you also for your generous giving for our Christmas families. We will be able to provide gifts for the children and food for the families.

At the beginning of each year after we set our budget for the year, we always calculate what will be needed each week in order to meet that budget. This year, 2020, we needed \$1416.37 each week. We have received, on average, \$1160.19 each week. So, thank you for your continued giving.

Cheryl R

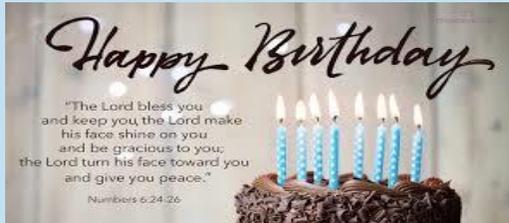
FINANCE UPDATE

We are now moving into the last month of 2020. That equates to four Sundays of gifts that will go toward meeting our financial goals for the year. Give thanks that the amount spent will be less than predicted. This is mostly due to the fact we have not had to pay health insurance premiums the last five months. Unfortunately, our income is still behind what we have paid and is projected to be behind the end of the year. Not counting the November 29 offering we have paid out \$59,028 and have receipts of \$55,525 showing a deficit of \$3,503.00

Closing our doors for COVID does not mean our expenses have not continued. Please keep your church in your prayers and at time of giving. The Finance Committee hopes the Church finances are healthy and you are also. Look for a letter in the next several weeks with a copy of the 2021 Budget.

Happy Holidays from the Finance Committee

Special celebrations of the month



- Dec 8 John Thorpe**
- Dec 21 Presley Adams**
- Dec 25 Paul Weston**
- Dec 28 Jan Westcott**
- Dec 31 Keith Shaw**



Dec 26 David & Cheryll Goodwin



- Gilberta Evans**
- Dorothy Healy**
- Ruby Hyde**
- Kit Hunsberger**
- Marlene Krajewski**
- John Smith**
- Bernice Stowman**
- Pat Wesseling**

*Call, Email, Txt,
Check your church directory for
addresses and phone numbers*

*Thank You, heavenly Father, for Your guidance in my life today.
Protect me and give me wisdom to live in a way that both pleases
You and reveals who You are*

Serving God, Serving Community, Connecting Community with God

Meeting/Committee	Gobles Church Council	Date	Monday, November 16, 2020
Chair	Pastor Ashlei	Time	6:30pm /Zoom
Recording Secretary	Karen Grimes	Next Meeting	Not determined
Present:	Pastor Ashlei, Wynne Hurlbut, Dennis Hurlbut, Joann Boyer, Chuck Grimes, Karen Grimes, Diane Corradini, Cheryl Rumery, Kim Swinehart, Deb Siwula		
Agenda Topics/Issue	Discussion		
Devotion and prayers: (Dennis)	Read 1 Corinthians 12:4.... from Incredible Journey written by Renae Coffee.		
SPRC Report Worship Team (Wynne)	<p>SPRC - met and went through pastor evaluation. Set office hours. Went well and plan to meet regularly. The booklets for conference will be handed out for church leaders. Then a list of the different groups/leaders will be periodically put in the newsletter.</p> <p>Worship - met and are up to date on closing. Will be planning a meeting to discuss options for the advent season.</p>		
Trustee Report (Chuck)	<p>Group meet on October 29th. Budget next year is set at \$6000, same as last year. Spent \$3600 last year, with snowplowing, hand sanitizers, piano tuning, carpet cleaning, fire extinguishers inspections being the biggest expenses. Discussed projects: window in Fellowship hall that needs replacing, look to replace the front entrance doors with breakaway doors. Tile in foyer needs to be replaced as they are sinking. Furnaces are scheduled for winter tune up.</p> <p>Instant hot water heater in kitchen needs to be put back on the project list.</p>		
Finance Report (Kim)	<p>Met Sunday Nov 8th after church, to look at budget for 2021. Budget was approved at that time, but error was found and corrected to \$64,181.00. Motion by Dennis to accept the corrected budget amount, seconded by Chuck. New "capital account" to combine the building fund/kitchen/carpet/parsonage fund into one. The \$1400 taken from the Food Pantry account, used for gift cards for essential workers, was paid back from checking.</p> <p>Discussed the Food Pantry account.... what are we doing with it? Roughly \$1900 there, maybe use some of the money from there towards dinners for our Christmas families if not enough money is donated. Five families, 12 kids, and 8 adults. Motion by Cheryl if we don't get enough donations, we take \$250.00 from food pantry fund to cover meals for the families, seconded by Joann. Future use of the Food Pantry fund? Something to think about.</p>		
Outreach Missions (Diane)	<p>Not a lot of outreach this year. Literacy in January. Engage MI (6 steps noted in conference packet). We were thinking of doing a community dinner, haircuts and hotdogs, but all canceled due to COVID. Did Halloween give away. Listed as Engaged church in Michigan. Only 3 in our district. Met in October to establish 2021 budget.</p>		
Education/UMW (Cheryl)	<p>UMW – trying to put items in the newsletter to let the group know what's going on.</p> <p>Education – meet after church on the 1st. Talked about doing journals or things kids can do on their own.</p>		
Hospitality/New Guest (Deb/Peggy)	<p>No hospitality since COVID. New lists of U&G for 2021 are done.</p>		
Membership (Joann)	<p>To get with Jenny on membership as the report for conference (58) doesn't match the membership list (62) (66 with 4 associate members).</p>		
Other Things	<p>Wynne brought up Safe Sanctuary policy. Need to get one for our church. Chuck as trustee should be on it. Cheryl, Debbie volunteered to help.</p>		

<i>Be A Prayer Warrior Luke 21:36</i>		
<i>Our Prayers for November, God Hears and Answers Prayers</i>		
<i>Keegan Maher</i>	<i>Madelyn Trumble</i>	<i>Pam Tibbets</i>
<i>Donita Keeley</i>	<i>Marianne Lee</i>	<i>Kelly</i>
<i>Loren Boda</i>	<i>Nick Clement</i>	<i>Country</i>
<i>Jerry Harris</i>	<i>Riley</i>	<i>Joe</i>
<i>Jean Boda</i>	<i>Rita</i>	<i>Claire</i>
<i>Jerry</i>	<i>Sally</i>	<i>Lavern Zantello</i>
		<i>Donna</i>
		<i>Sandy</i>

<i>Thank you, Prayer Warriors, Prayers Answered</i>		
<i>Todd saved Doug's life</i>	<i>Jordan Siwula transfer to Michigan</i>	

<i>Travel Prayers</i>		
	<i>Deb Siwula</i>	
	<i>Ashlei's parents</i>	



*Father, fill my heart with the willingness to help when I see a need.
Help me to give joyfully and serve You with gratitude.*



NUMBERS

Top Ten:

1. This book is called Numbers because it details two censuses that were taken and recorded.
2. Some would prefer that the book of Numbers be titled “Wilderness” or “In the Desert.” The book’s actual Hebrew title was *Bemidbar*, which means “In the Wilderness.”
3. In the Septuagint, this book’s Greek name is *Arithmoi*, which has the same root as “arithmetic.”
4. The time covered in the book of Numbers is a little less than thirty-nine years.
5. One of the key elements of the book of Numbers is this statement: “the LORD spoke to Moses.” This clause appears in the book eighty times.
6. The book of Numbers is a bit like your literature anthology back in high school. It contains a wide variety of genres: narratives, poems, songs, seemingly endless lists from two censuses, travel lists, letters, and some laws.
7. Does your pastor ever end a service with these words: “The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine on upon you and be gracious to you”? That comes from Numbers 6:24-26. It was a blessing the Lord dictated to Aaron to “bless the sons of Aaron.”
8. If you were to add up all the numbers from the census taken at Mount Sinai in chapter one of this book, you’d find that there were 603,550 males over the age of 20.
9. In the encampments of the Israelites, the tabernacle was in the middle, and the twelve tribes surrounded it: Naphtali, Asher, and Dan to the North, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun to the east, Gad, Simeon, and Rueben to the south, and Ephraim, Manasseh, and Benjamin to the west.
10. Numbers contains the humorous story of Balaam, whose donkey sees an angel Balaam can’t see – leading the donkey to turn around and have a few words with its owner (*see Numbers 22:23-30*).

Who Wrote it?

As with the previous three books, (*Leviticus, Exodus, Genesis*) it is widely assumed that Moses is the author of Numbers.

Who’s in it?

Moses; Miriam; Aaron; Korah and others who opposed Moses (*chapter 16*); Arad (king of Canaan), who tried to attack the Israelites (*chapter 21*); Balaam; Joshua; Caleb