
Robbins' Herald

FEBRUARY

2019

MARCH

Calendar Notes for February

Sunday, 3rd, Communion Sunday,
9:30 a.m., Worship
1:00 a.m., Classes
Monday, 4th, 6:30 p.m., Cub Scout Den Mtg.
Wednesday, 6th, 7:00 p.m., Women's Ensemble
Thursday, 7th, 9:30 a.m., Bible Study
Sunday, 10th, Scout Sunday
9:30 a.m., Worship
BRUNCH—Following Worship Service
Wednesday, 13th, 7:00 p.m., Women's Ensemble
Thursday, 14th, **VALENTINE'S DAY**
9:30 a.m., Women's Study
Noon, Christian's at Play
7:00 p.m., Finance Meeting
Sunday, 17th, 9:30 a.m., Worship
11:00 a.m., Classes
1:00 p.m. Civil War Re-enactment
Monday, 18th, 6:30 p.m., Cub Scout Den Mtg.
Wednesday, 20th, 7:00 p.m., Women's Ensemble
Thursday, 21st, 9:30 a.m., Bible Study
7:00 p.m., SPRC, Library
Sunday, 24th, 9:30 a.m., Worship
11:00 a.m., Classes
Monday, 25th, 4-H Meeting
Wednesday, 27th, 7:00 p.m., Women's Ensemble
Thursday, 28th, 9:30 a.m., Bible Study

REMINDER: Weekly
Prayer Meeting
Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.

Calendar Notes for March

Sunday, 3rd, Communion Sunday,
9:30 a.m., Worship
11:00 a.m., Classes
Monday, 4th, 6:30 p.m., Cub Scout Den Mtg.
Wednesday, 6th Ash Wednesday
6:00 p.m., Meal & Service
7:00 p.m., Women's Ensemble
Thursday, 7th, 9:30 a.m., Bible Study
8:00 p.m., Finance Meeting
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME—SPRING FORWARD
Sunday, 10th, 9:30 a.m., Worship
11:00 a.m., Class
Monday, 11th, 6:30 p.m., Cub Scout Den Mtg.
Wednesday, 13th, 7:00 p.m., Women's Ensemble
Thursday, 14th, 9:00 a.m., Bible Study
Noon, Christian's at Play
Friday-Saturday, 15th-16th, Boy Scout Overnight
Sunday, 17th, 9:30 a.m., Worship
11:00 a.m., Classes
1:00 p.m., Civil War Re-enactment
Monday, 18th, 6:30 p.m., Cub Scout Den Mtg.
Wednesday, 20th, 7:00 p.m., Women's Ensemble
Thursday, 21st, 9:30 a.m., Bible Study
7:00 p.m., SPR, Library
Sunday, 24th, 9:30 a.m., Worship
11:00 a.m., Classes
Monday, 25th, 4-H Meeting
Tuesday, 26th, 6:30 p.m., Mission Meeting
Wednesday, 27th, 7:00 p.m., Women's Ensemble
Thursday, 28th, 9:30 a.m., Bible Study
Sunday, 31st, 9:00 a.m., Worship
11:00 a.m., Classes

Mission Emphasis: February

Henderson Settlement in Frakes Kentucky is our February Mission.
16773 Highway 190, Frakes, KY 40940 (606) 337-3613

When the Farm first began it served as a way to support the school at Henderson Settlement. It provided food for the students who lived at the school and by working on the farm they were able to earn their room and board. Today the children go to the county school adjacent to the Settlement and the Farm serves the community in other ways.

Henderson Settlement: Creating Opportunities for Better Lives through Christ-Centered Service. Following is a list of the many Christ-Centered Services for the residents in Bell County Kentucky: Food Pantry, Senior Center, Library, New Mother Assistance/MIHOW, Women's group, Youth Ministries, Craft Shop and Thrift Store.

Beef Cattle: The Settlement has been raising beef cattle for several years. It maintains a year-round herd of cattle. Some of the calves and cattle are sold in order to help support the ministries of the Farm.

Work Camp serves two purposes at Henderson Settlement. First, and primarily, it serves as an opportunity to educate persons in mission and the needs that exist among the less fortunate in our society. Secondly, work camp often serves as the bridge between dreams and reality for families of the Laurel Fork Valley of southeastern Kentucky and northern Tennessee, while giving groups the opportunity to witness for Christ through home repair. The Frakes campus is open year around. Work teams are able to adopt a home repair project(s) and raise the money for the project(s), projects adopted should be within their team's means. The project(s) a team selects should be equal to the skill level of the team leader's.

What if the answers to the needs at Henderson Settlement is you? They welcome volunteers for any and all the areas listed above. You can go to their website **www.Hendersonsettlement.com**, and respond to their lists of needs, you can give to Missions in February (or any time) and you can pray for this important ministry. Henderson Settlement is a Mission of the Red Bird Missionary Conference, related to the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church.

Thank you for supporting this Mission.

Mission Commission members: Judy Herriff, Chris Kemper and Dave Minger.

Mission Emphasis: March



UMCOR Sunday, formally called One Great Hour of Sharing, is Robbins' Mission Emphasis for the month of March. Our giving underwrites the United Methodist Church's ministry of compassion to survivors of disaster and extreme need, by providing the funding that secures the "nuts and bolts" of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

That means that when you give to designated programs, such as the Flint Water Crisis or the river floods in Houghton MI, those funds go directly to the relief and development field.

UMCOR continues to be the United Methodist disaster relief agency that responds to disasters in Michigan, tornados and floods in central and southern states, and the fires in California. In addition, UMCOR's ministry makes a visible difference in the lives of people in more than 80 countries.

These mission funds make it possible for you to respond to disaster relief agencies with "I give through my church because I know that 100% of what I give to disaster relief goes to the site."

You may give by using envelopes in the pew racks, your giving envelopes, or your on-line account. Make your check out to RUMC and write UMCOR on the memo line. Thank you for supporting the important and compassionate work of UMCOR at a time when people are experiencing terrible loss.

Thank you for supporting this Mission.

Mission Commission members: Judy Herriff, Chris Kemper and Dave Minger

Humility, Hope, Heart, and Wisdom

A pastoral letter from Bishop David Bard on the upcoming General Conference Feb. 23-26, 2019

Sisters and Brothers in Christ in the Michigan United Methodist Church, in this new year I bring greetings in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the peace and power of the Holy Spirit.

As 2018 came to a close, many of us watched portions of the funeral services for former president George H. W. Bush and some of the news specials about his life and career. Along the way, we encountered an acronym: CAVU – clearance, and visibility unlimited. It was something President Bush learned as a Navy pilot during World War II. I imagine CAVU was a joy to hear when flying.

Not long after that, I was in Washington, D.C. for some continuing education with the North Central Jurisdiction College of Bishops, followed by two days with our General Board of Church and Society, finding out about their work and having the wonderful opportunity to meet the Chaplain of the United States Senate, Rev. Barry Black. It was a great trip, except for the flight back to Lansing. My plane from D.C. left late and I did not have a great deal of time between connections. I was worried about making it, and the flight itself was one of the bumpier I have experienced. I need not have worried, though. My flight from Chicago, O'Hare to Lansing was also delayed, by over eight hours! A trip that was supposed to leave at 9 p.m. instead left Chicago at 5:45 a.m. Curling up on airport seats and sleeping for thirty minutes at a time is not the most fun I've had. The reason for the long delay was the opposite of CAVU. Lansing was experiencing significant fog.

As we turn the calendar to this new year, we are all aware that next month delegates will be gathering for a special session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church. Important decisions will be made about who we are going to be moving into the future. Whatever decisions are made, expect there to be hurt and disappointment, and some people may choose to leave the denomination. Just what will happen is unknown. Peering ahead we do not find CAVU conditions, but rather dense fog. Some days, thinking about all this, it feels a little like trying to sleep at O'Hare airport. By the way, did you know airports are rather noisy even in the middle of the night?

I think of the poem of Wendell Berry: "When despair for the world grows in me/, and I wake in the night at the least sound/in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be.... I come into the peace of wild things.... For a time/I rest in the grace of the world, and am free."

In the midst of the unknown, the uncertain, the fearful, in the midst of all the noise and discomfort, I invite us all to find some different places where we know grace, the grace of God in Jesus Christ. For those of you who have attended the fall listening sessions, the names of these places will sound familiar.

“Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind” (1 Peter 3:8).

Go to a place called humility.

Humility is not about feeling bad about yourself. It is about knowing yourself, your gifts, your skills, your beauty, your strengths, your weaknesses, your blind spots, your stubborn places. Humility also knows that we can always learn more about the wonder and mystery of life, and the love and grace of God. We can still see more broadly, feel more deeply, think more imaginatively, and love more profoundly.

Go to a place called hope.

God is not yet done with God’s church. The United Methodist Church may go through a hard time but the mission we have identified of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, that is, bringing people into relationship with Jesus Christ so that their lives can be different and the world can be different, that mission continues. God still calls each of us to that work. God empowers each of us for that work. Forms and structures may change, but God’s love and our ability to know that love, show that love, and grow in that love, does not change.

Go to a place called heart.

There is fog up ahead and fearful things along the way. We all feel some fear, but we need not be defined by our fear. There is fog up ahead and fearful things along the way, but we can, in God’s grace “be joyful, though you’ve considered all the facts” (Wendell Berry). We can be open-hearted and gracious, even when many want to pull us in other directions.

Go to a place called wisdom.

“Thinking is hard. Fear and blame are easy.” (philosopher Martha Nussbaum) We are called to think more deeply than we often do, think more deeply than perhaps we are even comfortable with... What reasons do we offer for our own point of view, and are we listening deeply to others who may differ? In all our thinking are we able to focus on “whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable” (Philippians 4:8)?

I invite you in the coming weeks to find places of humility, hope, heart, and wisdom, places where you can rest in the grace of God.

In the Bible, there are stories of light that shine so brightly and powerfully that people are blinded. In the story of the Magi, the light seems to shine a bit less brightly, maybe appearing through cracks. Why else would the wise ones stop to ask for directions? The rays of light of God's grace are sometimes spotlight bright and sometimes like the light seeping in under a door. Places of humility, hope, heart, and wisdom will sometimes be bright and easy to locate. They may sometimes be harder to detect. Find them. Find those places of grace. Regardless of what happens at General Conference, letting the light of God's grace touch us more deeply, profoundly and beautifully is always needed, needed for our own healing, needed for the healing of the church, needed for the healing of the world.

Grace and Peace,

Bishop David Alan Bard
Michigan Area Conference

CHRISTIAN'S AT PLAY

We met Thursday, January 10, for lunch and a presentation from Peggy and Kim Katzmark about their trip to Guatemala. They talked about getting there and staying at the Ministry Center in Jocotan, Guatemala, which is run by the founder, Nancy Sheldon. They spent part of their time traveling up and down a mountain—45 minutes each way—standing in the back of a pickup truck no less. They were working on a building extension for a Christian church that was in the mountains. It has grown and needs more room to meet the needs of those in the area. They also spent time at the Center working on putting together 3,000 school packs—they need 7,000. They were also able to spend some time with the child that they sponsor, and to spend time with other children from the area. They were also able to spend a little time in Honduras and Salvador, along with Guatemala. We really enjoyed their talk.

Christians at Play is open to any adult who is available the second Thursday of the month. For more information you can talk with Judy Herriff or Keith and Diana Hayter.

ROBBINS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CHURCH COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING – JANUARY 12, 2019

Present:

Rich Bailey – SPR Chair

Ruth Bailey – Youth Ministry

Diana Hayter – Senior Adult Ministries, SPR Member

Keith Hayter – Congregational Care, Senior Adult Ministries

Amy Henderson – Finance Committee Chair

Judy Herriff – Senior Adult Ministries, Missions Team Leader

Pastor Peggy Katzmark – Worship Design, Nominations & Leadership Development, Education

Charlotte Kilvington – Lay Member to Annual Conference, Administrator of CYVAC&PP Training

Ted Kilvington – Church Council Chair

Jean Brown – Recording Secretary

Devotions:

Ted Kilvington read from Ephesians 3:14-21. Pastor Peggy then read from the Pastors Corner in Flashes. 2019 is before us. What will we end up chasing after? Where do we want to end up? Then again, where does God want us to end up? What does He want us to accomplish in our lives this year? Ephesians 3:20 reminds us of “now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think.” Verse 19 tells us we are to know the love of Christ that you may be filled with the fullness of God. The more we chase after Jesus’ love, the more we experience it, the more we are filled with God’s fullness, the more we will experience the abundance more than all we ask or think, that God wants to accomplish in and through us in 2019. It is the thing worth chasing after more than anything else. May our attention remain fixed on Him in the coming year so that we don’t wind up chasing after lesser things. The center of our thoughts and process of what we do here at Robbins is Jesus, and spreading the word of Jesus, teaching people to grow in Christ.

Pastor Peggy then opened the meeting in prayer.

Finance/Treasurer’s Report:

Amy Henderson presented the Treasurers’ Report for the year ending December 31, 2018, indicating that we did come in under budget for the year and the General Fund ended on the plus side. She explained the expenses and income for the year, noting those areas where expenditures did fall under budget. Because of this, Jim Vogel proposed some deductions in the budget for 2019. After some discussion and comments, Rich Bailey moved to accept the budget for 2019 as presented and Charlotte Kilvington seconded. The motion carried.

Pastor Peggy read a Prayer for Fruit from Colossians 1:9-12. She also reiterated a paragraph from the November, 2018, minutes for leaders to remember to “Like an event (on Facebook) and also share it to get the word out” about happenings at Robbins.

Missions Team:

Judy Herriff reported that Missions made a donation from its portion of the Endowment Fund to the Cass Community project in support of their building of tiny houses for people who are homeless and associated with Cass Community. They were able to take a load of barn wood down to them. Missions team does not have any work missions scheduled but will be concentrating on local projects in 2019. The chair building will most likely resume in the spring since there are very few orders currently. Judy noted how blessed they were with the Christmas Eve offering toward Mobility Worldwide, receiving more than \$1,300. They also received an overabundance of food donated to CCAG in December, which will make it possible for the excess to go to Hearts and Hands to use during the year.

Senior Adult Ministries:

Diana Hayter reported that Christians At Play will be playing games and/or cards every other month and schedule a program or excursion in the opposite months. January's program had Kim and Pastor Peggy presenting their Guatemala trip, which was very enjoyable. February's event will have the group playing euchre. The group is asking for suggestions for future excursions and programs.

Pastor Peggy read a Prayer for Righteousness from 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12.

Congregational Care:

Keith Hayter reported that he has not needed to provide any meals lately and is thankful everyone is doing so well. Whenever he has needed to ask, people have been very willing.

Staff Parish Relations:

Rich Bailey reported that SPR will look at Yu Han's contract and what her plans will be since her three-year agreement will expire at the end of May. They would also like to plan a celebration for Yu and Dan's marriage. Rich also indicated they will need to begin working on a Computer Use Policy in the near future. He would like to research how to provide more security for personal information stored in the filing cabinets.

Pastor Peggy read a Prayer for Salvations, and for Strengthening from 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5.

VISION/STRATEGY FOR 2019

Pastor Peggy reported that she is pleased with the work being accomplished through this church. Robbins has good employees and everyone is good with the budget. Robbins is doing a great job with Missions and does many hands-on mission work. She is, however, concerned about losing giving units; there are some who have left because of the way she preaches and relates to God and others. It was mentioned that we all do have different points of view, but we need to let the congregation know that SPR is available anytime to listen to any concerns and/or frustrations anyone has.

Of major concern will be the LBGTQ issues coming up for vote in February. There is a special called session of the General Conference from February 23rd through the 26th. They will seek a way forward on the issues surrounding LBGTQ persons. Pastor Peggy went on to read Bishop Bard's recent letter regarding Humility, Hope, Heart and Wisdom. It would be advantageous to hold a special meeting for the congregation to present and discuss these issues. February 10th was selected as the date, with a brunch, immediately following the service. Diana Hayter volunteered her Sunday School class to host and organize the brunch. Ted Kilvington will present the information and lead the discussion. If anyone has particular questions or concerns regarding these issues and wish to respond directly to the General Conference, Charlotte Kilvington will find out where to direct those inquiries.

Robbins needs a Vision Statement in order to create a strategy going forward. We have our core values—Love God, Connect with Others, Grow in Christ, Serve—and a disciple path. One suggestion was, “We embrace all people and love as Jesus taught us to love,” which was received well. Pastor Peggy emphasized the concept of the United Methodist Church of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We need to think about making disciples in whatever we say. Discussion followed on how to make it a SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, timely) goal.

We did a lot of events this last year but need to do more to get out into the community. Of the few we did—Carry the Cross, National Day of Prayer—very few from the congregation participated. Other suggestions for this year include: Box City, Parades, Tailgating at High School Homecomings, Connecting through Big Brothers/Big Sisters. More discussion will be needed on these events.

It was decided to keep the current meeting schedule for committees in 2019. Another discussion will be needed for experimenting with a one-board model to encompass people from all committees and/or restructuring our current committees.

Action Items:

Diana Hayter and Sunday School Class – Organize the brunch scheduled for February 10th to inform the congregation of the upcoming session of the General Conference.

Charlotte Kilvington – Ascertain how to contact the General Conference if anyone has further questions or concerns arising from the LBGTQ issues being discussed at their special called session.

Next meeting: February 12, 2019 at 6:30 PM
(Any and all Robbins Church Congregation are welcome.)

CCAG END OF YEAR REPORT 2018

2018 Year to Date

	Households	Adults	Children	Babies	Food Boxes	Food Certificates
Total Registered	155	273	211	9	484	493
Picked Up	134	241	202	8	443	451
No Shows	21	32	9	1	41	42

Expense Account:

Beginning Balances \$7,604.95

Revenue

Business & organization \$ 400.00

Churches & Affiliations \$3,842.42

Individuals \$ 300.00

Grants \$2,000.00

Total Revenue \$6,542.42

An additional \$100 from Robbins was given after this report.

Total recipient Expenses: \$9,835.06

Operating Expenses \$ 1,790.00

Includes rental of Thrive Church, snow removal, meeting room, postage, P.O.Box

Total Expenses \$11,625.06

ENDING BALANCE S \$2,956.89

Thank you, everyone who took an Angle Tree card, donated groceries and gifts, help pick up CCAG items from businesses, schools and churches, help sort and arrange the food as it came in, and helped sort children's gifts and were there to carry boxes to cars on Distribution Day.

Robbins Church, you have been a great witness to serving God and touching lives in His name. Mission Commission

WinSome Women Retreat Spring 2019

WinSome Women is a Christian-based organization with an all-volunteer steering committee, presenting bi-annual retreats featuring award-winning speakers and music, together with worship and prayer. It is a unique fellowship of women from all denominations and walks of life. The day and a half retreats are held in the spring and fall of each year at the historic Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island. The dates for the three back-to-back **Spring 2019** retreats are: **May 14 & 15, May 15 & 16, and May 16 & 17**. The keynote speakers are award winning speaker and author Liz Curtis Higgs, and internationally known Christian music artist Tammy Trent. Peg Arnold and Emily Klotz are featured breakout speakers. Online registration for the retreats begins **March 2**.

If it's a conference for and about women, Liz Curtis Higgs is honored to be there. She has spoken at more than 1,800 conferences in all 50 states and 15 foreign countries. Her messages are biblical, encouraging, down-to-earth, and profoundly funny. Singer, songwriter, and author Tammy Trent tells of God's faithfulness in her heartfelt story of tragedy restoration, healing, and hope. Inspirational dramatist and speaker for Wonder of Women Ministries, Peg Arnold, encourages women to embrace their unique God-given gifts; and Emily Klotz teaches how to live an abundant, victorious life in Him.

The special rate for this retreat includes the registration fee, round trip Shelper's Mackinac Island Ferry ticket, accommodations and dinner on the day of arrival, breakfast and lunch on the day of departure, all taxes, gratuities, and baggage handling fees.

The Robbins' contact is Carol Huntington. You can talk with her at church, call her at 214-8129, or by email at carolhuntington714@gmail.com.



WORSHIP AND BRUNCH.

Sunday, February 10th, we will be having a brunch in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the worship service. Our regular Coffee Time will not take place, however, there will be coffee in the Fellowship Hall. Please join your fellow Christians that morning and share a meal together. If you have any questions, please contact either Diana Hayter or Pastor Peggy.



Robbins United Methodist Church

6419 Bunker Rd.

Eaton Rapids, MI 48827

Contact information:

Church Office: 517-663-5226

Website: www.robbinsumc.org

Office Hours: Tues – Fri, 9-2

Email: robbins@robbinsumc.org



FEBRUARY

Birthdays

John Kriescher	02/05
Belynda Williams	02/05
Sara Vogel	02/06
Sharon Benton	02/12
Kora Lyon	02/12
Shannon Sharp	02/13
Julie Sommer	02/13
Judy Hinkle	02/17
Kersten Henderson	02/17
Heather Wellman	02/19
Charlotte Kilvington	02/20

MARCH

Birthdays

Cora Hasbrook	3/02
Scott Eckhart	3/15
EmaLee Franklin	3/06
Logan Towsley	3/08
Bob Noble	3/09
Jean Brown	3/12
Deidra Matthews	3/13
Amber Henderson	3/21
April Henderson	3/21
Jayne Franklin	3/22
Ruth Bailey	3/31
Lauren Garnett	3/31