



United Methodist Church of the Pines



715-356-3041

Email: office@umchurchofthepines.org

Website: www.umchurchofthepines.org

www.facebook.com/churchofthepines

415 Chippewa Street, Minocqua, WI

Mailing: P.O. Box 144

Minocqua, WI 54548



Week 6 - February 7 - 13 , 2021

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31

“Happiness is the best makeup.” - Drew Barrymore

Customer service people have a specific job to do: resolve issues or problems a customer has with a purchase or with the store's service.

Like most people, I have to return merchandise from time to time. But, fortunately, I cannot remember anything unpleasant. How about you? This is a good thing; it means that my experiences with customer service are generally positive.

This past week, I had an issue with a product I had purchased. I wrote to the company, and I received a nice reply from “Bess.” At the end of her note, her signature was followed by her job title: Customer Happiness Specialist!

In other words, her job was to make me happy, and keep me happy.

This is a huge job, isn't it?

My philosophy is that generally it is *not my job to make the people around me happy*. I think that everyone must be responsible for their own happiness, contentment and peace. And I truly believe there is truth in this position.

BUT, that said, I also believe that I *can play an important role in promoting happiness*. I should do my very best to make it easier for my wife, my family, my friends and even strangers to be happy and have a good day.

I was impressed with Bess. And I decided that I, too, wanted to be a “happiness specialist.”

What is required of someone who wants to be a Happiness Specialist?

You need a good heart and a good attitude (what some people would call a good disposition or outlook on life). You probably need an infinite amount of patience. A sense of humor wouldn't hurt, and you definitely need a smile.

Do you qualify for the job?

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Gracious God, thank you for giving to me all I need to bring good cheer into the world. Amen.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

- Sunday: Exodus 1-4
- Monday: Exodus 5-7
- Tuesday: Exodus 8-10
- Wednesday: Exodus 11-13
- Thursday: Exodus 14-17
- Friday: Exodus 18-20
- Saturday: Psalms 13-15

Verse to Remember

*"I am the LORD your God, ...
you shall have no other gods before me."*

- Exodus 20:2-3

The Life of Moses

DIRECTIONS: This week we begin readings in Exodus, and Moses is the prominent figure in this book. This puzzle reveals the name of a very important person in his life. Use the grid on the right to fill in the empty boxes on the left, which — when filled out correctly — will reveal the name of this person. Remember, only one of the letters derived from the top or the bottom clue is the correct one. We've done one box for you.

C2	D3	B1	D3	B4	C5
			I		
A5	E4	B2	E5	D4	A5



	A	B	C	D	E
1	G	R	T	J	E
2	P	K	C	B	W
3	Y	X	F	I	H
4	U	N	Z	A	O
5	M	D	S	V	L

Secret name? _____

INCOMPLETE PHRASES: Directions: Are you familiar with common American idioms and phrases? If so, this activity should be "a piece of cake."

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. A drop in the _____. | 6. The ball is _____. |
| 2. A diamond in the _____. | 7. A horse, a horse, _____. |
| 3. Barking up _____. | 8. A labor _____. |
| 4. Abandon hope _____. | 9. Been there, _____. |
| 5. A multitude _____. | 10. A house divided _____. |

Answers to INCOMPLETE PHRASES: 1. bucket, 2. rough, 3. the wrong tree, 4. ye who enter here, 5. of sins, 6. in your court, 7. my kingdom for a horse!, 8. of love, 9. done that, 10. against itself cannot stand.

Answer to Life of Moses: (spelled backwards): MAIRIM



During Lent, our worship and study will be shaped by Amy Ekeh's book, *Lent: A Season of Transformation*. Lent is a time for change, a time for our relationship with God to deepen and for us to be transformed more like Christ. We will be encouraged to turn towards God's transforming love. We will be changed by God's love and become agents of transformation in our community and world.

Drive-up distribution of ashes will take place on Wednesday, February 17th, from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m., 12:00 - 1:00 p.m., and 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. outside the church on Chicago Street and Highway 51 for people to pull into a parking spot and receive ashes and a blessing.

An Ash Wednesday Reflection will be on Facebook Live at 6:30 p.m.



Ash Wednesday February 17, 2021



First Sunday IN LENT February 21, 2021

Celebrate each Sunday of Lent by participating in the 10:00 a.m. Facebook Live worship service by going to <https://www.facebook.com/churchofthepines/live/>. A video of the service can be watched on our website at: <https://www.umchurchofthepines.org/>. The sermon recordings can be listened to by calling 715-203-1990.



Second Sunday IN LENT February 28, 2021



Fourth Sunday IN LENT March 14, 2021



Third Sunday IN LENT March 7, 2021



Fifth Sunday IN LENT March 21, 2021



LENTEN



STUDY GROUP

Pastor Mark will lead a Lenten Study on Sundays on ZOOM at 3:00 p.m. beginning February 21st and will meet for five weeks through March 21st. The study is based on Amy Ekeh's book *Lent: A Season of Transformation*, and also Tom Berlin's book *Restored: Finding Redemption in Our Mess*.

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Palm Sunday March 28, 2021

Holy Week begins with a livestreamed worship service at 10:00 a.m. on the church's Facebook page. Refer to page 5 of this newsletter for information about how to watch the livestreamed worship service, watch a video on our website, or call a special number to listen to the worship service sermons.

Drive up communion will be available on Thursday, April 1st, from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m., 12:00 - 1:00 p.m., and 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. outside the church on Chicago Street and Highway 51 for people to pull into a parking spot.

A Holy Thursday Reflection will be on Facebook Live at 7:00 p.m.



Maundy Thursday April 1, 2021



Good Friday April 2, 2021

There will be a livestreamed worship service on Facebook on Good Friday at 12:00 p.m.

The day between Christ's crucifixion and His resurrection would have been a time of grief and shock as the stunned disciples tried to understand the murder of Jesus, the betrayal of Judas, and the dashing of their hopes.



Holy Saturday April 3, 2021



EASTER **Sunrise Service** April 4, 2021

An Easter Sunrise Service will be held at Torpy Park (weather permitting) at 7:30 a.m. The service will be in the traditional Sunrise service format and all are invited to attend. Masks and social distancing will be required.

Easter Sunday Worship Service will be livestreamed on the church's Facebook page at 10:00 a.m.

"Christ is risen!"



Easter Sunday April 4, 2021