



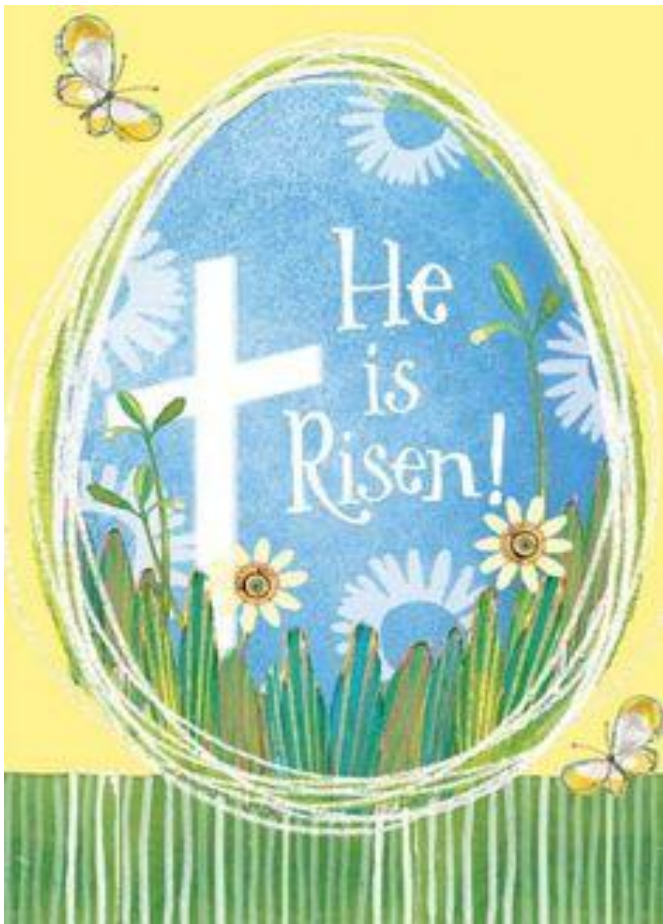
The Beacon

Volume 14 No. 4

APRIL 2025

Come join us as we continue “Lookin’ for Love”*

**Sermon Series [WDS]*



April 6, the 5th Sunday in Lent 10 AM

“Look for the Liberator”

Psalm 130, John 11:1-45

April 13, PALM SUNDAY 10 AM

“Look for the Unexpected”

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 & Matthew 21:1-4



April 18, GOOD FRIDAY 4 PM

“Love Looks for Us”

April 19, EASTER SUNDAY 10 AM

“Love Wins”

Jeremiah 31:1-6 & John 20:1-18



“Love Wins”



2025 WINNERS

L to R: Bill Lustig - 1st; Pastor Melody Olin - 2nd; Jeanette Stepanek - 3rd

On Saturday, March 22, at Empire Town Hall, the public participated in a vote to determine the "Best Chili" in town. The event successfully

raised \$615 in donations, which will be distributed to the Empire Food and Paper Pantries. All seven chili entries were unique and flavorful. The Top winner, Bill Lustig, received the 2025 Champion Apron, Pastor Melody Olin, second place winner, was awarded a set of three knives, and Jeanette Stepanek, third-place winner, received an oven mitt from Empire United Methodist Church – event sponsor. Cherry Republic donated gift boxes. Other participants included Sonny Savage, Dan Cook, Christine Adams, and Tim Barr. The organizers extended their gratitude to the guest tasters, setup volunteers, and the entire Empire community for their support.



Easter Egg Hunt



When: Sat., APRIL 19

(weather permitting)

Where: Lion's Club Park

(James R Johnson Park)

Time: 11:00 AM

Kids – Bring a basket for your eggs. Children (ages 0-12) will be put in age groups to hunt in a specific area of the park.

Candy Donations that will fit in plastic eggs are appreciated!

(Sponsored by Empire UMC and the Empire Area Community Center)



**EMPIRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES -MARCH 9, 2025**

PRESENT: Pastor Melody & Denny Olin, Sandy Mallory, Bill & Jan Lyon, Tom & Jean Petersen, Roger & Carole Merillat, Gerrie Sorbie, Tim Egeler, Kay Wilcox, Meredith Goodrick, Roger & Beth Noonan

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 10:50 a.m. by Sandy Mallory; Pastor Melody opened with a prayer.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: Motion made by Jan Lyon to accept the minutes of the last meeting. Passed unanimously.

CALIFORNIA FIRES PANCAKE BREAKFAST BENEFIT REPORT: A final total of \$4487 in donations was announced. 100% of donations were forwarded to United Methodist Committee on Relief – California Fires. Thanks to all who participated in this event.

CHILI COOK-OFF: The chili cook-off will be on March 22. A sign-up sheet for volunteers will be placed on the table in the fellowship hall.

EASTER EGG HUNT: The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on April 19. Candy donations are needed to fill the eggs.

FREE EASTER COMMUNITY DINNER: The dinner will be held on Easter Sunday, April 20, 12 Noon to 2:00 PM. Barb Smith is working on getting cheesecakes for dessert. Donations of green bean casseroles are needed. An ad will be placed in the Leelanau Enterprise to advertise this event. Take-out will be available and a “number in your party” reservation should be made so enough food will be prepared.

FIRST RESPONDERS EVENT: The First Responders Event will be held on June 14 and the first planning meeting will be held on March 18 at 1:00 p.m. This community event will honor Leelanau Co. 1st Responders and their families. Empire area residents and businesses are invited to come and show their appreciation

STAFF PASTOR-PARISH RELATIONS: Tom Petersen reported that they had their first quarterly meeting last month. The new state law for sick leave was discussed and how it covers church employees. They also discussed increasing the pay of our administrative assistant, Christine. It was decided to increase her pay to \$17.00 per hour [as office administrator and custodian] and this will be reviewed annually.

FINANCE: Meredith Goodrick reported that she is slowly learning the financial bookkeeping system. She said it has been somewhat of a struggle but is getting there with Christine's help. She gave a short financial report and said that snow removal has been quite costly this year.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH: Jean Petersen reported that the annual Spring Fling will be held on March 22. The UWF has started a book study for lent. They are also starting their planning for the Lions dinner in May; also considering a fundraiser to be held in the Fall.

MISSIONS: The next paper pantry will be held on March 25, 5:00-6:30 p.m. All items are needed and a list of these items is on the church office door. Volunteers are also needed. The Mission for March is TC Safe Harbor for Winter housing for the homeless.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Jean Petersen to adjourn. Second by Meredith Goodrick. Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: April 13, 2025 after worship

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Noonan,
recording secretary



FREE FREE FREE

COMMUNITY EASTER DINNER



SUNDAY, APRIL 20
12 – 2:00 PM

“Take-Out” available

Call us – Let us know how many in your party!

231-326-5510

**EMPIRE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
10050 MICHIGAN ST, EMPIRE**

Benefit: Empire Area Paper Pantry
Bring a new personal hygiene product!



Glen Lake Schools Student Assistance Fund

This fund is available to students who cannot afford the “extras” for participation in sports, other school activities or personal items.

Please be generous! **Make your donation by check payable to: Empire United Methodist Church, PO Box 261, Empire 49630 -**

When forwarding your donation, please note: Glen Lake Schools Student Fund

The United Methodist Church's special giving structure ensures your generosity blesses as many people as possible in sustainable, strategic ways. Through your support, and our church, we fund many projects each year.



United
Women
in Faith

EMPIRE UNIT – WESTERN WATERS DISTRICT

April 7 11:00 AM Meeting & Program

May 3: Western Waters District - 9:30 – 2:30 – White Lake UMC
“BETTER TOGETHER” Retreat – info & registration form will be on hand at our meeting.

The Purpose of United Women in Faith

“shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the Global ministries of the church.”

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/northernwatersumw>

Michigan Conference site: <https://www.umwmichiganconference.org/> National site: <https://uwfaith.org/>

Reading Program: <https://uwfaith.org/resources/2022-reading-program>

Worship Services

SUNDAYS - In Person 10:00 AM
Sermons continue Online & Web Site

PAPER PANTRY UPDATE ...

ALL items on the Paper Pantry shopping list are needed; please check out the shelves for restocking.
Please send/bring your donation [\$\$ or purchased items] for the next **PAPER PANTRY – April 22, 5:00 TO 6:30 PM.** And, don't forget to sign up for work (4th Tuesday of the month).

Thank You!





MICHIGAN STATE STUDENTS
will be our guests
APRIL 12 – 13

Overnight Housing @ EUMC - Sat. 4/12
Breakfast – Sun. 4/13 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM

Volunteers Needed to prepare pancakes, eggs, sausage & serve!

**CHOIR
REHEARSALS**

Resume

Thursday, April 3

3:45 PM

Join Us!

Contact: Donna Haiderer

== MARK YOUR CALENDAR: ==

April 6	1:00 pm	Adopt-A-Highway Clean-Up
April 18	4:00 pm	Good Friday Service
April 19	11:00 am	Easter Egg Hunt Lion's club Park
April 20	12:N-2:00 pm	Free Community Easter Dinner

== MARK YOUR CALENDAR: ==



*Holy Spirit, guide my thoughts,
words, and actions today.
Let me be a light in the darkness.
AMEN*



1ST SUNDAY – HOLY COMMUNION

"Take communion as often as you can. -- It is food for the journey."

All are welcome!



Leelanau Area Food Pantry Collection - Donations of canned goods and packaged food are collected for the Leelanau Area Food

Pantry. The pantry is always in need of volunteers. Please contact Elaine Pentilla for more information. Your participation and service are appreciated!

1st Monday of the month

Worship Team

10:00 AM

United Women of Faith

11:00 AM

2nd Sunday of every month

Food Pantry collection

- ❖ **Leelanau Area Food Pantry Collection** - Donations of canned goods and packaged food are collected for the Leelanau Area Food Pantry. The pantry is always in need of volunteers. Please contact Elaine Pentilla for more information.

Administrative Council meets after worship!

4th Tuesday of every month:

EMPIRE PAPER PANTRY 5:00-6:30 PM

- ❖ **Do not forget the Socks Box in the Lobby for the TC homeless! We will continue to collect socks throughout the Fall/Winter months!**
- ❖ **MISSION OF THE MONTH Offering** – Throughout the month, currency and coins may be placed in the tin buckets on the tables at the back of the sanctuary. The **"Mission of the Month"** offering helps a wide variety of charities and the Pastor's Discretionary Fund (for local families in need). Global, Conference and local charities are selected throughout the year for this offering. If you have any suggestions or questions about selections, please contact Jim Sorbie, chair of the Missions Team.

Be the church! *Whatever your passion/interest may be! Sing in the choir, be an usher or*

greeter, serve as a host, work with the tech team or any other way to serve! Ask the pastor how you might be able to serve, including sending out cards or making phone calls to people on the church prayer list. Don't wait for someone to ask you to use your God-given gifts and talents. Offer yourself in service.



DATE

HOSTS

COUNTERS

APR 6

Kay Coombs

Gerri Sorbie, Barb Smith

APR 13

Sandi Flack

Jan Lyon, Beth Noonan

APR 20

Jean Petersen

Tom Petersen, Sandy Mallory

APR 27

Meredith Goodrick

Kay Wilcox, Meredith Goodrick

**Serving as the Hands & Feet of Christ
141 Years in Empire
1884 – 2025**



The Beacon is published monthly by The EMPIRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. Our mailing address: PO Box 261 – 10050 Michigan Street, Empire, MI 49630. 231.326.5510 www.empireumc@gmail.com. Information and items for publication must be received at the church office by the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

EUMC Mission Statement

"To live out a faith in Jesus Christ through our efforts to hear others, share in God's truths, join in worship, and celebrate in the Joy of God's grace."

SUNDAY

10:00 AM **Worship Service**
7:00 PM AA Group

MONDAY

9:00-1:00 **Church Office** **OPEN**

(4th TUESDAY of the month)

5:00-6:30 PM Paper Pantry

WEDNESDAY

9:00-1:00 **Church Office** **OPEN**
8:00 PM NA Group

THURSDAY

9:00-1:00 **Church Office** **CLOSED**

2:30 PM Bible Study

3:45 PM Choir Rehearsal

**CHECK EMAIL – FACEBOOK - WEBSITE
FOR CURRENT INFORMATION**



**EMPIRE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
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