



**First Sunday of Advent #morehope  
December 3, 2017**

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF THE DUNES**

**717 Sheldon Road, Grand Haven, Michigan  
Phone: 616-842-7980 Website: [www.umcdunes.org](http://www.umcdunes.org)**



Sermon

## People Get Ready

Rev. Louis Grettenberger

### Response to the Word

*We respond to God's Word by offering prayers, our gifts and our service for the world and one another.*

*Youth (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) dismissed for Sunday School during the 10:30 service.*

Anthem

### **Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning**

arr. Althouse

### Sacrament of Holy Communion

#### Invitation to the Table and Great Thanksgiving Prayer

Pastor: Paul's letter to the Hebrews.....And all God's people say,

**All: Amen!**

Pastor: God be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

**People: We lift them up to God!**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord, or God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: In the beginning.....And so we proclaim this ancient song with all of the saints and angels:

**All (singing): Holy, holy, holy God! God of power! God of might! Heaven and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you! Blessed are you!**

Pastor: You sent your Son, Jesus.....we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

*Communion will be served by intinction. Come forward via the side aisles as the ushers direct to receive the elements, returning via the center aisle.*

*You may bring your offering and place it in the plates by the side aisles.*

- **Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

**Lord, let our congregation be a witness to you: immersed in scripture, constant in prayer, joyful in worship, generous in giving. A loving, supportive community reaching out like angels to those in need. Accept these gifts we offer, in Jesus' name, Amen.**

### Sending Forth

*The people are sent into ministry with the Lord's Blessing.*

- **Hymn of Dedication**                      **Hark the Herald Angels Sing**                      (red book) No. 240

- **Benediction and Chimes**

- **The Mission to the Messengers**

*Pastor: Let us focus on the candle of Hope at the front of our sanctuary and sing to one another the message we must take to the world:*

**All (singing): Do not be afraid. Do not be afraid. Do not be afraid. Do not be afraid.**

- **Postlude**

\*Words and/or music ©Abington Press printed by permission of OneLicense.net License #A-&22925

\*\*Words © UM Publishing printed by permission of OneLicense.net; License #A-722925

**Sunday, December 3, 2017**

**Liturgists:** (8:30) Eldon Eldred (10:30) Eldon Eldred

**Communion Prep:** (8:30) Bonnie VanderMolen (10:30) Karla Wischmeyer

**Communion Servers:** (8:30) Lori Koons, Pete & Betsy Peterson, Paul & Lori Koons, Pastor Lou, Pastor Eldon (10:30) Jane Brown, Karla Wischmeyer, Debra Mann, Harold & Gail Merz, Pastor Lou, Pastor Eldon

**Organist:** Marna Jeffery

**Ushers:** (8:30) Rob & Betty Roberts, Ed & Liz Lystra

(10:30) Neal Miller, Tom Grilley, Michael & Suzanne Moynihan

**Greeters:** (8:30) Dick & Shirley Good (10:30) Robert & Shirley Staehlin

**Welcome Center:** (8:30) Don & Ruth Woodward (10:30) Ron & Sue Wierda

**Children in Worship Program:** Laura Burns, Pam Zurakowski, Pete Hicks, Linda Taylor

**Nursery:** Karen Aspenson, Michele McCracken

**Coffee Fellowship:** Don & Kathy Dahlstrom, Jim & Nancy Humphrey

**Sunday, December 10, 2017**

**Liturgists:** (8:30) Jerry Gibbs (10:30) Mary Huntington

**Organist:** Marna Jeffery

**Ushers:** (8:30) Rob & Betty Roberts, Ed & Liz Lystra

(10:30) Pete Hicks, Kent Taylor, Doug Mitchell, Vaughn Umphrey

**Greeters:** (8:30) (10:30) Donald & Diana Adams

**Welcome Center:** (8:30) Sue Hafner (10:30) Jean Polk

**Children in Worship Program:** Pam Zurakowski, Jen Cryst, Carin Snider, Gynell Schaner

**Nursery:** Karen Aspenson, Kisa Weesies

**Coffee Fellowship:** Ray & Betsy Komray, Phyllis Simmons

**CHURCH OF THE DUNES CORE PURPOSE:** We are a family of faith who seeks to grow in God's grace and love, challenges and equips all members to be faithful disciples, to share the Good News and demonstrate and reflect the love of God.

**CHURCH STAFF:**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Ministers.....  | All Members of the Congregation  |
| Senior Pastor.....  | Rev. Louis Grettenberger (louis.grettenberger@gmail.com, 231-883-9806) |
| Assistant Pastor.....   | Rev. Eldon Eldred (eldon616@gmail.com, 231-855-6223)                   |
| Director of Jubilation Choir, Interim Chancel Choir Director..... | Carol Kirchner (kirchcocarol@yahoo.com)                                |
| Director of Youth Choir, Jr. Singers & Chimers.....               | Cynthia Hicks (Cynthia_Hicks@hotmail.com)                              |
| Accompanists.....   | Marna Jeffery, Cathy Shick   |
| Director of Children's Ministries.....                            | Laura Burns (lburns@umcdunes.org)                                      |
| Director of Youth Ministry.....                                   | Ashley Boersma (aboersma@umcdunes.org)                                 |
| Kitchen Coordinator.....  | Sherry Baker (sherry.baker@sbcglobal.net)                              |
| Wednesday Night Suppers.....                                      | Tracee Cole and Kelly Grilley  |
| Office Administrator.....   | Jan Blanchard (jblanchard@umcdunes.org)                                |
| Assistant Office Administrator.....                               | Shirley Chappell   |
| Custodian.....  | Jeff Thomasma (jeffthomasma@gmail.com)                                 |
| Covenant Missionaries.....  | Rev. Nkamba & Mbwizu Ndjungu and Dr. Lester & Debbie Dornon            |

## **THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

### **SUNDAY**      **December 3, 2017**

- 8:30 AM-12:00 PM Nursery Care (for children ages 0-5 years) – Nursery  
8:30 AM Worship Service – Sanctuary  
(Children Ages 5-5<sup>th</sup> grade may use a worship bag found in the Cry Room)  
9:30 AM Coffee Fellowship – Wiltse Center  
9:45-10:15 AM Carillon Ringers Rehearsal – Choir Loft  
9:45 AM FaithLink Discussion Group “Finding Hope” – Room 4 downstairs. Visitors are always welcome to attend this group.  
10:30 AM Worship Service – Sanctuary  
10:45-11:30 AM Children in Worship (Sunday morning programming for children in K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade) – Rooms 8/9 & 11/12 downstairs  
11:15 AM-12:15 PM Youth Sunday School – 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades in the Youth Room, 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades in the Pit (Room 7)  
11:30 AM BBQ Book Discussion “Seeing Gray” – Ryder Lounge  
NO Ray Vander Laan Series today  
11:30 AM Parenting Discussion Group – Wiltse Center  
12:15-1:00 PM Youth Choir – Choir Room  
2:30 PM Service at Village of the Pines led by Herm Tanis  
6:00-7:30 PM Kid’s Connection Advent Wreath Making – Wiltse Center/Social Hall  
6:00-8:00 PM Youth Group Adopt a Family Shopping trip

### **MONDAY**      **December 4, 2017**

- 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Work Bee – Panera Bread  
7:00 PM Bells of Glory – Choir Loft

### **TUESDAY**      **December 5, 2017**

- 10:30 AM Kids & Coffee Playgroup – Nursery  
6:00-7:00 PM J2B Dress Rehearsal – Duncan Woods  
6:30 PM UMW Board Meeting – Darlene Graska’s House  
6:30 PM Missions – Ryder Lounge  
Bear Den – Room 6

### **WEDNESDAY**      **December 6, 2017**

- 9:00 AM-7:00 PM J2B Cookie Drop Off – Social Hall  
9:00 AM Morning Coffee – Russ’ Restaurant  
9:30 AM Disciple IV – Ryder Lounge  
5:15-6:15 PM Wednesday Supper (Greek Chicken) – Social Hall  
6:00 PM Knitters – Conference Room  
6:00 PM Disciple IV – Room 10  
6:00-7:00 PM Jr. Singers/Chimers – Choir Room/Choir Loft  
6:00-7:00 PM Youth Small Groups – Youth Room  
6:00-7:00 PM Child Care (Birth – 1<sup>st</sup> grade) – Nursery  
6:00-7:00 PM The Greatest Advent Gift Study – Room 4  
6:00-7:15 PM Apostle’s Creed Study – Ryder Lounge  
7:30 PM Chancel Choir – Choir Loft

### **THURSDAY**      **December 7, 2017**

- Journey to Bethlehem  
9:30 AM Weight Watchers – Social Hall  
7:00 PM Mary Circle at Joyce Martyn’s

### **FRIDAY**      **December 8, 2017**

- Pastor Lou’s Day Off  
12:00 PM Second Friday Lunch at Kirby Grill, RSVP to Elaine Bradford at 616-847-8550 by Wednesday, December 6.  
Journey to Bethlehem

### **SATURDAY**      **December 9, 2017**

- Nursery Staff Breakfast  
Journey to Bethlehem

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS, PAGE 1**

**OPEN MINDS, OPEN HEARTS, OPEN DOORS: Welcome to the Church of the Dunes.** If you are a first-time visitor or a life-long member, we want you to feel at home in the circle of God's love. This is a place where all who come are welcome. Please take time to note the persons sitting near you. If you see a new-comer in your pew, welcome them and invite them to the coffee hour. If a regular attender is missing, send them a card, or give them a phone call when you get home. When we pass the friendship pads, take time to put names and faces together. "For there is no longer Jew or Greek, male or female, slave or free, for we are all one in Christ Jesus."

**OUR THEME FOR ADVENT/CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR** is a series designed by worship guru, Marcia McFee, and her creative team. It is called **Angels Among Us--#DoNotBeAfraid**.

**CHILDREN'S MISSION: KIDS HELPING GOD'S CREATURES.** The Harbor Humane Society will be the focus of The Children in Worship through January. Please check the wish list in the Wiltse Center if you would like to help with this important mission. Questions? Contact Pam Zurakowski at [zbleedgreen@gmail.com](mailto:zbleedgreen@gmail.com).

**THE APOSTLE'S CREED BY ADAM HAMILTON:** Join us on Wednesdays in the Ryder Lounge, 6 pm-7 pm as Pastor Eldon Eldred leads us in this powerful Advent Study of the truths and deeper meanings found in the Apostles' Creed that relate to us today. No books are needed. Handouts are provided at each class. Open to all weekly!

**RING!** Sign up today at the Welcome Center to ring for the Salvation Army on Saturday, December 16 at the Grand Haven Walmart.

**WE ARE OFFERING FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY AT CHURCH OF THE DUNES** for congregation members and members of the community from January 14 through March 11, 2018 on Sundays from 11:45 am-12:45 pm. What if you knew where all of your money was going each month? What if you were debt-free, investing and making wise spending decisions? With Dave Ramsey's faith-based class, financial Peace University, you CAN take control of your money and start planning for your future. If you are interested in learning more about this class, contact Susan Thorpe at 248-310-2312.

**ALL-CHURCH CHRISTMAS CAROLING NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10!** Meet at 4:00 pm at the main entrance by the church office and we'll break into groups to go caroling to our homebound members and friends. Bring enough cans of soup to feed your group, and our Soup Team will make a delicious dinner for everyone to enjoy in the Wiltse Center when we get back to church at 6:00 pm! Table service and drinks will be provided. Let's share the spirit of Christmas with our extended Dunes family!

**DECEMBER DUNESMEN MEETING:** Have you ever wondered what it would be like to spend five months away from home, hiking from border to border through some of the most wild and remote country in the lower forty-eight states? If you would like to hear what it was like for one person, come join us at the December Dunesmen meeting. Our own Phil Weesies will give a presentation on his thru-hike of the Continental Divide Trail, which began in April of this year. Dinner will be served on Monday December 11 at 6:00 pm in the Social Hall. Please let Roger ([rsandb3@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rsandb3@sbcglobal.net)) or Sandee Klop ([sandeecvo@gmail.com](mailto:sandeecvo@gmail.com)) know if you plan on eating so they will prepare enough food. Hope to see you at the meeting!

**FAMILY PROMISE NOTICE** – Beginning December 17<sup>th</sup> Church of the Dunes will be hosting Family Promise. There is still an opportunity to help by volunteering to be an Overnight Host (12/17, 12/20 or 12/23); we need new coordinators for laundry and food supplies (please call me for details); and I could use some help setting up on the afternoon of December 17<sup>th</sup>. The families we host are extremely appreciative of our welcoming congregation. Thank you in advance for your continued support of this mission. Dave Hoffman, 616-847-8438.

**SOUNDBOARD TRAINING – WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> AT 6 PM:** If you have interest in assisting at the Soundboard, now is the perfect time to join the team! Dan from Pro Audio will be here at 6 pm on Wednesday December 6<sup>th</sup> to provide training and answer questions. Please contact Pete Hicks at [hicks\\_pete@yahoo.com](mailto:hicks_pete@yahoo.com) or 713-289-4260 with questions. We look forward to seeing you there!

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

### Weekly Receipts

For Operating Expenses

### 2017 Weekly Average

\$10,044

### Weekly Attendance

Last Week: 328

Last Year: 305

**THE MONDAY EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP** will be meeting on Monday, December 18, at 6:30 p.m. in the Ryder Lounge to discuss *The True Gift* by Patricia MacLachlan. Everyone is welcome each month. This group is led by Gayle Cox.

**SEEING GRAY IN A WORLD OF BLACK & WHITE: THOUGHTS ON RELIGION, MORALITY, AND POLITICS**, by Adam Hamilton, Sundays in the Ryder Lounge 11:30 am-12:30 pm. This class is led by Jill Miller. Everyone agrees that America is polarized, with ever-hardening positions held by people less and less willing to listen to one another. No one agrees on what to do about it. One solution that hasn't yet been tried, says Adam Hamilton, is for thinking persons of faith to model for the rest of the country a richer, more thoughtful conversation on the political, moral, and religious issues that divide us.

**JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM:** The dates of the Journey this year are December 7, 8, and 9. Tickets cost \$5 and are available on-line at [www.journey2bethlehem.com](http://www.journey2bethlehem.com). We still need cookie donations. Please call Sherry Baker at 616-846-5577 or email her at [sherry.baker@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sherry.baker@sbcglobal.net) if you would like to volunteer.

**NAME TAGS:** If you would like a new magnetic name tag, please write your name on the list on the clipboard on the table in the Cry Room near the name tag rack. Once your name tag has been completed you may find it on or near the clipboard. Please allow up to two weeks for your name tag to be completed. An alphabetical listing including name tag numbers may be found in the notebook located in the Cry Room. If you forget your name tag please use a handwritten one from the Welcome Center.

**CHRISTMAS EVE NURSERY HELP WANTED.** We have many families that attend the 7 pm Christmas Eve service. We would like to open the nursery to young children. Are you willing and able to help in our nursery from 6:30-8:15 pm on Christmas Eve? Please contact Laura Burns at [lburns@umcdunes.org](mailto:lburns@umcdunes.org) to sign up. Thank you for making Christmas Eve at Church of the Dunes welcoming and hospitable for families with young children.

**FROM THE SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE:** We are encouraging everyone to use the main entrance, by the offices, during the week. Please observe the signage that is posted. We are looking to enhance our security and provide better foot traffic efficiency. During the Sunday events, the regular entrances will be utilized.

**DONATIONS NEEDED FOR SUPPER HOUSE CHRISTMAS GIFT BAGS:** Men's hats & gloves, women's gloves, women's & children's scarves, and children's books. A box for your donations is located in the lobby outside the church office. Donations will be accepted until December 6.

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRINTED "JOYS AND CONCERNS" may be placed on the backside of our blue Response Cards, which are available at the Information/Welcome Center in the narthex. You may also call the church office on or before Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. each week or e-mail your request to [jblanchard@umcdunes.org](mailto:jblanchard@umcdunes.org).

Please let the church office know in a timely manner if you or a family member is hospitalized, going to be having surgery, or are homebound and desiring a visit. Please let us know if you have experienced a death in your family. Because of confidentiality laws in place, we have no way of knowing unless you tell us. We would like to be supportive but we also need your help. Thank you.

## PRAISE GOD FOR

Thank you to Doug & Susan Thorpe for obtaining and hanging the new shelves in the Library. Mary Mihovich, Jane Turner, Ruth Archer

Thank you so much to Ashley and the Youth Group for the delicious pies! We are so blessed to have Ashley here. She is an amazing young woman. Karen Aspenson

Thank you for the care packages and cards that you sent to us at college. Kierra & Karissa Bush

CHURCH MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WHO WILL BE CELEBRATING THEIR BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: December 4-Kabri Martyniek, David Olson, Betsy Peterson; 5-Gerald Lundeen, Mark Walling; 6-Gerald Mathews; 7-Rebecca Beebe, Amy Keiser-Magner, Hunter Merkins; 8-Lexy Bakker (12 yrs.); 9-Joel Mihovich, Pete Peterson.

PLEASE JOIN UNITED METHODISTS AROUND THE WORLD WHO ARE PRAYING FOR: Ukraine: Shaping a new generation of post-Soviet youth through Christian faith; and Kristen Schmitz, missionary.

---

**PLEASE KNOW THAT OUR WORSHIP SERVICE IS VIDEO-TAPED** and the sermon only is posted for later viewing on our church website. Every effort is made to focus our camera only on the pastor. On very rare occasions, persons seated near the front of the church may appear in this sermon video. We do not have the time or facility to edit out these images. If you have objections to inadvertently appearing in a sermon video that will be posted on the church website, we would encourage you to find seats toward the back of the sanctuary. You are welcome to take pictures or video of your children during a musical performance in our worship services or other church activities, however, please refrain from posting any videos or photos to public places, such as Facebook or YouTube, as the **musical performances are copyright protected** and some parents may not have consented to public use of images.

**NEED A HELPING ELBOW?** Ushers and/or Greeters would love to lend you a supportive elbow, wheelchair, walker, or umbrella if it would make the walk from the parking lot to the sanctuary more comfortable and safe for you on Sunday mornings. Please stop by the Information Center (Welcome Center) to pick up a colorful card with the umbrella logo pictured here. Place it in your car in a window visible to the church's main entrance and a Greeter or Usher will come out to assist you. If you cannot pick up a card from church, or to request assistance ahead of time, please call the church office by noon on Friday with your name, which service you will attend, and car make and color, and we will make arrangements.

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:** Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. or by appointment. Please note: Pastor Lou's day off is Friday.

**DEADLINES:** Bulletins-Wednesdays at 3 p.m.; Dunes Digest Newsletter-the 15<sup>th</sup> day of each month.