

The First United Methodist Church of Lowell Tele-Christian October 2024 Edition

The mission of the United Methodist Church is to
make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Mark's Remarks...

The Roman Road



Would you know how to lead someone to Christ? If someone were to ask you, "How can I know if I'm a Christian?" would you be able to answer? Rev. N. Stan Hankins, a friend of mine who is a missionary, led a workshop a few years back on Sharing Faith Naturally. Part of his teaching was the Roman Road. In Romans, Paul lays out the Gospel message. It requires some memorization, but the fruits could be eternal for someone that you encounter. We can all use reminders of these tools to share our faith. I'm thankful to Stan for bringing this tool to my attention once again.

Romans 3:23

"..for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"

This verse tells us that all people have sinned. We have fallen short of God's intended purpose for us. God made us to know Him.... to receive His love and to love him in return.

Romans 6:23

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Wages are just payment... due reward... what one has coming because of labor. The just payment for our sin is death. The wages of sin is death, but God's free gift is eternal life. While wages are earned, a gift is offered... no strings attached. God says He will give us eternal life; life with Him in the place of sin's payment of death. How can God remain true to His holiness and forgive unholy sinners? God is holy because Jesus, His Son, has paid the price for sin by His death on the cross. How can you receive God's free gift of love and life?

Romans 10:9-10

"That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus as Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be save. For with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation."

A person receives God's free gift of love and life by placing faith in Jesus Christ. To believe is simply to take God at His word. With our heart, we believe that Jesus is God's Son who died for our sin on the cross and arose from the grave to live in us as Savior and Lord.

Romans 10:13

"for Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved."

To call means simply to ask in prayer. The verse does not require one to know more... do better... clean up one's life... or in any way try to add to what Jesus has done for us. Simply trust in Jesus as your Savior and desire to turn your life over to His grace and will.

Pastor Mark



October Sermon Title and Scripture Schedule

October 6 ~	Scripture: Mark 10:13-16	Sermon Title: 'Be a Child, Communion Will Help'
October 13 ~	Scripture: Mark 10:17-27	Sermon Title: 'Camels and Needles'
October 20 ~	Scripture: Job 38:1-7	Sermon Title: 'WHY God!?'
October 27 ~	Scripture: John 11:38:1-7	Sermon Title: 'Come Out of Death'



Worship News

Trudy Corning and Linda Hayden, Co-Chairs

Join us for worship each Sunday at 9:30 am in the sanctuary. Upcoming services include:

World Wide Communion Sunday on October 6

We will share communion with each other as Christian's throughout the world will also break bread together.

Children's Sunday on October 20

On this day, there will be a blessing for all the children present.

Looking ahead to November, All Saints Day will be November 3.

LYFT is another opportunity to worship weekly; LYFT includes a meal, fellowship and worship every Thursday in the Fellowship Hall. The article below has more information on **Live Your Faith Today**.



LYFT is our Thursday evening worship service. We start at 5:30 pm with dinner and go right into worship at 6 pm. Worship includes music, a lay person or Pastor Mark speaking, prayer and communion. LYFT is a casual worship service where each week we enjoy food, fellowship and fun! Everyone is welcome! Bring a friend!



Charge Conference

The annual meeting of the church, the Charge Conference is set for Saturday, October 12 at the Church of the Four Seasons. It starts at 3:30 pm. This meeting is open to all but the members of the Administrative Council are expected to attend. Talk to Pastor Mark if you have questions.



Mission of the Month

In October we are supporting Samaritan's Purse. This is the organization that collects and distributes the shoe boxes every year. We are going to be collecting shoe boxes, but in addition we will collect money to help with their ministry. Samaritan's Purse provides disaster relief around the world. In the U.S. they deploy immediately with supplies and volunteers to help in fires, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes and other disaster situations. They also deploy around the world to war and famine torn areas as well as natural disasters and provide aid. Your dollars can have a positive impact on someone who is hurting. On October 13 there will be envelopes in the bulletin. We will accept donations all month.



College Care Packages

Congregational Care will again send final exam boxes to our college students this fall! During the month of November, our church members will collect items, write notes of encouragement for the boxes and mail care packages to the students as finals week approaches. Our church family looks forward to supporting our college students.

Please submit the names and addresses of your loved ones currently enrolled in college to the church office **by November 1**.

COLLEGE STUDENT





STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

The Finance Committee wants you to know how much your faithful giving to our programming, missions, outreach and operations is appreciated. Your commitment helps to spread God's word within our church and within our community.

By now, you should have received the annual stewardship letter and 2024 Commitment Card. It contains many things to pray about...time, service, and money. Are you able to give more of your time? Are you able to serve God in more ways? Are you able to tithe (10% of your income)? If you aren't able to tithe, are you able to increase your giving by at least 1%? Your church is doing wonderful things in God's name and wouldn't it be wonderful to do more?

Important dates to keep in mind: Return your Commitment Card on Thursday, Lyft service, **October 10** or Sunday, **October 13**. You may, also, return it to the church office prior to October 13. **It is very important to fill out a card and return it, even if you are unable to financially commit this year.**

Blessings for your prayers and faithful commitment.



It's Pumpkin Time!

Our church will be hosting a Pumpkin Party again this year! This is a fall themed event that is open to the children of our community. It is held in conjunction with the Lowell Chamber of Commerce's *Pumpkin Fest* on Saturday, October 19. Our event will follow the Parks Department's Pumpkin March that takes place in Olde Towne Square Park and downtown. We will be serving a free lunch, having a story time, and offering some games for the kids to play. Spread the word to kids you know!

Volunteers and donations will be needed! Check out the table in the Narthex to sign up!

THANK YOU!



Thank you for a successful and enjoyable Chuckwagon Dinner! It was a great evening of good music, food and fellowship! The funds raised will be used to support future outreach programs including Winterfest on Saturday, December 7.

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Thanks for making my 91st birthday so special with all of your greetings, the card and love. Our son, Gerard, sends thanks for the blanket that was prayed over and given to him.

Fondly, Paula Tilton

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Thank you for your gift designated to the Direct Scholarship Fund. Through your contributions, Africa University is able to provide students with an excellent education and a good quality of life while they are on the campus. Sincerely, James H. Salley, Africa University

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Dear First UMC,  
Thank you all for your donation to help us in our mission in Haiti. We appreciate your support.  
Blessings, Grace International Children's Hospital

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Dear First UMC,
Thank you so much for helping us be able to have the store and the soup kitchen open for the people of Rosebud to have a great place to come. We have a lot of new nice clothing right now, which is a great hit.
Blessings,
Pastor Linda Garriott, Executive Director, Tree of Life Ministries



I'm the church mouse. I see all that goes on in the church and I love to gossip about it. Of course being a Christian mouse, I only say positive things.

The Trustees have been busy getting the rental house beside the church ready for a new renter. They've spent a lot of time inspecting and sprucing to make it just right for the new resident in October.

Speaking of Trustees, was that Bill Bubness I saw crawling around the parking lot painting the curbs and parking blocks? What dedication, and probably sore knees!

I sure am going to be sad to see David Schoon retire. I loved to sit in the church and listen to him practice over the years. He has been so dedicated to this church and has been fun to be around. Thank you David!

Be careful when you do good work for the church. I'm watching and just waiting to share that gossip.



Senior Bingo

Young at Heart Sr. Bingo will meet on October 22 at 1 pm. There will be snacks, prizes for the winners and many games of Bingo all for no charge to you. Invite friends. Everyone is welcome!



November 3 will be All Saints Sunday

November 17 is Veteran's Sunday

December 7 we'll take part in Winterfest once again.

Make sure these big events are on your calendar.

All the details are coming closer to the date.



Pastor's Comic Corner

In case you haven't noticed, I love humor.

Below are comics that I've come across. Enjoy and smile! Pastor Mark



"This church bulletin should be safe. I tried it on the crash test dummy."



"I took an inventory. The church fridge consists of only seven jars of expired mayonnaise."

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WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday - Adult Sunday School 8:15am ~ WINGS (300), FRIENDS (304) *Worship* ~ 9:30am (in Sanctuary), **Monday** - A/A 12pm (303) **Wednesday** - A/A - 8pm (Fellowship Hall), Al/Anon - 8pm (library) **Thursday** - Dulcimers 10am (303), *LYFT* Dinner 5:30pm *Worship* 6:00pm (F.H.), Godsbells practice 4:30pm, Chancel Choir practice 7pm (sanct.) **Friday** - A/A 12pm (303) **Saturday** - A/A 11 a.m. (303)

October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 UWF Exec. Meeting 5 pm (library)	3	4 Working Together Circle 1:30 pm (lib)	5
6 World Communion Sunday	7 Susanna Wesley 1pm @ Lois Women's Study 3p Tri-Kappa 4 pm (FH) Staff/Parish 4:30 pm (conf. room)	8	9 Education Meeting 7 pm (rm 300)	10	11	12 Charge Conference Four Seasons UMC 3:30 pm
13 Commitment Sunday	14 Women's Study 3p Shift 5:30 pm (304)	15 Household Pantry 9-1 & 5-6 (curbside)	16 Finance 5:30 pm (FH)	17	18	19 Children's Pumpkin Party
20 Children's Sunday Blessing of the Children	21 Women's Study 3p	22 Senior Bingo 1 pm (FH)	23	24	25	26
27	28 Women's Study 3p Administrative Council 6 pm (FH)	29	30	31 Halloween/ **NO LYFT		