

## Pastor Ray's Ramblings:

The past few months of winter have been a vivid reminder that we go through seasons in life not unlike the seasons of climate. Summer months gave way to extended periods of cold weather. The cold months are often accompanied by grey and dreary skies and days of huddled seclusion in one's home. For many people winter is a time when the exciting and enjoyable experiences of life are temporarily put on hold. Except for the occasional bird, rabbit, deer or squirrel outside there is little that demonstrates vitality. We all go through periods of life like that. However, even the dreary landscapes of winter can remind us from time to time that there is a great deal of beauty to be experienced when everything seems to lack color. Last week we were blanketed in perhaps the last snowfall of winter. The landscape was in many ways so enchanting. A covering of snow seemed to purify all it covered. The sunlight streamed through snow covered diamonds. I am reminded that the seemingly bleak times in life are often just waiting to flash again the great brilliance of design when the sun once again shines upon it. Times in life that seem cold and lifeless are just waiting for the touch of God's presence upon them again to reveal afresh the hidden beauty within just waiting for the right time to be revealed. Times when most everything in life seems dormant and on hold are a necessary precursor to the gestation of new life emerging anew. Our annual bout with winter demonstrates that times of dormancy are natural and are temporary. They are not times of emptiness but times of preparation. All it takes is for the Son(sic) to shine in and through once more. Gradually we warm again from within and without. God is all about making everything beautiful in



its time. All nature sings the glorious life renewing work of God. Our lives sing for the renewing work of God's transformation within during our seasons of life.

May our lives replicate the newness of life in Christ just as nature once again displays its new life emerging from the bleak winter just coming to an end.

## Book Circle:

Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 16 at the home of Marj Salata. Nancy Johnson will review a book with us.



## Save the Dates:

*Saturday, April 27,  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon  
"Life Expressions Party!"*



We had one of these parties last Fall and we made \$200 for Charitable Giving. Let's try to double that at the April party! The more people that attend the more money we make. The company donates \$10 for every sign made.

No prior experience is necessary. This is a lot of fun for all AND for a great cause! Men, women and teens are invited. Bring your friends!

Look for the sign up sheet on the bulletin board. If you have any questions please contact Pat Krehn at 414-7256. Thanks!

*Thursday, May 9  
Mother's Day Salad Luncheon  
More details to come*

## Our Church Family:

### *Health Concerns ~*



#### Update on **Jerry Miller**.

The Radiation Oncologist was an amazing breath of fresh air. He had so many positive things to say. The location of where the tumor was is ideal for treatment. It was close to the surface and easy to get to. It was far away from all of the tricky places in the brain. He had Jerry complete the CT scan as well as created the mask for radiation. Next week we will complete the last MRI needed before treatment see the Chemotherapy Oncologist. After next Tuesday will be given a start date.

**Jean Morse has moved** to Indiana with her daughter and son in law. She will be there at least until July. She would love to hear from her church family. The address for Jean is: 2260 Lake Crest Drive, Columbus, IN 47201.

### *Sympathy ~*

We extend our sympathy to Jean Morse and family. **Jim Morse** passed away on February 25, 2019 at his home. Jim was born March 1, 1939 in Detroit Michigan, he grew up in Bellevue, Michigan and he graduated from Michigan State University. He was retired from Gerber Products Company and he was a member of our church. He was an avid outdoorsman, and enjoyed hunting, golfing, fishing, and boating on Lake Michigan. Services were held on March 2 in the sanctuary with Pastor Ray officiating.

## April Birthdays

- 5 Rob Pullman
- 7 Dylan White
- 8 David Zeerip
- 9 Gary Deuling
- 11 Yvonne Lee
- 16 Colleen Conant
- 17 Kayla Robeck
- 19 Arnold Dougan
- 21 Bill Black  
Linda Oosterhouse
- 22 Chris Huizenga
- 24 Beth Hooker  
Helen Miller  
V. Carol Stark
- 26 Steve Johnson
- 27 Mary Butterick  
Evanna Harden  
Ray Smith  
Dav Wahl



## April Anniversaries

- 6 Gary & Beth Hooker
- 16 Rob & Angela Pulleman
- 24 Duane & Loretta VanDuzen
- 27 Bob & Sally DeShetler
- 30 Pat & Robin Dekleva

