



March 2023

Tower Notes

A PUBLICATION OF BETHANY AND OTISVILLE UMC
Clio, Michigan 48420

*As thou didst hunger bear, and thirst,
so teach us, gracious Lord,
to die to self, and chiefly live
by thy most holy word.*

UMH#269 "Lord Who Throughout These Forty Days"

From the Pastor's Desk



Please join the Bridge Team and every member of Otisville and Bethany churches in praying the following prayer, either at 8:30a.m. or 8:30p.m.—or Both!—as we send a communal prayer to our Lord and Savior to be with all of us as we dream a Jesus sized dream for our Co-operative Parish. Please be in prayer for us as we continue on this journey for both churches.

"Guiding Spirit, FILL us with YOUR fire, LEAD us by YOUR light, UNITE us in YOUR calling. Amen"

Forty or forty-six? That is the question! Lent is a season of 46 days in our calendar cycle, beginning with Ash Wednesday. The forty days of Lent are fast days in the broader sense—they are times of discipline and self restraint, times of seeking deeper relationship with God, turning away from what is keeping us from deeper faith and more purposeful living. The additional six days are feast days, as Sundays, the Lord's day is always a feast day in the life of the church.

We often focus on what we take out of our lives in this season. I often find myself honing in on certain areas of life, slowing down and adding in a practice or two—how can I use this time to reflect, grow, seek deeper meaning in my life, in ministry and greater fulfillment in my relationship with God and my neighbor. As I sift and sort through the materials for our sermon series—there is much I am seeking this Lent.

So Pastor, what are YOU doing this Lent?

Reading: *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans, of course *John: Gospel of Light and Life* by Adam Hamilton; *Flying, Falling, Catching* by Henri Nouwen

Listening: Daily Audio Bible—scripture passages read and reflected, see more: <https://dailyaudiobible.com/>; *Now What?: How to Move Forward When We are Divided* by Sarah Holland and Beth Silvers (THIS has been excellent!)

Healthy Living: Exercising with a regular program, although, the power outage has deterred that a bit! I am also trying to get myself toward a gluten free diet—a CHALLENGE, but it's needed for my health. I am also trying to limit carbohydrates overall, to try to get my body reset, following a health plan that I have succeeded with before, more energy, less inflammation—that is the goal!

Praying: Our prayer of calling daily. Asking God to make clear the vision that is most fitting for both our congregations in this season of fasting, listening, discerning what gifts and graces we will bring to one another. I wonder what God has been revealing to you as you have been praying...I'd love to have a conversation with you about it!

While we are already into Lent, it's not too early to begin again. The beauty that comes with each morning is the freshness of a new day. God is always seeking to connect with us—are we connecting with God? Now is the time to start—now is the time to begin again! Flip through the pages—there are LOTS of opportunities to engage!

Pastor Kayla



Date	Scripture	Theme
March 5	Genesis 12:1-4a John 3:1-17	How do we begin again?
March 12	Exodus 17:1-7 John 4:5-42	Will you give me a drink?
March 19	John 9:1-41	Who sinned?
March 26	Ezekiel 37:1-14 John 11:1-45	Can these bones live?
April 2	Matthew 21:1-11	Where are you headed?
April 6	John 13:1-17; 31b-35	Will you wash my feet? Joint service at Bethany 7pm
April 7	Matthew 27:27-50	Why have you forsaken me? Joint service at Otisville at 1pm
April 9	John 20:1-18	Who are you looking for?

Communications Update!

Bethany and Otisville have agreed to participate in a One Call Tell All communications system. This is a calling program that will allow us to place calls for reminders, announcements and prayer chain calls so there is one, clear and consistent message. Should you not be able to answer your home (land line OR cell phone) it will leave you a voice message. The message will come from someone from church (initially Pastor Kayla, but she'll be looking for helpers). We would like to ask that one number per household signs up for this—but we need your help to sign-up! There will be a sign-up sheet available, please designate your name and the home number you would like us to include so we can begin implementing in the weeks ahead!



Did you get a star word? More are available outside the office at Bethany!

Start with what you know – how do you define the word? How do you already experience this word – is it negative, is it positive? What emotion does it evoke in you as you have received the word?

What do you need to know? How is the word defined? What does scripture say? What do current and historic leaders have to say about this word? What is inspiring or challenging about this word to you?

How might God be calling you to stretch and grow through the lens of this word in 2023? Personal: family, friends, finances, spiritually, health and mental well-being, maybe God is calling you to something new in this season through the random-ness of the draw.

FROM the Youth & Children's DIRECTOR

Office Hours

Mondays: 9am—2pm Tuesdays: 1pm—8pm
 Wednesdays: 1pm—7pm Thursdays: 9am—2pm

Schedules may change due to meetings and other events. Call the church office first to check with my availability.

Contact Information

Phone Numbers: Office—810-686-5151; Cell—810-701-4644
 Email: youth@cliobethany.org
 Facebook: facebook.com/cliobethany

It's been a while everyone. I'm so happy and excited to be back to work and church with all of you. It's been a very long 9-10 weeks, but God has done and is doing wondrous works in me and through me that I'm energized and motivated to be back in person with you. Thank you for all the cards, prayers, gifts, texts...everything! My heart is full from the love, compassion and kindness you shared with me during this time. This month's happenings report will be short because I'm getting back into routines and getting adjusted to all the fun and exciting things going on here at Bethany! It was an overflow of information about ALL the ongoing projects and fun things being planned, but the energy is contagious and am ready to hit the ground running. Let get into it.

~~~Marc Middleton  
 Director of Youth and Children's Ministries

Lent is a great time to incorporate a new practice that grows our relationship with God. I would like to share with you a practice that you can do with the young ones, the older ones, and yourself. This practice is a time of blessing! I encourage you to read the scripture chosen each week, which you can do as often as you prefer. After you read it, I encourage you to draw a cross (a smile on Easter) with your finger on your forehead or your palm and remind everyone that you are a blessing to God.

|                              |                  |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Week 2 of Lent (March 5th):  | Mark 1:35        |
| Week 3 of Lent (March 12th): | Matthew 7:7-11   |
| Week 4 of Lent (March 19th): | Matthew 18:19-20 |
| Week 5 of Lent (March 26th): | Matthew 19:13-14 |
| Palm Sunday (April 2nd):     | Luke 22:39-46    |
| Easter Sunday (April 9th):   | Luke 24:1-12     |



## Family Conversations

The world is a crazy place for our children and youth nowadays. From still trying to navigate how life works in this post-pandemic world to hearing about school shootings more frequently than we want. Our kids are processing all this information just as we are, and they look to us to help them in their processing. How can we talk to our kids about what they're wrestling with in a honest place as we wrestle with things ourselves? As you gather together, I encourage you to do a one-word check in about how your day was. Be honest with the kids about your day too. While you don't have to share EVERY detail about your day, they want to hear your honest response. Kids, especially youth, value transparency. Once everyone has

done their check-in, ask questions to continue the question and allow them to ask questions to you too. The environment should be judgment-free, but have healthy boundaries to allow everyone to share their true feelings and not something they want you to hear or you want them to hear. If they don't want to have a conversation about it, respect their boundary. Sometimes we don't want to share what's been hard about our day. Reassure them that you'll be there to listen when they're ready. Ask how they want you to respond: whether they just need to share emotions or are asking for advice. If you would like to talk about how to structure this type of conversation with your crew or have any questions you may have, please reach out.



- |                  |                   |                  |                  |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Mark 7:1-13   | 33                | 20. Mark 16      | 30. Luke 5:1-16  |
| 2. Mark 7:14-37  | 11. Mark 12:1-27  | 21. Luke 1:1-20  | 31. Luke 5:17-39 |
| 3. Mark 8:1-21   | 12. Mark 12:28-44 | 22. Luke 1:21-38 |                  |
| 4. Mark 8:22-38  | 13. Mark 13:1-20  | 23. Luke 1:39-56 |                  |
| 5. Mark 9:1-29   | 14. Mark 13:21-37 | 24. Luke 1:57-80 |                  |
| 6. Mark 9:30-50  | 15. Mark 14:1-26  | 25. Luke 2:1-24  |                  |
| 7. Mark 10:1-31  | 16. Mark 14:27-53 | 26. Luke 2:25-52 |                  |
| 8. Mark 10:32-52 | 17. Mark 14:54-72 | 27. Luke 3       |                  |
| 9. Mark 11:1-18  | 18. Mark 15:1-25  | 28. Luke 4:1-30  |                  |
| 10. Mark 11:19-  | 19. Mark 15:26-47 | 29. Luke 4:31-44 |                  |

## Bethany Happenings



*Gospel of Light and Life* by Adam Hamilton. Can't make a week? Come join us the next week. We will be reading the entire Gospel and tackling some of the theological conversations as we go!

how we can be a safe place for all people. If you have any questions, please see Marc Middleton.

**ROLLER SKATING** is held every Tuesday at 6:30 PM. Everyone is welcome. \$1.00 donation a person which includes skate rental. **ROLLERSKATING WITH THE POLICE** Police Officers from the area will be joining us for skating on March 7th! Ice Cream Social to follow!

**VIBE** is meeting on Wednesdays, from 3-4:30 PM. This is for all 5th-12 graders who are looking for a safe place to hang out, play games, do homework, and enjoy the company of each other.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE** Join us at 4:30 for an hour of fun learning the Bible and participating in activities set for children, youth, and adults.

**SPIRITUAL GIFTS EXPLORATION WITH PK** Join Pastor Kayla on March 7th, 2pm at Otisville OR March 15, 6:30 at Bethany for further exploration of your Spiritual Gifts and how you might glorify God by using them for a unique purpose within the body of the church!

**BIBLE STUDY WITH PK** Beginning March 1st at 4:30, join Pastor Kayla at Bethany for a 6 week Bible Study, using the book *John: The*

**EASTER BREAKFAST** The Committee on Education is planning an Easter morning Breakfast. This breakfast will be a potluck of breakfast casseroles. If you plan to attend, please sign up at the Welcome Desk and let us know what you plan to bring. This is a great time to share your favorite breakfast casserole.

**MEMBER CARE FELLOWSHIP HOUR** will be on March 26th. We will be continuing the work we started in February as we try to reconnect and reengage some of our members and friends.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** We have classes for children, youth, and adults. Our adult class is led by Sue Boyse and they are just starting a new book study. Come check our classes out. Every Sunday morning at 10:00 AM

**SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING** Additional volunteer trainings are scheduled for volunteers in our church. This training is good for all members of our congregation, not just those who are working with children and youth. There will be ample time for questions and answers during the training. The trainings will be March 22nd & April 19th at 6:30 (following the Community Dinner). We will gather in the fellowship hall for good discussion and talk about



Bethany UMC Community Dinners are every Wednesday at 5:30 PM. These meals are free to anyone that wishes to come and enjoy some good food and fellowship. You do not need to be affiliated with the church in any way to attend. **HELP NEEDED!** We need people willing to prepare a meal for this ministry. If you are able to help in any capacity, but especially in preparing a meal, please let Les Randall or the church office know.





*Shut-in  
Outreach*

Madelon Sipler  
Brookdale Grand Blanc  
5080 E. Baldwin Rd.  
Holly, MI 48442  
810-687-0248

Ron Lemmon  
1126 Pinehurst  
Mt. Morris, MI 48458  
810-686-5739

Ruth Ackerman  
11364 Runnels Dr.  
Clio, MI 48420  
810-686-9406

Norma Gillette  
3056 Wilman Dr.  
Clio, MI 48420

Wilma Thoms  
513 Elm St.  
Clio, MI 48420  
810-686-6285

Jack and Mary Edwards  
4480 W. Lake Rd.  
Clio, MI 48420  
810-686-0364

Dorothy Isbell  
12063 Sara  
Montrose, MI 48457  
810-639-1055

Juanita Woolworth  
3221 E. Baldwin  
Rm. 221  
Grand Blanc, MI 48439  
810-730-7670

John & Pat Corder  
4029 W. Dodge Rd.  
Clio, MI 48420  
810-730-7670

Darlene Morgridge  
P.O. Box 446  
Clio, MI 48420  
Margaret Gray

Margaret Gray  
4165 Willard Rd.  
Birch Run, MI 48415  
810-686-9143

Pat and Chris Longueil  
9170 Maplewood Dr.  
Clio, MI 48420

Carol Wilson  
11365 Runnels Dr.  
Clio, MI 48420  
810-686-8737

Don Cain  
461 Selkirk Dr.  
Mt. Morris, MI 48458  
810-265-6162

Please remember these wonderful members of Bethany's congregation. Give them a call or send them a card letting them know that we are thinking of them and sending them our love! Cards are available in the Gathering Room or ask Kory, if there aren't any on the table next to the coat room!

If you know of someone who is not a church member, but would just like to receive a card or a message, please get them to Diane Weaver and she will add them to the list. Everyone is welcome and needs a kind word.



*Send  
a  
Card*

# PRAYER

## *list...*

### Remember in Your Prayers

- ⇒ Katy Smith
- ⇒ Family of Jane Revere
- ⇒ Family of Carl Gunnels
- ⇒ Family of Dave Langdon
- ⇒ Family of Pastor John Bailey
- ⇒ Beverly Williams
- ⇒ Lloyd Massey
- ⇒ Otis Stout
- ⇒ Family of Bob Sherman
- ⇒ Our Military
- ⇒ The people of the Ukraine
- ⇒ The people of Russia
- ⇒ The people of all third world Countries

And PRAISE God for all He does for all of us every day! Amen



## Ruminations from the Roller Rink

By Kory Sanger

Our Roller Skating Rink has a lot of history. I remember coming to the rink as a teen. The youth group (MYF) did a lot of skating at that time and I also came on Tuesday nights to skate around and be with my friends. A lot of memories have been made at this church because of the roller rink.

About a month ago I received a call in the office. A gentleman called to ask if we still did roller skating at Bethany. When I told him we did, he preceded to tell me his story. I asked him if it would be okay to share his story with you and he was so thrilled he said he would send it to me in an email. The following is what he sent me:

To: Bethany United Methodist Church in Clio, Michigan

Did you ever wonder what happened to the young people who enjoyed skating in your church gym since 1951?

I was a young 15-year-old boy from Montrose. I heard about a church in Clio that had roller skating every week!

And I desired to go over and join them!

Since I was too young to drive I decided to hitch a ride or walk 11 miles to Clio. The Clio boys warned me to NOT come back. When I returned the next week! I was glad those boys were NOT there, but my girl Willa was!

We had a lot in common and continued dating. We were raised in two different churches, but of the same faith! Both parents approved of our friendship choices!

Then my sweetheart attended OWOSSO Bible College for her Junior high year and I joined the USAF. She came back to Clio High and graduated in 1953.

We married on July 11, 1953 and immediately moved to Riverside, CA (I was still in the USAF)

I returned to Flint, MI in 1956 then came back to CA and have lived here ever since 1962.

Now we are attending the Nazarene church in Riverside, CA

Thank you to Bethany Methodist Church for providing good environment for youth!

Emmet Wood & Willa (Carlson) Wood  
(she still has her roller skates)

Isn't their story wonderful? What a wonderful ministry this church has given so many youth for all these many years! Do you have a story about your time on the roller rink? I would love to hear it, and even better, share it here in the Tower Notes. If you are willing, you can email me your story at; bethanyumcclio@gmail.com, or you can write it down and mail it to Bethany, or hand it to me when you see me.

I have been so thankful for this ministry. Even now as I bring my grandsons to skate. Thank you Bethany, and the Boyse Family, for keeping such a wonderful ministry going all these years.



**If you are interested in coming to see what our skating ministry is about, you can check out page 4 of this newsletter under Bethany Happenings for the day and time of this event.**

The rockin days of roller skating  
Just traveling round and round  
Hoping you don't bump into someone  
Causing you to both fall down

The music would be blaring  
And the lights would set the mood  
Girls go around smiling at the guys  
Hoping some guy would smile back too

There was always some guy styling  
Trying to impress everyone with his moves  
He had the best pair of roller skates  
Which made him the coolest of the cool

He was the one that sparked you  
Made you want to try a couple new moves  
So one day you could skate like him  
And be the coolest of the cool

Those wild days of roller skating  
When problems were all left at the door  
Everyone rolling around in a big circle  
Hoping their bodies never hit the floor

## **Online Ministry Updates – Be A Booster!!**

By Elizabeth Whiting

Check out the stats below for Clio Bethany.org for 2022 – 9,162 Views and 4,015 Visitors!

In 2022, we averaged 32 weekly viewers of our online worship (including replays & using conference metrics of calculation)



If you are active online, check out all of our social medial channels.

Website for Clio: Bethany – [www.ClioBethany.org](http://www.ClioBethany.org)

Public Facebook Page for Bethany UMC – [Facebook.com/ClioBethany](https://Facebook.com/ClioBethany)

Public Page for Otisville UMC – [Facebook.com/OtisvilleUMC](https://Facebook.com/OtisvilleUMC)

Private Group for Bethany UMC  
(for prayers, volunteers, content ONLY visible to group members)

[Facebook.com/groups/ClioBethany](https://Facebook.com/groups/ClioBethany)

YouTube Channel for Bethany UMC: [YouTube.com/@CliobethanyOrg](https://YouTube.com/@CliobethanyOrg)

### **Worship Online Options:**

1. Watch Live on Sunday Mornings – at [ClioBethany.org](http://ClioBethany.org) (click on Worship Online at the top), or on Facebook, watch our public page, or live on our YouTube Channel
2. ReWatch Worship – at [ClioBethany.org](http://ClioBethany.org) or on Facebook
3. ReWatch & Share Sermons Only – YouTube Playlist of Pastor Kayla's Sermons will have the trimmed sermon only after live worship is over.

### **Be a Booster!**

We can use your help to continue to grow our reach online!

If you are on Facebook, be sure to Like & Share content from our public Facebook page. Leave a comment, too, it really helps!

If you aren't on Facebook but use email to communicate, please check out our website and you can share content of interest by email or by directing friends to our website.

# MISSION News

The Missions Committee at Bethany is a small group but we are dedicated to serving the people of our community, our church and the world.

**UMCOR Sunday is March 19th.** This is a special giving Sunday that takes place to fund the administrative component of UMCOR SO THAT all donations given in a disaster go directly to the survivors and long-term relief.

**Bucket and PDK Rally** The Michigan Conference is challenging churches to help Midwest Mission Distribution Center to restock it's shelves with Cleaning Bucket and Personal Dignity Kit Supplies so that they can be deployed to areas in need of support following a disaster. Bethany will be a host site for the collection and the pick-up will occur the week of April 23rd. Watch for lists of the items we will be collecting in the weeks ahead!



Did you know that our food pantry served 55 families last year?! Our pantry is in great need of your support - with things like cereal, stewed tomatoes, soup, beef stew, rice, stuffing, canned corn and peas, crackers, jello, pudding, peanut butter, and non food items such as toilet paper, paper towels, soaps,



**COME & GATHER AT THE LAMP POST!** The Lion, The Witch, & The Wardrobe is coming to Theatre 57 in Clio. Did you know that C.S. Lewis' Chronicles of Narnia were written to present a Christian worldview through a mythic tale that would appeal to children and people of all ages?

Maybe it's been decades since you read the book. This is a great time to dust off your copy and participate in a book study where we read The Lion, The Witch The Wardrobe and discuss the Christian themes throughout. Then, we will take a church field trip to see the play together at Theatre 57.

Short Term Commitment! - This class will be held on March 9, 16, 23, & 30 from 6:30-7:30 PM. The weekly reading will take you roughly 30 minutes. During our time together we'll have discussion questions, share biblical references in that week's reading, talk through our questions and have light snacks. The study will be led by Elizabeth Whiting. Despite this being primarily a children's book, this study will be geared towards adults and high school students as we dive deep into the biblical topics.

Can't make it to class? You can still join with your church family in attending the play! We are purchasing tickets soon, be sure to sign up in the Gathering area. This production is likely to sell out early!

**EASTER EGG HUNT** Join us on April 1st for a very special Egg Hunt that will begin with Author Glenys Nellist! We will begin registration at 1:30, Glenys will have a 20 minute program, and then we will begin the egg hunt at 2:30. Ages 0-8th grade welcome!

We are in need of many volunteers to make this happen. Some of the jobs needed are: People to stuff eggs; people to donate bags of candy ( please note that candy should be small enough to fit in an easter egg); people for registration, crowd control, and set up; people to help put eggs out on the ground; people to help clean up; and people willing to make signs.

**There is a table set up in the hallway to drop your candy off or to pick up eggs to stuff them.** This event is being planned by our Committee on Education. If you have any questions or wish to volunteer, you may contact the church office, Sue Hilgris or Marc



# Easter Flowers 2023

“BREAKING NEWS ALERT” from Karen Nichols, Altar Chairperson

It's time to order your Easter Flowers for 2023. As usual, these cheerful blooms will be used to decorate our sanctuary, narthex, and gathering room for the Easter season and then be taken home by you. The following is the information received from the nursery where we have been getting the best prices and blooms for Easter plants for several years. The prices include florist pot covers of green or gold foil and the delivery charge,.

**Order forms are available now.** These will be found at the welcome desk in the Gathering Room or the table outside Kory's office or you may return the bottom part of this page

**Please note** that when placing an order for the mums and tulips you will not be able to order a specific color as these “come in assorted colors” and we have no control over what we get. We are confident the plants will be beautiful no matter what color!

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Easter Plant Prices for Churches**

\_\_\_\_ Easter Lily - 6” Pot single stem: \$10.00

\_\_\_\_ Easter Lily - 7 1/2’ Pot double stem: \$22.00

\_\_\_\_ Tulip - 6” Pot: \$7.50

\_\_\_\_ Daffodil - 6” Pot \$7.50

\_\_\_\_ Mum - 6” Pot: \$8.50

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dedicated to:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Payments and Order Forms** may be placed in the offering pulpit, mailed to the church, or given to Kory in the office.

# Puzzle!

Match the blocks of spaces and letters to complete an NIV Bible verse about an important commitment.



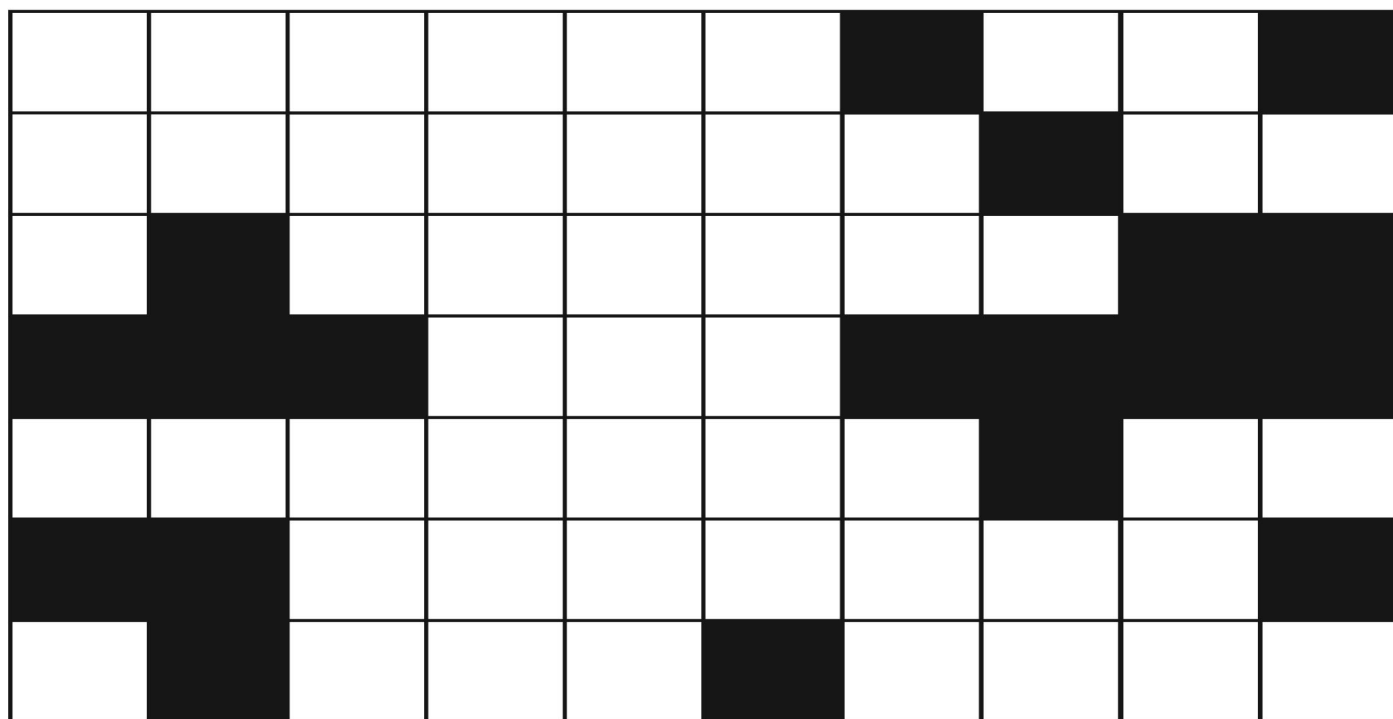
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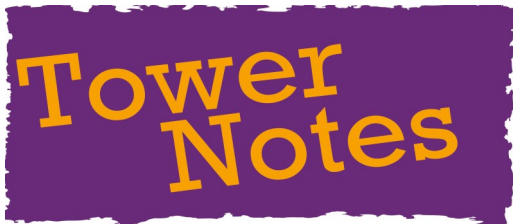
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Answer: Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.  
1 Cor. 11:1





Bethany United Methodist Church  
353 E. Vienna St.  
Clio, MI 48420-0327  
810-686-5151

Otisville United Methodist Church

Guiding Spirit, FILL us with YOUR fire, Lead us by YOUR Light, Unite us in  
YOUR calling.....Amen

**OTISVILLE UMC WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**9:30 am**

**BETHANY UMC WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**11:15 am**

Pastor Kayla is at Bethany Monday,  
Wednesday, and Thursday.  
She is at Otisville on Tuesday.

Please call to schedule an appointment with  
her if you wish to talk with her.

**Our goal is to motivate and equip all  
people to:**

- **Accept Jesus as the Son of God and  
choose Him as their personal Savior**
- **Engage in a lifelong relationship  
with Jesus**
- **Use all means to share the love of  
God with others**



**Bethany UMC**  
**Church office hours**  
**Mon.—Thurs. 9 a.m.—4 p.m.**  
**Fri.—Closed**

**(810) 686-5151**

**STAFF MEMBERS**  
**PASTOR: Kayla Roosa**  
**Director of Children and Youth**  
**Ministries: Marc Middleton**  
**Secretary: Kory Sanger**