

The Methodist Message



Pastor's Page.....

That day when evening came, Jesus said to His disciples, "Let us go over to the other side." Leaving the crowd behind, they took Him along, just as He was, in the boat. There were also other boats with Him. A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" Jesus got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. Jesus said to His disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey Him!" Mark 4: 35-41

Many of the disciples were experienced fishermen who would have faced many storms, but Mark describes this storm as uniquely terrifying and life-threatening. In Jewish belief, the sea was associated with the chaotic forces of evil and destruction, adding an extra level of terror. Jesus and the disciples' lives were under siege by forces of evil.

But Jewish faith also described God as the creator who brings order out of chaos, who stills not only "the roaring of the seas" but the "turmoil of the nations." Jesus' calm rebuke of the wind and waves was unmistakable evidence that the power of God was at work in Him. Through Christ, God's kingdom was coming, and the forces of evil would be powerless to resist Him. The disciples couldn't yet grasp this and were "terrified" by Jesus' power.

In 2013, about six hundred on-site spectators watched aerialist Nik Wallenda walk on a tightrope across a 1,400-foot-wide gorge near the Grand Canyon. Wallenda stepped onto the 2-inch-thick steel cable and thanked Jesus for the view as his head camera pointed toward the valley below. He prayed and praised Jesus as he walked across the gorge as calmly as if he was strolling on a sidewalk. When the wind became treacherous, he stopped and crouched. He rose and regained his balance, thanking God for "calming that cable." With every step on that tightrope, he displayed his dependence on the power of Christ to everyone listening then and now as the video is watched across the world.

When the winds of a storm caused waves to overtake the disciples on the Sea of Galilee, fear seeped through their pleas for help. After Jesus stilled the squall, they knew He controlled the winds and everything else. Slowly they learned to grow in their trust of Him. Their personal experiences could help others recognize Jesus' intimate availability and extraordinary might.

As we experience life's storms or walk on the tightropes of trust stretched over the deep valleys of affliction, we can demonstrate confident faith in the power of Christ. God will use our faith-walk to inspire others to hope in Him.

Thank you Father, for calming my heart as I trust You through life's stormy seasons.

Pastor Billie Lou



**KINGDOM OF GOD---
ARMOR OF GOD
RALLY DAY GAME
NIGHT
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9
6:00 ~ 8:00 PM**

Families are invited to the "Castle" for
an end of summer meal:
hot dogs & hamburgers, beans, chips,
desserts, drinks
followed by games and crafts for all
ages.

Prayer Vigil

You are invited to attend a prayer
vigil on **Wednesday, September 20**
at **7:00pm** at the Breckenridge
UMC. Led by Christy Schnizlein

5th QUARTER NEWS!

5th Quarter is back this fall!

Friday, September 8 from
800-11pm we will open our
doors to BHS students following
their home game for fun, food,
& games. We need your sup-
port—please see the sign up list
in the gathering area to find a
spot where you can help.

As a follow up to the *Blessing One An-
other* video and Town Hall meeting you
may speak with one of the United Lead-
ership Team members about your
thoughts on Stay UMC or disaffiliation
**before their scheduled meeting Sept. 19
at 6:30pm. A decision has been made
that anyone can attend.** At that meeting
the UTL will decide what the desire of
the BUMC will be.

2023 elected United Leadership Team

Edith Humm, Dave Stoneman, Karen
Rohn, Lois Arthur, Joyce Short, Bob Ed-
gar, Sharon Howie, Karen Stonemen,
Angie Sherwood, Lesha Colthorp, Larry
Arthur, Christy Schnizlein, Nancy Gee

HEALTH CARE TEAM REMINDERS...

We are aware that COVID is back in our area. We encourage everyone to be more vigilant— If
you are not feeling well, please stay home... while you will be missed, you can watch on Face-
book and keep our churches open for ministry. If you believe in getting the boosters, the newest
booster will be available mid September that covers the 2 newest strains of Covid. Make sure to
wash your hands, use sanitizer, have a mask available. Some nutritional supplements have
shown to be helpful in preventing Covid and cold weather ailments: magnesium, Vitamins C &
D, and zinc. Speak to your physician before adding anything to your daily routine.



KID'S CHURCH NEWS!

Kid's Church will begin again on **Sunday, September 10**. The kids will have a short message & time with Pastor during the first few minutes of the service and then will go to their own room for a lesson with a teacher. We need more teachers and if God is calling you to help in this important ministry please contact Christy Schnizlein.

September 10=Marisa Bramer

September 17= Courtney Harrison

September 24=Jackie Cooper

The nursery will be open for infants and preschoolers with Miss Emily as well,

Lay Leadership (Nominations Team)

The Lay Leadership Team will be meeting soon to determine leadership needs for the next year. As well as some of the elected leadership needing to be changed, we know that we need more persons to run the **sound booth** on Sundays and more **Kids Church leaders**. Please pray and consider how God is calling you to do your part of helping the kingdom of God grow and be the light and love of Christ.



SECRETARY OFFICE HOURS:

Nancy—Thursday 8 am—1 pm

Email Address:

breckenridgeumc@yahoo.com

THE METHODIST MESSAGE

“SERVING ONE ANOTHER AND SHARING GOD’S LOVE”

United Methodist Church

125 Third St-PO Box 248

Breckenridge, MI 48615

Billie Lou Gillespie—Pastor

Office phone: 989-842-3632

9:30 AM worship

“Disciples Reflecting the Light and Love of Christ”

**Please notify the church if you wish to be taken off the mailing list.

United Methodist Church

125 Third Street—PO Box 248

Breckenridge MI, 48615

