

Kalamo

Monthly Newsletter

For

February 2020



Facebook: @Kalamo1953

Caring, Compassionate, Inviting

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Vermontville, MI 49096

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Vision Page

Our Vision:

B - C - S

- Build relationships with our Neighbors!
- Care for our Neighbors and Others
 - Share our Story!
(the Good News)

Mission:

- Building relationships
- Caring for Others
- Sharing our Love for Jesus

B - C - S

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Kalamo Vision Design Team Church "Branding" – Vision/Mission Statement

Rev 1/23/20

Church vision:

** Our Mission is to reach new people for Jesus Christ

** Our current focus is working on:

- Growing in our relationship to God through Prayer and the power of the Holy Spirit
- Building relationships with our neighbors
- Vision-Design Team: the "seed" group, discerning our strategies
- 2 Levels: Reaching out and Growing Within

A More Specific Vision/Mission Statement

- Build Relationships with our neighbors
- Care about our neighbors
- Share our Stories & Love for Jesus

B - C - S

Detail

- Our focus this year is to put our best effort into those three items.
- Our Block parties/mixers are intended to get to know our neighbors, let them get to know us and each other. To be a force in our community for bringing people together.
- The next level is to develop smaller, more focused group settings to more closely address people's concerns or interests. These groups would fill in between the larger block party activities.
- The last level has two parts:
To develop ourselves to be willing and able to share our lives and how much Jesus helps us in our daily lives.
To build relationships and settings where our neighbors will feel free to ask us about our faith.

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Current Topics



It's Gotta be Done!

We have a beautiful place of worship. A place that is the House of God and a place that we invite guests to come and be with us. Our house does need to be cleaned on a weekly basis. We have a few dedicated volunteers that are willing to contribute their time to keep our house looking good. Unfortunately, they are getting worn out. Please consider volunteering to clean or help clean the church just once per month. We have a written procedure, all necessary supplies and tools to be quick and efficient. There is a sign-up sheet at the back, make a note on your connection card or contact Penny Pierce (ppierce2005@sbcglobal.net) .



What are qualified charities?

- The charity must be able to receive tax-deductible donations.
- In IRS terminology, they must be 501(c)(3) organizations.
- Most notably, political organizations are NOT qualified charities.
- I personally think that the charity should also be compatible with Christian Ethics (See Matthew 25:35-36)

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Pass-through giving

- Passing charitable contributions to outside charities through church.
- Not intended to replace your regular giving to the church!
- Current Pass-throughs include Siren-Eaton and Crop Walk.
- I would like to do it for Heifer International.
- We could do this for other qualified charities.

Why do pass-through giving?

- You could contribute directly to the charity, but:
- You would not need to write checks to individual charities.
- Write one check, give it to the church, then church sends to charities.
- The church gets “credit” for being giving generously to other worthy causes.

More...

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Why do pass-through giving?

- Would reduce the amount of junk mail you receive.
- If you deduct contributions, you would have fewer charities to track.
- If you prefer doing your own donations, by all means continue to do so.

Heifer International

- Most of you likely already are familiar with Heifer International (HI).
- In short, HI provides livestock and instruction to small farmers
- Donors choose which animal to give
- And donates the money to HI which provides the animal
- The strategy is to give people the means to provide for themselves
- Instead of just a hand out of food.
- So a gift to HI is a gift that keeps on giving.
- A catalog of giving options to HI is at the back of the sanctuary.

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Don't forget to take your prayer card with you wherever you go



Kalamo Prayer Card

1 Thessalonians 5

Comfort the discouraged. Help the weak.

Be patient with everyone...

Always pursue the good for each other and everyone else.

Rejoice always. Pray continually.

Give thanks in every situation because this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Examine everything carefully and hang on to what is good.



Prayer Suggestions for the Week

Sunday – Love of God

Monday – Peace

Tuesday – Love of Neighbor

Wednesday – Patience

Thursday – Goodness

Friday – Faithfulness

Saturday – Thanksgiving

I'm absolutely convinced that nothing—nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable—absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love because of the way that Jesus our Master has embraced us.

Romans 8:38-39 (The Message)

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Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is celebrated every February 14 as couples across the globe honor their spouses, partners and sweethearts. Hundreds of years of traditions and customs have made it into the holiday that we observe today.

Some trace Valentine's Day origins to a Christian effort to replace a pagan fertility festival that has been dated as far back as the 6th century B.C.

During the festival of [Lupercalia](#), Roman priests would sacrifice goats and dogs and use their blood-soaked hides to slap women on the streets, as a fertility blessing. According to legend, women would later put their names in an urn and be selected to be paired with a man for a year.

The Valentine's Day tradition of giving a box of candy was started in the 19th century by Richard Cadbury, a scion of a British chocolate manufacturing family. With a new technique recently established at the company to create more varieties of chocolate, Cadbury pounced on the opportunity to sell the chocolates as part of the beloved holiday.

History's first valentine was written in perhaps one of the most unromantic places conceivable: a prison. Charles, Duke of Orleans wrote the love letter to his second wife at the age of 21 while captured at the Battle of Agincourt. As a prisoner for more than 20 years, he would never see his valentine's reaction to the poem he penned to her in the early 15th century.

The iconic chalky heart-shaped candies that have been passed out lovingly every Valentine's Day started out as lozenges. [According](#) to the Food Business News, pharmacist and inventor Oliver Chase created a machine that would quickly create the lozenges before switching to using the machine to create candy—later known as Necco Wafers.

Chase's brother came up with the idea to print messages on the candy in 1866, and the candies got their heart shape in 1901, appealing specifically to Valentine's Day sweethearts. In 2019, the Sweetheart brand of conversation hearts was suspended for a year as the candy's new owner, Spangler Candy Co., needed time to make a supply of the hearts for Valentine's.

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Missions



02/09/20 Scouting Sunday

The stated mission of the United Methodist Church is: "to reach out to those within the community, receive them as they are, relate them to God, nurture and equip them, and send them back into the community in order to make the community a more loving and just place in which to live." ...This means that children and teenagers should be nurtured and equipped along with all other members of the congregations.

Scout Sunday activities during worship or another part of the day:

- "Scout liturgists and musicians: Pastors and other worship leaders can work individually with the young people to prepare them to read Scripture or lead other short parts of the service. Musical performances require several practices beforehand.
- "Scout greeters and ushers: Congregants and scouts have an opportunity to meet each other.
- "Service or mission project: Invite scouts and church members who do not usually work with them to tackle a project together on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon.
- "Award presentations: God and Country, Good Samaritan, Cross and Flame and other religious awards can be presented to scouts and

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leaders. Presenting Eagle Scout, Gold and WoHeLo awards emphasizes the service each youth program promotes.

- “Meet the Church’: Provide brunch, lunch or refreshments on Scouting Ministries Sunday. Invite all Scouts and their families to attend. Create fun ways to introduce the young people and adults to other ministries of the church. Gather information so you can send follow-up invitations to those who are not connected to a congregation.

The ministry of Christ revolved around the profound concept of reaching out to others. We have found that when we reach out to others, the blessings of God are returned to us.

Statistics indicate that of all the youth who join Scouting through the church, 25 percent are United Methodists, 25 percent are members of other denominations or faiths, and 50 percent come from unchurched families. Reaching out to families that do not have a church home is not a new concept. Scouting is one potential entry point for persons to join the church, which then has the opportunity to introduce, nurture, and strengthen the person’s relationship with Jesus Christ. Scouting provides a great way for the local church to serve its local community and in the process offer new and exciting programs that the church may transform into ministry to, with, and through youth. Nurturing children, teens, and families through outreach and evangelism and incorporating them into the life of the church may have tremendous, eternal results for the youth, their family, and the church.

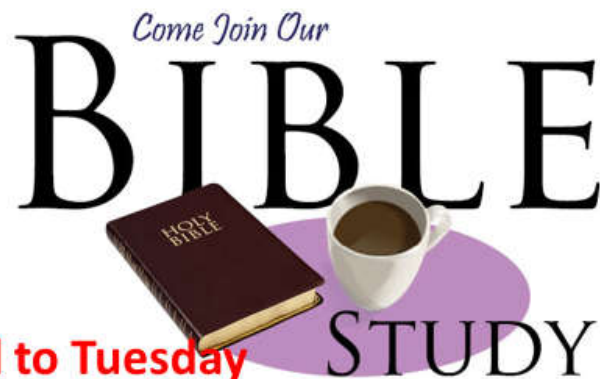
Scouting and civic youth ministry offers opportunities for older adults as well as youth. Often congregational members become isolated from one another because we tend to spend time with people of similar age groups. Scouting offers older adults a chance to become merit-badge counselors, mentors, or committee members who plan activities with and for youth. In these ways, and more, older adults can become an integral part of a youth’s life. The experiences are ones that will be cherished for a lifetime.

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Some scouting programs exist for both girls and boys ...Boy Scouts of America's Venturing division is for boys and girls ages 13 to 20. These programs are a great complement to any church's United Methodist youth ministry and also serve to encourage older Boy Scouts to participate in Scouting for a longer period of time. Girls may participate in many of the high adventure activities that boys do. BSA Venturing crews offer a high degree of flexibility for their members. Some crews elect to focus on helping others through activities like building homes for Habitat for Humanity, while other crews enjoy the benefits of camping, hiking, and high adventure.

By Jan Schuberg

Events



Moved to Tuesday
Tuesday Feb 4th @ 11:00 a.m.
Returns to Mondays Feb 10th

This will be a working time to discuss the upcoming sermon and build Scripture and talking points around the theme.

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Moved to Tuesday
Tuesday Feb 4th @ 11:00 a.m.
Returns to Mondays Feb 10th

This meeting occasionally changes time/day due to scheduling conflicts. Email pastor to verify time/day if you haven't seen Sunday's program.



February 3rd
Kalamo Township Meeting
7 p.m.



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Worship service at Flower House
Will be held @ 9:30 a.m.
Tuesday **February 4th**

February 5th

UMW-United Methodist Women-1st Wednesday

Available to all women who would like to develop friendships with other ladies. This group also does various service projects. They meet the 1st Wednesday of the month at the church at 11 am. Leader: Ruth Avery (269-763-3378).

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February 6



Fun and games group

meet the first Thursday of every month. from 6 to 8. Available to all people who would like to develop friendships with others. Please come and enjoy fun conversation and games Leaders are Roy and Mary Weldon.

February 11th

Siren Outreach

The Siren Shelter is the only shelter in Eaton County for both families, and women and children dealing with domestic violence. Available to all people who would like to serve others.(Will have to submit to background check.) We usually meet 9:00 on the 2nd Tuesday each month at Siren to help with whatever is needed. We are there from 9 am to noon. Leader: Ruth Avery (269-763-3378).

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Vision-Design Team



The Vision-Design team next meeting is at the Pastor's: Wednesday, **February 12 @11:00 a.m.**

- Planning our spring "mixer" event.
- Growing in our prayer lives.
- Working on ideas for ministry.
- Discerning our mission.

All are invited, please RSVP.



Anyone that wants to come and share in this mission are invited. Normally the 3rd Wednesday of the month and the preceding Tuesday. This month is: **February 18 and 19**. Tuesdays usually start about 9:00 am. Wednesday is pick up day - please get there by no later than 8:45. This is a great mission for our church. Leader is Sandy Bukoski.

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Feburary 24 **Church Meetings** **Trifecta!!!**



- The Finance Team meeting @ 5:00:
review finances and explore vital financial stewardship.
- The Ad Council at 6:00:
Review and coordinating church activities
- The Trustees at 7:00:
discuss the needs and care of our church property.



February 26

Service
@6:30pm



Coming in March



SOUP
Suppers

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Our next block party is Sunday, March 15, 11:00 at the Township Hall.

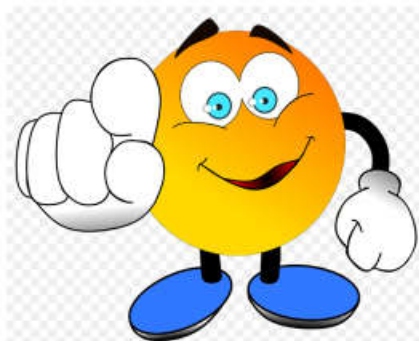
Theme will be St. Patrick's Day and the contributions that Irish folks and family have made to our country.



March Newsletter

**Submissions
needed!!**

- Announcements
- Helpful information
- Favorite jokes!

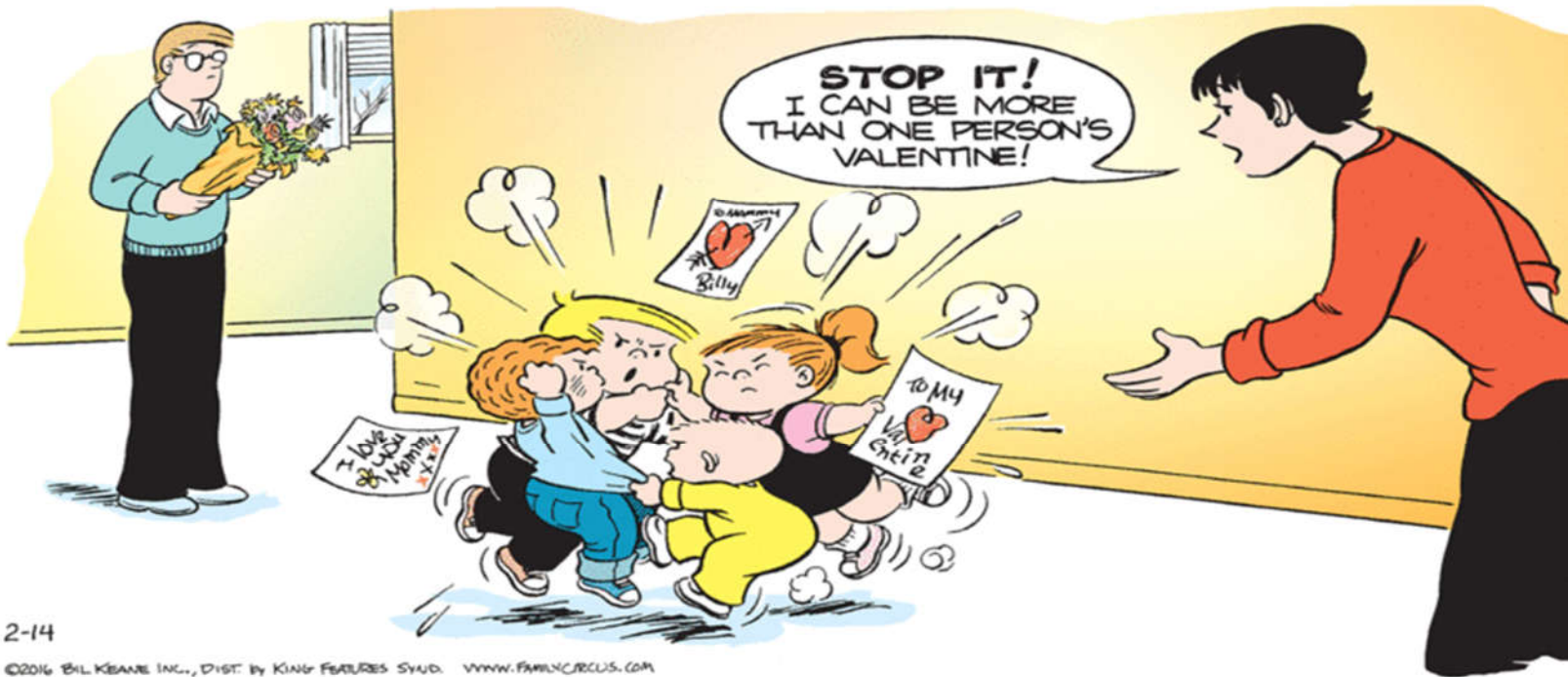


This Means You!

A Little Humor



By *BIL KEANE*



2-14

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Q. Did Adam and Eve ever have a date?

A. No, they had an apple!

Q. What did the flame say to his buddies after he fell in love?

A. "I found the perfect match!"

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I love February because it contains two of my favorite annual events

Groundhog Day, and the State of the Union Address.

One involves a meaningless ritual in which we look to a notoriously unreliable mammal for prognostication with no basis in reality. The other involves a groundhog.

When you are with the right person, every day is Valentine's Day!

What do George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and Christopher Columbus all have in common?

They were all born on holidays.

A young boy who had to use an outhouse hated it so much that one day when it started to rain really hard and the bank got all slippery and wet, he decided to push it off. He did it and later that night his father asked him if he pushed off the outhouse.

The boy truthfully answered, "Yes, I did."

His father told his son to come with him to get a whipping.

The boy said, "But George Washington didn't get in trouble when he chopped down the cherry tree because he was honest."

The boy's father replied, "Yes, but George Washington's father wasn't in the cherry tree when he chopped it down."

