

SAGINAW BAY DISTRICT CHURCH CONFERENCES 2008

“BE A REAL FRIEND”

CONFERENCING IN WORSHIP AND HOLY COMMUNION

GATHERING MUSIC

The Light of Christ Comes in from being out in the World

WELCOME BY HOST PASTOR

*CALL TO WORSHIP

A Participating Pastor

ONE: Wherever we go, we are in the presence of God;
we come together to celebrate what is always true.

ALL: God has searched us out, loved and befriended us.

ONE: We cannot hide ourselves from the presence of God's loving Spirit.

ALL: Whatever we do or say or fail to do or say, God knows.

ONE: So God cares about how we use the love we are given.

**ALL: God's love requires us to live as disciples of Jesus,
to be a blessing to all our neighbors near and far away.**

*OPENING HYMN

“How Can We Name a Love”

UMH #111

*PRAYER FOR INSPIRATION

A Lay Leader

By the power of your Spirit

come into the center of our lives.

Remove all selfishness and boredom.

Fill the canvas of our lives with the color of your love.

Through the message of your sacred word today

enable our lives to burst with hope

and our actions to follow the path of Jesus' compassion. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS (NRSV)

A Participating Pastor

Luke 10:25-37

ONE: The Word of God for the people of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR???

CHILDREN'S TIME

A Lay Leader

ANTHEM OR MUSIC OF THE DAY (Invitation!)

OR HYMN

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

UMH # 526

MESSAGE

“The 3:00 AM Call”

Rev. Louise R. Ott

*HYMN

“Walk with Me”

FWS # 2242

OUR TIME IN PRAYER

A Participating Pastor

THE ECUMENICAL PRAYER OF JESUS

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive

those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, and the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SONG: **God is so good, God is so good** FWS No. 2056
God is so good, God's so good to me.
God loves me so, God loves me so,
God loves me so, God's so good to me.

MEMBERSHIP REPORTS OFFERING OUR MINISTRY TO GOD
LAY SPEAKER RENEWALS (only if there are removals!) Membership Secretary
PASTORAL COMPENSATION SPRC Chairperson
LAY LEADERSHIP NOMINATIONS Council Chair or SPRC Chair
Pastor

SPECIAL MUSIC OR SING **"Come and Find the Quiet Center"** FWS #2128

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

ONE: The peace of God be with you always.

ALL: And also with you.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

A Participating Pastor

ONE: Dearest God, you have demonstrated your love for us through the life of Jesus Christ, yet we confess that our worship of you is reluctant. Forgive us when our prayers are formal and selfish, when we neglect the company of believers and the study of your Word, when we are shy about sharing our faith in Christ with others.

ALL: Forgive us for wasting our time and misusing our gifts.

Forgive us when we have excused our wrongdoing and avoided our responsibilities.

ONE: Forgive us that so little of your love has reached others through us and that we have not been compassionate with the pain and suffering that is not our own. Forgive us when we have held on to things that divide us and have made it difficult for others to live with us. Forgive us for our hasty judgments, quick criticisms, and for our forgiveness, which comes so slowly.

ALL: Have mercy with us and forgive us, O God!

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ONE: Beloved, the love of God in Christ cannot be broken.

In the name of God's love, you are invited, loved, and forgiven!

ALL: In the name of God's love, you are invited, loved, and forgiven!

INVITATION AND COMMUNION PRAYER

A Participating Pastor

ONE: When Jesus was born in a humble stable and sat at table with tax collectors and sinners he proclaimed that God's care knows no bounds. We proclaim again the comfort and challenge of that witness: all are invited to share God's table, and to be nourished by the Bread of Life.

ONE: God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to God.

ONE: Let us give thanks to God.

ALL: We thank you God, that you have provided for all the worlds that ever were or will be by giving yourself to them in love. If we go to the heights of the mountains, or if we make the grave our bed, you are with us. If we go to the depths of the sea, your right hand holds us fast. We thank you for Jesus, your Word, who lived among us, showing us your presence. We thank you that you stamped out death with victory and that life not death is the final word. We ask now that you bless us, as we share this bread and cup, that we might be nourished by that same unbounded love and so be encouraged to be your servants to the world.

ONE: As this bread was once scattered in the fields and has come together in the one bread, so we with different needs and hopes, come together as one, for we share the one bread. The cup which we share is the cup of the New Covenant written in our hearts and witnessed by Jesus. God is with us.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION Rev. Louise R. Ott

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP (receive by intinction) At Least 2 stations

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

FWS #2244

“People Need the Lord”

Repeat

UMH #618

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

All Stanzas

UMH #617

“I Come with Joy”

All Stanzas

THE BLESSING

Participating Pastor

BLESSING RESPONSE

“Sent Out in Jesus’ Name”

FWS #2184

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES INTO THE WORLD AND MUSIC PLAYS FOR MOVING OUT INTO MINISTRY