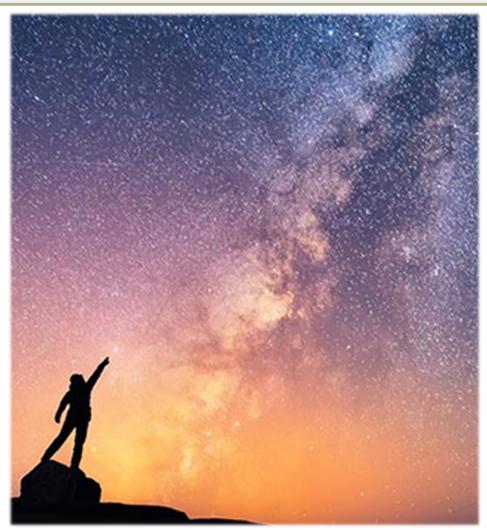
Sunday, July 7th, 2024 - 10:00 AM Welcome to Our Service!



The Rev. Caleb McGregor, Pastor		Bob Berg, Lay Leader
A		Judy Miller, Accompanist
PORT EDWARDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH	Colby Grunden, Media Technician	
	WIFI password:	Leo Thomasgard, Liturgist
	peumc411 (PEUMC.Guest)	Pat & Kathy McGrath, Greeters
		Sue Thomasgard, Usher
	Kathy McGrath, Pew Ambassador	

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

"I can see how it's possible for someone to look down at the earth and become an atheist, but I cannot conceive how someone can look up into the heavens and say there is no God." - Abraham Lincoln "Look for God less in noise & restlessness, and more in silence." - Mother Teresa "The Lord your God is with you; how happy God is with you!" - Zephaniah 3:17

[Please silence your mobile devices. Thank you!]

L – Liturgist / M – Minister / **P – People** / † - words are on the TVs / * – stand in body or spirit UMH – The United Methodist Hymnal TFWS – The Faith We Sing

(1) The Body of Christ gathers to worship God!

WORDS OF WELCOME

FOUNDATIONAL STATEMENTS

[†]*CALL TO WORSHIP

[†]*HYMN OF PRAISE:

You are Mine

UMH 2218

screen

(2) We listen to what God is saying to us!

OPENING PRAYER (ADORATION & ILLUMINATION)

YOUNG-AT-HEART

**SCRIPTURE READINGS (page #: 605 – Old Testament): Psalm 19

* Give glory to God, O mighty ones; ascribe to the Lord: glory and strength; ascribe to the Lord, the glory that's deserved! Worship our God, in the beauty of all holiness! Come and sing praises—to the Rock of all ages! Come and sing praises to Jesus, our Lord! Come and adore Him, bow down before Him! Come and sing praises to Jesus, our Lord!

OUR GOD IS AN AWE-SOME GOD!

IS THERE REALLY A GOD? SERIES: WRESTLING WITH DOUBT, A QUESTIONING HEART, Part I of IV

(3) We respond to what God is saying to us!

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

[†] Prayer of Confession, *followed by a moment of silent reflection*

* Words of Assurance
*Passing the Peace of Christ

HOLY COMMUNION

- [†] The Great Thanksgiving *(with musical Responses)*
- [†] Communion Chorus: *Fill My Cup, Lord (with verses)* *Sharing the Bread & Cup <u>ALL</u> ARE INVITED FORWARD Ushers will dismiss each row, starting in the back.
- [†] Prayer After Communion

(4) We prepare to leave and be doers of God's Word!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

**HYMN OF MISSION: America the Beautiful

UMH 696

*A BLESSING AND GOING FORTH

M: Until we meet again, may CHRIST be with you all!

P: And also with you! AMEN!

(You are invited to place any offerings in the **Offering Box** as you leave the sanctuary; you may also give online at **peumc.org/donate** or use the **QR Code** below.)



Sunday Services - 10:00 AM

Today - July 7th

Communion Sunday

Series #2: WRESTLING W/ DOUBT:

A QUESTIONING HEART

(Part I of IV: Is there a God?)

July 14th

Celebration of a Reappointment Second Sunday Refreshments Series #2: WRESTLING W/ DDLIBT: (Part II of IV: Can I Believe the Bible?)

July 21st

Series #2: WRESTLING W/ DOUBT:

A **QUESTIONING HEART** (Part III of IV: Is There a Heaven & Hell?)

July 28th

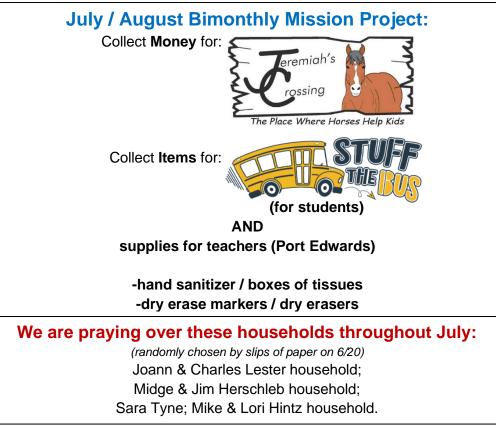
Series #2: WRESTLING W/ DOUBT:

A QUESTIONING HEART

(Part IV of IV: Why is there Suffering? What is the Point of Prayer?)

Events & Meetings

Tuesday, July 9th Nurture & Children/Youth Teams Meeting – 10:00 AM



Come and Sing Praises

Psalm 29:2

Morris Chapman and Greg Massanari



Musical Setting for Communion



In lieu of time, the following portion of today's sermon was extracted and placed here:

- So there *might* be a Creator out there that exists. **But what** *kind* **of Creator?**
- One that knows us *personally* and even *loves* us!? In order to wrap our minds around this "God concept" it's been helpful to humankind for centuries to attribute some "human-like qualities" to God; this is us taking some creativity liberties and *"making God made in our own image."*
- But even as we do this, the Christian faith still teaches that it's not really that way at all: it's the exact opposite:

humans are, in some ways, "God-like beings," created in the Image of God, not the other way around.

- To believe that we are created in the Image of God is to affirm that we are created with the capacity, like God, to love, to reason, to sustain and care for one another and our shared home; we are co-creators, able to ask important existential questions about life and death and the universe and the purpose and meaning of life, and have a nagging yearn to go explore where no one has gone before.
- We have a divine-like ability to be selfless, transcend mere instincts, do more than just survive, and we have the capacity to experience fellowship with God.
- Perhaps even our penchant to "doubt," even question God's very existence is part of that Image. *How ironic?* We have God's Image of free will, freedom of choice, and some amount of intelligence.

- We question how God can know each one of us *personally*, but this sounds a whole lot of **Quantum Physics** with its **String Theory** that speculates all things in the universe are connected by strings of subatomic particles. *We are all one. Divinity with humanity*.
- We've accepted today, with heavy hearts, the fact that "Big Brother governments" and major corporations somehow "know" most of the world's people— (and our sensitive data)—knowing where we live, what we do for entertainment, how we vote, and other precious details of our lives.
- Our personal information is being sold between one corporation and another even as we speak.
- (We can be sure that God is not in the business of selling our personal data!)
- Our technology allows most of us to communicate with one another around the world. Companies have meetings electronically with employees in 6 different time zones, and any one of us are able to call up anyone, anywhere, with a simple smart device.
- And if all this technological "knowledge" and connectedness is possible on a human-level, to be surrounded by thousands of satellites, to have a database of all 8 billion people in the world, is it possible that the Mind and Power that created and sustains the universe could also know each of us personally, hear our prayers, and care for us? If we're so connected now? How much more is God connected to us, through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit?