The First Word April 25, 2018



EMERGING WOR5LIP

May 13 @ 9:30 a.m. Wesley Hall

"Sophia: Mother of Wisdom"

by Rev. Julie Kline

"I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him"

Ephesians 1:17

"And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Luke 24:49

"I, wisdom, was with the LORD when he began his work, long before he made anything else."

Proverbs 8:1

The Spirit of Wisdom was with God in the Creation. The Spirit of Wisdom is a gift from the Resurrected Christ and is a power from on high to be worn as a blessing and with great joy. Holy Wisdom is personified as female, and in her humanity finds all knowledge, insight, and truth. Wisdom delights God and God is delighted when Wisdom is found within human beings. "Sophia" is the Greek word for Wisdom. On this Ascension Sunday we celebrate the fullness of Christ's reign and in that fullness, we discover the beauty of Holy Wisdom who calls us to be clothed with beauty and grace and to arise with a bold vision of the hope that Christ has promised.

Come and join us for a Spirit-filled Soul Feast!



Housing Opportunities by Sally Stevens

The Dream Team has been focusing their efforts to identify and discuss factors that affect the availability and sustainability of housing in the Kalamazoo community. Going forward with the goal of partnering with organizations to improve housing opportunities for low income individuals and/or families, agencies have been identified as sources to provide us with more information.

Meetings are being scheduled in which the congregation is invited to attend. The first of these meetings will be with Housing Resources, Inc. (HRI) and held on Monday, April 30, 2018 at 7 p.m. in Wesley Hall. HRI has dedicated its efforts to finding affordable housing solutions for individuals in the midst of a housing crisis. We hope to learn about the Eleanor Street usage, how individuals have been helped by the millage for homeless families, information on the homeless count in Kalamazoo, and information related to the Eviction Diversion program.

Please join us as we learn more about the organizations in our community that are working to end homelessness.



Do you have a used personal DVD player (with screen attached) that you can donate to the church? If so, please leave it in the church office marked for the Caring Committee. It is our hope to provide DVD players to our homebound members who prefer to watch our worship services from DVDs.