



Prairie Wind

OUR MISSION: MAKING DISCIPLES OF
JESUS CHRIST

MARCH 2019

Crosses

Because our sermon series this Lent is all about the cross, I want to borrow some of your crosses! Please bring any and all crosses you have between now and March 6th and place them on the tables in the back of the Fellowship Hall. I encourage you to put masking tape on the bottom and add your name. We will all enjoy seeing all of the many crosses that people have collected over the years filling up our sanctuary as we worship.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pastor's
Letter 2

UMW News 3

Financial
News 4

Committee
Leaders 5,6

Worship
Themes/
Leaders 7,8

Unity Sunday

Don't forget that this March 31st will be our very first Unity Sunday! Both services will meet at 10 AM every time there's a fifth Sunday to enjoy worship together as one big Tuscola family. Music will be, as always, by Strings Attached. Sunday School will start at 9 AM that day.



Note
from the
pastor



Pastor's Letter

So why the ashes? Ash Wednesday has traditionally been one of the lowest attended services in The United Methodist Church, so I thought I'd explain the significance to you and explain how we're going to do it a bit differently this year!

Ash Wednesday is the kick off of Lent – the forty days (not including Sundays) that lead up to Easter. No, this isn't in the Bible, but Lent is supposed to mirror the forty days that Jesus was tempted in the desert. Lent is similar to Advent in that you are preparing your heart for a major religious event – Easter, in this case. But unlike the excitement and eagerness that lead up to Christmas, Lent is a more of an introspective and reflective time. I encourage you to examine a reoccurring sin in your life. What is a sin that, no matter how many times you lay it at Jesus' feet, you can't seem to stop committing?

During the season of Lent, many people give something up. If you would like to do that, I would highly encourage you, but I want you to understand how to give something up first. The idea is not simply to deny ourselves. It's to remember all that Christ has given for us. So perhaps you choose to give up your nightly snack. If you spent the time that you normally eat that snack watching television, you have given something up, but for what? Instead, take the time you would normally eat that snack and use it in prayer and meditation. Oh,

and the good news? Sundays don't count, so feel free to eat your snack Sunday night!

So back to Ash Wednesday. Yes, Ash Wednesday can be seen as a bit depressing, but it's supposed to be a time in which we examine our mortality in comparison to God Everlasting, and when we remind ourselves of the journey that we are about to undertake with Christ towards the cross. There are many examples in the Old Testament of people using ashes to repent – Isaiah, Job, Esther – so we emulate their practice as we prepare our hearts for the journey towards the most Holy Day of the year.

Because Ash Wednesday is really a solo journey, this year we will be doing things a bit differently. Instead of a service, you may come to the church on Wednesday, March 6 any time between 11 AM and 1 PM and between 4 PM and 6 PM. In the education wing, there will be various stations laid out for you to use to help you reflect and prepare your heart for the Lenten journey. When you have gone through all the stations, you will come into the chapel and receive your ashes. You can do this at your own pace and in your own time frame.

I invite you to reembrace this powerful tradition. For us to truly experience the joy of Easter, we have to experience the difficulties Jesus faced. Come join us on Ash Wednesday.

Blessings,
Pastor Terri

Thank You!

A huge, loving "Thank You" to you, my church family. Thank you for your prayers, visits, cards, and food. God bless you all!

~Lovingly, Kathryn McCumber



Manna Café News

The next Manna Café will be Wednesday, March 6, serving from 5-6:30 p.m. Sharon Corum will be cooking. If you would like to volunteer to cook, help serve, scrape/wash dishes, bake

desserts, etc., please contact Sharon Corum at 217-474-7738 or the church office.



Good Grief Group

The next meeting of the Good Grief Group is March 28, from 1-3pm in the Fellowship Hall. Sara Holmes hopes to have a guest to speak about "Grief and Guilt". Anyone who feels grief or knows someone who would benefit is welcome. Grief is not just over the death of a loved one. One may also grieve the loss of a pet,

a good friend who has moved, neighbors who have relocated, family members who don't speak, children who have moved for jobs or school, and a spouse who moves to a nursing home, etc.



United Methodist Women News

More than 200 United Methodist Women from many areas of Liberia recently staged a peaceful demonstration against the growing violence against women and girls. All dressed in black, the women held signs reading: "Stop Physical Violence, Stop Forced Marriage, Stop Rape, Stop Sexual Assault". Muriel V. Nelson, president of UMW in Liberia, said, "The issue of violence against women is not unique to the United Methodist Church. This is an age-old global problem, so we must tackle it as a societal problem."

"As long as discrimination and inequities remain so commonplace everywhere in the world, as long as girls and women are valued less, fed less, fed last, overworked, underpaid, not schooled, subjected to violence in and outside their homes- the potential of the human family to create a peaceful, prosperous world will not be realized." This statement was made in 1995 at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing by Hillary Clinton. So much work still needs to be done!

Women with children, arriving in a foreign country, not knowing the language, trying to navigate a complex immigration system, and not knowing where to go next often fall prey to robbery and

assault. In the late 1800s, the Women's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church realized that these women needed help and protection. Helen and James Matthews, their daughter Alma, and friends began a new ministry to help these vulnerable women arriving at the docks of New York. The small rental house was known as the Immigrant Girls' Home and provided temporary housing, protection, and volunteers who helped the strangers get to their next destination. In 1887 alone, there were over 3,000 lodgers at the house from 808 ships met by Methodist women! After her parents had to leave the ministry, Alma continued from the 1890s to 1922. Later Alma Mathews continued in ministry by welcoming immigrants as a greeter on Ellis Island. She died in 1933. The house was renamed the Alma Matthews House and was a vital part of UMW's ministry, until it was sold in 2016. This is another part of our legacy; over 130 years of service to women and children.



FINANCIAL
REPORT

January Income/Expense Report

Balance as of 12/31/18	\$ 9,808.93
January income	\$22,558.25
January expense	(\$20,988.93)
Balance as of 1/31/19	\$11,378.25

Freezer

Manna Café needs your help. They are in need of a small freezer which would allow them to purchase meat in bulk when it is on sale. The cost of these freezers is approximately \$220. If you would like to donate towards buying a freezer for them, please bring a check into Lora or place it in the offering plate with a notation that it is for a new freezer. Thanks!



Power Point Help

We are in need of some new Power Point operators for both services. This is not a difficult job, and we will train you. Please see Pastor Terri if you are interested in helping out!



Leadership Meeting

On Tuesday, March 19th at 7:00 PM, everyone who serves on the following committees at TUMC is asked to join us for a meeting in the Fellowship Hall: Staff Parish, Finance, Trustees, Missions, Evangelism, Discipleship, and Children's Council. This will be an exciting meeting in which the Leadership Team presents their goals for the next year and how we plan to get

there. Each committee will then meet individually to discuss ways that they can implement these goals in their strategies for 2019. This is a very important meeting, so please be there if you can!



Official Roll Beginning January 1, 2019

Church Council

Chair: Wayne Ward (19)

Lay Leader: Jim Pattenaude

Recording Secretary: Janet Butler (19)

Lay Members to Annual Conference: Susan Patterson (20)

Stewardship and Finance Chair: Jerry Leonard & Kim Kresin

Church Treasurer: Dave Butler (20)

Staff Parish Relations Committee Chair: Susan Patterson (19)

Board of Trustees Rep: Dan Craddock

UMW representative: Sharon Corum

UMM representative: Jerry Leonard

Youth representative: _____

Discipleship Formation Leader: Sharon Corum

Missions Leader: _____

Outreach & Evangelism Leader: _____

Pastor: Terri Haas (no vote)

Finance Committee

Chair: Jerry Leonard & Kim Kresin

Treasurer: Dave Butler (20)

Financial Secretary (staff): Lora Zimmer

Lay Leader: Jim Pattenaude

Trustee Rep: Jeff Marker

2019 – Carolyn McIntyre, Jerry Leonard, _____

2020 – Kim Kresin, Vicki Jones, _____

2021 – Darcy Sementi, Ray Lamb, Cheryl Bozarth

Trustees

Chair: Jeff Marker

2019 – Ron Korte, Jeff Marker, Dan Craddock

2020 – Kim Kemp, Ryan Woods, _____

2021 – David Bozarth, Lenny Sementi, Jerry Reynolds

Staff Parish Relations

Chair: Susan Patterson

2019 – Pat Janusik, Susan Patterson, _____

2020 – Cheryl Warren, Sue Wisovaty, _____

2021 – Dale Best, Bruce Wood, Jim Wesch

Lay Leader: Jim Pattenaude

Lay Member Annual Conference: Susan Patterson

Nominations/Lay Leadership

Chair: Rev. Terri Haas

Lay Leader: Jim Pattenaude

2019 – Jan Thurn, Paul Wisovaty, Stan Cross

2020 – Judy Landeck, Pat Sturgis, Jan Mann

2021 – Janice Benner, Christy Hoel, Rhonda McCumber

Memorial Committee (sub committee of Trustees)

Trustees Rep: TBA ()

2019 – Joyce Ellis, Clark Wilkinson

2020 – Tom Sturgis, _____

Endowment Committee (sub committee of Trustees)

Chair: Dick Berg

Members: Dottie Riddle, Dave Bozarth, John Watson

Lee Scholarship Committee: Cammy Seguin (chair), (Trustee rep), Mary Ann Pattenaude, Les Hall

McCumber Scholarship Committee: Jeannie Craddock, Christy Hoel

Local Church Lay Servants: Ray Lamb, John Watson

Certified Lay Servants: Wayne Ward

Missions Team

_____, leader

Kathryn McCumber

Jerry Blaudow

Catherine Kellogg

Jean Leonard

Cathy Mannen

Margie Delheimer

Staff: Rev. Terri Haas

Outreach & Evangelism Team

_____, leader

Jerry Reynolds

Kathryn McCumber

Donna Lamb

Rob Manning

Staff: Rev. Terri Haas

Worship Team

Staff: Jeannie Craddock

Bruce Wood

Rev. Terri Haas

Kristine Kerns

Brian Beachy

John Watson

Christy Hoel

Susan Patterson

Discipleship Formation Team

Sharon Corum (Council rep)

Patty Russell

Alan Patton

Rodney Zimmer

Sharon Corum

Judy Schenkel

Jan Boyer

Staff: Rev. Terri Haas

Children's Council

Ingrid Minger

Johanna Steffens

Rodney Zimmer

Mark Kemp

Aly Yantis

Emma Zimmer



Worship Preview

A Light to Enlighten Nations (continued)

March 3rd - Luke 9:28-43a – Listen to Him

Lenten Sermon Series – He Chose the Nails: What God Did to Win Your Heart

This Lent, we will be using Max Lucado's book *He Chose the Nails* to examine the symbols surrounding Christ's crucifixion, revealing the claims of the cross and asserting that if they are true, then Christianity itself is true. The supporting evidence either makes the cross the single biggest hoax of all time, or the hope of all humanity. Join us as we use this amazing guide to examine the cross, contemplate its purpose, and celebrate its significance.

March 10th – Matthew 27:26-31 – God's Promise in the Soldier's Mocking

March 17th – John 19:19-22 – God's Promise Through the Sign

March 24th – Luke 23:39-43 – God's Promise Through the Two Crosses

March 31st – Matthew 27:50-51, Hebrews 10:19-20 – God's Promise Through the Torn Curtain

8:15 a.m. Worship Leaders

March 3 – Liturgist – Janet Butler; Ushers – Bob Smith, Jerry Jones, Todd Kresin, Colter Lewis; Greeters – Mary Smith, Don & Dorris Thode; PowerPoint – Jim & Mary Ann Pattenaude

March 10 – Liturgist – Jeff Marker; Ushers – Ray Lamb, Lenny Sementi, Mark Randell; Greeters – Jerry & Jean Leonard, Barb Wills; PowerPoint – Darcy Sementi

March 17 – Liturgist – Judy Schenkel; Ushers – Paul Wisovaty, Alan Michener, Jack Allen, Jerry Reynolds; Greeters – Sue Wisovaty, Doris Young; PowerPoint – Colin Lewis

March 24 – Liturgist – Darcy Sementi; Ushers – Debbie & Jeff Marker, Jan Mann; Greeters – Pat & Butch Janusik; PowerPoint -

March 31 – Liturgist – Susan Patterson; Ushers – Tom Sturgis, Jerry & Margo Blaudow; Greeters – Cammy Seguin, Kathleen Dyer, Darlene Wiesener; Acolyte - Boyd Brewer; PowerPoint - Jim & Mary Ann Pattenaude



10:45 a.m. Worship Leaders

March 3 – Liturgist – Wayne Ward; Ushers – Chuck & Sue Benner, Drew & Christy Hoel; Greeter – Kathryn McCumber; Acolyte – Dane/Reed Manning; PowerPoint – Dwight Vaught

March 10 – Liturgist – Georgia Wilkinson; Ushers – Chuck Seibold, Leon Kinney, Alan Patton; Greeters – Jan Boyer, Vicki Jones; Acolyte – Delanie Yantis; PowerPoint – Noah Woods

March 17 – Liturgist – Bev Schweighart; Ushers – Jan Boyer, Vicki Jones, Joyce Ellis; Greeter – Alan Patton; Acolyte – Brynlee Ring; PowerPoint – Rodney Zimmer

March 24 – Liturgist – Diane Zell; Ushers – Dan Craddock, Andy & Cindy Wood; Greeter – Cheryl Bozarth; Acolyte – Lily Yantis; PowerPoint – Jackie/Sidney Watson

March 31 – One worship at 10:00 am. See above.



Tuscola United Methodist Church

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Tuscola United Methodist Church

Pastor	Rev. Terri Haas
Secretary	Lora Zimmer
Custodian	Jody Patton
Nursery Attendant	Janice Benner
Sanctuary Choir & Praise Band Director	Jeannie Craddock
Handbell Choir Director	Dwight Vaught
Children's Choir Director	Johanna Steffens
Lay Leader	Jim Pattenaude
Church Council Chair	Wayne Ward
Parish Nurse	Donna Lamb

Prairie Wind is the monthly newsletter of the Tuscola United Methodist Church. We meet for worship at 901 N. Prairie Street in Tuscola, Illinois.

We invite you to worship with us and to experience the joy of having fellowship with people who believe in God's love and Christ's teachings.

Our worship services are Sunday at 8:15 and 10:45 a.m., Jarman Center at 9:30 a.m. and Brookstone Estates at 10:10 a.m. Sunday school classes for all ages begin at 9:30 a.m.

Tuscola United Methodist Church
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Visit us on the web at www.tuscolaumc.org

Office Hours 8 a.m. - noon; 1 - 3:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday