

Mission News For March

March 10th is UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) Sunday. UMCOR offers relief response and long-term recovery grants to help communities recover from the effects of a disaster. UMCOR also provides technical support and training to those who are engaged in disaster recovery to help them as they address emerging and ongoing issues regarding disaster relief and long term health and future development.

UMCOR Sunday is set aside as a day to give support the operational costs of the organization. This includes training of Conference Disaster Coordinators and Early Response Teams to basic office expenses. Giving to the operational costs of UMCOR on this Special Sunday once a year ensures that 100% of the donations received in that year will go to your designated relief project.

United Methodists around the world will celebrate this day to recognize the impact we make through the church to help those in need. Your donations are needed to help continue UMCOR's work in disaster relief.

Please make your checks out to FUMC or use the pew envelopes for cash donations.

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***Looking for a gift? Going out to eat? Need fuel for your vehicle?  
We have SCRIP cards for these vendors and many many more!  
Contact Angie Setzer or see Rick Manuell after church on Sundays.***



## Easter Flower

## Order Forms

It is Easter flower time! If you would like to purchase an Easter flower for the sanctuary for Easter Sunday, please complete this form and place it in the offering basket or bring it into the church office by **Friday, March 8, 2024, by 8:30AM.** . Please indicate below the number of flower(s) you would like to order.

Lilies	_____ (\$24.00 ea.)	
Tulips	_____ (\$17.00 ea.)	Total \$ _____
Hyacinths	_____ (\$17.00 ea.)	

Please make checks payable to: **FUMC (Memo – Flowers)**

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

For office use

Check #\_\_\_\_\_

Cash

**Last day to order is March 8, 2024!**

# The Messenger

## March 2024



*From the Pastor's Pen*

## Keeping Holy Time

**Ecclesiastes 3:1 "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under Heaven."**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ, in the power and presence of the indwelling Spirit.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, I come to you in the middle of the holy season of lent, encouraging you, as you seek to live in line with the will and way of God during this holy time. As the church, we do not measure time in the way the world does. For the world measures time in the hectic activities of everyday life. But we, the church, measure time in the grace of God, by the working of His Holy Spirit, to bring us to holiness, and into the likeness and image of Christ, our Lord.

If you are like me, there is barely any room on your calendar to put even one more word. It seems as the years go by we become busier and busier, filling each and every moment, either with the necessary tasks of living or an overabundance of extracurricular activities. At any rate, our time is used up. Some time ago, I was talking to a retiree who was telling me all that he had to do. It made me wonder how he ever had time to hold down a full-time job. And then I thought, as human beings we have come to an understanding that unless we are busy at every moment of our lives, we are being unproductive. So, we fill our days to overflowing until at last, when our time grows small, we often wonder where our lives have gone.

Over the last few months, we have lost several who are significant in our lives. Loved ones, church members, friends, and those who are all of these combined. As I have set with their families and discussed their final arrangements and the celebration of their lives, I am touched by their love for their family, their friends, their church family, and most importantly their Lord. As we discuss the life that has been lived, getting all the vital statistics right, I don't want to know just how many years they were at a certain job or just how many years they were married. What I truly want to know is, what are the stories that make up their lives that will carry their families in their absence.

Each time I walk through the valley of the shadow of death with a church member, or a loved one, I find that I am confronted with my use of the time that our Lord has granted us inhabiting this earth. How are we spending the time that God has given us? I have noted the incredible busyness of life and sometimes I wonder what I am missing ,while at the same time I am overwhelmed with joy at all the opportunities that I experience to receive love from and give love to others. I am overwhelmed with the joys of this life, and with the unspeakable joy of a relationship with Jesus Christ through His holy church.

I also must ask myself what I value most; what is it that really shapes who I am? And how do those events and people transform me? I would assume that you do the same, whether it is your family, or another significant person in your life. It seems that we take this life that God has given us for granted, but this should not be so. Every day is a gift from God. Every breath is a gift from God. Every experience that brings Him glory is a gift from God, and even some of the experiences and events that don't bring Him glory help to develop us into the people He's calling us to be.

In Psalm 90 Moses calls us to be aware of how short life is when he says, “Teach us to realize the brevity of life so that we may grow in wisdom” (NLT) or as the ESV has it “teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.”

Continued on Next Page



When we think about it, the only things that truly matter in life are those things that are in line with with the Great Commandment, “you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.’ and ‘Love your neighbor as yourself...” What we do for God and those He has placed in our lives stand out as a testament to our faith and the power of the love of God working within us. As the church we follow in His example, we lay aside all those things that keep us from truly living the life that He’s called us to, and then through our lives, we will proclaim the good news of the salvation to our families first, to our church family, to the communities in which we live, and to the very ends of the Earth.

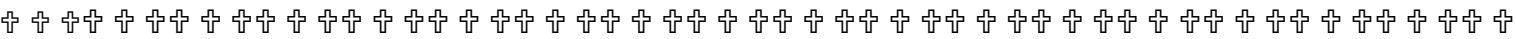
By the end of this month, we will finish out our Lenten journey, and we will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. The joy of knowing that Christ has indeed risen from the dead fills us with hope, because we know if we believe, if we follow after and serve Him, we will live forever in the home that He has prepared for us not made with hands, but eternal in the heavens.

It is my prayer that each of us will become more mindful of the gifts that God has given us in this life, family, friends, church, and most especially the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ, our Lord, leading to eternal life. May you continue your journey into holiness throughout this season of Lent as you take stock of the life that He has given you, and as you seek to live to His glory, sharing His love with others.

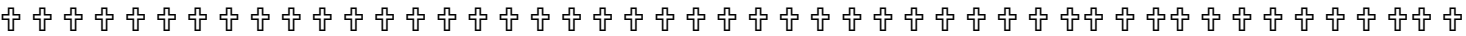
Lord, help us to measure the time you have given us in light of Your grace, allowing the Holy Spirit to lead us to holiness, as we grow evermore daily into the likeness and image of Christ.

In the name of Jesus, our crucified and risen Lord, may we live more fully into His many gifts, that in the world to come we may know the joy of our eternal home.

Amen.  
Serving Christ with you,  
*Pastor Bill*



*Marshall Ministerial Alliance Food Distribution and Clothing Store needs your help!*  
*A large number of Clark County residents receive free food at our local food pantry each month.*  
*This can only be provided if the community supports Marshall Ministerial Alliance Food Distribution and Clothing Store with both monetary donations, donations to the clothing store, & especially volunteer time. Please remember to volunteer at the clothing store on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month from 8:30 to 12.*  
*Help is also needed on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month for food distribution from 12:00 to 4:30 PM. There will, also, be even more of a need volunteers when the new Thrift Store opens in late Spring.*



Scott & Sheri McLennan 3/18  
Wayne & Karen Heighton 3/22  
Rob & Jen Crumrin 3/22



Kyle Hutson	3/2	Justin Paulsen	3/14
Bev Smith	3/3	Carolyn Clark	3/17
Susie Carey	3/4	Lilly Ross	3/21
Adam Gossmann	3/5	Jaidlynn Flowers	3/21
Logan Macke	3/5	Joyce Berry Smithson	3/21
Evan Setzer	3/5	Lydia Grace Cannady	3/22
Betty Hornbrook	3/7	Carsyn Day	3/23
Aubrey Claypool	3/8	David Flowers	3/25
Joe Schroeder	3/8	Molly Kendall	3/28
Barb Sabo	3/9	Robert Logan	3/30
MaryEllen Koutsoumpas	3/10	Shaun Ramsey	3/30
Scott Cline	3/10	Freemont Schoeck	3/31
Tucker Cannady	3/13		

# March Volunteers

We still need volunteers for much of the upcoming year.

Ushers - 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> - Charlie & Diane Moore  
17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> - Tom & Anne Hintz

Liturgist- Nancy Claypool  
Counters- Mike Sanders  
**We still need counters for much of 2024.**

Nursery 7<sup>th</sup> – Erica & Caroline Crumrin  
12<sup>th</sup> – Amy Cannady & Nancy Crumrin  
19<sup>th</sup> – Tara & Sadie Claypool  
28<sup>th</sup> – Jody Green & Charlene Moore

Lobby Watch 3<sup>rd</sup> - Tony Graham  
10<sup>th</sup> – Rick Manuell  
**We still need volunteers for February Lobby Watch**

Greeters- Garvin & Barb Manhart



**March 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Steve & Macke**  
**“In loving Memory of our daughter, Maria”**

**Any dates not listed are open**





Family of Polly Logan, Jim White & Family, Eddie Gutierrez, Laura Irwin, Robin Lake, Flossie, Allyssa Henson( great granddaughter of Bev Smith), Mike Delp ( Friend of John & Linda James), Unspoken (Beth Macke) Unspoken, Tim Bronkie (Pastor's friend), Marianne Wrone, Gail Glick, Israel, Diana Bailey, Tiffany Macke, Millie Swalls (Nora & Brad Swalls' granddaughter), Kinley Nash (Lois & David Nash's granddaughter), Molly Macke (Patty & John's daughter-in-law), Rev. Ron Martz (Praise also, recently been told he is cancer free), Family of Bill Hutson, Bishop Frank Beard, D.S. Angie Lee, Chase Brady [*Joyce Gwyn's great-grandson*], Peg Hintz [*Tom Hintz's mother*], Julie Kriete-meier [*Beth Macke's sister*], Angie Broncano [*Missionary in Laos*], Unspoken Request, All Long-term Healthcare Facilities in Clark County, Natural Disaster Victims, Our Missionaries

### Our Military Personnel:

## Our Nation, Our Nation's Leaders, and Armed Forces

Chris Bradford	John Flowers	Daniel Gard
Michael Holmes	John Kuhn	Shelby Sanborn
Lewis Sanborn	Jake Hoalt	Chaplain Jonathon Maloney

### Our Homebound & Health Care Facility Residents

Violet Cook	JoAnn Donehue	Ray King
Mary E. Koutsoumpas	Phyllis Boatright	Dan Flowers
Fremont Schoeck	Sharon Miller	Ron Hicks



Prayer Focus for the month: **Peace**

Please do not drop off any more bags for the sleeping mats. We have plenty. If you would like to help, we have plenty of bags that need to be cut in the chapel. I will be glad to meet & weave with you. Just let me know when. One mat is complete & the second one has been started. Thanks to everyone who has helped with this project. I think we have enough bags to do many more!

### Mark Your Calender:

UWF Retreat, hosted by Sisters In Faith - Sat., April 13  
East District Spring Meeting - Tues., April 16, Effingham  
Yard Sale - May 4  
Mother/Daughter/Friend Dinner - Sat., May 11

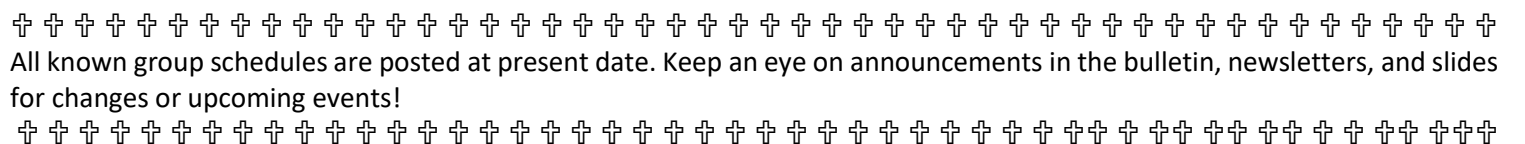
## Sisters in Faith

**Sisters in Faith** will have a Bake Sale on Palm Sunday, 3/24 in the Welcome Center.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Saturday, April 13, Sisters In Faith is planning a retreat. More details will be in the March newsletter. Registration must be completed by March 31<sup>st</sup>. The cost will be \$20 per person. Signup sheet is in the Welcome Center. Payments can be made in the office or see Karen Heighton. All FUMC women, teens, and their guests will be invited.

## UWF Circle Schedule

- UWF Board Meeting – Tues., Mar. 5, 4:00 pm
- Esther Circle - Thurs., Mar. 14, 7:00 pm
- Sisters In Faith Circle - Wed., Mar. 20, 6:00 pm, Chapel
- Faith Circle - Thurs., Mar. 21, 9:00 am, Chapel
- Susannah Wesley Circle – Mon., Mar. 28 6PM



## Seniors



Holy Grounds Coffee Group meets every Tuesday. All are welcome to join!

3/5	9:00	AM-breakfast at Marshall Family Restaurant.
3/12	2:00	PM-at the Villas of Holly Brook
3/19	9:00	AM-at the Gypsy Queen
3/26		Lunch TBA



Spring is almost upon us, and with it, some little changes for our choir!

Now that it is staying light longer, we're going back to Wednesdays at 6:30 for our practice time. We'll continue meeting in the Chapel. Cantata practice will take place at 5:30, so we won't be at church too terribly late.

There's still time to join us for the Cantata! Reach out to me or just come to practice on Wednesday. Everyone is welcome to make a joyful noise with us!

Blessings to you as we work together in Christ's Service,

Becky



## Children & Youth Ministry



Wow! So much is going on with our children and youth. Confirmation Class has begun. There are 10 kids in the group meeting Sundays at 3:00. The first session will be for 10 weeks this spring and we will finish up with 10 weeks in the fall.

The youth from FUMC met with kids from Emmanuel, Zion, and Armstrong for a bowling party. 23 kids and adults were in attendance.

YF met for a Super Bowl party at Kelly's. Go Chiefs!

The Scholarship committee met to go over applications, money, and guidelines. Scholarship applications may be picked up at the church office. They need to be turned between April 1 and May 31. Recipients will be announced during worship on June 9.

KFC is beginning our last session for this school year. (Don't worry - we have great summer plans for kids and KFC will be back next fall!) This session is Easter in an Egg Carton - the kids will love it!

The next Christian Skate Night in Paris is Monday, March 11 from 6 - 8. The church van will leave the parking lot at 5:40. It's fun!

**It's time for FUMC to have new shirts!** The youth will be selling T shirts, crew neck sweatshirts, and hoodies. The profits will be used for both local camp and Camp Illiana expenses. You can order after church on Sundays in March or call the church office and ask for Kelly to place and order.

**Just one more thing** - Our annual Easter Egg Hunt is Sat. March 24 at 9:00. Please donate candy!!! There will be a tub in the church office for your donations.



## FUMC Shirts!

Order yours today!

Child short sleeve T -\$15

Short sleeve T-\$20

Long sleeve T- \$25

Crew necked sweatshirt- \$32

Hoodies- \$40

**UMYF Fundraiser-Order forms available in the office**

### Lenten Special Services and Activities

**Each Wednesday during Lent beginning on Feb 14<sup>th</sup>**  
7:00 a.m. The 7 last words of Jesus - Video Presentation  
Posted On Facebook and YouTube with Pastor Bill

**Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>** Easter Egg Hunt for the children  
for more information see Kelly Lindley.

**Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>** Love Feast 6 p.m.

**Good Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**

Noon - The Carrying of the Cross  
6 p.m. Choir Cantata - "The Seven Last Days: A Tenebrae Service"

**Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**

7:00 a.m. Easter SONrise Service  
8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast  
9:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Celebration Service



## *"The Life and Times of Jesus Our Savior"*

Our sermon series based on the life of Jesus and the impact His life has on us continues this month. These sermons are tracing some of the important events in the earthly life of Jesus, the significance of those events, and what we can learn about our salvation and the life we are called to live as believers in Jesus Christ as a result of His actions and teachings.



*3/3 Sermon 8 - "To Judge Or not to Judge."*  
*Matthew 7:1-14*

*3/10 Sermon 9 - "Jesus the Healer"*  
*Matthew 8:1-4 & 17*

*3/17 Sermon 10 - "He is the Resurrection"*  
*John 11*

*3/24 Sermon 11 - "How Can We Shout Hosanna?"*  
*Matthew 21:1-16*

*3/31 Sermon 12 ~ "Easter is Essential!"*  
*Matthew 28:1-15 and 1 Corinthians 15:1-11*



The Love Feast, or Agape Meal, is a Christian fellowship meal recalling the meals Jesus shared with His disciples during His earthly ministry and expressing the fellowship enjoyed by the family of Christ.

Although its origins in the early church are closely interconnected with the origins of the Lord's Supper, the two services became quite distinct, not to be confused with each other. While the Lord's Supper has been practically universal among Christians throughout Church history, the Love Feast has appeared only at certain times and among certain denominations.

The modern history of the Love Feast began when Count Zinzendorf and the Moravians in Germany introduced a service of sharing food, prayer, religious conversation, and hymns in 1727. John Wesley first experienced it among the Moravians in Savannah, Georgia, ten years later. His diary notes: "After evening prayers, we joined with the Germans in one of their love-feasts. It was begun and ended with thanksgiving and prayer, and celebrated in so decent and solemn a manner as a Christian of the apostolic age would have allowed to be worthy of Christ."

It quickly became a feature of the Evangelical Revival and a regular part of Methodist Society meetings in Great Britain and throughout the English-speaking world. As Methodists immigrated to North America they made Love Feasts an important part of early American Methodism.

In the tradition of our forefathers and in worship of Jesus and in remembrance of His sacrificial life, we are joining in this Love Feast on Maundy Thursday, March 28, at 6:30pm. This is more than just a meal, it is a worship service that is sure to make your Easter Celebration more meaningful than you could imagine. The Love Feast includes the sharing of food, most often sweet bread to remind us of the sweetness of God's presence. Our Love Feast also includes the sharing of a fellowship meal of dishes brought by each family for all to share. Meat, drinks, and table service will be provided, and we ask that you bring a salad, side dish, or dessert. In order to celebrate the Love Feast as a Church Family, we share our carry-in supper around a common table, so we need to know ahead of time how many places to set.

Testimonies and praise are the focal point in most Love Feasts. Testimonies may include personal witness to God's grace or accounts of what God has been doing in the lives of others. Praise may take the form of hymns, songs, choruses or spoken exclamations. All should be done with the leading of the Holy Spirit. Wesley counseled that all be done decently and in order.

Prayer is vital to a Love Feast. Along with fixed forms of prayer, spontaneous prayer requests and prayers may come from the people.

Since this Love Feast is being celebrated on the night in which Jesus was betrayed, in remembrance that after supper was over Our Lord instituted His feast (communion), we too will share in the Lord's Supper.

If you have any questions, feel free to talk to either Pastor Bill or Becky. As we get closer to the date, there will be a sign-up sheet in the entry hall.





# MARCH 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Exercise – 8:30 AM	2
3 Confirmation Class 3:30-5:30 PM	4 Exercise- 8:30 AM Yoga- 9AM	5 Holy Grounds- 9AM @ Marshall Family Restaurant UWF Board Meeting 4PM	6 7AM -Last 7 Words of Jesus Posted -Facebook & YouTube Power Lunch KFC-3PM Cantata Practice 5:30PM Choir Practice 6:30	7	8 Exercise – 8:30 AM	9
10 Confirmation Class 3:30-5:30 PM	11 Exercise- 8:30 AM Yoga- 9AM Christian Skate Night 6PM *Van leaves the church at 5:40	12 Holy Grounds-2PM @ Hollybrook	13 7AM -Last 7 Words of Jesus Posted -Facebook & YouTube Power Lunch KFC-3PM Cantata Practice 5:30PM Choir Practice 6:30	14 Esther Circle - 7:00 pm	15 Exercise – 8:30 AM	16
17 Confirmation Class 3:30-5:30 PM	18 Exercise- 8:30 AM Yoga- 9AM	19 Holy Grounds-9AM @ Gypsy Queen Finance 6PM Trustees 7PM	20 7AM -Last 7 Words of Jesus Posted -Facebook & YouTube Sisters in Faith 6PM Power Lunch KFC-3PM Church family dinner 5pm Cantata Practice 5:30PM Choir Practice 6:30	21 Faith Circle-9AM	22 Exercise – 8:30 AM April Newsletter Articles Due	23 Easter Egg Hunt
24 Confirmation Class 3:30-5:30 PM	25 Exercise- 8:30 AM Yoga- 9AM	26 Holy Grounds TBA Cantata will also be performed at Hollybrook @5:30PM Church Council 6PM	27 7AM -Last 7 Words of Jesus Posted -Facebook & YouTube Easter Power Lunch KFC-3PM Cantata Practice 5:30PM Choir Practice 6:30	28 Holy Grounds Love Feast 6PM	29 12PM Carry the Cross 6PM Choir Cantata **The Last 7 Days: A Tenebrae Service**	30
31 Easter Sunday 7AM SONrise Svc. 8AM Easter Breakfast 9AM Celebration Svc.  No Confirmation						

