

# The Messenger

Volume 22 No. 3

March 2022



The Newsletter of The United Church of Sandwich

*"Passionately united to feed all people — body, mind and spirit — to the glory of God!"*

Greetings,

Welcome to March! Winter is not over yet, but we know that it will be spring soon. The weather will warm. The days will increase and the flowers will bloom. Spring is almost here. March also marks a change in the church calendar as well. We are leaving behind the season of Epiphany and entering the season of Lent. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 2 this year.

Let me take a minute and highlight the season of Lent for you. Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays. As I shared, this begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. The word Lent, originates from the Anglo-Saxon word lencen, which means spring. The season is a preparation for celebrating Easter. Historically, Lent started as a period of fasting and spiritual preparation for baptism by converts into the Christian faith. It then grew into a spiritual practice of penance by all Christians. The first Sunday describes Jesus' temptation by Satan; and the sixth Sunday, (Passion/Palm Sunday) Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem.



The Lenten season is a time when all in the Christian faith turn with Jesus to face the Cross. It's a time of reflection. It's a time of receiving from the Lord and giving to others. It's a time of letting go of parts of our lives we need to shed and finding parts of God that we need to embrace. It's a time when we look into our hearts to examine our walk with Christ and re-evaluate our sense of direction in our lives. We are called to align our focus with the heart of Christ.

When Jesus began his journey toward Jerusalem at the beginning of his ministry, He knew the road would end at Golgotha. Still, he did not turn away or delay his journey. Every Lenten Season we are asked to join Jesus on that road so we can better understand His life and death. The Via Dolorosa, or "The way of sorrows" is the path Jesus would have been forced to walk as he carried his cross through the town. Some say the Via Dolorosa started at his baptism. Others say it started in Bethlehem with the announcement from the Angels. Max Lucado wrote that the Via Dolorosa began in the hall of Heaven. The Journey began when God left Heaven's gates in search of us. Armed with nothing more than a passion to win your heart, God came looking for you with only one thought in mind. God wanted to bring His Children home. I cling to this notion of love and grace. Lent reminds me to reconnect with God. However, it is also a reminder of the love and peace of God that I want to know.

This year we will begin our journey on Ash Wednesday, March 2, with a worship service at 7:00 PM. We will travel each week towards that cross until we arrive on Easter Sunday with a celebration of life over death! Take this journey through Lent with me. Below are a few verses you can read each week as you make your way through your journey with Christ. God Bless!

Pastor Tom Bourke

† Matthew 4:1-11	The temptation of Jesus
† Luke 13:31-35	Jesus' lament over Jerusalem
† John 4:5-42	The woman at the well
† John 9:1-41	The Judgment of those who claim to see
† John 11:1-45	A sample of what's to come
† Matthew 21:1-11	Palm Sunday; The triumphal entry into Jerusalem
† John 20:1-18	Easter, He is Risen!!

## Sunday Scriptures & Sermon Series for March

**March 2** Joel 2:12-19 ~ Why Focus on Ash Wednesday?

“Encounters with Jesus”

**March 6** John 3:1-21 ~ Nicodemus (To Be Reborn)

**March 13** Luke 17:11-19 ~ The 10 (Being Healed)

**March 20** Luke 19:1-10 ~ Zaccheus (The Wee Little Man)

**March 27** Matthew 19:13-26 ~ The Rich Young Ruler: Following Christ



**Children's Sunday School,**  
9:00am,  
Sunday mornings.  
Check out the

UCS website: [unitedchurchsandwich.org](http://unitedchurchsandwich.org)

for a link for the Children's Activity Bulletin.

Age appropriate worksheets may be found.

If you have any questions call, 815-786-9243

## Confirmation Class Meals Sign Up

**A sign up sheet for volunteering a meal for the confirmation class may be found in the narthex. Watch for a day that is convenient for you and provide a meal for approximately 6 people. For any questions contact Pastor Tom.**

### MISSION OF THE MONTH



*Native American Ministry of Presence*

Important to Native American Ministry of Presence is supporting Native American Organizations within NIC, which are; The American Indian Center of Chicago, Kateri Center-Roman Catholic Native American Ministries, Midwest SOARRING, and CCAIC-which is a collaboration of all Native American organizations in the Chicago land area. They work jointly to provide cultural events that continue to celebrate traditional values, language, music, listening sessions and Native American spirituality, along with providing college scholarships for Native youth. They provide opportunities to learn about Jesus through worship services, family camp, Bible study and by encouraging laity to attend events designed for Native Americans.

Thank you, The Missions Committee

## Bible Quiz

All four Gospels tell of a woman anointing Jesus. Details vary; clearly, she isn't the same person in all accounts. In John, who is she?

- A. Jesus' mother, Mary
- B. Mary Magdalene
- C. Mary of Bethany (sister of Martha and Lazarus)
- D. None of the above



John 12:1-8

Answer: C (See Matthew 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9; Luke 7:36-39)

# MARCH Activities



Administrative Council meets Tuesday, March 8th, at 6:30pm.

Worship Committee will meet Sunday, March 13th, following service, about 11:15am

Board of Trustees will meet Tuesday, March 15th, at 4:30pm. (Note new time!)

Finance Committee will meet Thursday, March 17th, 6:30pm.



**U'Niter's** meet March 7th, at 1:00pm. All women of the church are invited to join the meeting in the Friendship Corner.

United Methodist Women will meet Thursday, March 10th, at 9:30am. Thank Offering Boxes are available in the narthex. Pick one up to begin collecting your daily blessings.



The World Thank Offering is one of United Methodist Women's five channels of Mission Giving. An opportunity for us to know that our blessings will be used in the areas of most need. "Our call to be the body of Christ to eradicate injustices in the world is a weighty task, but every gift we share has impact".

Life gets busy. It is easy to forget our blessings in the everyday. World Thank Offering affords an intentional opportunity to count our blessings, pause every day, slow down, and be mindful to thank God for every blessing. As we fill our

little box with blessings, we are encouraged each time to think about how far those blessings will reach. The funds collected are used in the total program of mission and advocacy in the United States and around the world. What comes from all of us praying together; sharing our gifts is felt by more than we can ever know. The power of prayer doesn't stop just because we are not saying something specific to God. Our lives are prayers, our actions are prayers, and our work is prayer. This set-aside time of World Thank Offering lets us see our prayer in action.



## Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, March 2nd

*Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.*

Lenten devotions will begin with a service of imposition of ashes and Holy Communion, Wednesday, March 2, 7:00 pm.

Ashes are a mark of repentance and humility. Ashes help us remember that we are mortal, and that our lives are dependent upon the graciousness of God.



## 4th Weekend Drive

A load of *Thanks* for your continued support of the 4th Weekend Drives.

Catch the next one March 26 & 27 to donate Pantry items. Requesting "Greens!" If you are able, please bring accepted items such as, (canned) green beans, peas, asparagus, etc.

These items are donated to the Sharing Pantry and the local schools. Thank you! The Missions Committee



## **PIE OF THE MONTH EVENT**

*Our expert pie bakers are ready to bake some  
delicious pies just for you!*

*Preorders and prepayment will be required.*



March: Apple Pie (2 crust)  
Order Deadline-March 4  
Pickup Date-March 12

April: Triple Berry Pie (2 crust)  
Order Deadline-April 8  
Pickup Date-April 16

May: Peach Pie  
Order Deadline-April 29  
Pickup Date-May 7

June: Strawberry Rhubarb Pie  
Order Deadline-June 10  
Pickup Date-June 18

## **PIE OF THE MONTH MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE**

3 Month Membership - \$55.00 for pies offered April-June 2022.

The Membership gets you the pies at a reduced cost.

Memberships are not required to purchase any pie of the month.

Pies may be purchased baked or frozen (with baking instructions).

Pickup only — no delivery

The Church will be open from 9AM-11AM on the Pickup date.

Please use south entrance

Checkout the UCS website: [unitedchurchsandwich.org](http://unitedchurchsandwich.org)



**The World Day of Prayer** is an international ecumenical Christian laywomen's initiative, started in the US in 1887. It is run under the motto "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action," and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March.

Through the World Day of Prayer, women worldwide learn how their sisters of other countries, languages and cultures understand the biblical passages in their context. They learn of the concerns and needs of those women and to empathize and feel in solidarity with them.

They are also encouraged to take up the burdens of other people, to sympathize with the problems of other countries and cultures and pray with and for them. They are further encouraged to become aware of their talents and use them in the service of society. The World Day of Prayer aims to demonstrate that prayer and action are inseparable and that both have immeasurable influence in the world. Every year, worship service focuses on a different country and a specific theme. World Day of Prayer National/Regional Committees of that country prepare the order of worship on these themes to be used on the next World Day of Prayer. The theme for 2022 is, "I Know the Plans I Have For You" (Writer Countries) England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. The logo at left has been used since 1982. More information may be found at [www.wdp-usa.org](http://www.wdp-usa.org)

# Spring Plants

Lilies

7" with pot cover  
\$12.00

Azaleas

6-1/2" with pot cover  
\$18.00

Orders are due no later than April 4, 2022.

Please make checks payable to: The United Church of Sandwich.

Orders may be dropped off or called into the church office, 815-786-9243.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

# of Lilies: \_\_\_\_\_  
(\$12.00 per plant)

# of Azaleas: \_\_\_\_\_  
(\$18.00 per plant)

Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Payment must be included with order form.

## 2022 Living Lent

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>6</b> <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i> "You shall worship the Lord, Your God, and him alone shall you serve." Luke 4:8 	<b>7</b> Go somewhere QUIET, think about JESUS, and tell Him, "I love You!" 	<b>8</b> Make an Ichthus with yarn. Wear it and tell people about Jesus making the Disciples fishers of men. Read Luke 5:1-11. 	<b>9</b> <i>Ash Wednesday MARCH</i> Forgive someone for something that made you feel sad or hurt your feelings. 	<b>2</b> Jesus wants to be your friend. This Lent, turn away from what is wrong and come closer to Him. 	<b>3</b> Put your favorite toys or games in a box. On top, write "Goodbye for Lent. See you at Easter!" Give Mom the box. 	<b>4</b> Make a Giving Box by decorating a little box with a slot in the lid. Put a jar of coins nearby. Whenever anyone does a kind deed, they secretly take a coin from the jar and put it in the box. Give the money to the poor on Easter Sunday. Read Luke 6:38. 	<b>5</b> Draw names to find your secret friend for Lent! Do special things (write notes, give little gifts, offer prayers) for your friend, and give him or her a card on Easter Sunday! 
<b>13</b> <i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i> His face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. Luke 9:29 	<b>14</b> Visit or make a card for someone who is elderly or sick. 	<b>15</b> Decorate a candle and light it when your family prays. 	<b>9</b> Make a list of 10 things you are thankful to God for. Then tell Him! 	<b>10</b> Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace. Today, keep quiet when you want to say angry words. 	<b>17</b> Saint Patrick gave his heart to Jesus and brought the Gospel to Ireland. Today, tell someone, "God loves you!" 	<b>11</b> Have members of your family write their names on pieces of paper and put them in a bowl. 	<b>18</b> Pray and remember the Way of the Cross that Jesus walked on Good Friday. 
<b>20</b> <i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i> "Whoever drinks the water I give will never thirst." John 4:14 	<b>12</b> Draw names to find your secret friend for Lent! Do special things (write notes, give little gifts, offer prayers) for your friend, and give him or her a card on Easter Sunday! 	<b>21</b> List what is special about each person in your family, and then GIVE it to them! 	<b>16</b> Make a list of 10 things you are thankful to God for. Then tell Him! 	<b>22</b> "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." Exodus 3:6 	<b>19</b> Jesus, the carpenter's son, honored Joseph His father. Today, do something special for dad! 	<b>23</b> Gather some clothing and give it to the poor. 	<b>24</b> DRAW A PICTURE of Jesus on the cross with sad people, and one of Jesus risen with happy people! 
<b>25</b> Thank your Mom for being a great Mother. Read about Jesus' mother in Luke 1:26-38. 	<b>26</b> Read Psalm 23 with your family — The Lord is your Shepherd. 						

Did you know your purchases on Amazon can now help the United Church of Sandwich! All you need to do is login at <https://smile.amazon.com/> with your normal username and password. When prompted to choose a charity of your choice, type "The United Church of Sandwich" in the search box, it will automatically save as your charity of choice! It's that easy!!! Once a quarter, Amazon donates back to the church 0.55% of all your purchases. It may not sound like a lot, but when everyone does it together, we can add to our revenue. What a great time to tell your family and friends!

### Northern Illinois Conference Reporter

United Church of Sandwich is a United Methodist Church and the connectional nature of our denomination is vital to our identity. Below is a link to the Northern IL Conference newspaper. Our Newsletter will begin to share the news of the UMC with you to give you the opportunity to learn and discover the events and opportunities of the UMC at large. Please contact Pastor Tom if you have any questions on any topic you read. He would be happy and honored to connect with you.

<https://www.umcnic.org/media/files/Reporter/March%202022%20Reporter.pdf>



03/01	Cortney Scharenberg
03/02	Blake Breon
03/07	Myrtie Warren
03/08	Bonnie Bernhardt
03/09	Robert Whiteis Ken Young
03/10	Mindy Chrestman Matthew Miller
03/11	Nathan Heinekamp
03/12	Melissa Reiners
03/13	Lindsey Olson
03/18	Sandra Whiteis
03/20	Ione Martin
03/21	Alvin Warren
03/22	James McMahan
03/27	Etta Stahl
03/30	Heather Dannewitz
03/31	Richard Bark

03/17	Kathe & David Schlapp
03/25	Joanna & Matt Olson Sandra & Robert Whiteis

Please send any email, phone number, and address updates such as winter addresses to the church office. Thank you!



Please send any joys, concerns, photos, thoughts or informational articles to the church office.  
815-786-9243



If you would like to be added to the church email prayer list please contact the church office or Pastor Tom. If you are unable or uncomfortable leaving your home we have church members who are able to make necessary trips to pick up basic home and food staples. We want to be in support for you and let you know that you are family and are not alone. If you are one able to make short shopping trips for members, please let Pastor Tom know and you will be added to the resource list of people to call.

Thank You!



# MARCH

# 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p>DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME BEGINS</p> <p>MARCH 13</p>	1	2	<p>Ash </p> <p>Wednesday Service - 7p</p>	3	4	5
<p>9:00 Children's Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 Worship ~ Indoors &amp; Online (Holy Communion)</p> <p>6:00 Confirmation Class</p>	7	8	9	10	11	12
<p>9:00 Children's Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 Worship ~ Indoors &amp; Online</p> <p>6:00 Confirmation Class</p>	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>9:00 Children's Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 Worship ~ Indoors &amp; Online (Holy Communion)</p> <p>6:00 Confirmation Class</p>	21	22	23	24	25	26
<p>9:00 Children's Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 Worship ~ Indoors &amp; Online</p> <p>6:00 Confirmation Class</p>	28	29	30	31	<p>BE GLAD IN THE LORD AND REJOICE.</p> <p>PSALM 32:11, NRSV</p>	



The United Church  
of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd  
Sandwich, IL 60548-2147

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE MESSENGER — MARCH 2022



**The United Church of Sandwich**

512 E Lions Rd, Sandwich, IL 60548-2417

Church: 815- 786-9243

Email: [ucssandwich@frontier.com](mailto:ucssandwich@frontier.com)

website: [www.unitedchurchsandwich.org](http://www.unitedchurchsandwich.org)

Worship Schedule

Sunday, 10:00 am

**Children's Sunday School, 9:00 am**

Adult Bible Study, Tuesdays, 10:00 am

Church Office Hours

Monday — Friday, 9:00 am — 1:00 pm

*Pastor:* Rev. Tom Bourke

*Office Hours:* Monday–Thursday

9:00 am — 1:00 pm

or by appointment

*Email:* [tombourkejr@gmail.com](mailto:tombourkejr@gmail.com)

*Mobile:* 630-699-2474

Church Staff

*Secretary:* Donna Reiss

Tuesday–Friday, 9:00 am — 1:00 pm

*Choir and Chimes Director:* Kevin Duy

*Organist/Pianist:*

*Ministers and Missionaries:* All Members

We are passionately united to feed all people —  
body, mind and spirit — to the glory of God!

Leadership Team 2022

Church Council Chair

Sarah Stevens

Recording Secretary

Chris Bagwill

Treasurer

Linda Duy

Payroll

Pam Nehring

Financial Secretary

Pat Hallaron

Finance/Stewardship Chair

Pam Nehring

Staff/Pastor Parish Relations

Gwen Fox

Lay Leader

Jim Bernhardt

**Trustee's Chair**

Gary Anderson

Annual Conf. Delegate

Bonnie Miller

Missions/Evangelism Chair

Phyllis Whitehead

Memorial/Endowment Chair

Kim Henrich

United Methodist Women

Marilyn Steenwyk

United Methodist Men

Fair Stand Chair

Reid Heinekamp

Worship & Music Chair

Deb Seymour

**United Church of Sandwich's New Website**

We invite you to view the new website for  
contact information and to learn more  
about United Church of Sandwich

[www.unitedchurchsandwich.org](http://www.unitedchurchsandwich.org)