

The Messenger



Volume 23 No. 4

April 2023

The Newsletter of The United Church of Sandwich

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

Greetings,

I love this time of the year. Spring is appearing more and more every day. Easter is on the horizon. The flowers are beginning to bloom. The days are getting longer and we are beginning to be outdoors more. As I write this we are at the pinnacle of March Madness. March Madness is the spring college basketball tournament. It starts with the 64 best teams in the country divided up into four groups. Each group is ranked 1-16.



The teams are: Florida Atlantic, Connecticut, San Diego State and Miami. A No. 9 seed, a No. 4 seed and two No. 5 seeds. No teams ranked 1-3 made it to the final 4 which has never happened in the history of the sport. Schools no one gave a chance to beat the expected winners. This is a school that no one predicted to win will walk away with a championship. It's a scenario that screams 'Anything is Possible!'

Easter creates that same feeling. 'Anything is Possible!' We are reminded by the story of Holy Week and Easter that God is amazing and will create amazing moments with all of us, starting with the resurrection. The Holy Spirit who has dwelled with us in our hearts and on Earth since Pentecost can never be contained. The Holy Spirit can never be controlled or put in a box. The unexpected will always be possible through God no matter how much we think it is unlikely.

April is a weird month, because it is so inconsistent in weather. We can have summer weather and winter storms in the same week. We are not exactly sure where the origin of the name 'April' comes but the possibilities give us an idea on the reality and notion of the month. It could be rooted in the Greek goddess of love, Aphrodite. It could be rooted in the Latin word 'aperire' which means 'to open'. Either way, April is an unpredictable month, but one rooted in the opening of the spring and summer. Warmth comes this month. Flowers bloom this month. We see many possibilities and are invited to be open to hope this month.

Let us embrace the unpredictability of April with hope and love. Jesus commands that we are to love one another. He showed his disciples the way to love others as He loved them. I look forward to the new things that this spring will bring in the world and my life. I look forward on seeing the reminders of God's love directed at me and at those around me in creating new hope and new growth. I am thankful for this church and its desire to serve others as they need and as God desires us to do.

Embrace the feeling that 'Anything is Possible!' Love others so that they feel the same. And always remember that the Lord's love endures forever!

God Bless!

Pastor Tom Bourke

Sunday Scriptures & Sermon Series for April

“Come Follow Me”

April 2 (Palm Sunday) Micah 6:1-8, James 1:19-27 ~ Disciples Care for Others

April 6 (Maundy Thursday) Isaiah 10:1-4, James 2:14-25 ~ Called to Account

April 9 (Easter Sunday) Luke 24:1-12 ~ Easter People

“Life Lessons from Superheroes”

April 16 Luke 12:48, 2 Timothy 1:7 ~ Spiderman - Be Responsible!

April 23 Hebrews 12:1-3 ~ Superman - Be Strong!

April 30 2 Corinthians 5:17, 1 John 1:9-2:2 ~ Batman - Be Authentic



June 11th will be Graduation Sunday. Contact the church office or Pastor Tom if you have or know a graduate of 8th grade, High School or College. There will be a time of honoring them during worship service.



Children's Sunday School,
9:00am,
Sunday mornings.

Check out the UCS website: 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

MISSION OF THE MONTH

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRY OF PRESENCE

The Northern Illinois region has a high population of Native American people from different nations, many of whom have encountered harm or misunderstanding from the Christian church. The NIC Committee on Native American Ministries (CONAM) seeks to support their Ministry of Presence with the St. Kateri Center of Chicago, a Roman Catholic Native American community with whom CONAM has had a relationship for over 25 years, through fundraising for educational and cultural programs, participation at events, and teaching cross-cultural workshops.

The Missions Committee

Bible Quiz

The night before Jesus' crucifixion, he demonstrates humble service by washing his disciples' _____.

- A. hands
- B. feet
- C. hair
- D. supper dishes

Answer: B (See John 13:1-17.)



April Activities



Administrative Council meets
Tuesday, April 11th, at 6:30pm.

Finance Committee will meet
April 13th, at 6:30pm.

Board of Trustees will meet
Tuesday, April 18th, at 4:30pm.



United Women in Faith
& U'Niter's
meet Monday, April 3rd, at
1:00pm in the chapel.

The United Women in Faith (UW Faith) and the U'niter's Circle of UCS hosted the "Day of Spiritual Renewal" gathering for the UW Faith of the Prairie South District on Saturday, March 18. Our building was employed from one end to the other as we fellowshiped and walked a labyrinth at the south end and worshipped and shared our faith journeys at the north end.

Please know that attendees truly appreciate the layout of the UCS facility - all one level! There are MANY persons who set-up, served, washed/cleared and helped in myriad ways -
THANK YOU to ALL!

4th Weekend Drive

**Thank you for your support of the
4th Weekend Drives.**

The request will be for

"Canned Fruit"

April 22 & 23.

**If you are able, please bring
a variety of canned fruits.**

**These donated items will be taken
to the Sharing Pantry Thank you!**

The Missions Committee

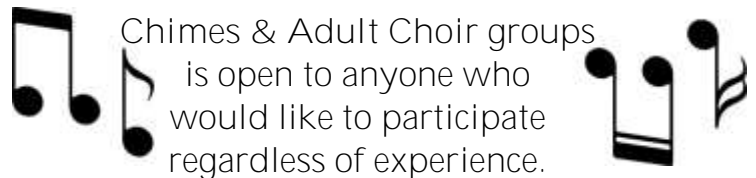


Palm Sunday
April 2 ~ 10:00am

Maundy Thursday
April 6 ~ 7:00pm
Passover Sedar
Meal & Service

Good Friday
April 7 ~ 6:30pm
Community Service at
Church of the Nazarene

Easter Sunday
April 9 ~ 10:00am
Light breakfast in the
Chapel, 9:00am



Chimes & Adult Choir groups
is open to anyone who
would like to participate
regardless of experience.

Practices are Wednesday evenings,
6:00pm and 7:00pm, respectively.
Both current and traditional selections
are enjoyed. If you would like to join
contact Kevin Duy or Pastor Tom.



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

815-786-9243

PIE OF THE MONTH EVENT

*Our expert pie bakers have been busy baking
delicious pies just for you!*

Preorders and prepayment are required.



April: Triple Berry Pie (2 crust)
Order Deadline-April 5
Pickup Date-April 8

May: Peach Pie
Order Deadline-May 5
Pickup Date-May 13

June: Strawberry Rhubarb Pie
Order Deadline-June 9
Pickup Date-June 17

PIE OF THE MONTH MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE

3 Month Membership - \$55.00 for pies offered April-June 2023.

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. Use south entrance

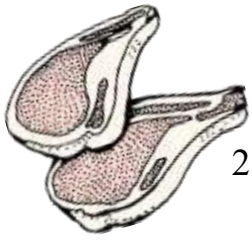
Checkout the UCS website: unitedchurchsandwich.org



During Lent, many of us are reminded once again to examine our lifestyles and ask, "What can we do for others?" Lent is a good time to commit to giving money to a project that helps those in need. Collect coins during the season of Lent and

then following Easter, donate the money. First determine where you would like your money to go. A community food bank that could use funds to purchase food for the hungry or contribute to a larger project beyond your local community. Once you have selected a project, decide what coins you want to collect. You may want to contribute a quarter for every item on the giving list, or collect loose change and give whatever coins you have for each item. Use a plastic tub, jar, or a coin bank, decorate it and place it where it can easily be seen. Items on the daily guide will remind us of all we have and how little others may have. Each Sunday, pray for the project and the people who will benefit from your gifts. Giving concludes with Holy Saturday. Check them off as you go!

- ◇ April 1: A coin for every bed
- ◇ April 2: - Palm Sunday: Pray, thanking God for shelter. Pray for those who need shelter.
- ◇ April 3: A coin for every Bible
- ◇ April 4: A coin for every book of hymns or sacred songs in your home
- ◇ April 5: A coin for every cross in your home
- ◇ April 6: A coin for every prayer you say today
- ◇ April 7: A coin for every story of Jesus you can tell
- ◇ April 8: A coin for every person in your family
- ◇ April 9 - Easter Sunday : Pray, thanking God for Jesus and the many ways we can gather and worship God.



UCS Pork Chop
Drive Thru Dinner

Meal includes:
2 Pork Chops, Baked Beans,
Coleslaw, Applesauce,
and Roll for \$16.00

6 Free Pies will be given from presale
tickets purchased!
So get your tickets early!!

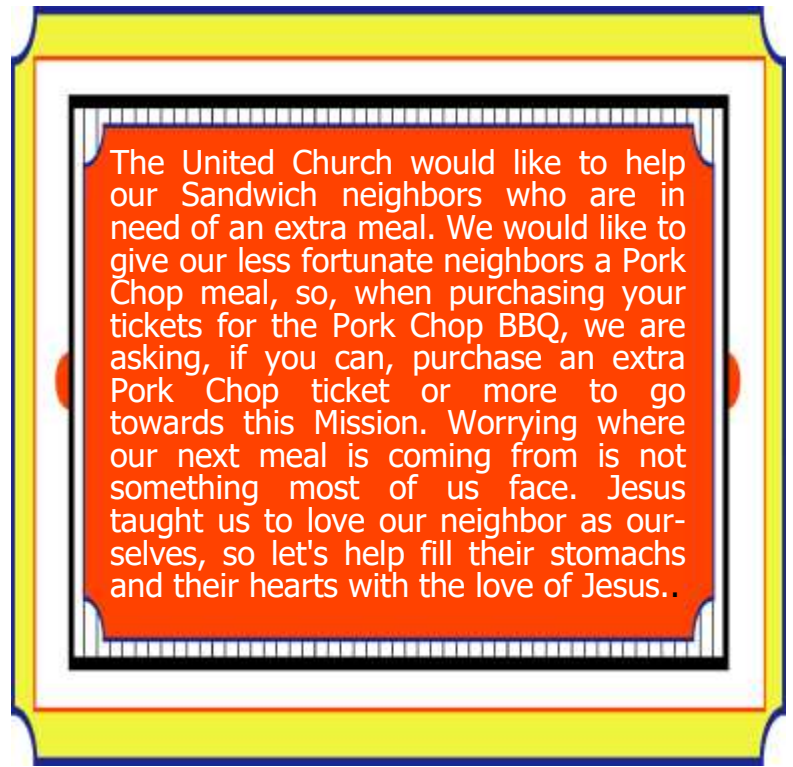
Judy Anderson will be calling to ask for
volunteer workers.

Many hands make light work for everyone
and we always have a great group working
who have great fellowship time with each
other and the community.

UCS Master Grillers Matt Olson
& Ron Henrich will be grilling the
Delicious Pork Chops!

Tickets may be purchased from:
United Church of Sandwich members
Balloons Aloft, 704 E Church St, 815-786-6226
The UCS office, 512 Lions Rd, 815-786-9243
www.unitedchurchsandwich.org

Your support is greatly appreciated!
Hope to see you there!!



"This year I'm prepared with
my egg-hunting app."



MEANINGFUL ACTION TO
CELEBRATE EARTH DAY!

- * PLANT A TREE OR GARDEN
- * REDUCE YOUR ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND CARBON FOOTPRINT
- * JOIN A LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP OR CAMPAIGN
- * EDUCATE YOURSELF AND OTHERS ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
- * CHECK OUT www.earthday.org/earth-day-2023

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Liturgists

04/02 (Palm Sunday)
 04/09 (Easter Sunday) Deb Seymour
 04/16 Sarah Stevens
 04/23 Yvonne Perillo
 04/30 Bonnie Miller

Greeters/Ushers

04/02 (Palm Sunday)
 Deb Seymour & Chris Martner
 04/06 (Maundy Thursday)
 04/09 (Easter Sunday)
 Diane Salisbury & Craig Johnson
 04/16 Gary & Judy Anderson
 04/23 Gwen Fox & Chris Bagwill
 04/30 Carole Strock & Earl Shaffer

April Birthdays & Anniversaries

04/01	Barb Bark
04/02	Katelyn Bedford Matthew Olson
04/03	Lori Davis
04/05	Jenna Henrich
04/12	Deb Seymour
04/13	Gwen Fox
04/17	Nate Heiman Mark Jerabek
04/18	McKenna Scott Bedford
04/20	Paul Pearson
04/21	Carole Strock
04/22	Laura Olson
04/23	Ed Reeder
04/27	Pat Hallaron
04/28	Christine McMahon

04/16 Marilyn & Louis Steenwyk

If anyone's birthday or anniversary has been missed please contact the church office. Thank You

PASTOR

WILL BE OUT OF THE OFFICE

from: April 17

to: April 21



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



Prayer List



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!

April

2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



2 PALM SUNDAY
 9:00 Children's Sunday School
 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion)


3
 1:00 United Women in Faith/ U'Niter's Mtg

4
 10:00 Adult Bible Study

5
 6:00 Chimes Practice
 7:00 Choir Practice

6 MAUNDY THURSDAY
 8:00 Pie Dough Making
 7:00 Service w/ Traditional Seder Meal

7 GOOD FRIDAY
 8:00 Pie Baking

8

 9:00-11:00 Triple Berry Pie P/U

9 EASTER SUNDAY
 9:00 Continental Breakfast in Chapel
 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online (Holy Communion)

10

11
 6:30 Administrative Council Mtg

12
 6:00 Chimes Practice
 7:00 Choir Practice

13
 6:30 Finance Cmte Mtg
 7:00 Al-Anon Open Mtg

14

15

16
 9:00 Children's Sunday School
 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online

17
 PASTOR AWAY →

18

 4:30 Board of Trustees Mtg

19
 6:00 Chimes Practice
 7:00 Choir Practice

20
 7:00 Al-Anon Mtg

21

22

 9th Weekend Drive Canned Fruit

23
 9:00 Children's Sunday School
 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online

24

25

26
 6:00 Chimes Practice
 7:00 Choir Practice

27
 7:00 Al-Anon Mtg

28

29

30
 9:00 Children's Sunday School
 10:00 Worship ~ Indoors & Online





EASTER FLOWERS 2023

Judy & Gary Anderson	Tulip & Hyacinth, in memory of their parents
Jim & Bonnie Bernhardt	Azalea, in memory of Kim Bernhardt, and Beth Gosnell
Carole Cronin	Lily & Azalea, in memory of her Aunt, June Brooks, and Mom, Betty Bach-Benson
Linda & Kevin Duy	Lily, in honor of the Risen Christ!
Gwen Fox	Lily, in memory of John Fox
Mary Fritz	Lily, in memory of Vivian McMaster
Sandy Gustafson	Lily & Azalea, in memory of Carl Gustafson
John & Pat Hallaron	Lily & Azalea, in memory of Stanley & Winifred Hallaron, and Leo & Helen Hutter
Reid & Deb Heinekamp	Lily, in honor of their children and grandchildren
Delores Lies	Azalea, in memory of her husband, John Lies
Ron & Bonnie Miller	Azalea, in honor of their four children and their families
Jim & Connie Mitchell	Azalea, in memory of family
Tom & Pam Nehring	Lily, in memory of their parents and grandparents
Monty & Betty Reiners	Lily & Azalea, in memory of Robert & Lucile Morel, Larry & Marjorie Reiners and in honor of Doug & Melissa Reiners
Donna Reiss	Lily, in honor of her dear UCS friends
Scott Rogers	Lily, in honor of Sarah Stevens
Sarah Stevens	Lily in honor of Liam & Kellen Rogers
Carole Strock	Azalea, in honor of her family
Myrtie Warren	Lily, in memory of Alvin Warren

The United Church
of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd
Sandwich, IL 60548-2147

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE MESSENGER — APRIL 2023

The United Church of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd, Sandwich, IL 60548-2417

Church: 815- 786-9243

Email: ucssandwich@frontier.com

website: 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: tombourkej@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

Pianist: Abi Mogge

Ministers and Missionaries: All Members

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

Leadership Team 2023

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	Jerry Brown
Lay Leader	Jim Bernhardt
Trustee's Chair	Gary Anderson
Annual Conf. Delegate	Ken Young
Missions/Evangelism Chair	Phyllis Whitehead
	Bonnie Bernhardt
Memorial/Endowment Chair	Bonnie Miller
United Methodist Women	Marilyn Steenwyk
Fair Stand Chair	Reid Heinekamp
Worship & Music Chair	Deb Seymour

United Church of Sandwich's

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

www.unitedchurchsandwich.org