

MARCH



Lent is here! On Wednesday February 17th the first days of Lent began with our Ash Wednesday Service **here** at the Church. It was our first in-person worship since our brief reopening in the fall and it was so nice seeing all your faces again. I have to say, though, that when I first stepped into the pulpit and saw all of you – I had to do a double take –for I moment I thought “why are people here?” For we have gotten so used to playing, singing and preaching to the camera in an empty church, except for Dave Krause who has faithfully brought Jean here every week to sing. Jean, Gaylene Sally and Audrey have faithfully sung–when we couldn’t. Thank you! Thank you Mary and Thank you Sandy-for faithfully bringing God’s message to our church, our community and beyond.

Last year during lent the world began to shut down but this year the world is starting to open up again. Like a butterfly breaking free from her cocoon and spreading her wings for the first time – we, to, are beginning to open up to a new reality - to a post-corvid reality.

Our worship series this year is called Holy Vessels: A Lenten Season of Recovery. This series has been used in past years by churches but reworked to fit our time. Because we need to be remained this year especially that we are holy vessels a little battered and broken – like a piece of glass...

“Beach glass begins as something whole and yet discarded. As it is tumbled by the sea, it is broken and polished until it becomes a treasured “mineral gem.” We do not embrace that suffering is necessary or God-given, but that suffering is a part of life. When pain comes and brokenness enters our lives, Jesus reaches out to touch and remind us of the Treasure that we *all* are–worthy of new life in the midst of hopelessness. In a year when pandemic has wreaked havoc on our world, we begin by affirming our journey to physical health.”

Even in our brokenness Jesus see us as worthy of healing and being made whole again, for we are treasured. For the next five weeks we will continue to explore areas which are in need of healing.

Lent 2: Safe Keeping (Community/Economic Health)

Lent 3: Stories (Mental Health)

Lent 4: Different Pictures (Intellectual Health)

Lent 5: Restoration (Environmental Health)

Lent 6 (Palm/Passion): Holy, Wholly (Integrated Health)

Pastor’s Column continued on the following page.....

United Methodist Church of Owatonna **March Newsletter**

United Methodist Church of Owatonna

815 E University

Owatonna MN 55060

507-451-4734 (Main Office)

Email: oumcoffice1@gmail.com

Website: www.owatonnaumc.org

Find us on Facebook: Owatonna United
Methodist Church

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday
8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Sunday Schedule/Church is Open

9:00 a.m. Traditional Service- **In-Person**
And Live Streamed Online



Pastor: Lisa Vick

Church Phone: 507-451-4734

Cell: 612-558-5316

E-mail: pastoroumc@gmail.com

Minister of Music: Mary Hitzeman

Phone: 507-451-4734

E-mail: maryhitzeman@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Paula Johnson

Phone: 507-451-4734

E-mail: oumcoffice1@gmail.com

Healed and Still Healing - Matthew 10: 1 – 8

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The Kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment." - Matthew 10: 1 - 8

During Holy Week our worship series invites us to consider a commission from Christ to his disciples: to heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, and cast out demons. These are very things his disciples have seen him do and that we have sought to witness for our own lives **in this Lenten season of recovery!**

Blessings, Pastor Lisa



#112842368

Card Shower for Paddy Schafer
Celebrating her 90th Birthday on
March 26th
Address: 350 22nd St SE Unit 112
Owatonna, MN 55060
Send Paddy a card celebrating
her 90 years!



Remember to Spring ahead
with Daylight Savings Time
on Sunday, March 14th!





March Weekly Prayer List

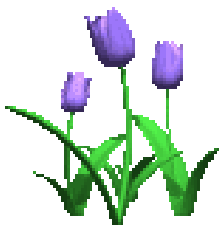
March 1 - 6: Nathan & Julia Arnold; Harriet Bakehouse; Lorraine Bakko; Peter Baxter; Elise Beck; Peter Beck

March 7 - 13: Russell Beck, Nicholas; Thomas & Barb Beck; Lorraine Beese; Roger & Nancy Benjamin; Brian & Pat Bentley; Myrtle Bentley

March 14 - 20: Lyle & DeLoris Bohlman; Linda Boorman; Jack & Fran Boots; Erik & Larissa Buckley, Finn & Eli; Kenneth Casperson; Norma Cawley

March 21 - 27: Marjorie Christensen; Tommie Cruz, Tahlon; Oryle Davis; Brandt Dirks; Bruce & Janet Dirks

March 28 - 31: Erica Dirks; Sandy Emry; Dale Fairbanks; Kent & Robin Frette; Rita Frizzell; Donna Froman



Pastor Lisa Vick is available for home visits and counseling when requested, as well as hospital visits when informed. Remember that the hospital does not inform us of your admission. Pastor Lisa can be reached at (612) 558-5316.

Spring

NEWSLETTER
SUBMISSION
DEADLINE:

Tuesday, March 16th



Coffee & A Blessing:

If you are feeling short on blessings or just would like a good cup of coffee our church will be having Coffee and a Blessing! Starting February 1st every Monday from 6:00 am – 8:00 am drive in and we will pour you a cup of coffee and if you need a prayer or just a blessing you can get that too!



March is Minnesota FoodShare Month

Started in 1982 by United Methodist churches and other congregations in order to restock food shelves in the seven-county Twin Cities area, **MN FoodShare** envisioned a Minnesota where all residents would have access to healthy food and no one would struggle with food insecurity. The effort was so successful and the need so evident, the **March Campaign** became a statewide program just one year later. Now the largest grassroots food and fund drive in the state, it brings together various community organizations.



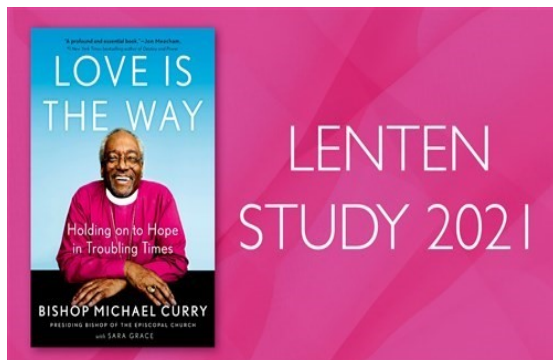
We can be part of this effort **by collecting food or making a donation**. As we help serve the hungry in our midst, we are also serving Jesus.

MnFood Share

March is MnFood Share campaign month. This project collects food and financial support for our local Steele County Food Shelf. Look for the bins located outside of the office for your food donations.

Checks can be written to OUMC with the notation "Food Shelf". Cash donations may be put in an envelope marked food shelf.

Thank you for your continued generosity.



The 2021 Lenten Study is underway. It isn't too late for you to join us! For our Lenten study this year, the Minnesota Annual Conference has chosen Bishop Michael Curry's book "Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times." In each chapter, Bishop Curry—through his practical theology and storytelling from his own life experience—answers a question you might be asking about love: **How do I find God's love? Do I have to love my enemy? Can love really change the world?**

If you would like a copy let the office know. We have bought a few copies. We have 3 copies available in the office!

Blessings, Pastor Lisa

In-Person Worship Guidelines for Re-Opening

We are planning to start in-person worship on Sunday, February 21st at 9:00 a.m.

If you are unable to join us, the service may be **viewed online** at www.owatonnaalive.com, scroll down to “Worship Service”, then select “United Methodist”.

Also online on Facebook, search for “Owatonna United Methodist Church”.

Or on our website at: www.owatonnaumc.org, click on “sermons.”

Our services may also be viewed on cable, at the following days and times:

Cable Stations:

Jaguar Channel 900

Charter Channel 181

Tuesday's at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday's at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday's at 12:00 p.m. (Noon)

We will not be passing a microphone for announcements or prayer concerns during the service. Please email the pastor ahead of time so your requests can be included in the service. Pastor Lisa's email is: pastoroumc@gmail.com. If you do not have email, please contact the office at 507-451-4734.

**Masks are required. If you do not have a mask,
One will be provided to you!**

Arrival

- ♦ Enter through the main doors only. The other doors will remain locked.
- ♦ Please remain 6 feet apart from others as you enter.
- ♦ If you brought an offering, please leave it in offering plate.
- ♦ Please do not gather to talk at this time. You are welcome to do so after the service outside.
- ♦ An usher will direct you to a pew.

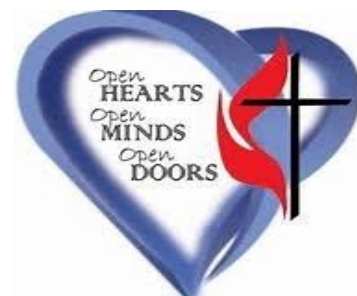
Where to Sit

- ♦ Every other pew will be cordoned off. Proceed to the first pew open at the very front of the church. We need to fill these first to minimize people walking past other people.
- ♦ Family members may sit in the same pew together.
- ♦ 2 non-family members may sit in the same pew but on opposite ends, at least 6 ft. apart. You must enter and exit from the end of the pew at which you are sitting. Do not slide across the pew.

Dismissal

- ♦ After the service, please exit directly out the main doors. The rows in the back will exit first.
- ♦ Please remain 6 ft from others.
- ♦ You are welcome to gather outside out of the front of the church to talk with others, but please practice social distancing.
- ♦ Do not block the exit area leading outside of the church.

Thank you for following these guidelines!






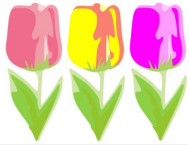



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Margery Arnold	03/01
Thomas Schroht	03/01
David Linders	03/03
Barbara Hvitved	03/05
Barbara Green	03/05
Tom Raetz	03/05
Margaret Randall	03/08
Melissa Vavra	03/09
Melinda Abernathy	03/11
Gaylene Steckelberg	03/13
Mary Hitzeman	03/13
Larry McLagan	03/14
Christin Harriman	03/14
August Schroht	03/14
Anthony Seykora	03/15
Bill Miller	03/17
Timothy Lehigh	03/19
Irene Griffith	03/21
Larissa Buckley	03/22
Lorraine Beese	03/24
Grace Pyatt	03/24
Rachel Loquai	03/25
Isaac Kasten	03/25
Paddy Schafer	03/26
Rhonda Guthier	03/26
Daniel Peach	03/26
Elijah McKenna	03/29
Bradley Hartle	03/30
Olivia Broton	03/31

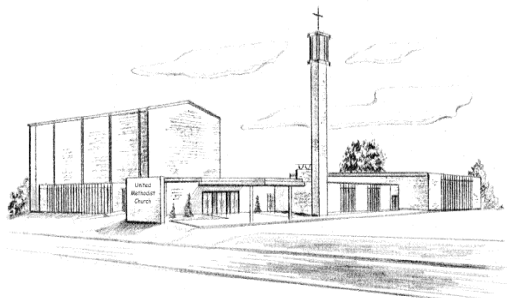


Nathan & Julia Arnold	03/14
Dann & Sarah Kleeberger	03/23

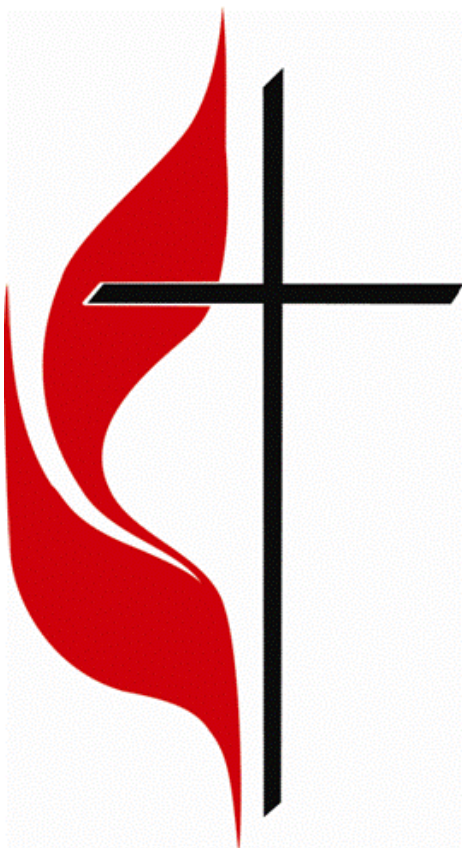
MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Women's History Month	1 Coffee & A Blessing 6-8 a.m.	2 1:00 p.m. UMW Exec. Board Meeting	3	4	5 World Day of Prayer	6
7 Communion Third Sunday in Lent	8 Coffee & A Blessing 6-8 a.m.	9	10	11	12	13 <u>Don't forget to set your clocks ahead 1 hour tonight</u>
14 Fourth Sunday in Lent <u>UMCOR Sunday</u> Daylight Savings	15 Coffee & A Blessing 6-8 a.m.	16 	17 Happy St. Patrick's Day 	18	19	20  First Day of Spring!
21 Fifth Sunday in Lent Council of Stewards Meeting 10:30 a.m.	22 Coffee & A Blessing 6-8 a.m.	23 2:00 p.m. Charity Circle	24 9:00 a.m. Faith Circle	25	26	27
28 Palm Sunday	29 Coffee & A Blessing 6-8 a.m.	30	31			
						

Owatonna United Methodist Church
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Pastor Lisa Vick
(507) 451-4734



Return Service Requested



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
GATHER IN CHRIST'S NAME
GROW IN GOD'S LOVE
SERVE ALL PEOPLE
MARCH

Sunday worship service can be seen on
Charter channel 181 and Jaguar channel 900
at the following times:
Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.
Sunday at 12:00 p.m. (Noon)
Services are available 24-7 on
www.owatonnaalive.com