



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 2019

Serving since 1859!

Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Just Joshin'

9 Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, 10 because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay. 11 You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Psalm 16:9-11

This isn't a typical Easter passage that we'd read or hear this time of year. Yet, both Peter and Paul both refer to this Psalm when talking about the resurrection of Jesus (Acts 2:25-28 & 13:35-37). David wrote this Psalm in the midst of a time of hopelessness. He was wondering if God was paying attention to him. In the end, David knows of the security and hope that he has in this life, and the life to come, because God will not let death defeat us.

We worship a God who specializes in hopeless situations ... in resurrections. On Easter, we celebrate the fact that Jesus conquered death so that we can have life. God did the impossible in a matter of hours as Jesus' disciples went from hopeless to hope-filled.

The Easter celebration ... the hope we find in resurrection ... can help power us through the ups and downs of this world. But, it may not

take away those things that bring us down. Hope may not take away our cancer. Hope may not relieve the stress of job situations or relationship struggles. Hope may not replace our shattered dreams. But, hope does remind us that while life is uncertain, God is not. While we are limited, God is limitless. While we may be fragile, God will hold us together ... because God is hope.

This hope can give us an interesting perspective in life ... as if we're viewing it for the second time. Have you ever watched a movie that you've already seen? Maybe the first time it was suspenseful, but not so the second time because you know how the story ends — you know the good guy doesn't fall off the cliff and the bad guy eventually gets caught. But, you still enjoy the movie.

In fact, since you're not all tied up in the plot, you begin to appreciate other aspects of the film: clever dialogue, outstanding camera work, the use of a special effect, and so on. Since you know the ending you can enjoy the movie on a whole different level. You notice things like how many times Jimmy Chitwood misses a shot in the movie "Hoosiers."

That's how we can enjoy life — as if we are viewing it for the second time. We don't have to sweat the outcome because we know God's ultimate outcome. Everyday is part of the celebration — even the tough days. That's

God's promise. As David reminds us, "10 ... because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay. 11 You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand."

Easter Blessings,

Pastor Josh

Sunday Services

9:00 am - UMC Worship Service
10:00 am - Coffee Fellowship
10:00 am - Youth Group/Sunday School

The Neighborhood Table

The last two Tuesdays of the month: 4:30 p.m.
Every Thursday: 4:30 p.m.

Nar-Anon

Every Thursday: 6:30 p.m.

It is Easter Time!! If you are interested in bringing Easter or Spring Flowers into church to help decorate the alter and the sanctuary please do so. You are then welcome to take the plant home with you after the Easter service on April 21, 2019



MEN'S GROUP

**Come for Breakfast on
Wednesday,
April 3, 2019
8:00 a.m.
All are Welcome!**



United Methodist Women

Hopefully winter is behind us and spring is or will shortly be here! With Spring comes a busy April! First comes Mission Action Day on April 6th in Mauston. I still have one seat left in my vehicle if someone wants to go and I have the contact information to register!

Then we have Palm Sunday and Easter! The meeting for April has been changed to April 28th with a guest speaker on the topic _____ . Everyone is encouraged and welcome to attend.

May 4th is the Spiritual Growth Retreat which is a one day retreat at Pine Lake. The topic for this is Listening for God and our Response. I encourage everyone to go! I have gone the last several years and have not been disappointed! The Registration deadline is April 17th. I will be going and will have seats in my vehicle for 3 people to ride with me!

Looking forward is our June picnic which will be held this year at the church with more information coming soon!

Mission U this year will be the week of July 22nd and again we are fortunate to have it held at the Hotel Mead. This allows us to go and not have the cost of housing! Please consider going! One thing different is they can no longer get the study books on consignment so we will have to get the books at a bookstore or an online bookstore.

The reading program for 2018=2019 ends the end of July and 2019-2020 begins in August!

Kwik Trip will no longer be offering the Milk moola cap program for those who have been contributing/saving the caps.

Spring Blessings!
Cindy

Mission Notes

Noisy Collection April 14, 2019 for Melisa and Methodist Children's Services



Wednesday Lenten meals continue through Wednesday, April 10 at 5 pm. Church service will follow the meal at 6:00 pm. Everything is taking place in Witter Hall.



Pantry Collection for SWEPS will be taken both April 21 and 28. Essentials, food, and money are always welcomed and appreciated.



*Our Deepest
Sympathy*

To the family of Walter Hudak who passed away on March 11, 2019

Church Office Phone

715-423-8860

Pastor Joshua's Phone No.

Cell: 920-896-3976

E-mail Addresses

Church Office: umc@wctc.net

Pastor Joshua: joshuapegam3@gmail.com

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April

- 3 - Wyatt Coates
- 7 - Kevin Dillingham
- 10 - Ed Barker
- 14 - Kolt O'Keefe
- 15 - Mary Jane Phillips
- 18 - Hubert Johnson
- 22 - Pauline Anderson
- 26 - Riley Huiras
- 27 - Marinah Russell

Happy Anniversary

16 - Bill & Annette Spaulding

If we have omitted your birthday or anniversary or have it listed on the wrong date, please let us know so we can make the necessary corrections to our records. Thank you.

Wisdom Seekers

Every Thursday: 9:30 a.m.

Narcotics Anonymous

Meets each day of the week as follows:

Monday's 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday's 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday's 7:00 p.m.

Thursday's 7:00 p.m.

Weight Watchers

Every Tuesday 7:00 am

Every Wednesday 10:00 am, 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm

Every Saturday 8:30 am

Prayer Calendar

April

- 1 - Nathalie Noonan
- 2- Valerie Nordin
- 3- Ashley, Kolt, Walker & Easton O'Keefe
- 4 - Nancy Olson
- 5 - Joshua & Katie Pegram
- 6 - Allen Peterson
- 7 - Mary Jane Phillips
- 8 - Lonnie, Nicole, Hailey & Alyssa Reetz
- 9 - Kelly & Taylor Reinicke
- 10 - Monty & Rhet Reinicke
- 11 - Russ & Karen Rifleman
- 12 - Phyllis Ritchie
- 13 - Richard & Kathryn Ritter
- 14 - Timm, Carl & Anton Rosenthal
- 15 - Brad, Stacey, Marinah & Cody Russell
- 16 - Don & Sandy Saeger
- 17 - Jonathan, Mackenzie, Cooper, Cullen & Cameron Schulz
- 18 - Wendy Schwartz
- 19 - Jim & Judy Seegert
- 20 - Wayne & Shirley Sering
- 21 - Roberta Shaurette
- 22 - Robin Shaw
- 23 - Daye Ann Shomberg
- 24 - Patti Sisco
- 25 - Tom & Barb Sisco
- 26 - Holly Skinner
- 27 - Scott & Judy Skinner
- 28 - Eileen Slinkman
- 29 - Mike & Diane Sloat
- 30 - Jaime Sparkes

Have a prayer request? Call the prayer chain:

Daytime: (9:00 a.m. — 6:00 p.m.)

Lynn Swanson — **715-423-4407**

Evenings: (6:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.)

Kathy Duerkop — **715-421-3396**



For encouragement,
call the prayer phone:
715-423-1323

Prayer Coordinator

James 4:10

“Humble yourselves before the Lord and he will lift you up.”

I Cannot believe that we are in the midst of Lent. It is a time of serious reflection and sacrifice. Sacrifice is not a word we use much anymore. But as we enter go through Lent, I believe it is a word we should consider. I know, we don't like the concept of sacrifice. It brings pictures of burnt offerings, blood and other images that offend our modern sensitivities. Yet sacrifice remains the theme of Lent. The purpose of giving something up during Lent, I believe, is to help us focus on the supreme sacrifice that Christ made for us. As we consciously say “no” when tempted to indulge, we are reminded of Christ. If this is true, then the “giving up” has accomplished something. For many of us, Lent means not much more than extra church services – extra demands on our time. We are too busy and perhaps a little uncomfortable with bringing Christ's passion and suffering into our daily life. I challenge you to bring an element of sacrifice into your lives during the rest of this Lenten season. It doesn't have to be something grand, just adding or subtracting something from your daily living that will remind you how Christ suffered and died for YOU!

Let us pray: Lord walk with us through this Lenten season. Help us remember your sacrifice for us. We are a forgiven people because you died for our sins. Thank you, Lord Jesus. Amen



April 2

10:00 am - Bible Study
5:00 pm - Bells
6:00 pm - Bible Study

April 3

8:00 am - Men's Breakfast
10:30 am - Disciplines
4:15 pm - Choir
5:00 pm - Lenten Meal
6:00 pm - Lenten Service

April 4

2:00 pm - COH Bible Study
4:30 pm - TNT
6:00 pm - COH

April 6

9 - 11:00 am - COH

April 8

4:30 pm - Trustees

April 9

10:00 am - Bible Study
10:00 am - RCC Board Meeting
5:00 pm - Bells

April 10

10:30 am - Disciplines
4:15 pm - Choir
5:00 pm - Lenten Meal
6:00 pm - Lenten Service

April 11

2:00 pm - COH Bible Study
4:30 pm - TNT
6:00 pm - COH

April 14

Palm Sunday

April 15

6:00 pm - Finance Meeting
6:30 pm - Council Meeting

April 16

10:00 am - Bible Study
10:00 am - SWEPS
4:30 pm - TNT
5:00 pm - Bells
6:00 pm - Bible Study

April 17

10:30 am - Disciplines
4:15 pm - Choir

April 18

MAUNDY THURSDAY

4:30 pm - TNT
6:00 pm - Service

April 19

GOOD FRIDAY

6:00 pm - Service

April 21

EASTER SUNDAY

April 23

10:00 am - Bible Study
4:30 pm - TNT
5:00 pm - Bells
6:00 pm - Bible Study

April 24

10:30 am - Disciplines
5:00 pm - Choir

April 25

2:00 pm - COH Bible Study
4:30 pm - TNT
6:00 pm - COH

April 30

10:00 am - Bible Study
4:30 pm - TNT
5:00 pm - Bells
6:00 pm - Bible Study

Church Office Hours

The church office is open Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m. and closed on Fridays.

Pastor Joshua's Office Hours

Monday through Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.