

THE BROADCASTER

February 28, 2024

Pastor's Piece

Easter is a homecoming because we wear our best suit or best dress or a new dress. Our new Easter outfit symbolizes that as we put on Jesus, we celebrate the new life he gives us. We always celebrate Easter with music, family dinner, and beautiful decorations. On March 31 we will celebrate Easter as a homecoming with lots of music: the children sing Easter songs, our choir sings exciting Easter music (especially "Hallelujah"), and we too, sing lots of Easter hymns. We decorate our church with Easter lilies, banners, and our pews will be full of homecoming folks.

What is your plan and where are you going to celebrate homecoming this Easter? How about experiencing the Easter homecoming at the First United Methodist Church of Valley Center? We are God's family. We are brothers and sisters because of Jesus' blood. Because of him and because of his death and resurrection, we became the children of God and become FUMCVC family of God. This Easter, we invite you to experience homecoming as we gather together to praise God and to praise the resurrection of Jesus. We invite you to experience an amazing homecoming in our Father's house. And he gives us an eternal home.

The day when Jesus resurrected Mary Magdalene went to his tomb. She didn't find Jesus' body and she cried outside of the tomb. Jesus was there with her and even talked her but she didn't recognize him. She thought he was a gardener. When Jesus called her name, "Mary" she turned around to him and cried out, "Rabboni!" She cried with joy and excitement, "my teacher, my savior!" At that moment she experienced an amazing homecoming in Jesus' presence. I hope and pray that all of us have the same homecoming experience that Mary had on the first Easter Sunday. Jesus loves us always even when we were sinners and he died for us. But he conquered death and welcomed all of us to his eternal life.

Come and join us on Sunday, March 31 at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. We will celebrate Easter and everyone is welcome to our church.

He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Matthew 28:6

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Ji



OUR PRAYERS FOR

Those Within the Church

**Don Bennett, Kim Dellinger, Dale Guthrie, Verlene Kutz, Monica McClure,
Tammy Taylor, Sharon Weishaar,**

Our Leaders

Law Enforcement Officers in our community and in the nation, the persecuted Christians around the world.
God's Guidance and Strength for President Biden, Our Troops and their Families

Our Military

- † Michael Barbett – Darryl & Val Wall's son-in-law
- † CPL Cody Blair – Judy Lann's grandson
- † Dennis Burns Jr (DJ) – Dennis Burns Sr & Lisa Soetebier's son
- † Kristopher Dewitt – Mary Stout's grandson
- † Chance Greenhoff – Army
- † James Harris (MP) – Bill & Joy Page's grandson
- † Austin Kroeger
- † CPL Jay McDoniel
- † Erik Nott & family – Doug & Gay Vannaman's son-in-law
- † MSGT Leah Oakleaf – Walt & Janet Southards' granddaughter
- † SGT Steven Pearce – Walt & Janet Southards' nephew
- † Erik Ralsten
- † CPL Bethany Reeves McDoniel
- † AIC Bradley Southards – Walt & Janet Southards' grandson
- † Joey Thiessen

Thank You To...

Thank you for my Lenten kit and mini-Jesus delivered to the locker. I have Jesus standing right in front of me at my desk. Thank you!

Love, Darlene Richards

#40DAYSWITHJESUS





- | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Dan Seecat | 1 Julie Seidl | 1 Amanda Stauffer |
| 1 Drew Ellington | 2 Larry Clark | 3 Bruce Campbell |
| 3 Sara Blickenstaff | 3 Miranda Dessenberger | 3 Easton Reffner |
| 4 Erlene Morgan | 4 Jenni Salas | 5 Mike Hogan |
| 5 Ed McCormick | 5 Ashley Lupo | 5 Tucker Ingle |
| 6 Carol Weems | 7 Nancy Anderson | 8 Marilyn Hammond |
| 8 Debbie Edwards | 8 Niki Miles | 8 Ashley Jacob |
| 9 Gavin Reeves | 10 Doug Vannaman | 12 Don Pearson |
| 12 Andy Spratt | 12 Emma Girtz | 13 Nancy Rusanowsky |
| 14 Paige Jacobs | 15 Bryce Burdick | 16 Bailey Miller |
| 17 Larry McHughes | 17 Benjamin Stiglitz | 18 Mike McNown |
| 18 Ande Armstrong | 19 Kirk Stanley | 19 Tim Lipke |
| 20 Mariah Behrns | 21 Bret Rogers | 21 Dawn Meyers |
| 21 Fred Held | 21 Janine Ingle | 22 Jennifer Youngers |
| 23 Kathleen Coons | 25 Kim Dellinger | 25 Brad Rice |
| 25 Colten Ingle | 28 Vicky Gooch | 29 Breanna Sayers Bartels |
| 29 Phyllis Neaderhiser | 29 Annie Stockwell | 30 Vickie Wilkerson |
| 30 Braeden Pottillo | 31 Kenley Clark | |



- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Paul & Aggie Melton | 14 Don & Susan Sayler |
| 20 Lonnie & Doreen Ruth | 22 Ted & Donna Schupp |



WEEKLY:

SUNDAYS	MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS
Traditional Worship 9:00a	JOY Group 9:30a VC		Soul Trainers 10:00a WCC		Soul Trainers 10:00a WCC
Sunday School 10:00a	Community Center		Chancel Choir 5:00p SAN		
Contemporary Worship 11:00a	Soul Trainers 10:00a WCC Progressive Class 7:00p FS		WOW ZONE! 6:00p WCC/Basement UMYF 6:00p FH/14B/15B		

SPECIAL:

Eat, Pray, Quilt...Whatever Friday, March 8 11:00 a.m. / WCC	UMCOR Sunday Special Giving Sunday Sunday, March 10	Palm Sunday Sunday, March 24
Book Club Wednesday, March 27 6:00 p.m. / FS	Maundy Thursday Thursday, March 28 6:00 p.m. / SAN	Good Friday Community Service Friday, March 29 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
	Easter Sunday Sunday, March 31	

SCOUTING GROUPS:

Adventure Crew First Mondays 6:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop 40021 First & Third Mondays 6:00 p.m.	Girl Scout Troop 40316 First & Third Mondays 6:00 p.m.
Girl Scout Troop 40870 Mondays 6:30 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop 494 Mondays 7:00 p.m.	Cub Scouts Pack 494 Tuesdays 7:00 p.m.

FUMCVC'S GOINGS ON...

Eat, Pray, Quilt...Whatever will meet **Friday, March 8** at 11:00 a.m. in the WCC. Please bring a craft to work on and a salad to share.

Daylight Saving Time begins **Sunday, March 10!** Don't forget to spring your clocks FORWARD!

UMCOR Sunday – **March 10** – The UMCOR Sunday offering underwrites UMCOR's administrative costs. This offering allows UMCOR to use 100% of all funds given to humanitarian response and recovery efforts directly to communities in need. These gifts ensure UMCOR can respond swiftly to disasters around the world and as a source of hope and healing for those left most vulnerable.

March's Book Club selection is ***Rosemary: The Hidden Kennedy Daughter*** by Kate Clifford Larson. Joe and Rose Kennedy's strikingly beautiful daughter Rosemary was intellectually disabled, a secret fiercely guarded by her powerful and glamorous family. In *Rosemary*, Kate Clifford Larson uses newly uncovered sources to bring Rosemary Kennedy's story to light. Young Rosemary comes alive as a sweet, lively girl adored by her siblings. But Larson also reveals the often desperate and duplicitous arrangements the Kennedys made to keep her away from home as she became increasingly difficult in her early twenties, culminating in Joe's decision to have Rosemary lobotomized at age twenty-three and the family's complicity in keeping the secret. Only years later did the Kennedy siblings begin to understand what had happened to Rosemary, which inspired them to direct government attention and resources to the plight of the developmentally and mentally disabled, transforming the lives of millions. **The church has a limited number of books available for \$5.00 each. We will meet Wednesday, March 27 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room.**

Ways to Give

March's giving for Open Door and the Valley Center Food Pantry is peanut butter and jelly. **Donations can be brought to the middle foyer and put in the storage cabinet on the south wall.**

Easter candy for the FUMCVC Easter Egg Hunt can be brought to the church any time before **Monday, March 25.**

Holy Week & Easter Sunday Schedule

Palm Sunday – **Sunday, March 24** – Celebrated by the waving of palm branches at both worship services.



Wednesday, March 27 at 6:00 p.m. WOW ZONE! will experience Holy Week stations.

Maundy Thursday Worship Service– **Thursday, March 28** at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.



Good Friday Community Service – **Friday, March 29** from 9:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. We will do some community clean-up at selected parks and along paths and roadways (such as The Wetlands and Arrowhead Parks). We will meet at the Church for assignments and organized rides to the various sites. Participants should bring gloves and appropriate clothing and shoes, plus rakes or extended grabber tools to pick up trash. The City of Valley Center will provide trash bags along with trash dump receptacles.



Easter Sunday – **Sunday, March 31** – we will have our regular worship services. We will also have an Easter Egg Hunt for babies/toddlers through those in fifth grade at 10:40 a.m. on the east lawn. Children will play bells at both worship services.



LEAP YEARS AND GOD'S PERFECT TIMING

Every four years, we add an extra day to our calendar to keep our measure of time in sync with the Earth's orbit around the sun. This extra day, known as February 29th, has significance beyond just adjusting our calendar.

The concept of leap year has been around for thousands of years, and it has been used by various civilizations to keep their calendars in sync with the changing seasons. In ancient Rome, the concept of leap year was first introduced in 45 BCE by Julius Caesar. However, the modern Gregorian calendar that we use today was not adopted until 1582.

Despite its historical significance, the leap year is often overlooked in our daily lives. We go about our routines and schedules, rarely stopping to consider the extra day that is added every four years. However, this extra day can serve as a reminder to pause and reflect on the passing of time and how we are using it.

Time is a recurring theme in the Bible, and God's timing is perfect. Ecclesiastes 3:1 says: "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."

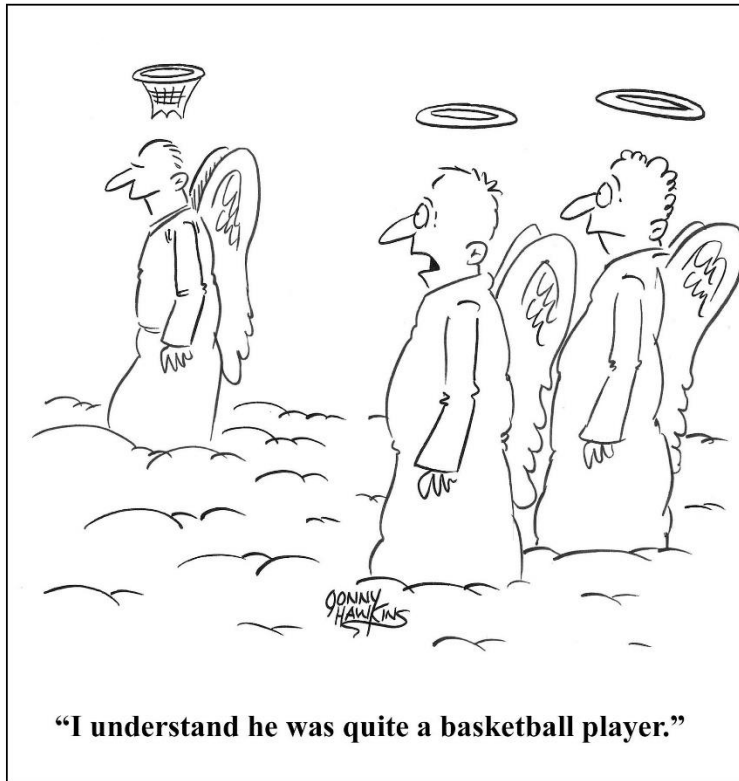
The concept of a leap year reminds us that time is not a static, unchanging entity. Instead, it is something that we need to adjust and manage to ensure we are in sync with the world around us.

As Christians, we also believe that our time on earth is a gift from God, and we are called to use it wisely. In Ephesians 5:15-16, we are instructed to "Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil."

The leap year can serve as a reminder to evaluate how we are spending our time and whether we are using it in a way that aligns with God's will for our lives. It is an opportunity to reflect on our priorities, make necessary adjustments, and seek God's guidance in all that we do.

So, as we enter this leap year, let us make the most of this extra day and all the days that follow, using them to serve God and others, living a life that is pleasing to Him.

<https://www.teacherbulletin.me/devotionals/leap-years-and-gods-perfect-timing#:~:text=It%20is%20an%20opportunity%20to,that%20is%20pleasing%20to%20Him>



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