

The Spire

March 2025



"Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

~Romans 10:9

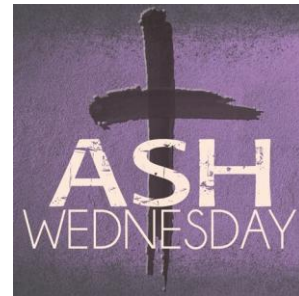
Fellowship Dinner & Bingo

We had so much fun last year at the Fellowship Dinner and Bingo that we're going to do it again! Join us on Sunday, March 16th for dinner at 5:30 PM and Bingo at 6:30 PM.

We will provide the entrée and salad. You are welcome to sign up to bring a side, dessert, or beverage. Please also RSVP on the sign-up sheet so that we know how many to prepare for.

Additionally, we are collecting things for prizes such as knickknacks, books, bath products, fragrances, candles, candy bars, etc. There will be a box at the back of the church to place any items you're able to donate.

Thanks in advance for helping to make this a special event! We can't wait to see you there.



This year, we will again have a drive-up service for Ash Wednesday, March 5th from 7 to 8 PM. People will be invited to stay in their vehicles and receive ashes on their foreheads or hands. Lenten devotional materials will be available for pick-up; they will also be available after Sunday services.

We want to thank the Upland Fire Company for volunteering to bring lights and help with the evening.



This year, Daylight Savings is on Sunday, March 9th. We lose an hour in the spring, so don't forget to turn back your clocks to make it on time for Church!

Secret Place is Available

The March, April, and May Secret Place is now available for \$2.00. Pick up a copy in the back of the Church.



Lenten Offering

The Lenten Offering will go to outreach activities with Main Street Elementary School this year. Watch for more information.

Food Bank

The Food Bank item for the month of March is

Cereal

You may donate any time during the month.



Food Bank Needs Volunteers

Volunteers are desperately needed to help on Tuesdays and/or Wednesdays. Please see Pastor Brenda for more information.

Birthdays and Anniversaries for February and March

March Birthdays

- 10 Monnae Frain
- 20 Kieran Levi
- 22 Rev. Brenda Shaw
- 30 Normajean Colby
Katie Boyer



April Birthdays

- 3 Jean Giordano
- 13 Dan Miller
- 20 Angela Waltman
- 24 David Pysher
John Shaw
Denise Sweeney
- 27 Barry Armstrong
- 28 Stephanie Abbonizio

March Anniversary

- 25 Jim and Brigid Levi

CELEBRATE!



Planning Underway!

Planning is well underway for our second annual Friends and Family Weekend. We're excited to offer this event to our community, and we hope that you'll join us—and bring some friends...or family! Here's a sneak peek at what we have planned:

Saturday, September 13

Car Show

Attic Treasure Flea Market

Lunch for Sale

Sunday, September 14

Worship Service

Friends and Family Picnic

Stay tuned for more information on how you can help and/or participate!

Service Sunday

Our next Service Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, March 30th.

Planning Ahead



A Work Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 5th at 9:00 AM. Please bring gloves, clippers, and rakes to help beautify the Church grounds.

HOLY WEEK






Palm Sunday – April 13
10:00 AM Sunday Worship*

Maundy Thursday – April 17
7:00 PM Communion Worship*

Good Friday – April 18
7:00 PM Good Friday Service*

Easter – April 20
6:30 AM Sunrise Service in the cemetery behind the church (*in-person only*)

10:00 AM Sunday Worship*

*Service is either *in-person* or *online*

Devotional Thought...

"Come near to God and He will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your heart, you double-minded."

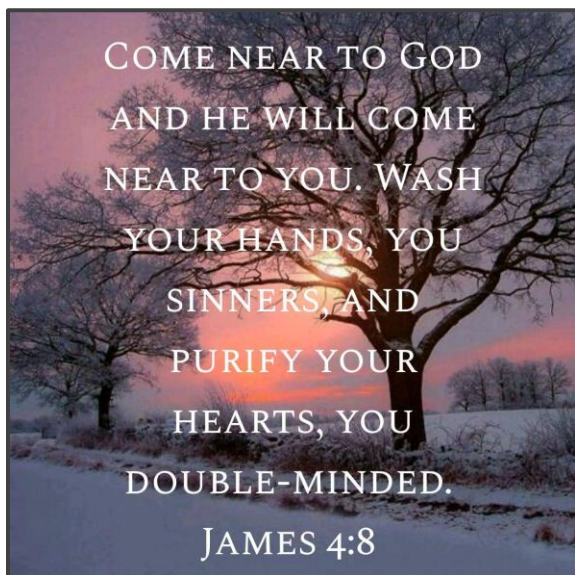
~James 4:8

With this year's Lent, I am taking my time and reflecting on how important this is for our spiritual growth. This verse from James is a call to repent, to turn away from sin and seek forgiveness. This is how we should be doing things in our relationship with God year-round!

Well...sometimes, for some of us sinners, this doesn't always happen in our relationship with God.

Take a little more time this year to talk to others about this important part of our faith calendar... I will!

~Frank Kulp



Lenten Fun Facts

How many days are in Lent? Lent is the period of 40 days leading up to Easter. The number 40 represents the 40 days Jesus spent in the desert being tempted after getting baptized in the Jordan River.

What is the first day of Lent called? It is called Ash Wednesday, when some Christians have their foreheads marked with ashes in the shape of a cross to remind them of Jesus' death on the cross.

When is "Holy Week," and what does it mean? The seven days before Easter, starting with Palm Sunday, are called Holy Week. The week is called "Holy" because it's the week leading up to and including Jesus' perfect sacrifice of himself on the cross.

What does "Maundy" mean? It comes from an old English word that means "command." At the Last Supper, Jesus gave a new commandment to his disciples after he washed their feet. Jesus' new commandment was, "Love one another" (John 13:34).

What date do we celebrate Easter on? Easter is always celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon on or after the first day of spring—so the date of Easter changes every year, but it is always on a Sunday!

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