

March 2022

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## Sunday Worship 10:30 am in-person

Weekly Worship Services will also continue to be offered each Sunday

via

Sumner Centers Facebook page



# Sumner Center UMC Newsletter

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*Pastor's notes...* The quiet of winter is now moving on as we approach the re-birth of another beautiful Minnesota Spring. No matter how old I get, every Spring stirs feelings of anticipation and excitement right to my soul. The anticipation of seeing the first Robin of the year, the excitement of seeing those early Spring bulbs peeking their brilliant green stems through the dirt. Ah! Hello Sunshine, I have missed your warm rays. Good morning fresh breezes, oh how you lighten my steps. Welcome back rainwater, thank you for cleansing our earth.

Winter, I must admit is not my favorite of the seasons and the older I get the more I dread the approach of those Minnesota winter months. But the truth is, without the experience of winter all its elements we would not have the opportunity to feel the greatness of the coming Spring.

The same is true of our life experiences. To experience joy, one must know sorrow, to experience love, one must know indifference, and on and on. Oh, what a dreadful world this would be if all existence was sterile and mundanely the same.

Which brings me back to my thoughts of how happy I am that we are on the brink of the season of pure beauty, fresh renewed and created through the hand of God kind of beauty. Which happens to be the time of renewal in our Christian heritage as

well. For we are in the season of Lent – a time of repentance and renewal, of walking through the wilderness, coming out of the other side and into the beauty of forgiveness, unity and love.

And do you know what the best part of living through this season is? It is walking into church fresh Sunday mornings and seeing that my faith family is experiencing those same uplifting, joyful Springtime feelings.

*Oh, the beauty of Spring, how wonderful it is to reminisce of days gone by of youthful bliss. Thank you, Lord, for all your hand has created. We, your children need to be reminded that what you have given us should not be berated.*

**Happy Spring my dear friends!!**



# Calendar of Events

(Subject to change and/or be added to as the need arises)

## March 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>  Shrove Tuesday	<b>2</b>  @ Racine UMC 6:30pm	<b>3</b> Zoom Lent Book Study <b>6:30pm</b> Session 1 "He Chose to be one of us"		
<b>6</b> Worship 10:30 am 		<b>8</b> In person Lent Book Study @ Stewartville UMC <b>1:30pm</b> Session 1 "He Chose to be one of us"	<b>9</b> Wykoff UMC  Wednesdays in Lent <b>6:00pm</b> With Worship	<b>10</b> Zoom Lent Book Study <b>6:30pm</b> Session 2 "He Chose to forgive us"		<b>12</b>  Don't forget to set all of your clocks one hour ahead!
<b>13</b> Worship 10:30 am		<b>15</b> In person Lent Book Study @ Stewartville UMC <b>1:30pm</b> Session 2 "He Chose to forgive us"	<b>16</b> Wykoff UMC  Wednesdays in Lent <b>6:00pm</b> With Worship	<b>17</b>  Zoom Lent Book Study <b>6:30pm</b> Session 3 "He Chose to invite us into His presence"		
<b>20</b> Worship 10:30 am 		<b>22</b> In person Lent Book Study @ Stewartville UMC <b>1:30pm</b> Session 3 "He Chose to invite us into His presence"	<b>23</b> Wykoff UMC  Wednesdays in Lent <b>6:00pm</b> With Worship	<b>24</b> Zoom Lent Book Study <b>6:30pm</b> Session 4 "He Chose to love us forever"		
<b>27</b> Worship 10:30 am		<b>29</b> In person Lent Book Study @ Stewartville UMC <b>1:30pm</b> Session 4 "He Chose to love us forever"	<b>30</b> Wykoff UMC  Wednesdays in Lent <b>6:00pm</b> With Worship	<b>31</b> Zoom Lent Book Study <b>6:30pm</b> Session 5 "He Chose to give us victory"		

# March Mission Moments



## One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday is now 'UMCOR Sunday'

Together, we reach children, families and communities who have experienced devastation in the wake of disaster.

UMCOR is the **United Methodist Committee on Relief**, a major Protestant humanitarian agency that is part of the General Board of Global Ministries. It was founded more than 75 years ago.

UMCOR's work of alleviating human suffering around the world includes disaster relief and supplies, disaster risk reduction, and humanitarian development. It also relates to the Global Ministries' unit on health.

UMCOR operates in the United States in collaboration with relief teams organized by annual (regional) conferences. On

the international level, it works through partner organizations and, at times, its own country offices, depending on need. UMCOR currently has five country offices, in Sudan, South Sudan, Zimbabwe, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Haiti.

UMCOR receives no money from the apportionments paid to the general church by congregations.

One of six churchwide Special Sundays with offerings of The United Methodist Church, UMCOR Sunday calls United Methodists to share the goodness of life with those who hurt. Your gifts lay the foundation for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to share God's love with communities everywhere.

This special offering helps UMCOR to keep the promise that 100 percent of any gift to a specific UMCOR project will go toward that project, not administrative costs.

When you give generously, you make a difference in the lives of people who hurt. We will be collecting donations for the Month of March.

**To help support this mission send your donations to Sumner Center UMC and be sure to indicate UMCOR in the memo portion of your check.**

*Have You Considered implementing a 40-day Lenten Practice into your life this year?*

Lent is the 40 days (not including Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to the Saturday before Easter. Lent is often described as a time of preparation and an opportunity to go deeper with God. This means that it's a time for personal reflection that prepares people's hearts and minds for Good Friday and Easter.

**Here are a few Lenten study, Worship and/or personal reflection opportunities just for you!!**

*Attend Sunday Morning Worship*

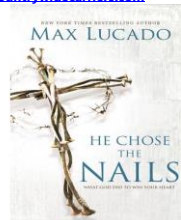
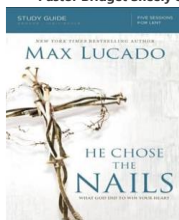


**Join a  
Lenten Study  
group**

**5 week - Lenten Book Study**

**Place your order today!**

You may contact:  
Pastor Laura Nordstrom email: [pastorsumc919@gmail.com](mailto:pastorsumc919@gmail.com)  
Pastor Bridget Sheely email: [bridget@countrywidecarriers.com](mailto:bridget@countrywidecarriers.com)



<b>Study Guide</b>	<b>Book</b>
Session 1 He chose to be one of us.....	covers chapters 1-3
Session 2 He chose to forgive us.....	covers chapters 4-8
Session 3 He chose to invite us into His presence.....	covers chapters 9-11
Session 4 He chose to love us forever.....	covers chapters 12-13
Session 5 He chose to give us victory.....	covers chapters 14-15

**In person weekly gathering**

Tuesdays @ 1:30pm  
Beginning March 8<sup>th</sup>  
With Pastor Laura Nordstrom  
At Stewartville UMC

**Weekly Zoom Meetings**

Thursday Evenings @6:30pm  
Beginning March 3<sup>rd</sup>  
With Pastors Jon Marburger & Bridget Sheely

*Consider attending local Wednesday Evening services where they are offered*



**March 9<sup>th</sup> – April 4<sup>th</sup>**

**followed by short Lenten worship**

**at our tables 6:00 pm**

**Wykoff UMC**

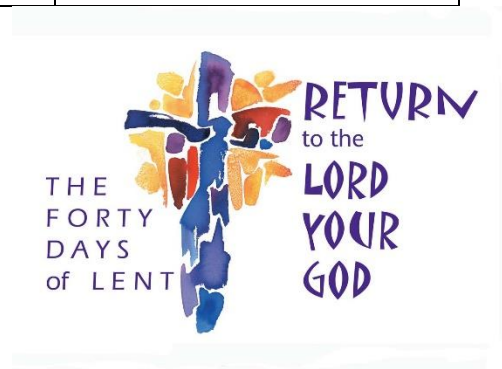
**YOU ARE CALLED BY GOD TO:**

Spend time during Lent praying, fasting and giving. May you find a path that brings to closer to God this Lenten season!!

This Lent reading plan walks through each of the four Gospels during the Lent season. What better way to prepare for Easter than to read the complete story of Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection?

Day	Today's Scripture Reading
Day 1	<a href="#">Matthew 1-3</a>
Day 2	<a href="#">Matthew 4-6</a>
Day 3	<a href="#">Matthew 7-9</a>
Day 4	<a href="#">Matthew 10-Matthew 12</a>
Day 5	Take a Break
Day 6	<a href="#">Matthew 13-Matthew 14</a>
Day 7	<a href="#">Matthew 15-Matthew 16</a>
Day 8	<a href="#">Matthew 17-Matthew 18</a>
Day 9	<a href="#">Matthew 19-Matthew 20</a>
Day 10	<a href="#">Matthew 21-Matthew 22</a>
Day 11	<a href="#">Matthew 23-Matthew 24</a>
Day 12	Take a Break
Day 13	<a href="#">Matthew 25-Matthew 26</a>
Day 14	<a href="#">Matthew 27-Matthew 28</a>
Day 15	<a href="#">Mark 1-Mark 3</a>
Day 16	<a href="#">Mark 4-Mark 6</a>
Day 17	<a href="#">Mark 7-Mark 9</a>
Day 18	<a href="#">Mark 10-Mark 12</a>
Day 19	Take a Break
Day 20	<a href="#">Mark 13-Mark 14</a>
Day 21	<a href="#">Mark 15-Mark 16</a>
Day 22	<a href="#">Luke 1-Luke 3</a>
Day 23	<a href="#">Luke 4-Luke 6</a>
Day 24	<a href="#">Luke 7-Luke 9</a>
Day 25	<a href="#">Luke 10-Luke 12</a>
Day 26	Take a Break

Day 27	<a href="#">Luke 13-Luke 14</a>
Day 28	<a href="#">Luke 15-Luke 16</a>
Day 29	<a href="#">Luke 17-Luke 18</a>
Day 30	<a href="#">Luke 19-Luke 20</a>
Day 31	<a href="#">Luke 21-Luke 22</a>
Day 32	<a href="#">Luke 23-Luke 24</a>
Day 33	Take a Break
Day 34	<a href="#">John 1-John 2</a>
Day 35	<a href="#">John 3-John 4</a>
Day 36	<a href="#">John 5-John 6</a>
Day 37	<a href="#">John 7-John 8</a>
Day 38	<a href="#">John 9-John 10</a>
Day 39	<a href="#">John 11-John 12</a>
Day 40	Take a Break
Day 41	<a href="#">John 13-John 14</a>
Day 42	<a href="#">John 15-John 16</a>
Day 43	<a href="#">John 17-John 18</a>
Day 44	<a href="#">John 19-John 20</a>
Day 45	<a href="#">John 21</a>
Day 46	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 15</a>
Day 47	It's Easter!



# The United Methodist Lent Quiz

**1. What does the term 'Lent,' which comes from 'lencten,' mean?**

Sacrifice      Time      Spring      March Madness

**2. How were ashes imposed in the early church?**

- a) The shape of a cross was drawn on the forehead.
- b) Ashes were smeared across closed eyelids.
- c) Ashes were poured or sprinkled over the head.

**3. Why do people give things up for Lent?**

- a) To follow the example of Jesus' 40-day fast in the wilderness.
- b) To help us focus on prayer and devotions.
- c) To give the acquired savings to the poor.
- d) All of the above.

**4. What snack food has significance during Lent?**

Chocolate      Pretzels      Popcorn      All of the above.

**5. Many people fast during Lent. How often did John Wesley fast?**

- a) Twice a week
- b) Twice a month
- c) Twice a year
- d) Rarely
- e) He did not fast.

**6. Why does Lent last 40 days?**

- a) To represent the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, tempted by Satan.
- b) To recall the 40 days and nights the earth was flooded in the Old Testament.
- c) To remind us of the 40 years the Israelites wandered in the desert.

**7. What do some United Methodists not sing at Lent?**

- a) Doxologies
- b) Alleluia
- c) "In the Garden"
- d) The communion liturgy

**8. Which hymn, based on St. Patrick's prayer, would be a good Lenten devotion?**

- a) "Jesus Walked This Lonely Valley"
- b) "Christ Beside Me"
- c) "O Happy Day, That Fixed My Choice"
- d) "Come and Find the Quiet Center"

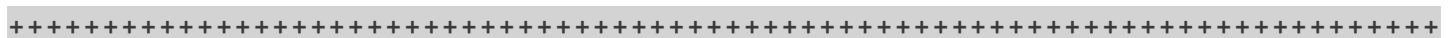
**9. True or false? Sundays are not counted in the 40 days of Lent.**      True      False

**10. When early Methodists in America sat in a church on a mourner's bench, they would:**

- a) Repent their sins
- b) Experience a new birth
- c) Rededicate themselves to Jesus
- d) All of the above

## Answers to the United Methodist Lent Quiz

1. **What does the term 'Lent,' which comes from 'lencten,' mean?** The correct answer is spring.
2. **How were ashes imposed in the early church?** The correct answer is ashes were poured or sprinkled over the head.
3. **Why do people give things up for Lent?** The correct answer is all of the above.
4. **What snack food has significance during Lent?** The correct answer is pretzels.
5. **Many people fast during Lent. How often did John Wesley fast?** The correct answer is twice a week.
6. **Why does Lent last 40 days?** The correct answer is to represent the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, tempted by Satan.
7. **What do some United Methodists not sing at Lent?** The correct answer is alleluia.
8. **Which hymn, based on St. Patrick's prayer, would be a good Lenten devotion?** The correct answer is "Christ Beside Me."
9. **True or false? Sundays are not counted in the 40 days of Lent.** The correct answer is True.
10. **When early Methodists in America sat in a church on a mourner's bench, they would...** The correct answer is all of the above.



## Lent Word Search

S X N O I R U T N E C K P B D J Q H J B U Q C M  
 I L O R J E K T H I E F P A I I Q O W Q X A R A  
 M Y R J E S A M G Y Q I S R S W X A G W L D B U  
 O E A U S I A B A O A R M T C P M S G V F O D N  
 N P S D U M U P R S N E L H I G K L A C E E O O D  
 P I E A S O J Y R N D P A O P A M R L F B O E Y  
 E L A S J N U A E R R P P L L R Y R Y N O K W T  
 T I C I G T D A S O E U Z O E D X S A T R X R H  
 E H A S E H A S T H W S S M S E Y Z D B U D S U  
 R P P C T E S P E T A T P E J N N A I L S U V R  
 V U E A H Z X E D F Q S C W S A K I R Z E O H S  
 S C B R S E Q A R O P A H M E B Q D F D G J J D  
 F E Y I E A U R P N O L N W S R E I D L O S A A  
 H F C O M L I B E W K N H O E P E A O Z V G M Y  
 I E I T A O T W W O J I O N C D H U O S E P E C  
 Q N R G N T S R X R K V J M F T N K G O R Q S G  
 Y U N O E O U D J C A S H E S O T E S N N Y T O  
 Q S V L D E D V P T Q E E S F D R A S I O A H L  
 O U B N D E G A H X T Q E O V S B T F D R R E G  
 F W Z I T N S O Q L H M L I S B H L Y L A J L O  
 I R S A M S M S P T A S K O A S M A A D D Y E T  
 R B L W I A Z R K J N M R R A Q V I R J A W S H  
 R I G O S H X N Y C D C A S H F R B C I E Y S A  
 P T N R Z B O Q C T S B Z W X T Z H K D V S S Z

- |                 |             |                 |                  |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Last Supper     | disciples   | Caesar          | governor         |
| trial           | Herod       | Pilate          | arrested         |
| Crown of thorns | robe        | Centurion       | soldiers         |
| spear           | side        | feet            | hands            |
| nails           | thief       | Barabbas        | Calvary          |
| Golgotha        | cross       | forty days      | Ash Wednesday    |
| dust            | ashes       | garden          | Gethsemane       |
| Thaddeus        | Philip      | James the Less  | Andrew           |
| Judas Iscariot  | Judas       | Thomas          | Simon the Zealot |
| Bartholomew     | Good Friday | Maundy Thursday | palms            |
| passion         | Simon Peter | James           | John             |
| Jesus           |             |                 |                  |