



## Pastor's Column

The Lent/Easter season got off to a rather strange start. Ash Wednesday was called off due to a 100 year storm that left 8-10 inches of snow on the ground. So, it was a somewhat disappointing start to the season.

Then we started our Bible study with Max Lucado on "He Chose the Nails" and things began to change focus. Lent/Easter has always seemed to be a more serious, sober, negative season because of the cross. Seemed like we needed to walk a dark path to get to the resurrection which in a sense is true, but Max opened a new door to think about. What if we thought of the season as an extension of Christmas? Of course Jesus is involved in both. Yet, they seem totally different for Christmas is a happy, joyful, fun time while Easter seems to be the opposite. Well, maybe not according to Max. His first session brought up the idea that Easter is still part of God's giving to the world (John 3:16). God gave Jesus at Christmas and now God is still giving us a Savior at Easter. Jesus became one of us, flesh and blood, so He might give himself for us to save us from our sins. What a great gift God gave in Jesus for all seasons.

Max gave us some food for thought about the gifts Jesus gives us. The Trinity has always existed (Father, Son, Holy Spirit). So Jesus is timeless or eternal, and his gift is that he gave up the eternal to come to earth to be one of us. The second gift of Easter is Jesus was boundless in spirit but when He came to earth He became flesh and bones just like us. And thirdly, Jesus was sinless as part of The Trinity of God, but in order to be one of us, He needed to take on sin to carry our sin to the cross. What a gift that God gave us in Jesus Christ. It's like the miracle of Christmas just keeps on giving.

The incredible part of this is that we deserve none of this. We do not earn these gifts from God in Jesus. They are freely given to us by God. So, here is the good news of Jesus Christ. "God did it for us - just for us - because He loves us." - Max Lucado.

We have the gifts of Easter to relieve even while we are still stuck in our own sin. Jesus offers us the way, the truth, and the life. So we can continue to celebrate Christmas by accepting the gifts of Easter. Amen!!!

Pastor Jack



# Scriptures for the Month of

March

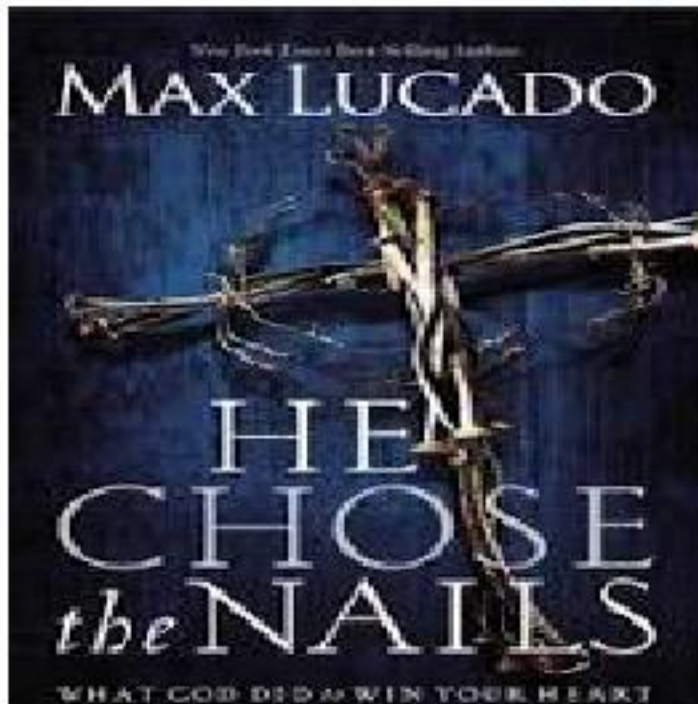
Sunday: February 28, Genesis 17, 1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

Sunday, March 7: Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

Sunday, March 14: Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:4-21

Sunday, March 28: Isaiah 50:4-9; Psalm 31:9-16; Phillipians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15, 47

## Bible Study



An ongoing ministry is Monday morning Bible Study at 10:30. The weather has not cooperated during February so we are behind a little. We started Max Lucado's "He Chose the Nails" on February 22. We had been looking at a study on How to read the Bible and will finish the last two sessions after Easter. The Monday study group has been a real blessing to our church ministry. It is not a closed group for anyone can join in anytime. For the last 3 years we have been using Right Now Media as our resource and it has a wealth of studies for us to consider. This one by Max has a study book as well and if you are not able to attend in person you can go online free after registering your email through the church office. It is a win-win situation! This study explores the many gifts that Christ provided to us at his crucifixion. Come join us!!

## PRAYER BREAKFAST

Prayer Breakfast is on Saturday, March 6th at 8:15 to 10:30 AM. It is open to anyone in the church who would like to come. Prayer is the starting point of the Christian journey. Before we launch out into a ministry we pray about it, be it an old ministry or a new one. We pray for guidance and assurance that we are going in the right direction. We also pray for each other and those in need. There is healing power in prayer. As we offer our prayers we need to listen to the response God gives to us. Open Doors UMC affirms the art of listening to God. If He opens the door we need to proceed and we have found He helps us find a way to do that ministry. If the door is closed no matter how much we would think it would work it will not and we should not try to walk through a closed door. God has opened many doors for our church but he has also closed doors as well. Listening to His voice becomes an art of paying attention as we move forward with each ministry. Prayer Breakfast is a good time to share and listen. Please come and have breakfast and join in prayer!



## Thrift Store

The Thrift Store will reopen the 2nd Thursday from 1:00-5:00 and Saturday from 8:00-noon starting in March.

March 11 & 13

April 8 & 10

May - Not open due to Garage Sale

June - October we will try to be open

each month. We are needing help on Thursday afternoons. Please let us know if you can help!

We are continuing to take donations.



## Spring Garage Sale May 21-22

The Spring Garage Sale is coming faster than we think and soon it will be upon us. We are getting a variety of items for the sale especially clothing. We are needing people to sign up for the four sections of the sale. We have a sign up sheet in the office and a list started. We need your help to make sure we have a good staff on hand for the sale. Please sign up at the church office and let's make this another fun and joyful fellowship. Each section will decide when in May they need to set up. Some of the things we receive become an ongoing process of acquire and sell as soon as possible. So, the system works with you all helping to make it go. Thanks for helping!!!

This year there will be four sections. The craft section will not be during this garage sale but has its own program time later in the year.

Section 1 - will be clothing, linens, blankets etc. and books, DVDs and CDs in the basement

Section 2 - will be small/medium size items which are at the thrift store area.

Section 3 - will be large items and they are located in the garage near the church. We will also set up on the concrete outside the garage.

Section 4 - will be smaller items so that the thrift store can have the small/mediums items and the Welcome Center can have the smaller size items. This will become more clear as we display items for sale.

Friday we will be open 8:00 - 5:00 and Saturday we will be open 8:00 - noon with everything open and sack sales going on in some areas.

if you are interested in donating, setting up, volunteering during the sales, cleaning up, or helping in other ways, please contact the church office. Thank you!!!



C H U R C H  
**GARAGE SALE** 3

L.E.O.T.A.

## Let's Eat Out Together Amen

L.E.O.T.A. Let's Eat Out Together Amen - will be starting up in March. Come join for a fun time of food and fellowship!

March 23, Tuesday - Clockers Cafe 103 Commercial St  
April 24, Saturday - Little Hacienda 3375 Little Pete's Road  
May 18, Tuesday - Billy Gails 5291 Hwy 265

All lunch times will be at 11:30 a.m. PLEASE R.S.V.P. to Debbie Herman 281-460-2038 by phone or text message by noon the day before each luncheon if you will be attending. Thanks! Hope to see you there!

*Movie Night  
Wednesday  
March 10*

*6 p.m.*

*Join us in fellowship as we watch "In the Name of God." a story of giving thanks based on the ten commandments*

## Ministry House/Gazebo

The lower level of the home is completely done and ready for use. During the winter we have started some necessary work upstairs. The floors in the kitchen, dining room, and bathrooms are being redone. Also, this spring we hope to be able to add a light weight roof over the deck on the backside. The sun is on the deck from sun up to sun set and it is hard on the deck surface itself. We have replaced the whole deck floor and stained the deck and rails. So, to protect our investment we need to put a protective roof over the deck. We are looking at fiberglass roof panels supported by a wood structure. We have some of the funds to do that in the Ministry House reserve account but will need a few more donations to finish the project. It is estimated to cost around \$1,600 in materials to do the deck and we have around \$1,000 so we are looking for \$600.00 to complete the project. If you would like to donate, please contact the church or make your donation memos say - "Ministry House Deck Roof". We will install the roof ourselves which keeps the cost to just materials. Thanks for helping!!!

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Website: [www.blueeyoumc.com](http://www.blueeyoumc.com)

We have a Facebook page, please go to our page and "like" us. You can post suggestions, pictures or anything you would like. It is also a great way to find out what is going on and see the pictures of events already taken place.

February

April

# March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Church Hours 10-5 10:30 Bible Study 1:00 Women's Ministries	2	3 Office Hours 10-5	4 Office Hours 10-5	5	6 8:15 - 10:30 a.m. Prayer Breakfast
7 9:30 Welcome Center 10:30 Worship	8 Church Hours 10-5 10:30 Bible Study 1:00 Women's Ministries	9	10 Office Hours 10-5  6:00 pm Movie Night "In the Name of God"	11 Office Hours 10-5  Thrift Store 1 - 5	12	13 Thrift Store 8-noon
14 9:30 Welcome Center 10:30 Worship	15 Church Hours 10-5 10:30 Bible Study 1:00 Womens Ministries	16	17 Office Hours 10-5  	18 Office Hours 10-5	19	20 
21 <b>BLUE SUNDAY</b> 9:30 Welcome Center 10:30 Worship Church Council	22 Church Hours 10-5 10:30 Bible Study 1:00 Women's Ministries	23 11:30 L.E.O.T.A. Clockers Cafe 103 Commercial St Branson	24 Office Hours 10-5	25 Office Hours 10-5	26	27
28 Palm Sunday 9:30 Welcome Center 10:30 Worship	29 Church Hours 10-5 10:30 Bible Study 1:00 Women's Ministries	30	31 Office Hours 10-5			



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 <b>Carlie Wagner</b>	4	5	6
7	8	9 <b>Bob and Mary Jo Bell</b>	10 <b>Chris Wilson</b>	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 <b>Mike Short</b>	20 <b>Gloria Jones</b>
21 <b>Shelly Fransen</b>	22	23	24	25 <b>Bob Lyon</b>  <b>Kevin Green</b>	26	27
28	29	30	31			