



Open Doors UMC of Blue Eye

Volume 6 March 2017 Newsletter

Issue 5

Pastor's Column

THE LENTEN SEASON

The Lenten Season is upon us. By the time you get this newsletter Ash Wednesday will have come and gone. We will be looking at four Sundays of Lent during March. Easter is late this year and will be celebrated on April 16.

Lent is defined as a solemn religious observation in the liturgical calendar that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends approximately six weeks later, before Easter Sunday. Many Christians use Lent as a time of fasting or giving up something special like sweets. This is kind of a penance and to add to that some spiritual discipline such as reading a daily devotion to draw themselves closer to God.

Lent is traditionally described as lasting for 40 days, in commemoration of the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the desert. This was to help Jesus get ready to begin His public ministry because during this time He endured the temptation of Satan.

As we prepare for Lent what do we need to do to get closer to God? Is there anything that is keeping us from doing that? If so, we need to give up, change, rethink, pray or just change how we do things in our life. It seems that Lent should not be the only time to ask these questions but should be an every day conversation with God. Yet, Lent heightens the awareness that we do need to change things that keep us from a closer walk with God.

Ask yourself "is there anything I need to do to change my life so I may walk closer with my Lord?" Lent is as good a time as any to pose that question. And if you are like me you will see things in life that could be changed for the better. God is never quite done with us and is always asking us to do better with our lives.

What can I do better or what do I need to change? These are my questions to you and myself as we enter the Lenten Season. May God lead us to be better disciples of His Son our Lord Jesus Christ!

God's Blessing, Pastor Jack

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Scriptures for the Month of March

Sunday, March 5: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

**Sunday, March 12: Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17
or Matthew 17:1-9**

Sunday, March 19: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

Sunday, March 26: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

Dinner For 6

This Spring we are going to divide the church into groups of six. The purpose is for those six to get together once a month for a meal as they choose to do. (Either at one of the homes or at a restaurant). After sharing a meal together there is another avenue to explore. Getting to know one another and one another's faith. This can be done by a Bible devotion and sharing what you heard the scripture say. The scriptures will be provided but feel free to use your own. Every quarter we will switch two people in your group. This means you will have three meals and share time with each Dinner for 6. Then two will move on to another group and your group will have two new people. The proposal is to do this for one year- (April, May, June), (July, Aug., Sept.) (Oct., Nov., Dec.) & (Jan., Feb., Mar.)

This will start the first of April. The idea is to put you with some new people. The Steering Committee will endeavor to do that. May you find this an enjoyable experience!!

Special Sunday Offering

UMCOR Sunday
(formerly One Great Hour of Sharing)

Disasters happen all the time. And one of the first response teams to go into a devastated area is UMCOR. In Minnesota I was able to see a response team in action. In a town near us a tornado had destroyed one whole section of the town similar to the Joplin tornado. UMCOR was one of the first disaster teams to arrive to help. It made me proud to be a United Methodist!

Your gift does help whether here or somewhere else. People need to know that someone, some group is ready, willing and able to help. It is one way to show God's love for His world.

The offering envelope is in the newsletter and officially the last Sunday in March (March 26) is UMCOR Sunday. Thanks for your help!

Pastor Jack

WINTER'S ALMOST OVER - TIME TO

SPRING AHEAD!

PUSH YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD AN
HOUR AT 2AM SUNDAY!

Sunday March 12



Warm Weather

If the warm weather stays around we will need to proceed with our parsonage repairs. We are trying to prepare the parsonage for ministry to the families of pastors of the Missouri Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Major repairs include:

Replacing: Front Siding,

Back Deck-Deck Floor

Vanity in half bath

Adding to: Insulation in Attic

Window Treatments

Repairs of: Sliding Glass Doors (2)

Shower Door Master Bath

Plus an overall Spring Cleaning!!

If you can help with these projects contact Pastor Jack, Jack Meilke or leave a message on the church answering machine and we will call you back We would like these projects to be completed by May 15 for Summer use.

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!!



Audio-Visual

The construction of the sound booth is just about done. We need to Thank Dave Gilliam for his great craftsmanship. Well done Dave!!

Now to put the booth into operation by hooking up the system. We will be trying to make some changes in the system as we go along. Our microphones are fine but our speakers are not.

Once the sound system is up and running we need people to run the system each Sunday. If you would like to help see Pastor Jack!

The video part is a project of the future at the moment.



Alice Jane Helme

We will have a Memorial Service for Alice Jane Helme on Saturday, March 11 at 11:00 a.m. with a lunch to follow. You are all invited to come and celebrate the life of Alice Jane. She would love for you to celebrate her life because she loved life. It was only at the end that the struggle was more than she wanted to do. She was active and loved her church. Please put March 11 on your calendar.



Movie Night

The movies for March will be "WWJDII The Woodcarver" on Tuesday, March 7 and "Lukewarm" Thursday, March 23 both at 7:00 p.m. If you missed the first WWJD, I do not believe it will matter. I think they are two completely different movies. Hope that you can come!



WELCOME CENTER HOSTS

March 5: Pat Bangert
Helen Feuz

March 12: Debra Tompkins

March 19:

March 26: Randy & Laura
Darden

GREETERS

March 5: Sharon Gilliam
Janette Ellis

March 12: Jack & Vivian
Jensen

March 19: Barbara Curbow

March 26: Helen Feuz
Debra Tompkins

Thank You to the United Methodist Women!

We appreciate and thank the women of Blue Eye United Methodist Church for donating 8 beautiful quilts to our community. Our residents appreciate the love and time it took to make something so special.

Thank you,
Morningside of Branson Meadows

Time To Move Forward TMF

The theme for this year is TMF (Time To Move Forward). If we move backward we lose. If we stay stable as a church we are actually moving backward. In a real sense we have only one choice TMF. Looking forward to your ideas!!

This newsletter is published monthly. If you have an article for publication please get it to the pastor before the last week of the month. Also if you have an address of someone who you think would like to receive this newsletter please leave that information in the church office.

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 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Office Hours 9-5 Noon Luncheon 12:00 Ash Wednesday Service 7:00	Office Hours 9-5		Prayer Breakfast 8:30
	Office Hours 10-5 Bible Study 10:30 Women's Ministries 12:30	Movie Night 7:00 "WWJDII The Woodcarver"	Office Hours 9-5 Noon Luncheon 12:00 Choir 6:30	Office Hours 9-5 Trustee Meeting 10:00		Alice Jane Helme's Memorial 11:00
Daylight Saving Time begins	Office Hours 10-5 Bible Study 10:30 Women's Ministries 12:30		Office Hours 9-5 Noon Luncheon 12:00 Choir 6:30	Office Hours 9-5		
Fellowship Time 9:30 Worship & Praise 10:30 Church Council 11:45 BLUE SUNDAY	Office Hours 10-5 Bible Study 10:30 Women's Ministries 12:30		Office Hours 9-5 Choir 6:30	Office Hours 9-5 Movie Night 7:00 "Lukewarm"		
Fellowship Time 9:30 Worship & Praise 10:30 Potluck 11:45	Office Hours 10-5 Bible Study 10:30 Women's Ministries 12:30		Office Hours 9-5 Noon Luncheon 12:00 Choir 6:30	Office Hours 9-5		

Happy
Birthday



March 2017

Happy
Anniversary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Bob & Merry Jo Bell	10 Mike Sowders	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Gloria Jones	21 Shelly Fransen	22	23	24	25 Bob Lyon
26	27	28	29	30	31	