
THE LINK



STRENGTHEN YOUR FAITH...PUT IT IN TO PRACTICE

First United Methodist Church

MARCH 2020

A LITTLE CLOSER TO HOME...

David Weesner

Things change in March. Just as the seasons find new direction and purpose in March, so our lives have the capacity and possibility of change every year through the season of Lent.

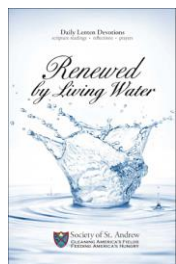
We find as we mature that change is a constant partner in life. Attempts to mitigate and minimize change is perhaps our first reaction. However, a time of reflection can be helpful to calm our hearts and help us realize that this new development in our lives, once we are acclimated, it may lead us to an even better path. Lent can be just such a time or season. Lent, this time of waiting before Easter arrives, mirrors our lives in waiting for Christ to return. Lent offers a perspective, a time to heal, a time to consider the past and the future. Lent is valuable for those who are serious about reflecting the kingdom of God in their daily lives.

My grandmother Ruth always said March is the month of mud. And so it is, and with Lent as well. Clear as mud at times, our path forward through the 40 days of Lent can be difficult and tiring. And yet to stay put, hunkered down in fear of what might happen, is to live devoid of faith and hope. The greatest of gifts; faith and hope. They are the wonderworkers of Lent. Let us gather in faith and look forward with hope, letting go of all fear, knowing Christ Jesus, our goal and partner, will not disappoint, will not leave us orphaned in the cold mud of March. Things change in March. *John 14*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
Pastor's Corner	1 & 4
Volunteer/Donation Opportunities	2-3
Music News	2-3
VBS	3
Preschool News	3
Church Email Communication	3
Church Family News	3-4
Calendar	
Lent/Holy Week/Easter Happenings	5-8
First United Methodist Church 313 East Montgomery Street Knoxville, Iowa 50138 www.knoxvillemethodist.org first@kfumc.com www.facebook.com/firstchurchknoxville 641-842-3712 or 641-842-2192	

**2020 DAILY LENTEN
DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET BY
THE SOCIETY OF ST.
ANDREW (February 26 –
April 12, 2020)**

Renewed by Living Water is based on Isaiah 43:19.



I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

This year's theme celebrates individual experiences of God's love and power to flowing in, through, and over us by sharing stories that demonstrate His power to bring renewal in each and every persons' lives, no matter the circumstances. Paper copies of the booklet can be found in the Narthex on the information table or you can download an electronic copy at https://endhunger.org/docs_church/lent/Lenten_Devotions_Booklet.pdf.

**2020 GOOD FRIDAY FAST
BY THE SOCIETY OF ST.
ANDREW**

This year's Good Friday Fast is *How Beautiful!*

You to not only read stories and celebrate Christ's renewal in our lives but you also make it a participatory experience by fasting on Good Friday.



This special time of prayer and fasting uses our physical hunger as a symbol of our spiritual hungers. It also serves as a vivid reminder of our many brothers and sisters who live with real, physical hunger every day. You can download an electronic copy at https://endhunger.org/docs_church/lent/Good_Friday_Fast_Booklet.pdf

E-GIVING



We have convenient eGiving options so you can give automatically on the same day each month. If you'd like to

learn more or talk with someone about how to use eGiving, call the Church office at 641-842-3712! I would be happy to help you get started! Deb Greiner

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME



Clocks spring forward at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 8th marking the start of Daylight Saving Time.

MUSIC & WORSHIP NEWS



Wow, February flew by. Doesn't the handbell choir sound amazing?!?!? They are doing an awesome job and I am very blessed to have the members willing to donate their time to rehearse and play. And, I have to give a shout out to the Finnegan boys, Joseph and Jensen, for helping add a nice touch to the piece by playing the tambourine and finger cymbals. The Chancel Choir is doing

what they always do, which is get better every time we rehearse. We are still looking for men to join, the choir does have a couple right now, but we can always use more. Actually, everyone is welcome to come give it a shot any Wednesday night and if its not your thing, then don't worry about it, you gave it a go. Looking forward to Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, there are going to be some big things happening musically. On Palm Sunday, the bells and choir will be set up in the balcony to begin the service with a 'fanfare'. It will be amazing. And on Easter Sunday, Davis will be on the organ bench and we will have a brass quartet play and accompany the music. It will also be amazing. I am super excited for everything that is going on and I am so blessed to be here. Have a wonderful March!!!

VBS 2020

Vacation Bible School "Knights of North Castle"



will be held on August 3, 4 & 5. A meal

will be held from 5:30 until 6:00 p.m. and then VBS will be from 6:00 until 8:30 p.m. Watch for more details and for opportunities to volunteer over the next couple of months!

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
2020-2021 Preschool Registration is Open



Enrollment opens March 1 for the 2020/2021 school year! Please email the preschool at msspschool@hotmail.com for enrollment information or to schedule a time to visit. The preschool will be hosting our annual registration open house on Thursday, March 26 from 4:30 to 6:30 pm in the preschool rooms. Invite friends and families to come visit and see what MSPS all is about!

NEW CHURCH EMAIL ADDRESSES

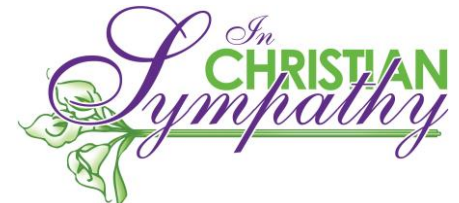
All lowatelecom and Windstream email addresses associated with Knoxville First United Methodist Church and office staff will no longer



work after March 1st. Please update your address books to use the following. Thank you.

- ✓ General Church Email first@kfumc.com
- ✓ Pastor Dave Weesner dweesner@kfumc.com
- ✓ Pastor Brent Hanna bhanna@kfumc.com
- ✓ Music and Worship Director Matt Hoskins mhoskins@kfumc.com
- ✓ Administrative/ Financial Secretary Heather Marconi hmarconi@kfumc.com
- ✓ Treasurer Deb Greiner dgreiner@kfumc.com
- ✓ Preschool Director Katie Bishop kbishop@kfumc.com

CONDOLENCES



Prayers and condolences to the family of Frances Caswell on her passing.

Prayers and condolences to the family of Bob Smith on his passing.

Prayers and condolences to Anita Bailey and family on the passing of her mother, Opal Lee.

THANK YOU



Thank you for all of the cards, food, messages, and prayers during my recent illness. Your generosity and kindness have been so appreciated. May God bless you for all of your goodness. Mary Hanna

EXCITEMENT IS IN THE AIR!

“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a person discovered hidden in a field. In their excitement, they hid it again and sold everything that they owned to get enough money to buy the field and to get the treasure, too!”

Matthew 13:44

There's excitement in the air—I have seen my first robin! I know that we can have some tough winter days ahead of us yet. We remember March blizzards and April snowstorms. Yet, sighting your first robin in late winter is still an event that lifts one's spirits.

We seem to do a lot of sorting in our house. Going through a shoe box of pictures, finding treasures that we no

longer need and load them up for the Almost Free Shop. Have you had the pleasure of sorting through some boxes with your grandpa or grandma? You can discover all sorts of treasures. Jesus' story in Matthew tells about a person who was excited to find a treasure. Perhaps this person was taking a short cut through the field, or maybe they were just out for a springtime walk—in search of robins! In any event, their path led them past a small object sticking out of the ground. And when they investigated, they discovered a buried treasure. Their heart pounded and they had to have it. So they made arrangements and bought the entire field just to get the treasure.

The real excitement, the true treasure that is waiting to be discovered is the kingdom of God. And the good news is that God has provided each of us a map—in the Holy Bible and in our individual hearts to help us find God's kingdom. If we are willing to look deeply and genuinely join in the search, an amazing relationship with God awaits us. God

wants us to be as excited about the Good News as we would be excited in finding a treasure from our grandparents or in sighting a robin in March.

Are you eagerly seeking to grow your relationship with God? One thing is for sure, it will be an exciting journey. Being a part of God's kingdom is exciting. Good luck on seeing your first robin, and best to you as you discover more in your faith journey with God. See you Sunday!

Pastor Brent

MARCH 2020

Sunday March 1, 2020

8:30a COMMUNION/FOOD DONATION
Homebuilders

9:30a Sunday School – YR

10:30a Worship Service

1:00-4:00p Faith Forum
Sunday School – EFH

6:00p Sorority Mtg – Act Cntr

Jr. Optimists – EFH

Monday March 2, 2020

7:30-9:30a MMP – FUMC Church

7:30-9:30a Confirmation – Chapel & Library

1:00-3:00p NHN – Act Cntr

2:00-5:00p Almost Free Shop

5:30p F.U.N. Mtg – Library

6:00-7:00p Cub Scouts – WFH

Tuesday March 3, 2020

7:00a Earlybirds – Hardees

9:00a-noon Almost Free Shop

9:30a Staff Mtg

5:30p Pancake Committee Mtg – EFH

6:00p MSPS Board Mtg – Library

7:30p AA – Act Cntr

Wednesday March 4, 2020

noon Wings – EFH

1:00-3:00p NHN- Act Cntr

5:15-5:45p Lenten Supper – WFH

5:45-6:15p Lenten Speaker – WFH

6:30p Bell Practice –

7:30p YR
Choir Practice – Sanctuary

7:30p Al-Anon – Act Cntr

Thursday March 5, 2020

9:00a UMW Exec Mtg – EFH

Friday March 6, 2020

noon AA – Act Cntr

9:00a-4:00p Almost Free Shop

Saturday March 7, 2020

5:30p Chapel Service

7:30p AA – Act Cntr

Sunday March 8, 2020

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME
BEGINS AT 2:00 A.M.

8:30a Homebuilders
Sunday School – YR

9:30a Worship Service

10:00-10:30a Children's Church - EFH

10:30a Faith Forum
Sunday School – EFH

Monday March 9, 2020

7:30-9:30a MMP – FUMC Church

7:30-9:30a Confirmation – Chapel & Library

1:00-3:00p NHN – Act Cntr

2:00-5:00p Almost Free Shop

5:30-7:00p Free Clinic – Act Cntr

6:00-7:00p Cub Scouts – WFH

6:30p SPRC - Library

Tuesday March 10, 2020

7:00a Earlybirds – Hardees

9:00a-noon Almost Free Shop

9:30a Staff Mtg

6:00-7:00p

7:30p

Wednesday March 11, 2020

9:30a Naomi Circle – Homestead

noon Wings – EFH

1:00-3:00p NHN- Act Cntr

5:15-5:45p Lenten Supper – WFH

5:45-6:15p Lenten Speaker – WFH

6:30p Bell Practice – YR

7:30p Choir Practice – Sanctuary

7:30p Al-Anon – Act Cntr

Thursday March 12, 2020

9:00a Rachel Circle – EFH

4:30-6:30p MSPS Open House –

Preschool Rooms
PEO Mtg – WFH & Kitchen

5:00-8:30p

Friday March 13, 2020

noon AA – Act Cntr

9:00a-4:00p Almost Free Shop

Saturday March 14, 2020

10:00a-3:00p Baby Shower – WFH Reserved

5:30p Chapel Service

7:30p AA – Act Cntr

Sunday March 15, 2020

Matt Off

8:30a Homebuilders
Sunday School – YR

9:30a Worship Service

10:00-10:30a Children's Church - EFH

10:30a Faith Forum
Sunday School –
EFH

6:00p Jr. Optimists –
EFH

Monday March 16, 2020

Matt Off

1:00-3:00p NHN – Act Cntr

2:00-5:00p Almost Free
Shop

6:00p Finance – EFH

6:30p Trustees –
Library

7:30p Board Mtg –
WFH

7:30p Hist. Soc. Mtg –
Act Cntr

Tuesday March 17, 2020

St. Patrick's Day

Matt & Dave Off

7:00a Earlybirds –
Hardees

9:00a-Noon Almost Free
Shop

9:30a Staff Mtg

7:30p AA – Act Cntr

Wednesday March 18, 2020

Matt & Dave Off

Noon Wings – EFH

1:00-3:00p NHN- Act Cntr

5:15-5:45p Lenten Supper –
WFH

5:45-6:15p Lenten Speaker –
WFH

7:30p Al-Anon – Act
Cntr

Thursday March 19, 2020

Matt & Dave Off

7:00p Rebecca Circle -
EFH

Friday March 20, 2020

Matt & Dave Off

Kiwanis Mother & Son Date Night
Set Up and Decorating – WFH,
EFH, Kitchens & Choir Room

Noon AA – Act Cntr

9:00a-4:00p Almost Free
Shop

Saturday March 21, 2020

UMCOR Saturday Offering
Matt & Dave Off

6:00-8:00p Kiwanis Mother &
Son Date Night
Dance– WFH,
EFH, Kitchens &
Choir Room

5:30p Chapel Service

7:30p AA – Act Cntr

Sunday March 22, 2020

UMCOR Sunday Offering
Dave Off

8:30a Homebuilders
Sunday School –
YR

9:30a Worship Service

10:00-10:30a Children's Church
- EFH

10:30a Faith Forum
Sunday School –
EFH

Monday March 23, 2020

Dave Off

7:30-9:30a MMP – FUMC
Church

7:30-9:30a Confirmation –
Chapel & Library

1:00-3:00p NHN – Act Cntr

2:00-5:00p Almost Free
Shop

5:30-7:00p Free Clinic – Act
Cntr

6:00-7:00p Cub Scouts –
WFH

Tuesday March 24, 2020

7:00a Earlybirds –
Hardees

9:00a-Noon Almost Free
Shop

9:30a Staff Mtg

7:30p AA – Act Cntr

Wednesday March 25, 2020

Noon Wings – EFH

1:00-3:00p NHN- Act Cntr

5:15-5:45p Lenten Supper –
WFH

5:45-6:15p Lenten Speaker –

WFH

6:30p Bell Practice –
YR

7:30p Choir Practice –
Sanctuary

7:30p Al-Anon – Act
Cntr

Thursday March 26, 2020

1:30p Sarah Circle –
WFH

4:30p MSPS
Registration –
Preschool Rooms

Friday March 27, 2020

Noon AA – Act Cntr

9:00a-4:00p Almost Free
Shop

Saturday March 28, 2020

5:30p Chapel Service

7:30p AA – Act Cntr

Sunday March 29, 2020

8:30a Homebuilders
Sunday School –
YR

9:30a Worship Service

10:00-10:30a Children's Church
- EFH

10:30a Faith Forum
Sunday School –
EFH

Monday March 30, 2020

7:30-9:30a MMP – FUMC
Church

7:30-9:30a Confirmation –
Chapel & Library

1:00-3:00p NHN – Act Cntr

2:00-5:00p Almost Free
Shop

6:00-7:00p Cub Scouts –
WFH

Tuesday March 31, 2020

7:00a Earlybirds –
Hardees

9:00a-Noon Almost Free
Shop

9:30a Staff Mtg

7:30p AA – Act Cntr

Wednesdays *during Lent*

Meal: 5:15 – 5:45 p.m.

Speaker: 5:45 – 6:15 p.m.

Location: West Fellowship Hall

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speakers</u>	<u>Hosts</u>	<u>Menu</u>
March 4	Joel & Barb Johnson	UMW	Chili and Potato Soup
March 11	Matt Struecker	Finance Committee	Pulled Pork
March 18	Carla Bauer	Trustees	Casserole Buffet
March 25	Tim McCombs	SPRC	Sloppy Joes
April 1	Katie Bishop	MSPS	Walking Tacos

All free will offerings from the Lenten suppers this year will be presented to Montgomery Street Preschool.

Holy Week 2020

Sunday, April 5th @ 9:30 a.m. Palm Sunday
Thursday, April 9th @ 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Drama
Friday, April 10th @ 7:00 p.m. Good Friday
Sunday, April 11th @ 5:30 p.m. Easter Saturday (Chapel)
Sunday, April 12th @ 9:30 Easter Sunday

Name
Address
City, State Zip

ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED

BULK RATE
US
POSTAGE
PAID
Non-Profit
Knoxville,
Iowa
PERMIT NO.
108

First United Methodist Church
313 E. Montgomery Street
Knoxville, IA 50138