

# The Messenger

Mogadore United  
Methodist Church

March 2023

## LIONS and LAMBS

*And as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" — John 1:36*

*Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals." — Revelation 5:5*

March comes in like a lamb and leaves like a lion— unless of course, it comes in like a lion and comes out like a lamb. I recall my mom sharing this saying with me when I was a small child. It sounded kind of mysterious! It was exciting to see which creature would usher in the third month of the new year and which would arrive at its close. As an adult Ohioan, I am well acquainted with the lions and lambs that can usher each other in and out a single day!

Thinking about the seasonal lambs and lions brings me to the scriptural passages that use these universal images. In the first chapter of John, the evangelist refers to Jesus as the Lamb of God. This verse has been used in Christian worship as congregants are reminded of the One whose sacrificial love saves the world. During this holy season of Lent we do well to reflect upon the humility of Christ Lamb of God whose power was never used to bring security, comfort or glory to himself but to bring life to the world. While we often look to Jesus as the Good Shepherd caring for us — little, lost lambs, it is good to hold in our meditations the reality that Jesus as Lamb let himself be loved, healed, guided, restored and fed by the Co-Shepherds: Father and Holy Spirit. Do we dare follow Jesus on the Way of the Lamb?

Yet just as a lamb is descriptive of Jesus so also is the image of the lion as we see in the Book of Revelation. The Lion of Judah is powerful. The Lion of Judah is the eternal Christ: Alpha and Omega, the beginning and end. Jesus revealed himself as Lion when he bravely confronted the powers and principalities of evil. While upholding his Jewish tradition, Jesus turned the tables on religious practices and social customs that kept people from God. He stood against the idolatry of Rome and the destructive, demented, deceitful tyranny of the egotist Herod. With the heart of a lion, Jesus cast out demons from persons. Do we claim the power of God to stand against evil and for the justice of God as courageous and bold lions?

This Lent as we stand looking out of our windows watching for lambs and lions, let us also with the Spirit's wisdom gaze inwardly upon the lions and lambs in our souls. Are our inner lions and lambs in balance? Are we attentive to the times we are called to be Lambs of God or Lions of Judah?

Let Us Together Keep a Holy Lent that we might know the true joys of Easter life!

With love and prayer,  
Rev. Pam

The mission of the Mogadore United Methodist Church is to follow the example of Jesus Christ, demonstrating Christ's love and service to others through worship, outreach, fellowship, and spiritual growth.

## Treasurer's Report

Balance in General Fund as of January 1, 2023		\$18,363.65
January Offerings	\$ 12,943.02	
January Disbursements	\$ 14,937.01	(-1,993.99)
<b>Ending Balance on January 31, 2023</b>		<b>\$16,369.66</b>

The January offerings of \$12, 943.02 were very disappointing for a five Sunday month, and a concern in trying to meet our General Fund expenses. The January disbursements of \$14,937.01 were about normal, but did include our first half 2022 property taxes. We do have some major expenses coming up in February, including our fourth quarter 2022 insurance premium, as well as snow removal expense. We also have a major expense coming up to upgrade our church electrical circuit breaker box. If you are interested in on-line giving, please contact either Kathy Lang or Gabby Heminger, and they can get our set up. If you are unable to attend our Sunday morning services, offerings can be mailed to the church, or to my home address of 13523 Iris Ave. NW, Mogadore, Ohio 44260.

— *Barry Rudy, Treasurer*

## Update on Office Closings

The Executive Board has approved the church office be closed for the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr, President's Day, Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Thanksgiving Day and the Friday after, and Christmas Day. On the day of office closures, please contact Rev. Pam at (216) 704-0307 in case of emergency.

This year I will celebrate 50 years as a member of Mogadore UMC. I would like to thank all the wonderful people that have been my church family over the years.

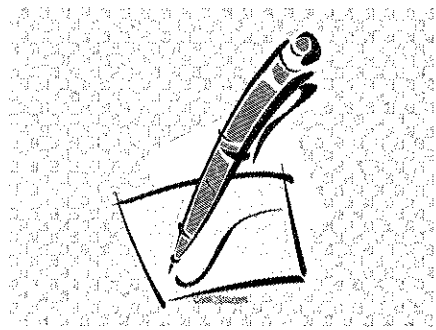
It has been my pleasure to serve in many ways over the years. I have been a youth leader, Sunday School teacher, committee member on most of the church committees, worship leader, usher, greeter, SPRC chairman, delegate to annual conference, lay leader and Executive Board chairman.

I have served under 10 pastors. My children were confirmed in this church. My daughter was married in this church. Two of my grandkids were baptized in this church. My wife's funeral was held in this church.

To all of you living and dead that have been part of my church family – thank you.

My health has begun to fade the last four years and as I undergo tests I ask you to pray for me. I hope for many more years with you.

Fred Slocum



## Schedule of Lenten Worship

Sunday, March 5

John 3:1-17 Rebirth

Holy Communion

Evening Worship: 6:30 at Firestone Park UMC

Sunday, March 12

John 4: 5-22 Truth — Getting Real

Evening Worship: 6:30 at Centenary UMC

Sunday, March 19

John 9: 1-41

Seeing and Not Seeing

Evening Worship: 6:30 Lakemore UMC. Rev. Pam and Cheryl McInturff will be part of the worship team

Sunday, March 26

John 11: 1-45 Lazarus Come Forth!

Evening Worship: 6:30 at Family of Faith UMC. District Superintendent Rev. Angela Lewis will offer the sermon

### HOLY WEEK

April 2 Palm Sunday

Celebration of Palms

Special Passiontide Service of Scripture and Song

April 6 Maundy Thursday

Special Service at 6:30 p.m.: At the Table with Christ

April 9 Good Friday

At the Cross with Christ

Our sanctuary will be open for prayer. People may come to the sanctuary from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

All are invited to sign up for 30 minutes "At the Cross" or come as the Spirit moves you.

Rev. Pam will be available to pray with you.

April 9 Easter Sunday

Sunrise Celebration Breakfast at 9 a.m.

Festive Easter Worship with Holy Communion



Thank you for the cards, calls and visits. Thank you also to the Rebecca Circle for the valentine.

As of February 23, my new room number at Mulberry Gardens will be Room 103.

Phyllis Watson

*Editor's note: Phyllis' complete address is; Mulberry Gardens, 395 S. Main St., Room 103, Munroe Falls, Ohio 44262.*

All are welcome to the Gospel of Matthew Bible study which meets Wednesday morning at 10:30; during Lent we will continue our study and also include Ways to Pray.



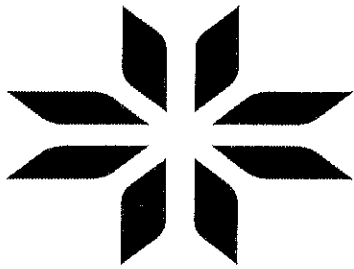
## March Birthdays

March 3	Vi Carpenter Annie Westfall Michael Soles
March 4	John Lange
March 8	Riley Straight
March 12	Duke Huth Steve Vargo
March 13	Cheryl Rinehart
March 21	J.J. Lange
March 23	Brenda Heminger Judy Daniels
March 24	Nerine Gasaway Carol Groh
March 26	Roger Stefan
March 29	Josie McInturff



## Mission News: Lend a Helping Hand

Volunteers will be meeting at the church at 7:30 a.m. Friday, March 17 to carpool to help out with Open M Mountain of Food. Everyone is welcome to come and assist with the food distribution.



# United Women in Faith

March is known for weather surprises and basketball playoff games but did you know it is also known for spiritual wellness? For me it's aligning my beliefs with action. Our Rebecca Circle showed how belief and action can make amazing things!

The Rebecca Circle wanted to make Valentine's Day special for some of our church members by sending cards. Vicki Crawford enlisted the help of some talented students at O.H. Somers Elementary in creating valentines and the Rebecca Circle then completed the cards by addressing and mailing them to some church members. Not only did the students get to do something for others by creating beautiful cards, the recipients also received the joy the cards brought.

Vicki shared with me that she wanted to make the Rebecca Circle meeting special by bringing in a cake. With no experience in baking but armed with high hopes and support from her circle sisters, Vicki took on the task of making a cake completely from scratch — that's right, no box! Through the process a trial cake was made that did not go as planned, but past the tears, laughter and fortitude the end result was an amazing red velvet cake that was enjoyed by all!

Vicki showed by connecting many people together and the joy of creating something new comes from the courage of stepping out of the comfort zone and realizing the potential of what is possible.

*"First do what is necessary. Then do what is possible. Suddenly you are doing the impossible." —  
Attributed to Saint Francis of Assisi.*

Rebecca Circle will be meeting at Carol Mencer's home on March 8 at 6:30 p.m.

Naomi Circle will be meeting at Karen Mullet's home on March 20 at 6 p.m.

UWF unit meeting will be on March 28 at 6:30 p.m. with a Call to Prayer and Self-Denial Service led by Barb Skye.

Sonia Stockett

March 9 Larry & Sharon Fitting

March 14 Art & Carol Stockett

March 31 Steve & Sue Vargo



Choir practice has resumed. If you are interested in singing praises to God and would like to share your gift, practices are held after the church worship service. Contact Fran Snyder at (864) 784-5158.

**2023 Easter Flower Orders**

Deadline for orders is Sunday, March 19, 2023

Quantity	Total	
_____ @ 10.00 ea. = _____		Easter Lily
_____ @ 10.00 ea. = _____		Red Tulip
_____ @ 10.00 ea. = _____		Pink Tulip
_____ @ 10.00 ea. = _____		Bi-color Tulip
_____ @ 10.00 ea. = _____		Orange Tulip
_____ @ 10.00 ea. = _____		Blue Hyacinths
_____ @ 10.00 ea. = _____		Pink Hyacinths
_____ @ 10.00 ea. = _____		White Hyacinths

Ordered By \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor Of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of \_\_\_\_\_

# March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10:30 a.m. Bible Study	2	3	4 Fellowship Hall in use
5 Communion Choir Practice after worship 6:30 p.m. Evening Worship at Firestone Park UMC	6	7 6 p.m. SPRC	8 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 a.m. Rebecca Circle 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts	9	10	11
12 Girl Scout Sunday Daylight Savings Time begins Choir Practice after worship 6:30 p.m. Evening Worship at Centenary	13 6:30 p.m. Executive Board	14	15 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Portage Patchers 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts	16	17 7:30 a.m. Meet at the church to carpool to Open M Mountain of Food	18
19 UMCOR SUNDAY Choir Practice after worship 6:30 p.m. Evening Worship at Lakemore UMC	20 6 p.m. Naomi Circle NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21	22 10:30 a.m. Bible Study	23	24	25
26 Choir Practice after worship 6:30 p.m. Evening Worship at Family of Faith UMC	27	28 6:30 p.m. UWF	29 10:30 a.m. Bible Study	30	31	



**Church Staff:**

Pastor: Rev. Pamela Buzalka

Church: (330) 628-1232

Parsonage: (234) 813-9040

Pastor's Cell: (216) 704-0307

Accompanist: Fran Snyder

Custodian: David Smith

Secretary: Joyce Selzer

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Mogadore United Methodist Church  
3828 Mogadore Road, Mogadore, OH 44260  
(330) 628-1232 Email: [mogadoreumc@att.net](mailto:mogadoreumc@att.net)  
Website: [www.mogadoreumc.org](http://www.mogadoreumc.org)

Find us on FaceBook!

Church Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays