



The Messenger

Mogadore United
Methodist Church

March 2024

LENT TO EASTER

In Our Time....ETERNITY

Dear Friends in Christ,

As I sit to write this letter, my mind turns to

“Hymn of Promise” verse three:

In our end is our beginning; in our time infinity;

In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.

In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,

unrevealed until it's season, something God alone can see.

The United Methodist Hymnal, No. 707.

These words occur to me as I reflect on the fact that we are in the middle of Lent, yet this month brings us Easter. During this holy season we ponder the Passion and Crucifixion of Jesus. We reflect on his passion for the poor, the leper, the prisoner, the unclean and the unloved as well as the days of passionate intense suffering and uncontained loving we call Holy Week. Lent is a special time in which we ask for the grace to die to actions and thoughts that do not lead to abundant life for ourselves and others. As we seek to examine the state of our souls in the light of divine grace, we look to the gifts Jesus gives so freely as we engage in more giving to those in need.

Yet as the hymn reminds us in our death to the false self there is a resurrection! The more fully we enter the way of Lent with prayer, penitence, fasting and almsgiving the more fully we know the glorious joy of Easter !!!

Let go and let God bring eternal joy to the times of your life. Easter is a marvelous day, but even more it is a way to live in the true freedom of God's love - in our lives there is eternity.

May you rejoice in the holy gift of Lent and the sacred power of Easter life!

Happy Resurrection Day!

Rev. Pam

These are 22 questions the members of John Wesley's Holy Club asked themselves every day in their private devotions more than 200 years ago.

1. Am I consciously or unconsciously creating the impression that I am better than I really am? In other words, am I a hypocrite?
2. Am I honest in all my acts and words, or do I exaggerate?
3. Do I confidentially pass on to another what was told to me in confidence?
4. Can I be trusted?
5. Am I a slave to dress, friends, work or habits?
6. Am I self-conscious, self-pitying, or self-justifying?
7. Did the Bible live in me today?
8. Do I give it time to speak to me everyday?
9. Am I enjoying prayer?
10. When did I last speak to someone about my faith?
11. Do I pray about the money I spend?
12. Do I get to bed on time and get up on time?
13. Do I disobey God in anything?
14. Do I insist upon doing something about which my conscience is uneasy?
15. Am I defeated in any part of my life?
16. Am I jealous, impure, critical, irritable, touchy or distrustful?
17. How do I spend my spare time?
18. Am I proud?
19. Do I thank God that I am not as other people, especially as the Pharisees who despised the publican?
20. Is there anyone whom I fear, dislike, disown, criticize, hold a resentment toward or disregard? If so, what am I doing about it?
21. Do I grumble or complain constantly?
22. Is Christ real to me?

Treasurer's Report

Balance in General Fund as of January 1, 2024		\$ 7,520.69
Edward Jones Appreciation (Depreciation)		14,200.10
January Offerings	13,732.43	
January Disbursements	15,754.17	(-2,021.74)
February Offerings	7,232.43	
February Disbursements	11,598.09	(-4,365.66)
Ending Balance as of February 29, 2024		\$16,076.98

Our January offerings of \$13,732.43 were about average, but our January disbursements of \$15,754.17 were well above average. We did pay out property taxes covering the first half of 2023, and Summit County did have a substantial increase in their tax base. We also had plowing and salting expenses for our parking lot.

Our February offerings of \$7,232.43 were way below average, one of the lowest months we've had in quite some time. Our February disbursements of \$11,598.09 were about normal for a shorter month. With the Easter holiday coming up this next month as well as a five Sunday month, we hope to see an improvement in our offering receipts. The fact that we have been paying out more each month than we are receiving in offerings is a major concern as it requires us to transfer monies from our investment account to meet these shortfalls. We will continue to monitor this situation and discuss possible remedies. If you are interested in on-line giving, please contact Kathy Lang and she can get you set up. If you are unable to attend our Sunday morning service, offerings can be mailed to the church or to my home address of 13523 Iris Ave., NW, Mogadore, OH 44260.

Barry Rudy, Treasurer

UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH & CIRCLES

All women are invited into the fellowship of the United Women in Faith. Our focus has always been mission driven with particular emphasis on women and children. The Mogadore unit of UWF meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM unless otherwise specified. All women in the Mogadore unit by long tradition are invited to attend a monthly circle meeting. We have two circles: Naomi, which meets the third Monday at 6:00 PM in members homes and/or Fellowship Hall. Rebecca Circle meets the second Wednesday at 6:30 PM in members homes.

For March, the UWF meeting will present the Call to Prayer and Self Denial Service on March 26th.

Naomi Circle will meet March 18th at the home of Cindy Shaffer.

Rebecca Circle will meet March 13th at the home of Carol Mencer. .

Lent and Eastertide at MUMC

Lenten Bible Study: The Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

Palm Sunday **March 24** Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday **March 28** Worship at 7 p.m.
A Celebration of Jesus' Faithful Love

Good Friday **March 29** At the Cross with Christ
Our sanctuary will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for prayer.
All are invited to sign up for 30 minutes "at the cross" or you may come to the church as the Spirit moves you.

Easter Sunday **March 31** He Is Risen !
Breakfast and Children's Treats at 9 a.m.
Festive Worship 10:30 a.m.

March Birthdays

March 3	Vi Carpenter
March 3	Anne Westfall
March 3	Michael Soles
March 8	Riley Straight
March 12	Steve Vargo
March 13	Cheryl Rinehart
March 23	Brenda Heminger
March 23	Judy Daniels
March 24	Nerine Gasaway
March 24	Carol Groh
March 26	Roger Stefan
March 29	Jocelyn McInturff

March Anniversaries

March 9	Larry & Sharon Fitting
March 14	Art & Carol Stockett
March 17	Richard & Connie Heldenfels
March 31	Steve & Sue Vargo

Lenten Bible Study

All are welcome to Wednesday Morning Bible study. We meet at 10:30 in Fellowship Hall. This Lent we are looking at Jesus' Passion, Death, and Resurrection in the Gospel of Matthew. We learn from each other as we explore what the sacred text meant at the time it was written and what it means for us today in our discipleship journey. If you can read the chapters ahead of time and come with questions and observations that would be great.

Lent Week 1. Chapter 21

Special look at the procession into Jerusalem and the Temple table turning.

Week 2 Chapters 22-23

Week 3. Chapters 24-25

Week 4. Chapter 26

Week 5. Chapter 27

Study questions can be provided if you find that helpful! I look forward to learning with you!

Rev Pam

There are many ways you can lend a hand here at MUMC without officially being on a committee. Among the ways are:

- Greeting ion Sunday morning
- Helping the Altar Guild prepare Communion
- Assisting the Trustee Committee with various tasks
- Serving as a worship leader
- Providing special music on Sunday morning
- Helping with set-up and clean-up for special events.
- Helping in the office.

Contact the church office (330) 628-1232 or email at mogadoreumc@att.net if you are interested or need more information



March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Third Sunday in Lent Communion	4	5	6 10:30 a.m. Bible Study	7	8	9
10 Fourth Sunday in Lent Daylight Savings Time begins	11	12	13 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Rebecca	14	15 7:30 a.m. Meet at the church to carpool to Open M	16
17 Fifth Sunday in Lent	18 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6 p.m. Naomi Circle	19	20 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Portage Patchers	21	22	23
24 Palm Sunday	25	26 6:30 p.m. UWF Call to Prayer & Self-Denial	27 10:30 a.m. Bible Study	28 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service	29 Good Friday 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sanctuary open for prayer	30
31 Easter Sunday 9 a.m. Breakfast 10:30 a.m. Worship						



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

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.

Mogadore United Methodist Church
3828 Mogadore Road, Mogadore, OH 44260
(330) 628-1232 Email: mogadoreumc@att.net
Website: www.mogadoreumc.org
Find us on FaceBook!
Church Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays