



The Redeemer Review

Proclaiming Christ into the 21st Century

Volume 2

February, 2018

Pastor's Corner



Preparing for Lent

Everything seems to be early this year. **February 14** marks the beginning of Lent with an Ash Wednesday service at 7:30 p.m. We will gather in the chancel area and have a simple worship liturgy to remind us of our Lenten journey.

I read that Christian couples might celebrate Valentine's Day with a smudge of ash on their foreheads. Growing up in a Methodist family, Ash Wednesday was not part of my church tradition and so I was curious at this act of repentance at an early age.

We read the Bible and hear the stories of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness. My understanding of "Ash Wednesday" evolved and I have a greater appreciation of the symbolic meaning of "Ashes" as a sign of our humanity. We will use the dried up Palm leaves from last year.



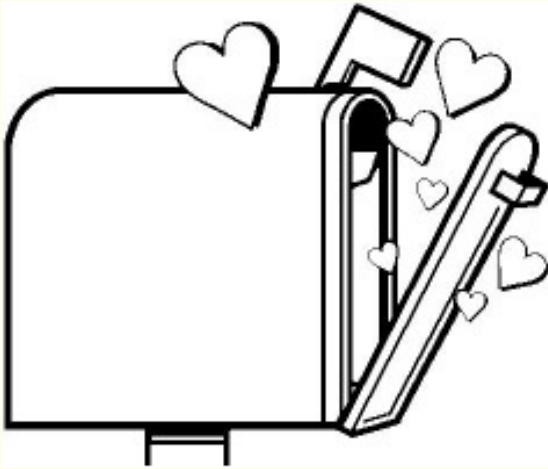
And what about Easter 2018. It falls on **April 1**, also known as April Fools Day. I don't know much about the history of April Fools but in many countries this has become a cultural icon with different nuances.

In the Bible, Paul wrote that "We are fools for Christ sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong." (I Corinthians 4:10)

For God so loved the world...according to John. This love is real in flesh and blood. In Christ we are worthy individuals, and that means in all walks of life, this relationship is nourished by the spirit.

The Psalmist offered these words: "Fools say in their hearts, *"There is no God. God looks down from heaven on humankind to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God."*

(cont on pg 2)



Happy Valentine Day

Redeemer Review

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Our Redeemer's

United Methodist Church

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9:00 and 10:30 am

Pastor:

Rev. Romir R. Esguerra

Church Secretary:

Donna Echtner

Director of Youth Ministries:

Marianne Rogenski

Editor:

Jerry Mc Daniel

(cont from pg 1)

Do you recall saying this little rhyme? "Here is the church. Here is the steeple. Open the Doors and see all the people." I invite you to think about the church as the body of Christ.

All of us play a vital role in offering Christ. On **February 17**, there is a Laity Convocation in Sycamore, Illinois (DeKalb) and this will be the theme for the day. You can sign up to join. There is no cost to you, only your presence.

As we move to another season—Lent—it is a journey of grace. I surely need that infusion of grace daily after all the rhetoric of rancor these past few weeks.

Jesus invites us to seek the spirit filled life. It means that what we do and say is a reflection of God who loves with peace and justice. When the spirit is in our midst, this same spirit transforms. The rest is up to God.

Rev. Romir R. Esguerra



February 14, 7:30 p.m.

Twenty Fifth Annual Meals For Millions Lenten Program

Meals for Millions is a mission project for the United Methodist Men, sponsored by the Society of St. Andrew. UMM has provided literally millions of meals of potatoes and other food to the hungry through fund raising activities.

The funds are used to salvage and transport food (especially potatoes), that is perfectly good to eat but which is not suitable for use by processing plants due to size or shape.

All members and friends of *Our Redeemer's* are invited to join the Society of St Andrew in a program of spiritual reflection and action to fight hunger during Lent. During last year's Lenten season. *Our Redeemer's* raised \$650.00. Since 1994 *Our Redeemer's* has raised over \$28,000.

This year's Lenten devotion entitled "Walking in Newness of Life" can help you grow spiritually and provide an opportunity to feed the hungry. Money saved from "giving up something" during Lent will go to the Society of St. Andrew to provide food for the hungry.

The Lenten devotion program will begin Ash Wednesday, February 14 and will conclude with a Good Friday Fast on March 30.

Please sign up in the Narthex beginning Sunday, January 28.



All women of *Our Redeemer's* (and their friends) are invited to our 3rd annual women's retreat at Wesley Woods in Williams Bay, WI. The dates will be Friday, April 27 and Saturday, April 28.

Watch for further details and sign-ups starting in February. Be sure to mark your calendars now to save the dates!

See **Pam Miller** with any questions.



Super Bowl Spaghetti Dinner
Feb 4, 10:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

All members and friends are invited to enjoy the UMM Super Bowl spaghetti and meatball dinner starting Feb 4 at 10:45 a.m.

Spaghetti Dinner Preparation
At The Parsonage
Feb 3, 8:00 a.m.

Feb 3 at 8:00 a.m. the men of UMM will be cooking world famous meatballs for our Super Bowl Sunday Spaghetti Dinner.

The men are invited to come Feb 4 starting at 9:00 a.m. to help serve.



by Marianne Rogenski

Education News:

Happy 2018 everyone!

Mark your calendars for the Easter Egg Hunt which will be on April 1!

All candy donations would be appreciated—please drop them off in the church office by March 25.

Youth News:

February

- 4 NO YOUTH GROUP
- 11 Youth group at ORUMC 5:30-7:30pm
- 18 Youth group at ORUMC 5:30-7:30pm
- 23-24 30 Hour Famine
- 25 Famine Sunday Both services
NO YOUTH GROUP

March

- 4 Youth group at ORUMC 5:30-7:30pm
- 11 Youth group at ORUMC 5:30-7:30pm
- 18 Youth group at ORUMC 5:30-7:30pm
- 25 NO YOUTH GROUP

The big event in February is World Vision's 30 Hour Famine. This is an amazing experience for youth in 7th-12th grades. The youth go on a juice and water fast for 30 hours.

They ask sponsors for donations which all benefit World Vision. February 23-24 they come together at ORUMC for games, Bible study, learning about poverty in the world and our community, and a service project.

If you are interested please get a consent form from Marianne. This is a great event to invite your friends to!

If you are an adult and would like to help with the event, please see the sign up in the narthex beginning on February 4.

Appalachia Service Project News:

We had a meeting in January but there is still room on the team! If you are interested in going to Kentucky with us for this mission trip please see Marianne ASAP. The trip dates are June 9-16.



- 3 **Karen Greenwalt**
- 4 **Collin Walters**
- 9 **Zander Maher**
- 21 **Caitlin Wilkes**
- 24 **Justin Edwards**

United Methodist Women

It's February and Love is in the air (or maybe that's snow) but Spring isn't far behind. *Our Redeemer's* United Methodist Women are looking forward to their first Quarterly Meeting of 2018 on Tuesday, March 6 @ 6:30 p.m. in the Wesley Room at Church.

Make sure that you look at the 2018 Calendar of Events, so that you can be part of the Fun, Fellowship and Friendship that each event provides.

TUESDAY, MARCH 6 @ 6:30 p.m.-
Spring Potluck and Business Meeting @ church. Program: "Delighting Daily in the Word"

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, APRIL 27 & 28- UMW Retreat at Wesley Woods in Williams Bay, Wisconsin

THURSDAY, MAY 10 @ 1:30 p.m.
Matinee- *Jesus Christ Superstar* @ Lyric Opera/ Contact: Julie Kuhn to order tickets by February 18.

TUESDAY, JUNE 5 @ 6:30 p.m.-
Annual Salad Supper and Business Meeting

TUESDAY, SEPT. 4 @ 6:30 p.m.-
Fall Potluck and Business Meeting

TUESDAY, DEC. 4 @ 6:30 p.m.-
Holiday Potluck and Business Meeting

NOTE: Other meeting topics include: "Encouraging Each Other" and "How to Live a Full...not Frantic Life"



February Community Crisis Center

by Sally Donaldson

Dear Church Family,

The Crisis Center could use the following items for women and children: (New) sweatsuits, pajamas, slippers, shampoo, hair brushes, combs, Blistex and chap-stick.

For women, men and children: (gently used or new) coats, hats, gloves and mittens

Shelter needs: powdered laundry detergent (HE formula), fabric softener sheets, dishwashing liquid, dishwasher powder/liquid, bleach, cleanser and SOS pads.

Toiletries: disposable shavers, antiperspirant/deodorant for women and men, hand and body lotion

Food and Snacks: All non-perishable canned and boxed goods, soups, pasta/ sauces, Ravioli/Spaghetti's, chili, sloppy joe mix, mac and cheese

Baby Needs: formula, baby bottles, diapers and wipes

Please place your donations in the CCC bins located in the closet left of the Information Desk, located in the Narthex.

Thank you so much for your wonderful donations and continued support.



Personal Notes



Please Save

Some throw-away stuff can be used:
Any hard plastic lid - such as water bottle, ketchup, mayo, etc. lids.
Metal can pull-tabs.

Plastic lids can be melted and used to make benches for the handicapped. St. Paul's church in Elgin is collecting lids.

Metal pull-tabs can raise money. United Commercial Travelers Elgin Council 412 is collecting tabs to raise money to pay for kidney dialysis at Hines VA Hospital.



Please deposit lids and tabs in the two Folgers coffee containers in the narthex.



The congregation extends deepest sympathy to **Debbie Hernandez** and her family on the death of her father.

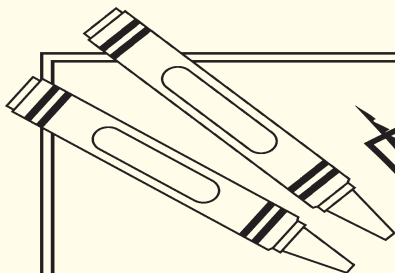
2018 Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2018 are available for pickup in the narthex for those who have envelope assignments. Envelopes are labelled and sorted alphabetically.

If you do not have envelopes and would like to use them, please call Donna in the church office (847) 882-6116.

Christmas Cards

There were still a few Christmas cards in the church "mail box" in the narthex. Please check to see if you are missing one.



PUZZLE

A NEW COMMANDMENT

In John 13:34, Jesus offers important instructions for his followers.

Directions: Figure out the pattern in each vertical line of letters. Then add the next letter in the sequence to the blank underneath, completing John 13:14, NIV.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCD...

F	L	S	Y	F	K	Y	X	E	I	Q	B	V	O	O	J	F
H	M	T	A	I	L	A	Y	H	K	R	D	Y	P	S	M	G
J	N	U	C	L	M	C	Z	K	M	S	F	B	Q	W	P	H
“	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

E	X	M	B	C	L	M	B	U	V	F	R	P	L	V	F	R
F	Y	P	C	F	M	P	C	X	W	I	S	Q	M	W	I	S
G	Z	S	D	I	N	S	D	A	X	L	T	R	N	X	L	T
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A	R	J	Q	C	C	S	B	F	K	Y	X	H	L	Q	B	Y	I
E	S	M	R	F	G	T	C	I	L	A	Y	J	M	R	D	A	L
I	T	P	S	I	K	U	D	L	M	C	Z	L	N	S	F	C	O
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JOHN 13:34, NIV

Answer: "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34, NIV

Our Redeemer's United Methodist Church

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