

March 2025 Newsletter

Seminary United Methodist Church

285 North Seminary Street, Roanoke, IN 46783

T: 260-672-3167. Email seminaryumc46783@gmail.com



**Seminary
Church**

a United Methodist Community



Sermon Series: Steadfast Love

March 5	Sustain In Me	Psalm 51:1-17
March 9	Rescue Me	Luke 4:1-13
March 16	Conceal Me	Luke 13: 31-35
March 23	My Soul Clings	Luke 13:1-9
March 30	Steadfast Love	Luke 15:1-3a, 11b-32

During the season of Lent we will read and contemplate stories from Jesus ministry. As we journey toward the cross, we will wrestle with our own mortality, and the grace God offers us through Jesus.

Passionate Worship

Upcoming Events

- Mar. 2-** Financial Peace 6:30pm
- Mar. 5-** Ash Wednesday
- Mar. 5-** The Grand Sweep 6:30pm
- Mar. 6-** The Grand Sweep 10:00am
- Mar. 7 -** Family Game Night 5:30-7:30pm
- Mar. 9-** Financial Peace 6:30pm
- Mar. 11-** Crafty Corner 10am-2pm
- Mar. 12 -**The Grand Sweep 6:30pm
- Mar. 13 -**The Grand Sweep 10:00am
- Mar. 16-** Financial Peace 6:30pm
- Mar. 19-** The Grand Sweep 6:30pm
- Mar. 20-** The Grand Sweep 10:00am
- Mar. 23-** Financial Peace 6:30pm
- Mar. 24-**Leadership Council 6:30pm
- Mar. 25-** Crafty Corner 10am-2pm
- Mar. 26-** The Grand Sweep 6:30pm
- Mar. 27-** The Grand Sweep 10:00am

The Season of Lent

Lent, the 40-day season leading up to Easter, is a sacred time in the Christian calendar dedicated to reflection, repentance, and renewal. Traditionally, many Christians observe Lent through fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. While giving something up, such as sweets or social media, is a common Lenten practice, another powerful way to engage with this season is by taking on a new spiritual discipline.

Embracing a new discipline during Lent can deepen one's faith and relationship with God. This might include committing to daily Scripture reading, setting aside extra time for prayer, or engaging in acts of service. One particularly enriching practice is Lectio Divina, a meditative way of reading Scripture that allows God's Word to speak personally to the heart. Others might choose to keep a gratitude journal, intentionally recognizing God's blessings each day.

Another meaningful discipline is practicing silence and solitude. In today's fast-paced world, moments of stillness can be rare, yet they provide a sacred space to listen for God's voice. Setting aside time each day to be still before God fosters spiritual awareness and inner peace.

Service and acts of kindness are also powerful Lenten disciplines. Volunteering, reaching out to someone in need, or making a commitment to speak words of encouragement can be transformative, not just for others but for one's own spiritual growth.

Lent is an opportunity for renewal, and taking on a new spiritual discipline can make the journey even more meaningful. By drawing closer to God through prayer, Scripture, service, or stillness, believers prepare their hearts to fully embrace the joy of Easter. What new practice might God be calling you to this Lent?



Birthdays

March 1 – Faith Moyer
March 19 – Alicia Swaidner
March 25 – Adalynn Swaidner
March 25 - Lynn Swaidner
March 26 - Kole Kreider
March 27 – Tara Eisenhut-Whitman
March 28 – Kaylen Kreider
March 29 - Shane Carroll
March 30 - Steve Eisenhut
March 30 - Jenny Gross

Anniversaries

March 2 – Travis & Ashley
Doster
March 18 – Mike & Melissa
Swaidner



Intentional Faith Development

Growing Young

Seminary Church is pleased to partner with the Fuller Youth Institute's (FYI) Growing Young project, which is a research-based initiative to help churches engage and retain young people. On February 10th & 11th Pastor Ashley attended the first Summit and gained insight into how Seminary can strengthen our relationships with young people in our church and community.

Here are 6 core commitments we can make to help young people discover and love our church.

Unlock keychain leadership: Instead of centralizing authority, empower others—especially young people.

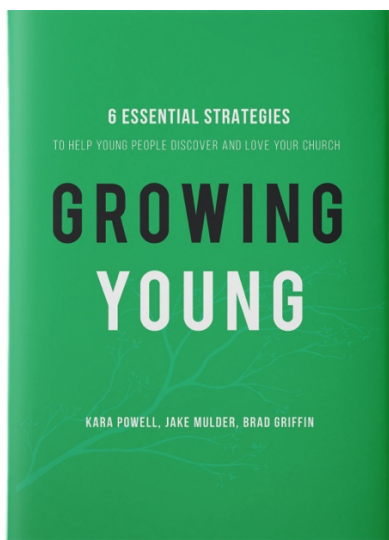
Empathize with today's young people: Instead of judging or criticizing, step into the shoes of this generation.

Take Jesus' message seriously: Instead of asserting formulaic gospel claims, welcome young people into a Jesus-centered way of life.

Fuel a warm community: Instead of focusing on cool worship or programs, aim for warm peer and intergenerational friendships.

Prioritize young people (and families) everywhere: Instead of giving lip service to how much young people matter, look for creative ways to tangibly support, resource, and involve them in all facets of your congregation.

Be the best neighbors: Instead of condemning the world outside your walls, enable young people to neighbor well locally and globally.



Our team will work together to identify ways we can live out these commitments and strengthen our relationships. If you would like to read the book, Growing Young, which explains the research and strategies we will utilize in our work, you may pick one up in the church office.

You will also be asked to participate in a survey in the future, so keep an eye out for that in a couple of months.

Blessings,

Pastor Ashley

Risk Taking Mission & Service

Roanoke Food Pantry

Help restock the shelves of the Food Pantry. Items needed include:

spaghetti/spaghetti sauce
soup
snack bars
chips/salsa

toilet paper
soap
dish soap
single serve items

canned fruit
condiments
canned meat

laundry detergent
shampoo
peanut butter/ jelly

Monetary donations are always welcomed!

Thank you for your support in keeping the Roanoke Food Pantry available to the needy in our community.

Join Us at Roanoke Elementary for

JAM
Jesus And Me

Tuesdays 3:45-5:00PM

Seminary Church has an opportunity to bring Jesus And Me (JAM) to the schools on Tuesdays in March, from 3:45 PM to 5:00 PM. We are looking for adults willing to lead 15-minute group activities, bring snacks, help with attendance, and sing songs. If you would like to help please contact Jenny Gross at 260-519-3241.

To work with the students, please make sure you have a criminal history check on file with the church. Contact the church office if you have not done this or are not sure if you have.

Extravagant Generosity

College Care Packages

Help us show our college students some love! We are collecting the following items and will package them together on

March 23rd

after worship

Microwave Pop Corn	Nabs Crackers
Microwave cups of	Cookies
Mac&Cheese	Individual drink mixes
Microwave Cups of	kcups of coffee or hot
Soup & Ramen	coco
Highlighters	tea
Post-it Tabs	instant oatmeal
Candy	pop tarts
Gum	



Thank You!

Help us show our college students some love!!
Our current college students from Seminary Church are:

Grace Gross
Jeff Gross
Taylor Vctor

If we've missed someone, please let the church office know!

If you would like to include a note of encouragement, letting them know we are thinking of and praying for them and can't wait to see them when they come home, please do!

Notes and donations can be dropped off in the basket at the back of the sanctuary.

Radical Hospitality

Board Games

Free Pizza

Cards

Fun

Snacks

Last Family Game Night



Friday, March 7
5:30-7:30PM

Children must be accompanied with an adult!



Where: Seminary Church
285 Seminary Street
Roanoke, IN 46783

Questions? Call Church Office at 260-672-3167

Ash Wednesday Service

March 5, 2025

7:00pm



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Roanoke, IN



Chili Cook Off

On Sunday February 2nd, Seminary hosted a Chili Cook-Off. Here are our winners:

1st Place- Keith Heartly

2nd Place- Ron Hathaway

3rd Place- George White

Congratulations guys! Thank you to everyone who contributed!! We had a wonderful time!

MARCH 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Worship 10 AM Communion		JAM 3:45 PM Roanoke School	The Grand Sweep 6:30 PM	The Grand Sweep 10:00 AM		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Worship 10 AM		Crafty Corner JAM 3:45 PM Roanoke School	The Grand Sweep 6:30 PM	The Grand Sweep 10:00 AM		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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30	31					
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