



Mount Carmel Message

*Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church
1893-2026
Celebrating 133 years serving the Lord*

March 2026
Volume 18 Issue 10

The Work of God through Mt. Carmel UMC is done by the efforts of 109+ persons and the Light of Christ through the Holy Spirit. Join this oneness in Christ.

Dear Church Family,

Last week, we stepped into the wilderness with Jesus — those forty days in the desert that prepared Him for everything that would follow. Lent invites us into that same kind of reflection. It's a season to slow down, to listen more closely, and to allow God to shape us beneath the surface.

This week, we turn to Jesus' late-night conversation with Nicodemus.

Nicodemus was thoughtful, faithful, and sincere — yet he sensed there was something more. He came to Jesus with questions, and Jesus spoke to him about being “born again,” about new life that comes not through effort or achievement, but through the Spirit.

That feels especially fitting during Lent.

The wilderness strips things away—conversations in the dark invite honesty. And somewhere in that space, Jesus speaks about transformation — about a life made new from the inside out.

As we continue through these weeks, moving toward Palm Sunday at the end of March and anticipating Easter in early April, we're reminded that resurrection doesn't come out of nowhere. It grows from hearts that have been prepared. It rises from lives that have been made new.

My prayer for us at Mt. Carmel is that this Lenten season won't just be something we observe on the calendar, but something we experience personally. That like Nicodemus, we would come with our questions. That like Jesus in the wilderness, we would trust God in the quiet places. And that when Easter morning arrives, we will recognize the new life God has already begun in us.

I'm grateful to be walking this road with you. ~Pastor Dan

Get Up & Give

is an annual donation drive to collect much-needed items for those in the care of Methodist Family Health. Many of the Arkansans served are in the foster care system or struggle to afford necessities. Support from donations helps provide supplies that allow our clients to focus on healing after experiencing abandonment, abuse, and neglect or struggling with psychiatric, behavioral and emotional issues.

Ingathering 2026

~March Mission Project~



Methodist Family Health

We are collecting the following items each Sunday in Lent...

Week 1 – shampoo / conditioner (Suave only)

Week 2 – body wash / solid deodorant (Suave only)

Week 3 – toothbrush / Toothpaste

Week 4 – crew socks -all sizes

Week 5 – activity & coloring books all ages

Week 6 – unscented lotion (Suave only)

Save the date...

May 31st @

10:30am

13th Annual

Church Picnic



Craighead Forest

We will have Sunday Morning Worship and Lunch at the Park.

SPRING IS IN THE AIR!



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 Jonesboro, AR 72404
www.mtcarmelmethodist.com
 "Mount Carmel United Methodist Church" on Facebook
Danny Rainwater
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Thought for the Month...

At the outset
 of any journey,
 seek divine wisdom.

"In his heart a man plans
 his course, but the Lord
 determines his steps."

Proverbs 16:9

Blessing Box Items Needed:



bottled water
 peanut butter crackers
 granola bars / beef jerky
 pop top canned meat
 apples / oranges / bananas



- 11th Tatum Stevens
- 23rd Wanda Pierce
- 23rd Gary Vanderbilt
- 26th Russell Harral
- 31st Amy Simpson

Happy Anniversary to...

- 22nd Gerald & Barbara Brown
- 27th Ben & Jo Ridenour

In our Thoughts and Prayers...

"Wait for the Lord; be strong and let
 your heart take courage; wait for
 the Lord." Psalm 27:14

- Ben & Jo
- Roberta
- Dollie
- Ruth Ann
- Larry
- Berkley
- Raye



Jacob Garland's family
 Craig & Lisa Lee Bible Ministry
 Church members at home
 Our Church & Community
 Our Country & Leaders & Military

If you have someone you
 want a prayer card sent to,
 contact Ms. Pat.



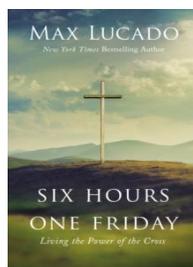
Pretzel Prayer History

Our modern-day pretzel has an interesting history. It has been told that one day around the year 610, a monk who was busy baking the unleavened bread that would be used during Lent decided to make a treat for the children who had learned to recite their prayers. Christians in those days did not pray by bowing their heads and folding their hands. At that time they prayed by folding their hands across their chests with each hand touching the opposite shoulder. This clever monk formed the dough, so the story goes, so that one "hand" was each touching the opposite "shoulder" in prayer. He gave his creation the name *pretiola*, which in Latin means "little reward." They were the rewards for the children who learned their prayers. So, say your prayers and have a pretzel snack today.

Adapted from ReadyClickGrow March, 2006

Have You Read...

Six Hours One Friday
 by Max Lucado



In Six Hours One Friday, Max Lucado delves into the meaning of Jesus' last hours on the cross. Through his death, your life has purpose and meaning. You are forgiven and loved by a Savior who died for you. And an empty tomb proclaims that death does not have the final word. "Peace where there should be pain. Confidence in the midst of crisis. Hope defying despair. Does death have the last word? I can see Jesus wink as he gives the answer, Not on your life."

Check it out of the Church Library

What is



Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, meaning "lengthen" and refers to the lengthening days of spring. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry. Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter." On each Lord's Day in Lent, while Lenten fasts continue, the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.

Umc.org / Ask the UMC

Dear Lord, Make Mt. Carmel a light for the world. A Church built on a hill that cannot be hidden. Let our light shine before others, that they may see our good deeds and glorify You, our Father in Heaven. Amen

Worship Opportunities at Mt. Carmel UMC

If you are unable to join us in person, you can worship with us live on our "Mount Carmel Methodist" Facebook page.

Sunday, March 1 "Communion Sunday"

- 8:30 am – Fellowship Breakfast
- 9:30 am – Morning Worship
- 10:30 am – Sunday School

Sunday, March 8

- 9:30 am – Morning Worship
- 10:30 am – Sunday School



Sunday, March 15

- 8:30 am – Board Meeting
- 9:30 am – Morning Worship
- 10:30 am – Sunday School

Sunday, March 22 "Quarters for Heifer"

- 9:30 am – Morning Worship
- 10:30 am – Sunday School

Sunday, March 29 "Palm Sunday"

- 9:30 am – Morning Worship
- 10:30 am – Sunday School



Bible Readings



- 1st John 3:1-17
- 8th John 4:5-42
- 15th John 9:1-41
- 22nd John 11:1-45
- 29th Matt. 26:14-27

For additions to the April Newsletter, send info to mtcarmelmethodist1893@gmail.com by March 22.