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March 2024 | Vol.2/No.3



### **The Last are First**

As we read from Mark's gospel this Lent, we hear Jesus consistently teaching of God's kingdom way, a better way—a way where the great serve others, the rich give to others, those with power have compassion and offer hospitality to those without, authority comes from God (not human plans or institutions), the last are first, losing your life leads to finding it, we pray tribute to God in whose image we are made, and we are to love God with all we are and neighbors as ourselves.

## God's Upside Down Kingdom

During Lent we have been trying to understand, along with the disciples, what it would really be like to live in the way of Jesus instead of the way of the world. We've been singing *My kingdom is not of this world*. I find the repetitive singing of these simple refrains stills my mind and helps me pay attention, to really hear the scripture. Maybe in the repetition our minds stop wandering for a moment and God can speak in the quiet of our hearts. Maybe we can begin to imagine what it would be like if the kingdom of God came here and turned everything upside down.

## Journey with Jesus

Lent gives us an opportunity to slow down, journey with Jesus toward Jerusalem, and try to grasp the wideness of God's mercy. During Lent, and especially during Holy Week, we reenact the great drama of God's love for us in the teaching, example, life, and death of Jesus. I hope you will allow the prayers, songs, liturgy, and stories of our Lenten worship services wash over you and bring you with Jesus to the cross. I especially hope you will attend our Holy Week worship services (see below for details about these services). Easter Sunday is so much more meaningful when you have taken part in Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Holy Saturday services. May you be receptive to God's mercy and presence as we journey toward the cross.

- Pastor Shamaine



## Lent: Living Right Side Up in God's Upside Down Kingdom

During Lent we will be reading texts where Jesus draws a very different picture of how we are meant to live. God's kingdom is upside down from the way we live... or maybe the Kingdom of God is "upside up" and we are the ones living upside down. As Jesus teaches about what it means to be a disciple, he calls his followers to live in humility—serve, become like a child, be last, give away worldly possessions, love God, care for others, recognize him, and be ready for the coming kingdom. These are not the values of the world, but they are what is most important in God's realm. In our Lent and Holy Week service, we will journey with Jesus and learn the ways of his **Upside Down Kingdom**.

### Lent WOW: "Why Lent?"

We will share Wednesdays evenings in Lent with our brothers and sisters from Windsor United Methodist Church. Enjoy a simple supper, learn, and practice the faith together.

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### Mark your Calendars for Our Lent Services

- **Lent WOW** with WUMC, 5:30 Dinner, 6:00-6:45 Class, 7:00 Choir
  - 3/6 WUMC -- Why Anointing?
  - (3/13 Spring Break) -- NO WOW
  - 3/20 WPC -- Why Resurrection?
- **Palm Sunday**
  - March 24 10:30 am Worship Service
- **Maundy Thursday Dinner and Worship**
  - March 28, 6:00 pm
- **Holy Saturday Vespers**
  - March 30 7:00 pm
- **Easter-Resurrection Sunday**
  - March 31 10:30 am Worship Service

*Consider downloading the **Holy Week Services pdf** graphic below and print or email to share with friends, family, neighbors or co-workers. You may also pick up a printed invite at the church.*

[Holy Week Services pdf to download and share](#)



**What is Lent?**

WHAT IT MEANS TO  
FOLLOW JESUS

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# JOIN THE CONVERSATION



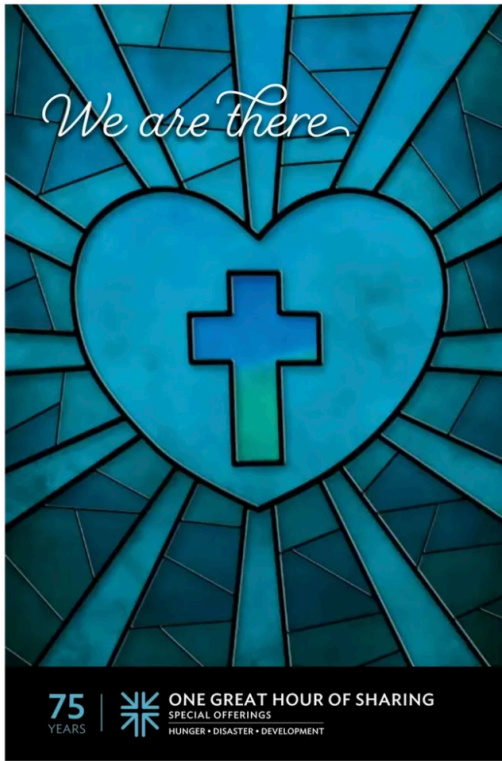
WINDSOR  
PRESBYTERIAN

During Lent join us on Facebook  
each week with ongoing  
conversations about what it means  
to follow Jesus to the cross.

## **Prepare for Sunday's Sermon**

Log on to Facebook on Fridays during Lent to join the conversation about what it means to follow Jesus in God's Upside Down Kingdom. Each week we will post the upcoming Sunday's worship scripture readings in Mark and Pastor Shamaine will ask questions for you to respond to. Bring your observations, questions, and wonderings about following Jesus to the cross and preparing yourself for Pastor Shamaine's sermon each Sunday.

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**One Great Hour of Sharing** is a yearly Special Offering of the Presbyterian Church USA mission outreach taken during the season of **Lent**. One Great Hour of Sharing supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People, working in different ways to serve our neighbors, individuals and communities around the world.

Take time to thoughtfully consider how you would like to contribute to One Great Hour of Sharing. Learn more [here](#) or click on the graphic to the left.

It's that time of year again! Making our sanctuary look even more beautiful by adding flowers is such an amazing thing to look forward to! If you would like to order flowers for our Easter service, please look in your bulletin this Sunday, or get in touch with Kaitlin Mogle for an order form. This year we will have the option of ordering **Easter Lilies, Rieger Begonias, Hyacinth, Hydrangeas, Daffodils, or Tulips** from Goode Greenhouse! I will need orders by March 19th in order to ensure that we get the flowers ordered and in the sanctuary for Easter Sunday.

Turn your order forms into Kaitlin, Beth M, or the offering plate. Payment is appreciated at the time of order. Include cash or check (write flowers in the memo line) or if it's easier, you can Venmo Kaitlin.

-Kaitlin Mogle



*Easter Flowers*  
ORDERS NEEDED BY MARCH 19TH

# March 2024 Calendar

Check out all that's happening at WPC in the month of March. Click on the calendar or [here](#) to see the most up-to-date information on our official website calendar. For more detailed event information click [here](#).

Windsor Presbyterian							Mar 2024 (Central Time - Chicago)	
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
25 9:15am - Sunday 10:30am - Worship 11:45am - Fellowship 5:30pm - OA Meeting	26	27 9:30am - Text Study	28 5:30pm - Lent WOW @ 7pm - Choir @ Ward	29 5:30pm - Budget &	1	2		
3 9:15am - Sunday 10:30am - Worship 11:45am - Fellowship 5:30pm - OA Meeting	4 10am - Read Across	5 9:30am - Text Study @ 10:30am - A Service of	6 5:30pm - Lent WOW @ 7pm - Choir @ Ward	7 11:15am - 12pm - CFUM Meal 4pm - Girls Rock 4pm - Parking Lot	8	9		
10 9:15am - Sunday 10:30am - Worship 11:45am - Fellowship 12:15pm - Session	11	12 9:30am - Text Study @	13	14 2:30pm - Prayer Circle 7pm - Girls Rock- We	15	16 10am - PW- 5:30pm - Guess Who's		
17 9:15am - Sunday 10am - Food Pantry 10:30am - Worship 11:45am - Fellowship	18	19 9:30am - Text Study	20 5:30pm - Lent WOW @ 7pm - Choir @ Ward	21 4pm - Girls Rock	22 5:45pm - GR!	23 9am - GR! Songwriting		
24 9:15am - Sunday 10:30am - Worship 11:45am - Fellowship 3pm - GR! Unplugged 5:30pm - OA Meeting	25	26 9:30am - Text Study	27 7pm - Choir @ Ward	28 6pm - Maundy	29	30 7pm - Holy Saturday		
31 9:15am - Sunday 10:30am - Worship 11:45am - Fellowship 5:30pm - OA Meeting	1	2 9:30am - Text Study	3 7pm - Choir @ Ward	4 11:15am - 12pm - CFUM Meal 4pm - Girls Rock	5	6		

## Calendar Highlights for March:

- Feb. 1 Communications Team 11:30am
- March 7 CFUM prep noon-3:30pm
- March 14 Prayer Circle 2:30pm
- March 16 Presbyterian Women 10:00am
- March 16 Guess Who's Coming for Dinner? Potluck 5:30pm



Meeting 3rd Saturdays at 10 am

### **New PW Study to Begin in March**

Our first meeting of the new PW year is fast approaching. March 16 to be exact. Our study this year is entitled "The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts". The introduction by the author states, "Comprising almost twenty-five percent of the New Testament, Luke-Acts includes a cornucopia of themes, stories, characters, geographic locations and audiences. I have been drawn to the inclusive nature of Luke's writings. He presents a radical, inclusive, and hope-filled message and highlights the universal scope of Jesus' message and the inclusivity of God's love."

The books have been ordered and will be distributed as soon as they arrive.

### **Baby Items Needed for Newborn Twins!**

We would like to kick off our new season with acts of our incredible generosity by providing baby items for Henry Jackson's daughter, Janelle and her newborn twins! Janelle has moved in with Henry and needs all the help we can provide. Nancy Snyder is heading up the effort to supply Janelle with baby necessities. Diapers, wipes, receiving blankets, onesies, bathing essentials, bedding, baby towels and washcloths, pacifiers.....the list goes on. Please bring your contributions to our March meeting.

### **PW Dates -- Mark Your Calendars**

For future reference, here are the PW dates for 2024: March 16, April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, and November 16. You can get them on your calendars now, so you're sure not to miss a meeting!





## **A Service of Witness to the Resurrection Celebrating the Life of Lucy Sanderson**

will be held at Belmont Village in Dallas, Texas on Tuesday March 5, 10:30am. Lucy left clear instructions that it should be a celebration and wanted a New Orleans style Jazz band to play. So it shall be. Shamaine will officiate, Lucy's granddaughter will sing, and a band will play her home. Funeral arrangements are being made through [Hughes Funeral Homes](#). If you are interested in traveling to the service, please contact Shamaine asap so we can coordinate transportation and lodging.

### **WPC Live-Stream Information**

Lucy's Celebration of Life Service will be live-streamed at Windsor Presbyterian Church in the sanctuary at 10:30am on Tuesday morning. Please join together

to watch and participate in the service of Lucy's Witness to the Resurrection.

[Read Lucy's Life Story](#)



## Wecome Carol!

The personnel committee is so happy to welcome Carol Heilman as Windsor's new secretary! She has a great work history as a church secretary and as a legal secretary. Celebrate with us this wonderful addition to our staff!

*My name is Carol Heilman and I am excited to meet you all and get settled into*

*my position as secretary at Windsor Presbyterian Church.*

*I live in Altoona in the house I was born in with my adult daughter, Helen. I have four adult stepchildren that I had the wonderful opportunity and experience to raise from the time they were very young. I am also the proud Oma of an even dozen beautiful grandchildren. I have an older brother and sister as well.*

*I have worked in the past as a legal secretary in several different offices and also for two Lutheran churches on the east side of Des Moines.*

*I like reading, counted cross stitch and greatly enjoy music, especially blues.*

*I look forward to the opportunity to serve you and Windsor Presbyterian!*

*--Carol*

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## **The Israel Palestine Delegation Solidarity with the Suffering**

Four members of the Presbytery of Des Moines were part of this delegation. If you would like to find out a little of what they experienced, you may read more at their blog:

<https://www.theipmn.org/>

Thank you for your prayers as they met, listened, worshiped, witnessed, and prayed with the Israelis and Palestinian people they are meeting and hear stories of those they cannot. We look forward to upcoming events where the members of our Presbytery who went will share their experiences.

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