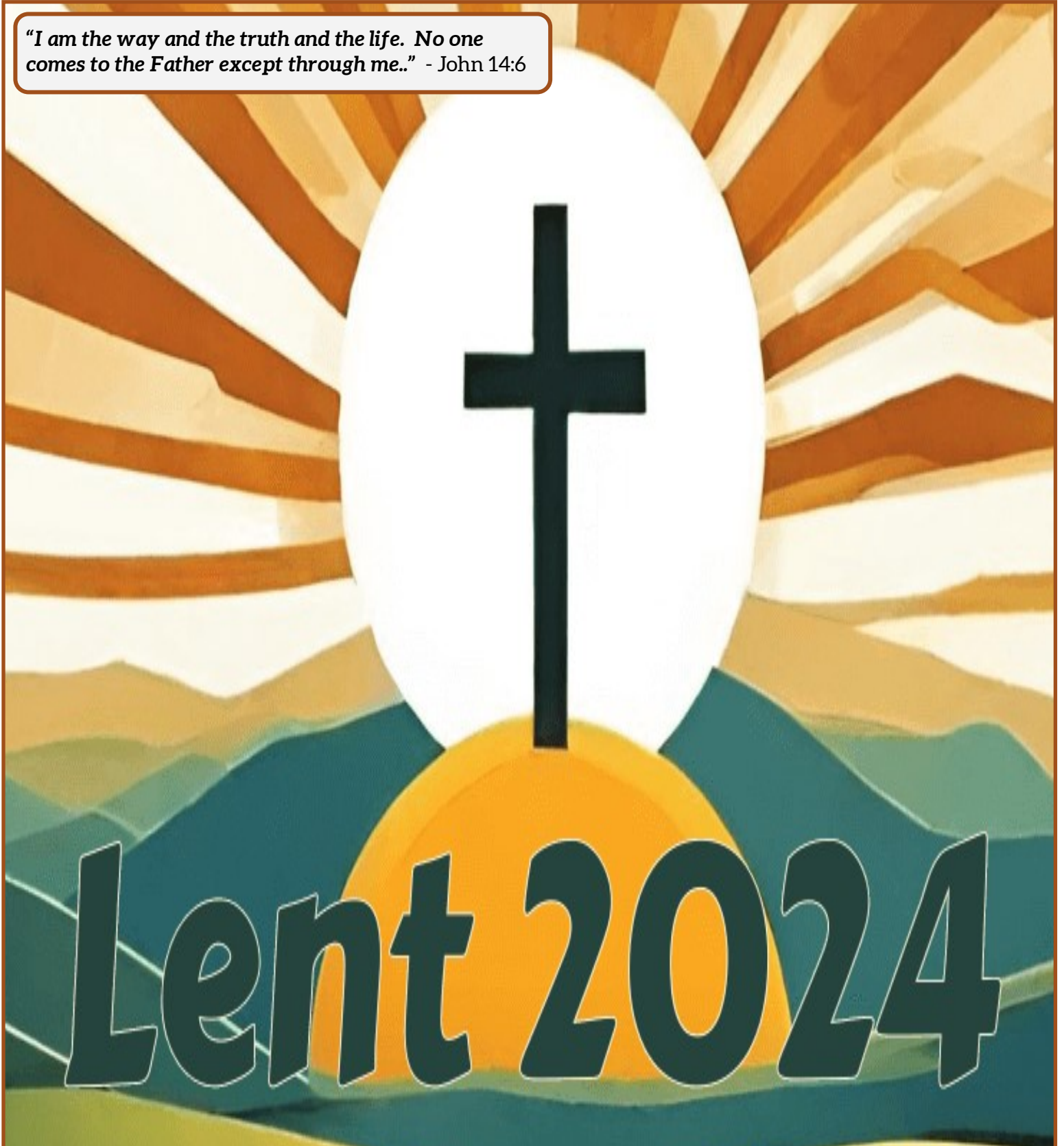


# *Montrose Messenger*

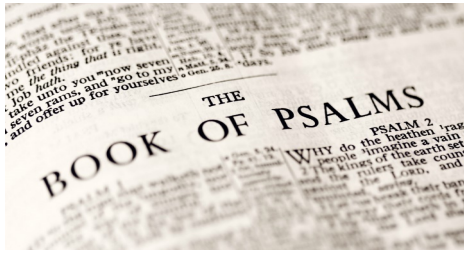
Newsletter for Montrose United Methodist Church

2024 March Volume 3

**"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.." - John 14:6**



## Pastor's Column



So, as we walk through the season of Lent, let us open our hearts to the beauty and power of the Psalms. Let us seek Jesus in the midst of our joys and sorrows, knowing that He is the fulfillment of every promise and the answer to every prayer. May the words of the Psalms resonate within us, leading us closer to the heart of God and the person of Jesus Christ.

Wishing you all abundant blessings,

Pastor Mark Schlasner  
Cell (763) 656-3490

*The Lord is my light and my Salvation  
- so why should I be afraid?  
The Lord is my fortress, protecting me  
from danger,  
- so why should I tremble?  
- Psalm 27:1*

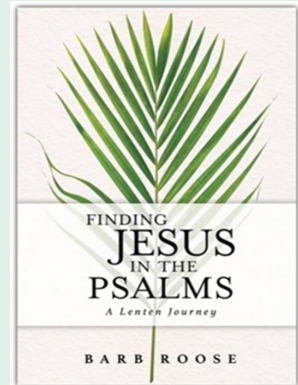
As we journey through the season of Lent, a time of reflection, repentance, and spiritual growth, we are invited to delve deeper into the richness of the Psalms. These timeless songs of praise, lament, and thanksgiving offer us a glimpse into the human experience and emotions, while also pointing us towards the ultimate source of comfort and hope – Jesus Christ.

In the Psalms, we see the foreshadowing of Jesus' life, ministry, and sacrificial love for humanity. Psalm 22 vividly depicts the suffering and crucifixion of Christ, while Psalm 23 reassures us of His presence as our Good Shepherd guiding and protecting us through life's valleys and shadows. By immersing ourselves in these poetic expressions of faith, we can connect more intimately with Jesus and His redemptive work on the cross.

Finding Jesus in the Psalms is not just about scholarly interpretation, but a personal and transformative experience. As we meditate on these ancient prayers and songs, we are reminded of the unchanging nature of God's love and faithfulness. In moments of doubt or despair, the Psalms offer us a language to express our deepest longings and a pathway to encounter the living presence of Jesus in our midst.



**Lenten Worship Theme:**  
***"Finding Jesus in the Psalms, A Lenten Journey"***  
Book by Barb Roose



**Sunday, March 3, 2024**  
**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**COMMUNION SUNDAY**  
Communion Steward: Carol Prestidge  
**Message:** *"Finding Jesus with Us in Our Hard Places"*  
**Scripture:** Psalm 16

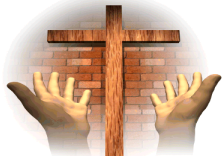
**Sunday, March 10, 2024**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**UMCOR SPECIAL GIVING SUNDAY**  
**Message:** *"Finding Jesus as Our Shepherd"*  
**Scripture:** Psalm 23

**Sunday, March 17, 2024**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**ST. PATRICK'S DAY**  
**Message:** *"Finding Jesus as Our Hope"*  
**Scripture:** Psalm 110

**Sunday, March 24, 2024**  
**PALM SUNDAY**  
**Message:** *"Finding Jesus as Our Strength"*  
**Scripture:** Psalm 69:1-3

**Thursday, March 28**  
**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
**6 pm Service**  
**Scripture:** Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

**Sunday, March 24, 2024**  
**EASTER SUNDAY**  
**Brunch 9:30 am - 10:15 am**  
**Message:** *"Finding Jesus as Our Savior"*  
**Scripture:** Psalm 22



## PRAYER PAGE

### Grieving with Families...

† **The Greg Valli Family.** Greg, Marilyn Tompkins son, passed away February 1st at 53 years old.

† **The Richard "Rick" Taft Family.** Rick, Lisa Taft's brother, passed away January 31st at 79 years old.

† **The Paul Elmstrand Family.** Burnsville Police Officer Elmstrand, age 27, killed in the line of duty February 18th.

† **The Matthew Ruge Family.** Burnsville Police Officer Ruge, age 27, killed in the line of duty February 18th.

† **The Adam Finseth Family.** Firefighter-Paramedic Finseth, age 40, killed in the line of duty February 18th.



### Our Friends at Home...

Gloria Adickes  
John Hylland



### Lifting in Our Prayers...

**Bill & Sandy, friends of Linda Marquette.** Bill had been home recovering from Dec. brain surgery. He had a seizure in February and was hospitalized. Two weeks later, Bill is able to stand and take a few steps, but has a long road to recovery.



**Paul Baker,** seeing an eye specialist for his cornea in April.

**Randy Segler,** hospitalized with numbness in his legs.

**Jacque Vanderlinde,** having knee surgery. *UPDATE:* Jacque is doing well and was at church March 3rd!

**David Goode,** recovering at home after surgery mid February.

**Angie Ferrell's family,** all sick over the weekend.

**The families of the 2 Burnsville Police Officers and 1 Paramedic, killed February 18th at a domestic abuse call.** Prayers for the Law Enforcement community and the community of Burnsville. Prayers too, for the 7 children that witnessed this traumatic incident.

**Ukraine, on the 2-year anniversary of the attack by Russia.** Prayers for families in crisis.

**Duane Brunkow, Jane Gessinger's dad,** having surgery for his bladder cancer. *UPDATE:* surgery went very well! No new cancer found and what cancer is there is healing itself!

**Patty Youman, Greg Youman's wife,** diagnosed with breast cancer, already starting chemo-therapy.

**Mercedes Scheie, Sherry Ovall's niece.** Mercedes hit a patch of ice and rolled her car. Car is totaled, she was able to walk away with just cuts and scratches. Her first car which she saved money to buy it.

### Blessings and Celebrations

**Ricki Malerich,** thankful for everyone's prayers - feeling good after her surgery.

**Brian Malerich's family in Michigan,** all recovered from the flu in time to celebrate Rebecca's birthday!

**Pastor Paul Baker,** enjoyed playing guitar at Annandale UMC with other guitarist and an accordion player in her 90's!

**Russ Johnson,** celebrating his 80th Birthday with family & friends!

**Stephen Hayes,** celebrating his 68th Birthday!

**Jessica Tousignant,** the benefit fundraiser had a great turn out! Her family, friends and the community all helping to make it a success!



*We celebrate  
the many special  
Birthdays in February!*

# March is Minnesota Food Share Month TIME TO PACK THE PEWS!



**March is Minnesota Food Share Month!**

**The Waverly Food Shelf is collecting  
NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS**

**NOW THROUGH APRIL 6th  
Bring a food item to church!**

To help fight hunger in Minnesota. Every dollar you give provides an incredible 7 meals through WCCA's programs and partners.

They are also accepting monetary donations, which you can go to [www.wccaweb.com](http://www.wccaweb.com)  
And click on "Food Shelf Donation" button

- OR -

Mail your check too:  
WCCA Food Shelf  
PO Box 74, Waverly, MN 55390

## UWF HANNAH CIRCLE



United  
Women  
in Faith

**Montrose UMC  
United Women in Faith  
Hannah Circle**

Meeting on the third Thursday  
of the month at 7 pm!

**Our next meeting is March 21st**

We share a devotional program, sometimes a craft or mission project, then move to the business portion of our meeting. We try to keep meetings at one-hour.

**Hannah Circle is sponsoring and serving at the  
FRESH START PROGRAM MEAL TRAIN**

**Mon., April 22nd 5:15 to 5:45 pm**

**At the WestPoint Church in Delano**

Serving breakfast for supper with French Toast bake,  
Egg Bake, Sausage, Fruit and Beverage.

We plan to arrive at 3 pm to cook & set-up buffet.

If you'd like to help, please contact us at:  
[montrosemmnw@gmail.com](mailto:montrosemmnw@gmail.com) or see Jacque or Betty.

## MUMC Announcements and Community Events!



**The Chancel Choir**  
will resume rehearsals starting  
**Wednesday, March 13th at 7 pm.**

We Thank Jewell "Ricki" Malerich and Sherry Oval for the beautiful duet they sang, and Ricki's accompaniment on ukelele.



**The Handbell Choir**  
Continues their rehearsals  
**Tuesday nights**  
at 7 pm.



The Youth Group will meet twice a month; one for the **Teen ALPHA lesson**, one for Mission or Fun Activity! Pastor Mark is looking at a youth Lenten series in April, Possibly on Wednesday nights. Stay tuned for details!

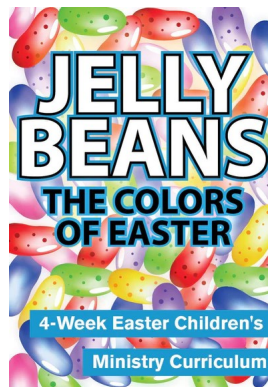
- ⇒ Next meeting is **Sunday, March 10th at 6 pm** in the Youth Room. For the Teen ALPHA lesson and Pizza!
- ⇒ Next Mission is to help serve Easter Brunch on **Sunday, March 31st at 9:30 am** during Fellowship.
- ⇒ April meeting may move to Wednesdays. We'll keep you posted!
- ⇒ Save the date **Saturday, April 20th - 12 pm** for our April Mission, going to Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack at Delano United Methodist Church. Meet at the church at 11:30 am to carpool there. We can decide whether to have lunch afterwards during our March 10th meeting.

**Your Youth Group Leaders**  
**Pastor Mark, Angie & Kim**

## SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

The Sunday School class finished their lesson on the "*Fruits of the Spirit*". They've enjoyed the puppet shows and have even helped perform some of the skits! They've done a great job!

Pictured right, Jack Marquette plays "pineapple ring toss." We missed getting pictures of the banana peel bullseye!



We will begin a new Easter curriculum starting Sunday, March 10th that carries us into Easter Sunday. This curriculum follows the same lesson plan of, using puppets & skits, snacks, crafts and games!

**JELLY BEANS** will use the colors of jelly beans to teach kids the four important parts of the Easter story.

**Our memory Verse for this series is:**

*"Greater love has no one than this:  
to lay down one's life for one's friends."*

- John 15:13

### **LESSONS:**

**White:** *White jelly beans remind us that Jesus lived a perfect life and set the example for how we should live.*

**Red:** *Red jelly beans remind us of God's love. He loved us so much that He died for us.*

**Black:** *Black jelly beans remind us of the dark tomb. Jesus had to die so that we could live forever with Him.*

**Yellow:** *Yellow jelly beans remind us of the sunrise on Easter morning, when Jesus came back to life! This is the good news that God wants us to share with everyone.*

We look forward to seeing all of our Sunday School students at this very important Lenten series!

Angie & Kim

## MUMC Announcements and Community Events!

### Fridays

**March 8th & 22nd**

**Celebrate Montrose  
Fish Fry Fundraiser**

**5 pm - 7 pm Montrose Comm. Center**

**All-U-Can-Eat \$18**

**Adults \$15**

**Kids \$10 (12 and under)**

Serving Fried fish, French fries, coleslaw, roll, and beverage.



### April 12th - After Lent & Easter

**Montrose Lion's Smelt Fry**

**4 pm - 7 pm Montrose Comm. Center**

(Watch for details to come mid-March)



*Join us for Easter Breakfast  
on Easter Sunday  
March 31st  
9:30 am to 10:15 am*

*French Toast Bakes, Egg Bakes,  
Sausage, Muffins, Fruit, Milk, Juice and Coffee.*

*~ FREE WILL OFFERING ~*

*Going towards Ministries at Montrose UMC  
Our Sunday School Class & Youth Group will help serve!*



*Please see the sign-up sheet  
in the Fellowship Hall if you'd like to  
bring/donate breakfast items.  
Save time for the annual family  
photo in front of the Easter Cross!*



Mobilepack April 18-20th, 2024  
at Delano United Methodist Church  
3rd Year Running  
Feeding another 100,000 children!  
Donate or Volunteer Today at:  
[give.fmssc.org/delanoumc](http://give.fmssc.org/delanoumc)

**Feed My Starving Children  
Mobile Pack  
Delano UMC (open 2 hour sessions)**

**Thu., Apr. 18th 6 pm**  
**Fri., Apr. 19th 10 am 1 pm 3:30 pm**  
**Sat., Apr. 20th 9:30 am 12 pm 3:30 pm**

The event will be taking place at the church.  
Fundraising is underway, and we need  
volunteers to come help us pack on those dates.

The shift schedule for volunteering and the link  
to give to help pay for the food is:  
<http://give.fmssc.org/delanoumc>  
or you can contact Pastor Chad and he can  
sign you up directly. (763) 972-3492.

**Montrose UMC - See sign-up sheet  
In Fellowship Hall on table.  
Sign-up ASAP or by Sun., March 31st!**

### EASTER PLANT DONATION FORM 2024 EASTER IS ON SUNDAY, MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup>

Hannah Circle will take delivery of the plants and arrange them for Easter Sunday Worship. Donated plants are yours to keep and take home after worship service. Please complete the form and place it on the offering plate with payment or give to Linda Marquette or Jacque Vanderlinde.

**Plant orders are DUE BY SUNDAY, MARCH 10<sup>TH</sup>.**

Easter Lily 5+ blooms	\$17.00	Qty _____	Total \$ _____
Begonia	\$15.00	Qty _____	Total \$ _____
Cyclamen	\$15.00	Qty _____	Total \$ _____
Mum	\$15.00	Qty _____	Total \$ _____
Hydrangea – Pink	\$30.00	Qty _____	Total \$ _____
Hydrangea -Blue	\$30.00	Qty _____	Total \$ _____
Peace lily plant	\$17.00	Qty _____	Total \$ _____
Donation towards Easter Cross		Amount \$ _____	
		Grand Total \$ _____	

Donation in memory of:

---

Donation in honor of:

---

Donated By:

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Remember that we have these Gift Cards on-hand for those last minute shopping or gift-giving needs, and those rebates support the church at the same time!

**Question? Please contact Angie Ferrell (763) 442-4876 or Kelly Rux (952) 221-8659.**

**MARCH ORDER DATES**  
**FRIDAY**  
**MARCH 8th & 22nd**



### Update from the Board of Trustees

We are very happy to announce that repairs from the water pipe break November 1st are almost complete! The Lindstrom Restoration contractors have completed all the drywall work, at the time of this writing, most of the painting is complete in the lower level, ceiling tiles are being installed March 6th-8th, woodwork (sanctuary) is expected to be completed by March 8th, carpeting in the sanctuary and all lower level (except the church office) is scheduled for March 11th or 12th.

Painting in the sanctuary is only the west wall, where the damage occurred. We should have extra paint, which we can use at a later date to paint other areas. We went with two paint colors overall, a neutral beige tone for sanctuary, the large meeting area in the lower-level and Palabra Viva office. We chose a soft gray-blue tone for the nursery and art/craft room. We may use any of this paint leftover to paint the Youth Room! (If youth approve the color!!)

Once all work is complete, we will need help to clean some things and put everything back where things go! It's a perfect time to sort through things, keep/purge, and organize! Especially the Sunday school closet!

#### **We can't wait for you to see the final results!**

We want to thank those of you that submitted ideas for the outside, back entrance. We had 4 suggestions: 1) nice pavers on both sides of sidewalk. 2) cobblestone pavers and potted plants/flowers on both sides of door. 3) Same pavers as we had (new). 4) shrubs on both sides (with an offer to buy the shrubs). We have several things to consider when making our selection. First, maintenance, and then what can handle the winter shoveling, salt, etc. We will make an announcement before Easter!

As always, if you have comments, concerns, questions please bring them to our attention.

Thank you,  
 Your Board of Trustees

## FE-ED UPDATE

### FE-ED report for February 27, 2024.



We had a little different timeline for preparing for the food drop this month. Second Harvest Heartland (SHH) plans to move our delivery time to about 1:00 pm. This is better than trying to change the entire day and time to something else!

We enjoyed lunch provided by Russ Johnson to celebrate his 80th birthday. The Phoenix students really liked the cake! They worked very hard during their brief time with us. We had 42 volunteers giving 126.25 hours of volunteer time to gather, set-up and implement the food drop.

Connie Nelson's son Bill usually picks up and delivers food for 16 families near Litchfield, who would struggle to eat without his help and FE-ED. He was unable to come this month so we had an overage of food boxes, which were distributed on Friday, March 1st at Grace Place's 1 pm food drop. FE-ED is packing boxes for 200 families each month to distribute.

#### February Statistics:

- 7,672 pounds of food from SHH
- 200 pounds of Bread from Breadsmith Bakery
- Families served 186 + 13 at Grace Place Friday
- Individuals served 516
- New Visitors 21
- Veterans served 40
- Communities served 18

Remember that March is MN Food Share month, a time to help fill our local food shelves. The overarching initiative for SHH is to cut hunger in Minnesota in half by 2030. Cargill and Target have each pledged **\$10,000,000** to help reach this goal. Your donations to SHH, FE-ED, and your local Food Shelf are totally tax deductible. This is an added benefit for you to be a part of helping to reach this goal. The food we are purchasing is getting more scarce and expensive so your donations are especially appreciated. Thank you in advance for your support.

Check out Second Harvest Heartland's Facebook posts. They are a good representation of the work that needs to happen to try to make sure people do not go hungry.

**The next food drop is TUESDAY, MARCH 26th!**

Report prepared by  
 Pam Johnson, Secretary

To Donate to FE-ED





Scan QR code above to donate to FE-ED (Donations are tax deductible)



FE-ED FOOD DISTRIBUTION

**TUESDAY, MARCH 26th**  
**3 pm until gone**

Drive-thru pick-up on a first come- first serve basis while quantities last.  
 ALL ARE WELCOME!

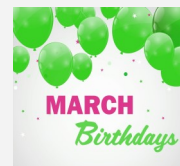
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Repair work from the Nov. water pipe break is underway. All drywall/sheetrock done. Painting is being done Feb. 28th - Mar. 6th. Baseboards, ceiling tiles, etc. Mar. 4th - Mar. 8th. Carpets to be cleaned in Sanctuary and lower-level Mar.11th or 12th. ***Areas may be off-limit during work***					1	2
<b>3 COMMUNION SUNDAY</b> 9:30 am Sunday School (C) 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S)	<b>4</b> 3:30 pm Church <u>Mutual Inspection</u> 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (F) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S)	<b>5</b> 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	<b>6</b> 6 pm Lenten Soup Supper (Annandale)	<b>7</b> 9 am Coffee & Conversation (F) 6:30 pm Cub Scouts (F) 7-8 pm Palabra Viva Bible Study (S)	<b>8</b> <b>RAISERIGHT ORDER DAY</b> <b>CM FISH FRY 5-7 pm (MCC)</b>	<b>9</b> 5-9 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S) 8-10 pm AA Meeting (C)
<b>10 SPRING AHEAD</b>  9:30 am Sunday School (C) 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) 6 pm YOUTH GROUP (C)	<b>11 (CARPETS)</b> 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (F) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S)	<b>12 (CARPETS)</b> 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	<b>13</b> 6 pm Lenten Soup Supper (Annandale) 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	<b>14</b> 9 am Coffee & Conversation (F) 6:30 pm 4H Club (F) 7 pm SPRC Mtg. (O) 7-8 pm Palabra Viva Bible Study (S)	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 5-9 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S) 8-10 pm AA Meeting (C)
<b>17 UMCOR SUNDAY</b>  9:30 am Sunday School (C) 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S)	<b>18</b> 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (C) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S)	<b>19 SPRING</b> 12 pm FE-ED Mtg. (GP) 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	<b>20</b> 6 pm Lenten Soup Supper (Annandale) 7:15 pm Church Council (L)	<b>21</b> 9 am Coffee & Conversation (F) 6:30 pm Cub Scouts (C) 7-8 pm Palabra Viva Bible Study (S)	<b>22</b> <b>RAISERIGHT ORDER DAY</b> <b>CM FISH FRY 5-7 pm (MCC)</b>	<b>23</b> 5-9 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S) 8-10 pm AA Meeting (C)
<b>24 PALM SUNDAY</b> 9:30 am Sunday School (C) 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S)	<b>25</b> 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (C) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S)	<b>26</b> 12:30 - 2 pm FEED Set-up (MCC) 3 pm FEED Distro (MCC) 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	<b>27</b> 6 pm Lenten Soup Supper (Annandale) 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	<b>28 MAUNDY THURSDAY</b> <b>6 pm Service</b> 9 am Coffee & Conversation (F) 7-8 pm Palabra Viva Bible Study (S)	<b>29 GOOD FRIDAY</b>	<b>30</b> 5-9 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S) 8-10 pm AA Meeting (C)
<b>31 EASTER SUNDAY</b> 9:30 am Easter Breakfast (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S)						

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS!**

1st-Erik Marquette  
 3rd-Cole Dostal  
 7th-Bonnie Ashbaugh  
 7th-Debbie Baker

9th-Jan Kanduth  
 13th-Don Klarstrom  
 14th-Alyssa Prestidge  
 16th-Hazel Marquette  
 17th-Hudson Lieser

18th-Jeff Dostal  
 23rd-Brandon Torres  
 26th-Owen Sage  
 30th-James Kuhn



**ANNIVERSARIES!**  
 We have no March Anniversaries!

**MONTROSE UMC, 230 Center Avenue So., PO Box 13, Montrose, MN 55363**

**Church Office 763-675-3571 Pastor Mark's Cell (763) 656-3490**

**Email: [montroseumc@hotmail.com](mailto:montroseumc@hotmail.com) Website: [www.montroseumc.com](http://www.montroseumc.com)**

**Facebook.com/Montrose United Methodist Church**



Montrose UMC  
PO Box 13  
230 Center Avenue So.  
Montrose, Minnesota 55363

WEBSITE: [www.montroseumc.com](http://www.montroseumc.com)  
Facebook.com/Montrose United Methodist Church



## Montrose United Methodist Church



**FE-ED**  
**For Each and Every Day**  
**(4th Tuesday of the Month)**

**THE NEXT FREE**  
**FOOD DISTRIBUTION:**  
**Tuesday, March 26th**

**Drive-Thru event Starting at 3 pm**  
**Montrose Community Center**

**Volunteers are needed & welcome**  
**starting at 12:30 pm to pack food boxes!**

FE-ED will have drive-thru food distributions every  
4th Tuesday of the month giving out pre-packed boxes  
of dairy, produce, bread and food items.

Go to the FEED website for more information:  
**[www.fe-ed.org](http://www.fe-ed.org)**

**Come Worship with Us**  
**Easter Sunday**  
**March 31st**

**Rev. Mark Schlasner, Pastor**

**Easter Brunch 9:30 am - 10:15 am**

French Toast Bakes, Egg Bakes, Sausage,  
Muffins, Fresh Fruit, Milk, Juice, Coffee.  
(FREE WILL OFFERING)

**Worship Service 10:30 am**

Watch Worship Service at 10:30 am  
on **Facebook Live!**  
Search Montrose United Methodist Church  
(Montrose, MN)