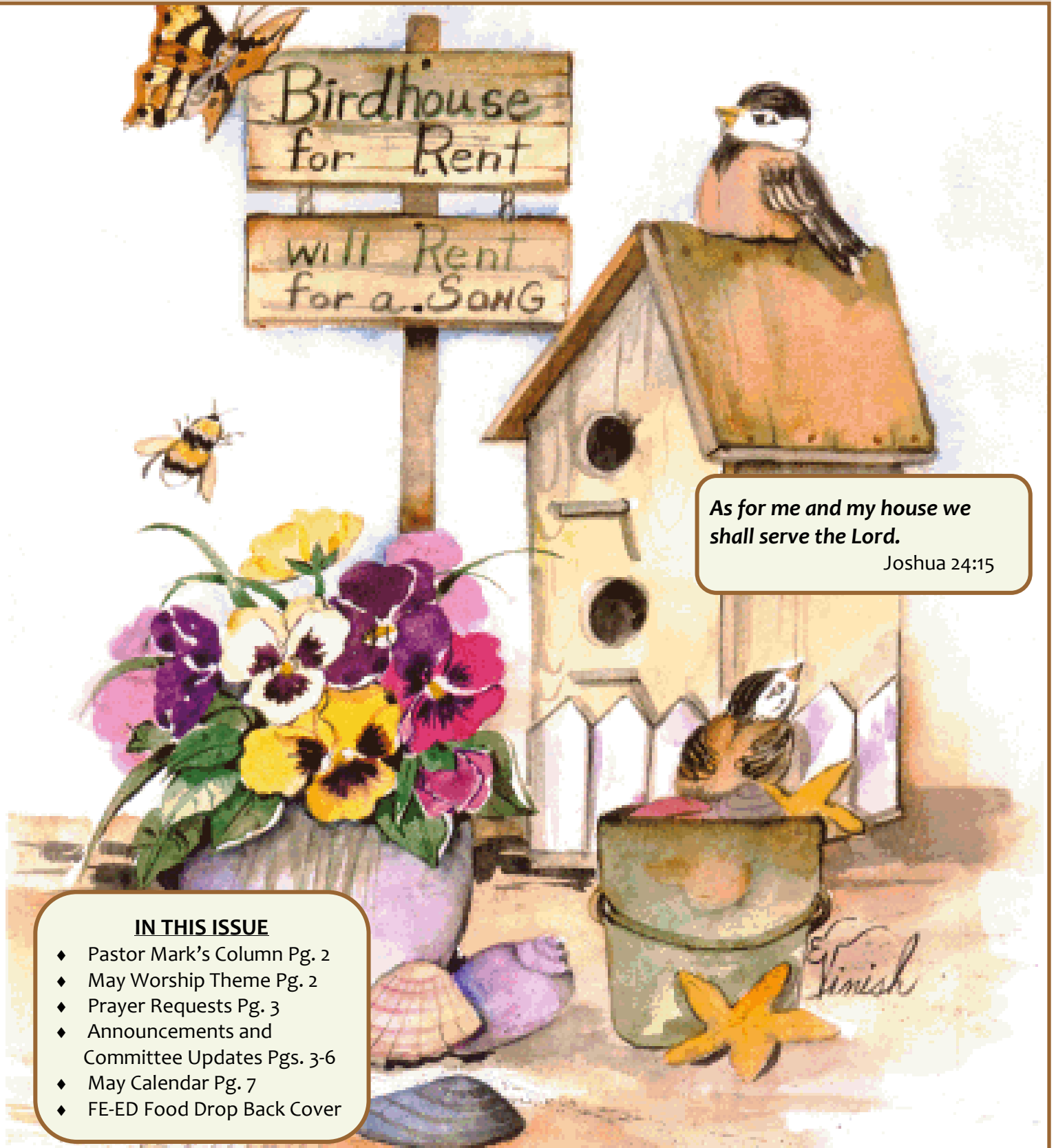


Montrose Messenger

Newsletter for Montrose United Methodist Church

2023 May Volume 5



As for me and my house we shall serve the Lord.

Joshua 24:15

IN THIS ISSUE

- ◆ Pastor Mark's Column Pg. 2
- ◆ May Worship Theme Pg. 2
- ◆ Prayer Requests Pg. 3
- ◆ Announcements and Committee Updates Pgs. 3-6
- ◆ May Calendar Pg. 7
- ◆ FE-ED Food Drop Back Cover

Pastor's Column

As Jesus passed alongside the Galilee Sea, he saw two brothers, Simon and Andrew, throwing fishing nets into the sea, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," he said, "and I'll show you how to fish for people."

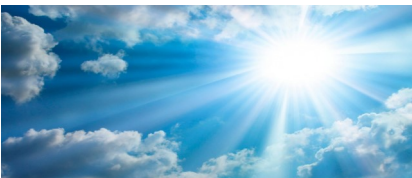
Mark 1:16-17



What does discipleship mean to you? That is a very difficult question to answer, but easy to identify. We all have different understandings of what that looks like. The challenge for churches is trying to ensure everyone can find discipleship in one way or another.

Sure, community is important to ministry, but that moment where we connect with the divine is unforgettable. Discipleship can be boiled down to three words: **know, be, do**. We come to **know** God through study of scripture, we have opportunities to **be** the Body of Christ, and there are opportunities to **do** God's will by sharing the gospel however we're gifted. We will be expounding on these three words over the next few months so that we can better understand what discipleship means for us.

So ask yourself, which way do you learn better? Do you prefer to **know**, **be**, or **do**? The church seems to value the **know** part most. I find it most troubling as most people can't point to one sermon that was as impactful as a good one-on-one conversation about faith or that one song where you feel God's presence. Discipleship isn't a one size fits all situation. Sure, some knowledge may be a revelation where suddenly the clouds part and you see God like never before.



Also there could be a situation where you were in prayer or meditation and suddenly find yourself in tears having just experienced God's presence for the first time. There's no doubt that you too can be volunteering and witness firsthand the transformational power of Christ.

Again, what does discipleship mean to you? Prayerfully consider that over the next few months. As we discover how we personally respond to discipleship, then we will be better able to state how our spiritual needs can be met. We can discover what makes us unique together!



Blessings!
Pastor Mark Schlasner
Cell (763) 656-3490
Email: am.umc.pastor@gmail.com

UPDATE FROM SPRC

The SPRC met with Pastor Mark on Thursday, April 27, 2023 to review the past 9 months and to help him to continue to reach his and our goals for our church.

We will continue to support him in his goals of updating the Mission and Vision Statements for our church.

The goals are to bring the knowledge of God's love to the youth and others in the community.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the following SPRC members.

Sonya Tourville Amy Chaffins
Diane Rux Meri Ault
Keith Prestidge

May Worship Theme

"DISCIPLESHIP: How We Learn About God Through Doing"

Sunday, May 7, 2023

COMMUNION

Communion Steward: Christie Illies

Message: "Be Before Do"

Scripture: I Samuel 3:8-10

Sunday, May 14, 2023

****GUEST SPEAKER****

DON DANFORD

MOTHER'S DAY & SUNDAY SCHOOL AWARD SUNDAY

Message: to be announced

Scripture: John 14:15-21

Sunday, May 21, 2023

Message: "Embrace God's Gifts of Limits"

Scripture: Genesis 2:16-17

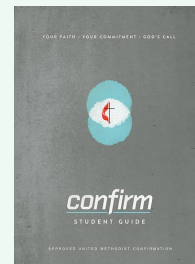
Sunday, May 28, 2023

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Message: "Discovering the Treasures Buried in Grief and Loss"

Scripture: Isaiah 45:3

CONFIRMATION UPDATE



The Confirmation class will **NOT** meet Sunday, May 14th (Mother's Day) or Sunday, May 28th (Memorial Day Weekend).

The Confirmation students (John "JD" Gesssinger, Hunter Reinhart, and Kim Wagner) will continue to meet June through August, once a month most-likely after church on Sunday, then resume weekly again starting with Rally Sunday, September 10th.

The summer schedule is still being finalized by Pastor Mark and will be sent out to shortly.





PRAYER PAGE



Grieving with Families

† **The Derek Painschab family, Isabelle Johnson's brother.** Derek passed away March 31st at 31 years of age.

† **Police Officers Emily Breidenbach, age 32, of Chetek, WI and Hunter Scheel, age 23, of Cameron, WI killed in the line of duty April 8th.** Prayers for their families and communities as they grieve this huge loss.

† **Deputy Sheriff Joshua Owen, age 44, of Pope County, MN killed in the line of duty on April 15th (his birthday).** Prayers for his family and the Glenwood/Pope County community as they grieve this huge loss.

† **The Mildred and Don Klarstrom family, as they grieve the loss of Mildred's brother.**

Lifting in Our Prayers

Those impacted by the Spring flooding in MN and other river communities.

Bruce Schmidt, friend of Keith & Carol Prestidge, hospitalized since April 1st with a foot infection, had to have his leg amputated week of April 23rd. Prayers for his recovery.

Marty, friend of Linda Marquette's, recovering from breast cancer surgery.

Gary, friend of Linda Marquette's, battling cancer.

Duane Brunkow, Jane Gessinger's Dad, cancer treatments have not worked as planned, thus his bladder cancer has returned. He needs prayers for patience.

Angie Ferrell, suffering with a head cold.

Joys & Blessings

Sunshine, warmer temps & green grass appearing on some lawns!

Pastor Mark, getting a well-deserved vacation 4/10-4/20!

USA Women's Hockey Team, playing team Canada at the IIHF World Hockey Championship game! Both teams have MN Gopher players! **USA won the GOLD beating Canada 6-3!**

Adam Rux, Diane & Terry Rux's grandson, becoming a member of the National Honor Society!

The return of songbirds after a long winter lifting our spirits!

Amber Bloom, celebrating her "golden" 23rd Birthday!

Ernie & Jason Couch Revival Concert, great music, fellowship and a fun time!

Pastor Mark & Amy Schlasner, celebrating their wedding anniversary May 2nd and sharing the news they are expecting their first child in October!

Ashley & Chris Parks welcome a baby girl on April 29th, Zoey Mollyann Parks!

Kinsley Rae Chaffins, Amy & Jason Chaffins granddaughter, turning 1 year-old!

We celebrate all the special Birthdays and Anniversaries in April!

We celebrate all the special Birthdays and Anniversaries in April!



PRAYERS OF THANKS



To Angie Ferrell; Ashley, Heather & Karlee Parks; Jane, John, & John "JD" Gessinger; Ben, Dianne, Isaac, Gavin & Jack Pohlmann (friends of Gessinger's); Mike & Kim Wagner, and Esther Johnson (Mike's co-worker) for spending part of their Sat., April 1st packing meals at **FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN** in Chanhassen.

During the 2 hour session, about 85 people attending the session packed a total of 92 boxes = 3,312 Manna packs = 19,872 manna meals feeding 54 kids for 1 year! Full Cost of meals \$5762.88 to which MUMC's group contributed almost \$600! These meals were shipped to Cross Catholic Outreach in Honduras on April 6th! (Deserves a mention; a groom-to-be had his bachelor party there that day with 9 of his friends!)

It's always a fun time at FMSC and MUMC is looking forward to the next packing session coming soon (June? July?).

FMSC CHANHASSEN NOW HAS THEMED PACKING NIGHT - TUESDAYS FROM 7 to 8:45 PM!

May 9th - Back to the 50's Night!

May 16th - Disney Night! (Just for you Pastor Mark!)

May 23rd - Alumni attire!

May 30th - Sports Jersey Night!

PRAYERS OF THANKS



To the volunteers & chaperones at Cub Food's grocery bagging fundraiser on Good Friday, April 7th (11 am - 2 pm) to raise Scholarship funds for MUMC youth attending Camp Minnesota.

Helpers included: Angie Ferrell, Russ, Pam & Belle Johnson, Carol Hoppe, Diane Rux and Belle's friend Ava Garcia. Almost \$600 was collected!

At the April Church Council meeting, council discussed and voted on the following: Isabelle Johnson & Ava Garcia will split the funds collected at the bagging fundraiser, receiving \$300 each. Additionally, MUMC will award a \$200 Scholarship to Isabelle Johnson; and a \$100 Scholarship to both Ava Garcia and Nicole Bilger. All three are registered for Camp at Northern Pines in Park Rapids, MN.

MUMC hopes to start a tradition of supporting more youth participating in Camp Minnesota and raising scholarship money through Cub Food's grocery bagging fundraisers!



THANK YOU CUB SCOUTS!



On Thur., March 30th, the Cub Scouts picked-up litter and other garbage around the outside of the church as a service project. The Boy Scouts have one scout looking at doing an Eagle Scout project. Pastor Mark spoke with the Scout Master and mentioned a fire pit. The Trustees met April 26th to discuss ideas and rather than a fire pit thought a "conversation circle" with benches and a spot for a fire pit would be nice, and inviting in summer/fall for outdoor get-togethers with the community! There is no date set for this project, and the Scout has plenty of time to plan and execute - so it could be 2024!

MIDWEST



MISSION

disaster relief • education

health • micro-business

SENDING HOPE AND EMPOWERMENT AROUND THE WORLD AND AROUND THE CORNER

Midwest Mission will be holding a collection during the MN Annual Conference Wed., May 31 & Thu., June 1 at the River's Edge Convention Center, 10 - 4th Ave. So., St. Cloud. The collection truck will be in the north side parking lot.

All Midwest Mission and UMCOR kits will be accepted, along with new or gently used non-kit items: canes, crutches, wheelchairs, foldable walkers, non-electric tools, shovels, rakes, blankets, and sewing machines (electric and treadle).

SPECIFIC NEEDS

- Liquid Dish Soap 16 oz. - 64 oz. bottles
- Liquid Household Cleaner 16 oz. - 80 oz. bottles
- Laundry Detergent 32 oz. - 150 oz. bottles
- Personal Dignity Kits (SEE BELOW)
- Monetary Donations - for every \$1 spent, Midwest Missions sends out \$7.85 in aid. You can give online: midwestmission.org/donate

PERSONAL DIGNITY KITS

- One washcloth
- One hand towel
- One adult toothbrush - soft (NO multipacks)
- One Bar Soap 3-4 oz. size
- One Shampoo 12 - 19 oz. size
- One Deodorant 2 -3 oz. size (roll-on or stick)
- One 1-gallon resealable bag

Pack all items in the resealable bag. A \$2 donation per kit for a razor and toothpaste are welcome.



Heartland

Love INC Heartland - Fresh Start Program Is Growing

The number of participants is growing and growing! Can you help? We need hosts for community dinners, class facilitators, and more. Spring session begins May 1.

Contact Lisa Green at 763-999-7085 or lisa@loveinheartland.org

Love INC Heartland - Support Our Thrift Stores

Our stores (Delano/Howard Lake) allow us to bless our neighbors in need and support the Love INC Movement. Will you help? We are seeking people with an eye for detail and knowledge in retail. Opportunities are available for individuals and groups. Call our main office at 763-972-6547 or send a message to thrift@loveinheartland.org

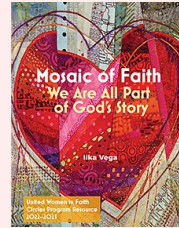
Sunday School Update!

We are quickly wrapping-up our unit “**DISCIPLE ME**” and only have one more lesson before Award Sunday on May 14th, Mother’s Day. The class will meet Saturday, May 13th at 10 am to bake muffins and have lunch! The Sunday School class will host Fellowship Hour on Mother’s Day, serving “**MUFFINS FOR MOM**”.

God Bless.
Angie, Jane & Kim



**Montrose UMC
United Women of Faith
Hannah Circle
Meeting Thursday, May 18th
7 pm in the Library**



NEW MEETING DAY... the 3rd Thursday of the month. We’ll start with a short devotion program, from our program book or The Upper Room Devotional book, then move to a short meeting. At our May meeting, we will discuss a meeting **TIME** that works for most, then look ahead to Summer & Fall and plan out any events & missions!

We hope you’ll join us!

Have questions or suggestions? Please contact us at: montrosemnumw@gmail.com

**BEST BUDDIES FRIENDSHIP WALK
SATURDAY, MAY 20TH
WEAVER LAKE PARK IN MAPLE GROVE
SPONSORED BY FINLEY’S!
(CHECK-IN 9 AM)**

If you like to walk and would like to help create a more inclusive community for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, join us at the Best Buddies Friendship Walk sponsored by Finley’s of Eden Prairie, all natural dog treats made in Delano, MN at Tuffy’s Treat Co.

The walk is FREE, however you must be a registered walker.

If you donate or raise \$50 or more, you will receive a T-shirt at the event! You can create your own fundraiser page to support Best Buddies. Every amount helps.

go to: <https://www.bestbuddiesfriendshipwalk.org/minnesota/supporting/#teamfinleys>



FE-ED UPDATE



FE-ED

We had a wonderful food drop in April! We had so many volunteers come to help it made the work easy and fast. April is volunteer recognition month so this was the perfect drop to have so many helpers attend to enjoy cake and treats. Every person is a volunteer at FE-ED, there are no paid staff!



This is our 8th year and everything has always been done by volunteers! Cheers to everyone who has made FE-ED possible all this time.

We have received questions about why we begin distributing food before 3pm. If we have the boxes prepared and the cars have lined up since 1:30 pm, there is no reason to wait and keep the traffic backed up causing traffic issues. In addition, this month we had ice cream and a full pallet of chicken we needed to move ASAP. We have the same amount of food to distribute no matter what time we start. The other drops in Wright County are all at the same time on the same day and for 1 hour. We want to respect the time commitment of our volunteers and the people receiving the food.

Quick reminder. Please record your statistics for any boxes you take or deliver. We place our orders based on the numbers from the previous month, so we will be short of food if we have under-reported numbers.



Chad Larson sponsored this April's food drop, in loving memory of his mother Betty for Mother's Day.

Catholic Charities, working with the WCCA Food Shelf & Thrift Store, will distribute Frozen Meals on the **FOURTH MONDAY OF EACH MONDAY (May 22nd)** at the Knights of Columbus parking lot, 301 5th St. N., Waverly from 9 am - 10 am. Seniors age 60 and older who have limited income and nutritional need are eligible. This requires completion of an annual NAPS registration. Up to 20 pre-packaged frozen meals are available per month. *(SEE FLYER ON MUMC BULLETIN BOARD.)*

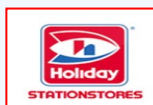


Remember that we have these Gift Cards on-hand for those last minute shopping or gift-giving needs: Mother's Day, Graduation gifts, Wedding/Baby Showers, etc.) and those rebates support the church at the same time!

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

MAY ORDER DATES:

MONDAYS in MAY: 1st, 15th & 29th



(FE-ED Update Continued)

Our community contributed a lot of extras:

- 22 - 20 lb. boxes from Waverly Food Shelf.
- 18 - 40 lb. boxes from the Buffalo Food Shelf.
- NEW... 300 lb. of pet food from Tuffy's Treats in Delano!

April Statistics:

- 8,852 pounds of food from SHH
- Families served 179 (185 boxes distributed)
- Individuals served 531
- New Visitors 13
- Veterans served 42
- Communities served 20

Report prepared by
Pam Johnson, Secretary

Stewardship Update January - April

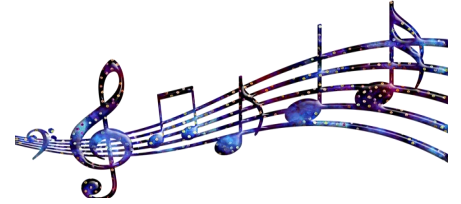


YEAR-TO-DATE OFFERING:

WEEK	GEN. FUND	BLDG. FUND	TOTAL
Jan 8	\$ 2,028	\$ 385	\$ 2,413
Jan 15	\$ 798	\$ 125	\$ 923
Jan 22	\$ 1,567	\$ 433	\$ 2,000
Jan 29	\$ 1,237	\$1,401	\$ 2,638
Feb 5	\$ 1,763	\$ 560	\$ 2,323
Feb 12	\$ 1,251	\$ 430	\$ 1,681
Feb 19	\$ 538	\$ 135	\$ 673
Feb 26	\$ 937	\$ 80	\$ 1,017
Mar 5	\$ 2,447	\$ 680	\$ 3,127
Mar 12	\$ 1,132	\$ 335	\$ 1,447
Mar 19	\$ 1,865	\$ 250	\$ 2,115
Mar 26	\$ 1,127	\$ 80	\$ 1,207
Apr 2	\$ 2,042	\$1,540	\$ 3,583
Apr 7 & 9	\$ 1,875	\$ 325	\$ 2,200
Apr 16	\$ 1,200	\$ 185	\$ 1,385
Apr 23	\$ 1,247	\$ 360	\$ 1,607
Apr 30	\$ 937	\$ 185	\$ 1,122
TOTAL	\$23,991	\$7,489	\$31,480

ERNIE & JASON COUCH REVIVAL

MUMC was honored to have Ernie & Jason Couch Revival in concert on Friday, April 28th. Now three generations strong, with their new addition, Memphis (Ernie's grandson, Jason's son - only 14 years old)! This is the third time the Couch family has performed at MUMC and we cannot wait to see them again! Talk about "God Moments", in less than 5 minutes into the concert, on a rather cloudy, dreary day - the bright sunshine came through the sanctuary windows giving them a natural spotlight on the stage! It was as if God himself showed-up to see them! They enjoyed their visit at MUMC with many funny moments and lots of laughs, and they loved the Pie Social allowing them more time to visit with everyone. They even got a whole apple pie for the road! After finding out how much Ernie enjoys fried chicken, we may have to have a fried chicken dinner next time! We had 39 folks attend the concert, a much lower number than we planned for, but everyone had a great time! They performed at Annandale UMC on Saturday, April 29th in front of 63 guests and put on another great show! They were off to Wisconsin & Iowa Sunday morning for 7-8 more shows before heading home to Nashville for three well deserved weeks off! They now have close to 30 CD's to choose from! If you want more information you can go to their website (erniecouchandrevival.com) or follow them on Facebook (Ernie Couch & Revival)!



Top: Ernie, Memphis and Jason open the show with "His Name is Jesus" to lift our spirits!

Right: Memphis, learning bass guitar, shows off his guitar picks Mike Wagner gave him from a couple famous bands' guitarists (Rush and Foghat)!

Left: Jason sings his tribute song to the poor, neglected "Ukulele". Little did he know how popular the ukulele is at Montrose UMC!



A few other songs performed were: "Put Your Hand in the Hand"; "Starry, Starry Night", a favorite at every concert; "Mary, Mary", a Christmas song; "Through it All"; and a very special, heartwarming song "Wish You Were Here", sung by Jason, about heaven - "where it never rains, no one complains and there's no more tears... Can't wait to see you, wish you were here."

A special "Thank You" to everyone that brought pies & ice cream for the Pie Social, helped greet and serve, and to those that came out and supported this event!





FE-ED FOOD DISTRIBUTION

TUESDAY, MAY 23rd
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
Pastor Mark will be on vacation May 14th - 18th	1 RAISERIGHT ORDER DAY! 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (C) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S)	2 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	3 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S)	4 6:30 pm Cub Scouts (C) 7-8 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)	5	6 5-9 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S) 8-10 pm AA Meeting (C)
7 COMMUNION SUNDAY 9:30 am Sunday School (C) 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) 6:30 pm Confirmation Class (C)	8 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (C) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S)	9 NO BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL	10 7 pm Choir Rehearsal (S) 7 pm Palabra Viva Ofc Hour (O)	11 9 am Hand Bell Maintenance 6:30 pm 4H Club (C) 7-8 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)	12	13 10 am Sunday School Class (K) 5-9 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S) 8-10 pm AA Meeting (C)
14 MOTHER'S DAY & AWARD SUNDAY 9:30 am Sunday School (C) 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) NO CONFIRMATION CLASS	15 RAISERIGHT ORDER DAY! 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (C) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S)	16 12 pm FE-ED Mtg. (GP) 7 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (S)	17 7 pm Palabra Viva Ofc Hour (O) **NO MAY CHURCH COUNCIL MTG.	18 6:30 pm Cub Scouts (C) 7 pm HANNAH CIRCLE (L) 7-8 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)	19	20 5-9 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S) 8-10 pm AA Meeting (C)
Pastor Mark on vacation 5/14 through 5/18						
21 ASCENSION SUNDAY 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) 6:30 pm Confirmation Class (C)	22 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (C) 7 pm Palabra Viva Rehearsal (S)	23 12:30 - 2 pm FEED Set-up (MCC) 3 pm FEED Distro (MCC)	24 7 pm Palabra Viva Ofc Hour (O)	25 7-8 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S)	26	27 5-9 pm Palabra Viva Worship (S) 8-10 pm AA Meeting (C)
28 PENTECOST SUNDAY 9:30 am Coffee Fellowship (F) 10:30 am Worship Service (S) NO CONFIRMATION CLASS	29 RAISERIGHT ORDER DAY! 	30	31 7 pm Palabra Viva Ofc Hour (O)	MN ANNUAL CONFERENCE MISSION COLLECTION Wed., May 31 & Thur., June 1st River's Edge Convention Center (NORTH LOT) 10 - 4th Ave. So., St. Cloud **SEE DETAILS ON PAGE 2**		

MAY BIRTHDAYS!

1st-Kinsley Rae Chaffins
 2nd-Chad Larson
 7th-Jeff Peterson-Lomker
 12th-Lee Reinhart
 15th-Jen Sanchez
 16th-John Hylland

ANNIVERSARIES!

17th-Laura Vanderlinde
 22nd-Brianna Dockter
 22nd-Skyler Chaffins
 23rd-Ashley Parks
 23rd-Linda Prestidge
 30th-Ben Gudvangen

ANNIVERSARIES!

2nd-Amy & Mark Schlasner
 31st-Brenda & Randy Segler



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 Website: www.montroseumc.com

Facebook.com/Montrose United Methodist Church



Montrose UMC
230 Center Avenue So.
(Next door to Montrose Community Center)
PO Box 13
Montrose, Minnesota 55363

WEBSITE: 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)

**UPCOMING FREE
FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS:**
Tuesday, May 23rd
Tuesday, June 27th

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

**Come Worship with Us
Sunday Mornings!**



Rev. Mark Schlasner, Pastor

Coffee & Fellowship 9:30 am
Worship Service 10:30 am
Communion is on
the 1st Sunday of the month

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