

The Grapevine February 2024



February 2024 Grapevine



Friends, apparently, the following scripture has not been fulfilled yet.

No, this is the covenant that I will make with the people of Israel after that time, declares the Lord. I will put my Instructions within them and engrave

them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.

³⁴ They will no longer need to teach each other to say, "Know the Lord!" because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord; for I will forgive their wrongdoing and never again remember their sins. (Jeremiah 31:33-34)

It has been a real joy to renew connections with every one of you at Annandale and Montrose. It has been wonderful for me to take time in each service to explore different ways that doubt creeps into our faith lives, and how we can find a stronger faith by exploring and facing those doubts. I am thankful that once again, Adam Hamilton has hit a homerun with his new book, "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith." I recommend it once again for anyone who is curious about that topic.

Thinking more about the verses in Jeremiah, in relation to doubt, I'm thankful that God has planted the seed of faith in all of our hearts. I'm thankful that on some level, all people know God, even if they don't know they know God. I'm thankful that God makes a special effort to know us, especially people who may feel left out a bit.

If you want to know more about how Jesus treated the Outsiders, the Outcasts, and the Outlaws, I suggest you take

another run at the Gospel of Luke. It has always been my favorite gospel, because it tells the stories of how Jesus saw fit to make an effort to use and include those folks who the rest of society seemed to push off to the side. You might say, if you were ever picked last for kickball, Luke is the gospel for you.

Finally, please know that I will miss you after my time filling in for Pastor Mark is completed, however, I am thankful that you are in such capable hands. And once again, I thank you, Pastor Mark, for thinking of me when you needed someone to fill in during your parental leave.

Change my heart O God, make it ever true. Change my heart O God, make me be like you.

You are the potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

May God's Kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven!

And thank You!

Pastor Paul D. Baker

Pastor Paul

Annandale UMC Giving and Attendance

Giving -Jan. 2024 Attendance -Jan. 2024

Jan. 7, 2024 \$2,508.00 27 - in-person

15 - online

\$20.00 Memorial Fund - Debbie Vokaty

Jan. 14, 2024 \$996.00 15 - in-person

90 - online

\$370.00 Mission March – apportionments

\$35.00 Special Sundays Offering Fund -Human Relations Day

Jan. 21, 2024 \$5,810.97 21 - in-person

120 - online

\$25.00 Apportionments Fund

Jan. 28, 2024 \$737.00 21 - in-person

49 - online

General funds needed each week: \$2,491.70

January income as of 01/18/24: \$4,267.00

January expenses as of 01/18/24: \$10,393.15

2024 apportionments = \$12,946.00

Monthly apportionments = \$1,078.83

Apportionments paid in January = \$370.00



Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith

February 4, 2024 Pastor Paul Baker "Is Heaven Real?" Scripture Reading: John 14:1-3

February II, 2024 Pastor Paul Baker "When Prayers Go Unanswered" Scripture Reading: Psalm 22:2, John 15:7, Luke 22:42

February 18, 2024 Pastor Paul Baker "Why Do the Innocent Suffer?" Imposition of Ashes Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:26-28

February 25, 2024 Pastor Mark Schlasner



Coffee Fellowship Serving Groups

February 4, 2024: Steve & Laurie Dick

February 11, 2024: Dave & Joyce Heberling

February 18, 2024: Betsy Gridley

February 25, 2024: Audrey Jones



Usher Schedule

February 4, 2024: Dave Heberling

February 11, 2024: Dave Heberling

February 18, 2024: Shelly Anderson

February 25, 2024: Need



• Jim Anderson's sister, Margie, who is being treated for breast cancer and scheduled for surgery on February 1.



Blood Drive - Friday, March 8, 2024

The next Red Cross Blood Drive will be held at our church on Friday, March 8 from 10:00am – 4:00pm.

Donors can schedule an appointment now by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Their goal is to collect 32 units of blood!



Our February Mission March, which will be taken during the first hymn on Sunday February 11, 2024, will go to apportionments. Apportionments are the share each annual conference or local church pays to support international, national, and local missions.



Thanks to everyone for your well wishes and prayers during my recent heart valve replacement. My recovery from that procedure is going well thanks to skilled medical staff and the support of family and friends. - Linda Elfstrand



February Birthdays

February 6	Aleta Isaacson
February 9	Sally Smith
February 10	Roberta Monk
February 10	Gerry Bahe
February 11	Mason Petty
February 12	Mason Sommers
February 15	Linda Williams
February 19	Deb Woelfel



Due to Pastor Mark being out on paternity leave, we will not have an Ash Wednesday worship service on February 14, 2024. Pastor Paul, however, will be doing the imposition of ashes that takes place on Ash Wednesday during our Sunday, February 18, 2024 worship service.

Tom Maki

If you would like to attend a worship service on Ash Wednesday, February 14, you are welcome to attend a service at the Kimball United Methodist Church who will be hosting a simple soup supper at 5:00 pm and service following the supper at 6:00 pm.

February 25



Pastor Mark continues his paternity leave until February 20, 2024. If you have any pastoral needs during his absence, please contact Linda in the church office or Rev. Lori Artner, South Haven UMC, at 320-249-6756.

Annandale UMC 250 Oak Avenue North PO Box 329 Annandale, MN 55302