

# The Grapevine March 2024



# March 2024 Grapevine

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.

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

### **Annandale UMC Giving and Attendance**

Giving -Feb. 2024 Attendance -Feb. 2024

Feb. 4, 2024 \$4,681.00 28 - in-person

22 - online

Feb. 11, 2024 \$1,500.00 23 - in-person

20 - online

\$205.00 Mission March – apportionments

Feb. 18, 2024 \$1,316.00 22 - in-person

90 - online

\$25.00 Apportionments Fund

Feb. 25, 2024 \$2,730.00 28 - in-person

26 - online

General funds needed each week: \$2,491.70

February income as of 02/21/24: \$9,068.00

February expenses as of 02/21/24: \$6,509.10

February transfer to savings: \$6,000.00

2024 apportionments = \$12,946.00

Monthly apportionments = \$1,078.83

Apportionments paid YTD = \$985.00



## March Worship Themes

March 3, 2024 "Finding Jesus with Us in Our Hard Places" Scripture Reading: Psalm 16

March 10, 2024 "Finding Jesus as Our Shepherd" Scripture Reading: Psalm 23

March 17, 2024 "Finding Jesus as Our Hope" Scripture Reading: Psalm 110

March 24, 2024 "Finding Jesus as Our Strength" Scripture Reading: Psalm 69:1-3

Friday, March 29, 2024 @ 7:00pm Good Friday

Scripture Reading: John 18:1-8

March 31, 2024 Easter Sunday "Finding Jesus as Our Savior" Scripture Reading: Psalm 22



Coffee Fellowship Serving Groups

March 3, 2024: Berta Monk and Beth Young

March 10, 2024: Gerry & Ruth Bahe

March 17, 2024: Sally Smith

March 24, 2024: Betsy Gridley

March 31, 2024: Dianne Engler & Joni Walberg



#### Usher Schedule

March 3, 2024: Gerry Bahe

March 10, 2024: Shelly Anderson

March 17, 2024: Dave Heberling

March 24, 2024: Gerry Bahe

March 31, 2024: Shelly Anderson



• Jim Anderson's sister, Margie, who is being treated for breast cancer



## 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!



#### Save the Date!

On Thursday, May 9, 2024, we are once again hosting Ernie & Jason Couch for a music concert in our sanctuary.

This year we are preceding the concert with a chili supper. More details will follow as they are firmed up. We will be seeking donated crock pots of chili to serve.

-Linda Elfstrand, Outreach

# Easter Lily Order Form – Annandale UMC

If you are interested in purchasing an Easter plant to adorn our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, please fill out this form and put it in the offering plate or turn it in to the church office by SUNDAY, March 10. Checks can be made payable to the ANNANDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. Please mark on the check "Easter Lily".

YOUR NAME:			
IN MEMORY OF:			
IN HONOR OF:			
Cost of plants:	Easter lilies \$10.00/plant Tulips \$10.00/plant Hydrangeas \$29.00/plant		
		Quantity	<u>Amount</u>
EASTER LILY PLANTS			
HYDRANGEA PLANTS			
TULIP PLANTS			
Total Amount Enclosed			_

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