



## Preparing for worship

### Messages for March

- March 5 "A Time of Challenge"
- March 12 "On What God Has Said"
- March 19 "On Giving Something Up"
- March 26 "On Talking to God"

### Scriptures for the coming week:

- Monday, March 6 Psalm 119:9-12
- Tuesday, March 7 Psalm 119:33-37
- Wednesday, March 8 Matthew 4:1-4
- Thursday, March 9 Matthew 4:5-7
- Friday, March 10 Matthew 4:8-11

## Small group updates

### The Chosen Remaining Schedule:

Wednesday Season 2	Thursday Season 1
Mar. 8 No session	Mar. 2 Episodes 5 & 6
Mar. 15 Episode 5	Mar. 9 No session
Mar. 22 Episode 6 & 7	Mar 16 Episodes 7 & 8
Mar. 29 Episode 8	

## Youth & Shine updates

- **Next Generation Minister:** Kelly Weinberger
- **Children's Minister:** Vada Postlethwait
- **Nursery Director:** Jill Pedersen

**Vacation Bible School** will be May 30-June 3, 2023

**Youth Group** meets at 6 p.m. on Sundays

**Children's Church** meets each worship service after the children's time in the sanctuary. Parents can pick up the kids from the Rainbow Rooms.

## March Disciple Gift



This month's giving focus is UMCOR, the United Methodist Committee on Relief. UMCOR is a non-profit 501(c)3

organization dedicated to alleviating human suffering around the globe.

UMCOR is a ministry of the United Methodist Church through the General Board of Ministries. Their goal: assist the most vulnerable without regard to race, religion, gender or sexual orientation.

UMCOR reaches people in more than 80 countries, including the U.S., and provides humanitarian relief when war, conflict or natural disaster disrupts life to the degree where communities cannot recover on their own.

Most recently, UMCOR has and continues to respond to the 7.8 earthquake which devastated portions of Turkey and Syria. UMCOR released an initial solidarity grant to the International Blue Crescent, which has offices in Turkey. The grant will provide tents, heaters, blankets, warm clothes, ready to eat meals and basic first aid kits.



You can financially support UMCOR by writing a check to FUMC and write UMCOR in the memo line or online at [umcmission.org/umcor](http://umcmission.org/umcor) or [umcmission.org/umcor](http://umcmission.org/umcor)

According to [charitywatch.org](http://charitywatch.org), UMCOR received an A+ grade with over 98% of donations spent directly on the task with the remaining funds on overhead expenses, such as training. Furthermore, your donations go directly to where you specify it to go...it is not changed.

When donors give their time, money and supplies, they join UMCOR as the hands and feet of Christ.

## Giving to God's Work

How would you like to make a donation to our church and receive income for the remainder of your life? A Charitable Gift Annuity will do just that for you.

More good news the rate of interest paid just increased this year. So if you donate now, you can lock in this rate for the remainder of your life.

A single individual age 75 could now draw 6.6% interest guaranteed for life. A couple each 75 years of age could draw 5.8% interest guaranteed for the remainder of both lives. A portion of these returns are tax free for the first ten years of your investment.

The current national average for a certificate of deposit is 2.37% and the national average for a savings account is .33%. Of course, you must pay tax on your returns from these accounts.

The numbers don't lie and by giving a charitable gift annuity you have a great investment that is guaranteed, far exceeding what you can do with a CD or savings account and the church receives a gift after your passing and you are providing a legacy to our church.

If you would like more information please contact Dale Carder at [thecardergroup@gmail.com](mailto:thecardergroup@gmail.com) We also have brochures in the Church Atrium titled: A gift that pays you income.

Please don't wait this is a great opportunity for you and our church! --from Dale Carder

## Leaders share scouting review

*During Scout Sunday, February 12, the leaders shared a full review of the program that is important for our church to know as it is one of our ministries. These words were provided by the leader Jason Ashley of Troop 400:*

I'd like to share with you my thoughts on the topic 'A Scout is Brave.' This is a hard topic for me because I always think of bravery as having courage: volunteering for the armed services, firefighters and police officers risking their lives for the wellbeing of others.

Not often enough do we teach bravery as overcoming situations we find ourselves in every day. Bravery is doing the right thing even when you don't want to. When your friends are wanting to do something stupid, having the courage to say no. Not wanting to write that paper, make that hard decision, or being kind, even when someone wasn't kind to you.

I've found in my life sometimes the hardest thing to do is take that first step. I know the scouts would agree it's not always the easiest thing to do. In life or in scouts, we have large and small choices we need to make which all lead to results. We can't always know if those results will be good or bad, right or wrong. Regardless, these scouts always take the first step, which leads to another. These scouts truly are brave.

Since we last came together in 2022, these scouts have set goals they wanted achieve through the year, sat down monthly to prepare based on these goals, then put these plans into action at weekly meetings and campouts. These scouts in the last year, and under their own direction have accomplished:

- 839 nights camping
- 77 miles hiked.
- Took 31 scouts and 13 adults to summer camp.
- Earned 7 awards including:
  - One completed the one-mile swim
  - Six earned National Outdoor camping achievement awards
  - 29 made rank advancements including five who earned the rank of Eagle Scout
- Earned 150 merit badges.
- Sent one scout to NYLT while another went on staff.

Service is a large part of what Scouts do. During the last year, our scouts:

- completed 883 hours of service to our community;
- collected 10 shopping carts of food and \$180 in cash donations for the Warrensburg food bank supporting the CROP walk;
- five scouts spent 18 hours helping clean up Knob Noster State Park; and
- in May, Scouts cleaned headstones at the Veteran's Cemetery prepping them for Memorial Day.

And the list continues with additional service activities which included:

- At a council scouting event, when all other volunteers left, Troop 400 took it upon themselves to stay and clean the kitchen, a huge undertaking, so one person would not have this responsibility all on their own.
- Our Scouts presented flags at the middle school for Veterans' Day at R6 school board meeting.
- Troop 400 cleaned up Highway 13 of 8 huge bags of trash and a microwave.
- A few Scouts planted trees at Warrensburg High School.

The service list is lengthy but we also had three Scouts participate in the Bataan Memorial March. And as usual, we had an amazing time with our annual chili dinner and pancake breakfast.

Eagle projects are another way Troop 400 Scouts give service to our community and environment. We had some amazing Eagle projects this year:

- Casey Duffendack took the initiative to rebuild the stairs between the church parking lot and the storage shed.
- Ace Little lead the effort to install a flagpole at the Veterans Village in Holden.
- Riley Pierce put up a flagpole at the Missouri Safety Center.
- Zack Jenson built Bee Boxes to help with bee populations in the area.
- Frank Todaro built and installed bird and owl boxes for areas around Holden City Lake.
- Michael Goolsby built a blessing box for his church at Lake Lafayette.

With scouts aging out and moving, our numbers are slightly down from last year to 34 scouts. This does not include the twelve new Boy Scouts we now welcome from the various Cub Scout packs. These are new names to be added to the rolls of this years' 103<sup>rd</sup> charter as Troop 400, The names associated with this Troop and church is too long to read, and it will continue not because of the bravery shown by the members of this church and the willingness to facilitate and work with troop 400.

In closing I would like to share this quote by Leonardo Da Vinci:

*I love those who can smile in trouble, who gather strength from distress, and grow brave by reflection. 'Tis the business of little minds to shrink, but they whose heart is firm, and whose conscience approves their conduct, will pursue their principles unto death.*

## Keep Holy Week on your calendar



### **April 2:**

Palm Sunday worship  
Children's Easter Egg  
Hunt

### **April 6:**

Maundy Thursday  
Service at 6:30 pm

### **April 7:**

Good Friday Service  
at 6:30 pm

**April 9: EASTER SUNDAY** with Sunrise service at 6:30 am, Praise Service at 9:30 am, and Traditional Service at 11 am