

THE HERALD

LISTENING TO GOD'S HEART FROM THE HEART OF THE CITY



The Pastor's Pen

Ash Wednesday — it's kind of a solemn day. It's the start of Lent — a word which means "spring" in German. But more than this, it's the time each year when we intently focus on the path Christ Jesus laid out for us to follow — to be true to his word, true to his calling, and true to the faith, hope and life we share in him.

You know though, sometimes it's kind of hard to focus on spring when winter is in full force around us. Today it's been snowing, and within the past week alone, the mountains surrounding our nation have received over 50 inches of fresh snow. For, while we're beginning to look forward to spring, we have still had to live in the reality that we're still surrounded by the billions of fluffy white flakes from the Lord's heavenly storehouses.

Snow — the bible speaks of it often, likening it to that which is pure, clean, and righteous. Truly, the crystal formations of snowflakes are beautiful. There are many different shapes and sizes of snowflakes; amazingly, each and every one is unique.

But despite their uniqueness, snowflakes have one common thing: dirt at the core. Oddly enough, snowflakes start as tiny dust particles, which serve as the center of the snowflake.

Like snowflakes, we have been beautifully created by God. We are the greatest of all God's creation. We are his pride, and his joy; and like snowflakes we are all created uniquely. Yet, like snowflakes, we too have dirty hearts. We're all marked by sin; we're all stained at the core of our being; we're all dirty in the middle. But through Jesus Christ, we can all be made clean. The dirt at the core of our being can be washed away, and we can be made pure in Christ Jesus.

Come now, and let's settle this, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be white as snow. If they are red as crimson, they will become like wool. Isaiah 1:18

See you in Church,

Terry

First United Methodist Church

OUR NEW E-GIVING PAGE IS LIVE!

We are switching to a new e-giving platform to make giving easier, more secure, and more convenient for our community! Scan the QR code now to give.

SCAN ME



VANCO
FAITH

Alms for Palms

Lent is a time for us to prepare ourselves for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ. This year our focus for Lent is “Inner Search, Outer Walk”. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 5, we will have collection tubs available for individuals and/or families to take home with you. I encourage you to place the container in a place of awareness in your home, next to the coffee pot, the middle of the dinner table, next to where you lay your keys when you get home. The container is for you to place change or other currency for collection. Then on Palm Sunday you are encouraged to return the container to the church during the morning worship service. We will have a specified moment in the service where the containers will be brought forward and placed on the communion rail. The monies collected will then be utilized for the “Outer Walk” purpose of ministry and given to the NOW Program to assist in the purchasing of supplies for the summer meal program.

But if someone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but refuses to help—how can the love of God dwell in a person like that?

NOW PROGRAM

The **Just-One Item** for March is White-Out Tape! If you would like to donate please drop your donation off in the office outside the office!

NOW Program Shopping Experience is Saturday, March 22nd at 9:00 am. Crawford County Students are invited to shop through a wide variety of prom dresses, shoes and jewelry.

Robinson FUMC

FREE Laundry Day

Want to get
involved?
Contact the
Outreach
Committee!



Saturday,
March 1st
9:00 - 11:00 AM

at **Country Washtub**
1310 West Main Street, Robinson, IL

NOW FUNDRAISING
SOUP SUPPER

MARCH 12TH
5:30 - 7:30 pm

CARRY OUT
AVAILABLE!



ALL FUNDS RAISED
GO TO OUR
COMMUNITY GARDEN

FUMC - 201 W WALNUT, ROBINSON
QUESTIONS: CALL KIRBIE 618-544-8016

Care News from Stephen Ministry

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- Philippians 4: 6-7

Anxiety - Does just the mention of the word make you anxious?

Anxiety is an emotion characterized by feelings of tension, worried thoughts, and physical changes like increased blood pressure; and It is a normal reaction to stress. According to the American Psychiatric Association, mild levels of anxiety can be beneficial in some situations. It can alert us to dangers and help us prepare and pay attention. Anxiety disorders differ from normal feelings of nervousness or anxiousness and involve excessive fear or anxiety. Anxiety disorders are the most common of mental disorders. They affect nearly 30% of adults at some point in their lives.

The United Methodist Church suggests the following five tactics for dealing with anxiety:

Connect: Talk to a friend, pastor, therapist, or family member.

Pray: God wants to hear from you, to surround you with love. Unload your burdens.

Breathe: Pause and breathe deeply. Let go of all that is out of your control.

Move: Head outside for a walk or stretch out your tension.

Create: What brings your joy? Do it! Write, draw, craft, cook, build.

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/5-ways-to-overcome-anxiety>

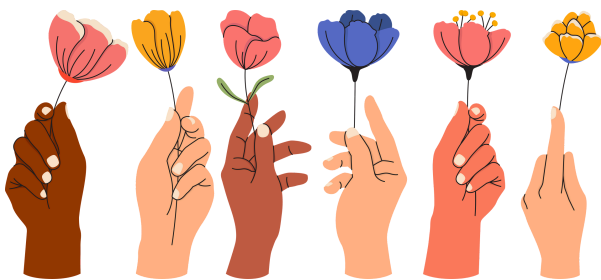
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. John 14:27

If you are going through a difficult time and would like someone to talk with on a regular basis, please contact Janelle Oxford. (618 553-9598). Stephen Ministers are available to provide Christian Care.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 3/1** Pat McMillan
3/4 Allison White, Patty Lycan
3/10 Marcia Schmidlin,
Edy Treadway
3/11 Bernice Kibler,
Sandy Roberson
3/13 Bill Damron,
Zeth Poettker
3/14 Landry Weck
3/15 Thelma Gifford
3/22 Jonathon Murray
3/23 Joann Stram
3/24 Walker Nethery,
Tiffany Robinson
3/25 Nathan Devonshire,
Barbara Bell
3/29 Nina Davis;
Greg Daugherty
3/30 Tammy Jones,
Luke Anderson





MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 3/14** Terry and Annetta Evans
3/15 Jeff & Sherri Murrell

PRAYER REQUESTS

Nancy Holley; Hazel DeDoming; Hannah Davis; Dottie Collar; Luke Campbell; Letha Stanford; Bonnie Smith; Nancy Conrad; Rick Garrard; Kent Tracy; Larry Quick; Michelle Hall; Leah Parker; Pat Campbell; Mary Kindt; Doreen Elmore; Mike Brady; Brenna Aydt; Hannah Davis; Les Thurston; Jeffery Roche; Mary Jane Parker; The Mueller Family; Madison Tracy; Rip York and Family; Brian Frost; Brad Salhani; Dean Lewis; The Family of Martha Stephens; Carolene Chapman; Kaitlyn Kubiak & Family; Clara Correll; Debbie Goff; Families of Cindi McKenna & Reese Ramsey; The Harper Family; Family of Larry Keeler

To add or remove someone to the Prayer List, please contact the church office.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00 am • Laundry Day
2 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School	3 6:00 pm • <i>The Chosen</i> Study	4	5 6:00 pm • Ash Wednesday	6 9:00 am • CHEW 4:00 pm • NOW Bagging	7	8
9 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School	10 6:00 pm • <i>The Chosen</i> Study	11	12 5:30 pm • NOW Soup Supper 6:30 pm • Stephen Ministry	13 9:00 am • CHEW 4:00 pm • NOW Bagging	14	15
16 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School	17 6:00 pm • <i>The Chosen</i> Study 	18 5:00 pm • Nurture Team Meeting	19 11:30 am • Circle of Love 6:00 pm • Team Meetings 7:00 pm • Church Council Meeting	20 9:00 am • CHEW 4:00 pm • NOW Bagging 6:00 pm • SPY	21 6:00 pm • Mercy Me Concert	22 9:00 am • NOW Shopping Experiene
23 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School	24 6:00 pm • <i>The Chosen</i> Study	25	26 6:30 pm • Stephen Ministry	27 9:00 am • CHEW 4:00 pm • NOW Bagging	28	29
30 UMCOR Sunday 9:00 am • Worship 10:15 am • Sunday School	31 6:00 pm • <i>The Chosen</i> Study					

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