

# The First United Methodist Church of Lowell Tele-Christian ~ April 2019 Edition

**The mission of the United Methodist Church is to  
make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.**

## **Words for the Journey.....**

We recently celebrated the third Sunday of Lent together. Lent is the season designed to help us draw closer to God as we consider the priorities in our lives. I hope you have had a good Lenten journey to this point.

As a church, we are collecting canned food items which we will donate to our local food pantries. We have a long grocery aisle looking shelf in our Narthex where this collection is unfolding. We suggest bringing in a different item each week. For the first few weeks, we have collected canned fruit or apple sauce, breakfast cereal along with breakfast bars, and pasta along with its sauce. Over the next few weeks we recommend soup and crackers, canned vegetables and canned meat or peanut butter.

As we collect these items, I hope you will picture feeding a family of four. Will my donation be sufficient for a meal? What if they have a couple of elementary children who don't have a treat at their meal table very often? Will my donation help them smile? Our hope is that these are the types of thoughts you will have each week. As we shop for our own groceries and as we leave for church, let us be conscience of those less fortunate around us. That is a part of our Lenten hopes in this project.

Also during the Lenten season, Cheryl and I have been leading a study session. We meet on Tuesday evenings. The lesson expands on the message from the previous Sunday. It has been a great session so far.

As Lent draws to a close, I hope you will invite a friend to worship with us on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunrise and Easter morning. Each of these worship services is unique. Each of these brings a deeper light into the exclusive meaning of our faith. Take the time to enjoy these services with us.

Palm Sunday will be celebrated during each of our morning worship services on Sunday, April 14. We will hand out palm leaves to all as a visual reminder of the great day of celebration.

Maundy Thursday will recall the night that Jesus was betrayed. On April 18, we will host a carry-in meal starting at 5:30 that evening. Worship service will begin at 6:30. All of this will unfold in our church's Fellowship Hall.

Good Friday remembers the day that Jesus gave his life for us. On April 19, we will host a special worship service at 7 in the evening in our sanctuary.

We will celebrate Easter Sunday morning with a Sunrise worship service at 7 in the morning. Sure, the sun will likely be up by that time. But, it will give us the feel for the event. I hope to host this service in the park next to the church. In the past we have gone to Evergreen Park. This year we will be NEXT DOOR. You will NOT find us at Evergreen Park this year for the Sunrise Service. If the weather is not cooperative, we will move across the road to the church's Fellowship Hall. We will have a sunrise worship service.

We will celebrate Easter Sunday on April 21 during each of our worship services. There will be much celebration as we remember the hallmark of our faith.

As is our tradition, we will have a photographer available to take family photos on Easter Sunday morning. There is no charge for this service. Bring your family and give us your best Easter smile.

These are some of the ways that we are learning and growing as a church. As God works in your life, it will bring growth to the entire group. Keep enjoying Lent.

***Pastor Rick***

## April Sermon and Scripture Schedule

### **April 7 ~ Communion**

Scripture ~ Luke 19:1-10

Sermon Title ~ *'A Tax Guy Accepted'*

### **April 14 ~ Palm Sunday**

Scripture ~ Matthew 26:36-46

Sermon Title ~ *'A Sleepless Night'*

### **April 21 ~ Easter Sunday: Sunrise Service**

Scripture ~ Matthew 28:1-15

Sermon Title ~ *'Denying the Truth'*

### **April 21 ~ Easter Sunday: Regular Services**

Scripture ~ Matthew 28:1-10

Sermon Title ~ *'He Has Risen'*

### **April 28 ~**

Scripture ~ Matthew 28:16-20

Sermon Title ~ *'Final Teaching'*



## **Worship News**

Trudy Corning and Linda Hayden, Co-Chairs

Here we are knee deep in the Easter season! We pray this holy event has a profound effect on your spiritual life.

The Lenten Study continues on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. through April 16.

The Lenten food drive is well under way and you, the congregation, have been very generous!

The food items being collected the last three Sundays of Lent:

March 31 - Soup and Crackers

April 7 – Canned vegetables

April 14 – Canned meat (i.e. tuna, chicken) or peanut butter.

The food will be sorted and delivered on Monday, April 15, at 9:00 a.m. It will be taken to four local food pantries -- St. Edwards Catholic Church, Trinity Lutheran Church, Lowell Church of Christ and Range Line Presbyterian Church. If you're available please come and help!

### **Our Holy Week schedule:**

**Palm Sunday**, April 14..... Worship at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

**Maundy Thursday/Bread for Life**, April 18..... A carry-in meal (meat, potatoes, bread, and drinks provided) at 5:30 p.m. and worship service at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Good Friday**, April 19..... Service at 7:00 p.m.

**EASTER**, April 21..... Sunrise worship service at 7:00 a.m. in the "Olde Towne Square" park (on the west side of the church). Bring your own lawn chair. Martha's Coffee House will be available immediately after this service. Worship services at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Don DeFrance will be taking photographs in the west foyer starting at 9:00 a.m.

Easter flowers will be available again this year. Envelopes to order Easter lilies, tulips or hyacinths will be in the Sunday bulletins on April 7 and 14. The cost is \$10.00 per flower and payment must be included in the order envelope.

Thank you to all those who so freely give of their time and talents  
to make our worship experience so meaningful!

**Below is a list of the members of the congregation who will be participating in various aspects of worship during the month of April:**

**April 7:**

Greeters: Bev Johnson, Carol Olson, Trudy Corning, Garrett Corning

Ushers: 8:00: Lynn Bochart, Bob Savich 10:30: Elaine DeVine, Dennis Olson

Liturgist: 8:00: Deb Kelley 10:30: Ellen Rosengard Children's Time: Paige Corning

**April 14:**

Greeters: Linda Snell, Maryrose Lynch, Amy Nichols, Virginia Kasparian, Mike & Nicole Hayden

Ushers: 8:00: Don Bales, Kathy Nelson 10:30: Sharon Sanders, Tom Stoner,  
Darin & Tammy Champanois

Liturgist: 8:00: Lynn Bochart 10:30: Al Martin Children's Time: Denise Smith

**April 21:**

Greeters: Bill and Linda Hayden, Gisela Peterson, Amy Nichols, Phyllis Moser, Carolyn Savich, Travis and Amy Manier and family

Ushers: 8:00: Charlie Haberlin, Wayne Wietbrock 10:30: David Perry, Scott Beier

Liturgist: 8:00: Cheryl Jones 10:30: Cheryl Jones Children's Time: Kathie Stoner

**April 28:**

Greeters: Anita Childress, Jenny Nichols, Peg Atherton, Nina Wilson, Dennis Olson

Ushers: 8:00: Bill Bubness, Luan Brown, Garrett Corning 10:30: Scott Spry, Ken Bisacchi

Liturgist: 8:00: Denise Smith 10:30: Kathy Taylor Children's Time: Beth Bales



**Thursday BRD4Life Dinner/Worship Service**

Our mid-week service, Bread for Life, offers an informal experience that will nourish both your body and your spirit.

Dinner begins at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall and worship starts at 6:15.

**Everyone is welcome! Bring a friend!**

Below are the speakers, themes, and cooks for the month of April:

**April 4 ~ Speaker:**

Theme: *'Walk Around Things Day'*

Cook: Tracy Seitzinger

Greeter: Jenny Nichols

**April 11 ~ Speaker:** Scott Spry

Theme: *'Apollo 13 Launched in 1970'*

Cook: Ellen Rosengard

Greeter: Amy Nichols

**April 18 ~ Speaker:** Al Martin

Theme: *'Maundy Thursday'*

Cook: Pot-Luck

Greeter: Pastor Rick

**April 25 ~ Speaker:** Susan Wells

Theme: *'World Penguin Day'*

Cook: Sharon Sanders

Greeter: Kevin Corie

## A Reminder: Giving Stems from Our Recognition that God's Grace Permeates Our Lives

Stewardship is the prayerful work of managing our time, talent and treasure to bring about God's kingdom on earth. At Lowell United Methodist Church, we believe that stewardship is a part of our spiritual journey and our relationship with God. A pledge is your commitment to make a financial gift that supports the mission of our Church. It is a response to God's call and abundance in our own lives; it is a statement of thanksgiving.

Your gift is spent on all aspects of our worship, outreach, and community life, including nearly 160 services held each year.

In order to know what we can do each year, we need to receive pledge commitments on which to develop an annual budget. Decisions about spending are made by our Finance Committee. These people are committed to prayerfully listening to the congregation and the promptings of the Holy Spirit as they make decisions about the church's budget.

We believe pledging is an important Christian spiritual practice, enabling us to grow intentionally in gratitude and generosity in every part of our lives. Giving stems from our recognition that God's grace permeates our lives and pledging to our church allows us to practice gratefully responding to that grace. It is the first step in cultivating a broader practice of generous living, shaping not only how we use our financial resources but also how we share our gifts of time and talent with others.

Continue to pray fully seeking God's guidance in your financial pledge to the church. Giving to Lowell United Methodist Church enables the church itself to do good work; your gifts cultivate a community of generous people.

Finance Committee



### *Tempting Services*

Submitted by Lynn Bochart

Another successful year!!! **Thank you** to the 16 people who offered their talents and **thank you** to all who purchased those talents! **We brought people together, enriched the lives of others, all while helping to support the mission of our church!** Talents were shared, talents were received, talents help our church grow and thrive!

Below are the talents that are still available and can be purchased through the church office before April 30, 2019. Call Kim (696-9219) or Lynn (696-9048) for details.

**Remember to contact the seller to make arrangements for talents you purchased.**

Beth Bales	Appliqued Onesies for Babies	\$15ea
Beth Bales	Reese's peanut butter pie	\$15
Anita Childress	Strawberry Pie	\$12
Betty Kelley	Package of 3 Dulcimer Lessons	\$60
Betty Kelley	Elementary Tutoring	\$20/hr/child
Michelle Mishlove	Pumpkin Choc Chip Muffins	\$7/doz
Vicky Nichols	Coffeecake	\$12
Nancy Patchett	Chocolate Éclair Dessert	\$15
Paula Tilton	Cheesecake	\$20

*Ongoing throughout the year:*

Kirk McQuiston	Midway Airport Shuttle	\$30 one way
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## A Message from the Endowment Committee

- Have you done your estate planning?
- Would you like to give a gift that can live forever?
- Would you like to give a gift now or possibly in the future that would give long-term benefits to the church?
- How can the Lowell United Methodist Church fit into your plans?

The Endowment Committee would like to present an opportunity to our church family that will give you answers to these questions.

There will be an informational meeting/light lunch on Sunday, April 7 at 12:00 noon that will answer these questions, give additional information, and explain our Endowment Fund Charter.

Come and hear what the First United Methodist Church of Lowell's Endowment Fund can offer you.

Laura Eller



## Adult Study Opportunities

Each Sunday morning at 9:15 members of your church family meet together to grow and move forward in their spiritual journey. ALL ARE WELCOME to join in any of these friendly discussion groups.

**Room 300** The WINGS class will begin the study "UNDAUNTED" by Christine Caine on April 7. In this 5 session DVD Study, author Christine Caine awakens you to Biblical truths that will challenge you to discover what God has called you to do. Using her own dramatic story, she shows how God rescued her from a life of being abused, unwanted, and unqualified, so that she could rescue victims of sex trafficking all around the world. Her life story will inspire you to bring love and hope into a dark and troubled world, by courageously overcoming the painful circumstances we all experience. WINGS is facilitated by Al Martin.

**Room 301** The book of Genesis is the current subject of the FOM Bible Study class led by David Schoon.

**Room 304** The FRIENDS discussion group is continuing their Max Lucado study called, "He Chose the Nails" through Palm Sunday, April 14. They will not meet on Easter Sunday. On April 28 they will begin a John Ortberg study called, "The Me I Want to Be." Pastor and author, John Ortberg, teaches through five sessions about how you can move toward becoming God's best version of you in four specific areas: your mind, your time, your relationships, and your experiences. Don Bales facilitates this class.

Drop in for a visit to any - or all - of these classes! You likely will find friends there!

# MINISTRY IN ACTION

## Congregational Care College Ministry

Spring breaks have ended and our college students are nearing the end of another semester, which means finals are just around the corner!

Once again, we will be sending finals boxes to our church college students! These boxes get filled with goodies and inspirational messages from you, their church family, to lift them up during finals week.

Thank you to all who generously donated to the college students finals boxes last fall. The finals boxes were very well received and much appreciated by the students. It was great to hear their excitement over winter break as they shared through texts, emails, notes and in-person visits!

Kim Newlin will have a list of our current college students and donation cards available in the Narthex starting March 31. Inspirational notes and donated items need to be returned to the college collection box located in the Narthex by Sunday, April 14. Another exciting way you can be a part of this outreach ministry is by sponsoring one of our college students. What does this mean? When you sponsor a student, you give \$15 to ship their college box, and you personally pray for your sponsored student throughout final's week. What a great way to keep our college students connected to us, their church family!

Look for Kim or Trudy to be a part of this great ministry!

Trudy Corning



## A Missional Opportunity for Our Church!

In connection with the Annual Conference that will be held in Indianapolis in June, every church has been asked to join in a missional activity. The Indiana Conference is going to help victims of the opioid crisis by donating lap blankets to **A Better Life - Brianna's Hope (ABL – BH)**. This recovery ministry has partnered with many United Methodist churches in Indiana. The blankets are given to new participants at their first meeting as powerful reminder that God, and the community, is always available for them. The blankets collected in Indianapolis will be prayed over during the Conference and will later be distributed among the 36 ABL-BH Chapters.

The lap blankets can be purchased or handmade and should be about 3' X 5'. It is hoped all delegates will bring some blankets to the Annual Conference. We don't want Pastor Rick and our delegate, Nancy Lain, to show up empty-handed! Please consider buying or making a lap blanket – by yourself or sharing the cost and effort with others – like a Sunday school class, a circle, a committee. We ask that all blankets be turned in by June 2.

You can view a poignant video and learn about Brianna's Hope at [www.ablbh.org](http://www.ablbh.org).

Bev Kussy, Lay Leadership Team



The “**Have Car, Will Travel**” ministry in our church provides the names of volunteer drivers to those in need of a ride to medical appointments or treatments in the local area. Call the office at 696-9219 to get the list of the drivers you can contact for a ride.

# CHURCH EVENTS



Join us for...

***A Spot of Tea - A Light Lunch -  
A Silent Auction - Entertainment - Fellowship***

***All in our Fellowship Hall at 12:00 noon  
on Sunday, May 5, 2019!***

This Tea & Fashion Show is reasonably priced at \$6 for adults and \$4 for children under 10. The tickets will be sold in the Narthex on Sunday mornings during the month of April. Of course, you are invited to join in the fun!

Why does the Ladies United in Missions Circle do this Tea? It is to raise money for the missions that the LUM Circle pursues. What kind of missions? Missions for children and the community are the first on the list, as well as projects to improve our church. The Circle is continuing with the cooking classes, snacks at schools, clothing at schools, and more to come.

Rachelle Ruge-Bernard, LUM Circle



## **Vacation Bible School**

**“ROAR! Life is wild, God is good”      June 17-21, 6-8 PM**

We are planning some fun and exciting adventures on our African Safari this summer! With all these adventures, we are going to need some amazing volunteers to help us make this VBS impactful for the children. We are looking for helpers to get ready for VBS, to make decorations, to set up, to assist during VBS week, etc.

If you are interested in being involved in this year's VBS, please talk to Deb Kelley, Kathie Stoner, Tammy Champanois or myself. We would love to find something perfect for you! There are many different areas in which you can volunteer to make a huge impact on young lives and help spread the word of God this VBS.

Some of the areas are Crew Leaders, Stations Leaders, High School Helpers, creative minds to help make decorations, and people willing to help spread the word of our VBS to the community. Please pray about how you can volunteer and make an impact this summer!

Come talk to one of us, or keep an eye out for sign-up sheets that will be located in the Narthex. We look forward to serving with you!

Paige Corning  
Children's Ministry Director

**WEEKLY EVENTS**

**Sunday** - *Worship* ~ 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. (in sanctuary), *Children's Sunday School* 9:15-10:15 (basement)  
*Youth & Adult Sunday School* 9:15-10:00 ~ WINGS (300), F.O.M. (301), Youth (303), FRIENDS (304)

**Monday** - A/A 12 p.m. (rm. 300), Guitar 6 p.m. (rm. 303)

**Tuesday** - Household Pantry 9-12 and 5-6 (1st and 3rd Tuesday)

**Wednesday** - Weight Watchers 6 p.m. (300), A/A - 8 p.m. (Fellowship Hall), Al/Anon - 8 p.m. (library)

**Thursday** - *BRD4life* dinner 5:30 p.m., *Worship* 6:15 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

# April 2019

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**Sun                      Mon                      Tue                      Wed                      Thu                      Fri                      Sat**

	<b>1</b> Tri-Kappa 6pm (basement)	<b>2</b> Lenten Study 6:30 pm (301)  Children's Council 7pm (library)	<b>3</b> UMW Execu- tive Meeting 4 pm (301)	<b>4</b> VBS planning 5:30pm (conf. rm.)	<b>5</b> Alpha/Barbara Circle 1:30 pm (library)	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> Endowment Meeting/Light Lunch 12 pm (basement)	<b>8</b> Staff/Parish 3:30 pm (conf. rm.)	<b>9</b> Lenten Study 6:30 pm (301)  Trustees 6:30 pm (conf. rm)	<b>10</b> Praise Practice 7pm (sanct.)	<b>11</b> Naomi Circle 1:30 pm (library)	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Lenten Study 6:30 pm (301)	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Meadowbrook POA Mtg. 4:30 (301)  VBS Planning 5:30  Maundy Thursday Dinner/Worship 5:30 pm (basement)	<b>19</b> Good Friday Service 7pm	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>  Easter!  Sunrise Service 7 a.m.  Regular Service Hours 8 & 10:30	<b>22</b>  Office closed	<b>23</b> Congregational Care Mtg. 6:30pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  Birthday Party (basement)
<b>28</b>  Birthday Party (bsmnt)	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				