

The First United Methodist Church of Lowell Tele-Christian ~ March 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 are hosting Michael Card at our church on Sunday, March 10. He will preach at both our morning services. He will host a concert at 2:00 in the afternoon. All of this is without cost. It is sponsored through the Tom Clawson Memorial Teaching Series. Thank you, Tom, for this gift to us.

Here is a portion of the biography that Michael Card's publicist sent me:

In a career that took off with his debut album, *First Light* (1981), Michael Card has recorded over 37 albums, authored over 27 books, hosted a radio program, and written for a wide range of magazines. While he has penned such favorites as "El Shaddai", "Love Crucified Arose", and "Immanuel," he never imagined writing over 19 #1 hits. The popularity of his work seemed a stark contrast to his goal in life, to simply and quietly teach the Bible.

Michael is a graduate of Western Kentucky University where he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in Biblical studies. Michael has also received an honorary PhD in music and Christian education from Whitfield Seminary and from Philadelphia Biblical University.

Although music provided him the opportunity to share insight gained through extensive research, writing songs alone limited what he felt called to share. Card would frequently agonize over having to condense the vast depth and richness of scripture into a three-minute song. And so he fell, quite naturally, into the field of book writing where he has garnered numerous awards.

Never one to compartmentalize his spiritual life, Card's quest for community slowly seeped into his professional life as he began to write articles and books on topics that captured his imagination through conversations with Bible teachers, friends and contemporaries in both Christian music and the academic community.

In everything he does, Card seeks to encourage his audience to join in his own journey to know and be known by God by asking questions and entering into meaningful discussion with one another. Card's vision is to edify the body of Christ around the world by sharing experiences and resources in the context of community in order to help facilitate the growth of smaller and more intimate communities within his audience's own churches and neighborhoods.

To that end, Card has branched out beyond the music which made his name known within the Christian community into the various mediums he uses today; another reason why Card sees the importance of continuing to teach at conference centers like Glen Eyrie, The Cove, Columbia Bible College, Maranatha Bible College, and even on a regular basis at his home church.

Michael lives in Franklin, Tennessee, where, with a group of close friends, he pursues racial reconciliation and neighborhood renewal. He and his wife, Susan, have four children and two grandchildren.

I hope you are making plans to learn from this giant in the international Christian community.

Pastor Rick

March Sermon and Scripture Schedule

March 3 ~ Communion

Scripture ~ Acts 10:1-20

Sermon Title ~ *'Beyond Our Dreams'*

March 6 ~ Ash Wednesday

Scripture ~ Matthew 18:21-27

Sermon Title ~ *'Giving What We Take'*

March 10 ~ First Sunday in Lent, Michael Card

March 17 ~ Second Sunday in Lent

Scripture ~ Luke 9:37-43a

Sermon Title ~ *'A Desperate Father'*

March 24 ~ Third Sunday in Lent

Scripture ~ Luke 12:1-12

Sermon Title ~ *'Consuming Worry'*

March 31 ~ Fourth Sunday in Lent

Scripture ~ John 11:32-44

Sermon Title ~ *'The Dead Listen'*



Worship News

Trudy Corning, Linda Hayden, Co-Chairs

As March comes also comes the Easter season. It starts on March 6, Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent - a time to prepare our hearts and minds for the Easter miracle.

During Lent we will be collecting food items each week for our local food pantries. This is a way we can reach out and help our neighbors.

Here are the food items we will be collecting each week:

March 10	Canned fruit or apple sauce
March 17	Breakfast cereal or breakfast bars
March 24	Pasta or sauce
March 31	Soup or crackers
April 7	Canned vegetables
April 14	Canned meat or peanut butter

Our church will have several worship opportunities to enrich your journey to Easter:

March 6	Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 p.m.
April 18	Maundy Thursday Bread for Life carry-in meal 5:30 p.m., worship at 6:15 p.m.
April 19	Good Friday service at 7:00 p.m.
April 21	Easter Sunday Sunrise, 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. services

Please join us as often as you can for these worship opportunities!

We appreciate everyone, both those who are visible and those behind the scenes, who participate in making our worship a meaningful experience each and every week. Thank you!

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

- March 3:** Greeters: Bev Johnson, Carol Olson, Mark and Barb Lindemer
Ushers: 8:00: Lynn Bochart, Bob Savich 10:30: Elaine DeVine, Dennis Olson
Liturgist: 8:00: Peggy Hendricks 10:30: Kathie Stoner
Children's Time: Denise Smith
- March 10:** Greeters: Linda Snell, Maryrose Lynch, Amy Nichols, Virginia Kasparian
Ushers: 8:00: Don Bales, Kathy Nelson 10:30: Sharon Sanders, Tom Stoner
Darin and Tammy Champanois
Liturgist: 8:00: Pastor Rick 10:30: Pastor Rick
Children's Time: Becky Crabb
- March 17:** Greeters: Gisela Peterson, Jenny Nichols, Phyllis Moser, Carolyn Savich
Ushers: 8:00: Charlie Haberlin, Wayne Wietbrock 10:30: David Perry, Scott Beier
Liturgist: 8:00: Lynne Haberlin 10:30: Bev Kussy
Children's Time: Pastor Rick
- March 24:** Greeters: Anita Childress, Jenny Nichols, Peg Atherton, Nina Wilson, Dennis Olson
Ushers: 8:00: Bill Bubness, Scott Spry 10:30: Luan Brown, Ken Bisacchi
Liturgist: 8:00: Rick Bachman 10:30: Rick Bachman
Children's Time: Nancy Lain
- March 31:** Greeters/Ushers: United Methodist Women
Liturgist: 8:00: Trudy Corning 10:30: Susan Wells
Children's Time: Kathie Stoner



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 March:

- March 7** ~ Speaker: Peggy Hendricks Cook: Darion Kidwell
Theme: *Nametag Day*
- March 14** ~ Speaker: Ellen Rosengard Cook: Kim McGinley
Theme: *Pi Day*
- March 21** ~ Speaker: David Schoon Cook: Sharon Sanders
Theme: *J.S. Bach born in 1685*
- March 28** ~ Speaker: Darion Kidwell Cook: Cheryl Jones and Susan Wells
Theme: *Greatest Show on Earth formed in 1881*

Adult Study Opportunities

Lenten Bible Study

The season of Lent will begin on Wednesday, March 6. How will you draw closer to God in this year's Lenten journey?

The preacher will base his Lenten sermon series from a study book. The book is entitled, "Embracing the Uncertain; A Lenten Study for Unsteady Times" by a United Methodist Pastor in Florida named Magrey deVega, Abingdon Press, 2017. The sermons will not follow this study word for word. But, the scripture lesson and some of the main ideas may appear in both.

Pastor Rick and Cheryl Jones will again lead a Lenten study. We will base the study from this book. We will meet at 6:30 on Tuesday evenings starting on March 12. You may sign up for this class in the church office. We will have a few copies of this book available in the church office. Or you may order one directly from the Cokesbury Bookstore.

Adult Sunday School Classes

Each Sunday morning at 9:15 members of your church family meet together to grow in their knowledge and understanding of God's word. ALL ARE WELCOME to join in any of these friendly discussion groups.

Room 300 Join the WINGS study group as they watch & discuss the DVD series "The Last Days of Jesus". Al Martin facilitates this class. This study will continue through March 24.

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 a Bob Goff DVD study called "Everybody, Always". Facilitator is Don Bales.

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



NURSERY UPDATE

Due to a shortage of nursery volunteers, the nursery will be closed for the 8:00 a.m. service. However if you know of a need for a specific date, please let the office know, and we will try to have it covered. Thank you!

MINISTRY IN ACTION



Lowell UMM Warriors for Christ A United Methodist Men Moment



Calling UMM Warriors of all ages, from 0 to infinity and beyond!

We had our first meeting in a long time on February 9, and we will be having another soon. We discussed many topics, especially how we can do ministry in our church and beyond. We will be helping with the Michael Card event on March 10, mainly by ushering and possibly assisting with set up. Please contact me if you can help. There are 3 time slots - 8 am, 10:30 pm and 2 pm. We expect the 2 p.m. concert will need the most help, but please let's help at all 3 services.

We are also trying to set up some activities. Our first one may be a tour of the steel mill. Rick Bachman is looking into this.

If you did not know about our meeting and/or wish to be part of Warriors for Christ, please contact Pastor Rick or me. We will put you on the contact list for future meetings, ministries and activities.

You may contact me by mail, phone or text:

Email jdean678@aol.com

Home 219-690-1585

Cell 219-689-8917

May God continue His many blessings on our church.

Craig Wilson
UMM President



Thursday Afternoon Sewing Ministry

We will be starting our Thursday afternoon sewing ministry back up again on March 7 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in room 303. Some things we have done in the past are sew caps for children going into surgery, make clothing for children in Africa and crochet plastic mats for the homeless. There is always something that you can help with even if you can't sew or crochet. Come join us in this very rewarding ministry.

Children's Ministry: Looking Back & Looking Ahead



Christmas Program

The Christmas program was “It All Happened In The Country”. The children did a wonderful job sharing the Christmas story through a fun country musical. The choir included Haleigh Oman, Emma Oman, Corey Manier, Matthew Mishlove, Luke Manier, Savannah Wilson, Daelyn Kelly, and Aidan Champanois. The Country Kids included Hannah Mishlove and Natalie Manier. The City Kids consisted of Lilly Oman and Mischa Champanois. Haleigh Oman had a solo, and Corey Manier, Matthew Mishlove, and Aidan Champanois were a trio in one of the songs in the program. All of children practiced so much for this program, and it showed through how well they did, as well as in the smiles on their faces throughout the night!

Valentine's Day Event

The children had a wonderful time making Valentines for their school classes as well as making some to give to the children of the Household pantry families. The children made Smartie boxes that said ‘You are an A-Maze-ing Smartie’ with a plastic maze attached to the box. The children had a fun afternoon of games, snacks, crafts and laughter.

SONShine Singers

The SONShine singers have been meeting during the sermon of the 10:30 AM worship service on Sunday mornings. The children have a wonderful time using their voices to glorify God. The kids will be singing the second Sunday of every month up until summer break.

Children's Bulletins

We have started having children's bulletins during both Sunday worship services. So far, the children seem to enjoy having an activity bulletin that matches the scripture used in the service. Every Sunday these bulletins are located on the back pew in a wicker basket along with baggies of crayons. There are two different age groups the children can pick from: 3-7 years old and 7-12 years old. If you cannot find them, please ask an usher or me and we will be happy to direct you to where the children's bulletins are located.

Vacation Bible School

This year's VBS is going to be **ROAR, Life is wild, God is good**. VBS will be June 17- 21 from 6-8 pm. This epic African adventure engages the whole herd. At ROAR, kids explore God's goodness and celebrate a ferocious faith that powers them through this wild life. Each day, kids will learn a Bible point that corresponds to a Bible story and key Bible verse.

Day 1: When life is unfair... God is good.

Day 2: When life is scary... God is good.

Day 3: When life changes... God is good.

Day 4: When life is sad... God is good.

Day 5: When life is good... God is good.

This year's team leading VBS is Kathie Stoner, Deb Kelley, Tammy Champanois and Paige Corning. If you are looking to be a part of VBS in any way feel free to contact any one of us. We would love to have you be a part of the VBS team. We ask for prayer as we continue to plan in preparation for ROAR. We look forward to see how God is going to work through this year's Vacation Bible School.

Paige Corning
Children's Ministry Director

Bittersweet

Dear church family (and family you are),

Most of you know I am retiring in March, and that Ed and I are moving during the month of March. We are moving to Ed's family home east of Lafayette along the Wildcat Creek. For a while I thought about continuing to come to this church even while living in Lafayette, but the one hour drive would not allow me to really be a part of the church anymore and that's just not me.

The Bitter part is leaving you, my church family. You have supported me through Ed's three major military deployments, daughter Phebe's major military deployment, and my short (thankfully) bout with cancer. You have allowed me into your lives as I have visited some of you in the hospital, made meals for you, sent you greeting cards, and prayed with you. You have been a part of our mission trip to the Indian Reservation each year. We have shared laughs, smiles, tears, and hugs. Yes, I will find a new church, but it won't be like this family.

The Sweet part is that wonderful, capable people in our church family have volunteered to take over the jobs I have been doing – and will do them tremendously!

~ Beth Bales will be helping Charlene Grant with the prayer chain. So, any prayer requests that you have can be made to either of them, and your requests will be handled carefully and confidentially.

~ Betty Kelley will be scheduling the prayer team members that are available for you after each church service. Please look to them for comfort and for special prayer requests – or even just a good hug.

~ Phyllis Moser will be doing some of the card ministry for the Congregational Care Committee, with Peg Atherton also helping her.

These ladies will bring new insight, energy and mostly God's love to these jobs. How wonderful to have these ladies in our church family and have them willing to serve.

I'll only be one hour away, I keep telling myself. I hope to visit from time to time. And you are all always welcome to visit me!!!

Address: 7023 East 100 North, Lafayette, IN 47905.

Becky's cell: 219-689-7405. Ed's cell: 219-730-1654.

In God's love,
Becky Crabb

***Additional Note About the Prayer Chain:*

To put out a request for prayers on the prayer chain, contact Charlene Grant (cell 219-671-1044 or granttc@sbcglobal.net), Beth Bales (cell 219-775-0916 or balesbd75@comcast.net) or the church office. Please remember to check with the person being prayed for before you submit their name. Prayer requests are sent out by email, or by a phone chain to those without email.

The prayer chain is made up of our church family who wish to support others in their time of crisis or need. Would you like to join the prayer chain? Just let one of us know.

Your Prayer Team

**Tempting Services
 “Expanding, Extending, Building the Church Family”**

Once again, it is time for our “**Tempting Services**” program. Your participation of “sharing God’s gifts, talents, and resources” will contribute to the needs of others as well as assist in raising funds towards the mission of the Lowell United Methodist Church. **Let us bring people together!**

Do you have a special talent, a simple service, or a treat you can offer for sale? Suggestions: Stained glass artwork; cook a dinner for two or four; casseroles; cakes; haircuts; cookies; pies; coffee cakes; artwork in any form; snow removal; mowing; weeding; leaf raking; cleaning gutters; cleaning in any form; sewing; woodworking; oil change; car tune-up; car detailing; a timeshare for rent; tax services; computer work; tutoring; babysitting; music lessons; washing windows; transportation services; boat ride. **The ideas are endless. BE CREATIVE!!!!**

Please consider completing the form below if you feel so moved to offer a special talent, a simple service, treat, or other type of resource/gift.

All forms must be submitted by Monday, **March 11, 2019**. The list of services/goods available for sale will be distributed Sunday, **March 17**. Certificates with each individual item will be made available for sale in the Narthex on Sundays, **March 17 and March 24** and Thursdays at Bread 4 Life, **March 21 and March 28**. *Arrangements for goods and services are to be made between the seller and the purchaser.*

BE PREPARED to purchase your goods or services on Sunday, March 17 if you want to have first pick and before items are gone! If you have any questions, you may contact Lynn Bochart @ 219-696-9048.

Thank you!!!
Finance Committee



TITLE OF DONATION _____ What service, talent or resource are you willing to sell for “Building the Church Family?”
Please be detailed.

- Example A: Babysitting for 3 hours for 2 children
- Example B: Pumpkin Pie
- Example C: Painting – 1 hour
- Example D: Carpentry Repairs – 1 hour

HOW MANY TIMES _____
How many times are you willing to donate your item or service? Be Specific.

- Example A: (Babysitting for 3 hours for 2 children) 2 times
- Example B: (Pumpkin Pie) 3 pies
- Example C: (Painting) – 1 hour (4 times)
- Example D: (Carpentry Repairs) – 1 hour (4 times)

NAME YOUR PRICE _____
Name your price for your item or service. Be Specific.

- Example A: (Babysitting for 3 hours for 2 children) \$10 per hour x 3 hours = \$30
- Example B: (Pumpkin Pie) \$12 each
- Example C: (Painting) – 1 hour (4 times) Cost \$20.00/hour
- Example D: (Carpentry Repairs) – 1 hour (4 times) Cost \$30.00/hour

YOUR NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ **and/ or E-mail** _____

CHURCH EVENTS



Christian Musical Artist

Michael Card

Sunday, March 10

He will teach at our morning worship services at 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM and then will host a concert at 2:00 PM

There is no cost for any of these events

Facebook ~ Lowell First United Methodist Church



You are invited to a

Lenten Luncheon

A simple sacrificial meal on
Sunday, March 31 at Noon

In the Fellowship Hall

Menu: Soup, Bread & Crackers

Hosted by UMW ladies



Searching for Singles

I am interested in starting a singles group here in our community. I would like to find others who share this interest and who might have ideas for activities for fun & fellowship. Please call me at 219-669-7445 or email me at saluki200@hotmail.com if you are interested in making new friends and forming a new social circle. Thank you.

Ellen Rosengard

L.H.S. Presents *Bye Bye Birdie*

By Patrice Martin, Technical Director

One hundred cast, crew, and orchestra students and four directors are working fervently at Lowell High School to create their own production of *Bye Bye Birdie*. Conrad, a rock-and-roll star, has been drafted. Before he goes, he will bestow a farewell kiss upon a Sweet Apple, Ohio teen named Kim, much to the dismay of her boyfriend. Our own John Yelkich is starring in the role of Kim's father and is privileged to sing the classic, "Kids", with parental passion! The cast is filled with screaming fan club girls reminiscent of the welcome The Beatles received on The Ed Sullivan Show

Opening night will be Thursday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday will be evening performances, closing with a matinee at 2:00 on Sunday, March 10. Tickets may be purchased at the Auditorium doors for \$7 Students/Seniors and \$9 for Adults. Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy such dedication and creative talent!



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 possible 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 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



Thank you for the prayers, cards, visits, and other acts of kindness following my hip surgery. I so appreciate the love and support of my church family. I am thankful to be a part of this loving community of faith.

Bev Kussy

Thanks to Pastor Rick for taking the time to talk with me—making sure I was doing okay following Jim's passing. Thanks to all that helped with the funeral dinner and to Charlene for taking care of everything. I am truly blessed.

Denise Piskoty

I would like to thank the members and friends of the church who came to the funeral home visitation, or the funeral at the church, and those who sent cards after my nephew Robert's sudden death. They were greatly appreciated.

David Schoon

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)

March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Baby Shower 1pm (basement) Fine Arts Showcase 6:30pm (sanctuary)
3	4 Tri-Kappa 6p (basement) Staff/Parish 6p	5 Crock Pot class 3:30 p.m. (kitchen and basement)	6 UMW Executive Meeting 4:30pm (301)	7 VBS Planning 5:30pm (conf. room)	8	9
10 Michael Card 8 & 10:30am services and 2 p.m. concert	11 Susanna Wesley Circle 1 p.m. (library)	12 Trustees Meeting 6:30 pm (conf. room) Lenten Bible Study 6:30p	13	14	15 Carpets getting cleaned	16
17	18	19 Lenten Bible Study 6:30p	20 Endowment Meeting 1pm	21 Meadowbrook POA meeting 4:30pm (301) VBS planning meet- ing 5:30pm (conf. room) Bread for Life mtg. 7pm	22	23
24	25 Ad-Council 6 p.m. (basement)	26 Lenten Bible Study 6:30p	27	28	29	30 Lenten luncheon set-up
31 Lenten Luncheon 12pm (basement)						