

Church Happenings

First United Methodist Church of Western Springs - You belong here.....

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Pastor's Note

Friends,

This month, I'm heading to Dali Honduras for a week of mission work: minor construction, repair and painting at the local Methodist church, outreach to the 'dump people' (individuals and entire families who live in and eat from the city dump), and distribution and training of individual water purification systems (with renewable filters). A boots-on-the-ground opportunity to practice my Spanish as a 2nd Language skill!

While I am gone, I have 3 requests:

1. Pray for me, the team and those with whom we will connect, as I in turn will pray for you.
2. Partner with me in my devotional life by reading a Psalm a day in addition to your usual daily scripture reading habits.
3. Warmly welcome those who will fill the pulpit in my absence. March 22 you will meet Marian McKinny. Raised Lutheran, worked as an educator for many years, now seeking ordination in the United Church of Christ. Marian is currently completing a Masters in sacred theology at Chicago Theological Seminary. She and I learned together in last fall's Spanish as a 2nd Language. I know you'll be touched by her proclamation of The Word. And then on March 30, staff from The Pillars will help us grow in our love and understanding of the clients Pillars serves, as well as ways we can support their ministry in our community.

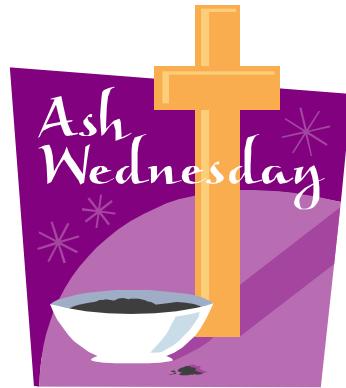
I'll be back in the office on Tuesday but I can tell you from past experience that it takes a while for me to be 'fully present' after time away on mission.

With gratitude and anticipation, Pastor C

Ash Wednesday 2014

March 5th – Ash Wednesday

- Ashes for Commuters at BNSF Train Station in Western Springs from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. Anyone can help – ordination not required.
- Worship with Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes at 7 p.m.
- Chapel will be open all day with devotional resources, ashes and communion elements available.



March Happenings

- † **March 5 – Ash Wednesday – see page 1**
- † **March 9 – ☀Spring Ahead – Clocks change at 2 a.m. Don't forget to set your clocks when you go to bed so you don't miss church!**
- † **March 11 – Outing to Chicago Food Depository – see page 4**
- † **March 15 – Pancake Breakfast! UMW Bake Sale – see page 4**
- † **Each Saturday in March except last one – Spanish as a 2nd Language – 9 a.m. ;Gracias a Helen Lubawski por ser nuestro punto de persona! (Thank you to Helen Lubawski for being our point person!)**

What is Lent and why does it last forty days?

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, which means "spring." The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism. Today, Christians focus on their relationship with God, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of themselves for others.

Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter" and the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.

The forty day journey to the cross begins Wednesday, March 5th – do you know the way?

Dust and ashes touch our face,
mark our failure and our falling.
 Holy Spirit, come,
 walk with us tomorrow,
 take us as disciples,
washed and wakened by your calling.
 Take us by the hand and lead us,
lead us through the desert sands,
 bring us living water,
 Holy Spirit, come.

- Words by Brian Wren; Hope Publishing House

Church Happenings – March 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
First United Methodist Church Western Springs						
			MARCH 5 ASH WEDNESDAY Joel 2:12-18	6 Close at Hand Psalm 1	7 Mercy Psalm 51:3-6 And 51: 18-19	8 Receive Isaiah 58:9-14
9 Stop & smell the roses Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7	10 The Least Matthew 25:31-46	11 Prayer Matthew 6:7-15	12 Journey Jonah 3:1-10	13 Search Matthew 7:7-12	14 Repent Ezekiel 18:21-28	15 Family Matthew 5:43-48
16 Light Load 2 Timothy 1:8-10	17 Mend Luke 6:36-38	18 The Way Matthew 23:1-12	19 The Road Matthew 20:17-28	20 Seasons Jeremiah 17:5-10	21 Downsize Genesis 37:3-4, 12-28	22 Forgive Psalm 103:1-4, 9-12
23 Justice Romans 5:1-2, 5-8	24 Without expectations 2 Kings 5:1-15	25 Infinite Matthew 18:21-35	26 Rabbi Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9	27 Open heart Psalm 95:1-2, 6-9	28 Approach Mark 12:2834	29 Swim upstream Hosea 6:1-6
30 Ruler 1 Samuel 16:1, 6-13	31 Eternal Life Isaiah 65:17-21	April 1 Living Free John 5:1-16	2 Miracles John 5:17-30	3 Covenant Exodus 32:7-14	4 Savior Psalm 34:17-21, 23	5 Seeing John 7:40-53

6 Wonder John 11:1-45	7 Judge Not John 8:1-11	8 Physician Numbers 21:4-9	9 Stick & Stones Daniel 3:8-30	10 Father of Nations Genesis 17:3-9	11 Son of God John 10:31-42	12 Shepherd Ezekiel 37:21-28
13 Lord, Lord Philippians 2:6-11	14 Mission John 12:1-11	15 Only One Isaiah 49:1-6	16 Stand up Isaiah 50:4-9	17 MAUNDY THURSDAY Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14	18 GOOD FRIDAY Isaiah 52:13- 53:12	19 EASTER VIGIL Matthew 28:1-10

The Spiritual Disciplines of Lent
 Worship and Meditation, to draw us further into repentance, reflection and renewal.
 Fasting and Abstinence, sacrificing as a means to focus and reflection.
 Almsgiving, giving to others in response to Christ giving all for us.

56th Annual COUNTRY BREAKFAST

prepared for you by the United Methodist Men

Saturday March 15th

7:30 a.m. to Noon



featuring
pancakes & toppings, sausage,
biscuits & gravy, juice & beverage



First United Methodist Church
43rd & Franklin
Western Springs

(708) 246-1785 for information

\$6.00 adults, \$3.00 children 6-12
(Tickets available at the door)

In addition, the United Methodist Women will hold a bake sale of homemade items including cookies, candy, pies, breads and more.

Thank you for volunteering!

- **Plan ahead:** Please plan on arriving 10 to 15 minutes early so that we may start promptly, as other groups will be waiting. If your group is late and the projects have begun, there is a possibility that your group will be turned away.
- **Dress code:** Volunteers must wear long pants and close-toed shoes. You will not be permitted to work in the warehouse if you are wearing sandals or shorts/ short skirt.
- **What to bring:** We ask that each volunteer bring an item of canned or non-perishable food to donate. A list of most needed food items is available upon request.
- **What not to bring:** We encourage volunteers not to bring personal belongings into the facility; however, a limited number of lockers are available if needed.
- **Where to park:** Please park on side streets, Karlov and Keeler, for morning and afternoon sessions. Our parking lot will be available for Wednesday evening and Saturday sessions.
- **Age requirements:** The minimum age for volunteers is 14 years old. Volunteers under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult 18 and older. If you have scheduled a youth or high school group with more than five students your session is NOT booked until you confirm with someone within Volunteer Services.
- **Cancellations:** All cancellations must be reported to Volunteer Services no less than one week in advance. Note that a failure to give prior notice of cancellations in a timely manner will likely jeopardize future scheduling opportunities.

CHICAGO Food DEPOSITORY

Tuesday
March 11, 2014
1:30 – 4:00 pm

Meet at the Sparks home,
210 Sunset Ridge Road,
Willowbrook to carpool.

4100 W. Ann Lurie Place
Chicago 60632

RSVP to the church office 708.246.1785 or
FUMCWS@gmail.com and specify whether you are
driving yourself or planning to carpool from the
church with us.

Church Happenings – March 2014

Condolences



We extend our condolences to the family of Robert Milne, a long-time member of our church. Bob passed away in late February. Services are pending. Please keep Jeff and other family members in your thoughts and prayers.

Birthdays and Anniversaries (Happy Belated to our February Birthdays!) and Other Stuff

February Birthdays

- 2-01 Carolyn Sparks
- 2-02 Jeff Milne
- 2-03 Dave Lawrence
- 2-04 Jeff Marshall
- 2-04 Julie Lillquist
- 2-05 Jim Herhold
- 2-09 Marlys Newcome
- 2-09 Kathryn Sparks

March Birthdays

- 3-02 Matthew Conkis
- 3-02 Joe Hanus
- 3-04 Phillip Gleason
- 3-05 Gibson Litster
- 3-13 Will Conkis
- 3-14 Karl Vorres
- 3-19 Kathleen Bailey
- 3-19 Art Knobloch
- 3-21 Pam Litster
- 3-21 Henry Lyne II
- 3-21 John Marshall
- 3-27 Kristin Schaper
- 3-30 David Stone



NEW WEBSITE!

Thanks to Chuck Sparks to helping rejuvenate our website!

Check it out at
www.fumcws.org!

Email at
fumcws@gmail.com

Missions - We will continue to collect men's and women's white athletic socks (new or gently used) and wash clothes till April 1st. There is a container near the church office to put your donations. Thank you to everyone who donated. BEDS is very appreciative for everything.

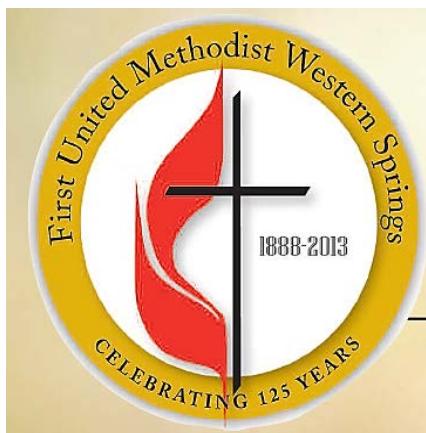
Food Bank - We will be collecting beans for the food banks in March though we will take any non-perishable food items any time.

Help Wanted! - Our Education Committee is looking for energetic, enthusiastic and enlightened members to continue to provide thought provoking, terrific and timely education ideas for Sunday School, Bible School, Bible Study, etc. – Contact Nancy Herts Benes for further information!

Like Us on Facebook



*"Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can." John Wesley*



125th Anniversary Celebration Happenings!

We welcomed Cathy Caliendo last month to the Pulpit. Cathy was raised in our church and is the current pastor at our cluster church, Wesley United Methodist Church in Cicero, Illinois.
Nice to see you Cathy!
Get your Pancakes this month – a long-time tradition at FUMC-WS



COMING IN MAY!

AN EVENING AT THE OPERA
*Sunday, May 4, 7 p.m.
At the First Congregational Church,
1106 Chestnut Street*

PART OF THE THOMAS FORD LIBRARY CONCERTS

Western Springs' mezzo-soprano Janet Mensen Reynolds and her friends from the Lyric Opera Chorus will preview operas from the Lyric's 2014-2015 season by singing famous arias, duets, and other pieces. Accompanied by the renowned pianist Patrick Holland, the quartet provides a full evening of song.

WE THANK THE FAMILY OF PAULINE AND ELMER KENNEDY FOR DEDICATING THIS CONCERT TO THE OUR CHURCH IN HONOR OF OUR 125TH ANNIVERSARY. PAULINE AND ELMER WERE WONDERFUL AND GENEROUS TO ALL OF US IN SO MANY WAYS.

An Evening at the Opera is a free concert generously presented as a gift to the community by the family of Pauline and Elmer Kennedy. This year's concert will be dedicated to the First United Methodist Church of Western Springs, which is celebrating its 125th anniversary. There will be one intermission and refreshments will be served after the concert. No registration required.

Church Happenings – March 2014

March 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 7:00 pm BEDS
2 Last Sunday after the Epiphany Holy Communion 9:00 am Missions 11:15 am Sunday School	3 7:00 am Rotary 10:00 am Bible Study	4 Ash Wednesday 6-8 am Ashes at Train 7:00 pm Worship with Communion & Ashes Choir following.	5 UMW Noon Baked Potato Lunch in Parlor	6 World Day of Prayer 10:30-Noon All Saints - WS	7 7:00 pm BEDS	8
9 1 st Sunday in Lent Holy Communion Daylight Savings Time Begins 9:00 am Finance 11:15 am Sunday School 7:00 pm Questers – Parlor	10 7:00 am Rotary 10:00 am Bible Study	11 7:30 pm Choir	12 7:30 pm Choir	13 3:00 pm Set-up County Bkfst & Bake Sale	14 7:00 pm BEDS 7:30 am County Bkfst & Bake Sale	15
16 2 nd Sunday in Lent Holy Communion 9:00 am Education 11:15 am Sunday School	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 7:00 am Rotary 10:00 am Bible Study	19 7:30 am B'kfst at Honey Bee 6:30-7:30 pm Pack 65 7:30 pm Choir	20 7:00 pm BEDS	21 7:00 pm BEDS	22
23 3 rd Sunday in Lent Marian McKinney Guest Spkr 11:15 am Sunday School 11:15 am Church Council	24 7:00 am Rotary 10:00 am Bible Study	25 7:30 pm Choir	26 7:30 pm Choir	27 7:00 pm BEDS	28 7:00 pm BEDS	29
30 4 th Sunday in Lent Pillars – Guest Speaker 5 th Sunday for Children 11:15 am Sunday School	31 <u>MARCH 23-30</u> <u>PASTOR IN</u> <u>HONDURAS</u>					