



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MARCH 2025
NEWSLETTER




Pastor Letter1-2
Prayer List3
Info/Events2-7
Celebrations8

**We invite you to
Ash Wednesday
March 5
at DVUMC**

Option 1:
12noon-1pm
 Drive-thru imposition of
 ashes and blessing while
 you remain in your car

Option 2:
5:30-6:30pm
 Individual Communion
 anytime 5:30-6:30pm

Option 3:
7pm-7:30pm
 Ash Wednesday Service
 in-person in our sanctuary

This year, Lent falls a little later. Recently, it was in February that I wrote to you about our upcoming Ash Wednesday services which fell on Valentine's Day last year. But here we are in 2025, and Ash Wednesday will be on March 5 this year. With Ash Wednesday, we begin our 40-day walk through the season we call Lent.

When I think of Lent I think of three things. First is fasting - the giving up of something for the days of Lent until Easter Morning. The question is what to give up. Traditionally, it is something sweet or something that is an indulgence. It should be a sacrifice. Some give up chocolate and then break the Lenten fasting on easter morning with an Easter basket full of chocolate bunnies and candies. Others give up their favorite soda or coffee. The idea is... let go of and resist those things that tempt you or trap you.

Pleasure is the issue. During Lent we learn to say no to excess and temptations. Just as Jesus resisted the three temptations Satan placed before him on his wilderness journey (please see Matthew 4:1-11), we too need to control our appetites.

I often get asked what I have given up for Lent. For me, this is a very private matter. If I say "doughnuts" there is a reason I am choosing doughnuts. I am a Type II diabetic, and I fall short and fail at resisting them. I want to challenge you to do some deep soul-searching. Pick a fast that is truly repentance. Give up a sin and do not return to it when Lent is over.

(continued on page 2)

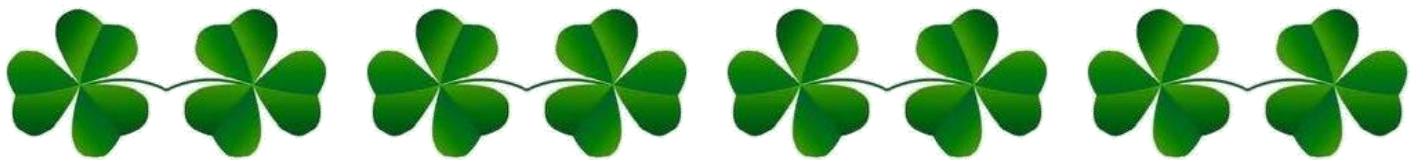
The second practice of Lent is to give "alms" - usually to the poor, but you can get creative in your giving. Support the Salvation Army Food Pantry in a consistent manner. Each week, give the item we highlight in the newsletter. Or give a gift to someone you know is struggling financially. Each year, I take the money I would have spent on my fasting item and donate it to the church. In this way, your fasting supports the work of Christ.

Lastly, I encourage you to take up a spiritual practice or discipline. One year, I fasted from watching my favorite science fiction shows. In the time I usually spent watching TV, I took up reading the bible and writing letters of encouragement. I found that Lent that year was life-changing for me.

So, I leave you with this - keep a holy Lent. Pray, fast, read your bible, give to those in need, repent of sin, and do acts of kindness for others. In this, you as well as others will be blessed.

Grace and Peace <><

Pastor Sam



Spotlight On Our Kids Club Volunteers

Kids Club



A big THANK YOU goes out to our wonderful group of volunteers who make Kids Club happen each Wednesday during the school year.

We are so thankful for our leaders who plan, organize, and set up all the details of the weekly programs. Without these wonderful leaders, there would be no Kids Club.

We are also thankful for the many other volunteers who pitch in and do so much. These caring people help in so many ways. There are those who provide the delicious and nutritious snacks for the kids. There are those who keep the financial records. Volunteers make and bring the props for different activities. There are kind adults who are there to assist the children and protect them while they enjoy the lessons, crafts, and various activities. These volunteers are

always there, willing to do anything they are asked to do. So many crafts and games require extra hands and a loving heart, and we are blessed to have people who are outstanding in this area.

We are also thankful for the parents of kids who come and help with our program. We have a great group who provide safe transportation when we go to other locations for special activities and outreach. These volunteers are the kind of volunteers you like to have on your team when you are trying to accomplish any given task. These are kind people who are appreciated so very much.

Thanks be to God for those who give of themselves, and especially those who bring His love to those children who come to Kids Club at Door Village. Thank you, volunteers, for making this wonderful program possible.

Sincerely,
George Morley, Lay Leader

Prayer Requests

Julie R - healing broken bones after a serious fall
Jackie's cousin Julie - blood clots & surgery recovery

Jon D - cancer treatment

Pat D - healing and mobility after hip surgery

Diane P - heart surgery recovery

Jerry H - strength and renewed health

Fred - heart health

Tina's dad - heart health

Suzanne - Pam S's daughter - ongoing medical condition - auto-immune AS (spinal arthritis)

Phil & Linda's daughter-in-law Kathleen - colon cancer

Spitzmesser's son-in-law Wes - prayers for successful bone marrow transplant recovery

Kevin - Joni C's son - foot infection and circulation

Cheryl G - improved health from flare-up of ongoing medical condition

Joyce G's friend Loise - hip surgery recovery

Joyce G's friend Pat - healing from a fall

Gail - shoulder healing following surgery

Alaina - improved health

Stanley E - heart

Netzer's granddaughter - ovarian cyst

Debbie - stem cell

Bruce - healing from a fall

Aunt Tina - genetic mother/baby tests

Marlene K - health and strength

Rick K - mission travels

Bonnie Q - cancer

Annie's sis-in-law Annette - recovering from stroke

Lynn - recovering from back surgery

Julie - improved breathing

Sheri - medical condition

Polly - lymphoma

Debra - bone cancer

Terry - health & strength

Connie's friends Bill and Diane - improved health

Beverly's friends Paul & Carolyn - improved health

Karen R - health, strength & happiness

Alex - 96-yr-old friend - health & strength

Joy - Neil W's sister in hospice

Kathy - Donna C's mother-in-law - healing & strength

Tom & Beverly H - pain relief, improved strength

Sheryl E - cancer treatment

Charlie C - stroke recovery

Lea Ann Heims - heart health

Garry & Tina - asking for prayers

Richard M - improved health & strength

Hanna - Bonnie's great-grandniece - tumor on spine

Janet U - prayers to stay cancer-free & heart health

Wendy - health & strength

Wade - health & strength

Kate M - friend of Diane P

Joe P - cancer

John P - cancer

Mark - colon cancer

Willie - cancer

Elsie - health & strength

Beverly B - improved health

Addie - toddler friend from Texas with leukemia

John - co-worker with cancer

Dory M - kidney health & wrist strength

George M - arthritis

Judy D - liver cancer

Scott - leukemia

Dana's dad Jim B - health & strength

Keith - Anne D's companion with cancer

David - Anne D's son with cancer

Barbara - Anne D's sister with cancer

Tawnya - ongoing COPD

Renetta - ongoing medical conditions

Brian T - ongoing medical condition

Chris K - ongoing medical condition

Cheryl K - ongoing medical condition

Beth - B & T's daughter - ongoing medical condition

Prayers for those battling addiction

PLEASE WRITE IN CHANGES/ADDITIONS.

You're also welcome to call or email the church office with changes/additions. *Thanks!*



Westville Lions Club Medical Equipment Loan Closet



The Westville Lions Club has four semi trailers filled with medical equipment.

The club has wheelchairs, walkers, and

other equipment which is loaned for free. If you have an equipment need,

please call Russ McCoy at 219-324-8602.





Sundays

Worship & Children's Church 10a
Communion Service First Sunday

Mondays

Bible Study at Oakwood 10a

Tuesdays

Pastor Sam's Bible Study 6p

Wednesdays

Healthy Eating Group 11a

Kids Club at DVUMC 3:45-5:15p (thru 3/19)

Communion for Lent anytime 5:30-6:30p

Choir Practice 6:30-7:30p

Ash Wednesday, March 5

Senior Breakfast at Christo's 8a
Worship & Ashes at Oakwood 9a
Drive-Thru Ashes & Blessing 12n-1p
Ash Wednesday Worship 7-7:30p
in Sanctuary

Thursday, March 6

Worship Service at Oakwood 9:30a

Saturday, March 8

Men's Breakfast in Fellowship Hall 8a

Sunday, March 9

Daylight Savings Begins - Spring Forward

Wednesday, March 12

UWF 1p

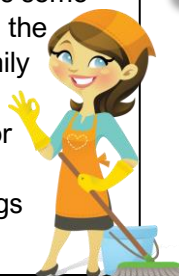
Monday, March 17

St. Patrick's Day



NEW CUSTODIAN NEEDED

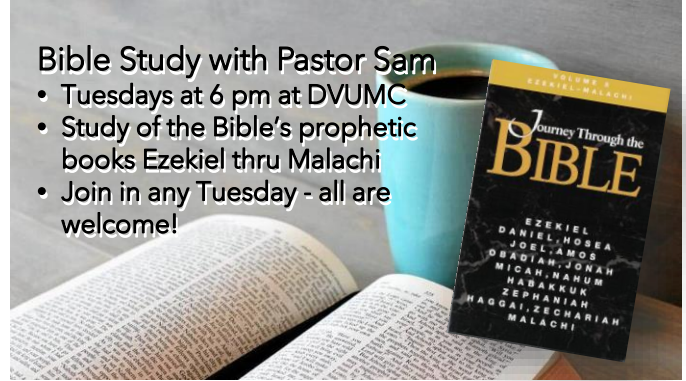
Our wonderful, hard-working custodial staff, Cindy and Alaina, will be stepping down in August to pursue other interests - retirement and higher education! That means the church will be looking to hire someone by June or July, which allows some overlap for on-the-job training. If anyone in the congregation is interested (or knows a family member or friend who might be), please contact Pastor Sam or Connie Clougher for more information. We will miss Cindy and Alaina but wish them many, many blessings in their new ventures! ~ DVUMC SPRC



OFFICE HOURS Mon thru Thurs
7 am - 12 noon
219.362.3812
doorvillageumc@gmail.com

Bible Study with Pastor Sam

- Tuesdays at 6 pm at DVUMC
- Study of the Bible's prophetic books Ezekiel thru Malachi
- Join in any Tuesday - all are welcome!



AMISH FRY PIES

\$3 each



Fundraiser for DV Lions

Flavors include:

Apple, Cherry, Blueberry, Peach, Lemon,
Strawberry-Rhubarb, Black Raspberry,
Strawberry Cream, and Bavarian Cream

Sign up to pre-order & pre-pay

DURING MARCH

at Greeter's Table

Delivered to DVUMC

afternoon of Thursday, April 17

**Fresh for 1 week refrigerated
or freeze up to 6 months**

Thank you for supporting DV Lions!

Sunday, March 16

**All-Church
POTLUCK**



Please join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall after worship on March 16 for an all-church potluck. If you can, please bring a dish to share.

All are welcome.

Hosted by the Nurture Committee.

Senior Breakfast



March 5, 2025

1st Wednesday
of each month

8 am

Christo's

1462 W State Rd 2
La Porte



Monday Bible Study at Oak Woods Manor

1211 Longwood Dr
(Hwy 39 South) La Porte

Mondays at 10 am
Public Welcome



MEN'S BREAKFAST & FELLOWSHIP

will meet on

March 8 at 8 am
in Fellowship Hall

DONATE



Hats • Gloves • Socks
for area elementary kids

PLACE IN BASKET ON GREETER TABLE

Our Healthier Eating group at DVUMC is reading the book "Spirit-Filled & Sugar-Free." All are welcome.

Wednesdays at 11 am at church. Please contact Lana Fenstermaker for more info.



GRADUATES

If you know of anyone from our church family who will be graduating from high school or college this year, please let us know in the church office or notify Lindsay Koselke so they can be included in our Education Sunday celebration on June 1.



United Women in Faith

NEXT MEETING

March 12

1 pm in the Parlor

Program - Jan B & Bev W
Refreshments - Nancy W



United Women in Faith

Fellowship & Refreshments

Thank you to those who provide refreshments in the parlor after worship. Please sign up on the greeter's table if you'd like to host a future Sunday fellowship time.



Salvation Army Food Pantry

Suggested items for March:

Peanut Butter
Jelly
Cereal

NEEDED: USED BOOKS

Novels & Children's Books - DV Little Library Box is in need of entertainment books. Please bring your used adult and children's books to the greeter's table. They will be placed in the Little Library Box over at the park. If you take books from the box home to read, please return them or replace them with other books you'd like to share.



SUNDAY MORNINGS!
AGE 4 THRU 4TH GRADE
Children's Church
DURING WORSHIP

MARCH CHILDREN'S CHURCH
 March Leader: Mary

March 2 - Through the Roof
 March 9 - With His Friends
 March 16 - Out of the Tomb
 March 23 - On the Road
 March 30 - With Us Always

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

The Finance Committee is looking for counters to count offering after services - basically this just requires writing check and cash amounts on a list and totaling it.

A backup person to process offering deposits is also needed. This person fills out a deposit slip, verifies that their total matches the counters, and delivers the deposit to the bank downtown. This would only be on occasion when our main deposit person is not available.

If you are willing to do this, please talk to Dennis Fischer or Evan Lancaster.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
 You're invited to **Adult Sunday School**
 in the Parlor 9-9:30
 with Pastor Sam & the Devotion Team sharing Scripture & Prayer

If you have a prayer concern, if you are hospitalized and would like our prayers or to be visited, or if you would like to become a new member of the prayer chain, please call or text Pastor (812-380-1589) or notify the church office.

Kids Club



Wednesdays after school
3:30-5:15

After-school program for Grades K-4
 October thru March 19
 Playground time at the park
 Snacks, Games, & Christian Lesson
 Contact Carolyn (363-2818) or Carla (363-9401) with questions.

March 5
 Trip to Luhr Park
March 12
 Bowling
March 19
 End-of-Season Ice Cream Party

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers each week are graciously provided by the Flower Committee. There is no charge for you to honor someone or commemorate a special event. Please sign up on the 2025 flower sheet on the greeter's table or call the church office to have us fill in your info. Thank you to our Flower Committee for providing this lovely ministry.

Electronic Giving

For your convenience, offerings can be made from a mobile device or computer through a secure site by visiting our church website, doorvillagechurch.org, and clicking the electronic offering button:

My Offering



What is **LENT?**

Lent is a solemn period in the Christian calendar lasting 40 days (excluding Sundays) that begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes on Holy Saturday.

It is a time for believers to reflect on their own mortality, repentance, and the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Through acts of self-discipline and spiritual contemplation, individuals seek to purify their hearts and draw closer to God.

By participating in the Lenten journey, Christians aim to deepen their faith, seek forgiveness, and experience personal transformation as they prepare to celebrate the joyous resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday.

The Door Village UMC sanctuary will be open Wednesday evenings March 5 thru April 16 from 5:30 to 6:30 pm for individual Holy Communion and a time of contemplation. You are welcome to come and go anytime during that hour. May you be blessed during this year's Lenten journey.





How to contact Pastor Sam:
 Email: pastoroorvillage@hotmail.com
 Mobile: 812-380-1589
 Office: 219-362-3812
 Find him on Facebook!

DOOR VILLAGE
 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 3502 West Joliet Road
 La Porte, IN 46350
 www.doorvillageumc.org
 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

March Birthdays

3/01 Tearsa Schable	3/10 John Dysard	3/21 Ainsley Guillen
3/02 Neil Westphal	3/10 Liz Kirk	3/22 Katrina Langford
3/03 Evan Lancaster	3/11 Jennifer Schuster	3/22 Sandy Spurr
3/04 Stephanie Lindeman	3/15 Matt Fischer	3/27 Ty Hurt
3/06 Lana Schable	3/15 Bill Troy	3/27 Pam Struebing
3/07 Carol Dillon	3/16 Kathy Hindsley	3/28 Vickey Kelver
3/07 Whitney Kelley	3/18 Lucille Martin	3/28 Paul Lux
3/07 Cathie Martin	3/19 Carson Curtis	3/30 Chris Schable

A March Anniversaries

3/08	Joel & Tiffany Bernacchi
3/13	Lou & Beth Voelker