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The United Methodist Church
109 North Freeman Ave
Luverne MN 56156

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

February. . ..2021

The Messenger

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of LUVERNE

109 N Freeman Ave

Luverne MN 56156

Open
hearts.
minds.
doors.

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends!

We have been on quite a journey this last year with COVID! It has challenged us, changed us, shook us, scared us, and encouraged us to think about things in many a different way! It has also taught us that we are very much able to adjust and adapt, hasn't it? Some of us thought that was not possible!

In Colossians, there is scripture (honestly there are several throughout the Bible) which teaches and encourages us by way of building our relationship with Jesus and deepening our roots in him by growing our faith and walking in his love. (See picture). And it goes to reason that as we deepen our roots in him, our wings are reaching and strong. Which means we have even a greater ability to accomplish mighty things!

Sometimes struggles and challenges help us to contemplate who Jesus is to us, they might help us to step back and evaluate what our faith means to us, and it might even help us to realize that we might have been neglectful of our relationship with Jesus.

We have been searching and talking about some of the promises in the Bible and how they remind us of just how much God loves us and all the things God has made available to us. Many of us have been striving for a stronger foundation. We have been craving another level of peace and even trying to learn more about what it means to simply just surrender. God is always about helping us to transformation!

But, surrender is difficult and it relies completely on the faith you have nurtured. When you have the ability to give it to God, God lifts you up with scripture, like in Isaiah 41:10:

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." ~ Isaiah 41:10.

BUDGET

GENERAL BUDGET TOTALS

January 3, 2021 thru January 31, 2021

Envelopes	$ 9,8.1000
Loose offering	$ 321.00
Apportionments	$ 210.00
Radio	$ 4,600.00
General Budget 2020	$ 15,980.00
Online giving (Dec.)	**$ 5,180.00**
	$ 36,101.00
TOTAL	**$ 36,101.00**

NON-BUDGET DONATIONS

Silver Bucket	$ 234.95
Upper Room	$ 6.00
Endowment Fund	$ 5,000.00
Grant	$ 200.00
	$ 5,440.95
TOTAL	**$ 5,440.95**

TOTALS	**$ 36,101..00**
	$ 5,440.95
GRAND TOTAL	**$ 41,541.95**

PLEASE NOTE:

THIS TOTAL INCLUDES THE ONLINE GIVING TOTALS FOR DECEMBER 2020

Date	Lay Reader	Hosts	Power Point	Sound	Tellers
February 7	Lola Donth	Travis and Shannon Dwire Family	Carol McDonald	David Vis	Jack and Felicia Hanson
February 14	Mary Gehrke	Marian Eatherton and Annabelle Frakes	Jeanne Bowron	Jason Kruse	Jay and Bev Mann
February 21	Open	George and Carol McDonald	Jennifer Hilfers	Luther Hall	Everett and Jan Brandenburg
February 28	David Vis	Al and Dixie Aanenson	Jessie VandeHoef	Matthew Fick	Jack and Felicia Hanson

Date	Worship Assistants	Coffee Makers
February 7	Felicia Hanson	NOT NEEDED
February 14	Sandy Vogt	NOT NEEDED
February 21	Manny Olson	NOT NEEDED
February 28	Emily Crabtree	NOT NEEDED

Communion: Jim and Deb Hanson **Video**: Beth Fick

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

TRUSTEE OF THE WEEK FEBRUARY 2021

February 1, 2021 thru February 7, 2021 - Jay Mann
February 8, 2021 thru February 14, 2021 - Al Aanenson
February 15, 2021 thru February 21, 2021 - Cody Gehrke
February 22, 2021 thru February 28, 2021 - Jeanne Bowron

And in Proverbs 3:5-6...

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." **~ Proverbs 3:5-6.**

These scriptures remind us that as we grow close to him, the closer he comes to us, the stronger our faith is, the more we trust Jesus and the less stressful things like COVID make us because we don't have control over those types of things.

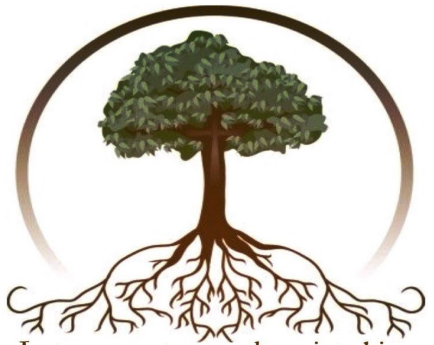
We might remember that moment in the Garden of Gethsemane when Jesus bowed his head and talked with his Father about what was ahead for him. In one way he asked God to take it all away, but yet, his surrender was imminent, he knew how important what was ahead for him (and for us, as well!) and Jesus had trust and a deep love for us. Jesus would go on to make the greatest sacrifice of all for each one of us as he surrendered his own life to God!

It is precisely that sacrifice that gives us the hope we need to take each step we take every day! It is what Jesus did for us which reminds us we can do anything, especially as we plant our steps in God! Remember, Jesus came to live a human life, to show us how he could relate to the things we go through!

This month, let us deepen the love we have for Jesus by growing closer to him, by building on our friendship with him and trusting everything will be okay, in spite of all the things around us which might teach us otherwise.

Be blessed,

Pastor Jorie

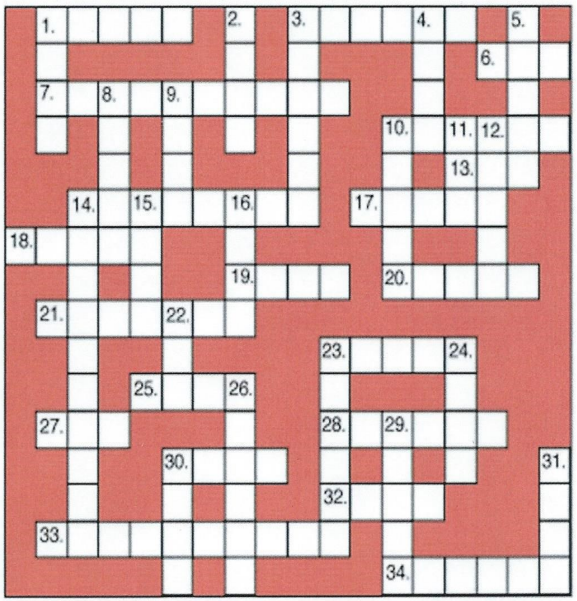


LUMC UPCOMING EVENTS

- Pizza Ranch Take-Out Wednesday - February 10
- Valentine Boxes for sale (call in or FB order) - February 8-14
- Confirmation Retreat - February 14-15
- Ash Wednesday - February 17 - Here
- Conference in Des Moines - March 12-14 TBD
- World Day of Prayer - March 5
- Good Friday - April 2

COMMUNION SERVICE
FEBRUARY 14, 2021 ~ 10:30 AM

Valentine's Crossword



Across:
1. Opposite of boys
3. Valentine colour
6. ____ goes there?
7. St. _____ Day
10. The targets of Cupid's arrows
13. This little piggy is one
14. Valentine month
17. Tolls paid
18. _____ change, pocket money
19. Sign above door
20. Donald's girlfriend
21. Crayon maker
23. He shoots love arrows
25. Short form for animal doctors
27. Valentine's colour
28. Cupid shoots these
30. Valentine colour
32. Choose
33. Sweet valentine gifts
34. _____ admirer

Down:
1. Bestow
2. _____ the bottle
3. Attractive
4. Frilly trim
5. Valentine colour
8. Mickey _____ Minnie
9. Close to
10. Listened
11. Past tense of eat
12. Red flowers
14. February ___ is Valentine's
15. __ __ valentine.
16. Length x width
22. Single, __, 2, 3, ...
23. Winners
24. Opposite of up
26. First day of the week
29. Speed contests
30. Scheme
31. Pepper_____ candy

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We wanted to share some of what has been the rule as far as the various areas of the church. Covid19 certainly changes the way we have been doing things! We have been trying to be as clear as we can, but obviously that can be challenging when we don't actually see each other on a regular basis!

We are holding in-person church, with masks being recommended. We also strive for Social Distancing and having contactless moments as much as possible. We have placed tables for the offering and have the screen for viewing the service. Masks are available as well as sanitizer. We encourage minimal gathering before and after church.

Jakki is available during normal business hours to assist you during the week. Pastor Dorie is in the office minimally. It is recommended to call before you come in to make sure the right person is there to meet your needs. Merely stopping to drop something off or pick something up is okay.

Certainly there are more ways we are affected by COVID19. The inability to have interaction with each other is very difficult. Some of us are social beings and not being able to visit is a challenge. Pastor Dorie would like to make sure all of you understand that she is willing to visit with any of you at your request. She has been trying to touch base periodically with phone calls, but, if you find you would like to chat or visit, please let her know. In normal times, she might hear of a need or hospital visit she should make, but because of the minimal interaction we have, she doesn't hear what may be happening around us. Unless you reach out, HPVA laws always makes this a difficult area, but now more so! Thank you for all the ways you have been letting us know what's happening to you!

We have been navigating this fairly well....thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to walk through this time as best we can! We just might see a glimmer on the horizon...we know God is in control and we continue to trust all things are under His care!

Stay safe Everyone!

Pizza Ranch

Don't forget to mark your calendars for our monthly Pizza Ranch Take Out Fundraiser Night! 10% of the proceeds will come back to the Church to benefit our Children and Youth Wednesday night programs!

It's easy! Call or go into Pizza Ranch and get your order to go...bring it home...ENJOY the yumminess of your meal...and BAM...10% of your order is given back to our Church...

Our next Take Out Night is February 10, 2021

Exciting news from the Trustees! The heating and air conditioning project has been paid in FULL!!

We extend a heartfelt thank you to all that gifted money to complete this project! Our congregation ROCKS!

thank you!

~ Jeanne Bowron and all on the board of trustees

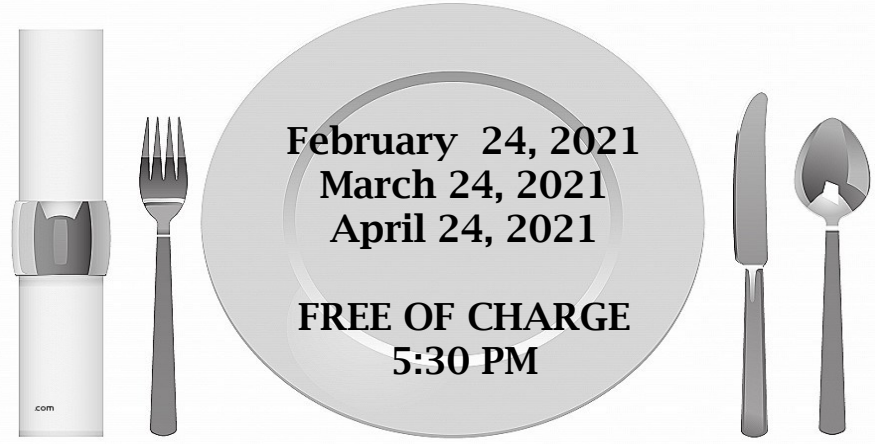
The Prayer Chain Please call Jan Brandenburg @ 283-4059 for specific announcements. Our prayer chain has been expanded to include our faith family and areas of ministry on a rotating basis. Who couldn't use the help of prayers in life occasionally? The Prayer Chain list for the month is as follows:

WEEK OF February 7, 2021 - LaVonne Anderson, Linda Hanson, Jason and Karla Kruse Family, Jeremy Reisdorfer, Mary Stoops and answers to prayers and guidance in all ways.

WEEK OF February 14, 2021 - Jesse and Ashley Connell Family, Daniel and Joci Fick, Jennifer Kruse Family, Aaron and Abby Moeller Family, Ian and Kristen Ruppert, and for hearts that are searching.

WEEK OF February 21, 2021 - Dustin Aning and Melissa Wood Family, Charles and Sally Cooksley, Jacob Fick, Dale Hawes, Mark and Tammy Moeller Family, Dale and Cindy Reverts and for the Lent/Easter Season.

WEEK OF February 28, 2021 - Travis and Amber Arends, Dawn Cope Family, Josh and Keela Fick Family, Whit Kruse, Phyllis Mohr and the Rock County Food Shelf.



Sponsor a broadcast for $90. The chart for 2021 is on the bulletin board by the church office. Signup today!!!! **UMC TV** broadcast can be seen on Mondays @ 3:00pm and Fridays @ 5pm on Vas Local Channel 3. **Listen to KQAD** Radio Broadcast on Sundays at 10:30am on 800 Radio. **Here is a list of our supporters for the month of January 2021:**

January 3, 2021 - Was sponsored by Donald and Linda Shaw in honor of their grandsons Owen and Oliver and also their children Michelle and Steve Shaw. Thank you and God bless you for sponsoring this week's broadcast.

January 10, 2021 - Was sponsored in loving prayer to the Wayne and Amy Kruger Family as they are going thru a rough and trying time right now. We pray that the Lord will wrap his arms around them to comfort them, make them stronger, and offer his healing hands to these members of our church family.

January 17, 2021 - Was sponsored in hope and prayers about the state of our nation and the disturbing events that have recently transpired at our Capitol building. May we as a nation be safe and strive for peace and unity in the upcoming year. Remember to keep Jesus in your heart and trust in Him to guide you.

January 24, 2021 - Was sponsored in hope and prayers about the changing of the guard. May President Biden have a smooth transition into the Presidency and may he have the best interest of our nation in mind as he now presides over and leads our nation. And prayers for President Trump as he steps down and excepts this new presidency. May God be with them both!

January 31, 2021 - Was sponsored by Keith and Betty Luethje in honor of all our church and personal families that are struggling in any way. Thank you Keith and Betty, and blessings to you for sponsoring today's broadcast.

UMC Luverne Members and Friends that live in Special Homes.

Mary Jane Brown Home - Luverne
Ardith (Ardie) Schmidt - Grace Boeve - Ramona McDowell

Poplar Creek Assisted Living - Luverne
- Bill Holling -

The Oaks– Luverne - *Charles and Sally Cooksley*

Evans Memorial Home - Cresco, IA - *Carol Ohlson*

Luverne UMC will be doing Meals on Wheels for the month of February. Beth Fick or Kim Donth are in charge of this and are available to answer any questions or information you may need! Thank you so much in advance for helping to keep this as an option for those in need of this service. Please contact the church office if you are in need of Kim or Beth's contact information.

2021 World Day of Prayer ~ March 5

World Day of Prayer • March 5, 2021

Prepared by the WDP Committee of Vanuatu • Art by Juliette Pita

American Reformed Church will be hosting...stay tuned for details!

February.....2021

2 - George McDonald

4 - Diane Kennedy

5 - Daniel Fick

6 - Terry Nelson

7 - Colby Crabtree
Beth Wieman
Nathan Nielsen

14 - Jim Hanson

17 - Morris Fick

20 - Solomon Nielsen

21 - Ashley Connell
Riley Anderson

25 - Buster Rust

26 - Rev. Dr. Deborah
Mariya
Peggy Nelson

LUVERNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH STAFF
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pastor@umcluverne.com
Church Secretary - Jakki Lindsley - jakki@umcluverne.com
Youth Ministry Director - Manny Olson - manny@umcluverne.com
Children's Ministry Director - Cassie Snyders - cassie@umcluverne.com

Hey Everyone! Let's not forget Ash Wednesday is February 17, 2021. This marks the start of our Special Holy Lenten/Easter Season!

Currently, the plan is to have this service here but things may change.

We will keep you informed!

A very heartfelt thank you to all of you in our church family for your faithful giving this year! All of our bills are current and all apportionments have been paid!

As we continue this year of 2021, it is our hope to reach this goal again. The Lord will continue to bless you for your gifts and tithes toward your church!

Luverne United Methodist Church's

ANNUAL CHOCOLATE BUFFET

Will Be A Little Different This Year...

Still the same yummy chocolate treats....
But now in a special Valentine Gift Box
To give or to enjoy yourself!

Beginning Monday, February 8 through
Sunday, February 14th Our Treat Boxes
will be available for purchase.
Decorated Boxes filled with treats
and a heart filled with blessings.
Call 507-283-4529 or message us on Facebook to
Reserve yours today!! Will make a great gift!
$10.00

Proceeds will go to the LUMC Compassion Fund.

Confirmation Class

We are gearing up to set aside and spend our Presidents Day weekend, February 14th and 15th, to study Jesus at what has become our annual winter retreat. It has become a great time of study for us as we take a subject and spend hours learning more deeply how that subject impacts our faith. This year we are studying John Wesley.

Annual Youth Trip to Des Moines

March 12-14, 2021 finds youth of our Church, sixth grade and above invited to travel with Pastor Dorie to Des Moines. There they will participate in a wonderfully spirit-filled and educational IGNITE YOUTH CONFERENCE!

The goal of this conference is to equip, train, refresh and energize students, volunteers and youth leaders. Topics of interest include 5 skills of a small group leader, Life Hacks for Generation 2: 7 Faith Survival Tips and Biblical Authority and Apologetics. Great stuff!

If anybody is interested in joining us, please be sure to let us know ASAP!

February 2021 Silver Bucket

We have decided to dedicate Silver Bucket for February to the Wayne and Amy Kruger Family. On January 4th, Wayne was in a snowmobile accident and suffered some serious injuries, however, through much faith, prayer and tons of support, Wayne has proven to be a fighter and is on his way toward recovery!

These funds will help the Kruger Family with whatever they may be needing at this time! Please show your support by giving what you can, and continue to pray for them during his - and his family's - recovery!

February 2021 Trunk Ministry

Luverne UMC will once again have the trunk in the Sanctuary for soup donations to the Rock County Food Shelf for those in need thru our Soup-er Bowl for Caring Ministry. Please do all you can to help this ministry. Thank you!

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

PRAYER WARRIORS

Just a reminder...We are meeting regularly on the second Sunday of every month after church. We come together and lift up the cares and concerns of not only our Faith Family, but also our community, our nation and our world. You are welcome to join us at any time. We are reminded in James 5 that "great things happen when believing people pray."

Because there have been many great things happening among this faith family, we feel it important to expand our prayers and expect God to do even more great things among us as we continue to care for each other.

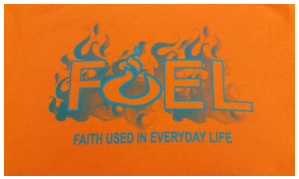
Our next meeting is scheduled for February 14th.

Everyone is invited to join us!!

There is a Conference Live Streamed event planned for all youth in 6th grade and older planned for Wednesday, **February 3, 2021**

If you are in this group, please plan on joining us!

Pastor is springing for Pizza!



More information will be coming....

Stay tuned!!

From Your Church Council...
January 19, 2021 Meeting Highlights

Finance:
- All bills are paid and up-to-date including apportionments.

Staff-Parish:
- A meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2021.

Trustee:
- Firemen are going to be changing the light bulbs in the church.
- The loan for the heating/cooling project is paid in full.

M & M:
- We are selling chocolate gift boxes from February 8-14, 2021 for $10 each.
- Call the church to order or through Facebook. A sign up sheet will also be available at church.
- NO SPAGHETTI THIS YEAR.
- Bible Study group and the youth will be gathering on February 7, 2021 to package up the gift boxes.
- We will be putting out the Soup-er Bowl soup donations for the Rock County Food Shelf.
- Silver Bucket has been planned out for the whole year of 2021.
- Silver Bucket Listing for 2021 is as follows:

1. January - St. Francis House
2. February - Wayne and Amy Kruger Family/Trunk Ministry: Soup-er Bowl for Food Shelf.
3. March - Heifer International
4. April - UMCOR
5. May - Love Offering
6. June - Children's Dental Services
7. July - Rock County Food Shelf
8. August - Luverne Schools/Trunk Ministry: School Supplies
9. September - Left open at this time.
10. October - SHARE Program/Trunk Ministry - Undy Sunday
11. November - Southwestern Youth Services
12. December - Christmas Eve Meal

- February is LUMC's month for Meals on Wheels.

Pastor:
- A motion was made, seconded, and carried to share Lenten services with the Presbyterian church.

Food Shelf:
- They are thinking April or May the Food Shelf will go to the new building.

Next Meeting: March 16, 2021

2021 # FEBRUARY 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Chocolate Gift Boxes *On sale Feb. 8-14, 2021* *Call (507) 283-4529 or message* *Facebook to place your order!*	1 **8pm** - AA Meeting	2 **7pm** - Scouts	3 **615pm -** FUEL **6:30pm -** ALIVE and Confirmation Conference	4 **1-3pm** - Food Shelf	5	6 **8pm** - AA Meeting
	PASTOR DORIE BOOM VIA ZOOM					
7 5th Sunday after the Epiphany **9:30am -** Adult Sunday School **10:30am** - Streamed Worship Service **3pm** - Packing the Chocolate Gift Boxes **4:30pm** - Genesis/Revelation Bible Study	8 **Chocolate Gift Boxes available for purchase thru the 14th** **8pm** - AA Meeting	9 **6pm** - Teachers Meeting **7pm** - Scouts	10 **6:15pm** F.U.E.L. **6:30pm** - Confirmation **8pm** - AA Meeting **PR Take Out Fundraiser Night** Pizza Ranch	11 **1-3pm** - Food Shelf	12	13 **8pm** - AA Meeting
14 Transfiguration Sunday **9:30am** - Adult Sunday School **10:30am** - Worship Service - Communion **Prayer Warriors after Service** **4:30pm** - Genesis/Revelation Bible Study	15 **8pm** - AA Meeting	16 **1pm -** Dorie/Jakki Mtg. **6:30pm** - PPR Meeting	17 **6pm -** F.U.E.L. **6:30pm** - Confirmation **7pm - Ash Wednesday -** Here? **8pm** - AA Meeting	18 **1-3pm** - Food Shelf	19	20 **8pm** - AA Meeting
CONFIRMATIO N RETREAT						
21 1st Sunday in Lent **9:30am -** Adult Sunday School **10:30am** - Worship Service **4:30pm** - Genesis/Revelation Bible Study **6pm** - ALIVE Youth Group	22 **8pm** - AA Meeting **MESSENGER DEADLINE**	23 **7pm** - Scouts	24 **5:30pm -** Community Meal **6:15pm -** F.U.E.L. **6:30pm** - Confirmation **8pm** - AA Meeting	25 **1-3pm and 5-6:30pm** - Food Shelf	26	27 **8pm** - AA Meeting
28 2nd Sunday in Lent **9am -** Coffee Hour & Adult SS **10am** - Worship Service **4:30pm** - Genesis/Revelation Bible Study **6pm** - ALIVE Youth Group	**March 1** **8pm** - AA Meeting	**2** **9:30am -** Folding Team **7pm** - Scouts	**3** **6:15pm -** F.U.E.L. 6:30pm - Confirmation **8pm** - AA Meeting	**4** **1-3pm** - Food Shelf	**5**	**6** **8pm** - AA Meeting