



# *Luverne UMC*

## *March 2024 Messenger*

Greetings dear family!

What a winter! There are no words to describe what we have experienced these last few months, incredible, amazing, crazy are just a few, but really, they don't cut it!!

We are about to experience a month full of Jesus! It is an exciting time! Our calendar is filled with activities to help you maintain your faith! Living out your faith is what brings it to life and it so close! We will be having a meeting to build our men's ministry, holding an afternoon of games for all ages, our youth will travel to Des Moines for a conference, we will celebrate and support our Family Ministry and embrace our faith as we walk with Jesus in those last moments of his physical life!

The message of Jesus is to walk with him more closely every day and embrace what he has done and continues to do with us! Faith is a very special part of our lives! Having said that, I am going to take a moment and get on my soap box!

There are stats in print that say positive and negative things about the state of faith in our nation. Us adults attending church on a regular basis are showing that only 63% of them have returned. But those that attend at least monthly also enjoy the ability to experience church through social media. Millennials are starting to return to church, while Gen Z's have a hard time believing the word of God as authentic.

As we experience life in our little neck of the woods, our stats continue to get better and even grow (see February's Newsletter). Our attendance continues to increase, we have many who attend at least twice a month and several who attend every Sunday! We meet new people and see others returning to us on a regular basis and hear the words "warm and comfortable" to describe what happens here. Almost everyone in our church participates in some place of ministry and many offer their presence in several ways. We have much to be grateful for as we look around at our family!

One area of our church I am asking for us to find more strength is in the area of our kids and youth ministry. I am so thankful for the faithful group we have who share their time with our kids regularly. We have strengthened the foundation of our programming and look forward to teaching the many babies we have had these last couple of years.

What we need is the support of our greater family...those of you who maybe don't have grandbabies or young ones who currently participate in our programs. We will be hosting a game day in the afternoon on March 3...VERY SOON! And we have held such faith family events in the past. This and our FUEL AUCTION, fundraising events, etc., are vital to teaching our kids about what it means to be a part of a church. They experience and learn these lessons from each one of you and the way we live out our faith with each other. They are the future of our church.

I believe many of you can name some important times in your lives when church was there for you. Times of celebration, of sadness, growth, and great memories. Those times can be a catalyst to giving our kids an opportunity for the building of their own faith. For mentoring, attending activities, chaperoning, celebrating and any opportunity to be present for their activities is a great bonding and building experience.

We would love to see this area of our faith family grow and become more inspirational for our kids...will you help us do this? Please join us for this full month of activities and share the love of Jesus and all he has done for us!

*Pastor Dorie*

# VERSE of the MONTH

The scripture of focus this month is Deuteronomy 6:6-9 that says:

*"These commandments that I give you today are to be in your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates."*

UMC Luverne Members and Friends that live in Special Homes:

Mary Jane Brown Home  
~ Bill Holling ~ David Johnson  
~ Phyllis Mohr

MN Veterans Home  
~ Keith Luethje

Regular Creek Assisted Living  
~ Annabelle Frakes

The Oaks  
~ Sally Cooksley

The Tuff Home - Hills  
~ Ralph Watts



COMMUNION SUNDAY  
MARCH 10, 2024

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SHUT IN COMMUNION/VISITS

MARCH 13, 2024

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MARCH 19, 2024



## The Prayer Chain

Please call Jan Brandenburg @ 283-4059 for specific announcements or if you or someone you know needs extra prayer. We are here to help!



If you would like to sponsor a broadcast. The cost is \$95 and you may sign up on the bulletin board or Let Jakki know in the office. The radio broadcast is a very important piece of our Ministry; any support is appreciated! Thank you!

Listen to our radio broadcast at 10:30am Sunday, Mon. at 3pm and Fri. at 5pm on VAST Channel 3, or on our Facebook page!



Need a place for your Sunshine receipts? The perfect place for them is in the Sunshine box that is located on the table at the back of the sanctuary. ALL receipts you get from the Luverne grocery store are acceptable (including floral, deli, stamps, etc.) We cannot use the receipts from the gas station though. As of today, over \$22,000 in receipts have been received and our church receives 1% of this total. The money received goes to the Compassion Fund which helps people in need. Thank you for your continued support - it is very much appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support!

The Prayer Chain list for the month of March is as follows:

**WEEK OF March 3, 2024** - Jack and Joyce Bennett, Kat Dahl and Brooks Maurer family, Bob and Dawn Frakes, Bill Holling, Patricia Reverts, Jon and Erika Menning Family and for Our Families.

**WEEK OF March 10, 2024** - Jean Bolluyt, Kasyn Kruse, Wendy Jamison, Ian and Kristen Ruppert Family, Chris Schaeffer and Lori Osei-Ofori, Adam VonHoltum and for our District Superintendents.

**WEEK OF March 17, 2024** - Kimberly Bennett, Jessa Dahl, Alyssa Frakes Family, Terry and Peggy Nelson, Cathy Rust, Marilyn VanWyhe, and People to fill our Sanctuary.

**WEEK OF March 24, 2024** - Brittany Remme Family, Mike and Traci Davis Family, Charlie and Alisha Jackelen Family, Thomas Porter, Connie Olson, Kathy Schadwinkel and for Revival in our Community.

**WEEK OF March 31, 2024** - Gene Ashby, Matthew and Jessica Fick, Marv Laackmann and Carol Grimaldo, Josh and Brittany Yamauchi Family, Mike and Christine Reverts family, Jeanne VandeHoef and hearts that are searching.



### March 2024 Silver Bucket



This month's Silver Bucket is our own Luverne UMC Trustee Members. They work hard to make sure the grounds of the church is cared for, help with various - financial or other needs of our church such as setting the thermostat, checking for leaks and other various repairs, unlocking doors when needed, snow or ice buildup and putting out ice melt. These are just a few things. They are very important to this faith family and all funds from this Silver Bucket will go to the Trustee Committee.

Thank you for all you do!



Just a reminder that there are Sunshine Food Grocery cards available in the office during the week and on Sundays. They make great gifts for the holiday season!

These work just like vouchers. These cards come in \$25, \$50, and \$100 increments. If you don't use it all...that is okay...this card holds the balance over for another time! Stop in and get some today.





Our Prayer Warriors meet the second Sunday of every month. There is strength in numbers. Prayer Warriors are needed to help those we know personally in need and for things happening in our world today that need us to pray and stand strong together to overcome!

**Our next meeting is**  
**March 10, 2024**  
 after our service in the sanctuary!  
**All are welcome!**

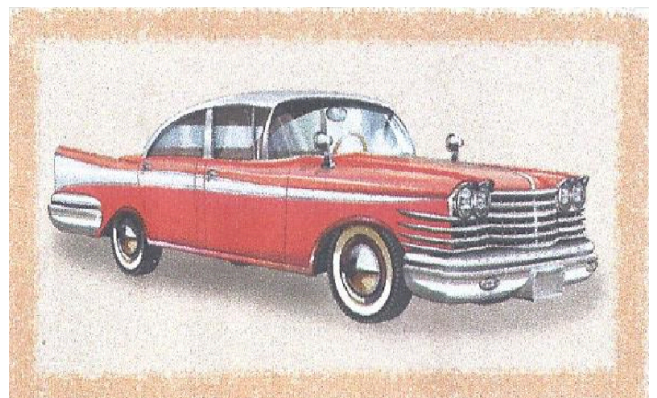


Don't forget to mark your calendars for our monthly Pizza Ranch Take Out Fundraiser Night on the 2nd Wednesday of each month! 10% of the proceeds will come back to the church to benefit our Children and Youth Wednesday night programs!

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**

**March 13, 2024**



A big thank you to our Church Family for the goodies and pretty balloons! A special thanks to the Sunday School girls and ladies who delivered it to our home!

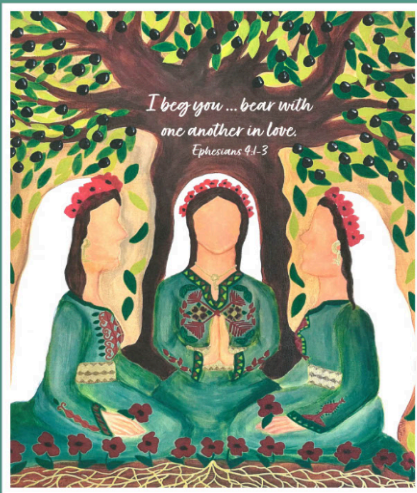
Evelyn and Darwin Reyne

THANK YOU





World Day of Prayer March 1, 2024



Prepared by the WDP Committee of Palestine | Published by World Day of Prayer USA  
www.wdp-usa.org | 212.870.2466 | Art by Halima Aziz

This year's World Day of Prayer is **March 1, 2024 at 10am**. Grace Lutheran Church will be hosting this year. The theme this year is, "I beg you...bear with one another in love," based on Ephesians 4:1-7. The country we will be focusing on is Palestine.

The M&M Committee would like to let you know about our next Faith Family Event which will be held:

**March 3, 2024**

It is our plan to have an afternoon of Games and Snacks. We are aware that there are those who absolutely love Pinochle and those who would love to learn how to play it, so that's one of the things on our agenda! Along with UNO, and other fun games we want to play, we will spend time in fellowship and laughter and all kinds of things.

This event will be a youth event as well and is meant to foster relationship within our faith family. **SNACKS** will be provided! Please plan on joining us for a great afternoon!



United  
Women  
in Faith

**God's Circle  
March 5, 2024  
1:30pm**

It's almost here! The Annual Ignite Youth Conference in Des Moines, Iowa! It is scheduled for March 8-10, 2024. I am sure our youth and others will have a great time and create lasting memories!

There will be more information coming soon...





Sewn in Faith meets on the 2nd and fourth Tuesday of each month! This month we will meet on the following days:

**March 12, 2024**

**March 26, 2024**

We would love to have you join us! No need to know how to sew...we will teach you!



Luverne UMC will be having a Men's Group Meeting on Saturday, March 16th at 10am. We will meet at Pizza Ranch. If you have any questions, please contact John Hilfers, Travis Dwire or Bryce Schomacher.  
Thank you!

# LENTEN *Schedule*

DATE	SERVICE	LOCATION	PASTOR	THEME
March 6	Lenten Week 3	United Methodist	Pastor Steve Voris	Generosity and Goodness
March 13	Lenten Week 4	First Presbyterian	Pastor Dorie Hall	Faithfulness
March 20	Lenten Week 5	United Methodist	Pastor Steve Voris	Patience and Forbearance
March 28	Maundy Thursday	First Presbyterian	Pastor Dorie Hall	Traditional Text
March 29	Good Friday	United Methodist	Pastor Steve Voris	Traditional Text



Palm Sunday is known as such because the faithful will often receive palm fronds which they use to participate in the reenactment of Christ's arrival in Jerusalem. In the Gospels, Jesus entered Jerusalem riding a young donkey, and to the lavish praise of the townspeople who threw clothes, or possibly palms or small branches, in front of him as a sign of homage. This was a customary practice for people of great respect.

The use of a donkey instead of a horse is highly symbolic, it represents the humble arrival of someone in peace. A week later Jesus will rise from the dead. This is why we celebrate Easter Sunday...He is Risen!



After our special Palm Sunday service, we will be having our annual MN Hotdish Luncheon and after that it will be time to break open our wallets to bid on all the great items up for grabs at our FUEL Auction. This money raised will go toward our Wednesday night programs, camping trips, retreats, etc. that keep our kids growing in faith and knowledge of Jesus. Be sure to stick around and enjoy food and fellowship!!



## EASTER SUNDAY

- 9:30 AM— YOUTH SCAVENGER HUNT
- 9:45AM — COFFEE & PASTRIES
- 10AM — EGG HUNT
- 10:30AM EASTER SERVICE



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LUVERNE



## Through the Eye of a Needle



A Blessing of the Quilts will be held on March 10<sup>th</sup> where ALL of the completed quilts will be displayed. Other than the ones marked 'Not Available', if there is a quilt (or 2) that you would be interested in, please talk to Becky.



Members of Sewn in Faith have completed 35 quilts so far in 2024. Of these, 4 beautiful quilts have been designated for the FUEL Auction that will be held on March 24<sup>th</sup>. The auction is always a great time that supports the youth of our church.



The Classrooms on the Lower Level are getting filled up with miscellaneous items. This is probably a good storage space for these items but if you do put items there, please let Becky Anderson know as she is responsible for keeping these 3 classrooms clean.

Also, In Classroom 4, there is a table full of yarn, embroidery thread, knitting needles and other odds and ends. If you would be interested in any of these, please help yourself. There is also an old sewing machine that belonged to Ardie Schmidt – if you would like it, please feel free to take it.



### Just a little reminder to this years' seniors:

If you received an application from the Schwartz Scholarship Fund and are wishing to apply, please return your applications to either Steve Cattnach or the office by **April 14, 2024**.

Also will you please send a senior (or updated picture along with your questionnaire to Jakki in the office by that date as well. Thank you so much!



All items for publication in the weekly bulletin need to be called in, on the secretary's desk or in her email no later than NOON on Wednesday's and the deadline date for The Messenger items is published on the monthly calendar and the date is in the weekly bulletin announcements. An email is also sent the week before the deadline date. Please be mindful of these deadlines. Thank you!

## COMMUNITY NIGHTS



March 27, 2024

April 24, 2024

May 22, 2024

Please Join Us  
FREE OF CHARGE  
5:30 PM



- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 - Becky Anderson      | 18 - David Johnson   |
| 2 - Calihan Wenninger   | 20 - Makayla Baker   |
| 3 - Betty Luethje       | Ember Olson          |
| Dawn Frakes             | 21 - Ella VanWyhe    |
| 10 - Marissa VanderPoel | Nikki Gehrke         |
| Kurt Schomacker         | Ronan Christensen    |
| 11 - Ann Rigney         | 22 - Phoebe Flom     |
| 13 - Ashley Kluever     | 23 - Jeff Aukes      |
| 14 - Jonah Kluever      | Olivia Rigney        |
| 15 - Karla Kruse        | 24 - Cade VandenHoek |
| 16 - Dixie Aanenson     | 25 - Bill Holling    |
| Mandy Brecher           | 28 - Misty Baker     |
|                         | 29 - Damon Rigney    |

## LUVERNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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[pastor@umcluverne.com](mailto:pastor@umcluverne.com)  
[pastordoriehall77@gmail.com](mailto:pastordoriehall77@gmail.com)

Church Secretary  
Jakki Lindsley  
[jakki@umcluverne.com](mailto:jakki@umcluverne.com)



## JUST A REMINDER

If you are interested in getting in touch with any of our homebound faith family members and haven't gotten the time with all the holiday hustle and bustle...no worries just look in your December Messenger for the list of those members or contact the office for an address and phone number for any of them. All is appreciated! A kind gesture can make not only their day, but yours as well!

# Worship Responsibilities

Date	Lay Reader	Hosts	Power Point	Sound	Counters	Worship Asst.	Coffee	Gift Cards
<b>March 3</b>	Christine VonHoltum	Laura Hollaren	Reagan Gabrielson	David Vis	Jack and Felicia Hanson	Sandy Vogt	Jeanne Bowron	Karis Dwire
<b>March 10</b>	Becky Anderson	Bill and Maggie Paulsen	Jennifer Hilfers	Jason Kruse	Everett and Jan Brandenburg	Emily Crabtree	Wyatte Kruse	Sharron Betsinger
<b>March 17</b>	Lola Donth	The Dwire Family	Jeanne Bowron	Matthew Fick	Jack and Felicia Hanson	Jack Hanson	Vicki Slack	Brenda Stickling
<b>March 24</b>	Travis Dwire	Journey D. and Riley A.	Jeanne Bowron	Luther Hall	Jay and Bev Mann	Lola Donth	Jeanne VandeHoef	Mary Gehrke
<b>March 31</b>	Mary Gehrke	Bryce and Ginger Schomacker	Jennifer Hilfers	Matthew Fick	Jack and Felicia Hanson	Felicia Hanson	Bill and Maggie Paulsen	Christine VH

Communion	Video
Danny Aning and Melissa Wood	Beth Fick

Trustee of the Week	
February 26, 2024 thru March 3, 2024	Roger Carlson
March 4, 2024 thru March 10, 2023	Beth Fick
March 11, 2024 thru March 17, 2024	Laura Hollaren
March 18, 2024 thru March 24, 2024	Al Aanenson
March 25, 2024 thru March 31, 2024	Jeanne Bowron



# March Budget

General Budget Totals		
February 4, 2024 thru February 25, 2024		
Envelopes	\$	13,458.67
Loose Offering	\$	348.00
Apportionments	\$	30.00
Radio Broadcast	\$	95.00
Online Giving (January)	\$	3,600.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>17,531.67</b>
Non Budget Donations		
Silver Bucket	\$	100.00
Endowment	\$	1,470.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,570.00</b>
<b>Misc. Giving</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>610.00</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>17,531.67</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,570.00</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>610.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>19,711.67</b>

