



# Evergreen United Methodist Church

1120 Evergreen Court, Wahpeton, ND 58075

March, 2018

## Easter Activities: Just Around the Corner

March seems to have arrived quickly this year along with spring weather. With the onset of the Lenten season which began on Ash Wednesday (February 14), Easter is just around the corner on Sunday, April 1.

The Easter Season, also known as Eastertide or the Great Fifty Days, begins on Easter Day and ends on Pentecost. Focusing on Christ's resurrection and ascension and the sending of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost), Eastertide is the most joyous and celebrative season of the Christian year with the **good news that in Christ's death and resurrection we, and all creation, are continually being made new by God's love and saving grace.**

As always, Evergreen will hold special events during Lent, including our Lenten Soup Suppers Wednesdays at 6 pm, Maundy Thursday Service (March 29), Good Friday Service (March 30) & Easter Morning Worship & Breakfast (April 1).

## Church Soup Suppers during Lent

Please join us Wednesday evenings during Lent for soup, fellowship and devotions. We will start serving at 6 pm and close before 7 pm. A free will offering for the meal will be received for UMCOR disaster relief. Please join us as we use this time to prepare our hearts to welcome the coming of Easter.

Date	Host
March 7	Group 3
March 14	Group 2
March 21	Group 1
(No soup supper during holy week)	



## Holy Week – Easter Schedule



Palm Sunday Worship (Parade of Palms)  
10 AM, March 25

That The World May Know - DVD Series  
6 PM, March 25

Financial Peace University Class  
6:30 PM, March 25

Maundy Thursday Worship  
with Communion  
7 PM, March 29



Good Friday Worship  
7 PM, March 30



Easter Sunday  
April 1

Worship at 8 AM & 10 AM  
Breakfast 9 AM

## Flowering Plants Needed for Easter

By Deb Schouweiler

The season of Lent is here and the Worship Committee is getting things ready to make our Easter Services beautiful and special as we celebrate a Savior who took our darkness and brought us light.

We would love for all of you to join us in this process by donating either a flowering plant or money that can be used to buy these plants. If you would like to donate cash please put it in the offering with the designation of Easter Flowers. If you would like to donate a plant please have it to the church by Friday, March 30th.

Thank you in advance for your support.



## UMW News

By Denise Eastin

### *Sacred spaces: "Encounters with God and Neighbors"*

World Day of Prayer **will be observed in worship Friday, March 9th, at 2pm at St. John's Catholic Church in Wahpeton.** The service is ecumenical and all people are invited to attend.

**From the Internet I discovered: "The theme will be 'All God's Creation is Very Good!'. Women from Suriname lift up their voices to remind us that we are caretakers of God's creation! They are bringing to our attention the urgent need for caring at a time when more than 180 countries have signed the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. A commitment to keep the earth cooler depends on public policies implemented by governments, but also on our personal lifestyle."**

**A portion of UMW's 2017 Year End Giving (\$300) will be mailed to the Wilkin-Richland County Food Pantry this month.** During the month of March monetary donations will be matched dollar for dollar by Minnesota Food Share and actual food donations will be matched proportionately.

The next general meeting of UMW will be held on Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, hosted by **Sunshine Circle. Jean Freden will present the program "Sacred Space of Grief and Hope".**

Dakotas Conference UMW members are asked to participate in the UMW Prayer Vigils. Vigil I is scheduled for March 22<sup>nd</sup> – World Water Day ([www.un.org/en/events/waterday/](http://www.un.org/en/events/waterday/)). The UN website reports: **"Water is an essential building block of life. It is more than just essential to quench thirst or protect health; water is vital for creating jobs and supporting economic, social, and human development. Today, there are over 663 million people living without a safe water supply close to home, spending countless hours queuing or trekking to distant sources, and coping with the health impacts of using contaminated water."**

**Just a reminder: We're continuing to collect pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House in Fargo. All aluminum pop tabs are collectible (pop cans, soup cans, pet food cans – if the tab doesn't stick to a magnet – it's probably aluminum!). The collection jar is in the church kitchen. There are also collection cans for 'Our Family' UPC codes, and a can for used postage stamps (which will support an effort to provide milk to children in the Congo).**

(Right) Lois Berndt presents Special Mission Recognition to recipients Mark Boyer and Alice Sand. Bonnie Anderson and Rudolf Arutyunov also received this recognition.



# Children's Education Happenings

By Becky Dockter

Join us for bowling at Terrace Lanes this Sunday, March 4th. Evergreen will pay the fees for your first game, and you are welcome to stay and bowl more games if you would like to pay for more. In other children's education happenings, VBS will be held the last week in July, and we are looking for volunteers in various areas. You can let us know if you are willing to help out by contacting either the church office at 642-6202 or email Becky Dockter at beckydockter@gmail.com.



**Monthly Offering**  
 Totals for February:  
 \$12,824,92  
 Monthly Need:  
 \$20,299



Remember Your Prayer Partner




Congratulations to Wade Harty & Finah Guray who were married by Pastor Jen on February 17

THANK YOU to the Youth and adults who volunteered to pack backpacks in February at the Richland/Wilkin Food Pantry. This program sends food items home with approximately 300 grade school age children each Friday to supplement their diets on weekends.

## Evergreen Celebrates March Birthdays and Anniversaries

\*Denotes anniversaries

1-Jim Schultz	19-KrisCinda & Michael Erickson*
2-Bernice Oliver	23-Renee Ehlers
2-Pam Nagel	24-Breanne Gripentrog
2-Scott Schmitt	24-Cody Meyer
5-Konstantin Arutyunov	27-Maxine Leinen
6-Tyson Stevens	28-Connie Metcalf
7-Anna Busta	29-George & Alinda Bassingthwaite*
7-Justin & Tiana Bohn*	30-Layne Levery
8-Viva Lelm	31-Mark & Kristie Boyer*
9-Brent Meyer	
9-Carolyn Stone	
11-Merle Rubish	
12-David & Pam Burrer*	
12-Bryan & Sarah Lutgen*	
13-Jeanenne Thomas	
13-Alexis Stevens	
15-Mary Poppen	
18-Darren Johnson	
18-Denise Eastin	






## Mission News

By Janet Moore

The Back Pack Project is always in need of donations. In August 2013, the Missions Committee embraced the idea of "One Thing" which represents the collection of one designated item each month for a worthwhile cause. Our main goal since the conception of the idea has been to collect food items that are used during the school year in the Back Pack Project. This program sends easy to fix food items home with grade school age children each Friday to supplement their diets for the weekends when they do not receive school meals. Look for the totes in the Fellowship Hall for your donation.

During the month of MARCH the **"ONE THING"** collection is: **INDIVIDUAL PACKAGED PUDDING CUPS (ANY FLAVOR)**



Thank you to everyone who has helped with donations to the Back Pack Project, during the month of February, we collected 83 boxes of Mac & Cheese; 6 pouches of easy mac; 1 can of "kid-friendly" soup; and 2 jars of peanut butter. Items that could not be used by the Backpack Program were donated to the Richland-Wilkin Food Pantry. Thank you for your support of this ministry!!

A big thank you to all who helped fill bags for the Backpack Program during the month of February. With the help of the Youth Group, who headed up 1 week, we were able to pack the bags in record time each evening.

The walk for the Richland-Wilkin Relay for Life (American Cancer Society) is Saturday, April 14 from 3-9 pm, at the Blikre Activities Center. As many of our family members and friends have been affected by cancer, we encourage everyone to support and take part in the walk. The Mission Committee will be collecting donations for the American Cancer Society before and after worship services several Sundays during March. Please note that suggested donations for the luminaries are \$10.00 for one and \$15.00 for two – all donations are greatly appreciated. There will also be a jar to donate loose change (paper currency is also accepted!) Thank you for your support in the fight against cancer.

Evergreen Missions Committee has set our volunteer hours at 400 hours for the KIDS COUNT MIRACLE

OFFERING and are posting the volunteered hours on the thermometer in the Fellowship Hall. Please remember to keep track of any hours you donate or have donated from June 1, 2017 through May 31, 2018, from helping with any events with or for kids (reading at the schools, packing back pack, ZooBoo, etc.). Look for any opportunities. Give Julie, in the office, a total of hours you have donated and we will post them up on the bulletin board thermometer.

"For it is in giving that we receive."

~ Francis of Assisi

Evergreen UMC  
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Pastor:

Jen Tyler

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Administrative Assistant:

Julie McGovern

[evergreenoffice@702com.net](mailto:evergreenoffice@702com.net)

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday

8 am - 3 pm

Sundays:

9 am, Sunday School & Coffee

10 am, Worship

Website:

[www.evergreenumc.com](http://www.evergreenumc.com)

March, 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9 am, Sewing	2	3 8 am, That the World May Know DVD
4 9 am, Sunday School & Coffee 10 am, Worship 1 pm, Bowling @ Terrace Lane 6 pm, That The World May Know DVD 6:30 pm, Financial Peace University	5 7 pm, That The World May Know DVD	6	7 6 pm. Praise Team 6 pm Soup Supper 7 pm, Choir  (No Confirmation or Youth Group tonight)	8 9 am, Sewing 7 pm, UMW Meeting	9 2 pm, World Day of Prayer @ St. John's	10 8 am, That the World May Know DVD  Daylight Saving Time Begins Spring Ahead
11 ONE GREAT HOUR OFFERING 9 am, Sunday School & Coffee 10 am, Worship (noisy buckets) 6 pm, That The World May Know DVD 6:30 pm, Financial Peace University	12 7 pm, That The World May Know DVD	13 7 pm, Joy Circle	14 6 pm Soup Supper 6 pm, Confirmation 6 pm. Praise Team 7 pm, Choir 7 pm, Youth Group	15 9 am, Sewing	16	17 8 am, That the World May Know DVD
18 9 am, Sunday School & Coffee 10 am, Worship 6 pm, That The World May Know DVD 6:30 pm, Financial Peace University	19 7 pm, That The World May Know DVD	20 9:30 am, Hope 1:30 pm, Sunshine Circle 7 pm, Staff Parish Meeting	21 6 pm, Soup Supper 6 pm, Confirmation 6 pm. Praise Team 7 pm, Choir 7 pm, Youth Group	22 9 am, Sewing  UMW 1st Prayer Vigil	23  <u>Newsletter article deadline</u>	24 8 am, That the World May Know DVD
25 PALM SUNDAY 9 am, Sunday School & Coffee 10 am, Worship, Parade of Palms 6 pm, That The World May Know DVD 6:30 pm, Financial Peace University	26 7 pm, That The World May Know DVD	27	28 12:30 pm, NL Folding 6 pm. Praise Team 6 pm, Confirmation 7 pm, Choir 7 pm, Youth Group	29 7 pm, Maundy Thursday Service	30 7 pm, Good Friday Worship  Please have all Easter Flowers to the church	31 8 am, That the World May Know DVD  Set up for Easter Sunday
April 1  EASTER  8 am, Early Worship followed by Breakfast 10 am, Easter Worship	April 2  Church Office Closed  6:30 pm, Worship Committee 7 pm, Adm. Council	April 3	April 4  6 pm, Confirmation 6 pm, Praise Team 7 pm, Choir 7 pm, Youth Group	April 5  9 am, Sewing	April 6	April 7

## Strength for Today; Hope for Tomorrow

By Wayne Millar

In 2016, Evergreen UMC made a commitment to support “Thrive,” the Dakotas Conference’s growth and development capital campaign. Evergreen’s financial commitment will be approximately \$20,000 spread over 5 years. 2017 brought gifts totaling \$3,330 from members who supported this capital campaign. We sincerely thank everyone who contributed to the successful effort YTD.

We now must look forward to meeting the \$4,000 goal for 2018. On the back page of this newsletter is an annual commitment form. Please, prayerfully consider your part in contributing to this cause. It will benefit all the churches in the Dakotas Conference.

Remember the Noisy Bucket Offering!

Second Sunday of each month. (\$100.79 collected in February)

Proceeds support the Three Rivers Crisis Center - Kids Connection.



## IMPACT Fargo

by Pastor Jen

This mini-mission trip to Fargo will be held June 17-21. The cost for this week long mission in Fargo will be \$75 — with deposits due to Evergreen on Wednesday, March 21. (Scholarships available, please let me know if you need assistance). This will be open to all youth who have completed Grades 6-12. I will need at least one adult to help chaperone this trip, so parents: let me know if you are interested and able to help out! We have brochures in the office if you would like additional information.



Who: Youth who have completed grades 6-12 & their adult chaperones

What: working with and learning about a variety of service organizations in the Fargo/Moorhead/West Fargo area, specific learning experiences related to homelessness and poverty, evening fun activities TBD.

When: Sunday, June 17-Thursday, June 21, 2018

Where: Fargo First United Methodist Church will be our base camp for the week



## Our Deepest Sympathy to:

Mary Ann Harff on the death of her brother, Clarence Kabella, who passed away on January 26.

Edie Nelson on the death of her mother, Edythe Simonson, who passed away on January 29.

# Pastoral Letter

*“Friendly reminder that ‘doing your best’ does not mean working yourself to the point of a nervous breakdown.” ~Author Unknown*

I have been ruminating on this quote since I came across it on Facebook last week. While most of us are perhaps not close to a nervous breakdown, a lot of us are spending much of our lives focusing on what I would define as the wrong things.

By that, I mean: all around us, our culture encourages us to be “busy.” This over-emphasis on always having something to do, someone to see, some place to go, or some project to complete, is taking up all of our energy and focus. Most of the time, these things that fill our time are good things. Yet together, the desire to do and be more for the world around us has taken away from our ability to care for the world within us.

We know, of course, that it’s a fine line to walk, as we certainly do not want to focus so much on ourselves that we lose touch with others around us. Yet doing our best in *all* things, means doing our best to care for ourselves, too. It is essential to take time away for the non-work things that bring us life, and bring us back to the heart of all that matters: Jesus.

As Christians, we have a word for this. We talk about taking “sabbath.” For me, taking sabbath looks like intentional time spent *away* from the busy world around us, and spending time doing the things that bring me back to the simplest forms of joy. Things like a quiet, meditative morning with a cup of coffee. Or an afternoon doing very little with people I care about, purely for the sake of enjoying one another’s company. It means turning *off* my mind when it comes to things I *should* or even *could* be doing, because I know those things can wait, but I will never regret time spent in community, or time with God. For I know I will never be healthier than when I take time out from everything else, to spend time with God.

I wonder: what does self-care look like for you?

A friend posted her list on social media this week as an invitation for us to all focus more on caring for our emotional and spiritual well being this Lent especially, and I wonder if some of these items might be good for you, too? Things like:

Spending time with family

Choosing to be inspired by those working for a better world instead of being discouraged by the news

Choosing not to stress about the weather but focus on the beauty of the snow and frost



In large and small ways, we are surrounded by opportunities to take moments, if not days, of sabbath and self care. May we, too, make the time for these priorities as we focus not just on the things that need *done*, but on the ways we are called to just *be*.

On the journey together,  
Pastor Jen

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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
US POSAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 89  
WAHPETON, ND 58075

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

See Article on Page 6 for additional information.....



Strength for Today; Hope for Tomorrow (Year 3)

In addition to my annual tithe to Evergreen UMC, I commit to **supporting Evergreen's financial commitment to the Thrive program** through my gift of:

- \$250/quarter = [\$1,000/year]
- \$100/quarter = [\$400/year]
- \$25/quarter = [\$100/year]
- Other: \$\_\_\_\_\_ [one time/quarterly] (circle one)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed form to the church office or place in offering plate.