



Evergreen United Methodist Church

1120 Evergreen Court, Wahpeton, ND 58075

March, 2020

Filling Bags for the School Backpack Project

Back: Jeanne Osborn, Tom McGovern,
Colin Bailey, Marston Metcalf, Tom
Moore, Wayne Miller

Front: Margaret Johnson, Colten
Schillinger, Aly Stone, Jan Moore



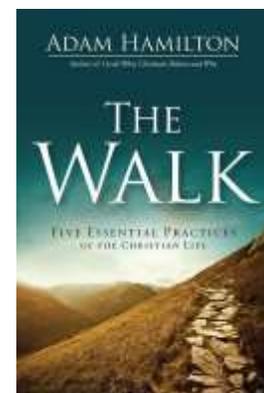
Back: Aaron Bohn, Rylan Harty,
Nick Bladow, Brady Johnson

Front: Pastor Jen, Nathan Garner,
Elly Davis, Hatie Dockter, Amanda
Mittlestadt

Youth Group had a busy month with packing backpacks, playing games, and more. We took a short break for worship on Ash Wednesday (no youth group, youth were invited to come for worship at 7pm instead). We're looking forward to a full and busy March, kicking it off with our usual gathering at 6:30. As always, all youth grades 7-12 are welcome at youth group — and you are always welcome to bring friends! We hope to see you soon! Unless otherwise noted, we meet from 6:30-8pm every Wednesday.

Wednesday Evenings During Lent - Soup Suppers

Wednesday Evenings during Lent we will once again be sharing in an evening meal (**SOUP** and something kid friendly) for our children and families **at 5:30!** We will have a time of breaking bread and fellowship, followed by a brief Lenten devotion. Then, from 6:00-6:45 while the children are in Wednesday School classes, adults will be invited to join a class of your own. Our study for both Wednesday and Sunday morning sermons (starting March 1) will feature a new book by Adam Hamilton on Spiritual practices titled, "The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life." Together, we will study ways to walk with God during this season, and always.





UMW News -- "Let Your Light Shine Ignited for Justice" By Denise Eastin

World Day of Prayer will be observed in worship Friday, March 6th, at 2pm. **Evergreen UMC** will be hosting the vigil this year. We encourage everyone to attend this global event which is participated in by people in over 170 countries and regions. This year, the women of the World Day of Prayer Committee of Zimbabwe call us to worship with the words: "Rise, Take your mat and walk" from John 5. Our sisters from Zimbabwe are taking Jesus' encounter to be a call to act in love for peace and reconciliation.

Our next general meeting of UMW will be on March 12th, at 1pm, with Sunshine Circle serving refreshments. **Lois Berndt** will present the program "Holy, Bold Women Lead".

The first **Dakotas Conference UMW Prayer Vigil** of the year will be March 22nd from 1:15 to 2pm. This vigil's theme is "Closing the Inequalities Gap to Achieve Social Justice". From the UN's website I found "Social justice is an underlying principle for peaceful and prosperous coexistence within and among nations. We uphold the principles of social justice when we promote gender equality, or the rights of indigenous peoples and migrants. We advance social justice when we remove barriers that people face because of gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture or disability."

A portion of UMW's 2019 Year End Giving (\$350) will be mailed to the Wilkin-Richland County Food Pantry this month. FYI, here's a list of the top 10 items needed for the Food Pantry's March 2020 campaign: Canned meals (ravioli, beef stew, etc.), Ramen, Pasta sauce/Ketchup/Salsa, Canned Meat (tuna, chicken), Fruit Juice, Jelly, Laundry Detergent, Body Wash, Instant Oatmeal, Flour & Sugar.



Joy Circle Fun!! Join a Circle today.

CHOIR NEWS

For many years, Evergreen has been blessed with a chancel choir who faithfully contributes to your worship experience. The Evergreen Choir, has at various times, consisted of 32+ singers who faithfully practiced one hour on Wednesday evenings from September through April. Now the faithful has dwindled to 14 members. There are times when the choir consists of 7-9 members for Wednesday evening rehearsal and the same on Sunday morning.

Our congregation has many good singers who would be an asset to Sunday morning worship by singing in the choir. Are you one of those singers? Would you be willing to commit your time and voice (the one God gave you) to "Sing to the Lord a new song"? The choir family is waiting to welcome you with open arms. Choir practice begins at 6:45pm on Wednesday. Prayerfully consider this opportunity to give as well as receive a blessing by singing in the Evergreen choir.

Evergreen Prayer Concerns

Please contact the office to have names added and/or removed from our prayer concerns list.

Please pray for: Harriet Fleenor, Barb Foote, Linda McDougall, Merle Rubish, Marlys Phillips, Alta Lehmann, Kermith Krueger, Bob Spent, Fay Woy, Donna Stone, Cheryl Holding Eagle, Bernice Oliver, Jim Stone, Yelena Arutyunov, Gloria Plummer, David Gripentrog, Randy Rittenour (Richardson's son-in-law), Paula Frazier (Pam Nagel's sister), Duren Moffet (Don's brother), Shelly Muerer (Rich/Margaret Johnson's niece), Paul Frazier (Pam Nagel's brother-in-law)

Children's Education Happenings

By Becky Dockter

During Lent, our Wednesday community meal will feature soup as well as a kid friendly option. We hope you'll join us at 5:30 to share a meal, devotion, and we will continue to have our children's Wednesday School as well as a Bible Study at 6:00.

The schedule for Wednesday School lessons is:

- March 4th- Heaven: Clues (Deb Moomjian)
- March 11th- Heaven: The Final Judge (Becky Dockter)
- March 18th- Heaven: For Forever (Jenny Schmitt)
- March 25th- Easter: Mummy's the Word (Jenny Schmitt)

Wednesday Meals:

- March 4: BBQ & Soup
- March 11: PB & J and Soup
- March 18: Ham/Turkey Sandwich & Soup
- March 25: BBQ & Soup

ADULT
SUNDAY SCHOOL
MEETS 9 AM WEEKLY
JOIN US!!

Upcoming Faithlink lesson topics:

- March 1: Responding to Suicide
- March 8: Alcohol
- March 15: Vaping



World Day of Prayer
Service
March 6 - 2 pm
at Evergreen UMC

Our Sympathy

Our sympathy to Merle & Jean Rubish on the January 28 death of Merle's brother-in-law, Rollie Leinen of Breckenridge .

Our sympathy to Kelvin Hoeft and family on the death of Paulette Hoeft. Paulette died February 5 and her memorial service was held at Evergreen on February 12.

Monthly Offering

Offering through February 16:
\$14,200.50
Monthly Need:
\$20,373
Bucket Offering: \$116.84



Evergreen Celebrates March Birthdays and Anniversaries

*Denotes anniversaries

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





Mission News

By Jan 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:

GOGO SQUEEZ FRUIT & VEGGIEZ



Thank you to everyone who has helped with donations to the Back Pack Project, during the month of February we collected: 24 jars of peanut butter; 40 tuna/chicken Snack Kits; 9 tuna/chicken Lunch Kits; and 5 Tuna pouches. Items that could not be used by the Backpack Program were donated to the Richland-Wilkin Food. *Thank you for your support of this ministry!!*

We filled back packs once each week in February. **THANK YOU** to the Youth Group and all who came down to help fill bags.

Richland-Wilkin Relay for Life

The **Richland-Wilkin Relay for Life** (American Cancer Society) will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2020 at the Blikre Activity Center (3 - 9 pm). Evergreen will not have a formal team registered for the event. However, as many of our family members and friends have been affected by cancer, we would like to 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 on **March 8, 15, and 22, 2020**. 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 the loose change in your pocket or coin purse (paper currency is also accepted!) Thank you for your support in the fight against cancer.

“For it is in giving that we receive.”
— **Francis of Assisi**

Evergreen UMC

1120 Evergreen Ct.
Wahpeton, ND 58075
(701) 642-6202

Pastor:

Jen Tyler
pastor@evergreenumc.com

Administrative Assistant:

Julie McGovern
office@evergreenumc.com

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday
8 am - 3 pm

Sundays:

9 am, Adult Sunday School & Coffee
10 am, Worship

Wednesdays:

5:30 pm, Community Meal
6 pm, Wednesday School
6 pm, Adult Study
6:30 pm, Youth Group
6:45 pm, Choir

Website:

www.evergreenumc.com

Facebook:

Wahpeton Evergreen UMC

March, 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9 am, Adult Sunday School & Coffee 10 am, Worship	2	3 5:30 pm, Mission meeting 6 pm, Staff-Parish meeting	4 5:30 pm, Meal/Soup 6 pm, Wednesday School & Study 6:30 pm, Youth 6:45 pm, Choir	5 9 am, Sewing	6 2 pm, World Day of Prayer @ Evergreen	7 <i>Daylight Saving Time Begins Spring Ahead</i> 
8 9 am, Adult Sunday School & Coffee 10 am, Worship (noisy buckets)	9	10 7 pm, Joy Circle	11 5:30 pm, Meal/Soup 6 pm, Wednesday School & Study 6:30 pm, Youth 6:45 pm, Choir	12 9 am, Sewing 1 pm, UMW Meeting	13	14
15 9 am, Adult Sunday School & Coffee 10 am, Worship	16	17 9:30 am, Hope 1:30 pm, Sunshine Circle	18 5:30 pm, Meal/Soup 6 pm, Wednesday School & Study 6:30 pm, Youth 6:45 pm, Choir	19 9 am, Sewing	20	21
22 9 am, Adult Sunday School & Coffee 10 am, Worship	23	24	25 5:30 pm, Meal/Soup 6 pm, Wednesday School & Study 6:30 pm, Youth 6:45 pm, Choir	26 9 am, Sewing	27 <u>Newsletter article deadline</u>	28
29 9 am, Adult Sunday School & Coffee 10 am, Worship	30 6 pm, Worship Committee 6 pm, Finance 7 pm, Adm. Council	31	April 1 12:30 pm, Newsletter folding 5:30 pm, Meal 6 pm, Wednesday School & Study 6:30 pm, Youth 6:45 pm, Choir	April 2 9 am, Sewing	April 3	April 4 UMW Focus Event @ Fargo Calvary

Administrative Council Report

By Sandy Olson

The Evergreen Administrative Council meets 6 times per year and is comprised of the chairs of other work groups (finance, Christian ed., staff parish, trustees, Great Bend cemetery, missions, UMW, worship), the lay leader, pastor, and annual conference representative(s). We hear reports from each committee/ministry area and, in some cases, vote on decisions made jointly with them. Most recently, we have discussed these topics:

- When memorials are received, the financial secretary records the amounts and tracks the spending of those memorials. Some are designated for certain areas, such as the building and grounds, education, and music. The rest are undesignated. When a group within the church wants to spend money from memorials, the chair can ask what funds are available and submit a request for funds.
- A legacy fund has been established, just over a year ago, begun with a sizeable bequest to the church. Our Board of Trustees is the steward of these funds, which have been invested and have performed well in the last year. This will be another source of funding for projects and missions. In the future you will be hearing more about this from the Trustees.
- The Great Bend cemetery also received a sizable memorial bequest for upkeep. A light has been installed to provide more security for the cemetery.
- See an additional article in this newsletter regarding the adult choir. There may have to be some significant changes to music ministry in the future, depending on participation and the ministry's desire to provide meaningful music for worship.
- Coming up, a local church which will be undergoing major renovations might use our building for

funerals or other events if theirs is unusable. Last year, we were able to allow the use of the chapel by 2 organizations which were displaced from their offices by a fire.

- At the United Methodist General Conference in Minneapolis in May, vital decisions will be made which could mean major changes for our denomination and our Evergreen congregation. Please pray for those who will be voting on these issues so that all decisions show respect for others and that God's will be done. Pastor Jen had hoped to offer some classes presenting differing views on the LGBTQ issue, but has been unable to find resources which seem to present unbiased material.

Custodial Position Available

Our current custodians, Jan and Tom Moore, have resigned from this position. We are grateful they have agreed to stay on for a few months until we are able to hire someone new. If you or someone you know is interested in this, please contact the church office or a member of the Staff-Parish.



Winter Reading

Cabin Fever? Done with your UMW reading? Still want to have a book or two? Check the shelves in the Library! Because of kind donations there are interesting books that can go home with you.

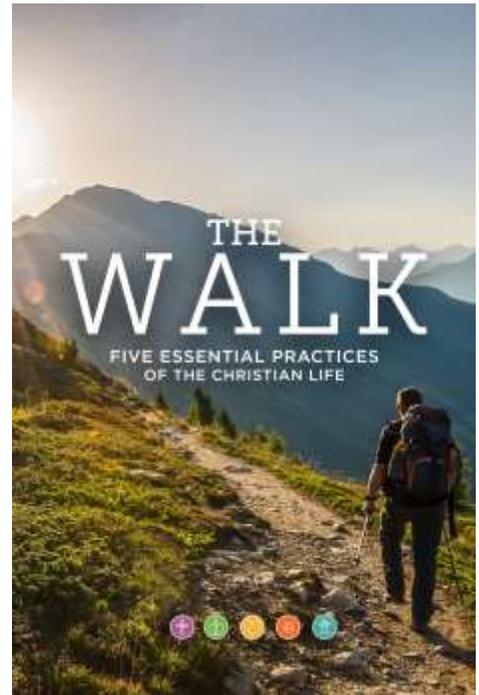
On Ash Wednesday, (February 26 this year), the Christian season Lent Begins. Lent is the season of the church calendar made up of the 40 days (plus Sundays) that leads to Easter Sunday (April 12 this year). It is a season of reflection, and of preparation. A time we traditionally set aside for worship, and a time in which we are invited to reflect inwardly, to pray more intentionally, and to seek to draw closer to God.

For the season of Lent this year, we are going to keep some of our usual traditions, such as having soup suppers on Wednesday evenings starting the Sunday after Ash Wednesday (March 4) — please note that we will have soup this year, plus a child-friendly option every week, too. As usual during the school year, our Community Meal will begin at 5:30pm, with a short devotional being offered by our serving group at 5:50, and our usual Wednesday School options (for children and adults) at 6pm (youth are still at 6:30!).

For both Sunday morning sermons (starting March 1) and Wednesday evening adult Wednesday School, our study will feature a new book by Adam Hamilton on Spiritual practices titled, “The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life.” Together, we will study ways to *walk with God* during this season, and always. We will use the image of God walking alongside us, as Pastor Hamilton describes when he writes:

“The image of walking with God or God walking with us is found throughout the Bible as a metaphor for the life of faith. As the biblical story begins, God is described as walking in the garden of Eden, searching for his children as they hid from him... God walks in our midst, searches for us, and beckons us to walk with him.” (The Walk, Page 9)

How is your walk with God going? Is it something you are mindful of every day? Every other? Once a week, or month? How are you seeking to walk alongside God, and to invite God to walk alongside you? Throughout the Lenten Season, we’re going to focus on doing just that, by focusing on different spiritual practices that will help us to do so. We will reflect together on the gifts of Worship and Prayer, Study, Service, Giving, and Sharing. In our Wednesday night study, we will also spend Holy Week focusing on how these practices are all tied together in the cross of Jesus, where God gave us *everything* — and then some.



Lent is an opportunity for us to draw closer to God, and to one another. I hope you’ll join us in the weeks to come as our community gathers to learn, to pray, to study, and walk together, as we seek to walk with God.

On the journey together,

Pastor Jen Tyler

EVERGREEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1120 EVERGREEN COURT
WAHPETON, ND 58075

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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



Strength for Today; Hope for Tomorrow (Year 5)

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.