



# THE EAGLE

March 2015

Ebenezer  
United Church of Christ  
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"Ebenezer UCC Chilton"  
&  
"Ebenezer United Church  
of Christ Chilton"



## Mission Statement of this Church

Ebenezer United Church of Christ is a vibrant faith community that strives to...

- ◇ Serve the spiritual needs of our neighbors.
- ◇ Transform by walking in Jesus' footsteps.
- ◇ Openly reach out for opportunities to share God's word at home and abroad.
- ◇ Nurture our relationships with God and each other.
- ◇ Empower and embrace faith, hope, and love in God!



## PASTOR'S CORNER

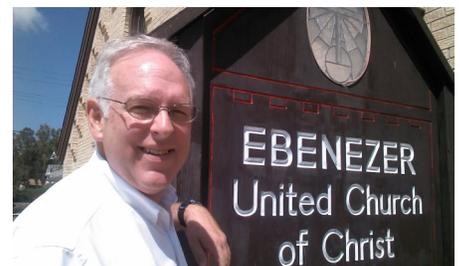
The following article by Jeff Carver and reprinted from SpiritualGiftsTest.com (see the end of the article for an exact link to the article) is an excellent introduction about spiritual gifts and the importance of discovering and growing them. We will be asking each member of the congregation to complete an inventory in the near future to determine their own spiritual gifts. This inventory will help you and the church know what gifts we have in the church.

Thank you. ~Pastor Mike

It has been said, "He who buries his talent is making a grave mistake."

How true this statement is for so many Christians. God has given each believer a spiritual gift that He wants us to use for God's glory, but we often don't use it. We may deny that we actually have a spiritual gift or if we do acknowledge it, we may doubt its usefulness to glorify God, and then just bury it. But we must realize that God wants us to be involved with God's work. God is so gracious that by God's Holy Spirit God freely distributes gifts to all who are saved. God not only wants us to *know* our spiritual gifts, but God expects us to *grow* in them each day.

Cont. on pg. 2



*Cont. from pg. 1*

The Bible says in Ephesians 4:7 "But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift." Also in 1 Corinthians 12:7 it says "To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." Then in verse 11 it states "But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as God wills." So it is clear that each Christian has a spiritual gift. You may ask, *So what are they for? How do I use my gift (or gifts)? Does God really want to use me?*

Let us first look at the question: Why do we have spiritual gifts at all? This will help us to determine the importance of the gifts. To answer this let's take a look at Scripture. In Acts 1:8, Jesus says, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." Here God is sharing with us a primary purpose of the gifts of the Spirit: to give the church power in order to preach Christ to the entire world. Paul says another purpose of the gifts is to equip the church for "building up the body of Christ" (Ephesians 4:12). God also reminds us in 1 Corinthians 14:12 that, "So also you, since you are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek to abound for the edification of the church." Therefore our goal should be to establish, build, and uplift the church with our gifts.

Still this doesn't quite answer the big question of why. Why build up the church? For this answer lets again see what the Word says. Revelation 4:11 says, "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by your will they existed and were created." Colossians 1:16 says, "For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him." We exist to glorify God. We were created *by, through* and *for* Jesus Christ, to testify of God's love, grace, and power. God wants to reconcile with us through God's son Jesus, and not only with us, but all of God's chosen people! That is why we, by God's Spirit, are called to be a part of God's work on earth. In John 15:8 Jesus says, "By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples." By bearing much fruit, we glorify God, and we can do this by abiding in Him and using our gifts to serve Him and bring others to Christ.

*Why you?* You are a special part of the body of Christ. If you are a Christian and are not serving in some way, the church as a whole suffers. It's like missing a part of the body. You may be able to live a normal life with just 9 out of 10 fingers, but you wouldn't be able to do certain things as well as you would like. The truth is, the body of Christ has missing parts. They are attached but are missing in action. The church is called the "body of Christ" for a reason. We are connected by our faith in Jesus Christ and sealed by the Holy Spirit.

*Cont. on page 3*

*Cont. from Pg.2*

Being members of the body, we need to work together. In 1 Corinthians 12:12 it says, "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." And in verse 14, "For the body is not one member, but many." Each of us is a specific body part. It sounds strange but it is a great analogy of the church. In verse 27 Paul says, "Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it." If you read verses 13-27 you will see that Paul affirms the importance of each member. God also declares that we need each member to function properly as a whole body. Paul says, in verse 26, "And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it."

*You glorify God by getting involved.*

Jesus wants to use you! Jesus has chosen you for the purpose of doing great things for Him. In Ephesians 2:10 it says, "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." God already has plans for you. God wants you to listen to God's calling and make yourself available to serve. Not only that, God *expects* you to use the gifts God has given you.

In Matthew 25:14-30 Jesus tells the parable of the talents. It is a parable about stewardship of the grace that God has given to all believers. In the story, a talent equaled about 75 pounds of coinage and would be the equivalent of 15 years of normal wages for one person. This was an enormous responsibility for each of the servants to bear. The master was leaving on a journey and to one of his servants he gave 5 talents, to another 2 talents, and to another 1 talent according to their ability. What happened when the master came back to settle accounts was this: The first two servants had put the money to use and were able to double their amounts and present the master with his principal and profits. But the servant with one talent hid his master's money and was afraid to use it. His talent was taken from him and given to the one who had ten talents. This parable shows us that Christ wants us to use the gifts He has provided to us, not to bury them. Spiritual gifts are also called "grace gifts" and should be valued as gifts of God's grace toward us. We are called to "bear much fruit" that lasts, and our spiritual gifts play a significant role in doing that.

*So what's next?*

The first step is to pray. Pray for God's guidance and ask God to use you for God's will. Ask God to open your eyes and ears to God's call on your life. God will undoubtedly put some direction or calling upon your heart. There are many existing places and ministries to serve in, or He may tell you to start a whole new one!

Whatever God calls you to do, be confident that God will provide a way for it. *Cont. on Pg. 4*

Cont. from Pg.3



Discover your gifts. You may already know what your spiritual gifts are. But, if you don't, or just want to clarify what they are, we will be providing inventories in the near future to help you find out. These inventories do not guarantee what gifts you have, but they are helpful tools for you to get an idea of how you are gifted. We encourage you to take the test, and then talk to other Christians in your church or community to assist you in

discovering your gifts. Try serving in different ministries to see what fits and how you can glorify God in your gifts. God may have given you gifts that you didn't think you could ever have. Or God may transform some of your known talents into spiritual gifts. He will provide gifts for you to accomplish every goal He has for your life. Our spiritual gifts are to be developed as we mature. Philippians 1:6 says, "And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." Don't be afraid of what Jesus will do with you. Step out in faith and let Christ use you. The rewards will be great.

Be a good steward of your gifts. God says if you are faithful with few things He will make you a steward over many things. 1 Peter 4:10 says, "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." Use your spiritual gift or gifts at every opportunity to show the love, grace and power of God to others. This will produce fruit that remains and will glorify Him.

Most of all, love. Use your gifts in love for the glory of God and the building up of His church. 1 Corinthians 13:13 says, "But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love." Put on love in every situation and every time you serve, may God be the focus.

Learn more.

*"Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to Your name give glory, for the sake of Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness!" Psalm 115:1*

*Article by Jeff Carver*

*Reprinted from SpiritualGiftsTests.com*

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<http://www.spiritualgiftstest.com/introduction-to-spiritual-gifts>

## MEET THE COUNCIL

Hi, my name is Stephanie Adamietz and I am the current treasurer on the church council. I am married to Brian and we have 3 amazing children, Casey, Meghan and Natalie. Our family came to Ebenezer 8 years ago on a recommendation from a former member. I came and instantly fell in love with the welcome feeling I got. I am also a member of the Ebenezer Brass bell choir for almost 4 years now. I am a graduate of Chilton High School and hold a Bachelors Degree in Human Resources at UW Oshkosh. I work for a company dealing with autistic kiddos called Wisconsin Early Autism Project and find it very rewarding. During the summer months my family enjoys camping and visiting family, along with a few amusement parks.

Thank you.

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Hi everyone! Just wanted to give a shout out. This will be my final year on council, but have had a great time the last few years. It's been great getting to know everyone and being a part of something. For those of you who may not have had the opportunity to get to know me, here's a few "fun facts about Tiffany". I got engaged last July and am getting married this August up at Gma and Gpa Knoespel's cottage. Since we can't get married on an actual beach, we're creating our own right on the lake. The following weekend we're going to throw a luau themed reception back here in Chilton. Should be FUN! My fiancé and I now have 3 dogs, which we consider our children. We have a 3 year old rat terrier, a 2.5 year old Rottweiler, and a 9 month old Rottweiler; let me tell you they are the biggest babies you will ever meet! I proudly work at Vern's Cheese with my family, not many people can handle working with their families, but I wouldn't have it any other way. I love watching movies and spending time with my family. As for church goals, I think we've done an amazing job getting things back in order over the last few years and I don't know that I would say I have any new goals, other than continuing to work on current ones. I love seeing the kids in church and being so excited about it. I hope that we can continue to get them involved and make them want to come to church. Possibly even start up a youth program again and start participating in camps and such. Thanks for listening to my story, Tiffany Knoespel

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My name is Kelly Kress. I was born and raised in Ebenezer UCC. I was baptized, confirmed, married, and raised our children in Ebenezer. I am married to Wayne for 27 ½ years. We have two boys. Jarrid lives in Madison and works for QPS Employment Agency. Jordan is a Junior at UW Oshkosh majoring in Finance. Wayne and I both work for our family business, Vern's Cheese. We enjoy going up north to our family cottage. As I begin my first year on council for Ebenezer, I would like to see Ebenezer continue to grow. We have so many positive qualities to offer our members, let's make sure the rest of the community knows it too.

Cont. from page

## MEET THE COUNCIL, CONT.

My name is Steve Stenz and I have recently been nominated as the Council Vice President. I've been a member of Ebenezer for almost 3 years now.

I'm married to Christine and we have two wonderful children, Nicole (24) who is married to 2<sup>nd</sup> LT (Army) Randall Parks. They have two boys, Osten (3) and Liam (2). Our other child is Brandon (21) Spec.4 (Army) stationed at Ft. Hood, Tx.

I am currently on a voluntary lay-off until August from Miller in St Nazianz. I have spent almost 30 years in Security as both a Civilian and Government Security Officer and Police Officer.

I grew up in Jericho from a family of 6 boys and 6 girls and graduated from Chilton High School with Ken & Shirley Lisowe and Don Pingel. After graduation, I received my Associates Degree from MATC in Milwaukee in Security Management

I grew up a Catholic and after getting married, switched to Methodist. We came from a Methodist Church in New London, to Chilton, where we joined Ebenezer.

My goal is to continually assist in helping Ebenezer grow in as many different ways as possible and strive to continue being the friendly church we have become and grown to love.

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Hi Ebenezer UCC. My name is Andrea Cmejla and I am the daughter of our President, Karen. This is my 4<sup>th</sup> year on the council and I've been secretary all 4 of those years. I was baptized and confirmed in this church and graduated from Chilton High School. On June 20<sup>th</sup> I will be getting married to Jared DuWell (from the Johnsborg area) by Pastor Mike; but not necessarily "in" the church as we have elected to have an outdoor wedding. My mother says I was the last child that Rev. Moeschberger baptized.

I graduated from UW-Oshkosh with a teaching degree in elementary education 4K-6<sup>th</sup> grade. I've been teaching in New Holstein for 3 years and am currently teaching 1<sup>st</sup> graders. My latest highlight was completing my first 1/2 marathon last fall with my brother who ran a full marathon and qualified for Boston. Other interests include playing with my dog, Murrey, watching TV, Facebook, being with family and friends, boating, crafts and long walks with mother nature. I also enjoy substituting in the hand bell choir when needed.

One of my goals for Ebenezer is to involve the youth to attend church camps and participate in outside mission work; whether that includes working at a soup kitchen helping the homeless, or working with *Habitat for Humanity*, or even some kind of mission work for the underprivileged in the southern states. I really want our youth to understand what it means to give of themselves to help others who are not as fortunate as them. I feel there are such rewards in that which help our youth grow in many ways-mentally, emotionally and spiritually!

*From the Council President's Corner...*

As I was reading a few verses before I retired last night, I came upon this one and found it to be quite fitting to one of my goals of inviting people into our church. Everyone must take it upon themselves to encourage others to worship in their own way, but then, we can take it one step further and invite others to attend one of our services. We may all believe in the Trinity in our own ways, but it can only be reinforced when putting that belief to work with others by joining hands as a congregation. Here is the verse I came to read:

**1 Peter 4:8-11**

*8 Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.*

*9 Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.*

*10 Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms*

*11 If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very word of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen*

With that being said, we are all stewards of God and ....God is still speaking....

In last months "Eagle" I introduced myself briefly and stated some of my goals and expectations. At this time, I've asked the rest of my team on the council to send in a little bio about themselves so the congregation can get to know all of us. Hopefully, they've all had a little time to submit a brief bio of themselves. We also installed our newest members, Kelly and Nicole, during our church service on Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## ***NOTES FROM THE MUSIC CORNER...***

On January 31 four members of the bell choir rolled up their sleeves and used lots of 'elbow grease' to help a Malmark technician and 2 assistants help refurbish the bells. The bells are cast by the Malmark Company. Refurbishing means they are completely dismantled, *thoroughly* cleaned with special 'goop' and then buffed (and buffed, and *buffed...*) Parts are replaced as needed and then put back together. Although the bells are wiped down after every rehearsal and the bell choir specially polished them before Christmas, it was amazing how black the polishing and buffing clothes got! They truly are not simple instruments when you see what the technician checks and does with them. There are pictures of the process on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. It has been about 10 years since they were last refurbished. Thank you for the memorials that helped fund this project.

Yes, we are thinking spring & Easter. The bell choir has begun practicing an exciting, unique selection for Easter, April 5. Before that they are preparing 2 dynamic selections for worship in March. The arrangers adeptly combine familiar tunes to provide meaningful presentations. On March 8 the song is "*God of Amazing Grace*", a combination of "*God of Grace & God of Glory*" and "*Amazing Grace*". Planned for March 22 is "*Sweet River*", a combination of 3 spirituals – "*Steal Away*", "*Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*" and "*Deep River*". Everyone is enjoying the challenge of preparing these selections and hope they will have a special meaning for all that hear them.

It has been delightful to have the Sunday school students join the bell choir on Youth Sundays. They have added a lot of talent and enthusiasm! Grades 1 -2 -3 will be 'chiming' with the bell choir on March 8. They certainly demonstrate a lot of potential for future ringers!!!

Of course, we're always hoping for vocalists and instrumentalists to share their talents!!!



## CHRISTIAN ED / WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The committee met on Sunday, February 1. Sunday school teachers reported they are adjusting to the new published curriculum they are using. Since Christmas, attendance numbers have been down. They encourage families to have children attend on a regular basis. The blankets for Project Linus are really coming in – thank you to everyone who has contributed so far, keep them coming!! What a wonderful, cozy display in the sanctuary! Sunday school students are having the opportunity to play hand chimes and join in the music presentation on youth Sunday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month. Grades 4-5-6 joined the bell choir in February, Grades 1-2-3 will join in March and the preschoolers and kindergarten will perhaps lead the Palm Sunday parade!!??? All will continue to chime in! The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month will continue to involve the youngsters with Pastor Mike gearing the sermon to the children's interest level. The last day of Sunday school will be May 17.

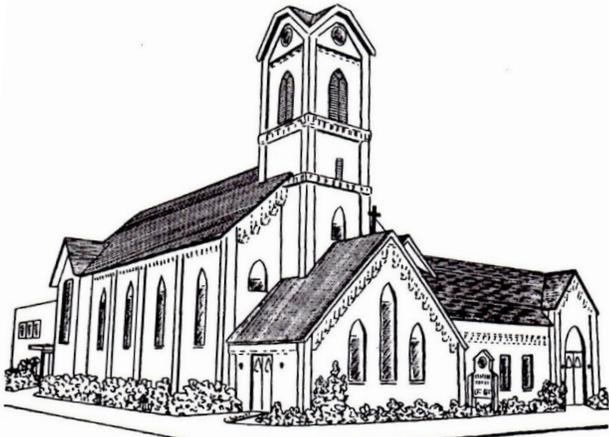
**Ash Wednesday** services with ashes were conducted at Century Ridge for all residents & congregation members on February 18. The service was repeated at 7 PM at church. It truly sets our minds for the Lenten season, especially since we do not have mid-week Lenten services at Ebenezer. **Palm Sunday** worship with Palms and children participating will be on March 29. Holy Week will continue with 7 PM service on **Maundy Thursday, April 2. Good Friday** ecumenical service is yet to be determined. **Easter**, April 5, will begin with a light breakfast served from 7:30 – 9:00 followed by worship at 9:30. There is no Sunday school on Easter Sunday.

Thank you to Lynn & Dexter Sattler for the lovely poinsettias at Christmas time. At the time of this printing 2 are still left, anyone interested may take them. Jean Keuler has done a wonderful job of keeping them vibrant and healthy – thank you!

Tiffany will take care of Mothers' Day gifts and Don & Diane Sattler will take charge of Fathers' Day. We really are looking forward!!!!

Committee members present: Shirley Lisowe, Tiffany Knoespel, Kristi Schnell, Bea Pingel, Pastor Mike, Elaine Hessil





# Newsletter Articles

Please get your articles to Heather by the 3rd Tuesday of the month so she can get the Eagle published before the start of the next month. That means the deadline for the April 2015 Eagle is Tuesday, March 17. Weekly bulletin announcements are due each Tuesday morning.

*Let's let everyone know what is happening at Chilton's best church!*

## The Mission Committees' **SPRING RUMMAGE SALE**



will be held on  
April 16, 5-8 PM  
April 17, 12-5 PM

Bag sale on April 18, 8-10 AM

Please keep us in mind as you do your spring cleaning! Bring items to church and leave in the Rummage Room in the basement or call for pickup, Nan 920-418-0149 or Jeanne 920-203-4137.

### USHERS



- 1:** Church Council    **8:** Sunday School
- 15:** Mike Redig, Sue Verrier, Kelly & Wayne Kress
- 22:** Dean & Ellie Papendieck, Vern & Ann Gasch
- 29:** Don & Diane Sattler, Don & Donna Pingel

### Office Hours



**MONDAYS**

11 AM - 5 PM

**TUESDAYS**

10AM - 5PM

**WEDNESDAYS**

10AM - 5PM

## March Birthdays

Peter Hofmeister	02
Kevin Marx	03
Wayne Kress	04
Donna Kuba	06
Kelly Kress	07
Heather Sylaj	07
Patricia Ploeckelmann	10
Eleanor Augsburg	11
Michael Redig	13
Pastor Mike	14
Hannah Verrier	15

Don Waldvogel	16
Dean Beyer	16
Diane Buechel	19
Edith Knoespel	21
James Scholz	21
Karen Cmejla	22
Sue Riesterer	23
Dean Pingel	25
Harold Neuhaus	28
Gary Elliott	28
Roger Kloehn	28



*If your birthday was missed, please let the office know so we can get it right next time.*

*The meeting minutes from the February Church*

*Council meeting were not available at the time of printing.*

*Please see the bulletin board at church for them or contact the office for a copy. We are sorry for the inconvenience.*

## Coffee Hour Schedule

### Winter - Spring 2015

**March Church Council**

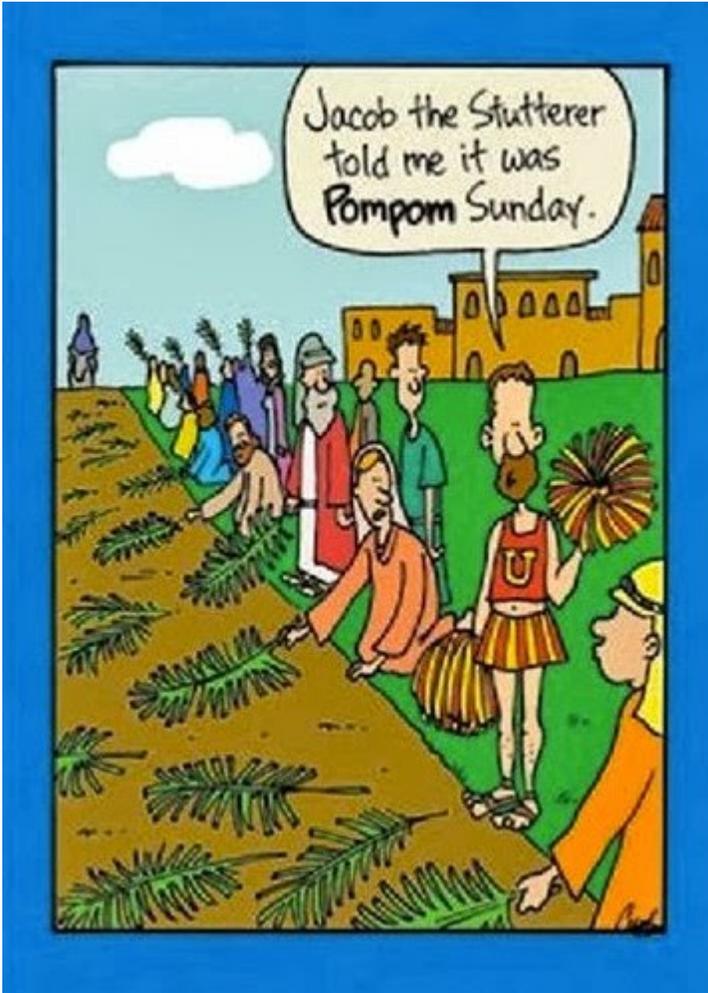
**April Hand Bell Choir**

**May Property Committee**



***Come and be our friend on Facebook!***

**Just search for "Ebenezer UCC Chilton". We also have a new Facebook location page. To find it, search for "Ebenezer United Church of Christ Chilton" and "Like" us! The friend page is to keep everyone updated on what we are doing here and is an extension of our community. The location page is so new people can find us!**



**March 29: Palm Sunday  
(Service 9:30 AM)**

**April 2: Maundy Thursday  
(Service 7 PM)**

**April 3: Good Friday  
(Service TBA)**

**April 5: Easter  
(Breakfast  
7:30-9:00 AM &  
Service 9:30 AM)**

THE PURPOSE STATEMENT OF THIS CHURCH

Loving, living, and serving faithfully – uniting God and our neighbors.

<b>Eva</b>	<b>Rod</b>	<b>Joyce</b>	<b>Jane</b>
<b>Louise</b>	<b>Charlaine</b>	<b>Sharon</b>	<b>David</b>
<b>Sheri</b>	<b>Glen</b>	<b>Mark</b>	<b>Pat</b>
<b>Steve</b>	<b>Pam</b>		

Due to privacy laws, we can no longer list last names of members of our congregation on the prayer list above because our Eagle goes on the church website which can be viewed by anyone on the internet. Thank you.



Scrip



Please keep in mind to buy scrip if you plan on making a shopping trip, gassing the car, or having dinner out!! It helps our church meet our goals!



We have partnered with United Community to help raise funds needed to help our church. We are using the funds towards our OCWM contributions and the General Fund. Many of you have been using your United Community Card at the partnered businesses and we thank you for doing that. If you do not have a United Community card and would like more information on how to obtain one, please contact the church office at 849-4331.

# MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 8:30 AM  Sunday School 9:30 am Worship (Communion) Spanish Ministry 3pm	<b>2</b> Church of- fice open 11-5 Groundhog Day	<b>3</b> Church office open 10-5	<b>4</b> Church office open 10-5  <i>Bells Rehearsal</i> 6:30 PM	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Office Closed	<b>7</b>
<b>8 CHILDREN'S SERVICE</b> 8:30 AM  Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Spanish Ministry 3pm <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i>	<b>9</b> Church of- fice open 11-5	<b>10</b> Church office open 10-5 Girl Scouts 6- 7:30 in FH	<b>11</b> Church office open 10-5  <i>Bells Rehearsal</i> 6:30 PM	<b>12</b> <b>8:30 am</b> <b>Men's Brkfst @</b> <b>7 Angels</b> 	<b>13</b> Office Closed	<b>14</b> Pastor's Birthday 
<b>15</b> 8:30 AM  Sunday School 9:30 am Worship <i>Council Meeting</i> Spanish Ministry 3pm	<b>16</b> Church of- fice open 11-5	<b>17</b> Church of- fice open 10-5 <b>Eagle Articles</b> <b>Due</b>  <b>St. Patrick's</b> <b>Day</b> 	<b>18</b> Church office open 10-5 <i>Bells Rehearsal</i> 6:30PM 	<b>19</b> 1:00 pm Women's Guild @ 7 Angels 	<b>20</b> Office Closed	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8:30 AM  Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Spanish Ministry 3pm	<b>23</b> Church of- fice open 11-5	<b>24</b> Church of- fice open 10-5 Girl Scouts 6- 7:30 in FH	<b>25</b> Church office open 10-5 <i>Bells Rehearsal</i> 6:30 PM 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Office Closed	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <b>PALM SUNDAY</b>  8:30 AM Sunday School 9:30 am Worship Spanish Ministry 3pm	<b>30</b> Church of- fice open 11-5	<b>31</b> Church office open 10-5				