



First United Methodist Church  
 418 North Rock Street  
 Minneapolis, KS 67467

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**THIS ISSUE CONTAINS...**

- Page 1 (Cont. on page 2) - Pastor Kennedy Mukwindidza's Message**
- Page 2 – March Events and Schedules**
- Page 3 – Church Calendar**
- Page 4 –February Administrative Council Committee Meeting Minutes**
- Page 5 – Picture to color**
- Page 6 – Article submitted by Sharon Foust**
- Page 7 – United Methodist Women Schedule and Noah's Ark Preschool Update by Sharon Foust, Board President**

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# THE COMMUNICATOR - 2018

# MARCH

*Ada/Minneapolis United Methodist Community  
 Christ's Ambassadors by Inviting, Sharing, Nurturing and Forgiving*  
 From the Heart of the Pastor!

March falls in the Lenten season where and when Christians all over the world are preparing for Easter – the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. In the early church, teachings had become skewed. Understanding and embracing the essential message of Christ needed a course correction. This has remained true throughout the centuries. We all need a compass to direct us toward true North, or West or South and even East for that matter.

In the first three centuries, the early church was oppressed and often forced into secrecy and seclusion. And yet it was also working to clarify, for an ever-growing audience, its foundational confessions of faith, especially concerning the divinity of Jesus Christ. Both the Apostle's creed and the Nicene creed are the results of the early church's work of clarifying the foundational confessions of faith. Both the Apostle and Nicene creeds mention the cross and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Lenten season brings the issue of the cross and the resurrection of Jesus Christ on the forefront. It is not too much of an exaggeration to say that we exist as the Christian Church because of the resurrection! We serve a risen Lord!

Let us quickly review what the Apostle's creed says about Jesus Christ: (you are free to also review the Nicene creed on page 880 in our hymnal)

"I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord;  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit  
 born of the Virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontious Pilate,  
 was crucified, dead, and buried;  
 the third day he rose from the dead;  
 he ascended into heaven,  
 and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
 from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead!"

Can you imagine what would have happened to the Christian Church if the early church had stopped at line, "... was crucified, dead and buried!" Wouldn't that be tragic?! A remarkable story of creation and sacrifice, but that's it! If Jesus had just suffered and died a tragic death and be buried, even a hero's burial, there would be no hope! Thanks be to God, the early church understood scripture. The third day he rose from the dead and ascended into heaven! Jesus Christ was the creator's only son, and yes, a good teacher! He healed the sick, restored sight to the blind, and turned water into wine! All these were wonderful. He suffered greatly, died and buried! But what happened next was the climax of the story of Jesus the Christ – He rose again! He is the first born of the resurrection. And he has promised us that, through life in him, we can do the same! Jesus took our sins and chose to die in our place, but then he rose again.

(Cont. Page 2)

(Cont. from Page 1)

That is the promise of eternal life! This is the main thing concerning the Christian faith! The resurrection of Jesus Christ is one of the cornerstones of our faith. It is not a metaphor or a sermon illustration. It is the essence of what we believe and who we are! To that end, the Apostle Paul wrote, "And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is our faith." 1Corinthians 15:14

Thank you all. Have a great and meaningful Lenten Season leading to a happy and blessed Easter! See you all in church!

Pastor Kennedy Mukwindidza

## MARCH EVENTS AND SCHEDULES

### LITURGISTS

- 4 - Dale Henderson
- 11 - Dale Henderson
- 18 - Dale Henderson
- 25 - Lance Johnson

### ACOLYTES

- 4 - Braxton and Gracen Grimes
- 11 - Braede Weatherman and Brinley Boyer
- 18 - Paul and Kaleb Ocker
- 25 - Riley and Ethan Bohl

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGES

- 4 - Dale Henderson
- 11 - Puppeteers
- 18 - Pastor Kennedy Mukwindidza
- 25 - Joan Miles

### GREETERS

- 4 - Ocker Family
- 11 - Blythe Atwell and
- 18 - Blythe Atwell and Barb Kibler
- 25 - Ocker Family

### NURSERY HELPERS

- 4 - Shayla Bailey & Becky McDuffee
- 11 - Rosalee Tibbits & Becky McDuffee
- 18 - Barb Kibler & Becky McDuffee
- 25 - Angel Constable & Becky McDuffee

Page 2

### ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 - Craig & Megan Grimes
- 17 - Joe & Cherryl Watkins

### BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Stoney Runnion
- 2 - Rebecca Williamson and Michelle Baccus
- 3 - DeMerle Eckart
- 5 - Joyce Bacon
- 8 - Diana Peck
- 14 - Debra Pounds
- 17 - Patti Bertrand
- 18 - Al Miles and Shayla Bailey
- 20 - Ethan Bohl
- 30 - Arlen Bacon
- 31 - Colleen Hogg and Joell Abell

### SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES - ADULT

Adult Sunday School Class meets every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. Following are the lessons that will be discussed in March:

- 4 - The Lord Will Provide
- 11 - There Is No God Like You
- 18 - The People Gave Thanks to God
- 25 - Keep My Statutes and Ordinances

### MISSIONS COMMITTEE

#### CAMP UPDATE

With the increase of kids going to camp - which is awesome- and the price increase, we are asking that the parents pay \$50.00 per child to help cover expenses.

Missions is having a silent auction from Sunday, April 1 through Sunday April 8. Please have your items to the church by Friday March 30 at 5:00 p.m. If you are a camp kid or parent of a camp kid, this is a great opportunity for you to contribute! Thank you.

### TIES & TIARAS

#### SECOND ANNUAL SPRING GALA

Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>

Details to follow



### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

March 2 - 2:00 p.m. World Day of Prayer Service - Catholic Church Host

March 11 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Dinner after church Baked Potato Bar

March 20 - 7:00 p.m. Unit Meeting

## **Noah's Ark Preschool Update**

Sharon Foust, Board President

The Noah's Ark Preschool has been doing well this year. After receiving 3 newly minted 3-yr olds in November, both classes are coming along well. The Christmas program was well attended by parents and was a joy to see. The kids are always so much fun!

We want to make sure the congregation is welcoming to our preschool students and parents on these days, when we have special programs for Noah's Ark Preschool during our worship service. The kids are little and may not know how to behave well in church. The parents may feel embarrassed if their child acts up. Let's be patient with them and tell the kids and parents that we are glad they are here worshipping with us. The Preschool is an important mission of our church. We want the parents and students to feel welcome among us. Since currently we have no preschoolers who are from our congregation, we want to encourage parents who may be looking for a church home to choose our church. Next time the Preschool performs, let's all be welcoming and encouraging.

Also, Noah's Ark Preschool will again be selling Little Caesars Pizza kits again starting around the first of March. This and other fundraisers for the Preschool enables us to pay our insurance and fees for each operating year. The pizza kits are very good. The crusts and all toppings are included with 3 to kit, or more if you want a larger kit. Please get a kit and support us. We will be offering them at church starting March 4th.

Hard to believe we only have 3 months of school left this year. Our Spring Field Trip is April 27th to the Rolling Hills Zoo. Field Trip day is always a blast! Come join us if you have the time. The kids are such a blessing and such fun! Thanks to all from our congregation who support the preschool, thru scholarship donations, snack donations, and your prayers. God bless you all.



## **March 25, 2018**



Today, NationalDayofPrayer.org welcomes guest writer, [Dr. Jeremy Roberts](#). Jeremy is the Lead Pastor at Brushy Creek Baptist Church in Taylors, SC.

The mass school shooting that took place in South Florida was a tragic act of violence that shows demonic activity is alive. This shooting was purely from Satan. It was anti-God. It was evil. We have a desperate need for God's peace. (If you've been away from the news cycle, [here are the details](#).)

Now is the time to turn to God in prayer. I encourage you to pray through several Psalms as you process what happened at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Broward County, Florida.

**How Should You Pray, in Response to the Shooting?**

**1. Pray for God's peace and comfort to fall upon all affected. (Pray Psalm 86:17)**

*Show me a sign of your favor, that those who hate me may see and be put to shame because you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.*

**2. Pray that this trend of school and church shootings would cease, via the power of God and wisdom of police and security experts. (Pray Psalm 11:5)**

*The Lord tests the righteous, but his soul hates the wicked and the one who loves violence.*

**3. Pray that American politicians would unite in the midst of this tragedy and work together to lead a safer country instead of fighting and blaming. Pray that politicians would not seek to destroy their "political enemies" in the heat of this proverbial summer. (Pray Psalm 32:3-4)**

*For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Selah*

**4. Pray that Christians would respond to this in compassionate ways instead of using this event to merely push opinions of gun control. (Pray Psalm 116:5)**

*Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.*

**5. Pray for a sweeping revival to come to America. We must come back to God. (Pray Psalm 9:9)**

*The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.*



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 2:00pm. World Day of Prayer-Catholic Church	3
4 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun. in Lent Communion	5 Men & Boys Rally - Beloit.	6 6:00 pm Noah's Ark Pre-school Bd Mtg	7 5:00pm C of C Meeting 6:30 p.m. Bible Study	8 10:30 a.m. OCMA Mtg.@ Love INC	9	10
11 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun Dinner 2:45-3:30 pm Ada/Mpls svc. LTC & Good Sams	12	13	14 6:30 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 pm Ad Council Mtg.	15	16	17
18 5 <sup>th</sup> Sun. in Lent	19 School Spring Break--	20 7:00 p.m. UMW Meeting -----	21 -----	22 -----	23 -----→	24
25 Passion/ Palm Sunday	26 Mon. of Holy Week	27 Tues. of Holy Week	28 Wed. of Holy Week	29 Holy Thursday Maundy Thursday	30 Good Friday	31 Holy Fri.

**First United Methodist Church  
Administrative Council Board Meeting Minutes  
February 14, 2018**

The Administrative Council Committee ("ADCO") of the First United Methodist Church of Minneapolis, Kansas met for their monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 14, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were: Dale Henderson, Pastor Kennedy Mukwindidza, Gary Kay, Steve Baccus, Deb Nichols, Barb Kibler, Pat Baccus, Paula Baccus, Sharon Foust and Joan Miles.

The meeting was opened by Pastor Kennedy giving devotion.

**Minutes:** The January, 2018 Minutes were approved by Steve Baccus and seconded by Gary Kay. All Ayes.

**Treasurer's Report:** Patti Bertrand was not at the meeting; however she provided the Treasurer's Reports which revealed we are on budget! Gary Kay approved and Steve Baccus seconded the Reports. All Ayes.

**Finance Committee Report:** Chairman, Steve Baccus reported the Finance Committee met on January 15 at 6:30 p.m. Steve advised that Pastor Kennedy is recommending the Finance/Stewardship Committees be combined and discussed mentioning to Trustees about possibly remodeling the kitchen sometime in the near future. Also we need to be thinking about replacements for the church Financial Secretary position currently filled by Colette Henderson and the church Treasurer position currently filled by Patti Bertrand as they are considering not carrying on in these positions.

Gary Kay brought up having a Strategic Planning Session. Gary had taken some time in looking at the church memberships/attendance and found that there are 32 members 80 years old and older. There are 25 people in the 70-80 age group. We need to think about where we will be as a church in 2025, only seven years from now.

The Hand Bells have been renovated, but this expense has not yet been paid. It needs to be determined what fund the money will come from to pay this expense. It is the recommendation of the Bell Choir that Memorial funds be used for this expense. Dale Henderson will check with Chair of Trustees Nick Krueger.

Our church was blessed by a good sum from Jean King's Memorial. The Trustees and Finance Committee will determine how these funds will be invested.

**Trustee's Report:** Dale Henderson reported in Trustee Chairman Nick Krueger's absence that new sensors were installed in the parking light fixtures and the entry lights of the church are fixed. Dale had the hot water heater repaired just in time for the Valentine Dinner.

**SPPR:** No report.

**Education Committee:** No report

**Outreach/Fellowship Committee:** Deb Nichols reported the committee fed the MJSHS FCA Group on Wednesday, January 24, and are scheduled to feed the Group again sometime in March. The date will be announced.

The Outreach Project for 2018 was for church people to donate Crock Pots to give applicants. Along with the Crock Pots, frozen meals were furnished. There were 18 crock pots picked up, three people did not appear to pick up the crock pots and two dozen frozen meals were furnished. There are some crock pots left to have another "Crock Pots Rock" event.

**Missions Committee:** Some of the people who attended the Valentine's Dinner sponsored by the Missions Committee reported it was a great success and the food was very good.

**LOVE INC:** No report

**Worship Committee:** Pat Baccus reported the committee is working on the service for Maundy Thursday to be held on March 29.

**United Methodist Women:** The next UMW Meeting will be on February 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wesley Room.

**Noah's Ark Preschool:** Sharon Foust reported she is not the interim president, but is now the President of the Noah's Ark Preschool Board. In working on revising the By-laws,

Sharon has discovered that new Board Members are to be selected in April and will meet in June to be active Board Members starting in January of the following year. William Labes and Lindsey Thomas are two new Board Members.

**Old Business:** Nothing was discussed.

**New Business:** Nothing was discussed.

**Pastor Kennedy Mukwindidza's Report:** Pastor reported that focusing on discipleship, not just membership is very important. When we emphasize discipleship or being disciples of Christ, membership will not be a problem.

Pastor also reported on the two events in our district that are coming up. February 24 and 25 is "Fight Like A Man" Men's gathering at Emmanuel Church in Abilene, and on March 5 is the Men and Boy's Rally in Beloit, which now is open to anyone...men, women, boys and girls!

Our church has been asked to host the Good Friday Worship Service - An hour of gathering at which the Baptist Preacher will give the message. A motion was made by Gary Kay to use our church, and the motion was seconded by Sharon Foust. All Ayes.

Discussion was held regarding possibly having Bible Studies in our homes, making the invitation open to the whole congregation, and possibly having several families open to hosting Bible Studies. This would be a blessing to all who participate...both hosts and guests.

The meeting was closed with a prayer by Pastor.

The next meeting will be held on March 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wesley Room.

Respectfully submitted by: Joan Miles

(Please note: These minutes have not been approved. They will be discussed and approved at the March 14 Administrative Council Meeting.)

## FOR YOU TO COLOR

