



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, SPARTA ILLINOIS

THE LAMPLIGHTER

MARCH 2020

Ministry Collection - Back to School Looking Cool

We will be collecting new brushes/combs/pics for giveaways at our annual Back to School, Looking Cool in July. When you are at the store, pick up several cool looking ones (that kids would like) and bring them to the church and put them in the collection containers in the narthex. This will be throughout the month of March. Also, be looking ahead to July so you can volunteer to help with this wonderful community mission that our church does every year



Laundry Mission Day

We are doing another community Laundry Mission Day on Sunday, March 8th after morning worship. This consists of people from our church being at the laundry here in Sparta for a one hour stretch of time, and handing out mission bags to the people who come into the laundry to wash their clothes. Each bag will be for one load of laundry and you would be surprised how appreciated this is to the people we encountered last time we did this. Also included in the bag will be a card with information about our church, and about Easter services in our community. It only takes a couple of people per hour. If you can help out for an hour to be a blessing to those in our community, please call Mary Hauskins at 618-317-4967. The children's Sunday School department is taking the first hour, from 12 to 1 p.m. And the NOW committee is taking a one-hour shift. This would be a great opportunity for other groups such as Sunday School classes, but it only takes a couple of people, so get with someone and volunteer for this great community mission.

General Conference delegation offering briefing to resource local congregations

Members of the IGRC General Conference delegation are available to visit churches and present information about legislation coming before the General Conference May 5-15 in Minneapolis. The delegation's one request is that if a meeting is scheduled, that an invitation be shared with neighboring churches so they might be able to attend as well.

Currently, the following sessions have been scheduled:

- March 1 - Salem Grace UMC, Kaskaskia River District, 10 a.m.
(a second session in the area could be scheduled)
- March 1 - Route 24 Plus Clergy Covenant Group,
Chenoa UMC, Vermilion River District
- March 3 - Belleville Union UMC, Mississippi River District, 6:30 p.m.
- March 8 - Waverly UMC, LaMoine River District, 2 to 5 p.m.
- March 10 - Springfield Laurel UMC, Sangamon River District, 6 to 8 p.m.
- March 15 - Taylorville First UMC, Sangamon River District, 1 p.m.
- March 15 - Maryville St. Luke UMC, Mississippi River District, 1 p.m.
- March 18 - Edwardsville St. Johns UMC, Mississippi River District, 6:30 p.m.
- March 22 - Illinois River District, Pekin Grace UMC, 2 to 4 p.m.

Contact [Paul Black](#) or any other delegation member to schedule a session.

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CALENDAR	

MEN'S MINISTRY

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

SUNDAY MARCH 15 AT 8:00 AM

Men's Fellowship Group

Wednesday March 4 and 18 at 6:15 am

UMW NEWS

Next Meeting

March 10 at 7:00 pm

SUNDAY SERVICE SNACKS

We need volunteers to provide treats and clean up following Sunday Service. This act of hospitality welcomes visitors and regular attendees when they arrive at church. Our children particular look forward to this. Sign up sheets will be on a clipboard in the sanctuary entrance. Volunteers are listed on the back page Lamplighter and in the bulletin. Thank you all for signing up for this ministry.

ALTAR FLOWERS

We are in need of a volunteer to help with the Altar flowers. If you like making floral arrangements and helping with keeping them changed on the altar, please contact Dot Heuman

MARCH 28 & 29 WEEKEND

FOR MISSIONS OFFERING

'CHANGE FOR COMMUNITY CHANGE!'



The weekend of Saturday, March 28 and Sunday, March 29 will be our next collection this year. There are extra Collection Containers located in the Narthex.

Easter Schedule

- April 5, Palm Sunday at 10:30 am
- April 6-10 Holy week Services
At First United Methodist Church 7:00 am
- April 9, Maundy Thursday at 7:00 pm
- April 10, Good Friday Community Service at 7:00 pm
- April 11, Easter Saturday Service at 5:00 pm
- April 12, Easter Sunday
Sunrise Service: 6:30 am
Breakfast after Worship
Egg Hunt 9:30 am
Sunday School: 9:30 am
Easter Worship at 10:30 am



Tuesday, March 17



First United Methodist Church

CENSUS 2020 - How can YOU help!

Every household will receive a postcard from the U.S. Census Bureau **beginning in March**. Log on to 2020census.gov and complete your household's census form after you have your postcard. It takes 10 minutes, that's it! You can fill it out on your phone, tablet, or computer from anywhere with internet access. Count EVERY person living in your home at the time, no matter how young or old, related or not. We ALL count! Let's work together in 2020 to get everyone counted!

Trustee Meeting, 2/3/2020

(Minutes Not Yet Approved)

Those present were: Mary Hauskins, Clint Peck, Doug Baue, Larry Ashley, Brian Belcher, Jerry Haley. The meeting opened with prayer by Pastor Haley.

The minutes of the January 2020 meeting were handed out and reviewed. After review, motion was made by Clint Peck and seconded by Doug Baue that they be approved as presented. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

*Clint Peck advised that he had borrowed an extension pole from the school and he will take care of the cob webs in the sanctuary, tonight after the meeting.

*Mary Hauskins advised that the holes in the walls in the restrooms were patched and Clint said that he will get some guys together to clean up the floor. Mary advised that after that is done, she will take care of getting some volunteers to paint the old restrooms and they will be ready to set up for storage.

*The flag has been put back up on the flagpole. This was blown down in a recent storm.

*The contract with Aramark on the rugs is still under dispute. Patti Cecil, Treasurer, is taking care of this.

*We have not completed what needs to be done regarding

the positive radon test at the parsonage. Pastor Jerry is taking care of this.

*Discussion was held regarding the cleaning service that we are using for the church. We will have to look at this closer and see what we are paying and we may need to make up a check list for items that are to be taken care of by the service. Pastor will check with Rhonda and see if we have a copy of the contract and then we will look closer at this. Suggestions for a checklist are: Clean restrooms Monday and Friday, also wiping down the walls of the stalls; Vacuum carpet and pews in sanctuary, and also couch cushions in gathering room, at least weekly; dust the sanctuary weekly; wash kids toys in nursery; mop tiled areas; clean, vacuum and dust all other areas plus office. After this checklist is made up we will look at whether or not we need to go back to 3 days per week.

*The area needing repaired on the playground was fixed by Dave Hargis. The picnic table has been removed. Discussion was held regarding benches. We are going to ask the Memorial Committee if we can have around \$650 to purchase two benches. Mary sent a text to the people on the committee and if we receive an OK, she will place the order to have them delivered to the church.

NEW BUSINESS

*The patio door at the parsonage does not lock, and there is no key. We may need to do cleaning and painting upon Pastor Jerry's retirement in anticipation of the new pastor. We will work with the Staff Parish Relations Committee on what needs to be done.

No further business appearing, motion was made by Brian Belcher and seconded by Larry Ashley that the meeting adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Administrative Council Meeting

February 10, 2020, 7:00pm
(Minutes Not Yet Approved)

Persons Attending: Pastor Jerry Haley, Tom Ashley, Gary Cox, Kathy Ruhmann, Linda Bird, Dot Heuman, Mary Hauskins

The meeting began at 7:00 pm with a prayer by Pastor Jerry.

OLD BUSINESS:

The minutes from the January meeting were distributed and reviewed. Mary Hauskins moved to accept the minutes. Dot Heuman seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer: Although Patti Cecil was absent because of illness, she left a financial report. Bills continue to be paid in full.

Financial Secretary: Linda Bird presented reports showing giving for the first two months of 2020.

Meal Ministry, NOW Comm: Mary Hauskins, There have been no meals given lately, but Mae B will be having knee surgery in March and will need meals at that time. The NOW committee continues to send cards to those who are sick, have missed church services, have had prayers given for them during church service, and children who have had special honors. Brooke Gerlach and Megan Greenhill have volunteered to take over the College Care Packages ministry. They will send out something twice a year. The movie night will be next Sunday, Feb 16. Chili, cake, and popcorn will be served. Valentines that were collected will be mailed out this week. Jackie Clendenin will see that this is done. On March 8 after worship, several members, including the youth, will participate in a Laundry mission-- handing out laundry supplies along with information about upcoming church services and activities at a local laundromat. Some volunteers are still needed. In March, brushes and combs are being collected for the July mission, "Back to School, Looking Cool." Each month, other items will be collected. Visitations of shut-ins are going well. More visitors are always needed. Brian and Kendra B. will continue to collect for the food pantry.

Trustees: Mary Hauskins, The Trustees will be purchasing two benches for the playground to replace the picnic table that was rotting. The Memorial Committee has been contacted and has approved supplying the funds for this purchase. The restrooms are being converted to storage rooms. One will be suitable for paper records and will be locked. The other will store extra pews and tables and chairs. Custodial duties at the church will be reviewed. The Trustees will be assisting the Pastor/ Parish committee with painting or other updates on the parsonage before the new pastor arrives in July.

Pastor's Report: Jerry Haley, Ash Wednesday Service will be Wed, Feb 26, at 7pm. The 7am Lenten services during Holy Week will be at our church this year.

The Weather Cancellation Procedure is now in place. The media to look for our church canceling due to weather are:

Facebook – Sparta First United Methodist Church

Website – www.spartafumc.org

Prayer Chain

WHCO Radio Station –

website: www.realcountry1230.com Facebook page - search WHCO Radio

TV Stations – KSDK Channel 5, St. Louis, MO KFVS Channel 12, Cape Girardeau, MO

Tom Ashley moved to adjourn the meeting. Gary Cox seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: March 9, at 7:00 pm

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 3/1 Thomas Bruno
Jonathan Hill
Jessica Krause
- 3/2 Hunter Beattie
Jessica Schupbach
- 3/3 Mary Jo Henry
Rita Sickmeyer
Rory Wilson
- 3/4 Jay Blind
Fred Guebert
Nancy Howell
Bob Odom
- 3/6 Larry Rosenthal
Tom Seals
- 3/7 Brian Bauer
Emma Cash
- 3/8 Marty Patton
- 3/9 Owen Jacobus
Aaron Stork
- 3/10 Debbie Baird
Taylor Henley
Joan Teopvich
Angie Wilson
- 3/12 Annabelle Badolato
Mae Britt
Kristie Juenger
- 3/13 J. D. Guebert
Michelle Haury
Andrew Henry
Cindy Sickmeyer
Sydnie Smith
Mindy Sturtz
- 3/14 Mary Ella Deppe
Cathy Norton
- 3/15 Sharon Beckley
Jaxon Miles
Layla Miles
- 3/17 Katie Burns
Hailey Clendenin
- 3/18 Charles Bird
- 3/19 Dale Berry
Phillip Bird
Becky Sickmeyer
- 3/20 Sydney Castens
- 3/21 Tammy Craft
- 3/22 Bob Taylor
- 3/23 Chelsey Rush
- 3/24 Jordyn Baue
- 3/25 Warren Gerlach
- 3/26 Kenny Baird

- 3/26 Cassie Boucher
- 3/27 Jerry Haley
- 3/28 Eddie Gailey
- 3/29 Nancy Stork
Jamie Woodworth
- 3/30 Hannah Bouas
- 3/30 Julie Juenger
- 3/30 Carol Volkmer
- 3/31 Rachel Wilson

- 3/11 Dan & Tam Cowan
- 3/21 Don & Sara Bixby
- 3/26 Frank & Sharon Beckley

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each week on Monday a group from our church meets in the Parlor at 9:00 a.m. to send cards of welcome, strength, and support as well as to pray for our congregation and for the needs of the church, you are more than welcome to join them. Please join them in prayer. *If you would like to be apart of the prayer chain please call Elaine Hargis at 443-3205 or email her at ejhargis4@gmail.com. Always remember to update us with any email changes.*

Joys: Birth of Bennett Lee Holland; Kelsey Cowan to attend SWIC and play volleyball; Pastor Jerry got a good report from the cardiologist; Baptism of Skyler Miller and Kade Schroeder, Souper Bowl Sunday Youth Fund Raiser, God’s Gift Singing

Concerns: Georgia Rezba pneumonia; Willa Dietz in St. Elizabeth Hospital; Dave Robinson in St Elizabeth Hospital; Charles Heuman; Bob Taylor; Larry Rosenthal; Becky Sickmeyer’s sister; Brad Sickmeyer; Family of Lee Burns; continued prayers for Cameron White; and the Family of Harry Denninger

Words of Gratitude:

Thank you so very much for the Valentines cards. We thank you for your cards, calls, visits and concerns. Thank you for the men who put up the grab bar for Bud. We appreciate all you have done for us and for remembering us in prayer. *Bud & Judy Bennett*

Your thoughtfulness is truly appreciated. Thank s to all your members, I am doing well now. My life has been truly blessed by all your prayers. God Bless you all. *Thanks Roger Threnn*

Date	General Budget	Capital Campaign	Other	Total For the Week	Saturday Worship/ Sun Worship/ Sunday School
02.02.20	\$3,514.83	\$600.00	\$169.00	\$4,284.05	19/100/64
02.09.20	\$3,014.83	\$500.00	\$454.00	\$3,969.30	19/90/50
02.16.20	\$3,154.86	\$476.52	\$186.00	\$3,817.60	15/76/32
02.23.20	\$5,614.83	\$535.00	\$143.00	\$6,292.05	14/82/53

General Budget Received Year to Date: \$ 29,810.61

Sunday Schedule

9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship

Office Hours:

Mon, Wed, Friday 8:30 - 1:30 pm
Phone (618) 443-3714
Email: spartafumc@yahoo.com

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Lent Begins 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6:00 pm Youth Group	2 9 am Care & Share 6:00 pm Sorority 6:30 pm Trustees	3	4 6:15 am Men's Group 2:15 pm God's Gifts 6 pm NOW Comm. 7 pm Choir	5	6 Pastor Jerry's Day Off Fellowship Hall in use 4-8 pm	7 5 pm Worship
8 Daylight Savings Time 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Laundry Mission 6:00 pm Youth Group	9 8 am Garden Club 9 am Care & Share 6 pm Finance Mtg. 7 pm Ad Council	10 7pm UMW	11 2:15 pm God's Gifts 7 pm Choir	12	13 Pastor Jerry's Day Off	14 5 pm Worship Youth Group Little Grassy Retreat
15 8am Men's Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6:00pm Youth Group	16 9 am Care & Share	17 Voting Day In Fellowship Hall	18 6:15 am Men's Group 2:15 pm God's Gifts 7 pm Choir	19 Lamplighter Deadline	20 Pastor Jerry's Day Off	21 5 pm Worship
22 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6:00pm Youth Group	23 9 am Care & Share	24	25 2:15 pm God's Gifts 7 pm Choir	26 9 am Mail out Lamplighter	27 Pastor Jerry's Day Off	28 5 pm Worship
29 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6:00pm Youth Group	30 9 am Care & Share	31				



SAVE THE DATES:

Easter 2020

April 5, Palm Sunday at 10:30 am
April 6-10 Holy week Services
April 9, Maundy Thursday at 7:00 pm
April 10, Good Friday Community Service at 7:00 pm
April 11, Easter Saturday Service at 5:00 pm

April 12, Easter Sunday
Sunrise Service: 6:30 am
Breakfast after Worship
Egg Hunt 9:30 am
Sunday School: 9:30 am
Easter Worship at 10:30 am

Reflecting
The
Light of God!



WERE ON THE WEB!

www.spartafumc.org

On Facebook:

Sparta First United Methodist Church

First United Methodist Church
600 W. University
Sparta, IL 62286

Return Service Requested

Nonprofit Organization

US Postage Paid

Sparta, IL 62286

PERMIT #37

Phone: (618) 443-3714

Church Email: spartafumc@yahoo.com

Dated Material - Mailed Out on February 27, 2019

MARCH 2020 WOSRHIP SCHEDULE

Liturgist Jeremy Volkmar

Head Usher Bob Taylor

Ushers

03/01 Jeff Sauzek Family
Don & Carol Ashley

03/08 Ed & Jan Schwartz
Jason & Beth Coop

03/15 Eric Manker Family
Linda Bird and Roberta Guebert

03/22 Bill & March Schwartz
Kyle & Emily Schwartz

03/29 Travis & Regina Heller
Tom Ashley and Larry Ashley

Audio/Visual Team

03/01 Maggie Haury

03/08 Claire Baue

03/15 Morgan Coop

03/22 Kelsey Cowan

03/29 Olivia Haskenhoff

Nursery

03/01 Brooke Gerlach

03/08 Megan Greenhill

03/15 Beth Coop

03/22 Cathy Norton

03/29 Autumn Peck

Saturday Evening Worship

03/07 Larry Rosenthal & Kathy Ruhmann

03/14 Brian Belcher & Rhonda Jones

03/21 Larry Rosenthal & Kathy Ruhmann

03/28 Brian Belcher & Rhonda Jones

Sunday Morning Snacks

03/01 Doug Baue

03/08 **Sign up sheet for March & April**

03/15 **Is in the entrance of the church.**

03/22

03/29 Brooke Gerlach

Acolytes

03/01 Jaxon & Layla Miles

03/08 Hailey Heller & Leah Coop

03/15 Jake Greenhill & Collin Haury

03/22 Aiden & Andru Stine

03/29 Wyatt Peck & Sam Haury