

# MILACA UNITED METHODIST

February 2016 Newsletter

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

## Follow in Jesus' Steps



Reverend  
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- Sunday Morning Service  
9:30 am
- Coffee & Fellowship  
Following Service
- Bible Studies
- Youth Group
- Sunday School
- Vacation Bible School
- UMW



February





### February From the Pastor:

*"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."*

John 13:34-35

We celebrate Valentine's Day this month, a day when we're told that to show our love for our significant others means flowers and a mushy, romantic card. When Christian love and compassion for others takes root in us, it is expressed not on one day, but throughout the year and in actions, not just in words or feelings. You cannot gradually and cautiously feel your way toward Christian love. Love is action. Grace is God's unconditional love for us. Christian love trusts God and goes for it without hesitating or pondering "what's in it for me?"

Jesus' new commandment to his disciples was simply this: Show your love. Love one another. By your loving actions, people will know more about you than by anything else you could do. Love each other as I have loved you. Jesus didn't love us by simply feeling loving toward us. Jesus lived a life that embodied love. He healed the sick. He fed the hungry. He comforted the confused. He taught the ignorant. He hugged the little children. Jesus' love was so great that he went to the cross, suffered torture and death as his greatest demonstration of action--packed love. The love Jesus wants his disciples to enter into -- not just to "feel" but to do -- is action-packed. And love in action is sometimes embodied by the simplest of compassionate responses.

Jesus urged his disciples to have love for one another so that "everyone will know that you are my disciples." The ability to love everyone -- even the most unlovable of sorts, has always been the test of the discipleship of love. After the crowds had stoned him, mocked him, spit upon him, screamed "crucify him," Jesus could still cry out in love, "Forgive them, they know not what they do." How can we seek to imitate this love in our own lives? Certainly it comes through our words, but our actions speak so much louder. An action-packed faith is the power of love in action, it is the power of Christ within each one of us shining forth through the actions of our lives.

Blessings and see you in church!

Pastor Joyce <><



## Worship Schedule

February 7<sup>th</sup> – communion, bring soup donations  
 February 10<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday Service 6:30 pm  
 February 14<sup>th</sup> – theme for worship: Love  
 February 14<sup>th</sup> – Java and Jesus meal & service 6:00 pm  
 February 21<sup>st</sup> – Choir sings, Gideons are our guest  
 February 28<sup>th</sup> – Sunday school children share a skit with us  
 Church Conference with a Luau Potluck  
 follows our morning worship

### Pastors Scripture Study Group

Pastor Joyce meets with clergy from Milaca, Mora, Foley & Princeton each Wednesday to talk about the assigned scripture for the upcoming Sunday. They will be meeting at our church in the Fellowship Hall the month of February at 10:30 am.

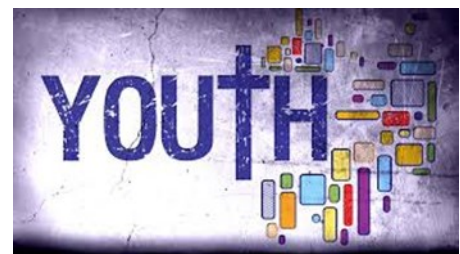


### WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR A JAVA & JESUS MEAL?

A donation of \$50 will help provide a nourishing meal for those that come to us for a helping of food and faith. You can place your donation of any amount in the offering plate with "Java & Jesus meal" in the memo. Your donation can remain anonymous or be acknowledged whichever is your choice.

### February Youth Group Schedule

Feb. 3 – supper @ 5:30 Classes @ 6 pm  
 Feb. 10 – Ash Wednesday Stew supper @ 5:30  
 Feb. 17 – supper @ 5:30 Classes @ 6 pm



### Save These Dates For Vacation Bible School:

June 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> - every afternoon.

Help is needed in many areas like teachers, recreation, crafts, snacks, storytelling, and many more. Check your closets, attics, and garages for donations or lending us surf, beach, and water themed items for decorating will be greatly appreciated. Check for any Hawaiian shirts or flower leis too!



### **Souper Bowl Sunday – Next Sunday Feb. 7th**

No soup lunch after worship this year, but please still bring your soup donations for the Milaca Food Pantry.

### **Sign Up for Sanctuary Flowers**

If you'd like to provide the flowers for Sunday worship – please sign up on the date you'd like to bring flowers using the whole year chart on the table in the Gathering Space. Then be sure to mark your personal calendar so you won't forget.



### **Ash Wednesday Stew Supper – Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> 5:30 pm**

The youth and their families will once again be hosting a stew supper fundraiser. We're using a different recipe this year, it is the same one the Legion uses for their St Paddy's Day Stew – so you know it will be tasty. Sides and beverage included in the \$5.00 ticket price. Tickets available from youth in the Gathering Space.

### **Ash Wednesday Service – Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm**

This somber service begins the forty-day season of Lent. It includes the imposition of ashes and communion.



### **Church Conference & Luau Potluck**

Sunday February 28 following worship

Wear your Hawaiian shirt and bring something luau themed dish or your favorite potluck item and join us for a fun afternoon of fellowship and hearing about the ministry of our church. Mark your calendar – Aloha!



Community Lenten Lunches



Throughout the Wednesdays of Lent you are invited to gather with others from neighboring churches at 11:30 for a simple soup lunch, fellowship and a brief service. This year's Community Lenten Lunches theme will be "Living Lent As People of the Resurrection" Each service in this series focuses on a word to consider while living Lent as Easter people. The passion narratives of Christ take on more significant meaning for us when we see them through the lens of the empty tomb. Each service helps us see that we are always alive in Christ, who died and was raised. A freewill donation is appreciated to help cover the cost of lunch.

Feb. 17	Trinity Lutheran	Purpose
Feb. 24	St. Louis Catholic	People
Mar. 2	Zion Lutheran	Proclaim
Mar. 9	Milaca United Methodist	Praise
Mar. 16	St. Mary's Catholic	Pain



Camping Brochures

Can be found on the table in the Gathering Space. Find out about the many opportunities of camping for various interests for all ages and even families! Employment for those 18+ is also available through our camping program visit the web site [www.campminnesota.org](http://www.campminnesota.org) and click on summer employment if you're interested.

Do You Know the Muffin Pan?

We are missing a 24 count muffin pan from the church kitchen. If you can shed any light on its whereabouts please talk to Pastor Joyce or Jeanette Hannenberg.





I hope everyone was able to stay warm during the cold spell a couple weeks ago. I suppose the warm up will mean snow. Hopefully not a lot. I was lucky enough to be able to be gone that week as I was in St. Thomas attending our granddaughter's wedding on Magan Bay. It was a beautiful day and they were a very happy couple. The temperature on Tues. Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> was 82 degrees.

Christian Women was Tues. Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> and there were 50 brave ladies that attended. They enjoyed oven baked apple French toast, sausage, and clementine oranges. Their next meeting will be on Tues. Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>.

On Monday Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> we had our yearly Prayer and Self Denial Brunch. There were 15 ladies that braved the cold that day. We planned our UMW Sunday that will be Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>. I would like to thank all of the participants in advance for their help in the service. We paid our dues for the coming year and finished filling in the dates for the year on the calendars. Thurs. Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> we will be serving our yearly meal to the Circle of Hope at Zion Church. We place for about 40 for that.

There were several of us ladies traveling to Ogilvie UMC on Jan. 29 for their Top the Tater dinner. We met at church at 3:45 and car pooled over.

The circles meet this month. Grace Sarah Mon. Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, Mary Martha Thurs. Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>. We serve coffee at Elim Home the month of March on Sundays from 1:45-3:00 p.m. I will have a sign up sheet the middle of Feb. for all volunteers- men, women, and youth are welcome to sign up, two people per Sunday.

Until next month have a Happy Valentine's Day. God's Blessings.

**Audrey Bowe, President**

## February Calendar Items:

3<sup>rd</sup> – Ministerial Meeting 8:30am

Pastor Scripture Study 10:30am

Youth Supper 5:30pm & Youth Class 6:00pm

4<sup>th</sup> – Circle of Hope @ Zion Church 6:00pm

7<sup>th</sup> – Souper Bowl Sunday

9<sup>th</sup> – Christian Women

Stew Supper Prep 6:30pm

10<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Scripture Study 10:30am

Ash Wednesday Stew Supper 5:30pm

Ash Wednesday Service 6:30pm

Men's Group 6:30pm

11<sup>th</sup> – Church Council 6:30pm

14<sup>th</sup> – Java & Jesus 6:00pm

17<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Scripture Study 10:30am

Lenten Lunch @ Trinity 11:30am

Youth Supper 5:30pm & Mission Club 6:00pm

Men's Group 6:30pm

18<sup>th</sup> – High Rise Meal 11:30am

Mary Martha Circle

21<sup>st</sup> – Newsletter Items Due

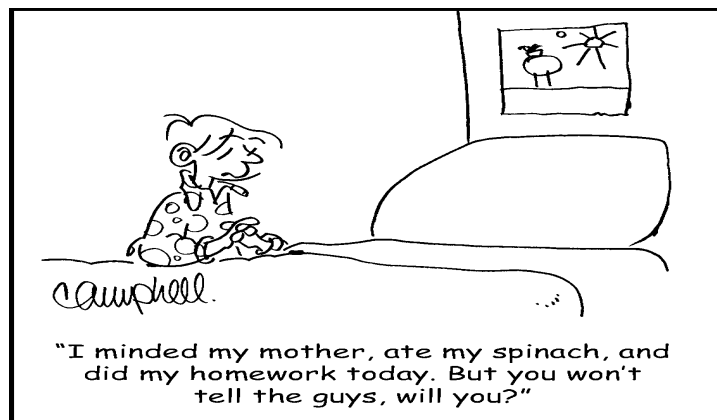
24<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Scripture Study 10:30am

Lenten Lunch @ St Louis 11:30am

27<sup>th</sup> – 4\_H Clothing Workshop 9:00am-2:00pm

28<sup>th</sup> – Church Conference & Luau Potluck

Change Shaker Sunday



Thursday, February 18th 11:30am Cost \$4.00

Roast beef w/ horseradish, whipped potatoes & gravy, steamed cabbage, wheat bread, pineapple tidbits.



1- Bill Nelsen

1- Donna Johnson

8- Randy Walbridge

10- Judy Stewart

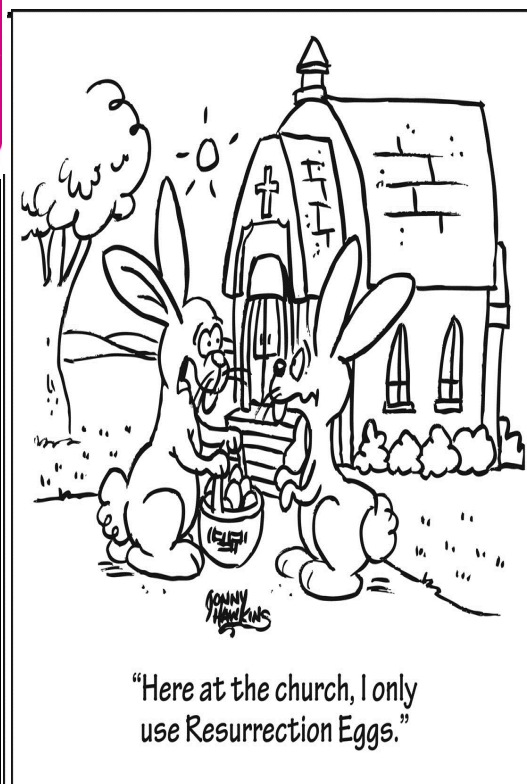
13- Pearl Jacobsen

17- AJ Coughlin

20- Joyce Stobb

26 Deb Cochran

26- Vern Quam



### *Anniversaries:*

6th—Linda & Jere Day

11th—Penny & Bill Nelson

19th—Chris & Brad Barnes

28th—Joyce & Phil Anderson