

JAMESTOWN TODAY



*Building Bridges To The
Families Of Our Community!*

March 2026

Volume 7 Issue 3

Inside this issue:

Birthdays And Much More	Page 2
Puzzle/Volunteers	Page 3
Missions/Events	Page 4
Prayers/Joys & Concerns	Page 5
Coloring Activity	Page 6
Calendar	Insert



CHURCH STAFF

- **Bette Thompson**
Pastor
- **Tammy Bainter**
Administrative
Assistant
- **Kristin Farwig**
Choir Director
- **Sandra Metcalf**
Organist/Pianist
- **Diana Cook**
Pianist
- **Geri Angel**
Custodian



Jamestown

United Methodist Church

59218 County Road 3, Elkhart, IN 46517

A word from Pastor Bette...

Lately, I have been thinking... is kneeling a requirement for prayer? I grew up in the Roman Catholic tradition, and as grade-school children, we spent much time on our knees. Those memories have helped shape me. They stir something inside me and I am led to reflect again on what prayer truly is.

In the gospels, we see that Jesus made prayer a priority. Frequently, he withdrew to be alone with God. Here in the Garden of Gethsemane, I see both anguish and surrender. Luke tells us, "and being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground" (Luke 22:44 NIV). Maybe prayer is not always peaceful. Sometimes it is wrestling. Sometimes it is costly obedience. Yet even in anguish, Jesus entrusted himself to the will of his Father.

As United Methodists, we speak of prayer as a means of grace—one of the ways God shapes and sanctifies us. I once heard someone describe prayer as a lifelong conversation with God. I love that image. Like any relationship, it requires time, attention, honesty, and trust. Prayer is not a performance; it is participation in God's transforming grace.

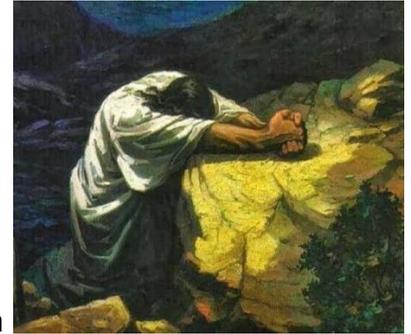
Kneeling has long been a sign of humility and surrender. It expresses reverence before a Holy God. But I understand many of us are unable to kneel physically. Yet all of us can bow inwardly. The Lord looks at the heart—the place where pride softens, where resistance yields, where we say like Jesus did, "Not my will, but Yours."

During this Lenten season, I find myself asking: what brings me to my knees on the inside? Where is God inviting deeper trust? Where is grace calling me to surrender? Lent is a time when we intentionally return to prayer, fasting, repentance, and self-examination—not to earn God's love, but to open ourselves more fully to it.

My prayer for us is that we would grow in an authentic, living relationship with the One who first loved us. May we allow prayer to shape us into faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. And whether standing, sitting, or kneeling, may our hearts be bowed in trust before God.

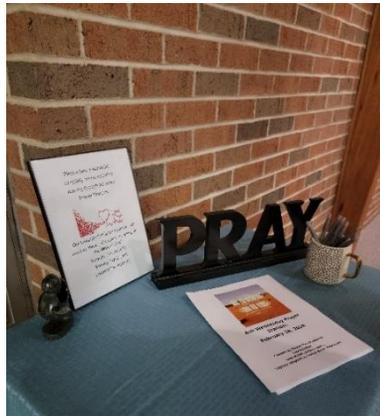
Blessings and love to you during this sacred season of Lent.

Pastor Bette



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2	Brad Ullery
3	Darin Miller
	Riggs Miller
	Elana Pontius
4	Cheryl Cabanaw
	Jane Lechlitner
7	Dave Pontius
9	Becky Metcalf
	Pastor Bette
10	Amelia Price
11	Tammy Bainter
	Logan Berg
14	Fran Price
18	Hannah Polston
21	Shane Stoops
	Kathleen Stout
22	Gary Buss
23	Shawn Angel
24	Bret Miller
25	Brittany Funderburk
26	Meaghen Farwig
	Roberta Mann
27	Ryan Remaly
28	Tony Cabanaw
29	Linda Frey



One of the four Ash Wednesday stations



UWIF Bake Sale

Please join us Saturday morning, March 7th, at the Jimtown Community Center from 7:30am until 11:00am (or until goodies are gone), where you will be able to purchase yummy baked goods prepared with loving hands by our United Women in Faith group. This will take place during the Lions Club All You Can Eat Breakfast.



Adult Bible Study!!

We continue to dive deep into the Book of Revelation. We meet on Mondays at 9:30am and Tuesdays at 6:30pm. All are invited! Please call the church office or Pastor Bette if you would like to attend or if you have any questions. **574-293-3905 or 574-229-7810.**

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

We need you to help lead our children & teens during the worship service. Our children are dismissed following the Choir Anthem to go downstairs to participate in Teen & Children's Church. So, it is only about 25 minutes. Lesson plans are chosen and ready for you. Please see LuAnn Pontius (574)370-0548 if your heart leads you to help. Thank you for prayerfully considering helping!



CONNECT & RENEW

Bishop Malone invites laity and clergy on a spiritual journey of deeper discipleship, connection and leadership as we rediscover our Wesleyan heritage and reignite our faith. Featured guest speaker Rev. Dr. Paul Chilcote will join us to present on the focused theme "Seeing & Living the Wesleyan Way". March 28th from 10am to 3:30pm at Grace UMC, South Bend IN. Please register by March 14th at <https://inumc.swoogo.com/connect2026>. The event is free and lunch is provided.



LAMPLIGHTERS ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

This class has met since the early 1960s, and they love to welcome newcomers! Please join them Sunday mornings after fellowship, which follows the worship service. Lamplighters meet downstairs in the last class on the left down from the church office. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 574-293-3905.



MATTHEW CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE



N	A	T	D	A	T	H	S	O	Y	H	R	A	B	M	S
D	O	E	W	H	L	A	O	O	L	D	E	R	C	E	T
H	I	E	G	A	Y	E	G	L	A	I	O	A	V	I	P
T	O	U	R	I	I	H	N	V	W	U	V	E	L	R	S
A	O	S	N	E	D	N	I	O	G	O	I	E	A	E	W
B	T	G	A	C	H	D	T	H	E	H	H	Y	S	D	D
L	T	E	H	N	N	T	T	I	T	K	E	L	E	A	E
E	W	I	M	S	N	T	I	A	D	R	S	G	A	O	V
S	E	O	E	P	E	A	S	S	T	E	D	T	T	E	O
F	O	V	J	H	L	C	H	T	V	O	S	H	S	T	M
V	O	U	P	E	L	E	S	R	L	I	O	S	O	E	D
D	E	O	G	O	S	N	S	A	T	U	L	M	E	L	S
O	R	R	T	H	I	U	H	W	S	O	O	L	O	L	O
P	T	H	I	A	T	S	S	E	A	U	W	H	A	T	B
I	E	T	G	L	U	B	E	D	N	G	E	D	I	G	R
S	R	A	O	P	Y	F	O	T	L	B	L	I	N	D	E

AGAINST	MOVED
BEHOLD	OLIVES
BLESSED	OUGHT
BLIND	PRAYER
BOUGHT	PROPHET
BROUGHT	SAYING
CHIEF	SEATS
CLOTHES	SITTING
DAVID	STRAWED
DOVES	TABLES
HEALED	TEMPLE
HOSANNA	THEREON
HOUSE	THIEVES
JESUS	TWAIN
LODGED	VERILY
MOUNT	VILLAGE

NAME: _____

Please return to church office by March 16th

January Puzzle Answers: 1: After, 2: After, 3: Before, 4: After, 5: Before, 6: Before, 7: Before, 8: After, 9: Before, 10: After. Number of hearts: 95

Those that were up for the challenge in February: Keith Bainter, Jim Angel, Marta Clark & Marcia Clark.

MARCH VOLUNTEERS

	Liturgist	Acolytes	Children's Message	Little's Bible School and Youth Bible School
1 st	Jeff Clark	Jameson Ullery & Jake Pyfer	LuAnn Pontius	Jackie Ullery & Linda Vest / Jon Pyfer
8 th	Jeff Clark	Dave & LuAnn Pontius	Pastor Bette	Jackie Ullery & Linda Vest / Jon Pyfer
15 th	Linda Vest	Mark & Angela Cook	Deb Beehler	Carolyn Landis & TBD / Deb Beehler
22 nd	Linda Vest	Keith & Tammy Bainter	Pastor Bette	Jane Rapp & TBD / LuAnn Pontius
29 th	Gail Greenlee	Marta & Marcia Clark	Linda Vest	LuAnn Pontius & TBD / Gail Greenlee
Ushers	Jon Pyfer, Jimmie Johnson, Marcia Cook and Dave Pontius			



Just a reminder to conserve energy and keep us safe. The Church building belongs to all of us, and we need to take care of it.

- If you unlock it, Lock it back up.
- If you turn it on, Turn it off.
- If you open it, Close it.

Thank You!

UNITED METHODIST MEN (UMM)

Next UMM Coffee & Donuts March 1st @ 8:00am

Next meetings are as follows:

April 5th @ 8:00 a.m.

May 3rd @ 8⁰⁰ a.m.

Please invite your neighbors!

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (UWIF)

March 29th meeting @ 7:45 a.m.

April 26th meeting @ 7:45 a.m.

May TBD

COMMUNITY CARRY-IN LUNCHEON

March: Tuesday the 3rd at Noon

April: Tuesday the 7th at Noon

May: Tuesday the 5th at Noon

COMMUNION TO HOMEBOUND

Some of you may know that we currently have 2 teams that take Communion to some of our homebound members every month. This is a ministry of our church. This is a chance for you to be included in our busy family of volunteers. A way to take care of our people, to let them know we are thinking of them. Will you please prayerfully consider helping take Communion to some of our members. If you want more information or would like to volunteer, sign up at the Welcome Center or call the church office, 574-293-3905.

Remember in Prayer

Home Bound & Care Facilities: Jean Green, Margaret Pierce, Patsy Seigler, Jan Slabaugh, Paula Adams, and Dee Kallimani.

Ongoing Health Concerns: Kathy & Jim Eggleston, Betty Hershberger, Lora Mahler, Wanda McCartney, Sue Raab, Linda Squibb, Marti Stickel, Polly Brown and Nila Young.

MISSIONS

Loose Coin Offerings: March Loose Coin will go to the **Girl Scouts:** The mission of the Girl Scouts is to build girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. Simply write a separate check or cash and mark it "loose coin". Thank You for your generosity. February's Loose Coin Offering went to Boy Scouts \$399.50

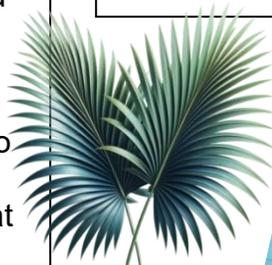
Church Community Services:

March... Pasta, Spaghetti Sauce, Soups, Hot or Cold Cereal, Hamburger Helper, Peanut Butter and Jelly.... See collection areas by both doors.

OUR MISSIONS AT WORK...

- Susanna's Kitchen sent a thank-you for a donation and volunteering in kitchen.
- Gymtown Pantry thanked us for the support in 2025.
- Cultivate Food thanked us for another amazing year.
- Thank you from Riverview Adult Day for January donation.

Please see bulletin board going into fellowship hall for the letters & cards.





Prayer Requests / Joys / Concerns

- LuAnn Pontius asks for prayers for the friends and family of Fred Voorde who passed away on Saturday (01.17.26) and for Marilyn Yoder's son, Tom, who is needing prayers for tests that were run last week.
- Jim Angel asks for prayers for their Grandson's friend, Nate, who had an industrial accident and has been burned pretty badly.
- Cheryl Cabanaw asks for prayers for Shannon who is still dealing with the infection in her hand and her other surgery is postponed until March. Also, thanked Pastor Bette for performing Ed Raab's service and thanked everyone for the thoughts and prayers sent to Sue and the rest of the family.
- Jane Rapp asks we lift the family of Pat Vogelzang up in our prayers as they said goodbye to Pat on Saturday.
- Pastor Bette was joyful with Ed Raab's service and that he had only simple wheat stalks on his casket, representing his love of the land. Prayers of thanks for the simplicity of the wheat stalks.
- Prayers for our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Marti Lundy as she guides our leaders.
- Prays for Assistant Superintendent, David Schrader, as he battles cancer.
- Jane Rapp asks to lift up in prayer, Tammy Sue Moore, who is having shoulder surgery this week (02/02/26).
- Cheryl Cabanaw asks for prayers for her daughter, Shannon Cabanaw, who is having hand surgery on the 4th and who will also be having a pacemaker installed later.
- Jim Eggleston asks for prayers for his brother, Ralph, as he recovers from gallbladder surgery.
- LuAnn Pontius is joyful that Marilyn Yoder's son, Tom, got good news from his test results.
- Pastor Bette asks for prayers for wellness on the hearts and souls of the people who couldn't join us on Sunday for worship service.
- Kristin Farwig thanked everyone for the thoughts and prayers sent to her family on the passing of her father.
- Becky Metcalf thanked everyone for supporting the Scouts. Also asks for prayers for the family of Cub Master Justin Parker, who is battling cancer for the 4th time.
- Cheryl Cabanaw asks for prayers for her aunt, Sue Raab, who is back in the hospital. Also, prayers for Shannon, who had to have her surgery cancelled due to some tests that came back bad. Please pray for her health issues to get resolved.
- Kathleen Stout's daughter's mother-in-law, Janette, passed away. Please keep Janette's friends and family in your prayers.
- Jill Biller asks for traveling mercies for her son, Jake, as he travels to Germany to visit a friend.
- Becky Buss asks for prayers for Pastor Paul Roger's family as his mother-in-law passed away.
- Angela Cook asks for prayers for Mark's mom, Janice Cook, as she is now in hospice care. Prayers for Janice's family and friends as she makes her journey home. Angela also expressed joy that Jack and his family have been joining them for church on Sunday mornings.
- Anita Hoffman asks for prayers for her friend, Bradley.
- LuAnn Pontius was joyful that she spent a blessed day on Ash Wednesday with her friends, including Marybeth who is in hospice care and was having a very good day.
- Kathy Moyer was glad to be with her church family on Ash Wednesday.
- Jeff Clark's friend, Jack, was travelling on the bypass when a person lost control and hit him. As he was losing control he thought, "I'm gonna die". Next thing he is floating in the sky watching the accident happen and he then woke up in his car when the accident was over with no injuries. A miracle for sure and proof that God does exist.



Bonus question: What is, and where was this picture taken?

Looking for a chance to volunteer during the week? We have the perfect opportunity for you! Susanna's Kitchen served over 18,000 meals in 2025 and they need you! Helping is easy, fun and fulfilling. All you need to do is add your name to the sign-up sheet on the Mission's bulletin board located in the fellowship hallway. Thank you.

JAMESTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

59218 COUNTY ROAD 3

KHART, IN 46517

www.Jamestownumc.org

"Building Bridges to the Families of Our Community"



WORD SCRAMBLE

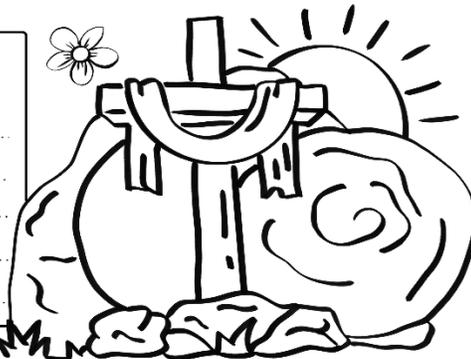
EJSSU

SCOSR

VELO

ATEESR

MOBT



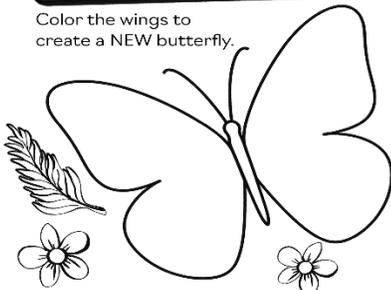
- Color each section by number.
- Cut it out for a bookmark, or punch a hole and tie on string to make a keepsake.

1 - Blue
2 - Green
3 - Purple
4 - Yellow

JESUS IS ALIVE!

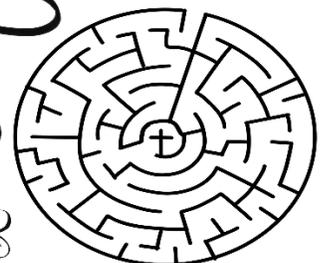
HE IS NOT HERE; HE HAS RISEN,
JUST AS HE SAID. MATTHEW 28:6, NIV

Color the wings to create a NEW butterfly.



F	O	R	G	I	V	E	N	E	S	S
X	L	O	V	E	Q	R	T	Y	U	I
P	J	E	S	U	S	O	P	A	R	D
C	R	O	S	S	I	F	G	H	I	K
R	T	Y	U	I	O	R	S	E	S	B
I	N	S	E	R	A	M	N	B	E	C
L	K	J	H	G	F	D	S	A	N	W
E	A	S	T	E	R	Z	X	C	V	B

FIND THE WORDS
EASTER LOVE
JESUS CROSS
RISEN
FORGIVENESS



How many palm leaves can you find?
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