

3.17.2023 Pastor's Page

- This week in worship the sermon title is ***In the Presence***, as we look at scripture in both the Old (**Psalm 23**) and New Testaments (**John 9:1-41**). Helping me with worship this week is Cynthia Pechacek, as our liturgist and Sara Simon will deliver the Children's message; Kim Crom is our accompanist; and of course, our Sound Booth Team will keep us up and running. It is also the Sunday that we stuff our Backpacks for Mitchell High School, Swigert Middle High, and Wilson Elementary. Come help us out and join in our fun! Our hopes and prayers for each of you, as God light shines be with you. Rev. Deb

Worship News

Sunday, March 5th - 26th - Lenten Worship Series - Learning to Live Inside Out
Sunday, March 19th - UMCOR Sunday
Sunday, March 26th - Let's be in prayer.

Easter Schedule

Sunday, April 2nd - Palm Sunday - Worship: Choir Cantata and celebration of the Palms
After Worship: Easter Egg Hunt for everyone!
Thursday, April 6th - Maundy Thursday/Good Friday Worship at 7 p.m.
Sunday, April 9th - An Easter Sunrise Service will be held at Palmer Park
with other United Methodists @6:30 a.m.
Then an Easter Breakfast will be served at the Church @8:00 a.m.
(Come after the Sunrise - the coffee is on)
Easter Worship at 10:00 a.m.

Prayers

June Salladay Home and coming to church!
Ace Heyms. broke his ankle.
Kathy Andrew, Lani and Chelsea Bosick for their health
Norm Pechacek surgery is postponed due to blood clot
Sandy Kirkpatrick, Adrienne Schipfer's mom, as she finishes her treatments.
Lillian Bauserman on a walker and with oxygen but doing very well.
Kathy Cole's son in law, Henry Robinson
Trae Gilbert-DeGraffe, Mike Wheat,
Our "WAVES," our country and its leaders.
In mission: Kutela Katembo, Missionary in Angola, Africa
Turkey, Syria, Russia



News that serves and blesses our community.

Lenten Devotional - Walk to Jerusalem

BE SURE TO TURN YOUR WEEKLY STEP COUNT INTO THE BOOT
AT THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY.

And, watch for the grand total for each week as we and other United Methodist
Walk our way through Lent.



From: Smoky Hill UMC

Our visit to the red-walled city of Marrakesh, Morocco was magical. Inside the Medina quarter, an UNESCO World Heritage Site, we visited numerous souks (traditional Arabic markets) where we saw dazzling displays of Berber carpets, leather goods, spices, Turkish lamps, and cone-shaped clay tagine pots which preserve most of the nutrients of the food. Our visit to the Kasbah Mosque required us to remove our shoes and the women were required to cover their heads. Later, we rode

camels into the desert, listened to the storytellers, and watched snake charmers coax their snakes to dance. After a meal of lamb, couscous, and mint tea, we relaxed in a hammam where our bodies were cleansed, exfoliated, and massaged.

Miles this week: 908

Total for journey: 6,044

Use the links below to Happy Walking!

[Click here for the devotional](#)

[Click here for the Spotify play list](#)

Kindness Challenges

Week 4: March 19-25 Focus: LISTEN

Kindness Challenges:

1. Hug a loved one. Make it a long hug!
2. Drop off some old towels and blankets to a local shelter.
3. Write a positive message on the sidewalk with chalk.
4. Stop what you are doing for a few minutes to breathe and appreciate life.
5. Share an encouraging song with others.
6. Be kind to our planet: skip the meat and eat veggies today.
7. Be kind to yourself: forgive yourself for something that's been bothering you.



You should be in the know – Sign up! Pass the word!

Central UMC, I love the fact that I am in ministry and mission with so many of you. People who don't wait to be asked, who meet a need, and pass it through the connection, as we work together to meet the needs of our people and those in need. Let me lift up one such person: Bob Rummel has written a beautiful summary of God's desires and our opportunity. Let's join him in making this something we all do. And, if you are not on the list for the prayer chain, please call Marie and Cheryl, ASAP. Also, sorry, this couldn't wait until the newsletter.

Rev. Deb

What can I (or we) do to help?
Messenger Article, April 2023

"Here I am, Lord" was written by John Michael Talbot in 1997. It's been 'covered' i.e., repeated by half a dozen artists since that time. What a beautiful, meaningful, worship song. In Isaiah 6:8, when the Lord asked for a volunteer, He was not looking for money. He didn't ask Isaiah to tithe or preach. He merely wanted him to deliver a message to Israel and Judah, who did not get along with each other.

I wonder how any one of us would accept a challenge like that. Would we suddenly develop the "Moses Syndrome" and say "not me, Lord; not me. I'm not a good speaker." Or, like Isaiah, would we step forth, raise our hand and say, "Send me, Lord, send me." Each and everyone of us are probably at different places in our Christian walk, our church participation, and our spirituality. Whether we are in a Bible study group, help at church workday, read the scripture during worship, accomplish hospital/shut-in visitation; or donate to the myriad events Central is involved with; that's a hand raised to the heavens saying, "Send me."

There is also much we can learn by listening to others; like doing something so simple as making a phone call to check on someone. Just recently, one of our church members was admitted to the hospital with a very serious condition. During a phone call, he mentioned the hospital stay. My response was "I didn't see your name on the prayer chain." The reason was very simple – he was unaware of the prayer chain. So, if you have a friend, family member, or know someone has been admitted to the hospital and needs or desires our Pastor, or our Prayer Warriors, to pray for them, please notify the church. Depending upon circumstances, they may also need to notify someone else, and the urgency of the hospital trip may have prevented that. Please let us know – we'll do our best. That's a step of Stewardship!

Until next month, remember, there are many gifts we can share. The method of giving is what you are able to do based on many things. Follow your head and your heart, to spread the good news of Jesus Christ – you can't go wrong.

- Robert Rummel, Stewardship Committee

UMCOR Sunday is this Sunday—March 19, 2023

Help UMCOR share goodness and mercy this Sunday!

Scripture: "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." —Psalm 147:3, ESV

“Dear Friends,

This Sunday, we join thousands of United Methodist congregations as we celebrate UMCOR Sunday.

Over and over, the alarms of crisis and devastation demand our attention. Many do not have the connection or the understanding of how to help—but we do. Our participation in this important ministry allows UMCOR staff to jump into action right at the most urgent moments.

Your gift to the UMCOR Sunday offering helps defray UMCOR’s operating costs. Your generosity allows UMCOR to use 100% of additional designated funds for specific programs like U.S. disaster response, international disaster response and global migration. Your support deepens the connection between the local church and ministries on a global scale.

Thank you for your generosity. Rev Deb

Planning Ahead

Sunday, March 19th at 10:00 am: Worship—Choir meets at 8:45 am
Sunday, March 19th at 11:00 am: Sunday School

Monday, March 20th at 6:30 pm: Education Meeting

Tuesday, March 21st at 9:30 am: Rev. Judy’s Bible Study

Wednesday, March 22nd at 7pm: Bells practice

Thursday, March 23rd at 10:00 am: Worship Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, March 23rd at 5:30 pm: Rev. Deb’s Bible Study

Sunday, March 26th at 10:am: Worship —Choir meets at 8:45 am

Sunday, March 26th at 11:00 am: Sunday School