

# hands & feet

A monthly newsletter of the Webster United Church of Christ, Federated

## Mark Your Calendar

Tuesdays 6pm Small Group  
"Have a Beautiful, Terrible Lent"

Monday, March 9, 6pm  
Council Meeting

Monday, March 16, 6pm  
Outreach Meeting

Saturday, March 28, 12-2pm  
Bunny Brunch & Party

Sunday, March 29  
PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, March 29, after worship  
Monthly Branch and  
Birthday Celebration



## EDITORIAL

Dear friends in Christ,

*"Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?"* – Matthew 6

In March, as the days finally grow longer and all the flowers start to bloom, hope can spring up in us that perhaps we too will blossom. We have been buried in the cocoon of winter and also of our own problems and circumstances.

Lent encourages introspection and observation. I love the passage from the Gospel of Matthew about worry, and how it reminds me to put things in perspective. I often feel there are things I can control, and things I can't. Mostly though, I can't.

And as Lent and Good Friday remind us, it's best to turn toward God and remember to put our trust in God's will, rather than our mortal wisdom.

As a congregation of people who have been brought together at this time and this place by the movement of God's spirit in our lives, it behooves us to take this season of Lent and this burgeoning of spring to pause, breathe, and settle. Here are some ideas to get you started:

(continued on page 2)



## MARCH 2026 EDITION

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me". Psalm 51:10-12



# EDITORIAL (conclusion)

Sit in the warm sun and be comforted. As you do, remember Jesus' time in the desert. Pray for stamina for yourself and this congregation.

Get up close to a budding tree where you can see the brightness of the new life. Pray for the growth you are feeling as a person, and that we are feeling as a congregation.

Walk near a body of water and listen to its movement. Pray that your spirit would be renewed for life and endurance.

Help someone accomplish something that has no benefit for you. Pray, and remember how much God has done for you.

We are exactly where we are meant to be in this moment, and God is with us.

Blessed Lent!

Pastor Sabina



## PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Come, my Light,  
and illumine my darkness.  
Come, my Life,  
and revive me from death.  
Come, my Physician,  
and heal my wounds.  
Come, Flame of divine love,  
and burn up the thorns of my sins,  
kindling my heart  
with the flame of thy love.

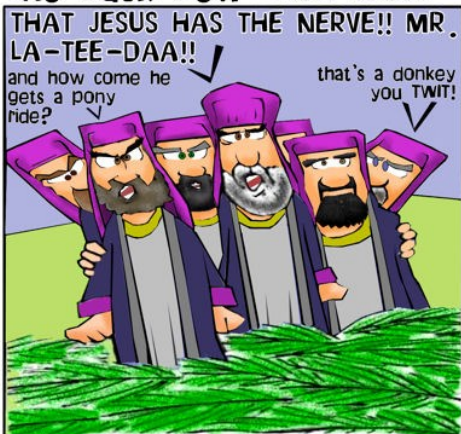
-Dimitrii of Rostov

## “ Verse of the Month

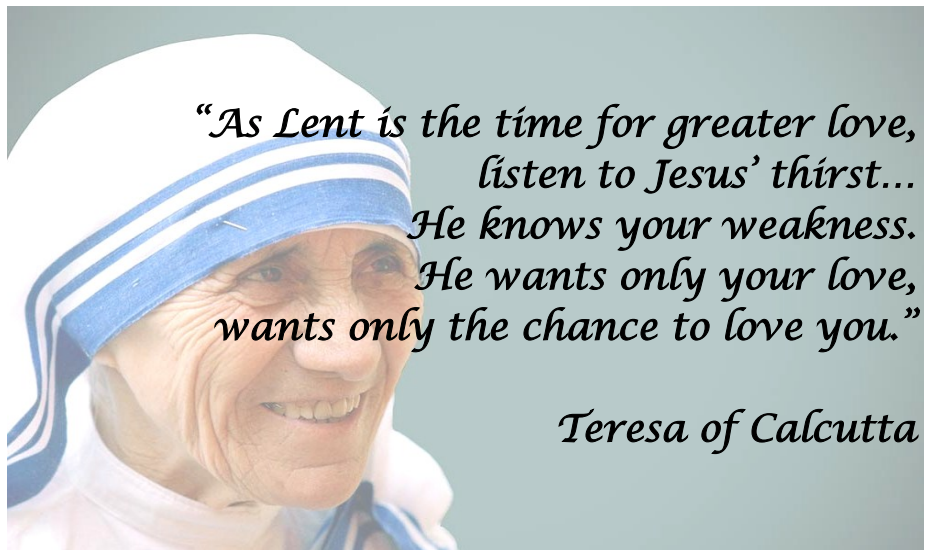
Humble yourselves,  
therefore, under God's  
mighty hand, that he  
may lift you up in  
due time. Cast all  
your anxiety  
on him because  
he cares for you.

1 Peter 5:6-7

### The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



The Pharisee's were outraged and aghast as Jesus traveled the streets of Jerusalem that first Palm Sunday. **John 12**



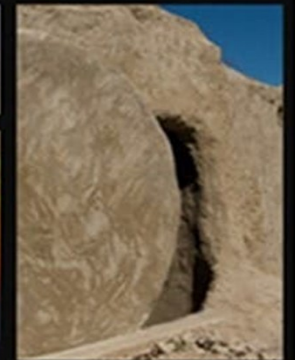
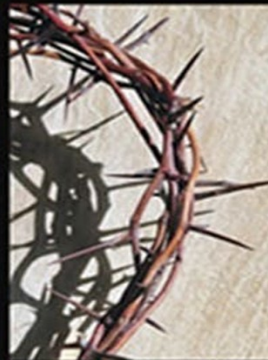
*“As Lent is the time for greater love,  
listen to Jesus' thirst...  
He knows your weakness.  
He wants only your love,  
wants only the chance to love you.”*

*Teresa of Calcutta*

# Worship News

Date	Scripture	Sermon
02/22 Last Words from the Cross	Luke 23:26-34	"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do"
03/01 Last Words from the Cross	Luke 23:32-43	"Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise"
03/08 Last Words from the Cross	John 19:25-27	"Behold Your Son, Behold Your Mother"
03/15 Last Words from the Cross	Matthew 27:39-46	"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
03/22 Last Words from the Cross	John 19:28-29	"I Thirst"
03/29 PALM SUNDAY Last Words from the Cross	John 19:30 Luke 23:44-46	The Last Words

## HOLY WEEK



**Palm  
Sunday**  
March 29

**Service**  
10am

**Maundy  
Thursday**  
April 2

**Passover Seder**  
6:30pm

**Good  
Friday**  
April 3

**Service**  
6pm

**Holy  
Saturday**  
April 19

**Prayer Vigil**  
6pm

**Easter  
Sunday**  
April 5

**Sunrise Service:**  
7am Point Breeze  
**Service: 10am**

# Ministries News



Spring, where are you? The Threads of Hope Closet is already preparing for spring by organizing short sleeve shirts, shorts, and bathing suits.

It's never too early to dream of warmer weather and days spent outdoors.

Here's a picture of some of our dedicated volunteers. From left, Lynn Hanko, Karron Lacey, Paula Burton, MaryAnn Richert, Claire Lewis, and that's me, Gayle, kneeling down.



We meet every Wednesday to sort clothes together. Please pass the word that we are looking for a few more people to work in the store and to sort clothing. Call Gayle at 774.200.8988, if interested.

Gayle Bannister



*Painting by Artist and Writer Jan Richardson*

## A Short reflection on Palm Sunday...

I love the passage in Matthew 21, where the Bible tells of Jesus' grand entrance into Jerusalem. It's obvious these people went out of their way to give Jesus a warm welcome: laying down their cloaks, cutting branches, shouting songs of praise, declaring His righteousness... But when we read ahead in chapter 27, it's a totally different climate in the same crowd — they were eager to crucify Him. When just a few days prior, people were rushing to give Jesus their cloaks, now they were tearing off His clothes and casting lots for them. Those who once laid branches at His feet were now celebrating the nailing of those precious feet into a tree: a cursed cross. They had replaced their shouts of joy

with the cruel cheering, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!" And it makes me wonder: how could the same people who once gave Jesus such a majestic welcome now be clamoring for His death?

While I'd like to imagine I could never be one of them... reality is, we all are. For how many times have I praised His name on a Sunday... only on Thursday to question His goodness? Have you not once promised to Jesus your all, yet failed Him on that very promise? Who of us has not taken for granted His blessings, the same blessings for which we so eagerly prayed? Oh friend, you and I are no different than that crowd. So as we enter the week leading up to Easter, please take a deep, honest look into your heart. Reflect on all that your Savior did for you on that cross. And then, join me in praying Psalm 51: "Create in me a pure heart, oh Jesus." Because I don't just want to celebrate Jesus now; I want every moment of my life to truly reflect my gratitude toward my Lord and Savior. And I believe you do, too.

Pastor Sabina

# Ministries News

## Altar Flowers:

c.l.denson54@gmail.com or 774-239-7396



Remember to sign up for altar flowers to be displayed on the altar on a chosen Sunday. There is a flower calendar in the hallway in front of the Sanctuary. Pick a date and add "in memory or in honor or in celebration of someone

The cost of the bouquet is \$20. Please complete an Altar Flower form and put the form and the payment in an envelope marked Altar Flowers. The envelope can then be placed in the offering plate or left at the office. You will be able to take the flowers home after the service. If you are not able to come to church, please complete the form below and mail to the office with a check.

special" or contact Cindy Denson at

I would like to order:  1 bouquet  2 bouquets

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: Sunday \_\_\_\_\_ (please no holiday such as Easter or Christmas)

In memory of:  In honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

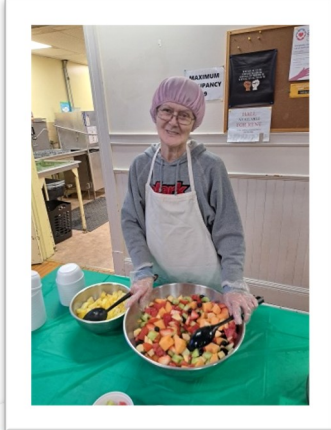
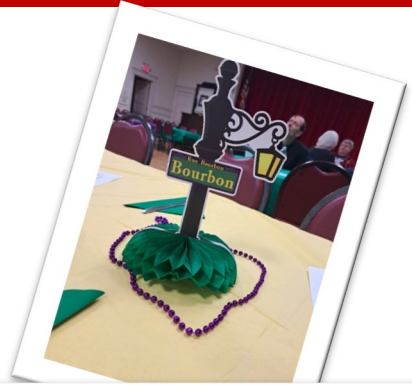
**It is also the season to order lilies and tulips for Easter Sunday.** You may use this form to order your flowers. Just specify how many plants you would like to purchase instead of bouquets. Contact Cindy Denson, Regina Kontoes or the office to inquire about the cost.



# EVENTS



SHROVE  
TUESDAY  
Pancake  
Dinner



## EVENTS



### Mark your calendars!

A Daffodil Tea is scheduled for **Saturday, April 18th, from 12:30-2:30pm** in Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$20 per adult; \$10 for children 12 and younger; Free for children 3 and under. Tickets will be available starting around March 15th in the church office or you can purchase them directly from Gayle or Gloria Bannister.

**Anyone wishing to donate a basket is asked to bring it to Gayle by April 12th. If you have some single items you'd like to donate towards a basket, please bring them in by April 1st. They can be left in the Ladies' Parlor.**

**Remember, the basket raffle and ticket sales benefit our Feed My Sheep meal ministry!**

# Bunny Brunch

**FREE COMMUNITY FAMILY EVENT**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 28th  
12PM TO 2PM**

Photo Op with the Easter Bunny  
Easter Egg Hunt, Treat Bags for All  
Prize Wheel, Cookie Decorating, Crafts, Games with  
Prizes, and Easter Pinatas!



# United Church of Christ, Federated

*"Come as you are, we mean it!"*

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**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday through Friday, 9:30-1, or by appointment

**WORSHIP:** Sundays at 10, in person and live on Facebook

**BIBLE STUDY / SMALL GROUPS:** Tuesdays at 6pm

**THREADS OF HOPE** (free clothing, hygiene products,...): Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9-11, Thursdays 4-7

**FEED MY SHEEP FREE MEAL MINISTRY:** Thursdays, 5

**GOLDEN BEES SLEEPING BAG MINISTRY:** Mondays, 9-12

**KNIT PRAY LOVE MINISTRY:** Mondays, 10-12, Ladies' Parlor

**OUTDOOR FOOD PANTRY:** Ongoing