One of my favorite musicals is *Jesus Christ Superstar*. It was released in the early 1970s, at a time when all sorts of new interpretations of the Jesus story were being released. The most interesting aspect of *Superstar* is the interpretation of Judas. In Sunday School, Judas was the pinup boy for betrayal. When I was a kid, I thought his name was Judas Asparagus. I thought he was so evil that they named him after the nastiest tasting vegetable in the world.

Haven’t you always thought of Judas as the epitome of evil, an unrepentant snitch? Andrew Lloyd Webber had other ideas. He gave Judas all the best songs in the musical and presented Judas as being the disciple with a conscience who truly cared about the poor. Andrew Lloyd Webber was a prophet in 1971, as it was only a few years later that the Gnostic *Gospel of Judas* was released to the public. The *Gospel of Judas* is fascinating because it portrays Judas as carrying out Jesus’ own instructions. Judas was the favored disciple of Jesus, the most trusted ally.

It doesn’t mean that this new interpretation of Judas is the true one. It just questions our life-long assumptions about Judas, and causes us to wonder if we really know the whole story about Judas. Why is this important? It challenges whether you can find space in your heart for a fallible character like Judas.

So here’s a thought for this Easter.

There is a faith that we all share. ALL of us. How deep is your forgiveness? How far does it extend? Would it go so far as to accept even Judas? Will you liberate yourself from all the assumptions you have about the Easter story, especially the assumptions that make you feel self righteous? Will you liberate the Easter story from being a Disney tale of good triumphing over evil, and let it be a story of radical forgiveness and universal acceptance?

One of the last verses in Bob Dylan’s song, *God on Our Side*, says this-

“In a many dark hour
I’ve been thinkin’ about this
That Jesus Christ
Was betrayed by a kiss
But I can’t think for you
You’ll have to decide
Whether Judas Iscariot
Had God on his side.”

This Easter, you’ll have to decide. Whether Judas had God on his side? Whether the detractors in your life have God on their side? Whether your inner critic has God on its side?

Or maybe God doesn’t take sides, and the Easter challenge for you is to stop dividing the world up into good and bad, betrayer and victim, left and right, Republican and Democrat, Liberal and Conservative. After all, you don’t always know the whole story.

This Easter, rise above judgment and bitterness. Practice forgiveness and resurrection. Just as you have seen the possibility of liberation for Judas, you can liberate yourself from the betrayals of the past. The past is what it is. Now you choose who you want to be in the present.

This Easter, consider a perspective so large, compassion so deep and forgiveness so wide that it might even include the betrayer. Forgiveness can’t change the past. But it can open up an incredible future of freedom and peace. This is resurrection.

I choose to do the work of resurrection, beginning in my own life. How about you?

Blessings and peace
FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Changes???

We Christians spend lots of time thinking and praying about how to build up the community of God’s love. Responding to God’s call to care for one another made clear in the Great Commandment, we recognize this is a communal pursuit rather than an individual quest. But our failures remind us that our personal transformation is an essential component of our corporate progress. So, our thoughts and prayers must include confession, repentance and supplication that asks God to change us. Otherwise, our self-satisfaction becomes the fatal flaw that leads us to follow various agendas instead of following Christ.

One such prayer is this old hymn verse:

*Change my heart oh God, Make it ever true, Change my heart oh God, May I be like You*
*You are the potter, I am the clay, Mold me and make me, This is what I pray*
*Change my heart oh God, Make it ever true, Change my heart oh God, May I be like You*

Lent is a great time for prayers like this, though they should come with a warning label: *God has been known to answer these prayers!* And even a small change in becoming more loving can be painful, exhausting, even dangerous as a changed heart results in changed ways of living, new ways that actively challenge our old ways of being. I confess that I hold old ways dear, sacred even. I find it very hard to let go of ways which served so well in the past as if letting them go is a judgement on their value. So, this Lent, my meditations include asking for new ways of viewing my old ways, trying to think of the past as rungs on a ladder, strong steps necessary to bring me to my current location but just as necessary to leave behind if I am to be faithful to my pilgrimage as Christ’s disciple.

One such meditation is this even older hymn verse:

*Every rung goes higher, higher. Every rung goes higher, higher. Every rung goes higher, higher. Pilgrims of the cross.*

I am glad and grateful that being made new includes knowing the old was God seeing us “safe thus far”, for now we can move upward in grace.

May your prayers be answered, too.

Blessings,

Rev. Jody

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FESTIVAL OF SHARING
FEATURED KIT

The Mission and Outreach Ministry is already gathering items for the Festival of Sharing. They plan to feature a different kit each month.

The Festival of Sharing featured kit for March is the Missouri Student Dental Kit. Some or all of the items can be put in our box in the narthex. Please donate items *EXACTLY* as listed below. Any other items will be rejected by the Festival organization.

- 4 child-sized soft toothbrushes (in original package)
- 2 adult-sized soft toothbrushes (in original package)
- 1 fluoride toothpaste (6 oz. or more)
- 1 dental floss (any size)

If you plan to donate a complete set, they should be placed in a one-gallon ziplock bag.
MONTHLY BENEVOLENCE ENVELOPE FOR MARCH
One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)

March’s benevolence offering is One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS). When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, OGHS is part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery. It’s enabling people and communities in 80 nations to stand against and rise above hunger, disease, illiteracy, and injustice that denies and destroys dignity.

OGHS provides emergency and long-term assistance to people in the aftermath of every kind of natural or man-made disaster. On average, OGHS responds to a disaster once every 2.5 days. And it responds with advocacy and help, hope and hospitality for people who have been uprooted from their home of origin. More than 30 million of the world’s people are uprooted at any given time.

The UCC annually channels more than three-million dollars through One Great Hour of Sharing to humanitarian needs in the world. The United Church of Christ unites with Christians in eight other Protestant denominations and Church World Service in One Great Hour of Sharing, thus multiplying the effectiveness and extent of our witness many times over. And administrative costs are typically less than eight percent annually.

The partnership we share with United Church of Christ congregations across the United States is where this remarkable miracle connecting UCC members to the world begins. But first, of course, it begins with your donation in this month’s blue benevolence envelope.

FAITH IN ACTION – REACHING OUT

BELAIR ELEMENTARY PARTNERSHIP

Dear Central UCC Members,

Thank you for the delicious treats on Valentine’s Day! What a wonderful surprise when we entered the workroom! Our staff appreciates your thoughtfulness and continuous support.

With thanks,
Belair Staff

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Thank you so much for donating valentines for the Belair students! We appreciate your generosity.

Belair Cares

YOUNG YOUTH

We are close to finishing up our lessons on miracles of Jesus. If you haven’t been, you’ve missed some good lessons with lots of good discussion from kids just like you. If you’re in K-5th grades, come join us on Wednesdays after school. You are welcome any time after 3:45 and we end at 6:00. Let us know if you need help with transportation. We enjoy fun with each other, dinner, and we always have a Bible lesson or faith-building activity (and most of the time it’s both).

Upcoming lessons include: Jesus calms the storm, Jesus turns water into wine, and as we head into Easter we’ll have a special lesson to show what it’s like when Jesus takes away our sin.
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We welcome new members, Kirk and Danielle Stafford, to our church family who joined on Sunday, February 18. Kirk is a driver for Republic Services; Danielle is a CPA and works for Williams-Keepers. They enjoy spending time with their dogs and families, going to the lake in the summer, and hunting. Danielle was baptized at St. Paul UCC in Kahoka, Missouri, and Kirk was confirmed at Trinity Lutheran in Jefferson City. They were married here at Central UCC by Rev. Rushan several years ago and feel like they have finally found a church home.

THANK YOU’S

I would like to thank all my friends from church for the beautiful birthday cards. Your thoughtfulness was very much appreciated.

Ruth Popp

My 90th birthday celebration was one for the books with all my family there. Your cards and good wishes were the icing on the cake! Thank you so much.

Jane Stumpe

Thank you for the prayers, cards, phone calls and food during my surgery and recovery. They were really appreciated.

Shirley Ernst

Thank you so much for completing your 2017 OCWM pledge to the conference. Because of your gift, I was able to worship with 46 churches, including Central! Thank you! May God’s love be generous in our ministry together.

Blessings,
Rev. Dr. Ginny Brown Daniel Conference Minister

PRIME TIME CLUB

The Prime Time Club will meet for their monthly meeting on March 27th. You will not have to bring a dish because we’ll be attending the Ecumenical Community Lenten Service at noon in the church sanctuary, and then go down to the gym for a light lunch.

After lunch, we’ll go to the Friendship Room for our Prime Time Club meeting where the Eskijiians will entertain us with one of their travelogues. So please come, sit back and enjoy the trip in the comfort of your chair.

REMINDER

Just a reminder that we would like to include pictures of church activities and events in the monthly “Tower.” You can email pictures to: office@centralucc.com.

Also, please be sure to email your articles and pictures to the office by the 15th of each month for the upcoming “Tower” issue.

90+ BIRTHDAYS

To our knowledge, there are no 90+ birthdays in March. If you know someone who should be added to the list, please call the church office at 635-1041, or email office@centralucc.com.
RESURRECTION GARDENS

Everyone is invited to come and join us as we create Resurrection Gardens on Tuesday evening, March 20th, from 6:00 — 8:00 p.m. All ages are welcome; however, anyone under the age of 10 must have adult supervision. Please bring the following supplies:

• 1 terra cotta pot or sturdy cylinder-shape container (tomb)
• 1 terra cotta tray or shallow bowl planter, old/used and distressed items work!
• small pebbles
• 1 small bag of soil
• small twigs (crosses), twine or string
• large rock, about the size of a closed fist, or one large enough to fit the opening of your “tomb”
• seed, cat grass or wheat grass works best

You may make as many gardens as you would like! We will display the gardens in the sanctuary for the Easter services.

THE ELENOR CIRCLE CELEBRATES 65 YEARS!

The Elenor Circle of Central Church was organized March 17, 1953. The charter members, young women who had served a meal to the Missouri Council of Church Convention on the Friday before, had such a great time, they decided to form a circle! The charter members were: Irma Mueller (president), Barbara Schwartz (1st Vice President), Marcia Craddock (2nd V.P.), Charlotte Hackman (Secretary), Bonnie Barnard (Treasurer), Betty Roberts, Lucia Vest, Mary Schmutz, Eileen Seidel, Alma Ruth Miller, Ruth Schneider, Aurelia Fricke, Dorothy Stoehr, and Elenor Vieth! Jo Ann Roberts joined the next month.

This circle was called the Tenth Circle, however, the name was soon changed to the Elenor Circle, honoring our sponsor Elenor Vieth. Precious Elenor was our teacher, mentor, leader and friend. Her leadership and love continue to guide us even today. Each meeting members take turns giving a devotional (often using the denominational material), have a business meeting, and share a meal or refreshments.

True to Elenor’s standards, we do not allow the treasury to build too much until we share it with a needy person or group. We have contributed to missions throughout the community and world. Many, many meals have been served over the years, and Elenor once reminded us, “only to serve a need, not to make money.” Some of those many meals and personal giving have served others very well. The Circle members regularly visit our homebound folks; send out church newsletters to our service men and women; active with the Women’s Fellowship Prayer Chain; serve Brotherhood meals; participate with Meals on Wheels; and are members of the Council of Clubs and Church Women United. We sew all year (along with Doris Wittenberger) making school bags for our annual mission of collecting/purchasing school supplies for the School Kits for Festival of Sharing. Thanks also to Central Church membership, this has been very successful. We started the Prayer Shawl Ministry initially with the talents of Phyllis VonDerBruegge, and now our Margaret Norment, Frances Byrd, Carol Kohler, and Alan Bagnull! To date we have gifted 169 knitted shawls and 13 ten inch block quilts (Ruth Long).

We currently enjoy twenty-nine members, and meet the third Tuesday usually at 1:00 p.m. We would love to have you come join us! Come and serve!

WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP LENTEN QUIET HOUR

To the women of Central Church: The Community Lenten Services, which Central Church will host, will also be on March 13th, the same date scheduled for the Women’s Fellowship Lenten Quiet Hour. Therefore, you are invited to attend that service at 12:00 p.m. at Central Church and enjoy the luncheon about 12:30 p.m. in our gym. Another church is providing that meal. Then following that luncheon at 1:30 p.m., the Women’s Fellowship Lenten Quiet Hour will begin in the Parlor. Pastor Jody Furnas-Wright will be our Inspirational Speaker. Please make every effort to attend one or the other, or both. The Women’s Fellowship officers and the Elenor Circle will NOT be providing a luncheon on that date, as had been planned. Looking forward to seeing you there!!
Dear CUCC Music Supporters,

We are planning a performance of Théodore Dubois’ *The Seven Last Words of Christ* for our Good Friday service this year. It will feature an all-star cast of our own CUCC Choir members on the great solos in this work (including our own, vocally talented, Rev. Rushan Sinnaduray), and of course Shirley Klein on organ. This dramatic work is a “must-hear” and I hope you will join us for this service and performance.

An update on the Southside Philharmonic Orchestra:

By the time you read this, we will have performed two collaborative concerts with the Odyssey Chamber Music Series in Columbia (one performance in Columbia, 2/16, and one in Jefferson City, 2/23, at CUCC). As I write this I am only two days beyond our first performance of this program that featured twelve-year-old Hazel Keithahn playing the J.S. Bach Violin Concerto in E Major. This was a remarkable success and received a standing ovation!

You can hear and see the Odyssey Chamber Ensemble, conducted by myself, performing Mozart’s Symphony No. 29, on Youtube (search “Mozart Symphony 29 Clark conducts” on Youtube.com).

We go forward with Mozart’s last operatic masterpiece *The Magic Flute* on Thursday March 22nd at Mitchell Auditorium. Learn more (and buy tickets!) by going to our new website: SouthsidePhilharmonic.org

On May 18th, I plan to introduce Jefferson City audiences to some remarkable music from the “modernist” period (generally considered the early 20th century) plus a couple of works representing the legacy of this period, including Aaron Copland’s *Appalachian Spring*, and a work of my own, Ptolemy’s *Carousel*.

As is necessary, I would like to remind all folks who believe that the arts support and conserve our cultural heritage that a budget must be developed and sustained to insure longevity in the arts. SPO continues to be in the black financially, but by a narrow margin. The Modernism program requires yet new expenses for us: the rental of several of these works and an ASCAP licensing fee ($350) that allows us to perform these works.

I am hoping primarily that members of CUCC will take the opportunity to support SPO by attending our concerts and inviting others to attend, but also by considering making a donation to SPO. The more I work on this musical project, the more I realize that we cannot sustain ourselves without financial support from the community. It is interesting to read this from the St. Louis Symphony in 1919:

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Presented by the
Jefferson City Concert Association
Orchestral Accompaniment by Southside Philharmonic Orchestra

The Magic Flute
by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Lincoln University's Mitchell Auditorium
March 22, 2018 • 7:00 p.m.

For questions, please contact Rebecca Talbert,
MOstly Opera’s Executive Director at rtalbert71@gmail.com.
LENT 2018 — LISTEN

When was the last time you listened for God’s voice? Our busy lives can get overcrowded with so many different messages telling us how to determine our values, how to live our lives. During Lent this year we will be focusing together on looking within to find the answers and waiting for God’s quiet calling to help us find our life’s purpose.

Our Sunday morning worship services will help us begin to think and reflect about ways to open ourselves to hearing God’s still, small voice.

Then, this year, instead of a mid-week worship service and meal, we will be offering several opportunities during the week to go deeper as we learn some of the practices and disciplines to help us become more receptive to listening to and hearing God’s voice in our lives.

Initially, we will offer three different opportunities to learn some of these spiritual practices at a deeper level.

♦ Monday evenings, 6:15PM—7:00PM
♦ Wednesday mornings, 10:00AM—10:45AM
♦ Sunday mornings, 9:15AM—10:00 AM

We hope you will join us as we begin this journey through Lent and to Listen to God’s still, small voice.

ECUMENICAL COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES 2018

Tuesdays during Lent — 12:00 Noon

THEME:
“Lift High the Cross”

Worship @ 12:00 Noon in the Sanctuary
Light Lunch @ 12:30 PM in the Gym

at
Central United Church of Christ
118 W Ashley Street, Jefferson City
ALL WELCOME
John Pavlovitz in Jefferson City

Events

Building the Bigger Table
Friday, March 16, 2018 - 7:00 PM
We live in divisive and challenging times and it has taken
a toll on our families, our friendships, our religious
traditions, our faith communities, perhaps even our image
of the Divine itself. How can we respond in a way that is
redemptive? How can we cultivate spiritual community
in a way that transcends difference? What does the
spirituality of the bigger table really look like?

Avoiding Compassion Burnout
Saturday, March 17, 2018 - 9:30 AM
In days when so much need is at our doorsteps and on our
news feeds, how do we attend to it all without becoming
overwhelmed and consumed by it? How do we avoid
becoming martyrs of our own hearts? Clergy, teachers,
caregivers and parents are invited to join Pastor/Blogger
John Pavlovitz at this mini retreat for a time of honest
conversation on how to be safely burdened with the pain
of this world.

Preaching at Central UCC
Sunday, March 18, 2018 - 9:30 AM
Discussion following the service.

Central United Church of Christ,
Jefferson City, MO
invites all to join pastor, author and
blogger, John Pavlovitz, for honest
conversations about how we can
cultivate community in our world
today.

All events are free and open to the
public, although we encourage you
to register on Central UCC's
website.

All events will take place at
Central United Church of Christ
118 W. Ashley Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

www.centralucc.com
**Sunday Worship During Lent**
8:15AM & 10:30AM every Sunday

**Lenten Spiritual Reflection**
Mondays — 6:15PM — 7:00PM
Wednesdays — 10:00AM — 10:45AM
Sundays — 9:15AM — 10:00 AM

**Ecumenical Community Lenten Services**
Tuesdays — 12 noon followed by a light lunch

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**EASTER EGG HUNT**
**Saturday, March 31, 10:00 a.m.**

With hundreds of eggs, it’s more of a dash than a hunt and it goes quickly! Bring friends to join the fun, family to cheer you on, and something to hold your eggs. This activity is for all ages up through 5th grade.

Then come back on Easter Sunday morning for Sunday School!

Bunnies, eggs, and jelly beans — That’s not all that Easter means.

There is another message, too ... Jesus died for me and you!

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**Holy Week & Easter Services 2018**

**Sunday, March 25**
8:15 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.
Palm Sunday Worship

**Tuesday, March 27**
12:00 Noon
Community Lenten Service at Central UCC

**Thursday, March 29**
7:00 P.M.
Maundy Thursday Service

**Friday, March 30**
7:00 P.M.
Good Friday Service

**Sunday, April 1**
7:00 A.M. & 9:30 A.M.
Easter Sunday Worship

www.centralucc.com  
118 W. Ashley Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101
EASTER MEMORIAL/HONORARIUM LISTING

Each year the Easter Memorial/Honorarium Listing provides members and friends an opportunity to lift up loved ones and special people in their lives. There are a couple of ways to participate in this year’s listing: 1) by providing a lily which will be displayed in the sanctuary on Easter morning, &/or 2) by donating to a fund suggested on the form.

Please complete the Easter Memorial/Honorarium Form and turn it in to the office (with your check) by Monday, March 26. If you are providing a lily, we ask that you bring your lily to the church no sooner than Wednesday, March 28.

If you have any questions, you may contact the church office at 635-1041 or email office@centralucc.com.

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EASTER MEMORIAL/HONORARIUM FORM

Completed form/check are due in the office by Monday, March 26.
Please do not bring lilies to the church earlier than Wednesday, March 28.

NAME: ___________________________________________          PHONE: _______________________

EMAIL: ___________________________________________

CHECK DONATION:  □ Lily (you provide)  □ Memorial Fund  □ Capital Improvement  □ Organ Fund
                      □ Bell Choir Fund  □ Music/Choir Fund  □ Other ________________________________

WORDING FOR LISTING:  □ In memory of       □ In honor of
(Please print)
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________

From: ___________________________________________

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The word “radical” means fundamental, essential, thorough, and extreme. I cannot think of better adjectives to describe CUCC’s history, and its latest initiative: becoming open and affirming.

In 1859, two years before the Civil War began, the German Evangelical Central Congregation built its first church. Its pastor, Reverend Joseph Rieger, proudly posted a Union flag in front of the church on the hilltop so the entire community, including state government, could see that this congregation vehemently opposed slavery. The town’s other Protestant churches remained divided on the topic.

How radical CUCC must have been perceived at the time, and as history and all Missourians would finally figure out, how right. Our German ancestors fought for the Union and put their philosophy of “brotherhood and unity for all mankind” into action during this tumultuous time. These immigrants, called Forty-Eighters, “sought liberty, fraternity, and equality” in the new world, and “brought with them their fervent belief in the brotherhood and humanity of all mankind, including blacks, slaves, American Indians—everyone!”

They were open and affirming enough to provide weekly pastoral services to prison inmates, marry black couples fleeing from slavery in Callaway County, and open schools so African Americans could have access to education. Radical hospitality at its finest!

One hundred and sixty years later, our congregation is grappling with the more recent definition attached to the term “Open and Affirming” (ONA): allowing LGBTQ persons to worship as full members alongside us, to be married in our church, and raise Christian families within our church family. It also refers to minorities, the poor, immigrants, and others who have been lost, disenfranchised, or not extravagantly welcomed in Christian churches. Isn’t this initiative a perfect example of brotherhood and unity for all mankind and precisely what we mean by our invitation to “Come as you are . . . and discover who you can be”?

Being ONA is in our congregation’s DNA. Our steeple can be seen all over town and from each highway that passes through; the building stretches out in several directions; our stain-glassed windows let the light of Christ shine in; our beloved pastor is from Sri Lanka; and our congregation is made up of former Catholics, Lutherans, and many others who sought a spiritual home and found it here with radical hospitality.

The best way to overcome the fear of the unknown is through dialogue. So please talk with a committee member, check out the resources available online, familiarize yourself with kinder readings of the verses that have been falsely interpreted to claim “homosexuality is a sin,” and notice that there are thousands more passages of love and acceptance than these ten. Jesus himself was one of the most open and affirmative humans in history.

Let’s not just state our mission—let’s live it!—because “Every small step you take towards justice and human rights brings us closer to the reign of God in which everyone is wanted, everyone is welcome, no one is left behind.”

By Angela Bonine

Notes
2. Ibid.
3. https://openandaffirming.org/issues/
MESSY CHURCH IS COMING – SAVE THE DATE
Friday, April 13, 2018 – 5:30 – 8:00 P.M.

Come and join us for our first Messy Church where we will creatively be exploring the creation story. Come and play with gloop, splat some paint and sprinkle some glitter, spend time reflecting quietly, make your own fruit salad and much much more! Dinner will also be provided (so parents....a night when you don't have to cook...just have fun with the family).

This is an event for the whole family. We look forward to seeing you all there! DON'T WEAR YOUR BEST CLOTHES ... 'cos it could get MESSY!

So, what is Messy Church?

Messy Church is a form of church for children and adults that involves creativity, celebration and hospitality. It meets at a time (and sometimes in a place) that suits people who don't already belong to church. It typically includes a welcome, a long creative time to explore the biblical theme through a variety of activities; a short celebration/worship time involving story, prayer, song, games and similar; and a sit-down meal together at tables. All elements are for, and should include, people of all ages, adults and children. It's all-age. It's fun. It's a church for people at all stages of their faith journey and of any age. It models and promotes good ways of growing as a family: a nuclear family, a blended family, an extended family, and a global and local church family. Its aim is to introduce Jesus, to give an opportunity to encounter him, to build community and to learn to be a disciple.

Messy Church is not just for children. Messy Church is focused on how to involve very different people: young and old, families and single people, male and female, academic and practical, poor and rich. It isn’t a club. The whole of Messy Church is about worshipping God, having fellowship, exploring faith matters. It welcomes everyone, involves everyone, values everyone, is always there for the outsider. It is a church. It isn’t a way of getting people to come to church on Sunday and it isn’t just for church members or families, because all are welcome: single, widowed, childless, divorced. Church is inclusive, not exclusive.
**MARCH VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

**WORSHIP USHERS**

**2018 Team Schedule:**

January & July — Dick Kettenbrink  
February & August — Mary Ann Wippermann  
March & September — Dennis Horn  
April & October — Carl Ernst  
May & November — Monty Schmutzler  
June & December — Russell Rottmann

**March:**  
*Dennis Horn — Team Captain*  
Leo Blochberger  
Don Irwin  
Paul LePage (Honorary)  
Paul Simpson  
Dale Walker

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**COMMUNION PREPARATION**

Sunday, March 4: Mary Ann Wippermann  
Maundy Thursday, March 29: Patti Schmutzler

VOULNEERS STILL NEEDED: April 1 (10:30 Easter Service); August 5; October 7; November 4

*Please contact Donna Horn at 634-3377 or dhornjf@embarqmail.com.*

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**SALVATION ARMY MEAL**

VOULNEERS STILL NEEDED: March 8; June 14; August 9; and October 11

*Please contact Kris Simpson at 573-291-2088 or simpsonk@missouri.edu.*

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**MEALS ON WHEELS**

Wednesday, March 21: Mission and Outreach Min.

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**HIGHLIGHTS OF FEBRUARY 15 COUNCIL MEETING**

**Financial Report for January and February:** Total current assets at the end of December were $1,035,725.62. The investment portion of current assets decreased by $61,088.20... The General Fund showed an ending balance of $1,434.79 on December 31, 2017. Offerings in December were greater than the previous month, totaling $22,826.95 and were greater than the same month last year by $958.72. Year-to-date offerings are less by $11,075.52. Year-to-date transfers are $145,936 from the Unrestricted Investment Account and $2,000 from the HEC Fund. Total current assets at the end of January are $1,046,317.59. The investment portion of current assets has increased by $8,156.70. These numbers continue to fluctuate due to market volatility. The General Fund showed an ending balance of $4,199.38 on January 31, 2018. Offerings in January were less than the previous month, totaling $19,332 and were less than the same month last year by $958.72. Year-to-date offerings are less by $958.72. Year-to-date transfers are $15,000 from the Unrestricted Investment Account and $0 from the HEC Fund.

**Parent Room:** The pews have been removed from the old chapel and stored in the former nursery downstairs. A notice will be put in the bulletin requesting donations of a rocker or glider. The changing table will be moved from storage into the new parent room. A baby gate has been donated and is in the room. The door has been removed and stored. The TV monitor is ready to be installed.

**Church Building Insurance Policy:** An email vote was taken to increase the deductible from $1,000 to $5,000 resulting in considerable cost savings. The seven votes in favor necessary to approve were received and Steve Price made the change.

**Coffee Hour:** The remaining funds in the old Library Account will be moved into the Coffee Fund.

**Sanders Farm Lawnmover:** Three bids were reviewed for a new lawn tractor with Lauf Equipment having the lowest bid at $6,050.00. The value of the old tractor as-is, was quoted at $500. Mark Grannemann’s son is interested in purchasing the old mower at this price. If he purchases it, the check to Lauf Equipment will be for $5,550. The funds will come from the Sanders Farm Estate Fund.

**Outside Lights:** New LED bulbs will be installed in the dusk to dawn lights over the exterior doors at a cost of $2138.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sherry Koetting, Council Secretary

**NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING:** March 15, 2018, 7:00 p.m. in the Library
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<td>8:15am Early Worship Service 9:00am Adult Sunday School 9:00am Coffee Hour 9:15am Lenten Reflection 10:30am Late Worship 10:40am Children’s SS</td>
<td>6:15pm Lenten Reflection 7:00pm Scouts 12:00pm Ecumenical Community Lenten Service/Lunch 5:30pm Brotherhoood</td>
<td>9:00am Quilling 10:00am Lenten Reflection 3:45pm Young Youth 5:00pm Open &amp; Affirming Committee 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir</td>
<td>5:00pm Salvation Army Meal</td>
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<td><strong>3/5</strong></td>
<td>6:15pm Lenten Reflection 7:00pm Scouts</td>
<td>12:00pm Ecumenical Community Lenten Service/Lunch 1:30pm Women’s Fellowship Lenten Quiet Hour</td>
<td>9:00am Quilling 9:00am CUC Family Time (Perkins) 10:00am Lenten Reflection 3:45pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir</td>
<td>7:00pm Council Meeting</td>
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<td><strong>3/6</strong></td>
<td>8:45am Adult Sunday School 8:45am Coffee Hour 8:45am Lenten Reflection 9:30am Combined Worship (John Pavlovitz preaching)</td>
<td>6:15pm Lenten Reflection 7:00pm Scouts</td>
<td>12:00pm Ecumenical Community Lenten Service/Lunch 1:00pm Elenor Circle 6:00pm Resurrection Garden Project</td>
<td>7:00pm Council Meeting</td>
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<td><strong>3/7</strong></td>
<td>6:15pm Lenten Reflection 7:00pm Scouts</td>
<td>12:00pm Ecumenical Community Lenten Service/Lunch 1:30pm Elenor Circle 5:00pm Open &amp; Affirming Committee</td>
<td>9:00am Quilling 9:00am CUC Family Time (Perkins) 10:00am Lenten Reflection 3:45pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir</td>
<td>7:00pm Council Meeting</td>
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<td><strong>3/8</strong></td>
<td>6:15pm Lenten Reflection 7:00pm Scouts</td>
<td>12:00pm Ecumenical Community Lenten Service/Lunch</td>
<td>9:00am Quilling 10:00am Lenten Reflection 10:00am Meals On Wheels 1:00pm Martha Circle 3:45pm Young Youth 5:30pm Discipleship Mentors 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir</td>
<td>7:00pm Council Meeting</td>
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<td><strong>3/9</strong></td>
<td>6:15pm Lenten Reflection 7:00pm Scouts</td>
<td>12:00pm Ecumenical Community Lenten Service/Lunch 6:00pm Prime Time Club</td>
<td>9:00am Quilling 10:00am Lenten Reflection 3:45pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir</td>
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<td><strong>3/11</strong></td>
<td>8:15am Early Worship Service 9:00am Adult Sunday School 9:00am Coffee Hour 9:15am Lenten Reflection 10:30am Late Worship 10:40am Children’s SS</td>
<td>6:15pm Lenten Reflection 7:00pm Scouts</td>
<td>12:00pm Ecumenical Community Lenten Service/Lunch</td>
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<td><strong>3/12</strong></td>
<td>6:15pm Lenten Reflection 7:00pm Scouts</td>
<td>12:00pm Ecumenical Community Lenten Service/Lunch 1:30pm Women’s Fellowship Lenten Quiet Hour</td>
<td>9:00am Quilling 9:00am CUC Family Time (Perkins) 10:00am Lenten Reflection 3:45pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir</td>
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<td><strong>3/13</strong></td>
<td>6:15pm Lenten Reflection 7:00pm Scouts</td>
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<td>9:00am Quilling 9:00am CUC Family Time (Perkins) 10:00am Lenten Reflection 3:45pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir</td>
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<td><strong>3/14</strong></td>
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<td>9:00am Quilling 9:00am CUC Family Time (Perkins) 10:00am Lenten Reflection 3:45pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir</td>
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<td><strong>3/15</strong></td>
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<td>9:00am Quilling 9:00am CUC Family Time (Perkins) 10:00am Lenten Reflection 3:45pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir</td>
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<td><strong>3/16</strong></td>
<td>6:15pm Lenten Reflection 7:00pm Scouts</td>
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<td>9:00am Quilling 9:00am CUC Family Time (Perkins) 10:00am Lenten Reflection 3:45pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir</td>
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<td><strong>3/17</strong></td>
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<td>9:00am Quilling 9:00am CUC Family Time (Perkins) 10:00am Lenten Reflection 3:45pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir</td>
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<td><strong>3/18</strong></td>
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<td>9:00am Quilling 9:00am CUC Family Time (Perkins) 10:00am Lenten Reflection 3:45pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir</td>
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<td><strong>3/19</strong></td>
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<td>9:00am Quilling 9:00am CUC Family Time (Perkins) 10:00am Lenten Reflection 3:45pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir</td>
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<td><strong>3/21</strong></td>
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<td>9:00am Quilling 9:00am CUC Family Time (Perkins) 10:00am Lenten Reflection 3:45pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir</td>
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<td><strong>3/22</strong></td>
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<td>9:00am Quilling 9:00am CUC Family Time (Perkins) 10:00am Lenten Reflection 3:45pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir</td>
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<td><strong>3/23</strong></td>
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<td><strong>3/24</strong></td>
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<td><strong>3/26</strong></td>
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<td><strong>3/27</strong></td>
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<td><strong>3/28</strong></td>
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<td><strong>3/30</strong></td>
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<td>9:00am Quilling 9:00am CUC Family Time (Perkins) 10:00am Lenten Reflection 3:45pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir</td>
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To be a Christ-centered community of faithful disciples who are called to grow in faith, and share God’s love as we reach out to each other, to our community, and to our world.