



**St. Mark's  
United Methodist Church  
March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026**



*Today's Wonderful Worship Volunteers Include:*

**Ushers: Cam Davis & Dennis Preslicka**

**Scripture Reader: Lowell Fenner**

**Acolyte: Izzy Berwald**

**Next Week Worship Volunteer Schedule: March 22<sup>nd</sup>:**

Ushers: Jeannie Bennett & Sherry Kesselring

Scripture Reader: Cheryl Davis (*Ephesians 5:2, Galatians 2:20*)

Acolyte: Mealnie Justice

**St. Mark's UMC, 2675 E. Washington Street, Iowa City**

**Facebook - [www.facebook.com/stmarksumcic/](http://www.facebook.com/stmarksumcic/)**

**Office – (319)337-7201 - Email – [office@stmarks-umc.net](mailto:office@stmarks-umc.net)**

**Rev. Alberta Ervin – (712)269-6968 – Email – [alberta.ervin@iaumc.net](mailto:alberta.ervin@iaumc.net)**



**Prelude**

**Lord of the Dance**

**Deaf Notes**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Passing of the Peace**

**Call to Worship:**

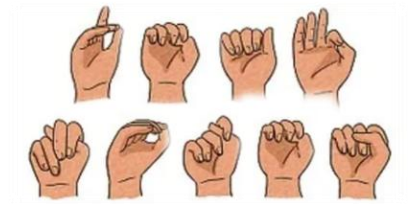
Leader: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

**People: Therefore, let us keep the feast with joy!**

Leader: The Lamb who was slain is worthy.

**People: By his blood we are redeemed, from every tribe and nation.**

**All: Blessing and honor and glory be to Christ, our Redeemer and King!**



**Opening Hymn**

**This Is a Day of New Beginnings**

**pg. 383 UMH**

v. 1, 2, 3, 4

**A Time for All God's Children**

**Pastor Alberta**

**Special Music**


**Worthy Is The Lamb from Messiah**

**Chancel Choir**

G. F. Handel / adapted Broecker

**Offertory & Prayer** – Doxology

**pg. 95 UMH**

 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Scripture Reader**

**Exodus 12:21-28**

**Lowell Fenner**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Pastor Alberta**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**pg. 895 UMH**

**Hymn of Preparation**

**O Thou Who This Mysterious Bread**

**pg. 613 UMH**

**Scripture**

**Luke 22:14-20**

**Pastor Alberta**

**Sermon**

**Passover, Covenant, & Redemption**

**Pastor Alberta**

**Hymn**

**I Come With Joy**

**pg. 617 UMH**

v. 1, 2, 4, 5

**Benediction**

**Pastor Alberta**

**Closing Hymn**

**As we Part for the Towns & Cities**

**pg. 3180 W&S**

**Postlude**



# Announcements & Weekly News



## Today's Special Offering: UMCOR Sunday



UMCOR Sunday seeks to increase awareness and support for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Gifts given on UMCOR Sunday play a vital role in enhancing the church's global humanitarian response because these funds cover UMCOR's administrative costs. This support ensures that 100% of donations given to UMCOR throughout the year can be directed toward on-the-ground relief and recovery efforts, allowing UMCOR to effectively respond to crises and provide assistance where it's needed most.



## Lenten series study group has started– Please join us if you are interested! Sunday, after Worship, at 11:00 am in Room 108-109

*Hosted by Pastor Alberta.*

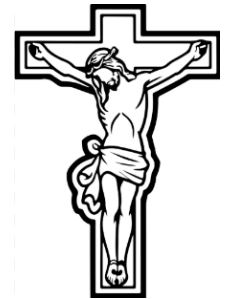
Everyone is welcome and encouraged to join in a Lenten study group study following Worship in Room 108-109 every Sunday until Easter.

The book for this series is:

### **“Why Did Jesus Have to Die? The Meaning of the Crucifixion”**

By Adam Hamilton; *see the newsletter for additional information.*

*-No sign up is necessary to attend study, nor do you have to attend every study.*



## Free Lunch Program Tomorrow: March 16<sup>th</sup>

*Address: 1105 S. Gilbert Court, Iowa City*



3 ways to help with the Free Lunch Program:

1. Pans were available to pick up last Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> for volunteers to prepare Tater Tot casserole (*recipe provided*) and bring in *today*, Sunday; March 15<sup>th</sup>.
2. **Also needed cookies/dessert bars. Please bring these donations to church Sunday 3/15.** *Cookies/bars do not need to be individually packaged; packaged in groups of 12 works great.*
3. **The opportunity to volunteer on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> beginning as early as 10:30am:** *preparing silverware packets, salad, dining room setup, serving food at noon, & clean up after 1:00pm.*

**This is a wonderful mission to those in need of a good meal & we need volunteers for it to be a success!**

Any questions, please contact St. Mark's faithful Free Lunch Coordinator, Truda Kruger 319- 354-5595.



## Looking for more ways to give?

Donated items are accepted for Easter Baskets & Christmas Stockings, listed below.

Items can be dropped off in Fellowship Hall, in a labeled bin/box.

If you have any questions regarding these ministries or donations please contact Brenda Mayer.

*Thank you for your continued support in these wonderful programs that couldn't happen without your gifts!*



### **Easter Baskets:**

- Chocolate Bunnies
- Individually wrapped tooth brushes
- Easter plush



### **Christmas Stockings:**

- Winter Hats
- Mittens
- Young Adult/Teen books
- Level 1 reader books
- Individually wrapped toothbrushes



# Weekly Calendar March 15<sup>th</sup> – March 22<sup>nd</sup>

- 03/15:** 9:30am – 10:30am: Worship – Sanctuary  
*Free Lunch: Drop off Pans of tater tot casserole & donations of cookies & bars.*  
11:00am – Noon: Lenten Study “Why Did Jesus Have To Die?” – Rooms 108-109  
*\*No further reservations in Room 104A-104B (Youth Room) -closed for renovations\**
- 03/16:** 10:30am – 11:30am: Weaving Team–Room 103 (*Missions Room*)  
*Free Lunch Volunteers Needed: 1105 S Gilbert Court 10:30am – 1:30 pm*  
5:30pm – 6:30pm: Finance Meeting – Wesley Room or Zoom  
6:00pm – 7:00pm: American Sign Language (*Free Class*) – Room 101
- 03/17:** 6:00pm – 7:30pm: Odd Fellows, Eureka Lodge #44 – Fellowship Hall  
6:30pm – 7:30pm: Executive Council Meeting – Room 109  
6:30pm – 8:30pm: “We Do Recover” Group of NA Meeting – Room 102
- 03/18:** 11:30am – 1:00pm: Knitting & Crochet Group – Skylight Seating Area  
1:00pm – 5:00pm: Christmas Stockings & Other Occasions – Room 103  
4:00pm – 5:00pm: Men’s Book Club – Fireside Room  
5:30pm – 7:15pm: American Sign Language (*Free Class*) – Room 101  
6:30pm – 7:15pm: Handbell Choir – Music Room  
7:15pm – 8:15pm: Chancel Choir – Sanctuary
- 03/19:** 6:00am – 8:30am: Old Capitol Kiwanis Meeting– Fellowship Hall  
*No Iowa City Public Library Bookmobile today*  
6:00pm – 8:30pm: Cub Scout Pack 251 Committee Meeting– Fellowship Hall
- 03/20:** 6:30pm – 9:00pm: Dungeons & Dragons – Fireside Room  
7:00pm – 9:00pm: “We Do Recover” Group of NA– Room 108-109
- 03/21:** 9:00am – 11:00am: OA of Iowa – Room 102
- 03/15:** 9:30am – 10:30am: Worship – Sanctuary  
11:00am – Noon: Lenten Study “Why Did Jesus Have To Die?” – Rooms 108-109

*This weekly calendar may change as items get altered/added/cancelled. Please see our website for the most up to date calendar of events. \*Are you planning to use a room but not on the schedule yet? Please contact the office to reserve the space & make sure it is available; we are happy to schedule you! Thank you! (Private events will not be listed in the bulletin)*



\*\*\*  
**United Women of Faith: March 15<sup>th</sup> at Noon:**

This will be a general meeting and Potluck in fellowship Hall. Please join us and bring a delicious dish to share as well as enjoy fellowship and a wonderful meal.

\*\*\*  
**United Methodist Men Pancake Breakfast Following Worship:**

The United Methodist Men make pancakes each 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, of months with 5 Sundays. The next pancake breakfast will be on: **March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
Breakfast is following Worship in Fellowship Hall.

