



March

Ushers:

East door: Brenda Strickler

West door: Kacie Shaffer

Liturgist:

Mar. 1: Scott Heller

Mar. 4: Kacie Shaffer

Mar. 8: Maggie Bolinger

Mar. 11: Lisa Krueckeberg

Mar. 15: Russ Augsburgberger

Mar. 18: Randi Stevens

Mar. 22: Bill Carpenter

Mar 25: Jan Miller

Mar. 29: Janet Smith (Palm Sunday)

Greeters:

East-West: Bob Hildebrand

NE Front: Bob Noack

Fellowship Hour:

Jan Miller

Wanda Miller

Kacie Shaffer

Count Offering:

Terra Roop

College Boxes:

No College boxes will be sent in March due to Spring Break. Our last mailing for this school year will be April 12th.

Operation Help

Our Operation Help products for March will be **canned vegetables**. Please bring your donations to the dining room or the west vestibule. Demand at Operation Help has increased considerably and any donations are much appreciated.

Newsletter Deadline:

The deadline for submitting items for the April newsletter is March 20th. Please email to office@zionuccdeatur.org. or call the church office at 724-3502.

Lunch Bunch:

The Lunch Bunch will gather for lunch at the Indiana Pancake House in Decatur on Wednesday, March 18th at 11:30 a.m. Please see Russ Augsburgberger if you plan to attend. Everyone is invited for a time of good food and fellowship.



Daylight Savings Time:

Don't forget to **Spring Forward** by setting your clocks ahead one hour on Sunday, March 8th as Daylight Savings Time will begin.

Souper Bowl:

Thank you to all who brought soup for the Men's Fellowship "Souper Bowl" food drive. We were a little down this year at 157 cans, but all donations are important to help feed those in our community in need.

One Great Hour Of Sharing:

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is a vital special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. Through our support of OGHS, funds for comprehensive development programs in areas such as healthcare, education, agriculture, food security, microfinancing, and women's empowerment. By partnering with Global Ministries and international response networks, OGHS maximizes its impact. Your contributions help meet urgent needs while addressing the root causes of vulnerability, ensuring long-term, sustainable solutions for affected communities. Our offering will be collected on Sunday, March 15th.

Shelly Holden Special Offering:

As many of you know, Shelly Holloway Holden suffered a medical event in January and is currently in Lima for rehabilitation. She is making good progress but faces a long recovery. We plan to support her and her family with a special offering on Sunday, March 8th. Envelopes will be available in the vestibules. You may also mail a donation to the church office before that date. Please mark your donation "Holden Offering."

Lenten Cue Offering:

Our Lenten offering is received throughout the Lenten season in support of the UCC colleges and seminaries. Our Chicago, United, and Eden (CUE) seminaries prepare students called to God's ministry for service around the world. An envelope was included in the Lenten mailing and is available in the vestibules. Please place your donation in the weekly offering any Sunday during Lent. Please mark your check "Lenten offering."



Lenten Services:

Our services for Lent continue on Wednesday evenings. A light meal is served at 6 p.m., followed by worship services at 6:45 p.m. Our theme this year is a five-part series focusing on the "I Am" statements in the Gospel of John. We hope you will all plan to join us weekly on this journey to Easter and the Resurrection.

S.W.A.G Fundraiser:

Our youth group is conducting a fundraiser for the month of March to support their activities. If you are interested in helping, there is a calendar posted in the dining room. You are asked to pick a date and pay that amount to Janet Smith. For example, you may sign up for March 15th and pay \$15. More than one person may sign up for a particular date.

Easter Flower Garden:

The order form for the Easter Garden flowers should be returned to Barb Engle by March 8th so she can place the order with Heller Nursery on March 9th. You may call her at 260-724-7408 or email her at blengle@centurylink.net as well. Monetary donations for the Memorial Fund are also accepted.

Fundraising Opportunities!:

The **RaiseRight!** Gift card program will continue throughout the upcoming year. Both physical and digital gift cards are available. Order forms can be found in the vestibules and the dining room and given to Stacey Smith. She will place a monthly order the last Sunday of each month.



Merit Center Memorial Garden:

The Adams County Council on Aging, located at the former Northwest School, is currently raising funds for a Memorial Garden to honor three Northwest students who have passed away. One of those students is Jaden Myers, son of Donald and Jackie Myers and grandson of Tonja and Doug Anweiler. As part of their fundraising efforts, Zion has donated \$2000 toward construction. The garden will include an outdoor space and shuffleboard courts. Many of our members participate in the various activities of the Council on Aging.

Youth Council:

Thank you to Randi Stevens, Jan Miller, Kacie Shaffer, and Shannon Kahler for their interest in reactivating our Youth Council. There will be updates in future newsletters with details of how you can help as well.

Schedule for Midweek Lenten Services:

A light meal is served at 6 p.m. Worship services begin at 6:45. Maundy Thursday services will begin at 6 p.m. in the sanctuary as we incorporate the service into the meal.

Wednesday, March 4

“I AM the Light of the World”

John 8: 12-20

Wednesday, March 11

“I AM the Door”

John 10: 1-10

Wednesday, March 18

“I AM the Good Shepherd”

John 10: 11-18

Wednesday, March 25

“I AM the Resurrection”

John 11: 17-27

Thursday, April 2, Maundy Thursday

Love Feast and Communion

John 13