

## Dear Church Family,

The word Lent comes from an old English word that means "lengthen" and was used to talk about the lengthening of days as springtime began. As we begin this Lenten journey toward Easter, the dark nights become shorter and the lengthening days will be filled with more sunshine and growth. God gives us this season to consider how we too can grow – in our relationships with one another, in our relationship with the church, and in our relationship with Christ.

This Lent we'll be looking to the wisdom of poet Mary Oliver for inspiration as we read the stories of Jesus' life and his journey to resurrection. Our guiding phrases come from Mary Oliver's poem "Sometimes," in which she offers us "Instructions for Living a Life: Pay attention. Be astonished. Tell about it." What a simple and beautiful framework for Christianity! Here are a few save the dates for Lent and Easter where we'll be delving into more poetry:

Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> Ash Wednesday service at noon

Sundays at 10:00am Worship services

Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday soup supper at 5:30pm, service at 6:00pm

Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> Good Friday service at noon

Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday Worship

Through these 40 days, how might God be calling you to pay attention to things in a new way? What will astonish you? How will you tell about your experience? The stories of Jesus' life that we will read together during this month show us how the disciples answered these same questions and invite us to think of our own answers.

To celebrate the power of sharing our experiences, throughout Lent we will have several opportunities to share testimony – to share your true story of how God has impacted your life. If you'd like to tell your story in writing, in person on a Sunday morning, or even via video, let me know and we'll make arrangements. Your story matters and deserves to be heard. There are people who will experience God in a new way because of your story, the way you tell it, and that's something no pastor or church can ever do just the way you would do it. My prayer for you is that nothing would keep you from telling your story!

I look forward to seeing you on Ash Wednesday as we begin our reflections on the poetry of Lent. Even if you can't come to the service in person that day, you can catch the recording on our Facebook page later. All special services will be livestreamed and available over the phone at the same number that our regular Sunday services are. May God bless you in this season of anticipation as we look toward the cross.

-Pastor Violet

In February, eleven of us participated in the presentation by Whitney Mulrooney on Palliative Care. If you would like a copy of the handout, please see Joella.

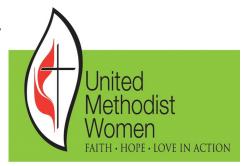
Come join us for the program

"Love, Justice and Service: Answering the Call"

Meeting Date: March 8, 2022

Meeting Time: 1 P.M.

Meeting Place: Brooke Road UMC



Kim Fahlbeck will present Call To Prayer and Self-Denial Program. This year's offering will support vital and vibrant ministries of deaconesses and home missioners. The vocations include social work, education, health care, advocacy, immigration reform, anti-poverty initiatives, antiracism efforts, firefighting, legal justice and others.

Join us Sunday, March 20th during 10:00am worship when we will celebrate United Methodist Women Sunday.

# Lent Book Study

Along with the Northern Illinois Conference, we will be reading *Kneeling with Giants: Learning to Pray with History's Best Teachers* by Gary Neal Hansen. Copies of the book are available for \$15 from the church office. There are two options to participate:

The Prairie North District will meet four times on Zoom to discuss the book on Mondays 3/7, 3/28, 4/4, and 4/18 from 1pm-2:30pm. You can register at <a href="mailto:umcnic.org/Discipleship/NICBookClub">umcnic.org/Discipleship/NICBookClub</a>

## AND/OR

In person at the church on those same Mondays 3/7, 3/28, 4/4, and 4/18 from 6pm to 7:30pm in the parlor.

# Mask Update

In keeping with the guidance from the state of Illinois, beginning March 1st masks will no longer be required in the church, but we encourage you to wear them as you feel comfortable.

# Monthly Finance Update

In an effort to inform the congregation, we will print in the monthly newsletter the following information:

January income: \$21,406.27 January expenses: \$10,041.89

This information is available to anyone by contacting Finance Chair, Judy Parks or Treasurer, Sandy McCallum.



The lilies you order may be taken home following Easter Sunday Worship.

| Name:        |                 |                |             |  |  |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|--|--|
| Phone:       |                 |                |             |  |  |
|              | Lilies are      | s \$11.50 each |             |  |  |
| Total nu     | mber of lilies: | Total Cost:    | Total Cost: |  |  |
| In honor of: |                 |                |             |  |  |
| n memory of: |                 |                |             |  |  |

Please enclose payment with this form and return to church office (1404 Brooke Road, Rockford, IL 61109) by March 27, 2022. and be sure to mark your check and/or envelope indicating it is for Easter Lilies.

# March Birthdays and Anniversaries

1stJim Puls13thJim Clendening8thJim & Bev3rdCharlene Taylor25thTerri Pomering

**9th** Joella Warner **27th** Don Faerber

**12th** Sharon Albee **30th** Phyllis Stafseth

31st Marites Kiel

Our Military

Matt Cowan, Matt Crabtree, Scott Dickson,
Thomas Helser, Will Hoyum, Ian Long, Joshua Mattson,
Jonathan Modler, Jerry Nettles, Stacy Huser,
Christine Tornow, Tommy Turnure, Ryan & Kate (Vowles) Levack

# Family and Friends

Erma Albee
Dave Bargren
Boots Baxter
Chris Beebe
Richard Coppoletti
Addilynnn D'Angelo
Hazel Dyke
Emerge Church
Debbie Hintzsche
Pastor Violet, Kyle, Lincoln
and Imogene Johnicker
John Pippel
Marge Rose
Ron Ross

David Satek
Family of Robert Shaver
Vivian Schwab
Phyllis Stafseth
Charlene Taylor
Children of Jordan Thomas
Tom & Cynthia Zolk
Maxine Zolk

# Do You Want to Fast this Lent?

Fast from hurting words and say kind words

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude

Fast from anger and be filled with patience

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope

Fast from worries and have trust in God

Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity

Fast from pressures and be prayerful

Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others

Fast from grudges and be reconciled

Fast from words and be silent so you can listen



Get your free copy of
The Upper Room today
(in narthex).
Thanks to Brooke Road's
United Methodist Women
for providing this daily devotional.



| Sunday   | Monday                   | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday             | Saturday                             |
|--|--------------------------|---|---|--|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
|  |                          | 1<br>7:00pm<br>AA   | 2<br>Noon<br>Ash Wednesday<br>Worship<br>7:00pm<br>AA | 3<br>1:00pm<br>Worship Committee<br>7:00pm<br>AA | 4<br>7:00pm<br>AA  | <u>5</u><br>7:00pm<br>AA             |
| 6 10:00am Worship Noon Swahili Worship 2:00pm Emerge Worship 2:00pm GS 0176  | <u>7</u><br>7:00pm<br>AA | 8<br>1:00pm<br>UMW<br>5:30pm<br>Finance<br>6:30pm<br>Trustees<br>7:00pm<br>AA | <u>9</u><br>7:00pm<br>AA                              | 10<br>7:00pm<br>AA                               | 11<br>7:00pm<br>AA | 12<br>9:00am<br>SPRC<br>7:00pm<br>AA |
| 13 10:00am Worship Noon Swahili Worship 2:00pm Emerge Worship 2:00pm GS 0176 | 14<br>7:00pm<br>AA       | 15<br>6:00pm<br>Council<br>7:00pm<br>AA                                       | 16<br>7:00pm<br>AA                                    | 2:00pm<br>Library bus<br>7:00pm<br>AA            | 18<br>7:00pm<br>AA | 1 <u>9</u><br>7:00pm<br>AA           |
| 20 10:00am Worship Noon Swahili Worship 2:00pm Emerge Worship 2:00pm GS 0176 | 21<br>7:00pm<br>AA       | 22<br>7:00pm<br>AA  | 23<br>7:00pm<br>AA                                    | 24<br>7:00pm<br>AA                               | 25<br>7:00pm<br>AA | 26<br>7:00pm<br>AA                   |
| 27 10:00am Worship Noon Swahili Worship 2:00pm Emerge Worship 2:00pm GS 0176 | 28<br>7:00pm<br>AA       | 29<br>7:00pm<br>AA  | 30<br>7:00pm<br>AA                                    | <u>31</u>  |                    |                                      |

# Our Mission at The Brooke is.....

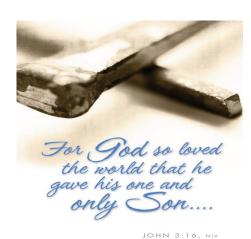
to transform lives through faith, love, and service.

# Our Vision for The Brooke is....

to be a transforming congregation of believers to serve the community, renew lives, and build faith.

# BROOKE ROAD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1404 BROOKE ROAD ROCKFORD, IL 61109

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED** 



## Sunday Worship Services at 10:00am

In person

#### OR

Facebook Live facebook.com/thebrookerockford

### **OR**

call 1-312-626-6799 and when prompted enter code 810-0983-5011

### Nursery

Available for newborn - 4 years

## **Pastor Violet**

Phone 847-651-4857

Email violet@the-brooke.org
Address 4949 Radnor Drive
Rockford, IL 61109

## **Church Office**

Phone 815-398-8914

Email brookeroadumc@outlook.com

Website the-brooke.org
Address 1404 Brooke Road
Rockford, IL 61109

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Hours M - Th ~ 9:00am - 3:30pm

## Social Media Links

facebook.com/TheBrookeRockford instagram.com/BrookeRoadUMC twitter.com/BrookeRoadUMC