



*Building Bridges To The
Families Of Our Community!*

Volume 19 issue 3

March 2017

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CHURCH STAFF

- **Steve Loft**
Pastor
- **Steve Allen**
Choir Director
Music Director
- **Pam Allen**
Organist
- **Sharon Shinn**
Administrative
Assistant
- **Geri Angel**
Custodian
- **Kristin Farwig**
Youth Director
- **Andrea Loft**
Children's Ministry

Jamestown United Methodist Church

Lent



is a solemn Christian season that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends approximately six weeks later, before Easter Sunday. The purpose of Lent is to prepare for the great celebration of Easter through prayer, self-denial, and self-giving. It heightens the annual commemoration of Holy Week which begins with Palm Sunday (commemorating Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem) and includes Maundy Thursday (the night when Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion), and Good Friday (the day commemorating Christ's crucifixion).

Lent is traditionally described as lasting for forty days, not counting Sundays, thus the approximate six week duration. Traditionally the Sundays were not counted because they are like "little Easters" since Jesus was resurrected on Sunday, the first day of the week.

The number 40 is significant in the Bible. Some of the Biblical references include the following.

- God sent 40 days and nights of rain in the great flood of Noah's day (Genesis 7:4)
- Moses spent 40 days on Mount Sinai with God (Exodus 24:18)
- The Hebrew people wandered 40 years in the desert while traveling to the Promised Land (Numbers 14:33)
- Elijah spent 40 days and nights walking to Mount Horeb (1 Kings 19:8)
- Jonah's prophecy of judgment gave 40 days for the city of Nineveh to repent or be destroyed (Jonah 3:4)
- Jesus fasted in the wilderness for 40 days in preparation for public ministry

Many Christians invest in a time of accelerated spiritual growth during the forty days of Lent. We could do the same, not only as individuals, but as a church. During the weeks of Lent, let's be even more focused on being the church Jesus calls us to become. We are part of a great church. But we can continue to grow in becoming the church Jesus calls us to become. Here are some ways to grow as the church of Jesus.

The Church of Jesus Works at Being a Caring Community
The Church of Jesus Captures the Heart of the Community
The Church of Jesus Reaches to All People
The Church of Jesus Empowers Every Believer
The Church of Jesus Models Integrity
The Church of Jesus Serves a Broken World
The Church of Jesus Encounters the Living God
The Church of Jesus Anticipates a Great Future

These are the themes I plan to use for Ash Wednesday and the Sundays through Easter. Join me and invite others to join us in becoming the Church Jesus calls us to become. In Christ,

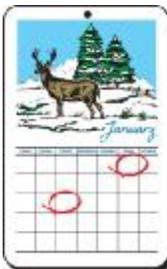
Pastor Steve

2	Brad	Ullery
3	Darin	Miller
4	Cheryl	Cabanaw
	Charlotte	Haggard
	Jane	Lechlitner
	Brittany	Saunders
7	Dave	Pontius
9	Becky	Metcalf
14	Lilliana	Clark
	Jim	Heminger
	Nate	Koets
	Fran	Price
17	Doug	McIntosh
18	Hannah	Polston
	David	Sylvester
20	Bob	Judson
21	Shane	Stoops
	Kathleen	Stout
22	Gary	Buss
23	Shawn	Angel
24	Bret	Miller
26	Meaghen	Farwig
	Roberta	Mann
	Larry	Struble
27	Ryan	Remaly
28	Tony	Cabanaw
31	James	Owen



4	Ray & Arletah	Hochstetler	1961
8	Jeff & Angela	Davis	
22	Tom & Jean	Green	1969
30	David & Lisa	Sylvester	2007

Jim Starkey is researching the cost of an electronic sign. This would make it easier to let the community know what we are doing; fun activities, special worship services, fundraisers, etc. Jim would like to hear from you! What thoughts and ideas you might have concerning an electronic sign for Jamestown.



Please remember, as you are planning your activities here at Jamestown, call the church office. We want to keep your events and plans on our calendar. Also, if you are planning to borrow tables and/or chairs. You will want to be sure they are available.

With warmest thanks, grateful hearts, and deep appreciation for your thoughtfulness.

Thanks to everyone who responded so fast to help Dick. And to all who prayed for him. We appreciate everyone's help.

God bless you all!
Dick & Joan Briggs

I want to thank all who prayed for me. I know that is why I am feeling better and am able to attend church.

God Bless,
Betty Griffin

Council on Aging

I would like to thank you on behalf of our team members, clients, and Board for your donation. Your generosity will help us to continue moving forward in our mission to care for your seniors.

Sincerely,
David M Toney, CEO

Bashor Children's Home

Thank you for being a part of the Bashor mission and supporting us this past year. We are thankful for your support both financially and more importantly in your prayers. In 2016, our residential programs helped over 175 at risk children from Elkhart County and throughout the state of Indiana. Community support allowed us to open a children's shelter on April 3rd. Since then we have been able to assist 50 children who have either been abandoned by their parents, or children who were in need of temporary housing.

"Help for Today and Hope for Tomorrow to troubled children and their families"

May God bless you in this New Year,
Steve Riikonen & Don Phillips

Baugo Lion's Club Adopt-a-Family Committee

Through the efforts and contributions of so many unselfish families, businesses, and organizations in our community, a total of 58 families with 160 children in Baugo Township were helped. Each family was given a ham, boxes of food, Christmas gifts and a grocery store gift card this holiday season.

In the 31 years of record keeping, we have served 1,488 families with 5,629 children.

Sincerely,
Carol Denton

Look around the congregation, who is missing?

Perhaps you should give them a call to let them know you missed them. Invite them back.

SEVEN

Seven means "complete" in biblical terms.

Match each statement about seven with the proper person.

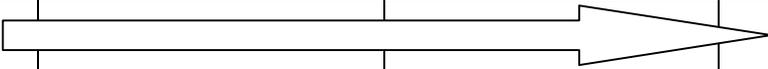
1.	_____ Had seven locks of hair	a. Solomon	1 Kings 6: 38
2.	_____ Labored seven years for a wife	b. Naomi	Ruth 4: 15
3.	_____ Judged Israel for seven years	c. Mary Magdalene	Mark 16: 0
4.	_____ Ate grass seven times	d. Samson	Judges 16: 13
5.	_____ Possessed seven devils	e. Pharaoh	Genesis 41: 2-3
6.	_____ Dreamed of seven fat and seven lean cows	f. Ibsan	Judges 12: 8-9
7.	_____ Built the Temple in seven years	g. Nebuchadnezzar	Daniel 4: 25, 33
8.	_____ Was condemned by seven princes	h. Vashti	Esther 1: 14-15, 19
9.	_____ Women said her daughter-in-law was better than seven sons	i. Jehoash	2 Kings 11: 21
10.	_____ Became king at age of seven	j. Jacob	Genesis 29: 20

NAME _____

Return Quiz by March 26th.

Answers for "Headlines": 1. H; 2. E; 3. G; 4. A; 5. J; 6. D; 7. B; 8. C; 9. K; 10. F; 11. I. Those that were up for a challenge were: Marcia Clark, Marta Clark, and Jane Lechlitner.

JANUARY VOLUNTEERS

	5th	12 th	19 th	26 th
Liturgist	Steve Squibb			
Greeters	Jim & Kathy Eggleston Nate & Julie Koets	Anita Hoffman, Mark & Angela Cook	Mark & Carolyn Landis, Jim & Geri Angel	Irene Cook, Randy & Gail Greenlee
Acolytes	Julie & Caleb Koets	Mark & Angela Cook	Mark & Carolyn Landis	Jim & Geri Angel
Children's Message	Pastor Steve	Steve Allen	Gail Greenlee	LuAnn Pontius
Nursery	Beth Polston		Becky Buss	Sharon Hirstein
Children's Church		Cindy Campbell	Marta Clark	Marta Clark
Cookie Fellowship	Jim & Kathy Eggleston, Greg Clark	Cheryl Cabanaw, Shannan Sciba, Mark & Cindy Campbell	Doug Cook, Randy & Gail Greenlee	John Beggs, Ray Hochstetler
Ushers	Randy Beehler, Mark Campbell, Dave Pontius & Mark Wrathell			

TRUSTEES

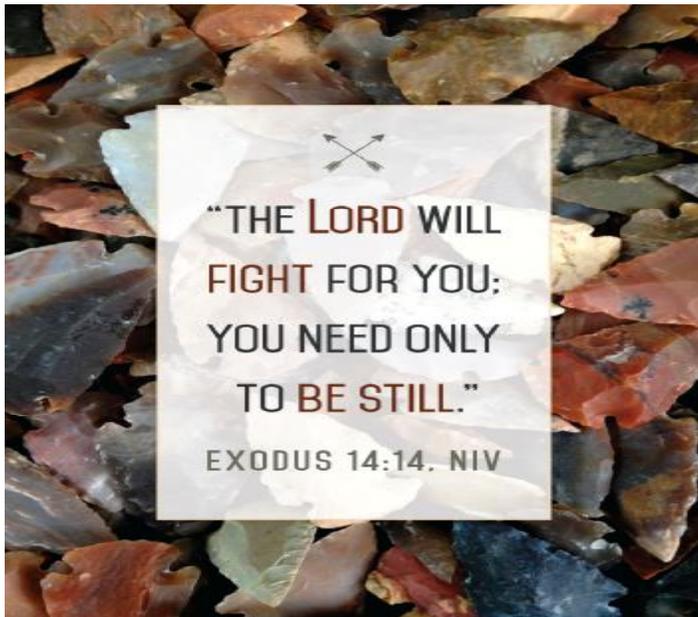
February 16th , 6:00 p.m.

- Main bathroom at Parsonage; Bath Fitters will do repairs and changes
- Getting help for the Sound system
- Checking pricing for LED lights outside the building
- Randy & Greg will take care of crabgrass and fertilizer for our lawn
- Checking on fire extinguishers in the church and Teen Center.
- Boiler repaired and inspected until 2018
- Suggestion to check on other insurance companies for our properties
- Had Elevator and chair lift inspected & passed
- Staying on top of Apartment rentals
- Checking on an Electronic sign & feasibility to include color or just black. Could be \$30,000
- Jim S. to paint Fellowship hall; help choosing color and labor
- Motion to purchase a defibrillator for \$1,000. Need to take to Church Council.
- Need a Trustee to be on study committee concerning Parsonage and Annex.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting Thursday, March 16th at 6:00 p.m.

MARCH COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Thurs	9 th	6:30 pm	Finance
Thurs	16 th	6:00 pm	Trustees
Thurs	23rd	6:00 pm	Staff/Pastor Relations
		7:00 pm	Church Council
Thurs	30 th	6:30 pm	Nominations/Leadership



MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Our March loose coin offering will go to UMCOR. UMCOR reaches people in more than 80 countries, including the U.S. UMCOR provides humanitarian relief when war, conflict or natural disaster disrupt life to such an extent that communities are unable to recover on their own. Our January offering of \$50.97 went to Bashor – Teen Program. Our February offering of \$105.48 went to our Cub Scout troop. Thank you for your generosity with these projects.

Elkhart County Right to Life

Spaghetti Dinner

Elkhart Knights of Columbus hall,

112 E. Lexington Ave.,

Wednesday, March 8th

5:00-7:00 p.m.

Adults \$9.00 – Children 6-12 yrs \$4.00

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Our Kettle Fund giving this month will go to our Carpet fund. This is going to be a big expense someday. We currently have \$5,600 in this fund. Remember, the change in your pocket helps make a difference.

SENIOR LUNCHEON

Our next meeting will be March 7th. Bring a dish to share. Our program will be from LoveWay, their mission statement, "Enhancing the lives of individuals with special needs through comprehensive therapeutic equestrian services."

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

We meet the 4th Sunday morning of most months at 7:45 Hope to see you there.

UNITED METHODIST MEN'S BREAKFAST

Men you are all cordially invited to come and enjoy a wonderful breakfast and male bonding experience prior to the uplifting worship service. We meet the First Sunday of every month at 7:00 a.m.

EVANGELISM/HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

We are looking for individuals interested in volunteering at the Welcome Center. Some training will be provided. Please indicate on the attendance pad that you would be interested in helping.

There is a sheet included in this newsletter that shows what individuals are on what committees.



We cannot all be present when disaster strikes. However, on March 26th we will do our part equipping others to go. Our March Loose Coin will also be going to UMCOR.

I am excited that our congregation will join thousands of others across the U.S. by participating in a Special Sunday of the The United Methodist Church. Together, we will help fund the critical disaster-relief efforts of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).

For more than 75 years, UMCOR has provided disaster relief, often long after others have left the scene. UMCOR has aided refugees and confronted the crippling challenges of world hunger and poverty. However, UMCOR simply cannot do it without us. Examples are many – rebuilding after the Haiti earthquake, Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, Hurricane Katrina, Superstorm Sandy and many other disasters.

Our offering allows UMCOR, formerly One Great Hour of Sharing, and The United Methodist Church to respond immediately when disaster strikes. Think of UMCOR as our “Go Team” who can be there when help is needed.

Friends, our support is critical. Let’s be there for those in need.

Please prayerfully consider how God would have you join us in cheerfully and generously showing God’s love around the world with your gifts.



Theme: The Church Works:

<i>At Capturing the Heart of the Community</i>	<i>March 5th</i>
<i>At Reaching to All People</i>	<i>12th</i>
<i>At Empowering Every Believer</i>	<i>19th</i>
<i>At Modeling Integrity</i>	<i>26th</i>
<i>At serving a Broken World</i>	<i>April 2nd</i>
<i>By Encountering the Living God</i>	<i>Palm Sunday, 9th</i>
<i>While Anticipating a Great Future</i>	<i>Easter Sunday, 16th</i>

RELENTLESS PRAYERS

Are you reluctant to bring the same prayers to your heavenly Father over and over? Maybe you don’t want to trouble God; after all, he already knows what you’re going to say. Plus, you’re not worthy to ask for anything!

If those thoughts surround you, think about Patrick, Ireland’s patron saint. At 16, he was dragged from his home to be a slave. Patrick tended sheep in the cold. Hungry and miserable, he begged God for mercy and deliverance.

In his Confessio, Patrick recalls praying “a hundred times in the day and almost as many at night.” Without ceasing, he told God of his needs, wants, thanksgiving and confession. And God heard his prayers.

Pray relentlessly. God is always listening!
—MaryAnn Sundby

WONDER OF WONDERS

The world is filled with wonders, writes Nathaniel Olson. Consider chemistry: Salt is formed by two poisonous substances (sodium and chlorine). The alnico magnet, the world’s strongest, contains three nonmagnetic substances (aluminum, nickel and cobalt). And water consists of oxygen (which is flammable) and hydrogen (which burns easily); yet water puts out fires!

That pales in comparison to the wonder of salvation through Jesus. Every day, Olson writes, Jesus transforms filthy, hopeless sinners into new, forgiven creations. “On the skid rows of our cities, in wealthy and poor homes, in jungles ... whenever any soul wants Christ, the wonder of the new birth is taking place.”

Our God is the true Wonder of wonders. “None can compare” (Psalm 40:5).