



Greetings in the name of Jesus the Christ,

We are in the Season of Lent. Ash Wednesday was February 18, which was the beginning of the season. Lent represents a solemn 40-day Christian season of spiritual preparation, prayer, fasting, and serving others which mirrors Jesus' final 40 days here on earth leading up to the celebration of his resurrection at Easter. It symbolizes repentance, self-discipline, and inner conversion as believers seek to follow Christ more closely, remember His sacrifice, and die to sin for new life in Him. These 40 days are to help us deepen our relationship with Jesus.

Do you want to get close or closer to Jesus? If you do, you will have to take some time and sit down for story time with him.

During the 40 days prior to Jesus' arrest, trial and execution – He and the disciples traveled all around Galilee, Judea, and even into Samaria. We are going to travel with Jesus and the disciples on the road to his last Passover Meal. As we stumble after Jesus during these 40 days, we are going to look at story after story of where he is taking us on this journey. He is going to share stories like:

'did you hear about the farmer who scattered seed?'

'did you hear about the shepherd who lost a sheep?'

'did you hear about the two people who went into the Temple to pray?'

'did you hear about the guy who was laying in the ditch dying and needed saving?'

'did you hear about the woman who lost a coin?'

'did you hear about the great feast and all of the man's friends refused to come?'

'did you hear about the father with two sons, both were pains in the neck, but in different ways?'

Yes, we are going to journey with Jesus as he tells us stories in parable form. A parable is a GPS taking you to a new world that is God's kingdom, rather than the world in which we live. Matthew and Mark say that Jesus said nothing except in parables. (Matthew 13:34 and Mark 4:34). Over half of everything that Luke quotes from Jesus – is in parables or as we might say of some of them - riddles.

These days we prefer to have things handed to us on a platter which includes what and how we should believe. Sorry, that is not Jesus' way. If his good news could be summed up in easy-to-remember general principles, he would have. Instead, he told stories (parables) as way to make his story – ours.

Maybe you come to church seeking confirmation for what you already know, and then Jesus throws a curveball of a parable at you, and you find yourself a little discombobulated, unsettled, and maybe find yourself as one of the characters in the parable. That is what makes these stories – our story.

Never did Jesus begin a parable, "A personal relationship with me is like..."  
It was always, "The kingdom of heaven is similar to..." or "God's kingdom."

I invite you to come on this 40-day journey and end up in the Upper Room at supper, sitting around the table the night before Jesus' death, with a bunch of losers, when he was promising them and us - a place at God's table one day.

May you be blessed on the journey,  
*Pastor Velda*

## Pastor Velda's Schedule for March 2026

First and Third Mondays - 9 am - 3 pm Peace Quilters at PUMC

First and Third Wednesdays - Morning Coffee Break at FPC

Noon - 1 pm Kiwanis Meeting at Pizza Ranch

Every Wednesday Morning - 8:15 am PC Pastoral Prayer Breakfast

Wednesday Evenings - 6 pm J.A.M. opening

7 pm Confirmation

March 5 - 11 am in Slayton - LLP Covenant Group Meeting

March 9 - 11 am Worship Committee Meeting PUMC

March 10 - 8:30 am PC Ministerial Meeting

March 11 - 6 pm Trustees Meeting PUMC

March 16 - 4:30 pm Leadership Council Meeting PUMC

March 17 - 10 am in Luverne Presbyterian Mentoring Meeting

6 pm Human Rights Commission Meeting

March 19 - 2 pm Communion at Ridgeview Assisted Living

March 23 - 6 pm Session Meeting at FPC

March 29 - 10:30 am Palm Sunday Combined Worship Service at FPC

April 2 - 7 pm Maundy Thursday Service at PUMC



## Daylight Savings Time Begins!

Sunday, March 8, 2026

at 2 am.

**Join Us for a Potluck Brunch Meal after the 9:00 a.m. service on Sunday, March 15. Egg Bake, muffins, fruit, etc.**

**There will be a sign-up sheet passed around in church during Sunday Service prior to March 15.**



## Sunday March 29th Church service will be at 10:30 at the First Presbyterian Church

**This is Palm Sunday so the J.A.M. kids will be participating in the service.**

There are four months in 2026 which have 5 Sundays. Whenever there is a 5th Sunday, we will have a combined service with First Presbyterian church. The location will rotate between the churches but the service time will always be 10:30. Whenever possible we will also try to incorporate a potluck or coffee fellowship time to follow the service. This is a great time to reconnect!

March 29 at FPC

August 30 at FPC

May 31 at PUMC

November 29 at PUMC

# Lenten Season

We are now fully into the Lenten Season and Easter Sunday (April 5) will soon be here. The celebration of the Easter season will continue with these upcoming services.

## **Maundy Thursday**

Thursday, April 2 at 7:00 pm. This is a combined service with First Presbyterian Church (FPC) and will be held at Peace United Methodist Church

## **Easter Sunday**

9:00 am service at PUMC (normal church service schedule)

10:30 a.m. service at FPC (normal church service schedule)



## ***Easter Lily Order Form***

***Cost is free-will donation***

*# of Lilies you want to purchase:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Amount included with this form:* \_\_\_\_\_

*In Memory/Honor Of:*

\_\_\_\_\_

*From:*

\_\_\_\_\_

*Please give this form and your money/check to the office.*

# March 2026



*Sun*

*Mon*

*Tue*

*Wed*

*Thu*

*Fri*

*Sat*

Birthdays  
Anniversaries  
Church Events

1 Karen Vaux <b>9:00 am Worship</b>	2 9 am Peace Quilters 7:00 Church Clean-up	3 5:30 pm Prayer Shawl	4 Barb Shaffer 6 pm JAM At FPC 7 pm Confirmation At FPC	5 Chuck Vaux Easton Williamson Sandy Lopau	6	7
8 Benjamin Harstad <b>9:00 am Worship</b>  Communion	9 11 am Worship Committee	10 5:30 pm Prayer Shawl	11 6 pm Trustees 6 pm JAM At FPC 7 pm Confirmation At FPC	12	13 Barb Visker	14 Alyssa Winter
15 <b>9:00 am Worship</b> <b>Brunch Potluck to follow service.</b>	16 9 am Peace Quilters 4:30 pm Leadership Council	17 Al & Michelle Winter 5:30 pm Prayer Shawl	18 6 pm JAM At FPC 7 pm Confirmation At FPC	19 10 am UWF Meeting	20 Chad Williamson	21
22 <b>9:00 am Worship</b>	23	24 Brielle Schulze 5:30 pm Prayer Shawl	25 6 pm JAM Singing and fun at Ridgeview 7 pm Confirmation At FPC	26	27	28
29 Dennis Johnson <b>10:30 am Worship Joint Service at FPC</b>	30	31		<p>If you do not see your name(s) listed on the calendar for birthdays and anniversaries, please contact the church so that we can update our lists with</p>		

# Pipestone County Food Shelf



Peace United Methodist Church will be helping with serving at the Pipestone County Food Shelf the following Thursday's in 2026:

**April 23**

**July 23**

**October 22**

If you are willing and able to assist on any of these dates, please contact Sandy Lopau at 507-215-0971.

**Please lift up our shut-ins in your prayers,  
and please visit them!  
You can see Gretchen Blom at  
Good Samaritan Society of Pipestone.**



**PEACE UMC HAS A WEBSITE!**

[www.peaceumcpipestone.com](http://www.peaceumcpipestone.com)

## Ways you can give back to your church!

### By USPS:

Peace United Methodist Church; PO Box 26; Pipestone, MN 56164

### Auto Giving through your bank:

Set up by the church treasurer in the church office. You will be able to designate the amount and frequency of your donations. All that is required is filling out a form and bringing in a voided check.

**PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE  
TO THE SUPPORT OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY!**

## COMMUNION SUNDAYS

**MARCH 8**

**APRIL 5 (EASTER)**

**APRIL 12**

**MAY 10**



**UWF will not be meeting in  
January, February, or March**



**United  
Women  
in Faith**



# JAM meets at Ridgeview

Wednesday night JAM is always an adventure in learning about the Lord through word, music, movement, and creative art. On January 28 we met at Ridgeview and had a great time with the residents, sharing crafts, music, and treats!



## JAM Schedule

Wednesday nights from 6—7 pm

March 4, 2026 – [First Presbyterian Church](#)

March 11, 2026 – [First Presbyterian Church](#)

March 18 – [First Presbyterian Church](#)

March 25, 2026 – [Singing and fun at Ridgeview](#)

April 1 – [No JAM – Easter Break](#)

April 8, 2026 – [Peace UMC](#)

April 15, 2026 – [Peace UMC](#)

April 22, 2026 – [JAM End of Year Bash - Peace UMC](#)



# MANY THANKS!



## **The NOMADS received the December Change for Change donations.**

On behalf of the Methodist NOMADS and the many mission agencies and churches that are supported by NOMADS efforts, we want to thank you for your generous donation of \$603.34 in support of our ministry.

There are so many organizations that could use NOMADS assistance but don't have sufficient funds to start or complete a project. So we are very blessed to be able to assist such agencies through gifts given by our

members and by other financial supporters each year. Our budget for project funding for 2025 is \$130,000 and your gift takes us closer to this goal.

Praying for good health and happiness in 2026 for you and your family.

Carla Kinsey

## **A portion of our proceeds from the Annual Turkey Dinner is given to mission/charitable work.**

**Once again, Relay for Life/American Cancer Society was gifted this donation.**

To Peace United Methodist Church,

Thank you so much for the gift of money to the Relay for life. I know how much work goes into making this money to donate, so thank you!

Vicki Gergen and the local Relay for Life Committee



Dear Peace United Methodist Church,

Thank your for helping make Relay for Life successful. Together, we honor all people living with cancer and remember loved ones lost. We are able to take action against this terrible disease because of support from donors like you.

You are helping boost our efforts to measurably improve the lives of people facing cancer and their families through advocacy, research, and direct patient support.

We sincerely appreciate your generosity, and thank you for supporting the American Cancer Society's vision to end cancer as we know it, for everyone.

Regards,

William L. Dahut, MN

Chief Scientific Officer, American Cancer Society

## **Greeters, Readers, and Treaters!**

We're always grateful to have people help with Sunday morning services. There is a sign-up sheet in the entryway to use for signing up to greet follow worshippers prior to church service each Sunday morning. On this same sign-up sheet you can sign up to participating in the church service as a reader. Readers are responsible for reading the announcements, call to worship, and scripture lesson.

There is also a sign-up sheet found in the fireside room where you can sign-up to provide treats and prepare coffee to be served both before and after the Sunday morning service.



**Monday, March 2 at 7 p.m.**

**Peace UMC now has a sign-up list for various areas of the church building that you can specify and commit to cleaning. Please see the sign-up sheet for further**



**CHANGE FOR CHANGE**

**\$ 260.37**

**Received February 2026**

To benefit  
Flandreau Indian  
School Chaplaincy Program

March donations will benefit the  
**Helping Kids Round First program**

**Improving lives through baseball**

Every year we bring baseball equipment and provide instruction to youth in rural Nicaraguan communities. Baseball has a unique ability to both bring together different cultures and teach life lessons helping to provide a foundation on which to improve lives.

[www.helpingkidsroundfirst.org](http://www.helpingkidsroundfirst.org)



**2026 Giving Goal**

\$129,795

**Needed Each Month**

\$10,816

**Received in February**

\$10,405

## **Leadership Council Meeting**

**February 16, 2026**

**4:30 pm**

**Present:** Chuck Vaux, Elly Erks, Steve Schulze, Jan Wussow, and Velda Maine

**Pastoral Report:** Pastor Velda

In person visits - 7

Phone Calls - 20

Email Correspondence - 7

Text Messages - 42

FPC Session Meeting

PC Ministerial Meeting

FPC Wednesday Morning Coffee - 2

Presbyterian Mentoring Meeting

Kiwanis Meetings - 2

Quilting - 1

Human Rights Commission Meeting

PUMC Leadership Council Meeting

Ecumenical Prayer Shawl - 3

Pastor Prayer Breakfasts - 4

J.A.M. & Confirmation - 4

Pastor Velda presented a proposal from the Ministerial Association that we have a joint community service at Hiawatha Park on June 28, 2026. This coincides with the Watertown Festival weekend events. There would be a cost to each church of \$200.00 to cover the cost of building and ground rental. Events would include a joint service with all pastors participating, followed by a bring-your-own lunch picnic. A motion was made by Chuck Vaux to approve this proposal and was seconded by Elly Erks. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

All bills and apportionments are paid to date.

Monthly reports from Kinner & Company were distributed.

### **Trustees Report:** Mark Wiese

**December Meeting** – Met on January 14 with 6 members present

6 members present

It was decided that if our regular service provider is not available in an emergency situation, another provider will be called.

We ear tagged the land sale CD for replacing the parsonage boiler if and when it is needed.

Door key has been returned from the boy scouts.

### **UWF Report:**

Not meeting in January, February, or March

### **Worship Committee Report:**

4 members present.

Elly opened the meeting with prayer.

Removal of remaining winter décor will be after church on 2-15. Lenten décor will be bare minimal to signify the meaning of Lent. There will be no candles because that signifies light.

Ash Wednesday service will be at the Presbyterian church.

Maundy Thursday service will be an interactive service here on April 2.

8 lilies for Easter were ordered. A sign up sheet suggesting a freewill offering will be prepared.

Elly will make up a breakfast brunch pot luck sign up for March 15.

### **Mission Report:**

#### **Shared Ministry Council**

### **Peace Foundation Report:**

Chuck Vaux is now a signer for all CD's etc. They are looking into requiring two signatures to cash-in a CD.

### **Children's Ministry Report:**

#### **SPRC Report:**

#### **Lay Leader Report:**

If you are unable to join us in person on Sunday mornings, remember we are available online! You can watch our Sunday Worship broadcast live on

Facebook Live every Sunday at 9:00 am!

[www.facebook.com/peaceUMCpipestone/](http://www.facebook.com/peaceUMCpipestone/)



**PEACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

PO BOX 26

PIPESTONE, MN 56164