



2023

March – will it come in like a lion and go out like a lamb? Or will it come in like a lamb and go out like a lion? We know that the groundhog, [“Punxsutawney Phil,”](#) who has been making predictions since 1886 saw his shadow on February 2. For those who believe in *“Punxsutawney Phil,”* that meant six (6) more weeks of winter, which by *“Punxsutawney Phil’s”* prediction would bring us to the middle of March, if you believe in his legend. I remember *“Punxsutawney Phil”* when I was growing up, but what I heard more often about March coming and going, was either as a lion or a lamb.

As I think of March this year, I think about the lion and the lamb - and how that relates to Lent, Easter and Jesus. We know that Jewish tradition called for sacrifices, a *“qorban”* was an animal sacrifice, such as a bull, sheep, goat, or a dove that underwent shechita (Jewish ritual slaughter). Sacrifices could also consist of grain, meal, wine, or incense. The Hebrew Bible says that Yahweh (God) commanded the Israelites to offer offerings and sacrifices on various altars. These sacrifices were for atonement of sin. If sacrificing an animal, it had to be spotless, pure, without blemish. If sacrificing grain, meal, wine or Incense it had to be the best of crop and the best from a *“lot”* or batch.

We know that at the Passover meal that the Jewish people slaughtered a *“perfect”* lamb for the meal as part of their Passover celebration for God bringing them out of captivity and slavery from Egypt. To this day, observant Jews prepare for Passover — Pesach — by getting rid of everything in the house that is *chametz* — leavened. They even sell such food, symbolically, until Passover ends.

During his ministry Jesus refers to himself as the Good Shepherd, but also as the Lamb of God – that perfect sacrifice for atonement for our sins. As we walk through this season of Lent with Jesus, as He walks towards the Cross, He is preparing his Disciples and himself for His death and ultimate sacrifice of the perfect Lamb of God.

As we continue our walk towards the Cross during this season, we will be looking at the difficult teachings of Jesus. Not easy stuff, but holy stuff. A *“would be”* disciple asks Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life and Jesus tells him to sell all that he has and give it to the poor. The second week we will look at when Jesus says that those who do not hate their father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters – even their very own life, cannot be his disciple. The third week looking at what Jesus means when He says, *“that we should be slaves to others”* and not only when being watched, but more so when no one can see what we are doing. We will look at insiders and outsiders, from church membership to citizenship to ethnic identity the fourth week. It is confusing when Jesus tells his Disciples, *“to go nowhere among the Gentiles,”* but then gives the Great Commission to go out into all of the world, preaching and teaching to all. Our final week we will look at the day of final judgment, is it something we should fear or how we can build a faith based on love and joy, rather than fear of punishment. That will bring us to Holy Week and Easter.

We will also be viewing *“The Chosen”* a documentary by Dallas Jenkins on the times and ministry of Jesus, Season One on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. After watching a segment each week, we will discuss what we saw and heard.

I look forward to worshipping and learning with you during this Season of Lent.

Blessings,

Pastor Velda

Leadership Council Meeting

February 20, 2023

7 p.m.

PRESENT: Steve Schulze Elly Erks Mark Wiese Jan Wussow
 Becky Sietsema Chuck Vaux Pastor Velda

Pastoral Report: Pastor Velda

December Report:

Pastoral Calls: 38

Funerals: 1 (plus visitation)

Pastoral Prayer Breakfasts: 2

Church Related Meetings: 3

Community Meetings: 4

Mission Work: 4

January Report:

Pastoral Calls: 4

Funerals: 2

Pastoral Prayer Breakfasts: 2

Church Related Meetings: 2

Community Meetings: 3

Mission Work: 6

Will be attending and leading as a Spiritual Leader this coming week, February 23-26, 2023 for the MN Women's Walk to Emmaus being held in Fairmont, MN. Julie Dallmann from our congregation.

Registered and completing next Course of Study (seminary) Class in March and April.

SPRC: Jenny Severson

No Report.

Treasurer's Report: Sandy Lopau

All bills are paid to date.

Appointments are paid to date.

Placement costs for new projector have been paid.

Giving is down.

Cost of Progress performing our cleaning is up. Current cost is about \$80 per month.

Church Gardens were discussed. Guidelines will be reviewed for this year and provided to all who wish to rent a garden.

Trustee's Report: Mark Wiese

At January meeting motion was made and passed that all future Trustee Meetings will be on the Second Monday of the Month at 7 p.m.

The trustees have paid out \$1,440 so far this year in snow removal that is an added expense this year.

Chuck has replaced batteries in the some extra EXIT signs that were found and they work. He will work on getting someone in to hang them.

The east side sump pump line needs to be jetted out again in October.

The extra window downstairs will be donated to the MN West carpentry program

A motion was made and seconded to put in a keyless entry on the Pastor's office door.

Old projector has been recycled.

Discussion was held regarding Good Energy, G-3 Green, for non-profits. Chuck will contact the company to obtain further details.

The church rental agreement forms were updated and will be brought to the church council for approval. New forms were reviewed. Elly made motion, Chuck second and motion passed to approve the forms as provided.

Peace Foundation: Chuck Vaux

Had two vouchers from education account for \$135 each. (Walk to Emmaus)--

Children's Education: Becky Sietsema

JAM reconvened in January after the holidays at Peace Church learning about Jesus healing the paralyzed man. In February the kids moved to the Presbyterian Church for the Triumphant Entry lesson. The month was cut short due to weather. There is no JAM on February 22nd and the kids are encouraged to attend Ash Wednesday service at their respective churches instead. JAM is back at Peace church in March.

Kelli Miller donated \$1000 to the JAM program in memory of her mom, Kathie Miller. This money will be used for a fun family activity this spring. Thank you, Kelli!

Worship: Elly Erks

January Meeting Minutes: The January pot luck was discussed. It was determined that we have all the necessary supplies for it on hand. Coffee will be made with the Bunn coffeemaker in the Fireside room & placed in carafes for the basement. Ash Wednesday is February 22. All services will be held in our church. Pastor Velda plans on showing the movie series "The Chosen" for a study during Lent.

The committee will take down the winter décor & replace it with Lenten décor after church on February 19. All church members will be invited to assist with this. This request should be placed in the February newsletter & announced in church during February.

(continued)

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April 9 is Easter. Barb will take care of palms, lilies & flowers to be placed in the cross. Pastor Velda suggested leaving the greens on the flowers & making them longer to make our cross look fuller. Pete Sietsma will place the cross in the sanctuary. No other cross will be in the sanctuary until Easter Sunday when the lighted cross will be placed. The rugged cross may be placed in the front entry area also.

Draping the cross above the altar with white fabric was discussed along with placing lights on it. Sheer fabric would need to be ordered. Pastor Velda reported that Chuck Vaux feels he can put lights on the cross for future use, especially at Christmas.

United Women of Faith (previously UMW): Jan Wussow

Reports that they have not met since November due to weather. Leadership has been discussing that they would like to propose that they not meet the winter months of December, January and February and meet during the summer months instead. Following next meeting, Jan will provide updated report.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pastor Velda Maine



COMMUNION SUNDAYS

Sunday - March 5, 2022

Sunday - April 2

Easter Sunday - April 9

Sunday - May 7



The Chosen Bible Study/Discussion Group

begins Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 7 pm.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Fireside Room. This study will include a video shown on the “big screen” in the Sanctuary and then a time of reflection and discussion. Please plan to join us!!!



March 1 - Karen Vaux
March 4 - Barb Shaffer
March 5 - Chuck Vaux
March 5 - Sandy Lopau
March 8 - Benjamin Harstad
March 12 - Lulubeth Stromberg
March 13 - Barb Visker
March 14 - Alyssa Winter
March 20 - Chad Williamson
March 23 - Virgil Bahn
March 24 - Brielle Schulze

March 17 - Al & Michelle Winter



Good Samaritan Society

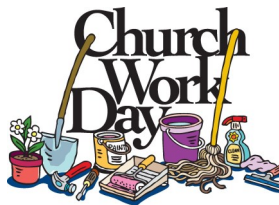
Gretchen Blom

Falls Landing

Violet Werner

Prince of Peace Good Samaritan Society

Beverly Sogn



Church Clean Up night is on Monday - March 6, 2023 - the first Monday of the month.
Please join us! We meet at the Church at 7 p.m.

If you are making a donation for the church cleaning by Progress, please write a separate check to the church and indicate in the memo portion of your check that it is for the cleaning service. If you are giving cash, please place in an envelope and indicate on the outside of the envelope for Church Cleaning. We are having some accounting issues when you include it with your Sunday morning giving. Thank you for your consideration and anticipated assistance.

The Trustees Committee



Change for
CHANGE

You know it makes cents!

During the month of March
Change for Change
will be received for
Senior Citizen Building

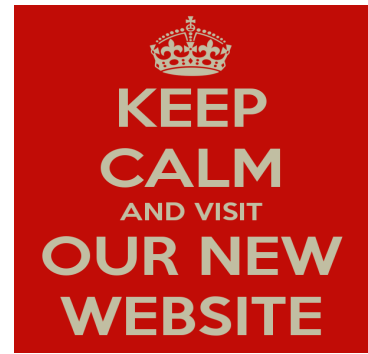
We are missing a Shark vacuum cleaner. Last seen either at the Southeast double doors or in the room in back of the pulpit. If you have any idea of its whereabouts - please contact one of the Trustees.

Thank you for your help!

thank you

The Worship Committee would like to thank those who volunteered to take down the winter décor. Your assistance was very much appreciated.

Peace UMC has
a **WEBSITE!!!**



www.peaceumcpipestone.com

Now there are 3 different ways to give back to your church!

- ◆ *Through the Postal Mail:
PO Box 26, Pipestone MN 56164
- ◆ Auto Giving - set up by Church Treasurer (Sandy Lopau)
- ◆ ONLINE - by clicking on the GIVE tab on our website, you are taken to the page below where you can choose to donate once, or set it up to automatically donate as you wish. Its very simple and very secure!

Peace United Methodist Church

Peace UMC has an Auto Giving Option that allows you to pick an amount you would like to give and how often you would like to give it! Its as easy as filling out this form and providing a voided check!

Talk to Sandy Lopau (Church Treasurer) if you would like to set this up!

Church Calendar of Events March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6 pm J.A.M. at Peace 7 pm Confirmation & Lenten Bible Study	2	3	4
5 10 am Worship 	6 9 am Peace Quilters 7 pm ALL CHURCH CLEAN-UP	7 5:30 pm Ecumenical Prayer Shawl	8 11 am Worship Committee 6 pm J.A.M. at Peace UMC 7 pm Confirmation & Lenten Bible Study	9	10	11
12 10 am Worship	13 7 pm Trustees Meeting	14 5:30 pm Ecumenical Prayer Shawl	15 6 pm J.A.M. at Peace 7 pm Confirmation & Lenten Bible Study	16 2 pm Women of Faith (UMW) Meeting	17	18
19 10 am Worship	20 9 am Peace Quilters 7 pm Leadership Council Meeting	21 5:30 pm Ecumenical Prayer Shawl	22 6 p.m. J.A.M. at 1st Presbyterian 7 pm Confirmation and Lenten Bible Study	23	24	25
26 10 am Worship	27	28 5:30 pm Ecumenical Prayer Shawl	29 6 p.m. J.A.M. at 1st Presbyterian 7 pm Confirmation and Lenten Bible Study	30	31	

2023 Giving Goal

\$139,205

Needed Each Month

\$11,600

Received in January 2023

\$6,113

**Received to - date in
February 2023**

\$5,353.71

Peace United Methodist Church

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WE NEED YOUR HELP

Looking for volunteers to help in the Sound Booth on Sunday mornings.

Help with sound board, power point/slide projection and camera operation for FACEBOOK Live. Training available.

Rick Erks says if he can do it - so can you.

Please contact Rick at 605-413-3431 to let him know you are willing to help.



Be sure to 'like' us on Facebook!!

Stay up-to-date with what's going on at the church. See photos, connect with members and talk with the Pastor!

@peaceUMCpipestone

If you are unable to join us in person on Sunday mornings,
remember to tune in to our Worship Service broadcast via
Facebook Live at 10 am!

<https://www.facebook.com/peaceUMCpipestone/>



PEACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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