

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

What joy and comfort we have in that statement. On this side of Jesus' death on what we call Good Friday, we know that Jesus' death on the cross was not the end of Jesus' ministry – but those gathered in the Upper Room – for them, in their minds, everything had ended. What a blessing for us that we know that Jesus defeated death – that in three days he will rise from the dead – and not only did he pay for our sins, but he also secured our salvation and place in Heaven at the great banquet table of God Almighty. Hallelujah!

It is hard to believe that it is April, that Easter is upon us and Spring has sprung. Both Easter and Spring are all about new beginnings in our lives and in our world. It is such a joyful time of year. The days are getting longer; they are warmer and then nature is busting forth all around us. Trees are budding, someone told me their tulips are starting to come up, someone sent me a picture of their crocuses blooming - all that laid dormant in the winter months now bursting forth with beauty and radiance.

I can only believe that is what that first Easter felt like when the disciples and all those gathered in the Upper Room - learned that Jesus was alive. Even though he told them that he would die and that he would rise from the dead – did they understand that? Could they comprehend that? Could they really be expected to believe that? Did they *now* believe that Jesus was the Messiah? And then imagine what they thought – how they felt – when the risen Jesus appeared right in the midst of them – and the door was securely locked. Once again, on this side of that first Easter morning we get it – but would we have back then? Do we see, acknowledge and believe in the beauty of that day when the Messiah burst forth from the grave? It all seems so unbelievable – but yet - we believe!

So now what? Where do we go from here? Just like the disciples did all those years ago – we ask ourselves that same question. Easter is over – now what? The disciples began to not only proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ the Messiah, but they also began working on themselves, on their lives and their faith, realizing that for the last three (3) years that they followed this man from Nazareth and that they were closer to God than they knew or thought.

That is where we are going to head as well. Following Easter and my return from time away to watch my grandchildren for 10 days while their parents run a marathon in Leuven, Belgium, we are going to begin a series about God being closer to us than we think. We are going to look at strengthening our relationship with God and Jesus. Look at developing a closeness that we can feel, a goodness that we can taste, and a reality that we can all experience for ourselves. That is what God promises in the Bible, so why do we settle for less than that? God is closer than we think and connecting with him isn't just for monks and ascetics. It is for business people, retired folks, farmers, teachers, high school students, busy moms and dads, single men, single women . . . and most importantly – it is for **YOU**.

I invite you to come join in the celebration of Jesus Resurrection on Easter Sunday, April 5, as we come together as a family of faith and celebrate our salvation. And join us for the next series about God being closer than we think and that each of us can enjoy a vibrant, moment-by-moment relationship with our Lord God and Jesus Christ our Savior.

Blessings,

Pastor Velda

Pastor Velda's Schedule for April 2026

April 1 - Easter Singing at Good Sam with PC Ministerial Group
April 2 - Maundy Thursday Service at 7 pm at Peace UMC
April 8 - Worship, Sacrament and Music Meeting at 1:30 pm FPC
Trustees Meeting at 6 pm Peace UMC
Last night of Confirmation
April 12 - Deacons Meeting following worship at FPC
April 13 - Worship Committee Meeting at 11 am Peace UMC
April 14 - PC Ministerial Business Meeting at 8:30 am at Ridgeview
April 16 - Communion at 2 pm at Ridgeview Assisted Living
April 20 - Leadership Council meeting 4:30 pm Peace UMC
April 21 - Human Rights Commission Meeting 6 pm at City Hall
April 27 - Session Meeting at FPC

Monthly Commitments:

Wednesday morning at 8:15 am - Pastoral Prayer Breakfast
First and Third Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am -
Morning Coffee at FPC
Noon - Kiwanis Meeting
First and Third Mondays - Peace Quilters at Peace UMC

A message from Pastor Velda:

I will be on vacation from Monday, April 13 thru Thursday April 23 caring for my grandchildren while their parents are in Belgium. If you have a pastoral emergency please call Pastor Miron Carney from Slayton at **507-227-4834**. On Sunday, April 19 in my absence pulpit supply will be provided as follows:

Bill Britton from Flandreau Indian School will provide message at Peace UMC.

Pastor Carl Gearhart will provide pulpit supply at First Presbyterian

Lenten Season

The celebration of the Lenten season is nearing the end, as we celebrate Easter on Sunday, April 5. Mark your calendars for these upcoming services.

Maundy Thursday

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

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 5
9:00 am service at PUMC (normal church service schedule)

Church Service Time Change to Begin in May.

Every 4 months we will be switching start times with First Presbyterian Church.

Beginning May 3 and continuing through July 31, PUMC will start at 10:30 p.m.



April 2026



Sun

Mon

Tue



Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Birthdays
Anniversaries
Church Events

			1 No JAM or Confirmation Easter Break	2 Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm Worship Service	3	4 Chase Johnson
5 Easter Sunday 9:00 am Worship  Communion	6 9 am Peace Quilters 7:00 Church Clean-up	7 5:30 pm Prayer Shawl	8 Michoen Williamson 6 pm J.A.M. PUMC 7 pm Confirmation PUMC	9	10	11 Nancy Koets
12 Michael Merrill 9:00 am Worship  Communion	13 11 am Worship Committee	14 5:30 pm Prayer Shawl	15 6 pm Trustees 6 pm J.A.M. PUMC No Confirmation	16 10 am UWF Meeting	17 Daniel Harstad	18 Keith Maine
19 9:00 am Worship	20 Barb Sietsema 9 am Peace Quilters 4:30 pm Leadership	21 5:30 pm Prayer Shawl	22 6 pm J.A.M. PUMC End of Year Bash! No Confirmation	23	24	25 Connie Crow Keith Kluis Robert Backer
26 9:00 am Worship	27	28 Joan Walker 5:30 pm Prayer Shawl	29 Chuck Draper Dawson Johnson Jesse Lanie	30		

If you do not see your name(s) listed on the calendar for birthdays and anniversaries, please contact the church office so that we can update our lists with your information!

PEACE UMC HAS A
WEBSITE!

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!**

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

Easter Lily Donations



LeRoy and Elaine Misfeldt in memory of
Frank Terrill and Connie Crane

Clayton and Valerie Klumper in memory of
Our Parents

Rick and Elly Erks in memory of

COMMUNION SUNDAYS

APRIL 5 (EASTER SUNDAY)

APRIL 12

MAY 10

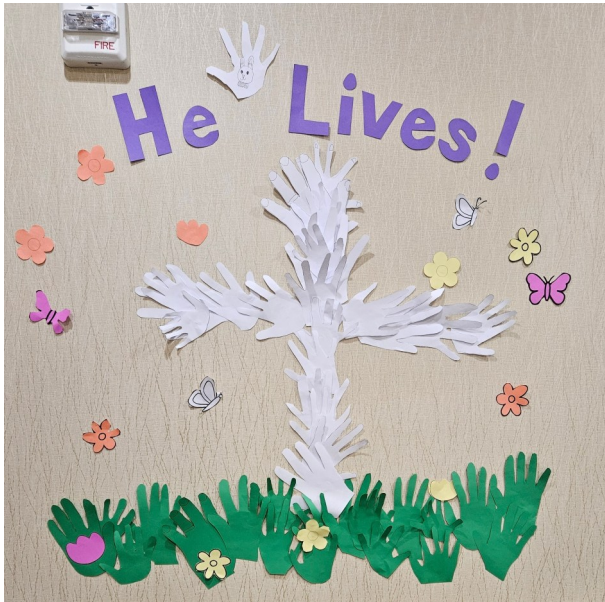
JUNE 14



**UWF meets Thursday,
April 16, at 10 am**



United
Women
in Faith



JAM will be wrapping up their year in April.

Wednesday, April 15th will be the last evening for JAM.

April 22 will be the End of the Year Bash



JAM met at Ridgeview on March 25 for a fun evening of activities including this wall design that residents can enjoy through the Easter season. Kids and residents drew around their hands on construction paper and used the cut-out hands to design a cross and grass.

On Palm Sunday, the JAM kids waved palms and sang two songs at the joint service held at First Presbyterian Church.

Thanks kids for joining in the Palm Sunday excitement.

JAM (Jesus and Me)

meets at 6:00 on Wednesday evenings.

April schedule:

April 1 No JAM— Easter Break

April 8 at PUMC

April 15 at PUMC

April 22, 2026 End of Year Bash at PUMC



Opportunities to Serve



**PEACE
QUILTERS**
Ministry

Peace
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
peaceumcpipestone.com

**PLEASE
JOIN US!**

**WE MEET THE 1ST & 3RD
MONDAY OF EACH MONTH
9 AM - 3 PM, IN THE BASEMENT
FELLOWSHIP HALL. BRING YOUR LUNCH**

Help us make warm quilts and blankets for Sleep Tight Pipestone, Pipestone Kiwanis, Sherriff and Fire Dept. and more. Don't sew? We need cutters, designers, and people to tie quilts and fleece blankets. All are welcome.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

We invite you to join the Ecumenical Prayer Shawl Ministry which meets every Tuesday evening from 5:30-7 p.m. in the Fireside Room. The completed Prayer Shawls are given to members of the community who have received a cancer or chronic illness diagnosis, or lost a loved one. Prayer Shawls are also given out at the Relay for Life Event and to the clients at New Life Treatment Center in Woodstock as they complete their treatment program.

Whether they are called Prayer Shawls, Comfort Shawls, Peace Shawls, or Mantles, etc., the shawl maker begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient. The intentions are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. Upon completion, a final blessing is offered before the shawl is sent on its way. Some recipients have continued the kindness by making a shawl and passing it onto someone in need. Thus, the blessing ripples from person-to-person, with both the giver and receiver feeling the unconditional embrace of a sheltering God!

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.

Thanks so much!



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 fellow 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.



CHURCH CLEANING
WE COULD USE YOUR HELP...

Monday, April 6 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

April Change for Change



CHANGE FOR CHANGE

\$ 556.55

Received March 2026

To benefit
Helping Kids Round First

Minnesota Annual Conference Love Offering

The Love Offering is divided into 4 parts. 3 at 30% each are for world need missions and the last 10% is for Volunteers in Mission Scholarships to assist individuals to engage and travel on mission projects.



2026 Giving Goal

\$125,303

Needed Each Month

\$10,442

Received in March

\$8,557.21

Leadership Council Meeting
March 16, 2026
4:30 pm

Present: Meeting was cancelled as many members were absent.

Pastoral Report: Pastor Velda

During the month of February I engaged in 29 text messages, 37 phone calls, 21 Emails and 2 in-person visits. I also attended UMC LLP Covenant Group Meeting and Presbyterian Mentoring meeting. I met with two (2) families, one in-person and one via telephone to make funeral arrangements. I officiated one funeral. Attended the Pipestone County Ministerial business meeting and participated in 3 PC Prayer Breakfasts and hosted one of them. Wrote and submitted a devotion for the Pipestone County Star. With regards to parish meetings I attended FPC Session Meeting, UMC Worship and Leadership Council Meetings. Lead the FPC Congregational Meeting following Sunday worship service on February 22, 2026. With regards to mission outreach participated in two (2) Ecumenical Prayer Shawl Ministry meetings and two (2) Peace Quilters gatherings. With regards to community meetings, participated at two (2) Kiwanis Meetings at which one of them I provided the program asking Joan and Steve Weets to share and update us on the Senior Citizen Center. Also attended two (2) Human Rights Commission meetings.

Treasurer's Report:

All bills and apportionments are paid to date.
Checking Account

Trustees Report: Mark Wiese

March meeting was cancelled.

UWF Report:

Not meeting in January, February, or March

Worship Committee Report:

4 members present.

Elly opened the meeting with prayer.

- Finalized plans for the breakfast brunch on Sunday. Elly & Val will set up on Saturday at 9:00. Julie will make coffee and help Elly with final set-up that Sunday morning. (Cancelled due to blizzard conditions)
- Maundy Thursday service will be an interactive service here on April 2. Elly will put up black banner on wall & rugged cross with fabric up front.
- The Presbyterians will have a pot luck after the service on Palm Sunday. A sign up sheet will be prepared for the Methodists to contribute.
- Val & Elly will change to Easter décor on Friday, 4-3 at 10:00. 8 lilies for Easter were ordered. We will try to find someone to help put up Easter banners.
- Pastor Velda won't be in the pulpit April 19. Bill Britton from Flandreau Indian School will be speaking. The worship committee will ensure that there is a good selection to serve after church that Sunday.
- The next meeting will be April 13.

Mission Report:

Shared Ministry Council

Peace Foundation Report:

Children's Ministry Report:

SPRC Report:

Lay Leader Report: