



# Newsletter

**MARCH 2022**

**Worship God.**

**Follow Jesus.**

**Serve Others.**

From Pastor Karen Wheat:

These past couple of years have been very stressful and this year doesn't seem to be any better. There's covid, racial tension, war and rumors of war, inflation, governmental unrest, etc. . There have been so many factors contributing to the unrest that one needs a score card to keep track. Sometimes, I think, we get so stressed out that we can see no way out and we don't know where to turn or what to do. The obvious answer is to turn to God, but sometimes we forget the obvious and just try to work things out on our own. Big Mistake. Every time we try to be a do-it-yourselfer, we mess things up even more.

As we enter into Lent this year, lets really try to let God be God and follow God, rather than try to lead God. May our prayer be the prayer of the Psalmist in Psalm 5:8b *"...please lead me in your righteousness. Make your way clear right in front of me."*(CEB) Frankly, all of Psalm 5 is pretty good reading.

If we truly seek God's direction, we will find it. It won't be a big front page headline. It won't even seem obvious unless we are really looking for it. But if we seek, we will find. And when we do, we will know it is of God, because we will experience a peace and well-being.

The future path for any of us is uncertain, but we know God has something great in store for us. He only asks that we, as individuals and as a church, trust him. He is God, after all.

Find assurance in the words of the old hymn, *"I know not what the future holds, but I know who holds the future, it's a secret known only to Him.."*

Shalom,

Pastor Karen

*(The beautiful picture above was taken by Bill Loux on a sunny winter day as he cleared our steps)*

## From Pastor Wade Panse

*"I tell you the truth, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith." Matt 8:10*

Dear Friends In Christ,

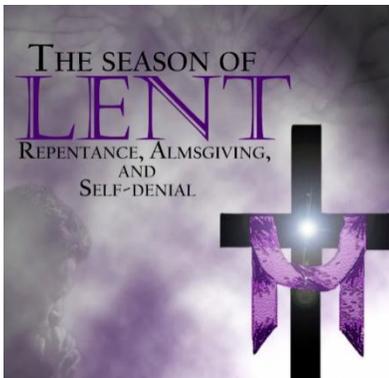
The "great faith" of which Jesus speaks in the gospel of Matthew is in reference to the faith of the Roman centurion. The centurion interceded for his paralyzed and suffering servant and asked Jesus for help. When Jesus responded with "I will go and heal him" the centurion said "you don't need to come to my house, just say the word and my servant will be healed."

We would do well to show the faith of the centurion in our lives and intercession. Just trust in the name and word of Jesus and we will be amazed at what can be done. We don't need a vision, a voice or a visit from Jesus, just the "great faith" of believing and trusting in Jesus.

As we enter into the season of Lent this month, may we grow nearer to Jesus and in our faith and trust in Him.

Blessings,

Wade Panse, Pastor



## **A Call to Observe A Holy Lent**

Lent begins March 2, with Ash Wednesday, and continues until Easter, April 17. It is a special time in the church year wherein we are to take a very close look at our lives, acknowledge our shortcomings, ask for forgiveness, and commit ourselves to a closer walk with Christ. During this season we observe acts of personal self-denial and alms giving. We either 'give up' something or add something to our lives to remind us of Jesus sacrificial love and then we offer alms in thanksgiving for that love.

As a visual reminder of Christ's sacrifice, on the first Sunday of Lent you will receive a **Nail**. You are invited to hold your nail while you do your Lenten Devotions and to reflect on its meaning for you. The sermons for the first four Sundays of Lent will focus on the "Nails" we use in our personal crucifixion of Christ. As acknowledge our role and accept Christ's forgiveness may we be renewed and refreshed as we travel on our journey to a closer relationship with Christ.



## CUMC ASH WEDNESDAY OBSERVANCE

Lent begins on March 2, Ash Wednesday. We will observe this Holy Day with a service of Ashes and Communion at Cassopolis United Methodist Church.

The Service will follow a ***“Come-When-You-Can-Stay-As-Long-As-You-Like”*** Format.

You are invited to come to the small chapel on the lower level of the church ***any time*** between 5PM – 7:00PM to receive ashes and communion.

There will be a liturgy of confession, repentance, and forgiveness that may be read at one’s own pace. Soft music will play in the background, helping us to focus on this time of personal reflection alone with God. All are invited to participate in this solemn beginning to the season of Lent, spending time in reflection and repentance.



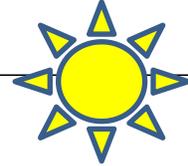
## A Special Place for Special People

**The CLC met February 21 to discuss how to allocate the God dollars we have been collecting for some time. A decision was made to contribute \$2,000.00 to Camp Millhouse in South Bend, Indiana. In 1940 Charles Millhouse donated 11 acres of land with a lodge to provide a camp experience for children with polio. Eighty years later Camp Millhouse provides a camp experience for over 300 campers with special needs annually. The camp has been renovated over the last few years, but the lodge needs to be replaced. They need donations to accomplish this. Cassopolis United Methodist Church is pleased to be part of providing assistance to this local endeavor. Areas such as our scholarship fund, Helping Hands, Cass County Animal Control, and the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference will continue to be supported through our noisy offering and other special giving. We will consider local needs in our community as we continue the mission which has been created with our God dollars. Thank you so much for your generosity.**

**Kelley Nickel/CLC Chair**



Don't forget to Spring your clocks forward on Sunday, March 13. Also, mark your calendars that Spring begins on March 13.



### THANK YOU NOTES RECEIVED

*Hello from Rochester, NY!*

*I hope this postcard finds you well. I would like to say thank you for the scholarship from your church. I sincerely appreciate it! I feel like the luckiest duck in all of the pond because of your generosity and kindness.*

*Have a safe and happy 2022.*

*Best regards,*

*Hannah Brodine Watts (our 2<sup>nd</sup> scholarship recipient)*

*To Whom it May Concern:*

*Thank you for your donation of \$2,000 to the Cassopolis Main Street during 2021. Thank you for your support*

*Benjamin Anderson*

*Main Street President*

*Dear Friends:*

*Thank you so much for the recent donation of \$100. Contributions made to Helping Hands are used to support outreach to our community in Cass County. These services include our food pantry, utility, clothing and transportation assistance. We also support our local low-income seniors and elementary kids through the Sam Adams Backpack program and foster care children.*

*Thank you again,*

*Leigh Goyings, Board Member*

## PRAYER OF ST PATRICK



Christ with me,  
Christ before me,  
Christ behind me,  
Christ in me,  
Christ beneath me,  
Christ above me,  
Christ on my right,  
Christ on my left,  
Christ when I lie down,  
Christ when I sit down,  
Christ when I arise,  
Christ in the heart of every man  
who thinks of me,  
Christ in the mouth of everyone  
who speaks of me,  
Christ in every eye that sees me,  
Christ in every ear that hears me.



# MARCH



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b> <i>Iva Zillmer</i>	<b>2</b> ASH WEDNESDAY service 5 -7 PM	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> Worship 10 AM Communion  <i>Ed Atkinson</i>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Worship 10 AM  	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  Sewing Sowers meet 10 AM	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> Worship 10 AM  Noisy offering - Scholarship Fund  SPRING BEGINS	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  <i>St Paul Lutheran Food Pantry 11:30 - 1</i>
<b>27</b> Worship 10 AM  <i>Mike &amp; Char Hiemstra</i>  	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		

If your special date does not appear on this calendar, please let the office know.