

I have been enjoying watching the Olympics. The games remind me of Hebrews 12 which compares our Christian discipleship to running a race.

We are to run with perseverance. We are not in a sprint. Our lives are a marathon. We cannot just work at following Jesus for a little while and then figure that we are done. We are in the race for the rest of our lives. It is a marathon not a sprint. We need to realize that we have a long race and not give up. Runners are taught to run through the finish line. They do not slow up as they cross the line, but they give their all until they are past the line.

We are also told to get rid of anything that would slow us down. A racer is not going to carry anything with them that would slow them down. Our weight in our discipleship is sin. We can get rid of sin by confessing it and asking for forgiveness. Jesus has paid for our forgiveness. After being forgiven we do not want to add to the weight by adding more sin. We can ask God to help us to resist temptation.

We need to concentrate on our goal. The finish line for us is Jesus. Concentrating on Him gives us the encouragement to keep going. Life can get hard. Jesus faced difficulties in life, but He knew His mission and kept going until he fulfilled it.

May God bless you in your race. Bob

Church Events

- 3/4 Sunday Morning Worship moves back to the Sanctuary
- 3/7 Lenten Lunch (Jollivue)
- 3/11 Daylight Saving Time begins
- 3/11 Soup & Sandwich Lunch and Nursery Dedication after church
- 3/13 West End Alliance (6:30 pm)
- 3/14 Lenten Lunch (Cherryvale)
- 3/20 Echoes (10:30 am)
- 3/21 Prayer Walk (TBD)
- 3/27 United Methodist Men (6 pm)
- 3/29 Holy Thursday Service
- 3/30 Good Friday Cantata (Christ)
- Food Pantry (every Wednesday)
- Choir Practice (every Thursday)

Prayer Requests

Michael Alford Sandy Allen Scott Baugher Louise Bennett Dave Botkin Kelly Botkin Alex Caldwell Mason Campbell Melinda Campbell Phil Carletti Charles Chenault John Clatterbaugh Loretta Cline Carmen Collins Jim Eiland Carol Ergenbright Ray Ergenbright

Jonathan Gillette Jerry Harman Mark Harman Wendy Harman Gene Kane Peggy Knowles Marcella Landram Carrie Lotts Fern Moran Lee Moyer Donna Parady Elizabeth Poe Jack Ramsev John Rexrode George Sanderson Ina Mae Sheets Katherine Sheets

Evelyn Smith
Kevin Sweeney
Shawn Sweeney
Blanche Tutwiler
Ken Wiseman
Haley Wisman
Mary Jane Withers
Tommy Wood
Family of Sammy Cason
Family of Mildred Fauver
Family of Elizabeth Rexrode
also...
Those in the Armed Services
The United Methodist Church

Our Local UM Churches
Our Community
Our Nation

Matthew 21:22

"If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."

Sometimes the answer to our prayers is to become the answer to someone else's prayers

Robert Breault

Lenten/Easter Services

Wednesday Lenten Luncheons - Services begin at noon followed by a light lunch with a suggested donation of \$2.00:

- February 28th St. Paul's Rev. Dave Rochford
- March 7th Jollivue Rev. Chuck Cole
- March 14th Cherryvale Rev. Bryson Smith

March 21st - Prayer Walk - location TBD - led by Rev. Sarah Payne

March 29th - Holy Thursday Service - Marquis Memorial UMC - 6:30 pm

March 30th - Good Friday Cantata - Christ UMC - 7:00 pm

April 1st - "Son" Rise Service - Oak Lawn Garden - Rev. Bob Sharp - begins at sunrise

Echoes

Echoes will resume on Tuesday, March 20th (weather permitting). On the night before Delores passed away, she talked with Nellie and asked Nellie to help keep Echoes going by getting more people to attend. Our numbers have dropped but even when there are only a few we can still enjoy spending time together. We will play bingo (Delores loved bingo) and have some laughs before we enjoy our bag lunch. Please join us at 10:30 a.m. in the social hall. We will say goodbye to winter and hello to spring.

March Birthdays

- 1 Lance Luckey
- 5 Scott Harris
 - Jason Sams
- 6 Polly Guffey
 Debbie Hendricks
- Keaton Sams
- 7 Cathy Johnson
- 9 John Rexrode
- 11 Douglas Sams
- 12 Audrey Baugher
 Susan Rexrode

- 12 Cliff Viel
- 17 Paula Snyder
- 18 Jessica James
- 21 Mary Smith
- 23 Seth Luckey
- 24 Martha Clark
- 25 Terry Rowe
- 26 Dalton Greenlee
- 28 Suzanne Heizer Casey Swats
- 30 Peggy Rohr

In Memoriam

Johnnie Elizabeth Rexrode (April 16, 1921 - January 27, 2018) Faithful Member of Marquis Memorial UMC

Mildred M. Fauver (March 17, 1927 - February 15, 2018) Joined Marquis Memorial UMC on April 11, 1954

Yearning for Spring?

by Michelle Cox Posted in Stories of Hope, January 26, 2018 - Guidepost

With the sidewalks coated with ice and dingy leftover snow piled beside the roads, I am already longing for spring. The department stores have begun putting out their spring stock with cute and colorful clothes for warmer temperatures and bling-decorated flip-flops that look way more stylish than my clunky winter snow boots. Gardening magazines are showing up in the mailbox, tempting me with glorious blooms of the coming season. Vacation destinations have the nerve to start running TV commercials promising white sand and turquoise beaches. All while I'm stuck in not-so-winter-wonderland.

But there's something about a change of season that builds excitement in all of us. As spring nears, I will celebrate the jonquils peeking through soil and welcome home the robins. But those new beginnings don't' just happen with the seasons. They're also part of our faith and our lives. God says it best in His Word:

- ◆ 2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."
- ♦ 2 Isaiah 43:18-19 "Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."
- ◆ Lamentations 3:22-23 "Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness."
- ◆ Revelation 21:5 "Then He who sat on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.' And He said to me, 'Write, for these words are true and faithful.""

I'm so grateful that God doesn't leave us in our old circumstances. I long for the new things He'll bring into my life - the big dreams, tasks, blessings and things that will draw me closer to Him. When they arrive, I'll greet them with the same enthusiasm that meets those first flowers in spring. I hope I will blossom just as beautifully for Him.



Bible Reading Plan

Join us in reading the Bible in the chronological order in which its stories and events occurred.

Thu, Mar 1	Numbers 14-15, Psalm 90
Fri, Mar 2	Numbers 16-17
Sat, Mar 3	Numbers 18-20
Sun, Mar 4	Numbers 21-22
Mon, Mar 5	Numbers 23-25
Tue, Mar 6	Numbers 26-27
Wed, Mar 7	Numbers 28-30
Thu, Mar 8	Numbers 31-32
Fri, Mar 9	Numbers 33-34
Sat, Mar 10	Numbers 35-36
Sun, Mar 11	Deuteronomy 1-2
Mon, Mar 12	Deuteronomy 3-4
Tue, Mar 13	Deuteronomy 5-7
Wed, Mar 14	Deuteronomy 8-10
Thu, Mar 15	Deuteronomy 11-13
Fri, Mar 16	Deuteronomy 14-16
Sat, Mar 17	Deuteronomy 17-20
Sun, Mar 18	Deuteronomy 21-23
Mon, Mar 19	Deuteronomy 24-27
Tue, Mar 20	Deuteronomy 28-29
Wed, Mar 21	Deuteronomy 30-31
Thu, Mar 22	Deuteronomy 32-34, Psalm 9
Fri, Mar 23	Joshua 1-4
Sat, Mar 24	Joshua 5-8
Sun, Mar 25	Joshua 9-11
Mon, Mar 26	Joshua 12-15
Tue, Mar 27	Joshua 16-18
Wed, Mar 28	Joshua 19-21
Thu, Mar 29	Joshua 22-24
Fri, Mar 30	Judges 1-2

Judges 3-5

Sat, Mar 31

Thank you

• Thank you so much for the prayers, cards and acts of love following the passing of Lewis. We also want to thank Pastor Bob for doing the service for us. We are blessed to be part of a wonderful church family.

~ Marion & Lindy Gough

- A sincere thank you to my church family for all of the visits, phone calls, cards, and most importantly prayers during my recent health journey. The healing process for my broken leg has been a challenge and I really appreciate all of the support you have given me. Thank you, Faye McCauley
- Thank you to all who contributed to the Souper Bowl of Caring! We raised \$128.01 for the Food Pantry.
- Sorry this is a little late but wanted you all to know how much we appreciate the thoughts, calls and prayers, especially want Bob Sharp to know how much we appreciate him coming to see us at 5:45 am!!

Thanks, Helen & Gary Swats

 A big thank you to everyone who helped with our snacks on Sunday mornings as well as the lunch following the Lenten service. We appreciate all of your help.

Christian Sympathy

- Our Christian Sympathy is extended to John Herbert and Susan Rexrode following the death of his mother, Elizabeth on January 27th.
- Our Christian Sympathy is extended to Louise Vecellio following the death of her brother, Sammy Cason on February 9th.
- Our Christian Sympathy is extended to Dicky & Marion Fauver, Celeste & Josh Ziegler (Zoey & Avery), Nicole and Preston Fauver following the death of Dicky's mother, Mildred Fauver on February 15th.

Announcements

- Easter Lilies will be \$8.00 each. Please fill out and return the order form on or before March 18th. Contact Caryn with questions.
- Needed: Occasionally there is a need for a place to sit down in the ladies bathroom in the social hall. Maybe someone is feeling ill or a mother needs a comfortable place to nurse her baby. If you have a comfortable chair or rocking chair that you no longer need and would like to donate, please see Lindy Gough or Sammie Sams. Thank you!

Mission Committee

Kits For Conference

The mission committee has the collection for the kits for conference in full swing. Thanks for those who have made donations. Once again we are aiming to make 100 kits! During March we will be collecting:

Combs

- comb needs to be sturdy and at least 8" long
- NO pocket combs or picks
- rattail combs and combs without handles are ok

Metal nail file or nail clippers

• NO emery boards or toe nail clippers

Easter Baskets

The Mission Committee will be collecting items for Easter baskets. We need baskets, wrapped candy, small toys or stuffed animals. We have plenty of grass and eggs. Items can be left on the table in the Arcade.

Food Pantry Needs

Canned Pasta - Spaghetti O's, Ravioli, Spaghetti, etc.

Canned Greens - Spinach, Collard Greens, Mustard Greens, etc.