

MARCH  
2024

# United in Faith News

*Why are we  
Here?  
We are to be  
God's  
hands,  
feet and  
voice  
in the  
world.*



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

Spring is Coming! We are on the journey to Jerusalem. Throughout Lent Jesus has offered glimpses of the future. Sharing old testament prophecy and trying to prepare himself and the disciples for what is to come.

Getting ready can be hard. Even if you know what is coming. Maybe especially if you know what is coming. Peter just couldn't hold it in. He urged Jesus to step aside, to not proclaim this future. I think Jesus had moments of gripping fear too. His rebuke of Peter was harsh and fast. He pushed him away and turned into the coming days. There was much to do, and so little time to do it. When this is true, fully experiencing the journey can be truly hard.

We know where March is leading us. Easter is March 31<sup>st</sup>.

And yet we have an entire month, to reflect, to consider, to tidy our homes. A month to Spring Clean and clear out the winter clutter. A month to get ready.

Our shared transition work this March continues. We gather on Wednesdays for **Soup and Conversation**. We gather on March 10<sup>th</sup> for Lunch and a closer look at the patterns and events over the past 25 years. In between we gather for Worship and intertwine our lives with Jesus' journey to that cross.

This year we will celebrate the fullness of **Holy Week** in the traditional style; walking in real time with Jesus

On March 24<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate **Palm Sunday**. We will enter Jerusalem waving palms and singing Hosannah!

We will gather at 6:30pm on **Maundy Thursday**, share a communal meal and step with Jesus into the garden. In the silence that follows Jesus' arrest we will strip the Sanctuary and Altar together. (Please RSVP on signup sheets outside the Sanctuary or call the office. We know that driving at night is difficult for some of us. Please call the office if this is true for you. We will be planning transportation.

**Good Friday** Observances are at 11AM and 7PM.

You are invited to spend **Holy Saturday** remembering the Bible stories of God's deliverance.

March 31<sup>st</sup>, is **EASTER**. Service is at 10AM. We will celebrate Christ's birth and our Anniversary together.

March is full. There is much to prepare! And how wonderful is that we can do this all together as the Church. God's hands and feet and voice on Irving Park Road!!!

At  
United in Faith,  
The Guiding  
Principles are:

+

Jesus is  
Lord and  
**Savior**

+

Reflect  
God's **Love**

+

Pray and  
**listen** for God's  
guidance

+

Continue to  
strengthen  
**faith**

+

Include **All**  
in God's  
work

+

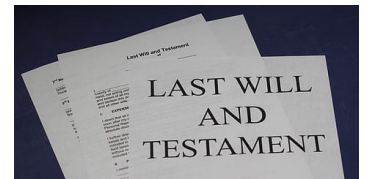
Meet people  
**where they  
are**

## BOOK CLUB...

Brrr, looks like cold weather has settled in! A perfect time to snuggle down in your favorite chair with a hot cup of tea or glass of wine and enjoy a good book. We suggest you join with us in reading our February/March selection, *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver. This Pulitzer Prize winner and Oprah Book Club selection follows the life of a boy born into Appalachian poverty through the perils of foster care, child labor, poor schools and addiction on much the same path as his predecessor David Copperfield but in a present day setting. Have things gotten better or worse or stayed the same for children born into extreme poverty? Come and discuss with us on Saturday, March 16 at 10:00am ( please note the new time).

All are welcome.

## Planning for the Journey' Seminar



Would you like to give yourself and your loved ones a wonderful gift? Find out how by attending this seminar on **Saturday, March 9 at 10:00**. You will find out how you can put your wishes and affairs in order so that at your death your loved ones can carry them out. This will include tasks such as wake, funeral and burial arrangements, disposition of assets both physical and financial, payment of financial obligations. You will also want to designate who will make your health and financial decisions should you become incapacitated before death. Learn about living wills, palliative care and hospice. Also, the importance of documenting how to find what where.

This seminar was originally presented in 2009 and the seminar's updated information is posted on the United in Faith website. You will receive a copy of the documents at the seminar.

Please **RSVP to Jeanne in the office by Monday, March 4** so your copy will be available.

Contact Rich Guzik with any questions about the seminar or website documents.



March 7

March 13

March 15

March 19

March 24

March 25

March 31

Zoe Barsaloux

Harold Hoyem

Julie O'Donnell Lozich

Dian Hoyem

Janeen Devine

Ray Good

Rich Guzik



## Women's History Month

March is Women's History Month. What better time to remember the courageous and brilliant women that have come before us and some that are still with us.



Where to start. Of course, there is Mary. We have learned about her in Sunday School and church. Such an example of faith and at so young an age. There are numerous civil rights icons, one of which was Rosa Parks. Her refusal to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Alabama bus in 1955, helped launch the civil rights movement in the United States.

We have the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment that granted women the right to vote which was ratified in 1920. It was a long fight (started in 1840) and unfortunately many women after that were still unable to vote because of discriminatory state voting laws.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and Susan B. Anthony, were a few of the women we can thank for getting women the right to vote.

In 1972, Title IX became a federal law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities. Not only was it a powerful tool for combating campus violence, it meant schools had to provide equal athletic opportunity, and equal opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) courses and programs. Women who fought for Title IX were Billie Jean King, Edith Louise Starrett Green, and Rep. Patsy Mink, to only name a few.

Did you know that the beautiful actress of Old Hollywood, Hedy Lamarr, was also an inventor? She shared her concept for "frequency hopping" with the U.S. Navy. Today, her innovation helped make possible a wide range of wireless communications technologies, including Wi-Fi, GPS, and Bluetooth. "The Only Woman in the Room" by Marie Benedict, is a book that describes her life before, during, and after World War II.

The theme for 2024 Women's History Month is "Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion". There are so many great women to learn about. Please browse your library or bookstore to find a book or two to learn about women that have affected your life in ways that you may have not given thought to before.

## GIFTING PROPOSAL

Friends, we have been blessed to receive a substantial final gift from Harriet Kurz's estate. As of this writing the process is closing and a final disbursement will be made. Council agreed that a portion of that gift should be tithed and used immediately for God's good work.

Council determined that we should seek insight and suggestions from the whole congregation. A taskforce will form after the February 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting to consider your suggestions. As of now until June 1<sup>st</sup>, we will ask that you be God's eyes in the world—looking for projects, programs, and/or organizations that could benefit from a little boost.

Because our living faith, our Trinitarian God and God's Good News calls us to be in relationship with each and with our neighbors rather than one-time gifts, preference will be given to places where on-going partnerships and relationships might involve United in Faith members and mutual interests.

Jesus calls us to share our gifts, to share ourselves and to share the promise that God has made with us. I am so pleased to announce this opportunity and can't wait to see where God is leading us through this gift.

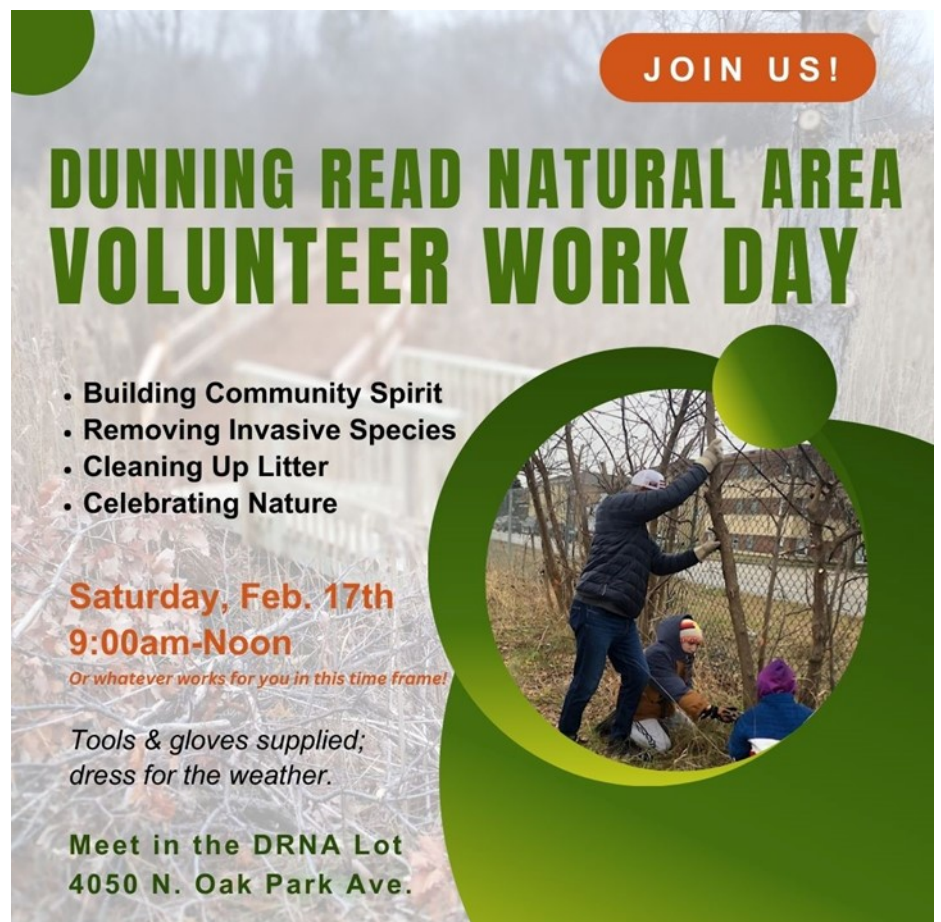
**DUNNING REED**

**NATURAL AREA**

**VOLUNTEER WORK DAY**

March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024

9AM-Noon



**JOIN US!**

# DUNNING READ NATURAL AREA VOLUNTEER WORK DAY

- Building Community Spirit
- Removing Invasive Species
- Cleaning Up Litter
- Celebrating Nature

**Saturday, Feb. 17th**  
**9:00am-Noon**  
*Or whatever works for you in this time frame!*

*Tools & gloves supplied;  
dress for the weather.*

**Meet in the DRNA Lot**  
**4050 N. Oak Park Ave.**





## GIRL SCOUTS AT UIF

Hello! Wow, it feels like spring already, but I bet there will still be some snow for us. We are still selling Girl Scout cookies and will have some on hand for Girl Scout Sunday on March 17th. If you need some before that, give me a call and I will get them to you!

We have several activities coming up, the Leaders are getting their First Aid renewed, we are having a game night for our high school aged girls. We added a new Brownie and Junior to our troops recently. And we are trying to figure out when and where to do our spring camping this year.

The Juniors and Cadettes have been working on their cooking badges and the Brownies have been doing some crafts and computer safety badges.

Hope to see you all on Girl Scout Sunday!

*Janeen*



## WE NEED YOU!

Please sign up to volunteer on Sundays.  
You can be a greeter, usher, Assisting Minister, help with coffee hour  
or any/all of the above.

Sign up sheets are available on the table in the fellowship hall.

## CONGREGATIONAL GATHERING AND POTLUCK

**We need you and your memories!**

On **March 10<sup>th</sup>**, we will gather after church to consider United in Faith's strengths and struggles we have experienced in the past 25 years. **Oh and we will share lunch!!!!**

This is a transition event that will contribute to the work of the Transition Team as they prepare to write the Ministry Site Profile. This is an important step to prepare for the Call committee's work.

This isn't precisely a history event; we will be seeking patterns that have developed that have served you well, and the ones that haven't. Sharing this information together will enable YOU to contribute to the materials that guide the Call Committee as they seek a Pastor to intentionally partner with you. Please join us!

# LENT ideas



Here's a great idea for Lent...join us on Wednesdays during Lent for a soup lunch. We will have soup "and" at 12:15 every Wednesday from now until Holy Week. Join us for a delicious bowl of soup made by Pastor Jeanine. Sounds good, right?



Maundy  
Thursday

Join us on Thursday, March 28 at 11:00 am or 7:00 pm for one of our Maundy Thursday Worship services.

Join us on Friday, March 29 at 11:00 am or 7:00 pm for our Good Friday Worship services.



GOOD FRIDAY



**CHRIST HAS RISEN!  
HE HAS RISEN INDEED!**

Join us for our Easter Worship Service on Sunday, March 31 at 10:00 am.

# well hello, march



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE					<b>1</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>2</b> 9:30am Al-Anon 1:00pm Knitting Group 4:00pm Survivors of Incest
<b>3</b> 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>4</b> 9:00am Food Pantry 1:00pm Ladies Discussion Group	<b>5</b> 10:00am Golden Rebels Bingo 6:00pm Brownies/Daisy 6:45pm Girl Scouts	<b>6</b> <b>12:15 Lenten Soup Lunch</b>	<b>7</b> 10:00am Golden Rebels Bingo	<b>8</b> 6:30pm AA 7:00pm Girl Scout Service Unit 286	<b>9</b> 9:30am Al-Anon 10:00pm Planning for the Journey 1:00pm Knitting Group 4:00pm Survivors of Incest
<b>10</b> 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed 11:00 am Congregational gathering 7 potluck	<b>11</b> 9:00am Food Pantry 1:00pm Ladies Discussion Group	<b>12</b> 10:00am Golden Rebels Bingo 6:00pm Brownies/Daisy 6:45pm Girl Scouts	<b>13</b> <b>12:15 Lenten Soup Lunch</b>	<b>14</b> 10:00am Golden Rebels Bingo	<b>15</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>16</b> 9:30am Al-Anon 9:00am Volunteer at Nature Center 10:00am Book Club 1:00pm Knitting Group 4:00pm Survivors of Incest
<b>17</b> Girl Scout Sunday 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>18</b> 9:00am Food Pantry 1:00pm Ladies Discussion Group	<b>19</b> 10:00am Golden Rebels Bingo 6:00pm Brownies/Daisy 6:45pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Church Council Meeting	<b>20</b> <b>12:15 Lenten Soup Lunch</b>	<b>21</b> 10:00am Golden Rebels Bingo	<b>22</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>23</b> 9:30am Al-Anon 1:00pm Knitting Group 4:00pm Survivors of Incest
<b>24</b> <b>PALM SUNDAY</b> 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>25</b> 9:00am Food Pantry	<b>26</b> 10:00am Golden Rebels Bingo 6:00pm Brownies/Daisy 6:45pm Girl Scouts	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b> 10:00am Golden Rebels Bingo 11:00am Worship Service 6:30pm Communal Meal 7:00pm Worship Service	<b>29</b> <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> 11:00 am Worship Service 6:30pm AA 7:00pm Worship Service	<b>30</b> 9:30am Al-Anon 1:00pm Knitting Group 4:00pm Survivors of Incest
<b>31</b> <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship in person and livestreamed						

# Worship SCHEDULE

## March

<b>March 3 - Lent 3</b>	<b>9:00 am Coffee Hour</b> <b>10:00 am worship in person &amp; online</b>
<b>March 10 - Lent 4</b>	<b>9:00 am Coffee Hour</b> <b>10:00 am worship in person &amp; online</b> <b>11:00 am Congregation gathering &amp; potluck</b>
<b>March 17 - Lent 5</b>	<b>9:00 am Coffee Hour</b> <b>10:00 am worship in person &amp; online</b>
<b>March 24 - Palm Sunday</b>	<b>9:00 am Coffee Hour</b> <b>10:00 am worship in person &amp; online</b>
<b>March 28 - Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>11:00 am Maundy Thursday Service</b> <b>7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service</b>
<b>March 29 - Good Friday</b>	<b>11:00 am Good Friday Service</b> <b>7:00 pm Good Friday Service</b>
<b>March 31 - Easter Sunday</b>	<b>9:00 am Coffee Hour</b> <b>10:00 am worship in person &amp; online</b>

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