



GOWRIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

LIFELINE NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2024

As I sit looking out at the winter landscape, I try to find words to write a brief note, "newsletter worthy" to my church family. I find myself asking, "What is important for such a time as this?" My eyes fell upon a tiny book in my library and I could think of nothing more important than "The Pursuit of God" and so I am offering up to you the first page of chapter one. Now, more than ever, pursue Him.

In Christian love,
Mary Patterson

Following Hard after God

(from the book "The Pursuit of God" by A.W. Tozer)

My soul has followed hard after thee; thy right hand has upheld me.
Psalm 63:8

Christian theology teaches the doctrine of prevenient grace, which briefly stated means this: that before a man can seek God, God must have sought the man.

Before a sinful man can think a right thought of God, there must have been a work of enlightenment done within him; it may be imperfect, but it is a true work nonetheless, and is the secret cause of all desiring and seeking and praying which may follow.

We pursue God because, and only because, He has first put an urge within us that spurs us to the pursuit. *No one can come to me*, said our Lord, *unless the Father who has sent me draws him*, and it is by this very prevenient *drawing* that God takes from us every vestige of credit for the act of coming. The impulse to pursue God originates with God, but the outworking of that impulse is our following hard after Him; and all the time we are pursuing Him we are already in His hand: *Thy right hand has up held me.*

Church Address:

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Office: 515-352-3715

Pastor Susan K. Rohden

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gowrieumcpastor
@wccta.net

Carrie Dalley Secretary

515-352-3715 (office)
gowrieumc@wccta.net

Randy & Rene Corell

Inside Custodians
515-351-4145
515-351-9311

Church Schedule

Tuesday 9 am-3 pm

Wednesday 9 am-5 pm

Thursday 9 am-3 pm

Worship Schedule

Worship starts at
10:15 am; Facebook
live; later on
Channel 575
at 11:00am



SERVE...



United
Women
in Faith

UWF

March 4 @ 1:00 pm



Council

March 3 @ 6:30 pm



"Singing the Favorites" - Choir

March 10

Come Sing with us.

Weekly Serving Opportunities Booklet

Please refer to your Weekly Serving Opportunities Booklet for times and dates that you are scheduled to serve. We have extra in the Church Office if you have misplaced your copy.
Thank you for your service.



PRAY...

Please call in or email your prayer request, changes and updates to the office.

Nursing Home or Care Facilities: *Sunny Knoll in Rockwell City; Ginger Marquis.*

Health Concerns: George Anderson. All those recovering from surgery and from organ transplants. All those fighting cancer.

Grief:

Congregational Prayer Focus: Beacon of Hope

Families of those affected by the Perry School Shooting, and the entire Perry Community

Pray for peace for Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, and all war torn countries.

Pray for Gowrie UMC its ministries, its people, and its Pastor.

Pray for all who have yet to know the saving Grace of Jesus.

GATHER....



Sunday Worship

9:00 am Sunday School/Confirmation

9:45 Coffee and Conversation

10:15 am Worship service

Facebook live, later on Web-Cal channel 575



Bible Study

"Surprised by Hope"

Tuesday afternoons at 1:30 at

Joan Orness's home,

All Welcome!



Facebook Devotional

Thursdays at 9:30 am



Walking Church

Thursdays at 10:00 am



Lent Soup and Service

Wednesdays. Soup Supper at

6:00 PM and Service at 7:00 PM.

Joint/rotating with Zion. Everyone

is Welcome and Encouraged to

Attend. See Page 6 For Schedule.



Holy Week

Maundy Thursday Service

March 28 at 7:00 PM

Good Friday Service

March 29 at 7:00 PM



Easter Sunrise Service

March 31 at 7:30 AM & "Bring

Something to Share" Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall.

Egg Hunt at 9:00 AM

Worship at 10:15

Celebrate...

March Birthdays

Please See Calendar for Birthdays!

*Sorry if we missed your birthday.
Please let the office know.*



Palm Sunday

March 24



Holy Week

Maundy Thursday Service

Good Friday Service

Easter Sunday

March 31



Grace and Peace Be With You,

I have the tendency to draw into myself during Holy seasons of the church year. I become highly aware of my personal relationship with God the Father, his Son Jesus and the Spirit. Through personal prayer, devotions, and study I draw closer in my relationship with God. I am sure many of you find this to be true also. And as God says in Genesis "it is good."



Since the COVID 19 lockdown, I have become more aware of God's call on our lives to be in community and how this impacts our spiritual lives. Within a community we grow, love, give, rejoice, grieve, fellowship and so on. Without a community we become isolated in our faith, faith becomes more personal in nature rather than communal. It may seem strange, but our faith can become too personal and can begin to be shaped by our own thoughts and experiences, rather than by God's Word. The word Christian begins to mean less to the world around us, because our lives no longer reflect the common values found in God's word and may look more and more like the world around us.

When we live in community with other Christians, we challenge one another, we love one another, we lift one another up and we encourage one another to look to the Word. We make disciples of one another (not just children) and we then go forth and make disciples in the world around us through Christ's love in us.

Our personal relationship with God is very important and grows stronger and is through the spirit transformed within faithful participation in a community, the Church. Ephesians 1:22-23 "And [God] put all things under [Jesus] feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all." During this holy season we follow Jesus to the cross and beyond. We do so as individual people but more importantly we do so as a Church body.

We all find this season to be incredibly busy as we add Church experiences into our lives. The Church draws together for Wednesday meals and services, for weekly Sabbath and bible study, for fellowship, and for service. We come together not out of obligation but out of love for God and one another. Through the work of the spirit, we are transformed within the Church as we are in prayer, worship, service and conversation with one another and God. Let us rejoice.

Lord Jesus our Savior, we walk alongside you as you have turned toward Jerusalem and the cross. We walk hand in hand with our brothers and sisters of your Church, we seek your transformation so that we may more fully know you and walk in your way. In your name we pray. Amen

Pastor Susan

March Sunday Services

9:00 am Sunday School/Adult Sunday School

9:45 Coffee and Conversation

10:15 am Sunday Worship and Facebook live, later on Web-Cal Channel 575



Alan & Shirley Wooters

March 3rd & March 10th

Dave & Judi Tjepkes

March 17th, 24th, & 31st

March 3rd

Communion: Jeff & Mary Patterson
Worship Leader: Owen Nuss
Tech: Keith & Dena Sytsma
Music: Colleen Palmer & Jeff Patterson
Altar Display: Pastor Susan
Color Bulletins: Colleen Traster

March 6th

Lenten Service @7:00 PM @ Zion

March 10th

Worship Leader: Marj Johnson
Tech: Gary & Kendale Vosberg
Music: Jeff Patterson
Altar Display: Pastor Susan
Color Bulletins: Paula Wiklander



March 13th

Lenten Service @ 7:00 PM

Tech: Bergen & Carrie Dalley
Music: Jeff Patterson



March 17th

Worship Leader: Chelsey Worrel
Tech: Lincoln Akins & Owen Nuss
Music: Jeff Patterson
Altar Display: Pastor Susan
Color Bulletins: Paula Wiklander

March 20th

Lent Service @7:00 PM @ Zion

March 24th

Worship Leader: Mary Patterson
Tech: Bergen & Carrie Dalley
Music: Jeff Patterson
Altar Display: Pastor Susan
Color Bulletins: Gail McLoud



March 28th

Tech: Bergen & Carrie Dalley

March 29th

Tech: Bergen & Carrie Dalley

March 31st

Worship Leader: Darin Wooters
Tech: Keith & Dena Sytsma
Music: Jeff Patterson
Altar Display: Easter Lilies
Color Bulletins:

Resurrection Sunday



In Case of Inclement Weather



Channels 5 and 8 will be notified should Church be cancelled or Facebook Only.
Service will be on Facebook

Walking Church

Join me (Pastor) for a midweek walk inside the church. Safe from weather. Thursdays at 10:00 AM.

Come Walk with Me!



Sunday, March 10th

The Gowrie UMC Choir will be "Singing the Favorites" during Worship Service.

Please Meet 30 Minutes before worship to Select and Practice Music



YOUR INVITED














Sunday, March 3, 2024 at 9am
(during Sunday School)

Pen Pal Event!



Gowrie United Methodist Church

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 9am Adult Sunday School 9am Sunday School 9:45am Coffee and Conversation 10:15am Sunday Worship	26 Happy Birthday! Vern Bauer Pastor's Sabbath	27 9am Office Open 1:30pm Bible Study	28  Happy Birthday! Jayden Eller 9am Office Open 6pm Lent Supper 7pm Lent Service	29 9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion 10:00 Midweek Walk 4:30pm Bell Choir	1 Pastor's Prep Day	2
3 Happy Birthday! Lily Brandes Marisa Jepsen 9am Sunday School/Last Supper Fellowship with Pen Pals 9:45am Coffee and Conversation 10:15am Sunday Worship	4 Happy Birthday! Kaleb Johnson Pastor's Sabbath	5 9am Office Open 1:30pm Bible Study	6 9am Office Open 6pm Lent Supper 7pm Lent Service 	7 9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion 10:00am Midweek Walk 1pm UWF Meeting 4:30pm Bell Choir 	8 Pastor's Prep Day	9
10 UMCOR Sunday 9am Adult Sunday School 9am Sunday School 9:45am Coffee and Conversation 10:15am Sunday Worship 	11 Happy Birthday! Charlie Dorsey Dean Farnham George Anderson Pastor's Sabbath	12 Happy Birthday! Claire Schneider 9am Office Open 1:30pm Bible Study	13  9am Office Open 6pm Lent Supper 7pm Lent Service Bell Trio Playing 	14 Happy Birthday! Randy Halligan 9am Office Open 10:00am Midweek Walk 9:30am Facebook Devotion 4:30pm Bell Choir	15 Happy Birthday! Bill Barkley Pastor's Prep Day	16
17 9am Adult Sunday School 9am Sunday School 9:45am Coffee and Conversation 10:15am Sunday Worship	18 Happy Birthday! Laci Cottingham Lillie Eller Pastor's Sabbath	19 Happy Birthday! Crystal Wilks Kellen Pennebaker 9am Office Open 1:30pm Bible Study	20  Happy Birthday! Gail McCloud 9am Office Open 6pm Lent Supper 7pm Lent Service	21 9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion 10:00am Midweek Walk 4:30pm Bell Choir	22 Pastor's Prep Day	23 Happy Birthday! Bill Schneider
24  9am Adult Sunday School 9am Sunday School 9:45am Coffee and Conversation 10:15am Sunday Worship Bell Trio Playing 	25 Pastor's Sabbath	26 9am Office Open 1:30pm Bible Study	27 9am Office Open 5pm Bell Choir	28 Happy Birthday! Katie Dorsey 9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion 10:00am Midweek Walk 7pm Maundy Thursday Worship	29 Pastor's Prep Day 7pm Good Friday Worship	30 Happy Birthday! Colleen Traster Dale Brandt
31  Happy Birthday! Jeff Frahm 7:30am Easter Sunrise Services & Breakfast 9am Easter Egg Hunt 9:45am Coffee and Conversation 10:15am Sunday Worship	1 Happy Birthday! Dave Kalous Pastor's Sabbath	2 Happy Birthday! Jake Schneider 9am Office Open 1:30pm Bible Study	3 Happy Birthday! Ethan Tucker Jake Stewart 9am Office Open 5pm Bell Choir	4 9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion 10:00am Midweek Walk 1pm UWF Meeting 	5 Happy Birthday! Bergan Dalley Ed Stewart Pastor's Prep Day	6 Happy Birthday! John Field

March

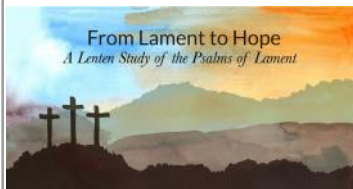


United
Women
in Faith

United Women in Faith
March 7 @ 1:00 pm

Program: Linda Brandes
Server: Barb Tucker

"And whatever you do; whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." Colossians 3:17 (NIV)



From Lament to Hope

Bishop Kennetha invites you to join her for a conference-wide online study that will explore both personal and communal psalms as we focus on events impacting our world and our lives. In

particular, we will pray for peace in the Holy Land, Ukraine, and our own nation. As we move from Lent to Easter, we will see how the psalms can lead us to hope.

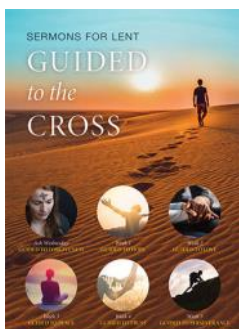
This Lenten study will give us the opportunity to strengthen our relationships with each other and with our worldwide United Methodist connection as we invite special guests to share on the topics we address. We will conclude with an annual conference-wide opportunity to worship together and take action for peace.

Sessions will be held over four Tuesday nights (February 27, March 5, March 12, and March 19) on Zoom beginning at 7:00 pm. Participants will have an opportunity for conversation and prayer in breakout rooms. Please Register at [Iowa Conference: From Lament to Hope: A Lenten Study with Bishop Kennetha of the Psalms of Lament \(iaumc.org\)](https://iaumc.org)



The Season of Lent is a time of self-reflection, of spiritual examination. While that is a healthy and necessary exercise, we don't examine ourselves in isolation. Instead, we are invited to lay our lives alongside the life of Jesus. It is a sobering exercise to say the least. And yet, what we discover in this examination of his life and ours, is not condemnation or recrimination. Instead, we are overwhelmed, the farther we go on this journey with him, by the depths of love he has for all of us. Lent is a time for getting our spiritual house in order, that is true. But above all, it is an invitation to once again commit to love like Christ loves.

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES & Soup Supper



Lent is a season when we are guided to the cross. Throughout this holy time, we are drawn to Calvary to live in **forgiveness, hope, love, peace, trust and perseverance.**

See clipboards to set-up, serve, bring crock of soup, and clean-up.

*Please join
Gowrie UMC and
Zion Lutheran
Church for
Lenten Services*

Wednesdays at 6:00 PM Soup & 7:00 PM Worship Service

- March 6th—at Zion Lutheran
- March 13th -at UMC
- March 20th—at Zion Lutheran

3rd Sunday of Lent

March 3: "I Will Rise it Up"

- Exodus 20:1-17
- John 2:13-22

4th Sunday of Lent

March 10: "Loving the Light"

- Numbers 21:4-9
- John 3:12-21

5th Sunday of Lent

March 17: "Whoever Serves"

- Jeremiah 31:31-34
- John 3:14-21

Beacon of Hope Menu

- March 22 evening meal
- Beef Burger, Baked Beans, Chips, and Fruit
- Welcome Volunteers to Cook and Serve



Council Meeting Minutes

Gowrie UMC administrative council February 8th 2024

Present; John Lizer, Judy Tjepkes, Pastor Susan, Carrie Dalley, Kendale Vosberg, Gary Vosberg. Devotion by Pastor Susan and Gary Vosberg. Opening prayer by John Lizer. Call to order @ 6:48 pm. Meeting minutes by Gary Vosberg

Reviewed and approved January minutes, correction of Pastors learning entry was written [priority # 3, should have been # 1 and 2] motion by Pastor to accept correction and approve minutes as written, second by Judy. Motion carried.

Old Business; mission opportunities for February: Beacon of Hope needs coffee, and paper products for lunch meals, also serving meal on March 22nd.

Ministry Goals; Outreach to community { invite a Friend, no mailings this year}, doing a "Bring Something to Share" for sunrise service. Easter service Nancy plays duet with Carl. Also need sign up for lilies. Small group Walking in church is on Thursday mornings 10:00 am. Short term: Lent study { Bishop, online }.

Organ/piano Duet books that are no longer needed; A motion by Kendale to give books to Colleen Palmer was made, seconded by Judy. Motion carried.

New Business; Audit: Gary will talk to Ryan and Anna Cottington to see if they would do them. Microsoft 11 – up dates on computers needed by October 2025. John Lizer will talk with Carrie about this and report back with board next meeting.

Treasurer report; Deb was gone but left report, board reviewed, motion by Judy to accept treasurer report as written, second by Kendale. Motion approved.

Trustees Report; met on Jan 24th, did walk through with committee, Talked about windows, mold on outside blocks, carpet. Windows are high priority. And getting someone to pressure wash outside walls.

Pastor report; getting ready for Lenten worship, Ash Wednesdays. Next meeting April 3rd 6:30. Motion by Gary for Adjournment at 8:00pm, second by Carrie. Motion carried.

Beacon of Hope



Beacon of Hope Shelter is a Christ-centered faith-based ministry working cooperatively with the community to eliminate homelessness. Beacon of Hope provides a safe and secure emergency shelter to homeless adult men: offering shelter, clothing and food, for temporary assistance to create opportunities and programs in working towards self-sufficiency.

We will be providing a meal for the Beacon of Hope on the evening of March 22. Your generosity is appreciated in providing items to make this meal possible. Please check clipboard in the Narthex for Opportunities to help with this meal. Volunteers to cook and serve will also be appreciated.



GOWRIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1306 MARKET STREET PO BOX 479
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED GOWRIE, IOWA 50543

NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
GOWRIE IA
PERMIT NO. 22

World Day of Prayer

March 1 At Gowrie UMC

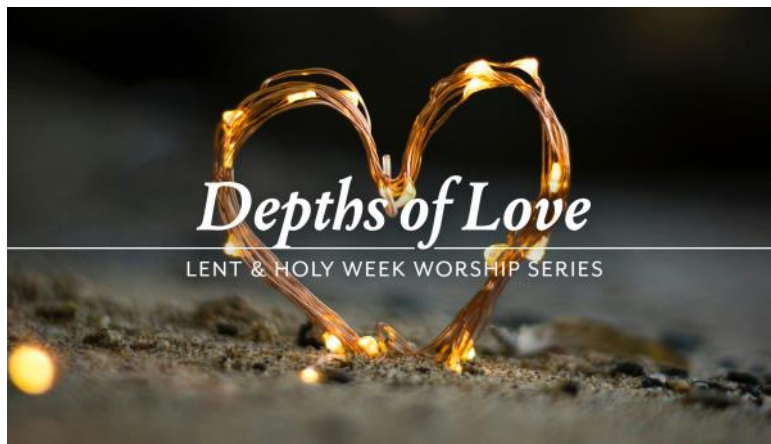
9:30 AM

Invite a Friend!



Coming Together

As the Body of Christ



Holy Week Service Schedule

March 24th Palm Sunday **Palm Sunday Stations in Fellowship Hall** During Sunday School

- Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29 **"Blessed is the One"** Worship Service at 10:15 AM
- Mark 11:1-11

March 25th Monday of Holy Week

Read, Reflect, and Pray

- Isaiah 42:1-9
- John 12:1-11

March 26th Tuesday of Holy Week

Read, Reflect, and Pray

- Isaiah 49:1-7
- John 12:20-36

March 27th Wednesday of Holy Week

Read, Reflect, and Pray

- Isaiah 50:4-9a
- John 13:21-32

March 28th Maudy Thursday

"By This Everyone Will Know"

Service at 7:00 PM

- Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14
- John 13:1-17, 31b-35

March 29th Good Friday

"Hail, King of the Jews"

Service at 7:00 PM

- Isaiah 52:13-53:12
- John 18:1-19:42

March 30th Holy Saturday

Period of Silence and Prayer in Home

- Job 14:1-14 or Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24
- Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16
- 1 Peter 4:1-8

Easter Sunrise Services

- March 31 at 7:30 AM
- Fellowship Hall
- "Bring Something to Share"
Morning Fellowship to follow



March 31 at 9:00 AM



Easter Lilies

There will be a clipboard for providing Easter Lilies this Easter Season. Please sign up with your name, who the Lily is in memory of, and if you would like the church to order the Lily for you. You will be able to pick up your Easter Lily after Worship Service on March 31.

