



OUR CHURCH

The quite contrary story of Mary Magdalene

By Heather Hahn

For full article please go to <https://www.umnews.org/en/news/the-quite-contrary-story-of-mary-magdalene>



PASTOR

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or Website
www.gowrieumc.com

Few other followers of Jesus have been saddled with a more notorious reputation than Mary Magdalene.

Sure, she has fame many of today's celebrities would envy. She's a popular subject for Renaissance painters with pinup good looks. She plays a starring role in just about every Passion play, TV show and movie made about Jesus' life.

But all that stardom has come with a price. She's often portrayed as the former prostitute who is the polar opposite of the Virgin Mary. Or, thanks to the best-selling thriller "The Da Vinci Code," she's seen as Jesus' secret love interest. If she were a celebrity today, she would get salacious headlines on TMZ.

Lost in all the speculation about Mary Magdalene's love life is the biblical record. Never once does Scripture identify her as a harlot, reformed or otherwise.

Instead, the Bible shows Mary Magdalene as an important disciple of Jesus — the one witness to the Crucifixion and Resurrection whose name appears in all four Gospels. All four note her presence at the empty tomb. In three Gospels, she encounters the risen Christ. In the Gospel of John, she is the first person to testify to the good news that Christ has conquered death. (cont.)

SERVE

- **Council** April 8 6:30 PM
- **“Singing the Favorites”** April 19
- **“The Kindness Bucket List” and Random Acts of Kindness** - Intentional Acts of Kindness by all who worship with/at Gowrie UMC.
- **Send kind encouraging notes to other.**
- **Smile.**
- **Breath**

GATHER

- **Sundays Together**

9:00 Sunday School

9:30 Coffee and Conversation

10:15 am Worship Service

Facebook live, later on Web-Cal channel 575

- **Maundy Thurs Worship - GUMC** 4/2, 7pm
Bring a healthy snack to share. We will remember again God’s mandate to love one another.
- **Good Friday Worship - GUMC** 4/3, 7pm
We remember Christ’s suffering and offering for our sins.
- **Resurrection Sunday** - 4/5
See back page for complete details.
Come and worship your risen Savior.

PRAY

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

Care Facilities and Assisted Living: Joan Orness, Colleen Traster and George Anderson.

Health Concerns: Larry Ribblet (Sybil’s Husband), Viney Mulder, Gabe & Jess Olson From Paton-Son Otto who was premature continues to be in the hospital, Carol Orness, DJ (Randy & Viney Mulder’s Son-in-law). All those fighting cancer. All those suffering from chronic pain. All those receiving therapy. All those experiencing family distress.

Grief: Family of Janet Rentschler

Congregational Prayer Focus:

Pray for the Middle East, its government, and its people.

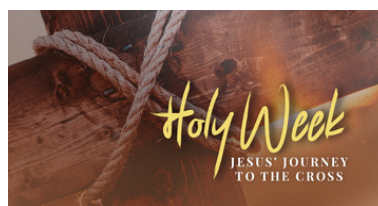
Pray for the people of Africa, esp. Nigeria & Sudan

Pray for People of Ukraine.

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

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

CELEBRATE



Holy Week
March 29-April 4



Resurrection Sunday
April 5



Native American Ministries Sunday
April 19

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS



So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. Colossians 3:1-4

Easter people!

We are the people of a risen Savior! He is risen, He is risen indeed. I find that Resurrection Sunday is this beautiful reset button.

As we live life, it is so easy to lose focus. Our maybe more accurately we shift our focus. We focus on things that need to be accomplished, on our concerns for others around us, on our concerns for ourselves and on meeting our family needs. And because none of these are bad things, we become very comfortable living with the world around us being our primary focus. But... we get tired, we become discouraged, we make mistakes, we sin. Then we realize that our focus has shifted from our Savior. The work of life has become our driving force. Which is exhausting. But Easter reminds us that Jesus has saved us and we do all things for and through him. We have a fresh start!



Pastor Susan

April Worship Series



The season of Easter, or Eastertide, is a time of embracing the hope of Resurrection. We lean into the stories that matter.

Gather around the stories of those who wrestled with the Easter event and some of the words of preparation that Jesus gave to help us live the reality of eternity now. It is clear from these stories that Jesus wanted to equip us to thrive in a season of Easter promise.

April 12
Unless I See
 Psalm 16
 1 Peter 1:3-9
 John 20:19-31



April 19
Astounded Us
 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
 1 Peter 1:17-23
 Luke 24:13-35



April 26
Knowing That Voice
 Psalm 23
 1 Peter 2:19-25
 John 10:1-10



Help me Lord to "...set my mind on things that are from above."



APRIL SUNDAY SERVICES

9:00 am Sunday School
 9:45 am Coffee and Conversation
 10:15 am Sunday Worship and Facebook live,
 later on Web-Cal Channel 575

Nuss Family April 5 & 12
 Adam Family April 19 & 26

April 2 Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm
 Please sign up on clipboard in Narthex,
 Music: Jeff Patterson
 Tech: Bergan & Carrie Dalley

April 3 Good Friday 7:00 pm
 Music: Ardie Shirbroun
 Tech: Bergan & Carrie Dalley

April 5 Resurrection Sunday
 Communion: Crystal Wilks/Carrie Dalley
 Worship Leader: Darin Wooters
 Music: Nancy Vogt & Jeff Patterson
 Tech: Bergan & Carrie Dalley
 Altar Flowers: Easter Lilies
 Bulletins/Online:

April 12 Congregational Hymn Sing
 Worship Leader: Anna Cottington
 Music: Nancy Vogt & Jeff Patterson
 Tech: Keith & Dena Sytsma
 Altar Flowers: Crystal Wilks
 Bulletins/Online: Crystal Wilks



April 19 Choir
 Worship Leader: Eric Adam
 Music: Tom Hlubek & Jeff Patterson
 Tech: Owen Nuss & Glenn Rohden
 Altar Flowers:
 Bulletins/Online: Gail McCloud

April 26
 Worship Leader: Mary Patterson
 Music: Jeff Patterson
 Tech: Bergan & Carrie Dalley
 Altar Flowers:
 Bulletins/Online: Dave & Judi Tjepkes

Extravagant Giving

In March:

- We welcomed the community for Lent worship Mid-week.
- Through your Pastor, we offered support to families in need and Pastor was able to begin again providing support in the High School to our youth.
- You celebrated birthdays and fellowshiped with one another.
- We worshipped our Lord.



All this is possible
 because of your
 Generosity!

You are God's church!

Outgoing Automatic
 Bill Withdrawals
 Per Month
 Approximately \$9000



Automatic Payments and E-payments are a great way to give on your schedule. You can set frequency and date of all gifts to fit your budget.

Help me Lord to "...set my mind on things that are from above."

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>29</p> <p>Palm Sunday</p> <p>9am Sunday School 9:45am Coffee and Conversation 10:15am Sunday Worship</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Colleen Traster Pastor's Sabbath</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Jeff Frahm 9am Office Open</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Dave Kalous 9am Office Open</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Jake Schneider 9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion 1pm UWF Mtg. 7pm Maudy Thursday Worship</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Ethan Tucker Jake Stewart Pastor's Prep Day 7pm Good Friday Worship</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Easter Sunday</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Bergan Dalley Ed Stewart 7:30am Sunrise Service 8:30am Easter Sunrise Bkfst/Egg Hunt 9:45am Coffee and Conversation 10:15am Sunday Worship</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>John Field Pastor's Sabbath</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Joyce Kruse Ron Warrick 9am Office Open</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Bertie Royster 9am Office Open</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Pastor's Prep Day</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Kelsey Pennebaker</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9am Sunday School 9:45am Coffee and Conversation 10:15am Sunday Worship</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Pastor's Sabbath</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Dave McLoud 9am Office Open</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Anna Cottingham 9am Office Open</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Pastor's Prep Day</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Native American Ministries Sunday</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Gary Vosberg Nate Johnson Paul Kail 9am Sunday School 9:45am Coffee and Conversation 10:15am Sunday Worship</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Pastor's Sabbath</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9am Office Open</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Darin Wooters Dave Tjepkes 9am Office Open</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Gage Smith Pastor's Prep Day</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Don Reed Mike Krayenhagen</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9am Sunday School 9:45am Coffee and Conversation 10:15am Sunday Worship</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Dick Hubbard Pastor's Sabbath</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Braeden Johnson 9am Office Open</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9am Office Open</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9am Office Open 9:30am Facebook Devotion</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Pastor's Prep Day</p>	<p>2</p>



You are invited to participate in a year of intentional “random acts of kindness”. Each week during worship, we will scratch off a card from our “The Kindness Bucket List” We are encouraged to share this act of kindness in our daily life that week. May God bless you as you share his love.

WORSHIP LIVE ON FACEBOOK AND ON LATER CHANNEL 575 AT 11:00 AM

Help me Lord to “...set my mind on things that are from above.”

APRIL 2026

make kindness the norm.
 randomactsOfKindness.org

SCIENCE SPARK: SPENDING TIME IN NATURE REDUCES STRESS AND BOOSTS MOOD. PAIRING THAT WITH ACTS OF CARE FOR THE PLANET DOUBLES THE FEEL-GOOD DOPAMINE REWARD.

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS FOUNDATION

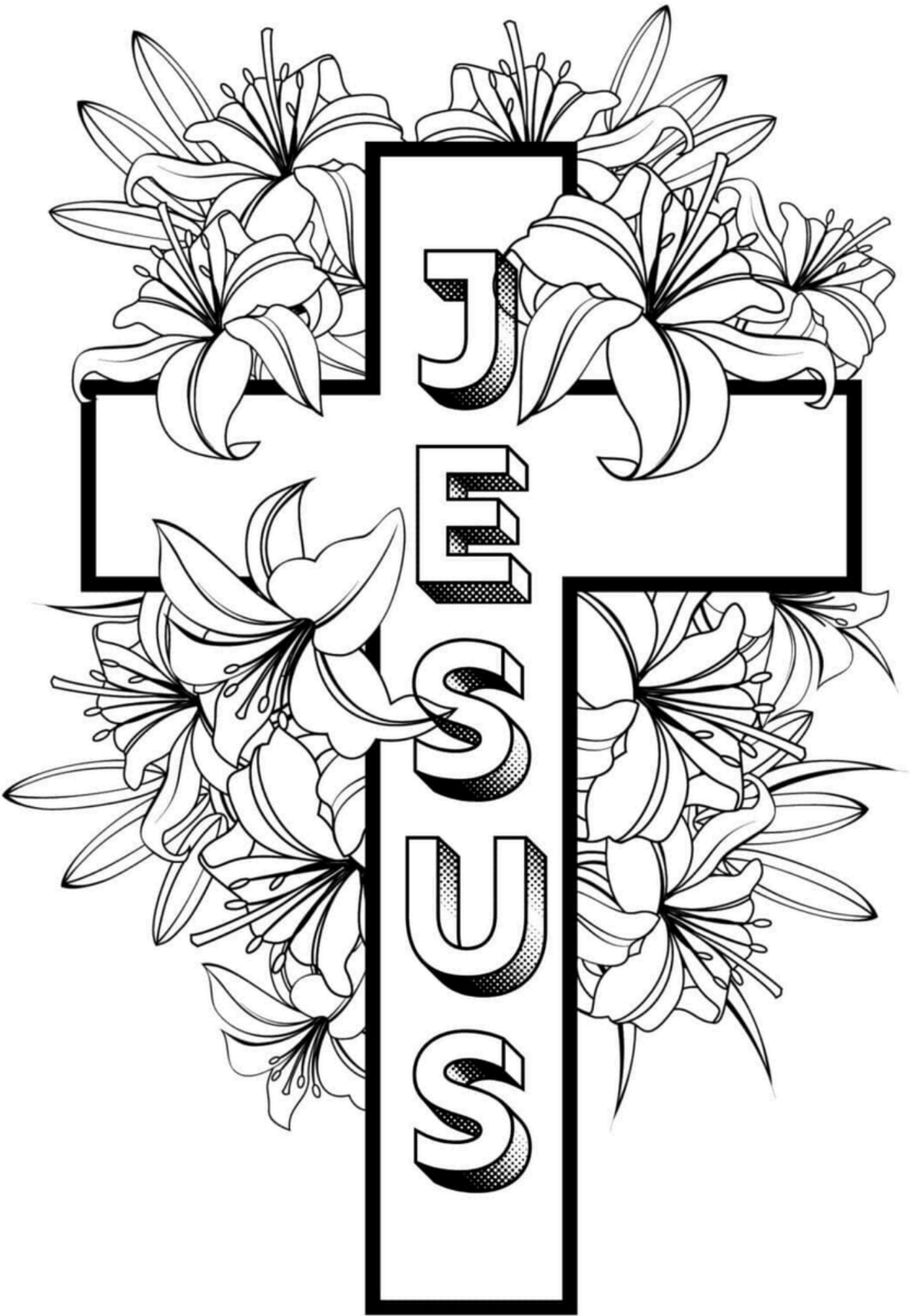
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29 Carry a refillable water bottle and notice how good it feels to help the planet.	30 Lean against a tree — breathe in its calm strength.	31 Pick up trash safely with gloves or tongs. Every piece helps.	1 Grow something green—then give a plant or cutting to a friend or neighbor.	2 Take a walk and notice the beauty around you. Whisper “thank you” to the trees, sky, and air.	3 Skip single-use plastic today—reuse, refill, or go without.	4 Choose a small place—your block, playground, or favorite trail—and keep it clean all month.
5 Gift a reusable bag, bottle, or mug and inspire someone to do the same.	6 Plant a bee and butterfly-friendly flowers. They’ll repay you in beauty.	7 Take five slow breaths outside—let the air remind you to slow down.	8 Identify three things you love about nature.	9 Send a note of appreciation to your local park staff, garbage collector, or recycling crew.	10 Spend one minute in sunlight.	11 Learn what happens when food scraps turn back into soil—and try composting!
12 Take a shorter shower or turn off the tap while brushing—every drop counts.	13 Give a plant, seed packet, or herb cutting labeled “Grow Kindness.”	14 Watch the sunset or stars—no phones, just wonder.	15 Create art inspired by the outdoors—then gift or display it to spread appreciation.	16 Donate clothes, books, or toys instead of tossing them out.	17 Skip the car for one trip today—move your body, lighten your footprint.	18 Tell someone their green habit (like using a bike or bottle) inspires you.
19 Pack or prepare a meal that leaves no trash behind.	20 Offer to help a neighbor, elder, or school garden grow.	21 Snap a photo in nature and share one Earth Kindness you practiced.	22 Leave water for birds, sugar water for bees, or build a bug hotel.	23 Replace one disposable thing (napkins, wipes, straws) with a reusable version.	24 Make or find a playlist of nature sounds—rain, waves, birdsong—and share it.	25 With friends or family, each share one thing you love about the planet.

MARCH

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

MAY

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6





United Women in Faith

2026: Mapping Our Way Forward

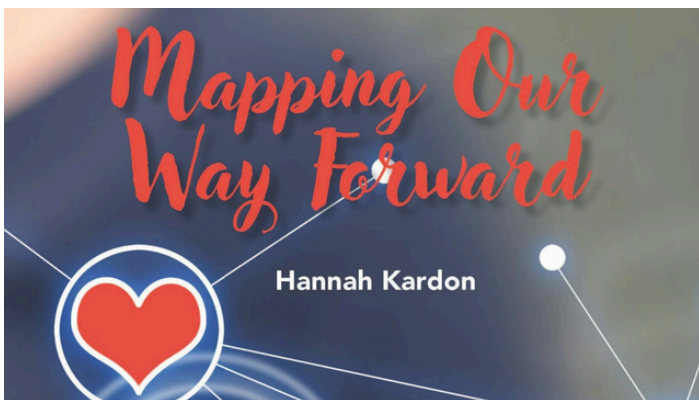
April 2 1:00 pm

April 28 10:00 am Prep For Sale

April 30 7:30 am May Basket Sale

Program : May Baskets

John 12:26 (NIV) "Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.:"



Easter Sunrise Service

"Whom do you seek?"

A sunrise communion service"

Sunday, April 5 7:30 am

Pastry Pot-Luck Breakfast

Following Easter Sunrise Service we will have a light Pot-Luck Breakfast. Bring a breakfast dish to share.

After breakfast there will be an Easter Egg Hunt!



May Basket Sale

Thursday, April 30

7:30 am to 11:00 am

Gowrie UMC Fellowship Hall

Contact Rita Kail at 515-351-9854 to Order Ahead



Let Us Rejoice!!!

Easter Lilies for Easter.

Thank you for bringing in Easter Lilies to share with us this Easter Season. Please pick up your Lilies after Worship on April 5.

Memorials

Crystal Wilks in memory of loved ones.

Dave & Judi Tjepkes in memory of Bradley Michael Tjepkes

Glenn & Pastor Susan in memory of Florence Wildeboer



**Gowrie United Methodist Church
Administrative Council Minutes
March 10 6:30 pm**

In attendance: Pastor Susan, Judy Tjepkes, Jane Frahm, Rita Kial, Jeremy Viles, Gary Vosberg.

Loving: Pastor Susan, opened with prayer and a Devotion.

Meeting minutes: Jan- Kendale V, Feb- Pastor Susan, March – Gary V. Time Keeper Judy T. Jeremy called the meeting to order.

Review and approve, February meeting minutes; a motion was made and a second to approve minutes, motion approved.

Old business:

- Reviewed yearly goals
- Discussion on finances: we received 7,570 for February. A motion to not publish offerings on face book was made, it was second, motion carried. *(Carrie did add after the mtg. that she has not been publishing the offerings on facebook for several months.)*
- Discussed fundraiser possibilities. Linda White mission sale June 12-13. We plan on offering a lunch in the fellowship hall June 12 over lunch. Chicken dinner on the 4th will be held. Other venders sell meals that day so our numbers have changed recent years. We offer a comfortable A.C. place for people to relax. It is a day when we offer hospitality to the community. This is our current focus with the 4th of July meal. Any extra food is used to give to those in need at Beacon of Hope. This is an important ministry of our church. Jeremy Viles will check with Lidderdale and Gary will begin to seek volunteers.
- There are Leadership positions open: Volunteers from the congregation and recommendations for these positions are very welcome.
 - Council Chair – filled by Jeremy Viles,
 - Finance Chair – OPEN,
 - Worship Chair – OPEN,
 - Missions Chair- OPEN,
 - Treasurer – Filled by Carrie,
 - Finance Secretary - Filled By Jane F and Tjepkes,
 - At Large Member – filled By – Alex Adam,
 - At Large member – OPEN

New Business:

- A motion to allow Jeremy Viles and Carrie Dalley to be on checking accounts/money market accounts and other accounts they need to be on *(acct numbers will be added in the final minutes for the bank)*, motion was second, motion carried.

Work Area Reports:

- Trustees reported fixing fans in sanctuary, lights in fellowship hall,
- Judi also reported on World day of Prayer about Nigeria. 38 attended
- UWF reported that mayday baskets will be made again.

Next meeting will be April 8th 6:30

Written by Gary Vosberg



Gowrie United Methodist Church
1306 Market Street, PO Box 479
Gowrie, IA 50543

Office Schedule

Tuesday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Thursday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Worship Schedule

Sunday School 9:00 am
Coffee and Conversation 9:45 am
Worship 10:15 am
Facebook Live
Later on Channel 575 at 11:00 am



March 29, 10:15am Palm Sunday

Presentation of Palms!
Holy Week begins with a journey—or rather, picks up in the middle of a journey to Jerusalem.



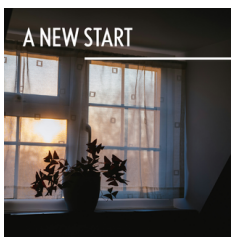
April 2, 7:00pm Maundy Thursday

Bring a healthy snack to share.
We come together to hear once again the mandate to love one another as Christ has loved us...not so we can be busy, but so that we can be active agents of love in the world.



April 3, 7:00pm Good Friday

We put ourselves in the disciples mindset who had no way of knowing what would come a few days later. We take in the whole story; not just the events, but the experience.



April 5, Resurrection Sunday

A new start for all of us who journey together in grace as those who seek Christ, for it is the good news that binds us together and empowers us to continue on the path set before us.

Holy Week and Easter

Come experience the story of Christ.
You are invited.

Resurrection Sunday Encounters with Christ
Through worship, fellowship and the joy of childhood.

7:30am - Sunrise Service
8:30am Potluck breakfast
9:00am Easter Egg Hunt
10:15 am - Worship

He has risen, He has risen Indeed!

