



# *The Seward United Methodist* **Faith—FULL Times**

## **Lent 2018** **5 To Thrive**

This series started on February 18th with the promise of Presence, February 25th with the promise of Prayers, and will continue with these promises on these dates:



### **Annual Easter Celebration**

**Palm Sunday**  
**9:30 am**

All children age preschool - 4th grade are invited to meet in the tiled room in the basement for opening music followed by the making of Jesus biscuits and the story of Easter. 5th - 7th graders will hide eggs for an egg hunt. Bring a bag or basket to collect your eggs. Following the egg hunt, all will enjoy freshly baked Jesus biscuits in their classrooms.



**March 4      Witness**  
Isaiah 55:10-13  
Acts 1:1-11



**March 11      Service**  
James 2:14-17



**March 18      Gifts**  
Matthew 6:19-21



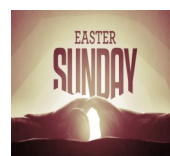
**March 25      Palm Sunday**  
Children's Palm Parade at both services.



**March 28, 29      Living Last Supper**  
See Leonardo da Vinci's portrait come to life.  
7:00 pm each evening



**March 30      Good Friday Service**  
7:00 pm



**April 1      Easter Sunday**  
**Celebrate the Resurrection**  
8:15 am and 10:30 am

## **robert's reflection**

I betrayed him once  
in order to seem clever  
speaking to the crowd  
poked fun at what he had  
worked hard to make credible  
I was only kidding  
but it hurt him  
today is his funeral  
I will go and remember  
our relationship  
was never the same after  
as if a little bit of  
God died  
at my hand  
oh holy week  
times  
fifty two

~robert



## **Intentional Caring Unit Coordinators Key to Congregational Goals in 2018**

The Ad Council and Church Conference have set Congregational Care as our primary goal for 2018. We do a great job with our Faith Community Nurses, Visitation Ministry, and Card Ministry, which could be seen as three legs of our congregational care ministry stool. The fourth leg of the stool, Intentional Caring Units, complements the ministries in place.

Did you know that 87% of people who join a church join because they were invited by a member to come to church? Also 83% of people who leave a church do so because a significant life event happened to their family and no one knew or responded so they just quit attending and no one noticed. In order to be more consistent in our care for all members the church is looking to equip persons who might consider being Care Coordinators for a group of 10-12 family units.

**Come hear more details and have a chance to develop Care Coordinator skills two times this month...March 13 at 7 p.m. or March 17 at 10:30 a.m.**

These events allow people to hear more about this important ministry that will improve our care to the whole congregation. Attending an event does not commit one to being a care coordinator, but rather allows you to prayerfully consider if you might serve in the future. We will try to have at least two more opportunities to help persons consider this important position of care coordinators. Gifts and skills needed are a willingness to interact with people, a compassionate heart, an attention to detail and record-keeping skill for the caring unit.

We look forward to you coming and exploring the opportunity to serve in this important ministry for the whole congregation. Let's make 2018 the year we deepen our care for one another.





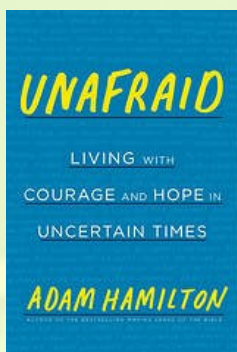
## **Lenten Spiritual Disciplines... Prayers and Bible Study**

Each Monday night, during Lent, the Sanctuary will be open and available from 6:30-8:30p.m. for times of prayer. Please stop by and spend time in prayer for our church family, our schools, our community, our children, and our ministries.

Mondays at 7p.m. we will meet in the parlor for continued Lenten Bible Study with Rev. Redding, via live feed online. His study is excellent and thought provoking.

Our new Prayer Exchange board will be available for you to add your prayers of joy, concern, etc. on the little papers. If you place the INK OUT we will know that others may take your paper and join you in prayer for whatever you have written. If you place the INK IN we will know that this prayer is just between you and God. Prayer Warriors are needed and Lent is a great time to begin praying together as a church family.

## **Unafraid.... New series...**



**"For anyone struggling with fear, worry, or anxiety, or who wonders how families and communities can live as peacemakers in troubled times, *Unafraid* offers an informed and inspiring message full of practical solutions." We will be using this series/book as a basis for worship in the weeks following Easter.**

**Join us as Easter People who are unafraid!**

## ***Notes from Jo Ellen...***

### ***Church Family Life...***

I have been thinking about all the reasons Lent is special to me and that this time of year means so much. It is a time to reflect on our Christian walk and make needed adjustments which include the adding of some things and the deleting of some things.

I have added some spiritual disciplines this year which have allowed me more time with God and taken away some of the distractions by deleting some things as well. As we approach Easter we are called to consider how Jesus affects us personally, in a real and meaningful way.

It is my hope that as you travel the Lenten journey, like me, you will find ways to grow both in faith and in your search for closeness with God. It is my prayer, that as people of faith, others will see what Jesus means to us not only at Lent, but every single day.

Join us at SUMC for the journey as often as you are able... what a great family to thrive with!

## SUMC...On the Move

(A component of the Faith Community Nursing Program)

*Build* it, and they will come! *Offer* it, and they will participate! The YMCA organization *built* the Fallbrook Y. On Sunday, February 11, SUMC *offered* a family-friendly block of time, and WOW, did they come! A total of 59 people, 38 adults and 21 children, participated in swimming, basketball, yoga, use of machines, weight lifting, and healthy snacks. To all who shared in the fun and fellowship, thank you. To those who hope this event will be repeated, it will.J

The church is now in the season of Lent. Traditional Lenten practices involve fasting and denial, but can also include appropriate additions. As we are “On the Move,” consider healthy eating habits, increased activity, and longer devotional times. Spiritual and physical health are dependent upon each other.

### Dates to keep in mind:

Sunday, 3/4 & 3/11	Leave your February activity log in <b>the shoebox</b>
Sunday, 3/11	“Spring forward” ... walk faster, run longer ...!
Monday, 3/12	Drawing for the winning February “movers”
Tuesday, 3/20	Spring officially arrives ... spend extra time outdoors!
Sunday, 3/25	Wave those palms ... really exercise your arms!
Sunday, 4/1	Celebrate Easter ... do some bunny hops!

**If you haven't enrolled in SUMC... On the Move:** Please know that you can register at any time. The registration forms and activity logs are on the information table in the hallway. Registrations can be left in **the shoebox**! J All ages are welcome. Remember to take a red water bottle from the shelf.

Keep “activity logs” and sip from the shiny red, stainless steel water bottles as an “advertisement” for this program. *Please remember to turn in your monthly logs for the monthly prize drawings. We love to give things away!*

**January Winners:** Jeri Bierbower, Laura Shriver, Ander Axthelm

As we continue to **move forward**, please direct questions or comments to

Lynette: 402-641-8177

Jack: 402-641-3485

[Lynette.Broderick@connectseward.org](mailto:Lynette.Broderick@connectseward.org)

[Jack.Broderick@connectseward.org](mailto:Jack.Broderick@connectseward.org)



# SUMC...On the Move

## YMCA Fallbrook Family Day





**FoodNet Request  
for March**

Spaghetti and  
Spaghetti sauce

**Blue Valley  
Community Action**

Soap & shampoo

Friends,

As many of you know, the Conference office where Nancy works will be moving to Topeka, KS soon. We recently signed a contract for a house in Topeka and will take possession March 28.

We have enjoyed Seward, and especially the United Methodist Church here. As your former pastor I appreciate the many ways you have blessed Nancy and me. We are also grateful for being able to be a part of the church even after my retirement.

Even though we will no longer be in Seward I will continue to cherish the memories of the work we have done together, the joys and laughter we have shared, and the friendships we have developed. You will continue to be in my prayers as I hope Seward UMC will continue to be a place where the light of Christ shines in the community and surrounding area.

Our new address will be 2500 SW Staffordshire Rd, Topeka, KS 66614.

Blessings,  
Dale and Nancy Lambert

From the family of  
Marian Fosler—

Thank you for your overwhelming support, prayers, and memorials. Special thanks to Pastor Henre and Jo Ellen for their visits and heart warming messages, Martie Guthrie for the precious keepsake hearts, Cindy Butzke for making the children's sermon so special and the United Methodist Women (Linda Eberspacher and Sue Imig chairs) and their team for orchestrating the meal after the service. What an amazing church family we have and how blessed we are—thank you all.



**Freshman/Sophomore  
Godparent Group**

We continue to collect items to use in creating bags of need for persons who are homeless. We thank you for your continued support of this mission project!

Service schedules will no longer be mailed separately. Please check newsletter to see if you are scheduled to serve.

# March Service Schedule

March 2018	03/04/2018	03/11/2018	03/18/2018	03/25/2018	03/30/2018
	Communion; Bells	Daylight Sav. Begins; God's Squad	Chancel Choir	Palm Sunday	Good Friday (7pm)
<b>8:15 Service</b>					
Welcome Center	Jeannie Jeary	Kay Schroeder	<b>Matt Hastings</b>	<b>Jack Broderick</b>	Linda Swanson
Greeter - East	EV Walsh	<b>Virginia Fraser</b>	<b>Dave Purdham</b>	<b>Cameron Soester</b>	Jed Rojewski-also usher
Greeter - West	Susan Walsh	Virginia Jeary	<b>Liz Purdham</b>	<b>Melissa Soester</b>	Judy Rojewski-also usher
Usher 1	Leonard Sitzman	Rosie Westerhoff	<b>JB Ketner</b>	<b>Larry Chapman</b>	Marvin Bauman
Usher 2	Rose Sitzman	Carole Briggs	<b>Carla Ketner</b>	<b>Christina Chapman</b>	Louise Bauman
Usher 3	Alan Boon	Steve Eberspacher	<b>Clay Shepherd</b>	<b>Jack Fuller</b>	
Usher 4	Cliff Lowell	Linda Eberspacher	<b>Linda Shepherd</b>	<b>Angie Fuller</b>	
Liturgist	<b>Margaret Brock</b>	Jeanne Gee	<b>Lindsay Hastings</b>	<b>Lynette Broderick</b>	
Acolyte 1	Addilyn Snugden	Kyle Riley	Jena Eberspacher	Braden Soester	
Acolyte 2	Avery Rodocker	Kayson Salyer	Jackie Eberspacher	Zach Parra	
Communion Server	Rose Sitzman				
Communion Server	EV Walsh				
Communion Server	Susan Walsh				
<b>10:30 Service</b>					
Welcome Center	Carla Schwahn	Alyssa Josoff	<b>JoEllen Axthelm</b>	<b>Lori Acree</b>	
Greeter - East	Gordon Wiegardt	Roy Josoff	<b>Rod Barth</b>	<b>Brad Perdue</b>	
Greeter - West	Jolene Wiegardt	Leanne Josoff	<b>Paulette Barth</b>	<b>Jill Perdue</b>	
Usher 1	Don McKibbin	Randy Halder	<b>Gred Zabka</b>	<b>Cris Slack</b>	
Usher 2	LaQuita McKibbin	Lori Shriner	<b>Dixie Zabka</b>	<b>JaLena Slack</b>	
Usher 3	Vern Yelden	Gary Sain	<b>Jerry Meyer</b>	<b>Patrick Checketts</b>	
Usher 4	Karen Yelden	Daina Sain	<b>Mary Meyer</b>	<b>Tammie Ferris</b>	
Acolyte 1	Kylee Josoff	Cooper Hill	Connor Matzke	Lawson Luebbe	
Acolyte 2	Brynlie Robbins	Austin Schroeder	Brecken Matzke	Layne Luebbe	
Communion Server	<b>Cindy Butzke</b>				
Communion Server	Don McKibbin				
Communion Server	LaQuita McKibbin				
Money Counters	<b>Darrin &amp; Karen</b>	<b>Jay &amp; Randy</b>	<b>Carole &amp; Maynard</b>	<b>Lynette &amp; Karen</b>	<b>Karen-TBD</b>

**\*\*Please be responsible for finding a substitute if you are unable to work as scheduled. Notify the church office of any changes. THANK YOU for volunteering!**



## UMW Events:

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Wednesday, March 7  | 1:30 pm <b>Unit Meeting</b> in Parlor<br>"Legacy / Inheritance" - Virginia Fraser<br>Hostesses: Kay Schroeder & Jeannie Jeary |
| Friday, March 16    | 7:00 pm <b>Evening Group</b><br>A Night at the SHS Musical - "HONK"<br>Contact: Jeannie Jeary                                 |
| Sunday, March 18    | 4:00 – 7:00 pm "Released & Restored"<br>Program / UMW SOUP SUPPER   |
| Wednesday, March 21 | 12 NOON <b>Lenten Lunch</b> at SUMC<br><br>5:00 – 6:30 pm <b>Reading Group</b><br>Maxine Moore's Home                         |
| Thursday, March 22  | 6:00 pm <b>Creative Hands Ministry</b>  |
| Saturday, March 24  | 8:30 am <b>Sewing Saturday</b><br>Fellowship Hall – Brown Bag Lunch   |
| Wednesday, March 28 | 3:45 pm <b>Leadership Team Meeting</b>  |

**Rescheduled Sewing Saturday**  
**8:30 AM**  
**Fellowship Hall**

**March 3rd (rescheduled from  
February 24th due to weather.)**



For 149 years United Methodist women members around the globe have been turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world. March 23rd is a DAY OF GIVING by all UMW members. Seward UMC has been contributing toward the 2019 endowment goal of \$60 million..

UMW's March 23 Day of Giving honors the day in 1869 when a small group of women braved a legendary torrential rain to gather at Tremont Methodist Episcopal Church in Boston, Massachusetts, to organized for mission. The women established the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, a predecessor of United Methodist Women, and galvanized women around the country to raise money to send Clara Swain, a doctor, and Isabella Thoburn, a teacher, to India as missionaries to serve the women of that nation.

[www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund)



We know Nebraska prisons have many problems.  
**This prison ministry gives hope and solutions.**



**Ruth Karlsson, Executive Director**  
**Sunday, March 18th**  
**4:00 pm Presentation**  
**UMW Soup Supper served afterwards**



**Released and Restored is Advance Special #713 of the Great Plains UMC Annual Conference**



***UMW Spotlight on Released and Restored Prison Ministry***

***Ruth Karlsson presents "AFTER PRISON - THEN WHAT?"***

***Sunday, March 18 4:00 -7:00 pm***

***Presentation followed by UMW Soup Supper***

♦ **4:00 pm Fellowship Hall Presentation and Q&A**

An excellent opportunity to learn about this effective NE prison ministry that prepares women and men for their productive and successful return to society after their release from prison or jail.

- ♦ **Ruth Karlsson** is a Licensed Local Pastor appointed to Extension Ministry with *Released and Restored*, offering restoration and healing to victims, offenders and the community.

- ♦ **UMW Soup Supper** with Free Will Offering donated to *Released and Restored*.

- ♦ ***Released and Restored*** is UMC Advance Special #713 of the Nebraska Annual Conference, and your donation through the Conference is considered mission giving.

[www.releasedandrestored.org](http://www.releasedandrestored.org)



**If childcare is needed, contact church office by Wednesday, March 14th.**

## **Music News**



### **Nebraska Wesleyan Jazz Choir**

**Coming in March**

**~Watch for upcoming  
details~**

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**Paul Zeller  
Piano Concert**

**Doctoral Candidate with  
UNL**

**Music by Beethoven,  
Schumann, and  
Scriabin.**

**Sunday, March 25th,  
3:00 pm at SUMC**

**Take advantage of this  
treasure of talent coming to  
our hometown and church~**

**Save the date and  
see you there!**



## ***EASTER LILIES***

The Worship Committee is encouraging you again this year to share your beautiful Easter lily plants with us to help decorate the sanctuary for Easter Sunday. An insert will be placed in the Easter Sunday bulletin to recognize who the lily is remembering or honoring.

Please deliver your plant to the church Parlor on **Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> by 2:00 pm**. We are unable to accept plants prior to that Saturday.

If you wish to bring a plant, please complete a form by Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>. Forms will be in the church office, and will help to communicate the information you wish to go in the church bulletin.

## **Committee Meetings**

Nurture Committee — UMYF  
Mon. Mar. 5th, 6:00 pm  
Witness Committee — Parlor  
Wed. Mar. 7th, 5:30 pm  
Finance Meeting—Youth Room  
Thur. Mar. 15th, 7:00 pm  
Trustees Meeting—Youth Room  
Tues. Mar. 20th, 7:00 pm  
Mission & Outreach—Parlor  
Tues. Mar. 20th, 7:00 pm  
SPPRC—Youth Room  
Tues. Mar. 27th, 7:00 pm  
UMW Leadership—Parlor



# UMCOR SUNDAY

March 11, 2018

UMCOR Sunday offerings cover UMCOR administrative costs. All other UMCOR offering requests are applied 100% to the disaster need.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is the humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church (UMC), a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization operated under the auspices of the General Board of Global Ministries.

Under its original name, The Methodist Committee on Overseas Relief (MCOR) was founded in 1940 by the Bishop Herbert Welch, in response to displaced and vulnerable populations in the wake of World War II. In his address at the General Conference that year, Bishop Welch stated that MCOR would serve as a “voice of conscience among Methodists to act in the relief of human suffering without distinction of race, color, or creed.” This mandate remains true to this day. The organization’s name was legally changed to The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) at the 1972 General Conference.

UMCOR’s Vision and Mission are as follows:

**Vision:** As the humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church, UMCOR strengthens and transforms people and communities.

**Mission:** Compelled by Christ to be a voice of conscience on behalf of the people called Methodist, UMCOR works globally to alleviate human suffering and advance hope and healing.

UMCOR’s work can be categorized into three major areas:

- 1) Humanitarian Relief / Disaster Response
- 2) Sustainable Development
- 3) Global Health (in collaboration with Global Ministries)



## March Issue

Label

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Please check newsletter to see if you are scheduled to serve.*

Seward United Methodist Church  
1400 North 5th Street  
Seward, Nebraska 68434



Non-Profit Org.  
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ADDRESS SERVICE RE-  
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Church Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. M-F Phone: 402-643-4156

Fax: 402-643-4159 Email: [umcseward@gmail.com](mailto:umcseward@gmail.com)

Website: [www.sewardumc.org](http://www.sewardumc.org) Facebook: [www.facebook.com/sewardunitedmethodist](http://www.facebook.com/sewardunitedmethodist)

Robert Henre, Pastor Email: [rhenre@greatplainsumc.org](mailto:rhenre@greatplainsumc.org) Cell Phone : (402) 803-9216

Pastoral Appointments can be made by texting or calling Pastor Robert

Jo Ellen Axthelm, Ministry Assistant—[joellenaxthelm@gmail.com](mailto:joellenaxthelm@gmail.com)

Every Member, Minister

BBCDC: 402-643-2141



### UMW Local Church Activities

Chair persons for **March** are:

Beth Hentzen  
402-643-2076



Terri Siebert  
402-641-9496

**~ April ~ Newsletter DEADLINE ~ Tuesday, March 20th**

Submit News by NOON Email articles to [umcseward@gmail.com](mailto:umcseward@gmail.com)