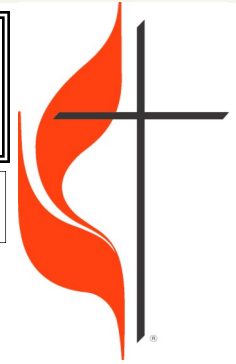


OSCEOLA FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Your Church at a Glance

March 2015

Upcoming Calendar



Sun. Mar. 15—8:45 am—
Coffee in Gathering Place
9:00 am—Worship
10:05am—Sun School
Mon. Mar 16—4 pm 4th &
5th SS class visits RVH
7 pm— Administrative Bd
Wed. Mar 18—8:30 am—
Beth Moore study
11:45 Lenten Luncheon
here
6 pm—Membership vows
study
7 pm—Praise Band
rehearsal

Thurs—Mar 19—7 pm—Women's
Bible Study
Fri—Mar 20—9:30 am—Mission
meal leaves for York Mission
4 pm—Confirmation class &
mentors leave for retreat
Sun - Mar 22—8:45 am—Coffee in
Gathering Place
9 am—Worship service
10:05 am—Sunday School
4 pm— Pastor Mike leads chapel
service at Good Samaritan

**Remainder of calendar
found on page 2**

Prayers of the

Confirmation Students

Dear God, Help me in school. Thank you for everything. God bless everyone. Amen

Lord, please help and look over the people suffering from the harsh storms in the northeast and help settle the terrorist attacks worldwide. Amen

Dear God, Thank you for everything. Please watch over us this week and keep us safe. Amen

Dear Lord, I pray for all those people that are sick and in need of your care and healing touch. I pray also for those that have lost their loved ones that you will take care of them and help them find peace within. I pray for those less fortunate than myself and pray for those that are homeless with no place to go. I pray that you will watch over my family and I and keep us safe and healthy now and in the days to come. In your name we pray. Amen

Dear Lord, thank you for all the blessings in my life, please watch over my friends and family, and of all people spread the word of God. These are my prayers and thanks be to God. Amen

Loving God, Please help us to have the courage to follow our dreams. I ask you to sharpen our senses so that we can feel the pain of others. Please God help us realize how important we all are in this big world. I pray for strength & guidance in all our daily tasks, that we may serve you better day by day. In God's name we pray. Amen

Dear Lord, Thank you for the many people you have put in my life, both good & bad. Thank you for my family, my parents, my siblings, & everyone else. Thank you for my amazing friends. I also thank you for the people who have hurt me only making work harder & become stronger. I pray that you give me hope when I feel hopeless, strength when I am weak. Make me brave when I am scared. Give me joy when I am down. I pray for those who are down and going through hardship. I pray for those who are happy hoping it will last. Amen

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This & That

Interested in going on a mission trip? See Pastor Mike.

Lenten Luncheons have been well attended

Recent funeral services for Leonard Davidson, Don Conkling and Patricia Thayer. Our continued prayers for the families.

March calendar continued

Wed. Mar. 25—8:30 am—Beth Moore study
11:45 am—Lenten Luncheon @ Swede Home Calvary Lutheran
6 pm—Membership Vows study
7 pm—Praise Band rehearsal
Sun. March 29—PALM SUNDAY CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
8:45 am—Coffee in Gathering Place
9 am Worship & Confirmation
10 am—Reception in Fellowship Room for confirmands
10:30 am—Sunday School classes
Mon Mar 30—4 pm—4th & 5th SS class visits RidgeView Heights
Thurs. Apr 2—6:30 pm—Seder Supper in Fellowship Hall

Fri. April 3—7 pm—Good Friday service at the Shelby United Methodist Church
Sun. April 5—EASTER SUNDAY
6:30 am—Sunrise service at the Osceola Cemetery followed by breakfast at the church
9 am—EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE



March 29th will also be Confirmation Sunday for our youth who have been preparing since last August to affirm their belief in God and to take the vows of membership into the United Methodist Church. There will a reception for the confirmands following the worship service.

Seder Supper

This year on Maundy Thursday, April 2, this congregation will have the opportunity to experience a seder meal. Come and learn what the various foods of a Passover meal represent. There is a sign-up sheet on the back bulletin board for those who are planning to attend. Thank you!



Service will be at the Shelby United Methodist Church at 7:00 o'clock p.m. April 3rd



Easter SONrise Service
Celebrate the RISEN LORD at 6:30 a.m.
Eastern edge of the Osceola Cemetery
Breakfast following at the church



He Has Risen He Has Risen Indeed! 9 o'clock Worship Service Easter Sunday April 5th



If you want to share an Easter lily for Easter Sunday, that would be very much appreciated. You may take the lily home with you after the service.

A BIG THANK YOU

When you see Mert & Lonna Flodman give them a big thank you. In recent weeks they took apart 20-25 of the church's folding chairs and replaced the seats with new plywood and coverings. The chairs look like new! Thank you Mert & Lonna!!

Sarah Hotchkiss and her husband Adam live next door to the parsonage. Sarah is the music teacher (vocal and instrumental) for the Osceola Public Schools. Adam is employed by Walgreen's. Sarah has a deep passion for missions and is dedicated to feeding hungry people close to home. She is providing a great opportunity for us to fill this need with her. Please read the following article that she has written and then jump on board with her. In addition to using a part of Carolyn Sipes' garden space, Matt Gustafson and Doug Rathjen have also offered space for the community church garden. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for volunteers.



CHURCH GARDEN

BY SARAH HOTCHKISS

Last summer we started a church garden. It was the first year the church members sought to help end hunger in our county. As with all new ventures, there was growth and learning with that first year.

Looking ahead to this summer, the phrase that keeps coming to mind is more. We need to feed more people, help more ministries by donating food, grow a more diverse crop, and have more community members know and understand what is happening in our own backyard.

With spring right around the corner, garden planning is underway, and yes, seeds are being started under grow lights for the garden. This year to extend the growing season, we are going to utilize Mini Hoop Tunnels. Several vegetables are very cold hardy such as kale, swiss chard, lettuce, carrots, radishes, and beets. With the use of the Mini Hoop Tunnels, we can start the garden season a month earlier and end the season 4—6 weeks later than without them. This will help us to meet the goals of growing a more diverse crop, and by adding about two months, being able to feed a lot more people by adding an extra harvest of cool season crops!

The structure of the Mini Hoop Tunnels can be made simply out of 1/2-inch PVC pipes for the supports slip over 1-foot of rebar that have been hammered into the ground. Clear 6-Mil polyethylene sheeting is used to cover them.

There are several things you can do to support this mission of feeding the hungry in our communities. Several church members have already come forward to donate parts of their gardens to expand the garden this year! With the donation of garden space, the more workers we can have the better! Working with the garden can include several things such as weeding, watering, harvesting, being a representative for the garden at the Farmers Market, delivering the produce to different missions/ministries around the area, and planting. If you are very handy, the mini hoop tunnels need to be set up as soon as we can pound the rebar into the ground. Supplies for seed starting and the mini hoop tunnels are also needed. There is a list of needed supplies at the church office.

If you know of anyone in need of food or a ministry which would use and need food, please let the office know. Currently, Living Water Mission in York and Good Samaritan in Osceola have been contacted, and are excited to receive the produce!