

# the Messenger

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | WOOD RIVER FIRST UNITED METHODIST |  
ALDA UNITED METHODIST | APRIL 2018

## Rachel Circle News

by Bonnie Schurer

On a bright and sunny day, March 1, 2018, Rachel Circle met for their first meeting of the new year. Sylvia McTavish called the meeting to order with seven members and one guest present. We were happy to have Sylvia's daughter Christine Rindone from Lincoln visit us. Catherine Miller read the opening by Rev Billy Graham. She also took roll call. We answered by reading a bible verse. Catherine read the

minutes of our December meeting. Prayer concerns and joys were given, followed with a prayer by Mary Ann Apfel. Sharon Skeen gave the lesson on St. Paul. She read his biography, He Was The Apostle of God. The meeting was adjourned. Lunch was served by Sylvia McTavish, then she accompanied us on the piano when we sang, Thank You Lord For Your Blessings.

## Thank You

A BIG THANK YOU goes out to our church family for supporting the MYF Community Service Project. A donation of \$300 was presented to the Wood River Food Pantry.



## Church Events

- Apr 1 Easter—Sunrise Service
- Apr 2 Ruth Circle
- Apr 5 Rachel Circle
- Apr 7 Mission Study
- Apr 14 UMW District Meeting
- Apr 15 Confirmation Sunday
- Apr 18 Salad Supper
- Apr 21 Alda Spring Clean Up
- Apr 24 Blood Mobile

~~SAVE THE DATE!~~  
May 12 - 10am  
Taylor Willoughby's Bridal Shower at the church

# MYF News

## **DONUT DUTY**

We need families to sign-up for donut duty in April and May. If you can host a Sunday or two, contact Christy Burnett or Jenny Reeder.

## **UMW SALAD SUPPER STYLE SHOW**

Do you have a winter ball or prom dress that you would like to show off? On Wednesday, April 18, the United Methodist Women invite you to model your dress for the salad supper. The event is held at Babel's Barn. Models should be there by 6:30. Bring as many friends as you can!

## **Servers**

United Methodist Women have asked for your help! We need all available youth to serve at the salad supper. Servers should be there by 5:30 pm.

**\*\*There will be pizza before and salads after for models and servers.**

## **SENIOR RECOGNITION**

Sunday, May 6, 9:30 a.m.

Your church family invites you to celebrate your High School graduation. You will be recognized during church service with a picture slide show and a Hamburger feed to follow. Bring your family and enjoy the celebration! Photos- We would like to have 6-8 pictures for the slide show, including a baby and Senior picture. You can email them to [office@woodriverumc.org](mailto:office@woodriverumc.org) or drop them off at the church office. These pictures must be received **by Friday, April 13th**. Please RSVP your attendance to the church office by this same date. [308-583-2512](tel:308-583-2512)

## **CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!!!**

(Please contact us if we overlooked any Seniors!)

Kiley Codner, Dillion DeVore, Audie Earnest, Alexis Jepson, Bailey Landanger, Cade Ludwig, Taryn Mayfield, Alec Ogden, Isaac Ogden, Alex Wiese

# Without Jesus...

*submitted by Linda Sample*

Without the risen Savior in our hearts, life is like:

- A chocolate Easter Bunny—empty on the inside
- An Easter bonnet—easily blown off kilter;
- Last year's Easter outfit—it doesn't fit quite right;
- An Easter lily—it soon withers and dries up;
- A bag of jellybeans—sugary and sweet but lacking substance;
- An unfound Easter basket—full of gifts that spoil and go to waste;
- A colored Easter egg—looks great but cracks under pressure;
- The Easter bunny—always hopping here and there;
- Marshmallow Peeps—becomes hard when opened up;
- An Easter parade—a long journey with no destination;
- An unopened Easter card—a message of love unclaimed.

~written by David Patterson

## Winter Coat Drive

Jocelyn Rauert is starting a winter coat drive to help . If you have or know of someone who has a winter coat that they've outgrown or no longer need, please bring it to the church and place in the collection box.

## Save the Date

On Saturday, May 12 at 10am, there will be a bridal shower for Taylor Willoughby at the church.

# Pastor's Pen

*In the bulb there is a flower, in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.* (Brett Piper, Hymn of Promise, UMH, #707).

The calendar says spring, but the days feel more like winter. Sometimes life's difficulties and heartbreaks are like that first blast of cold air that stuns and sends us whirling like the leaves falling from the trees in the fall. Then those difficulties seem to turn into a cold and lonely winter that appears like it will never end. Although the season of winter may seem to drag on forever. We know the season will sooner or later turn into spring. When all hope is gone, we begin to see the signs of spring: a warm sunny day, robins prancing in the yard, and, daffodils and tulips beginning to burst forth from the ground. Signs of new beginning. Signs of hope. It is in the spring we see new life. If you are still experiencing a long winter in your life and are losing hope, begin to look for signs of spring that are beginning to burst forth. Maybe it will be a bright sunny day to cheer the clouds away, or a letter, or phone call from a friend. Maybe it is a new opportunity, but it is too scary or overwhelming to take a new step. Begin to look for the spring. Begin praying, asking understanding of how God might be using this dark and cold winter to draw you closer to him, so that you can experience the light, love and hope that comes through Jesus Christ. So you can begin to experience spring. As the last verse states:

*In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity; in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity. In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.* (Brett Piper, UMH, #707)

The darkness of Good Friday, the suffering and death of Jesus on the cross, is a reminder that life is difficult and sometimes unbearable. The disciples thought all was lost and there was no hope when the one they thought was the Messiah was crucified and laid in a tomb. They lost hope. Saturday had to of been filled with confusion and tears. The disciples clung to one another in fear and disbelief of all that happened. All but one of the disciples hung through that long torturous Saturday. The good news is the third day came. On that third day the disciples experienced hope renewed, doubt destroyed and victory won through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. If you are experiencing a cold and bitter winter in your life, know that Jesus knows your sufferings and is there for you. And know there will be a third day, it might be 3 days, 3 weeks, 3 years, but do not lose hope because the third day will come. There is a resurrection! There is new life now! ***There is a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*** Know that God sees and is with you.

If you are experiencing the joy of spring reach out to others and be a sign that Jesus Christ is at work and Jesus does love everyone. Bring the Good News of life, love and hope through Jesus Christ. Be the spring in someone else's winter. Share the resurrection power of Jesus. Share how you have experienced the "third day." Be a witness to God's resurrection power.

Grace and peace ~ Pastor Trudy

# April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> 7:10 Sunrise Service 9:30 WR Worship 11:00 Alda Worship  <i>Brenda Paulk</i>	<b>2</b> 8:30-12:00 Pastor Trudy in Office  <i>Pastor Trudy Hanke June Watson</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 9:30 Bible Study 4:00 Confirmation  <i>Cathy Doane Elizabeth Price Jeff Heater Jim Thompson Ken Saner</i>	<b>5</b> 7:00 Alda Solutions Group	<b>6</b> Pastor Trudy's Sabbath 10:00 Alda Healthy Living Meeting  <i>Marvin Rickert Matt DeVore</i>	<b>7</b> 10:00-3:00 UMW Mission Study  <i>Jo Saner</i>
<b>8</b> 9:30 WR Worship 10:30 WR Sunday School 10:00 Alda Sunday School 11:00 Alda Worship	<b>9</b> 8:30-12:00 Pastor Trudy in Office  <i>Greg &amp; Christy Burnett (1994)</i>	<b>10</b>  <i>Jane Allan</i>	<b>11</b> 9:30 Bible Study 4:00 Confirmation 7:00 Ad Council	<b>12</b> 7:00 Alda Solutions Group  <i>Laramie Frear</i>	<b>13</b> Pastor Trudy's Sabbath 10:00 Alda Healthy Living Meeting	<b>14</b> UMW District Meeting
<b>15</b> <b>CONFIRMATION</b> 9:30 WR Worship 10:30 WR Sunday School 10:00 Alda Sunday School 11:00 Alda Worship	<b>16</b> 8:30-12:00 Pastor Trudy in Office 7:00 Set up tables for the Salad Supper, Babel's Barn  <i>Marian Hensley Mary Lothrop Jerry &amp; Mary Lothrop (1997)</i>	<b>17</b>  <i>Adalyn Miller Jeffrey Hanke</i>	<b>18</b> 9:30 Bible Study 5:00-8:00 Women's Salad Supper  <i>Dave Brown Barb McCoun Jennifer Codner</i>	<b>19</b> NO SEWING CIRCLE 7:00 Alda Solutions Group  <i>Bob Wiles Sonia Rodriguez</i>	<b>20</b> Pastor Trudy's Sabbath 10:00 Alda Healthy Living Meeting  <i>Beau Rohrich Bob McIntosh</i>	<b>21</b> 9:00 Alda Spring Clean Up  <i>Janelle Landanger</i>
<b>22</b> 9:30 WR Worship 10:30 WR Sunday School 10:00 Alda Sunday School 11:00 Alda Worship  <i>Jennifer Bonsack Kelsey Brown</i>	<b>23</b> 8:30-12:00 Pastor Trudy in Office  <i>Peg Krause</i>	<b>24</b> 12:00-6:00 Blood Mobile  <i>Josh Riley</i>	<b>25</b> 9:30 Bible Study	<b>26</b> NO UMW MEETING 7:00 Alda Solutions Group	<b>27</b> Pastor Trudy's Sabbath 10:00 Alda Healthy Living Meeting  <i>Dave &amp; Jennifer Reeder (1996) Jocelyn Brown Janet Miles</i>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:30 WR Worship 10:30 WR Sunday School 10:00 Alda Sunday School 11:00 Alda Worship  <i>Vicki Weber Rhonda Denman</i>	<b>30</b> 8:30-12:00 Pastor Trudy in Office  <i>James Thompson, Jr</i>					

# PARISH NURSE

by Mary Bilslend

Spring is officially here even if it doesn't feel like it. Here are 10 tips to prepare for the season.

1. Garden. Gardening burns 250-350 calories per hour. It is recommended to garden 3 times a week for an hour. Rotate the tasks every 20 minutes so all major muscle groups get exercised and avoid overstraining one group.

2. Sign up the kids for swim lessons. Drowning is the largest cause of death in children. Formal lessons are not recommended for children under 4 years old. Also, do not leave children unsupervised near water at any time.

3. Start thinking of allergy season. Get your medication supply available. Zyrtec and Claritin are now over the counter. You may need a Dr. to get a prescription if the over the counter medications are ineffective.

4. Clean that makeup drawer. Makeup outdates and gets germs etc. Therefore, clean out the old and outdated decreasing the risk of eye infections or bacterial outbreaks.

5. Consider becoming an early bird. Statistics prove that early risers are healthier. Get out in the sun and get that Vitamin D. This also helps with depression's symptoms.

6. Get dirty. Let kids get dirty also. Exposure to common bacteria is good for you. These help produce vitamins and proteins that help our immune and gastrointestinal system well.

7. Think Global. Eat local. Access fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers and eggs. Get the most vitamins and nutrients that your food has to give.

8. Take a walk. This is good to do over your lunch hour if you get one. It allows you to smell the flowers and also get some moderate exercise.

9. Trade those flip flops for foot friendly kicks. While convenient, flip flops cause susceptibility to stubbed toes, rolled or sprained ankles, blisters, arch pain and stress fractures. If you want your toes out, check out sandals with more support and a heel strap.

10. Change pillows. After five years, up to 10% of the pillow weight is made up of allergy or asthma provoking bacteria, pollen, fungi, mold and dust mites. Get your new pillow and cover with a protective cover sealing out allergies and wash the pillow case weekly with hot water. Change at least every 3-5 years.

Have a great spring. Enjoy the great days and know that the less liked days also have a purpose in God's plan.

## UMW NEWS

by Linda Thompson

United Methodist Women met on Thurs evening, March 22. President Mary Bilslend led the business meeting. There were 9 members and Pastor Trudy present.

- A theme for the 2019 Salad Supper was discussed, after several suggestions, "Unexpected Laughter" will be the 2019 theme.
- On Sat. April 7 from 10-3, Renae Graham will present a Mission Study about the Missions of United Methodist Women in United States. Please come and enjoy the program! We'll provide lunch.
- United Methodist Women Spring Retreat will be on Sat, April 11 in Central City. Cost is \$8 and members will carpool. Gift in kinds will go to Della Lamb Community Services.
- Salad Supper is Wed, April 18 at Babel's Barn with doors open at 5:00 pm. Ladies of our church will be reminded to please furnish a salad that will serve 12 for this event.
- Susie gave the Prayer Calendar, joys and concerns were shared and Mary lifted them in prayer.
- Renae Graham presented the Prayer and Self Denial program. Lunch was served by Susie Powell.
- There will be No Sewing Circle or Methodist Women in April due to the Salad Supper!
- Methodist Women will meet in May at 7:00pm. Renae Graham will give the lesson and Mary Bilslend will hostess.

## Ruth Circle News

by Susie Powell

Ruth Circle met March 5 with six members present. Susie Powell opened the meeting with devotions. Marian Hensley presented the prayer calendar and our joys and concerns were lifted up. Renae Graham gave the lesson titled "Story of Lent." Jan Carter served lunch. Our next meeting will be Monday, April 2 at 7:30 PM.

## UMW PRAIRIE RIVERS DISTRICT SPRING MEETING

Saturday, April 14 is the UMW Prairie Rivers district spring meeting in Central City. Registrations of \$8.00 are due by April 7. Contact Susie Powell if you would like to attend.

**We are collecting In Kind Donations for Della Lamb for the spring meeting. Please add your donation items to the basket found in our fellowship hall. Items needed are:**

~ BATH SOAP ~ DEODERANT ~ TOOTHPASTE ~

~ TOILET PAPER ~ LAUNDRY SOAP ~ DISH SOAP ~

Della Lamb Community Services is one of our Great Plains Conference National Mission Institutions. Located in Kansas City, Della Lamb was founded in 1897 as a Methodist Mission to provide child care for poor, working mothers. Today, they provide low-income families with early education, child care, youth services, adult services, adult education, transportation, emergency social services, international refugee services, Elementary Charter school education, back-to-school supplies, Thanksgiving groceries, Christmas groceries and gifts.

## Heads Up !!

On Monday, April 16 at 7:00 help is needed setting up tables and chairs at the Barn for the Salad Supper!

On Wednesday, April 18 at 8:00pm we need help putting the tables and chairs away!!

Thank you ahead of time!!

## SPECIAL NOTE

Sewing Circle scheduled for April 19 is cancelled so we can rest up from the Salad Supper on April 18. Looking forward to having a successful event!



For the Lord  
your God is with you

Joshua 1:5