



#### **Easter Week Services**

Maundy Thursday Service - April 18, 7:00 in Alda

Good Friday Service - April 19, 7:00 in Wood River

Easter Sunrise Service - April 21, Time to be announced, at the Al & Rhonda Roth Farm, 17350 W Old Potash Hwy

Drive 6 miles north of Wood River. Turn west (left) on Old Potash.

Drive approximately 3.5 miles.

The farm is located on the north side of the road.

The ground is uneven in spots, so bring sturdy shoes.

Easter Sunday Service - April 21, regular worship times at each church

#### **Church Events**

- 4/1 Ruth Circle
- 4/3 SPRC
- 4/4 Rachel Circle
- 4/10 WR Trustees
- 4/16 Blood Mobile
- 4/16 Alda Meet & Eat
- 4/17 Kid's Night Out
- 4/18 Maundy Thursday
- 4/18 Sewing Circle
- 4/19 Good Friday
- 4/21 Easter Sunday
- 4/24 Women's Salad Supper
- 4/26 Mobile Food Pantry
- 4/28 Senior Sunday/ Hamburger Feed
- 4/28 Alda Dinner Church

## Cling to the Known - Pastor Trudy

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. (Hymn of Promise, UMH, #707).

Good-bye March!!! Hello April!!! The song, *Hymn of Promise*, becomes the song of my heart when Spring is off to a slow start. It seems like every year I might use this song to share hope with others. Maybe I used it last year, I don't know. It has been a difficult winter for so many, with the frigid temperatures, the flooding across Nebraska, the loss of family or friends, and life's day to day struggles have left many people hurting physically, emotionally, spiritually, and financially. All are wondering what lies ahead. Will the Spring be wet and cool or warm and dry? What will the summer bring? Some are wondering will the heaviness of grief ever lift, or will I be able to pay my light bill. Maybe it was the last visit to the doctor that has left you reeling. Confusion, questions, doubts, fears, stress...so many unknowns! All of it can bring us to the point of feeling like the darkness will never lift and hope is almost gone. It is so important in the midst of the unknown we cling to the Known and that is where hope begins to bring forth new life.

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. (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. That Saturday had to have been filled with the darkness of questions, confusion and tears. The disciples clung to one another in fear and disbelief of all that happened. 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 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. That is the Known that keeps me going through difficult days! Jesus has won my victory and Jesus can bring new life in the most difficult of circumstances.

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, write a letter, take someone to lunch, give generously to others in need. Share the resurrection power of Jesus. Share how you have experienced the "third day." Be a witness to God's resurrection power.



Wednesday, April 24, 2019

Babel's Barn

6:30-8:00 pm

Share the laughter and some yummy salads! Enjoy a fashion show by our young ladies

in their evening wear

followed by a presentation of

The Basement Ladies from St. Paul.

Questions? Please call Linda Thompson - 381-0588, or Mary Bilslend - 583-2373.

Sponsored by the United Methodist Women

# April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	8:30-12:00 Pastor Trudy in Office 7:30 Ruth Circle	1:00 Alda Sewing Circle 6:30 Burger Bunch Bible Study	9:30 Bible Study 7:00 SPRC	7:00 Alda Solutions Group 1:30 Rachel Circle  Cathy Doane Elizabeth Price Jeff Heater Jim Thompson Ken Saner	Pastor Trudy's Sabbath 10:30 Alda Healthy Living Meeting	Marvin Rickert Matt DeVore
9:30 WR Worship 10:30 WR Sunday School 11:00 Alda Worship 12:00 WR Donna Burr Birthday Party	8:30-12:00 Pastor Trudy in Office Senior Pictures Due into Office	9 1:00 Alda Sewing Circle 6:30 Burger Bunch Bible Study	10 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 WR Trustees	<b>11</b> 7:00 Alda Solutions Group	Pastor Trudy's Sabbath 10:30 Alda Healthy Living Meeting	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:30 WR Worship 10:30 WR Sunday School 11:00 Alda Worship	8:30-12:00 Pastor Trudy in Office	12:00-6:00 WR Blood Mobile 12:00 Alda Meet & Eat 1:00 Alda Sewing Circle 6:30 Burger Bunch Bible Study Marian Hensley Mary Lothrop Jerry & Mary	9:30 Bible Study 5:30-7:30 Kid's Night Out	9:30 Sewing Circle 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service @ Alda  Maundy Thursday  Dave Brown Barb McCoun	Pastor Trudy's Sabbath 10:30 Alda Healthy Living Meeting 7:00 Good Friday Service @ WR	Beau Rohrich Bob McIntosh
EASTER TBA Sunrise Service 9:30 WR Worship No Sunday School 11:00 Alda Worship  EASTER SUNDAY	8:30-12:00 Pastor Trudy in Office  Jennifer Bonsack Kelsey Brown	23  1:00 Alda Sewing Circle NO Burger Bunch Bible Study	9:30 Bible Study 5:00-8:00 Women's Salad Supper	25 NO UMW MEETING 7:00 Alda Solutions Group	Pastor Trudy's Sabbath 10:30 Alda Healthy Living Meeting 12:00-2:00 Mobile Food Pantry	27 10:00-12:00 Bishop Saenz, Regional Gathering @ Trinity in Grand Island  Dave & Jennifer Reeder Jocelyn Brown Janet Miles
28 SENIOR SUNDAY 9:30 WR Worship 10:30 WR Sunday School 5:00 Alda Community Dinner Church	8:30-12:00 Pastor Trudy in Office  Vicki Weber Rhonda Denman	30 1:00 Alda Sewing Circle 6:30 Burger Bunch Bible Study				

Parish Nurse - Mary Bilslend

With the flood, some of us have experienced the most destructive event that will occur in our lifetime. If not the most, it has left many with destruction that will having a bearing on their whole life. Some will be looking for a new home, some will have financial problems. Others will have homes they won't feel the same about and others will have feelings of being unsafe, even at home. The psychological impact of the storm will vary between people based on factors such as age, previous experiences with storm recovery and also with how much stress they had in their life prior to the storm. The longer the time of recovery, added to the additional stress of daily life, increases the effect on people.

Here are some suggestions I found on immediate ways to bring order and calmness back to you and your family after the flood.

- Reconnect in relationships- Discover God's principles to be free of fear and anxiety. Read these stories in the Bible. You can't get through a crisis alone. Talk about the stress and pressures you have experienced with the people closest to you. Reach out to friends and family as soon as possible. Talk about what you experienced and what got you through the storm. If you were not a part of the flood, reach out to those who were with words of encouragement and support.
- Rebuild your routines. This is one of the most important things to quickly get life back on track. We draw strength and
  security from a structured daily routine. Even if your living situation has changed, get back to the routine of when you get
  up, morning routines etc. This adds to feelings of comfort of your stable and predictable routines even if in a new
  environment.
- Reach out for faith. In times of crisis, everyone believes in the power of prayer and the importance of their faith. There is great strength to be had in knowing what you believe and living in harmony with those beliefs and values. Your faith practices will allow you to release anxieties that are too big for you to handle. Allow the time for quiet meditation and reflection on what matters most to continue to grow strong in spite of the storm. This is even more important when you or your children are feeling lost, alone or afraid.
- Retell your story. There is tremendous power in telling your story-healing power for you and helpful power for others. It
  may help others to talk about their storms also. Things will not be the same but life will go on and we can rebuild and get
  through it better together.

The United Methodist Church has a disaster and recovery team with some help and financial assistance. If you have a need, talk to your church pastor about it. If you are back to your new norm or need a change, volunteer to help a friend or neighbor. It will help you as much as them.

#### **Blood Mobile**

The Wood River Methodist Church is hosting the blood mobile April 16th, 2019 from 12 noon to 6 PM. We are honoring one of our own, Mrs. Bonnie Schurer, for 20 years of service to the Wood River Red Cross.

She has assisted with the canteen, making sandwiches and serving food and drinks since we started hosting it.

You can call Rozella Sidders for an appointment or register online. If unable to give, please stop by and say thanks to Bonnie for her service.

#### Mobile Food

### **Pantry**

The mobile food pantry will be here on April 26th - serving from 12:00-2:00. Volunteers will be needed to help before and after to set up and take down.

A mobile pantry is a traveling food pantry that delivers food directly to families in need for a one-day distribution.

The goal is to provide food where there is a high need but limited resources.

#### Thank You

We would like to thank everyone who helped check on and clean up the church during and after the flood. A special thank you to Marvin and Jane Rickert for building new shelves for the basement.





# Encounter Easter - A Hands-On Experience Journey the Path of Jesus

Wed, April 17 ~ 5:30 - 7:00 ~ PreK-5th grade

Free Pizza from 5:30-6:00, Activities 6:00-7:00

# All are Welcome at this Free Event!

Wood River United Methodist Church
Pre - register at woodriverumc.org or 308-583-2716

