



Christ United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 710
Levelland, TX 79336

THE BELL RINGER

March 2023



COMING IN MARCH

Mondays, March 6, 13, 20, 27 – 6:15 p.m. – Lenten Study

Tuesdays, March 7 & 21 - Grief Support Group with Ann Akin in the parlor at 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 5 – Second Sunday In Lent/ Imagine No Malaria Sunday

Sunday, March 12 – Third Sunday In Lent/ Shared Ministries Sunday
Daylight Savings Time (move clocks forward one hour)

Sunday, March 19 – Fourth Sunday In Lent/UMCOR Sunday

Sunday, March 26 – Fifth Sunday In Lent

March Birthdays – Neil Guthrie - March 26

March Anniversaries – Alberto & Rhonda Giussani – March 7

Shared Ministries Sunday

March 12, 2023

Shared Ministries Lunch at noon following worship.

Blessing Boxes

In the narthex is a box for contributions going to the blessing boxes that are now in Levelland. There are lists of items needed also in the narthex.

Lenten Study

Finding Jesus In The Psalms
March 6, 13, 20 & 27 at 6:15 p.m.
We meet at Hickory Place

Pastor's Online Devotionals

Posted regularly
on Thursdays & Fridays each week.

Online Worship Services

Worship Services will be posted on our Facebook page and our webpage by 4 p.m. each Sunday.

Daylight Saving Time



March 12th starts Daylight Savings time.

Don't forget to move your clocks
forward!

A Word from the Pastor

Dear Pure Saints,

In James 1:27 we read the following: "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself unstained by the world." As Christians continue to debate what it means to be a good Christian, as they have throughout history, we would do well to pause and reflect upon the words we read in James. Currently within Methodism there is a raging debate which has been going on for decades concerning the extent to which persons from the LGBTQ community should be included in congregations. Showing Christian love toward those from this community has not included allowance of same sex marriages or participation as a leader in the church. In addition to this issue, there have been and still are many other points which have threatened to split various denominations. In some cases, debates have degenerated into outright name-calling and labeling of those with opposing views as apostates. My my!

Enter the scripture presented at the beginning of my message for this month. If I am to be considered religious by my fellow Christians, then how do I act, what do I say, how do I present myself before God? For too long, the church has looked away from the basic requirement given us by God: love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, and soul and love your neighbor as yourself.

As the religious battles continue to rage in the world, I encourage each of you to go to James 1:27 and read it again and again until your heart is ready to look upon your fellow human beings with the love that God gave you to give away. Churches exemplifying the pure religion spoken of in James will glow in the light of Christ and flood the streets of their cities with the love of God which moves all to embrace one another as children of the heavenly family we have been promised.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Dennis