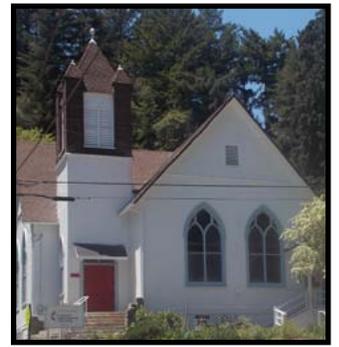


# Boulder Creek United Methodist Church Mountain Messenger March, 2018



## Our Vision

*"To illuminate the world with  
God's love by serving our  
community as faithful followers  
of Christ."*



## March at BCUMC

LENT

### *Sundays in March:*

We will be following  
the Gospel of John.

Please see the calendar on the back to read  
the passages that will be the focus on Sunday  
mornings.

March 25 is **Palm Sunday** as we begin Holy  
Week.

March 29, 7:00 p.m. **Maundy Thursday** as we  
remember the Last Supper of our Lord with  
his disciples. The word "Maundy" comes  
from the Latin for "mandate." Jesus invites  
us to come together for this meal.

March 30, 7:00 is **Good Friday**. Gabe House  
will lead us in a time of meditation.

April 1 is **Easter**. Whether you have new  
clothes or just a renewed spirit, join us as  
we celebrate the victory of life over death!  
Easter Service begins at 10:00.

## Lenten Prayer

Lord,

*I'm not always eager to do your will.*

*I'd often much rather do my own will.*

*Please be with me on this Lenten journey  
and help me to remember*

*that your own spirit can guide me  
in the right direction.*

*I want to "fix" my weaknesses  
but the task seems overwhelming.*

*But I know that with your help,  
anything can be done.*

*With a grateful heart,*

*I acknowledge your love*

*and know that without you,*

*I can do nothing.*





## My Lenten Thoughts

Few ministers look forward to Lent. The Scriptures designated for Sunday mornings are challenging and the theme is about the Cross. We read about betrayal, suffering and death. Of course this ends with the Joy of Easter and words of hope, but 7 weeks seems like a long time!

While Lent is not my favorite time of year, I am surrounded by signs of spring, signs of life. The flowering magnolia at the back of our church is in full bloom. Daffodils are everywhere. I've pruned my roses and new growth is emerging.

There is an important lesson in Lent. We cannot avoid things that make us uncomfortable. We can choose not to watch the news on T.V., not to read the newspaper but the events still affect our lives, our community our world. It would be like not reading the weather report. We still get cold if we don't take a jacket.

Lent is God's Way of reminding us to review our lives, to check out what we are doing that we can do differently and what we are doing of which we can be proud. In the four weeks that remain before we celebrate Easter, I urge each of us to take a careful time to talk with God about our lives, what we can do to improve and what we can celebrate. I wish you each a very thoughtful Lenten Season and the eagerness of anticipating the joys of Easter as life overcomes death!

Blessings,

Rev. Clyde

### You Are Welcome Here!

As a Reconciling Congregation, we celebrate God's welcome to us and to all people, including any who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender and their families. At Boulder Creek UMC your friendship is valued and safeguarded. You are accepted for who you are. **You have a home!**



## Making a difference, saving lives in Sudan

By Barbara Dunlap-Berg

EAST DARFUR STATE, Sudan (UMCOR) – Until September 2017, Mariam, a mother of nine and an internally displaced person (IDP) who walked miles to get water from an open, hand-dug well. Even as she trekked long distances, she knew the water probably was contaminated and might cause diarrhea and other illnesses. But she had no choice.

"I spent long hours to get water that is not enough for the family," she recalled.

Then the United Methodist Committee on Relief, with funding from the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance, worked with Water and Sanitation for Health – WASH – to rehabilitate 10 water hand pumps in the Khazan Jadeed region, where Mariam lives.

In May 2017, UMCOR, with funding support from OFDA, implemented a one-year, multisectoral program in the East Darfur State. Whitney Stovall, program manager for UMCOR's Sudan and South Sudan offices, explained that various stakeholders (government, humanitarian aid and beneficiaries) and sectors (WASH, Shelter, Food Security/Agriculture, Livelihood, Economic-Recovery Management and Health) coordinated efforts.





## A Word from Ted

We had a very special visit this month from Buddy the Lamb! Buddy is only two weeks old and he is very cute and cuddly and he loves to be held.

--Ted

*Ted continues to provide breakfast on Sunday mornings for youth who wish to come. It's an opportunity for informal interaction.*





## JOYS:

**Bob Belzer** has been coming to church. It is good to see him, as he and Diana continue in our prayers.

**Sunshine Johnson** continues to recover from her recent auto accident. Her cardiologist has also given her good news and doesn't want to see her for a year.

We are grateful for the rain this weekend. We continue to pray for gentle rain, but enough to continue to heal our drought-stricken earth.

## CONCERNS:

**Ron Perry** continues to undergo chemo therapy and is dealing with the after effects. His treatment has caused significant complications and he is in the hospital as of this writing. To keep in touch with his progress check out: <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/ronperry>.

As always we pray for our first responders as they deal with fallen trees, mud slides and other life-threatening issues. They put their lives on the line for us every day.

For our **shut-ins** who are unable to be in church because of age or illness. Our prayers are with them.

*If you have joys or concerns and desire prayer, please contact Linda Lininger, our prayer coordinator, [LindaLinCA@aol.com](mailto:LindaLinCA@aol.com), the Pastor or the church office with your request.*



Thanks to the **Staff-Parish Relations Committee** that has worked diligently to find a new custodian: Linda Lininger, Maggie Barr, and Clyde Vaughn. Watch for news about the person chosen to care for our facilities.

**THANK YOU!**



*Remember to "Spring forward" on Sunday, March 11 (or set your clocks forward on Saturday evening!). Sorry to say, but we lose an hour ... actually we just put it in a bank and get it back in the fall. Too bad they don't add interest!*

## March Birthdays

3	Sam Imrie
3	Jordan Johnson
6	Isaac Perry
10	Michelle Fauss
12	Amber Carr
15	Dominic Chiechi
17	Shanon Gripkey
20	Sunshine Johnson
21	Josh Geist
22	Chrissy Warner
26	Mae Slayer
30	Linda Lininger



## March Anniversaries

March 2	Mary & Russ Ericson
March 21, 1993	Les & Shanon Gripkey

*If your birthday or anniversary is not listed and you would like to have it added, please send your information to the office: [bcumc@bcumc.com](mailto:bcumc@bcumc.com)*

## Gabe's Thoughts on Ash Wednesday

This year we began our Lenten season with an Ash Wednesday reflection. In Bible times, when someone covered themselves in dust and ashes it often signified a turning point where they came to realize, "I can't go on like this. If I continue in this way, my life is a disaster, I'm gonna die like this;" and that's what the ashes remind us.

When we wear these ashes on our forehead, it's meant to be a moment when we realize that something is wrong in the world, it's not supposed to be like this. I look in my heart and say there is something wrong with my heart, I'm not supposed to be like this. I love things I shouldn't love, and I don't love things I should love. So we repent in dust and ashes.

But we don't just dump a bowl of ashes over our heads. We administer them in the shape of the cross. That cross is not only the image of the thing that I'm turning towards, but it's also the price tag that Jesus was willing to pay to win your heart back.

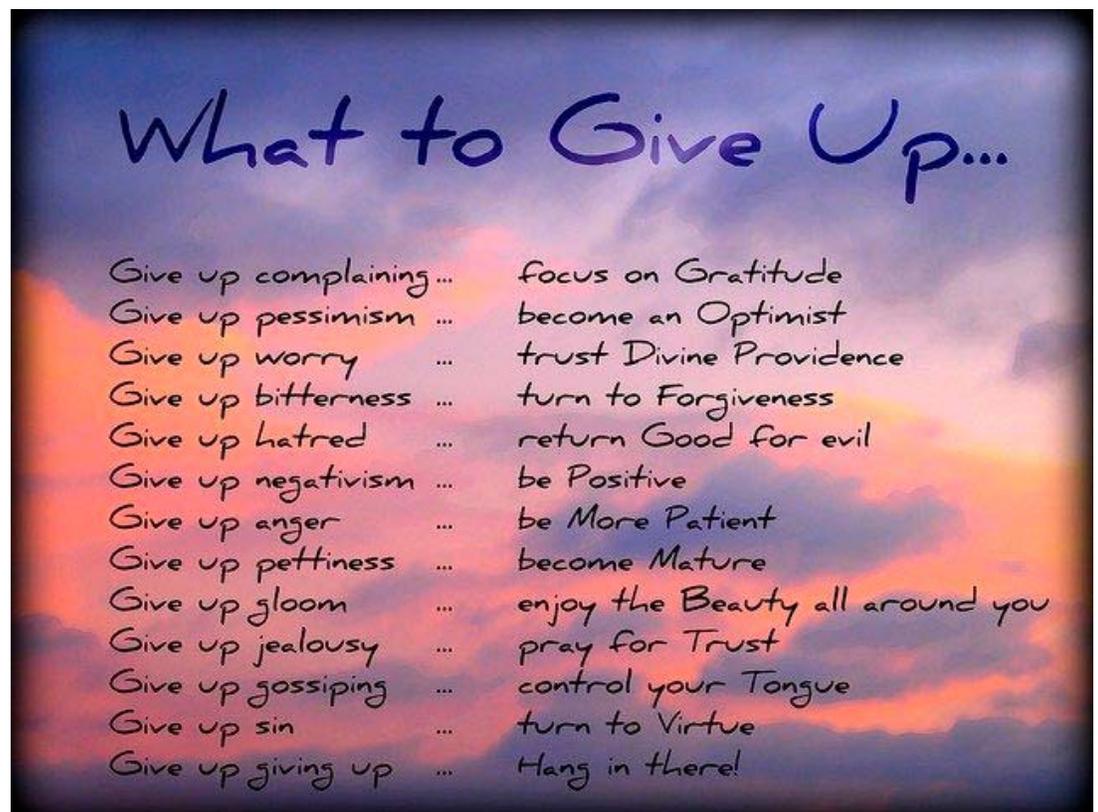
Because your heart isn't like it should be... but it is good.

And apparently God believes that it's worth dying for.

So when we wear these ashes and someone says why do you have dirt on your forehead, or why do you think you're holier than the rest of us?

No. The answer is this. The ashes mean I'm not who I should be, but the cross means there's a God who is making me right now into the person that He believes I can be. The ashes mean I'm a sinner, but the cross means I have a savior.

*-Gabe House*





## Calendar

**March 4, Rev. Clyde, "Oops, I Dropped Something"  
John 2:13-22, Communion**

*Leadership Team after Worship*

**Mar. 10, Daylight Savings Time begins ... be sure to change your clock on Saturday night!**

**Mar. 11, Worship led by Gabe House, Mark 9:2-9**

**Mar. 14, Ash Wednesday, Service at 7:00**

**Mar. 18, Worship led by Gabe House, Mark 1:9-15**

**Mar. 25, Worship led by Gabe House, Mark 8:31-38**

**April 1, Easter Sunday, Rev. Clyde, Communion**

*Leadership Team after Worship*

Sundays, **Choir Practice:** 9:00 - 9:45 a.m.

Sundays - Youth breakfast, 9:00 a.m. with Bible Discussion

Our website is up and running!  
Check it out at

[www.bcumc.com](http://www.bcumc.com).

Thank you to **Gabe House** for the hard work to create and maintain our website. It's a great tool to help people know more about our church.

**Website**



**The April Mountain Messenger** deadline for information will be Sunday, March. 25.

### **Boulder Creek United Methodist Church**

Church office: 831.338.6232

Web: <http://bcumc.com>

Join us on Facebook, friend us at:

<https://www.facebook.com/BoulderCreek-CAUnitedMethodistChurch>

Pastor: Rev. Clyde Vaughn: 831.662.8908

Cell: 831.212.1052

Children's Ministry Director: Ted Bond

831.419.0241

Church Administrator & Bookkeeper:

Gina Billington 831.246.0394

Prayer Chain, please contact the pastor, or the prayer chain coordinator, Linda Lininger, [LindaLinCA@aol.com](mailto:LindaLinCA@aol.com), if you wish prayers for family members or friends.

### **Worship Leadership**

Ministers: People of the parish

Music Director: Gabriel House

March, 2018 Mountain Messenger

[bcumc@bcumc.com](mailto:bcumc@bcumc.com)

[www.bcumc.com](http://www.bcumc.com)

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