# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23**
- 8:00–12:00 Church Office Hours

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25**
- Nursery is available from 9:00 am till 11:30 am
  - 9:15 AM CONFIRMATION CLASS
  - 9:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES
    - Clegg/Open Door - Parlor—led by David Cole, Billie Dedgar, Roger Guevara
    - Explorers/Morning Star -Upstairs—Scott Nipper/Dan Grantham
    - Children Sunday School - Preschool - 5th Grade
    - Upstairs in Treehouse - led by Shelly Burgess/Diana Courson
  - Jr. High and High School- Basement— led by Pastor Kenny
  - 10:15 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP
  - Ways to attend: In-Person, Facebook Live, Recording (posted later) on Website, YouTube
  - 4:00 PM ADULT BIBLE STUDY “FOOLISH LOVE” (AVERITT)
  - 5:30 PM YOUTH

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26**
- 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Church Office Hours
- 4:00 PM STEWPOT

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27**
- 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Church Office Hours
- 4:00 PM STEWPOT

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28**
- 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Church Office Hours
  - 11:00 AM ADULT BIBLE STUDY
    - “FOOLISH LOVE” (AVERITT)
  - 5:00 PM CHILDREN’S CHOIR GRADERS 4-5
  - 5:30 PM CHANCEL CHOIR PRACTICE
  - 5:30 PM YOUTH (MIDDLE SCHOOL)
  - 6:10 PM ADULT Handbell Practice
  - 7:00 PM YOUTH (HIGH SCHOOL)

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29**
- 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Church Office Hours
- 10:00 AM THE CARING PLACE
- 4:00 PM STEWPOT

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## A Record of Our Faithfulness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Offerings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>$7,333.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday School (9:15)</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sanctuary (10:15)</td>
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<td>February 11</td>
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<td>$1,509.00</td>
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<td>Sunday School (9:15)</td>
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<td>Sanctuary (10:15)</td>
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## NEW MEMBERS

We welcome new members to First United Methodist Church, Emily Lester and Zoey Kirkpatrick. Zoey entered by profession of faith and was baptized.

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**Adult Lenten Bible Study**

The Lenten Bible Study comes to us as a gift from Bentonville FUMC, entitled Foolish Love. Bentonville FUMC has graciously provided a daily devotional, a bible study guide, and seven videos suitable for personal or group bible study. We will meet weekly beginning on Ash Wednesday at 11 AM and Sundays at 4 PM. Materials are available, so you may pick them up at your convenience. I hope that you make plans to join us as we walk the Lenten journey together.
It's gonna be a bright, bright sunshiny day

Looking out of my office window, I see a perfectly crisp, clear blue sky day. The clover in the playground is already awash in the verdant green of new growth. Soon, the CDC kids will burst out of the building to romp, play, and shout for joy. Nothing makes a kid's heart sing like spring. Sometimes, kids are young in years, and sometimes, they are young at heart. I fit into the second category.

Spring is my favorite season of the year. My birthday is the first day of spring. I love how the earth wakes up, shakes off the cold of winter, and brings forth new life from the drab browns of cold weather. I know that winter will still blow and maybe even snow again before warmer weather is here to stay. But right now, I want to drink in the sunshine and get out to see all the changes spring brings with my very own eyes.

When I was a boy, my family kept a large kitchen garden. About this time of year, my great-uncle showed up at our house with his horse and plow. It was like magic watching him press the point of the plow into last year's dried-up sod and watch the plow turn the drab brown surface into a dark brown wave that crested and rolled over as the plow passed through the ground. As he spoke softly to the horse, the team of man and horse merged to become almost one entity, doing the familiar work they performed year after year. Soon, the air was filled with an earthy smell of the rich soil.

He returned with his tractor and disc once the plot was turned-plowed. After several passes with the tractor, it would be time for our family to begin our work. Dad would get out the tiller and pulverize the freshly plowed earth, preparing it for planting. He had an old push-plow handed down to him by his father that he used to prepare raised beds or plow furrows for some crops.

Potatoes were always the first thing to go in. Spring lettuce and onion sets soon followed. Corn, squash, okra, beans, and peas followed once the threat of frost was over. The very last things we planted were tomato and pepper plants. Dad never wanted to replant those, which meant that occasionally, we would need to cover them up with buckets overnight.

My brother and I were tasked with weed removal, which was no small job. Our entire plot was overrun with Johnson grass, which is nearly impossible to get rid of by hand. We would dig it up by the wheelbarrow-load and transport it to the back of the property. By the time I was a teenager, there would be Johnson grass head-high in the height of summer. The hard work of planting, hoeing, and picking yielded some excellent table fare for our family. Mom and Dad would can and freeze any surplus to tide us over for the winter months.

Because of the time of year it occurs, the season of Lent fits into that familiar spring routine I remember. The practices of self-examination and self-denial begin to prepare the soil of our hearts and lives for the seeds of faith that need to be replanted in hopes of an abundant harvest. Spiritual disciplines such as prayer, fasting, private reading of scripture, Christian conferencing, and communal bible study are the seeds we sow. Weeding out anger, resentment, greed, unforgiveness, and idolatry will help ensure the crops don't struggle to thrive. By tending these crops carefully and watching out for pests that might damage the tender growth, we can look forward to an abundant harvest. During this Lenten season, do the work of tending your soul well; the payoff is life-changing.

I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now, the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. John 4:35b-36

Pastor Kenny

SECURITY TEAM MEETING
(with Deputy Mike McWilliams)

TUESDAY, MARCH 5
6:00 PM
AVERITT HALL

Hannah Pregnancy Center
Baby Bottle Campaign
Fill A Bottle and Save a Life!
(pick up a bottle in the Sanctuary or church office)
Donate on Line at www.hannahprc.com
Thank you for your commitment

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER NEEDED
We are looking for a youth Sunday School teacher for ages 12-18.
See Pastor Kenny if you are interested.