

Pastor's Corner~

We are nearing the period of Lent. This season is ushered in by Ash Wednesday, a day that the church celebrates six weeks before Easter and is usually a time of prayer, fasting, and repentance. On Ash Wednesday, Christians have their foreheads marked with ashes and these words are uttered: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." People spend this time on self-reflection about their walk with God. Lent is also a time when many Christians abstain from worldly pleasures in order to focus on their relationship with Christ. People may choose to fast from food at certain times of the day. Others may fast from television, social media and other things that they may consider to be luxury. This year, the church will celebrate Ash Wednesday on March 6th. Christians around the world will gather for a time of worship and remembrance. We will come to terms with our brokenness and frailty as human beings as reflected in the words of Psalm 51:1-4 when the psalmist cried, "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge." The Psalmist recognizes that he needs God's mercy to cleanse him from his sins. He is aware of the evil contained in the human heart and asks God to wash him clean. During this Lent season, let us find some time to face our brokenness as human beings. A time to acknowledge our sins before God and repent of them. Let us ask God for strength to forsake all that grieves him and embrace that which delights him. We can also do this in a larger scale, as a community of faith. Let us ask God for forgiveness of our broken systems and structures that oppress God's children; anything that our institutions do that is opposed to the holiness and love of God. I invite us all to spend time in God's presence and let him mold us into the people He wants us to be, into the image of his Son. After all, He is the one who is walking to the cross in the coming weeks to redeem us from the power of sin and death. Amen

~Pastor Susan

Mentor Ladies

Mentor Ladies met Feb. 19, 2019 at 1:30 pm at McCall Manor. Kendra Carlin read an article that Dorothy Delker brought called, "You're a Keeper." A letter was read from the Pastor in Kenya that we contributed to his support. Barbara Hofmeier furnished refreshments. Prayers for Cora Williams. Virginia Major is at Dignity Care. De Etta Larsen made a motion to send \$50 to the fund for Peter, a child awaiting a heart transplant. Renee Morrow seconded the motion. Motion carried. The Treasurer's report was given. Those present were: Dorothy Delker, Virginia Lilly, Susan Mueller, Kendra Carlin, DeEtta Larsen, Diane Russell, Barbara Hofmeier, Kathy Tinkler, Pastor Susan, and Barbara Archer. DeEtta Larsen will furnish refreshments for our next meeting, March 19, 2019.

- Barbara Archer, Secretary

During Lent, Lord, help us grow in faith, hope and love — "and the greatest of these is love" (1 Corinthians 13:13, NRSV).

February Attendance and Giving

	Attendance Sunday Sch	Attendance Worship	Offering Rec'd	Offering Needed
Feb 3	20	46	2175	1,346.15
Feb-10	20	43	976	1346.15
Feb 17	18	31	1007	1346.15
Feb 24	No church--	(Snow)	0	1346.15
Total for Month			4158	5384.6
2019 Yr to Date			11,212.25	10,769.20
2018 Yr to Date			10,731	11,666
2017 Yr to Date			12,729	12,500
2016 Yr to Date			17,666	12,500

MENTOR UMC

INFORMER

Mentor United Methodist Church
616 E. Mentor Rd.
Mentor, KS 67416
785-667-4081

Pastor Susan Murithi
859-553-6718

Our mission: to be faithful disciples
who share Christ's love with their
neighbors and the world.



Mentor United Methodist Church
616 E. Mentor Rd.
Mentor, Kansas 67416

Remember the fund-raising event we did on Ground Hog Day? We were so blessed to be able to contribute to both our Gypsum sister church's mission trip to Zimbabwe, and also to pastor Justin Mugendi's church work in Kenya. The following are excerpts from Justin's thank-you letter:

"I am a young Kenyan pastor born in Chera, Chuka, Tharake Nithi county in Kenya aged 43 years old, married to Bernice Kendi who is 36 years old, we are blessed with three children named Caleb Kimathi 9 years old, Blessing Gatugi 7 years old and Joshua Mugendi 1 year and 3 month. I am a trained accounting and finance option masters in finance and investments and a diploma in church pastoral and Christian leadership. The lord called me into ministry in 2009 in my place of birth where many people are dying of poverty, sickness and diseases, ignorance and many self-inflicted wounds of rejection, despair and loneliness. I have been working as county manager with an organization ...that deals with investment in Real estate, saving & loans, hotel and insurance as mobilization and training officer but now all the county offices in the country have been closed last year leaving me without a job to support the church and my family. I gratefully received ksh.35780 (\$386 US dollars) from you and this enabled me clear this term's fees balance for the two children in school amounting to ksh.25,400 and the balance of ksh.10,380 my wife Bernice bought food supplies and school uniforms for the children (They were so grateful and happy) This has given us a very big relief because my wife Bernice has been so stressed of the issues and challenges, we have been going through until she fell ill of stomach ulcers, but now she is well after a two week treatment."

He goes on to say the church is very active with regular and mid-week services, with Bible study and choir practices, and holds a crusade and door-to-door evangelism every August. They are also hoping to institute programs to improve agriculture in this rural area. They are wanting to buy an acre of land for this purpose and to put a church building, so they don't have to continue paying rent. They are serving many young people who have been left orphans from the HIV/AIDS epidemics, and have seen many lives transformed through Christ. He concludes with..

"Thank you for being part of what God is doing in my family and calling. May the Lord richly bless you, the work of your hands and your families abundantly. I am so indebted of your love and concern. You have always remained in our prayers and thoughts. Truly you are angels sent to us, again may God richly bless you."



Your Mission Dollars at work! Pastor Justin and his wife in Kenya

We are one! Winning souls for Christ!



Sharing God's Love



Puzzle!

Find and circle these words associated with the Lenten journey to the cross.

colt	denial	kiss	repent
confess	donkey	lots	silver
cross	forsaken	palms	sins
crown	Gethsemane	penance	suffer
crucifixion	Golgotha	Pilate	thorns
death	hosanna	prayer	vigil

E N A M E S H T E G R L W Y
 C L E U X B M T H B U C W B
 N R I K Y P A T E T I Y X Y
 A V J G A L B R E Y A R P B
 N G N L I S N L A I N E D X
 E W M P R V R D H B N R D F
 P S O G O L G O T H A B S C
 D L N R O C O N F E S S I K
 O T H T C P E K W U O U N D
 M N S H N P W E D R H F S K
 U N F O E T K Y C S G F O E
 H E C R E V L I S W Q E C M
 H V H N C X S O C C J R L O
 F Q E S U D S H C A A Y M C
 C R U C I F I X I O N S R V

MARCH HAPPENINGS...

- Mar 1** – World Day of Prayer, Sue Lilly (B) and Bonnie Musfelt (B)
- Mar 6** – Ash Wednesday
- Mar 10** – Daylight Saving Time begins
- Mar 17** – ST. PATRICKS DAY, baked potato bar after church, Jamie Hofmeier (B)
- Mar. 20** – First Day of Spring
- Mar 22** – Helen Nichols (B)
- Mar 24** – Barb Bessel (B)
- Mar 25** – Mary Jean Millikin (B) and Heather Perry (B)
- Mar 27** – Keith Lilly (B)
- Mar 30** – Emma Lippold (B)
- Mar 31** – Cora Williams (B)

Remember to Set those Clocks Ahead!



Don't be late to church!



Why does Easter's date vary from year to year? I researched on line and I'll try to give a simplified version. The Bible tells us Jesus' death and resurrection occurred near the time of the Jewish Passover, which is celebrated on the first full moon after the spring equinox. Christians then adopted this same formula to celebrate Easter, except for it always being on the next Sunday. Lent, the 40 day period preceding Easter, always begins on a Wednesday. Since Easter's date varies, so does this starting point, which we call Ash Wednesday. It is to remind us of Jesus' 40 days of fasting in the wilderness, or the 40 hours he spent in the tomb before the resurrection. Lent is a time of penance and fasting, and many people give something up for Lent (for example meat, alcohol, smoking, sweets, soft drinks, etc). By the way, in counting our 40 days of Lent, Sundays are not counted because they are not days of fasting.