

**March 6, 2026**

### **From the Pastor**

The last couple of days have held the promise of spring which means it's also THAT time. Daylight Savings Time arrives this weekend, so set your clocks forward some time on Saturday so that you're on schedule for Sunday. If you're like me and don't love this ritual, just remind yourself it's part of the journey to longer days, warmer temps and blooming flowers.



This Sunday is the third Sunday of Lent. The theme is *The Good News is Together, the Impossible is Possible*. In preparation for worship, I invite you to read Ephesians 3:20-21. Think and pray about what this text stirs in you. What does this text teach us about God? What does it teach us about creation? What does it teach us about the two?

Then, with that text in mind, read Mark 6:32-44. How does the Ephesians text influence your experience of this often-told story? With which character in the story do you identify? How might the Spirit be using this story to teach us about the nature of God and about God's relationship to creation?

What is something good you can share after reading these texts? How might the Spirit be using all of that to deepen our relationship with the Holy as individual disciples and as a faith family?

Click [here](#) for the worship bulletin. Worship is streamed on the [UPC website](#) and [YouTube](#) channel.

**Peace, Pastor Lisa**

### **For God's more seasoned children**

**Adult Sunday School** - Our youth and elementary children are not the only ones that have Sunday School on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month. The class meets in the Library. The current study is *God's Promises*. Contact [Mary Lu Funyak](#) for more info. **On March 8th, the group will discuss Lesson 5.**

**Chair Yoga** - The class on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9:30am is chair yoga and accessible to folks with various mobility issues. Come, give it a whirl

and enjoy this fun group. You'll be hooked. Contact [Bev Johnson](#) for more info.

## What is Lent?

The season of Lent is a time of prayer, fasting and self-examination in preparation for the celebration of the resurrection of the Lord on Easter. It is a period of 40 days beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Maundy Thursday leading to Easter. This period does not include Sundays because every Sunday is a “mini Easter” in its celebration of Jesus’ resurrection.

In the early church, Lent was a time of preparation for the celebration of baptism at the Easter vigil when new members were received into the faith community. Today we journey through Lent as a season of prayerful reflection on our relationship with God. Many disciples “give up” something during this season to remember Jesus’ sacrifice in the crucifixion. We encourage disciples to “take on” a spiritual discipline like a daily devotion or acts of compassion in order to nurture our relationship with God.

*Tell Me Something Good* is our theme this Lent. We are using materials prepared by [A Sanctified Art](#). The series is especially appropriate this Lent when the very planet is weighed down by not good news. The series contributors explain their rationale and Spirit's leading in this series:

*As we crafted this series, we studied what was central to Jesus’ life and ministry: radical welcome, love for neighbor, care for the vulnerable, nourishment for the hungry, nonviolence in the face of injustice. At the heart of Jesus’ teachings, we find liberation, love, mercy, and grace—all of which are meant to be very good news for us all.*

*Jesus’ words are easily distorted and sanitized in our modern world. Following Jesus leads to a richer, more expansive life, but it’s not necessarily comfortable. Jesus’ ministry can be described as “radical” which comes from the Latin word “radicalis,” meaning “root” or “ground.” Therefore, the good news should bring us back to our roots. Emulating Jesus and embodying his teachings should ground us in who God created us to be. Can we be “good news” people in a world too often burdened by bad news?*

*This Lent, let us remember that the good news really is good news. It is joyful—like fine wine saved for celebration. It grows like a mustard seed and smells like perfume poured from an alabaster jar. It tastes like bread passed endlessly through a hungry crowd. It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy. The good news is alive in the world.*

*We hope this series will provide fertile ground for conversation and worship, rooting our hearts and lives in the expansive goodness of God. This Lent, let the teachings of Jesus lead us forward. May the good news inspire us to take action in a world desperate to hear, see, and taste what is good.*

I hope and pray your Lenten reflection will include actively looking for and sharing good news. Check out the article below for resources to facilitate your

journey.

## Tell Me Something Good Tree

During Lent we are “growing” a good news tree. Similar to Christmas trees formed with strands of lights, our tree is formed with strands of line onto which folks are invited to tie cloth strips with good news written on them. This colorful witness to good news in our world will be visible to everyone traveling on Hwy 42. Please jot good news on the fabric strips in the narthex. You may tie them on the lines attached to the church sign or leave the strips in the box in the narthex for “good news fairies” to tie them on the tree.



## Lenten devotions are available in the narthex

Please contact the [church office](#) if you would like a digital copy of the adult devotion and/or a paper or digital copy of the prayer cards prepared by A Sanctified Art. Fish banks and sharing calendars are available from One Great Hour of Sharing of our denomination PC(USA). If you prefer a digital devotion or devotion app, check out [d365.org](http://d365.org). This resource is written for young people but is appropriate for God’s children past their teen years.

## Free Lenten Interactive Online Resources

Edward Goode, pastor of Resounding Joy Church (PCUSA) in Cincinnati and awesome human, has created several online interactive Lenten resources that are free for individuals and congregations to use. You can find them on his [Imago Scriptura](#) site. One is centered on [Lent Through the Labyrinth](#) using prayer labyrinths from around our area to center us on the stories of Lent. The other centers on the [Stations of the Cross](#), inspired by and drawing upon Lilly Lewin's interactive Stations of the Cross. Both are free and available to all to share.



## Order Easter flowers now

You may purchase tulips, daffodils, hyacinths and/or violets in honor or memory of someone or to the glory of God. You may purchase these beautiful flowers by signing up on the sheet in the narthex or by emailing the church office. The flowers cost \$15 each and can be taken home after the Easter service. A dedication page will appear in the Easter bulletin.

## Mark Your Calendars:

City of Union Easter Egg Hunt at UPC –  
Saturday, March 27th 8:30am  
Palm Sunday ~ Sunday, March 29th

Congregational mtg after worship to elect officers  
 Maundy Thursday Seder Worship ~ Thursday, April  
 2nd 6:30pm  
 Darkening the Sanctuary ~ Friday, April 3rd 12pm (noon)  
 Good Friday Tenebrae Worship ~ Friday, April 3rd 7pm  
 Easter Potluck Breakfast & Egg Hunt ~ Sunday, April 5th 9am  
 Celebration of the Resurrection! ~ Sunday, April 5th 10am



Schedule for This Week

**Third Sunday of Lent**  
**Sunday, March 8th**

9:30am Choir Warm-Up  
 10am Worship

After worship K-3rd, 4th - 7th  
 and Adult Sunday School

5:30p - 7:30p NKY Youth Dinner  
 & Gathering  
 @ Lakeside Pres.

Monday, March 9th

9:30am Chair Yoga  
 6:45pm Finance Ministry  
 7pm Boy Scouts Troop 805

Tuesday, March 10th

6:30pm Cub Scouts Pack 3805

Wednesday, March 11th

9:30am Chair Yoga  
 6:30pm Choir Practice  
 8pm AA

Friday, March 13th

9:30am Chair Yoga  
 6pm Girl Scouts 2146

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
**Sunday, March 15th**

9:30am Choir Warm-Up  
 10am Worship



BIRTHDAYS

- 3/8 - Nancy Goodall
- 3/9 - Grace Daniel
- 3/10 - Mike Frost
- 3/15 - Tony Huddleston
- 3/16 - Teddy Springer
- 3/18 - Cheryl Davis,  
Cheryl Martinez
- 3/20 - George Wood
- 3/23 - Mary Lu Funiyak
- 3/28 - Katelyn Detwiler
- 4/1 - Hans Clouse
- 4/3 - Chelsea Uyeda
- 4/4 - Pat Gilliland



Online Giving

You may give online or via text through the UPC website. You can make a one time gift or set up a recurring gift. You may make a memorial or honorary gift and even pay for youth conferences. The online transaction processes the gift from your checking account, savings account, credit card or debit card and is secured through Global Payment Services which integrates with Servant Keeper, our membership program.



ANNIVERSARIES

- 3/13 - Carol & Bill Graham
- 3/17 - Kevin & Heather Dern; Brian & Kim Fry
- 3/25 - Sam Caudill & Alejandro Rosario; Brian & Shannon Eggleston
- 3/26 - Richard & Ruth Ann Sloan
- 3/28 - Kurt & Kristin Lintelman
- 4/2 - Mike & Sharen Frost

UPC does not receive the total amount of your gift due to processing fees. At the end of the transaction, you will be asked if you wish to donate an additional percentage to cover the processing costs.

## Union Presbyterian Church

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Contact Us



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