

COLONA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1709 Cleveland Rd.
Colona, IL 61241
309-792-1661

MARCH 2019 NEWSLETTER

Sunday Worship 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Sunday School 9:50 am

5th Sunday Worship (and potluck) 10:00 am

E-mail: colonaumc2@mchsi.com

Web: colonaumc.org

WE'RE INVITING

A Cup of Joseph in the Upper Room

The mission of the Colona United Methodist Church states; *Invite - Grow - Serve*. Therefore, consider this an invitation! To all men, gather on Monday, March 4th at 6:00 pm in front of the Fellowship Hall fireplace for one hour. All men are invited, bring a friend! A cup of "joe" will be available.

FAMILY SKATE NIGHT

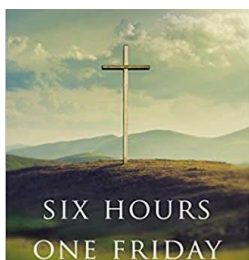


CUMC Skate Night!

All are invited! Where? Skate City, East Moline. When? Tuesday, March 5th 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Ash Wednesday Service

On March 6th at 7:00 pm, Colona UMC will hold a service of worship for Ash Wednesday. This service will prepare followers of Jesus and the body of Christ for the Lenten Season. An Ash Wednesday helps us confront our own mortality and to confess our sins before God. One of the acts of worship includes the imposition of ashes. This service will be approximately 30 minutes in length.



Advent Bible Study

In *Six Hours One Friday*, Max Lucado delves into the meaning of Jesus' last hours on the cross. Through His death, your life has purpose and meaning. You are forgiven and loved by a Savior who died for you. And an empty tomb proclaims that death does not have the final word.

Thursday Prayer Vigil

Please stop by for our Prayer Vigil on Thursday, March 7th 8:30 am – 8:30 pm and share in a time of prayer for our community, our Church and personal requests from the congregation! You may also fill out a prayer request to be included the day of the Prayer Vigil. Prayer requests forms circulate the last Sunday of the month, you can also pick one up in the office.

Book Club

Tuesday, March 12th at 10:00 am. We will be discussing *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. Also--- a book of your choice about Eleanor Roosevelt either biography or autobiography. Questions? Contact Peg Emmert at (309) 231-2657.

MYF Trivia Night

Come join us on March 16th for Trivia Night. Cost is \$10 per person with tables of 8. There will be Mulligans and round Doublers for sale. First place prize \$80!! Trivia starts at 6:30 pm, doors open at 5:00 pm with supper



available. You may bring your own snacks. Silent auction. To reserve a table, contact Judy Smith (309) 792-2535. This is one of our main fundraisers for our mission trip to do home repair in Knoxville, TN in July.

Shepherds

The Shepherds potluck and program is March 19th. The potluck is from 5:00 – 6:30, please bring a dish to pass! The program, *Fear and Love*, given by Pastor Mark Horn, will begin at 6:30 pm. Everyone is invited, baby-sitting available!!

Become Part of *Our* Church Family

New Member Class

Are you interested in becoming a member of Colona UMC? Pastor Mark will host a New Member class on Sunday, March 24th following worship. This 90-minute session, which includes lunch, will help you understand some of our United Methodist traditions, what becoming a member of the church is all about and the opportunity to ask the pastor any questions that you may have in mind. If you're interested in becoming a new member please contact the office so we can adequately prepare lunch that day.

Fifth Sunday Service and Potluck

On March 31st JOIN US for 5th Sunday service! Worship will begin at 10:00 am. Sunday school will be at 9:00 am. After the 10:00 am service there will be a fellowship potluck! Everyone is encouraged to attend, no charge, please bring a dish to pass and table service! 2019 5th Sunday dates: June 30th, September 29th & December 29th

Paint Party - Art on Canvas

Join us for a paint party, snacks provided! MYF group fundraiser. Friday, April 5th, time to be determined.

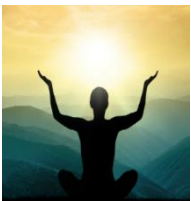
United Methodist Women

Colona United Methodist Women met on February 21st. Judy Schadt presented the program on Women Investing in Shalom. The Day of Prayer and Self Denial will be with the March 7th Prayer Vigil. Boxes for 10 College Students will be prepared and sent on March 20th. The UMW will donate \$1,000 to the New Construction Fund.

The next meeting is March 21st, all women are welcome and invited to come to the church at 9:00 am for brunch, a program, a short meeting and fellowship.

United Methodist Men

Next aluminum can drive is March 30th. Thanks to those who bring their cans in regularly. Money from turning in the cans helps cover UMM operating expenses, meat for Trunk or Treat & skating.



SAVE THE DATE

Retreat coming June 1st. More details coming soon! “Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.” Questions? Contact Peg Emmert (309) 231-2657.

Invite~Grow~Serve

Are you finding it difficult to *invite* God into more of your life, *grow* in your walk with God and/or *serve* God in more ways? The CUMC Prayer Team has an opportunity for you to do all three. In a continuing effort to grow the prayer presence in our individual lives and be a more visible presence in the church, the Prayer Team is inviting you to form or join a prayer group. A “group” is very loosely defined. It could be you and a walking buddy praying as you walk. It could be several of you praying as you enjoy a cup of tea, coffee, or cola. You can meet at the church, at your home, in the park, at the mall or electronically. A “group” can be 2, 3, 4 or 5,


can meet on a defined schedule or when it can be arranged. In other words, the number is flexible, the place is flexible, and the frequency is flexible. The goal is to start and then continue; eventually getting comfortable and confident to be a praying presence in the church on Sunday mornings. See Mary Loeffler or Pastor Mark with your questions.

Nursery

Our Nursery is open to children *6 weeks up to 5 years old* from 7:45 - 11:45 am Sunday mornings. The Nursery is located in the Education wing on the right.



A Question

 What is 510 ft. long, 85 ft. wide and 51 ft. high??? You guessed it... The ARK!

We are in the process of planning a bus trip to Kentucky spring 2019 to see the ARK Encounter and the Creation Museum. Does this sound like something you'd be interested in?? More information to come! Questions? Contact Sue Rehn at 309-269-7842

GROWING

Education

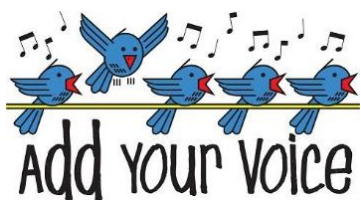
Sunday school – we offer classes for both kids and adults. We gather every Sunday at 9:50 am. If you are not part of a Sunday school, we offer 4 adult classes and have classes for ages three through high school. Come check us out!



March 10th

Be in the Sanctuary at 9:50 am for Sunday school gathering. Notice the time change. Join us as we sing a few songs, raise up prayers, recognize March birthdays, and get the latest Sunday school news. We will not do a formal collection for Heifer in March but if you want to give toward the \$100 challenge, just mark the gift as Heifer. Thanks for being a part of changing lives around the world.

Give yourself a boost in the GROW area of Invite~Grow~Serve by joining or forming a study group. There are groups that meet Monday mornings, Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings currently. There is some study curriculum available in the church library. See Sunday School Superintendent Judy Smith for more information. Ongoing Bible Studies, 1st & 3rd Monday mornings and Wednesday evenings, 6pm. A church wide Lenten study, Six Hours One Friday by Max Lucado will be offered beginning with Lent, watch for the sign-up sheets.



J.A.M.S (Jesus and Me Singers)

Join us, come and sing all our praises to the Almighty One!! Calling all voices 4 years old and up. Wednesday's at 6:00 pm. A meal is served prior to practice at 5:30 so come early and enjoy a meal with your friends. If you feel you've out grown junior choir but still want to be involved there's always a need for extra helpers!! All are welcome to be a part of praising our Lord! Can't wait to see and hear you!!

Chancel Choir

Welcome to all of you who wish to make a "joyful noise unto the Lord!" Practice is Wednesday's at 7:00 pm. We sing during worship on the first and third Sunday of each month. There is a place for everyone and we can't wait to see you there! Remember... the Bible says... *"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord"*

MISSION CORNER



Cans of Change

Empty Cans of Change are being handed out, make sure to grab one and fill it up for Missions! All donations will be going to local projects new and existing. You can help make a difference! Make sure to check on Facebook to see where everyone's collecting change from, and feel free to post your photos as well. Make sure to tag **Colona UMC**. Cans are due back to church on Easter Sunday! Thank you for all of your support! The Missions Team

Colona Food Pantry

Help feed those in need right here in your community! 100% of your donation goes to the Colona Food Pantry and helps provide food for a person or family in need. We collect and donate on the first Sunday of every month. Just place your donated, nonperishable food item(s) in the grocery cart in the Narthex. Cash donations are also welcome and will help benefit a local family in need.

Our SOUPER BOWL was SOUPER close. We collected 347 cans of soup (last year 195) and the Choo Choo Food Express picked up 169 items (160 last year) THANK YOU to everyone who donated to this food pantry drive! All food going to the Colona Food Pantry.

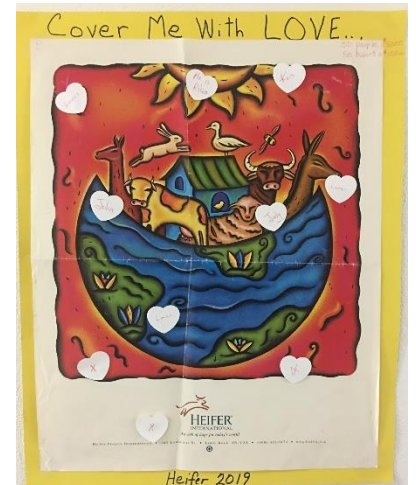


Spring Clean for a Cause!! Forty Days - Forty Items

Lent starts on Ash Wednesday, March 6th. Missions has a challenge for you! No buying, making, or showing up for this project. Everything you need is already at your house! Each day of Lent, remove one of the listed items from your home that you no longer wear or use or need and put into the trash bag Missions will have for you. At the end of the forty days bring your full bag back to church and place in the Narthex. We will take all items to the Oasis in East Moline, to help out families in need. A list of requested items is attached to each bag and will be in the bulletin. We ask that all items be Gently Used and Clean! Look for the display in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please see a Missions Team Member.

Heifer International

Our goal is \$5000 for an Ark! We are looking for \$50 - \$100 donations given over the next 10 months, that's **only \$10 per month!** Put your name on a heart as a sign of your Love Gift for this project and the heart will go on the poster hanging in the hallway. Can't do \$100?, share a heart with someone. Want to give more, put your name on more than one heart. \$3897 was raised last year. Let's cover the Ark with Love! Questions? See Judy Smith.



Pancake Breakfast

Thanks to all who donated and supported the pancake breakfast in January. All proceeds will go to the support of the local food pantries, Eagle Ridge and Colona. Because of your support we raised \$861.00!!

Eagle Ridge Food Pantry

Tuesday, March 5th and Tuesday, March 19th 1:30 – 4:00 pm

If you are interested in volunteering please contact Judy Smith at 309-236-1126.



UMCOR Sunday March 31st

UMCOR Sunday is right around the corner. This church wide special Sunday with offering provides United Methodists the opportunity to help our brothers and sisters around the world in their time of need.

Our generous gifts through the UMCOR Sunday offering support the work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief. UMCOR provides immediate assistance in the wake of disasters and participates in ongoing ministries of food, shelter, health and peace.

Gifts on this United Methodist Special Sunday support the administrative costs of the United Methodist Committee on Relief so that all designated gifts will go to the program of the giver's choice. Your contribution ensures UMCOR's response in times of crisis and together, we can make UMCOR Sunday a phenomenal success. Together, we can make sure that UMCOR can go wherever people are in critical need.

HEALTH NEWS

Henry and Stark County Health Department

Under the weather? No doctor or can't get to your regular doctor?? Call Jennifer in Colona at 309-792-4011 and schedule a sick visit for only \$50! *Prices subject to change

Blood pressure checks

Sunday, March 24th at 9:00 am in the fellowship hall.

MARCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Reflections of Special Conference, Ash Wednesday, Lent

March 3rd Holy Communion 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 *"Hang On"*

March 6th Ash Wednesday 7:00 pm service

March 10th Deuteronomy 26:1-11 *"Give Yourself"*

March 17th Luke 13:31-35 *"Our goal – Reaching others"*

March 24th 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 *"How does this look to you?? (Focus)"*

March 31st Joshua 5:9-12 *"Local Produce"*

MARCH SERVANTS

Head Ushers 8:00 am – John Browning / 10:30 am – Curt Hight



Date	8:00 Liturgist	10:30 Liturgist	10:30 Greeter
March 3	Curt Frerichs	Taylor VanHoutte	Schadts
March 10	Logan Loitz	Taylor VanHoutte	Matthews
March 17	Barb Searle	Taylor VanHoutte	Schofields
March 24	Karin Barrett	Taylor VanHoutte	Lindy Anderson
March 31	No 8:00 service	Sarah Barrett	Chris Horn



INVITE – GROW – SERVE

Our Church's motto! Are you serving? We are so grateful to the many people that serve here at Colona United Methodist Church! It takes a great number of people to cover all the bases! We have faithful servants who greet each weekend, serve as ushers & assist the Pastor by praying & reading Scripture during service times. We would like to thank you, encourage you to continue serving & invite others to share their gifts. Please contact or stop by the office to volunteer for 2019!

There are many opportunities to serve! Please check out our Serving Brochure to find a place that God has nudged you to serve in: **Choir, Congregational Care Ministers, Congregational Care Shepherds, Greeters & Welcome Area Helpers, Ushers, Hospitality, Liturgist, Nursery Helper, Office Help, Praise Team, Sunday school Teacher, and Tech Loft! There is a place for everyone!**



TRUSTEES NEWS

Thanks for shutting off the lights and resetting the thermostat settings when you leave the building. Thanks to those who help keep the property and building looking neat and clean. If you notice a maintenance issue, the Trustees need to address, please write it down and put it in the Trustee's mailbox.

FINANCE TEAM

Jan – Dec 2018	Income	Disbursements	Difference
General Operating Budget:	\$172,523.49	\$177,358.68	-\$4,835.19
Mortgage Payment:	\$ 33,836.56	\$ 33,578.16	\$ 258.40
For January 2019			
General Operating Budget:	\$13,434.47	\$13,451.96	\$ 17.49
Mortgage Payment:	\$ 2,341.64	\$ 2,798.18	-\$456.54

Many thanks to those who support our ministries even when not present in worship. January is a high bill month as several yearly payments are paid out in January; so it was great to have a positive balance after the January bills were paid.



BUILDING COMPLETION TEAM

After taking the month of February off, the Wednesday evening work team will pick up again on March 13th. Join us between 6 and 9 pm; all are welcome. If you feel your construction skills are not up to the task, you could maybe run a broom, provide a meal, a case of water, all are appreciated. *Thanks for your understanding*

during the construction. Phase II is almost complete. Take a tour, anytime. If you have questions at any time, see any member of the committee; Shari Anderson, Sharon Bloomberg, John Browning, Bill Clark, Jennifer Hillman, Susan Koska, Linda Marcus, Aaron Schofield, Rod Searle, Daniel Skelton, Judy Smith, Jeff Swan, and Eric Wheaton. Thanks to those who continue to donate to the “finish addition fund” and thanks to those who have supported the building project and mortgage and continue to do so.

GENERAL CONFERENCE

After hours of delaying tactics by opponents, the United Methodist General Conference 2019 delegates passed The Traditional Plan in St. Louis, Missouri on the final day of the special conference.

An effort to bring the One Church Plan back was defeated in the morning and was followed by efforts to amend the Traditional Plan to address constitutionality issues raised by the Judicial Council, the church’s top court.

The Rev. Timothy Bruster, Central Texas, made a motion to request a declaratory decision by the Judicial Council on the constitutionality of the Traditional Plan. The motion passed 405-395. The Judicial Council will address the request at its next scheduled meeting April 23-25 in Evanston, Illinois.

The Rev. Gary Graves, secretary of General Conference, said any piece of legislation that the Judicial Council declares unconstitutional will not be included in the Book of Discipline, the denomination’s policy book.

Near the end of the day, delegates voted to adopt the minority report for one of the petitions on disaffiliation, which then passed. Legislation closed with an omnibus motion to reject any remaining petitions.

At the end of a brief closing worship, Council of Bishops President Kenneth H. Carter wished everyone in attendance “the peace of the Lord in the midst of all you have experienced.”

Bishop Carter said that bishops will have to do a lot of outreach after this General Conference, especially to progressives who feel hurt by what transpired. “We are going to do a lot of outreach to progressives to say we see you,” he said during a press conference after General Conference adjourned. Carter is also the leader of the Florida Conference, which has congregations across the theological spectrum.

Bishop Scott Jones of the Texas Conference said in a statement that the vote resolves a long-standing debate about how the church “can best accomplish our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

“This decision is consistent with our denomination’s historic stance on human sexuality, outlined in the Book of Discipline since 1972,” Jones said. He added, “We will continue to welcome lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and queer persons to our churches and affirm their sacred worth. I pray we, as a denomination, can now move forward, working with each other in the spirit of Christian love and joining together as one. We are stronger together in serving God’s mission as a diverse body of Christ,” Jones said.

Many opponents’ amendments took the stance that, biblically speaking, any pastoral or episcopal candidate who is divorced or remarried is as ineligible as one who is a “self-avowed practicing homosexual.”

In the morning, after passionate speeches, prayers and tears, the “one, last shot” for the One Church Plan was defeated by a vote of 449-374. The plan was defeated the day before in the first vote.

The Rev. Tom Berlin, Virginia Conference, spoke for a minority report for the One Church Plan that was submitted Feb. 25. A minority report is a substitution for the report of the legislative committee.

“I have a love of the church that sometimes I do not even understand,” he said in presenting the report to the denomination’s top lawmaking assembly. “Sometimes I get emotional when I talk about it because I catch a glimpse of what we can be with God’s help.” Berlin told delegates that approving the One Church Plan did not force any pastor or church to perform same-sex marriages, nor did it force anyone to change what they believe about the Bible. But the plan would allow conferences to ordain LGBTQ pastors, as well as allowing churches to host and pastors to officiate at same-sex marriages.

“If the Traditional Plan is voted in, it will be a virus that will make the American church very sick,” he said. “Many pastors are going to leave, many annual conference will leave. ... There will be trials, and they will be on the news. The only news about the church will be about people we don’t serve.”

The Rev. Jerry Kulah, a Liberia delegate and leader of the Africa Initiative coalition, argued for the Traditional Plan. “The Traditional Plan is not only traditional but biblical; it ensures God’s word remains foundational to the life and growth of the UMC. I submit we love our LGBTQ friends,” he said.

Aislinn Deviney, Rio Texas, who described herself as a young evangelical delegate, said many young people “fiercely believe marriage is between one man and one woman.” “We are here at the table because of our dedication, not because we demand a place because of our age,” she said. “We speak for ourselves. We all have family and friends who are LGBTQ that we love and value.”

Rey Hernandez, Philippines, said cultures are not the same around the world but the One Church Plan is “beautiful in our unity.” “With the help of the gifts of Holy Spirit, I believe what we are trying to agree on is to spread the Gospel,” he said.

Thank you to all my church family and friends for the
valentines and gifts.

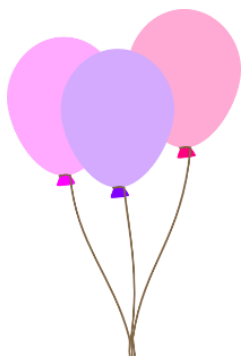
In Christian Love, Dorothy Best



Thank you to everyone who came and supported our recent Soup
supper. We raised a little over \$500. We greatly appreciate the love
and support we get from our church and the community.

-Judy Smith, Methodist Youth Fellowship

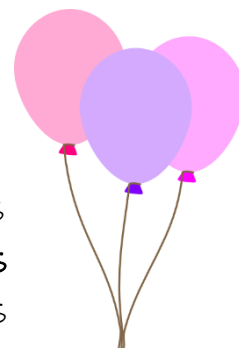
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Cayson Frerichs	March 1
Marie Heeren	March 2
Jill Corso, Misty Smith	March 3
Bobby Rokis	March 4
Glenda Berg, Mark Vink, Holly Wildermuth	March 5
Jim Gerhardt	March 7
Dalee Medley	March 8
Tim Despain, Jordan VanHoutte	March 11
Jeff Swan	March 12
Laura File, Lori Thomas, Taylor VanHoutte	March 14
Tony Rokis	March 23
Janette Wilkinson	March 25
Jon Clark, John Mercer	March 26
Jarett Hasson	March 29
Sarah Browning, Harper Tapscott	March 30

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Don & Marge Patterson	March 6	70 years
Jon & Barbara Warren	March 12	37 years
Mike & Holly Wildermuth	March 26	26 years
Brian & Suzanna Floming	March 28	4 years



{ CALENDAR }

OF EVENTS

March 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 4 – 9 pm Pack meeting FH
3 Holy Communion 3:00 Confirmation Class 5:00 – 7:00 pm MYF	4 10:30 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Cup of Joseph – men's ministry 6:30 – 7:30 Praise Team	5 1:30 – 4:00 pm ERFP 6 – 8 pm CUMC Skate Night! – Skate City, Moline	6 Ash Wednesday 9 – 2 pm Quilting 6:00 pm FM Bible Study 6:30 – 8 pm Cub Scout Committee Mtg. 6:30 – 8:30 pm Wolf Den	7 Prayer Vigil 6:00 pm Lenten Bible Study	8	9
10 Daylight Saving Begins Cans of Change (thru 4/14) 11:30 am Worship Team meeting 9:50 S.S. Opening 5:00 – 7:00 pm MYF	11 9:00 am Staff meeting 6:30 – 7:30 Praise Team	12 10:00 am Book Club 6:30 pm Trustees meeting	13 9 – 2 pm Quilting 6:00 pm FM Bible Study 7 – 8 pm Adult Choir	14 6:00 pm Lenten Bible Study	15	16 6:30 - 10 pm MYF Trivia Night
17 3:00 Confirmation Class 5:00 – 7:00 pm MYF	18 10:30 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Cup of Joseph – men's ministry 6:30 – 7:30 Praise Team	19 1:30 – 4:00 pm ERFP 5:00 pm Shepherd's Potluck and Program	20 Spring Begins 9 – 2 pm Quilting 5:30 pm Supper 6:00 pm FM Bible Study 6–6:45 pm J.A.M.S 6:30 – 8:30 pm Wolf Den 7–8 pm Adult Choir	21 9:00 am UMW 6:00 pm Lenten Bible Study 6:00 pm Missions	22 April newsletter deadline	23
24 Blood Pressure Checks New Member Class (following worship) 5:00 – 7:00 pm MYF	25 9:00 am Staff meeting	26 6 – 8 pm Pack Meeting FH	27 9 – 2 pm Quilting 6:00 pm FM Bible Study 7 – 8 pm Adult Choir	28 6:00 pm Lenten Bible Study	29	30 9 – 11 am Can Drive
31 UMCOR Sun. 9:00 am Sun.school 10:00 am Worship/potluck 3:00 Confirmation Class 5:00 – 7:00 pm MYF						

hello spring

