


The Word

A wooden tool, possibly a mallet or a similar instrument, is wrapped with a vibrant purple ribbon. It is placed on a light-colored wooden surface, surrounded by fresh green ferns. The background is a soft, out-of-focus wooden texture.

For our sake

HE MADE HIM

to be sin who knew no sin,

SO THAT

IN
HIM

WE MIGHT BECOME

THE

righteousness
OF GOD.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:21, NRSV

Published by The United Ministry of Delhi

March 2022

Minister's Musings

This newsletter is one way we mark time. Birthdays and anniversaries are another. The church marks time in seasons – Advent to Christmas to Epiphany and the ordinary time after Epiphany. Lent begins March 2, on Ash Wednesday. Then forty days until Easter, even though there's already Easter candy available in Walgreens.

The season of Lent is a tool to help us remember that time is precious. It is 40 days set aside from our usual routines and schedules for us to carefully and deliberately choose how we will spend our time. Of course, we needn't set it aside at all. But its existence is an invitation to step away from the routine and consider if we're content with our lives as they are, or whether we might live with deeper integrity, closer to God and closer to the ideals we tell ourselves we believe. For many Christians, letting go of a luxury, just for a few weeks, is a way to remind them of what is truly precious and what is extra and ultimately unnecessary to a life well-lived. I encourage you to embrace a Lenten discipline as we approach the celebration of Easter in late March. The cards available at church, or arriving in the mail are one tool you can use to walk through the season. You might simply incorporate prayer into your day, fifteen minutes of conversation with God about people and situations you care about. You might spend each Tuesday of Lent going through your closets, finding things that you don't need that might brighten the life of someone else. You might choose to write a postcard each day, or three a week, to friends or acquaintances you know are lonely or ill. You might commit to calling a different local non-profit each week to see how you might be of help to the people they serve. The possibilities are many. A holy Lent is time for you to re-focus your life, so that the way you spend your hours is the way you want to spend your life. Such an endeavor is worth the effort. May you experience a holy Lent. May it be time well spent.

Announcements for March 2022

We will celebrate Ash Wednesday on March 3 in shared worship with First Presbyterian. The service is at 6:30 at First Presbyterian, Rev. Cathy Schuyler, preaching; there will be the opportunity for the imposition of ashes.

We elected new leadership for the United Ministry at our Annual Meeting in January. We will include an installation of church leaders in worship on Sunday, March 13.

The Parish Council will gather for a leadership retreat on Sunday, March 13, after church and coffee hour. We'll eat a simple lunch together and meet until about 3:30 at the latest.

The Parish Council decided at the February meeting that masks are always welcome in the church building, but will no longer be required. There will still be disposable masks available at the entrance, but you will not be asked to sign in.

A confirmation class will start soon for anyone in grades 6-12. Come to the Harder Room on Monday evening, March 14, at 6 for an introductory and planning meeting; we'll figure out then when and how often the class will meet. If you're interested, please let Pastor Cathy know.

Summary of Parish Council Meeting, February 21, 2022

After thorough discussion, the council decided to rescind the mask mandate for the church building, based on the general decline in Covid cases in Delaware County, and following the updated practices of the County itself.

Council will gather after church on Sunday, March 13, for a focused planning session for the year ahead. We'll share lunch, work for a few hours, and plan to head home by 3:30.

Play School is hosting a Can and Bottle collection on Sunday, March 6, after church, 1-4:30 pm.

Laura Clark reported that income and expenses were as expected, but the Treasurer's report with specifics was tabled until the March meeting. She requested that the Trustees transfer \$ 20,000 into the general fund at their March meeting.

The Finance Committee expects to meet in March. The signers for bank accounts were updated as per decisions at the January Council meeting.

Gideon Frisbee reported that Pastor Cathy will be out of town on March 1.

Jeff Ackerly reported that the Trustees met and elected officers for the year.

Jeff Ackerly, president; Jim Jacksto, vice-president; Peg Baldwin, treasurer; Ruth Vredenburg, secretary. Now that the parsonage is finally fully ours, Jeff will assess the list of things that need to be addressed and figure out which we can do on our own and

which we'll need to hire out. No specific date yet for a spring workday, but we'll need one.

We'd like to gather again regularly for coffee hour, but we therefore need people to step up to host them. Cathy Johnson will leave a sign-up sheet for both coffee hour and for flowers by the mailboxes.

Pastor Cathy reported that there are packs of cards available for Lenten devotions. They will be available at the church, or they can be mailed to those who are interested. Kids Club is going well; there are seven kids coming regularly. She expects to start a confirmation class in the Spring. And there will be an installation of church leadership as part of worship on Sunday, March 13. Reports were submitted to both the Presbyterians and the United Methodists.

The council approved a building request from Curt Sather for a Bach's birthday concert on Sunday, March 20 in the afternoon.

Women's Open Circle

Our next meeting will be Thursday, March 10th at noon in the Harder Room. Bring your own lunch. Beverages and dessert will be provided. Remember - it's weather permitting!

The Birthday Box



Does anyone in the United Ministry remember Evelyn Monroe's Birthday Bags? Starting in the 1930's or 40's each Sunday School pupil received a small cloth bag in which to deposit a penny for each year. These birthday offerings went to Missions.

Although the little bags are long-ago memories only, a decorated Birthday Box in the Harder Room awaits your "coin for each year" on your birthday.



Daylight Savings Begins

Turn clocks ahead 1 hour before bed on Saturday, March 12th!
Daylight Savings time begins at 2 am on Sunday March 13th.

Coffee Hours



Now that we are meeting for worship in person once more, we would like to have regular coffee hours again. As we started meeting in the beginning of February, it became clear that we enjoy being together - not only for worship, but for the fellowship that a coffee hour provides after the service. After 2 years of being apart, it offers us the chance to reconnect and we recognize that is a big part of who we are as a congregation. Please consider hosting a coffee hour, so we

can keep them going! If you are interested, please contact the office or Cathy Johnson and we will walk you through the process of making coffee and tea. It's not hard and it is fun!

Bible Quiz

All four Gospels tell of a woman anointing Jesus. Details vary; clearly, she isn't the same person in all accounts. In John, who is she?

- A. Jesus' mother, Mary
- B. Mary Magdalene
- C. Mary of Bethany (sister of Martha and Lazarus)
- D. None of the above



Play School Update - March 2022

Fundraiser Event: Play School is planning a bottle and can drive on **March 6th from 1-4:30 pm**. Please save your empty cans and bottles to donate to a great cause - Play School! Growing Strong Together

Pre-registration for the 2022-23 school year is now available, please contact Pam Savage at playschool.umod@gmail.com for more information.

The children are so excited to come to school each morning and they are learning a lot. During the month of February we had fun with Groundhog Day and predicting what will happen - will he see his shadow or not, I Love..., and Valentine's Day projects and a fun class party, dinosaurs, stories, and games. We enjoyed a math/numbers/counting/sorting and graphing worksheet that included M&M! YUM!! We will go into March geared up for St. Patrick's Day, outdoor play, and Spring! We will continue our letters of the week and fun topics. We are also looking forward to inviting community members into the classroom to share their special gifts and talents with the children. If you would like to share something with our class, please contact Pam Savage at playschool.umod@gmail.com and we can plan a date.



Continued Thanks to everyone who has donated to Play School and has shared their time and support! This has truly been a blessing for the children's learning, growth and development!! They are so curious to see what we are going to learn about next! It's amazing to see!!

Wishing you all continued health and happiness!

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Savage

Play School Director

LITTLE DELAWARE YOUTH ENSEMBLE

A CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OF YOUNG STRING PLAYERS FROM
DELAWARE, OTSEGO, CHENANGO, & BROOME COUNTIES

UNDER THE MUSICAL DIRECTION OF ULI SPETH

WINTER CONCERT

Sunday March 13th, 2022 • 3 PM

United Ministry Church, Delhi

**SELECTIONS FROM MOZART,
ARENSKY, FARINA
AND OTHERS**







Featuring the
Preparatory Orchestra
under the
musical direction
of Debrah Devine



**CONCERT IS FREE
&
FAMILY FRIENDLY**

**MASK COVERING BOTH NOSE AND MOUTH
REQUIRED FOR ALL AUDIENCE MEMBERS**

For additional information regarding this concert
please call 917.902.9301 • www.ldye.org

This concert is funded in part by the A. Lindsay and Olive B. O'Connor Foundation, Delaware National Bank and Stewart's Shops.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
		<p>1</p> <p>Shrove Tuesday 8:30am Play School 9:00am OT - Mindy 11:30am Casual Café - HR</p>	<p> Ash Wednesday 2</p> <p>8:30am Play School 10:00am Pastor With Coffee 3:00pm Kid's Club 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service @ First Presbyterian</p>
<p> First Sunday 6 IN LENT Communion</p> <p>10:30am Worship 12:00pm Can/bottle Drive Benefit Play School</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:30am Play School 1:00pm Food Pantry</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8:30am Play School 9:00am OT - Mindy 11:30am Casual Café - HR</p> <p>6:30pm Trustees - HR</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:30am Play School 10:00am Pastor With Coffee 3:00pm Kid's Club</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir - MR</p>
<p> Second Sunday 13 IN LENT Communion/Installation of officers</p> <p>10:30am Worship 12:00 PC Planning 3:00pm Little Delaware Youth Ensemble - Sanctuary</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:30am Play School 1:00pm Food Pantry 2:00pm Alzheimer's Sup Grp - Meeting Virtually</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8:30am Play School 9:00am OT - Mindy 11:30am Casual Café - HR</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:30am Play School 10:00am Pastor With Coffee 3:00pm Kid's Club</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir - MR</p>
<p> Third Sunday 20 IN LENT</p> <p>10:30am Worship</p> <p>4:00pm Organ Recital - Sanctuary</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:30am Play School 1:00pm Food Pantry 6:30pm Parish Council @ HR</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:30am Play School 9:00am OT - Mindy 11:30am Casual Café - HR</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30am Play School 10:00am Pastor With Coffee 3:00pm Kid's Club</p> <p>7:30pm Chancel Choir - MR</p>
<p> Fourth Sunday 27 IN LENT</p> <p>One Great Hour of Sharing 10:30am Worship</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:30am Play School 1:00pm Food Pantry</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:30am Play School 9:00am OT - Mindy 11:30am Casual Café - HR</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:30am Play School 10:00am Pastor With Coffee 3:00pm Kid's Club 7:30pm Chancel Choir - MR</p>

Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>3</p> <p>8:30am Play School 10:30am Book Study - HR</p> <p>3:30pm Food Pantry</p> <p>6:00pm Al Anon - HR</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>10</p> <p>8:30am Play School 10:30am Book Study - Cr 12:00pm Women's Open Circle - HR</p> <p>3:30pm Food Pantry 6:00pm Al Anon - HR</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Spring Ahead</i></p> <p>Turn clocks ahead Before going to bed!</p> </div>
<p>17</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day 8:30am Play School 10:30am Book Study - HR</p> <p>3:30pm Food Pantry 6:00pm Al Anon - HR</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>24</p> <p>8:30am Play School 10:30am Book Study - HR</p> <p>3:30pm Food Pantry 6:00pm Al Anon - HR</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>31</p> <p>8:30am Play School 10:30am Book Study - HR</p> <p>3:30pm Food Pantry 6:00pm Al Anon - HR</p>		



UNITED MINISTRY HISTORY

Activities and Participants

Introductory Comments

This month we pay tribute to Evelyn Monroe. Upon joining The United Ministry in 1972, I recognized Evelyn as a very special person. Tom Briggs provides a short "Bio" that reflects my assessment. In my researching U.M. history I came across a report written by Evelyn that reflects on one of Evelyn's contributions to U.M. I have added her report found in the 1973 Annual Report. I include this also to reflect on some of the U.M. offering at that time. I am adding this as an addendum to Tom's "Bio".

Evelyn resided on Clinton Street and enjoyed a very large backyard. Evelyn was an expert gardener. She mastered the art of composting and tended to beautiful flower beds and a very productive vegetable garden. I wonder how many U.M. members received transplants from her backyard. If you did, please let me know.

Don Haight 607-746-6124



Evelyn Monroe: "You meet the nicest people"

It was decided last year that it would be beneficial for the congregation to celebrate the lives of some of the very special people who helped with the formation of the Delhi United Ministry. As part of this initiative, Don Haight asked me if I would write a piece to be published in 'The Word' about Evelyn Monroe, now deceased, and share some memories, now blurred, to rekindle some of the spiritual energy that she injected into the church community.

The first time I remember seeing Evelyn was in 1975. I was recently hired as service coordinator at the Office for the Aging and was visiting the new Delhi Senior Meal Site at the Second Presbyterian Church (present day United Ministry). Mrs. Monroe was walking

amongst the diners, coffee carafe in hand, a gentle smile on her face, unobtrusively welcoming members of this new crowd of senior citizens as they acclimated themselves to their new surroundings. She was a member of the “New Horizons” senior citizens club and was doing what came naturally to her; spreading kindness and connecting people.

Evelyn Rowell Monroe spent much of her childhood with loving parents and grandparents on the family farm in the town of Colchester. There she attended church, explored the surrounding fields and mountains, and developed through farm life her mindful regard for nature and its inhabitants.

When she was fifteen, Evelyn’s parents moved to Delhi, and purchased a house on Clinton Street. She attended Delaware Academy and after graduation, continued her education at Syracuse University. She returned to Delhi and took a teaching position after graduation. In 1928 she married a local man, Jim Monroe, and became a housewife and mother of sons Philip and Lawrence.

(From her obituary)

Throughout her life, she valued relationships and constantly organized events that brought people together. She possessed an unusual acceptance, interest and understanding of different racial and cultural backgrounds and for many years housed foreign students who attended Delhi College. Until the end letters and greetings came from former students now living in Africa, Asia, and Europe.

Faith was a deeply ingrained part of her loving personality. A faithful servant, she held many offices in the Methodist Church and taught fourth grade Sunday School class for more than 30 years. When The United Ministry was formed, bringing together the Presbyterian and Methodist congregations, she was a leader with a vision to better serve the community.

She thought it a sin to drive to a church even alone and would always call friends who might need a ride. She took special interest in handicapped (developmentally disabled) residents of a group home in Delhi, and saw that a church membership class was available to them. Today they are a regular part of the life of The United Ministry.

Her camera was a constant companion and she will be remembered for the numerous photos she took of people in the church and community, which she chronicled in her yearly albums, now a living history of Delhi.



Quite often when people would meet Mrs. Monroe on the street or at an event, she would greet them with, "Sometimes you meet the nicest people". I tend to think that this greeting was her gracious, backdoor attempt to encourage people to reach for their kindest selves. In a way it captured the essence of this special lady. May her life and her loving spirit serve as an inspiration for the congregants of The United Ministry and a legacy of kindness that will continue to manifest itself in the many good works of the church community.

~Tom Briggs

Addendum: Together Report

As of December 1973 sixty-nine subscriptions to TOGETHER were in force. 12 are gifts, person-to-family, by individuals. 4 are in reading centers (Jail, Hotline Center, Smith Lounge, and Infirmary) given by individual United Ministry members. 1 additional gift copy to the Home and Infirmary is from Sunshine Circle of WIUM. Education Commission places 3 in reading centers (Cannon Library, O'Connor Hospital and United Ministry Office-Library).

TOGETHER completed long years of distinguished service with the December '73 "Collector's Item" copy. TODAY begins publication January '74.

I will continue to keep records on TODAY subscriptions and to forward the payments as a service to the Church plan, but I must ask that individuals get their money to me promptly when notified.

My sincere thanks to all who do read and my special gratitude to those who share copies with neighbors or friends and finally do return used copies for use within our Library resource centers.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Monroe

Subscription Representative

PIPE ORGAN RECITAL

CURT SATHER

SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 2022 - 4 PM



CELEBRATING THE 337TH BIRTHDAY OF JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH Including the famous Toccata & Fugue in D Minor, and Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring.

RECEPTION FOLLOWING
THE UNITED MINISTRY OF DELHI



Lily Order Form

We have ordered lily plants to decorate the sanctuary for our Easter Worship service. If you would like to help defray the cost, or would like to make a donation to the Food Pantry in memory or in honor of a loved one or special event in your life, please fill out the form below and return to the church office by Sunday, April 10.

Please fill out the form **exactly** as you would like the dedication to read:

Lily plant(s) for the Sanctuary

In Memory/Honor of _____
(circle one)

By: _____

In Memory/Honor of _____
(circle one)

By: _____

\$ _____ for _____ plants at \$10.00 each.

Or: _____ I will supply my own plant



Food Bank Donation made

In Memory/Honor of _____
(circle one)

By: _____

In Memory/Honor of _____
(circle one)

By: _____

Total \$ _____ donation to Food Bank

Please pick up your plant after worship on Easter Sunday.

Please order by Sunday, April 10th!



Phil Jensen	3/6	Bob Russell	3/20
Natalie Anderson	3/6	Pam Vogt	3/20
Phoebe Fisher	3/7	Lynn Hoffman	3/23
John Sandman	3/14	Rozlyn Burrows	3/24
Nikki All	3/14	Laura Mills	3/27
Patti Kruppo	3/17	Chuck Hill	3/28
Bonnie Hamilton	3/18	Cyndy Harder	3/28



Word and Worship

March 2022

Wednesday, March 2

Ash Wednesday

Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6,
16-21

Sunday, March 6

First Sunday in Lent

Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Romans 10:8b-13, Luke 4:1-13

Sunday, March 13

Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18, Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35

Sunday, March 20

Third Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13, Luke 13:1-9

Sunday, March 27

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32
2 Corinthians 5:16-21, Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Contents

The Word.....	1
Minister’s Musings	2
Announcements for March 2022	2
Summary of Parish Council Meeting, February 21, 2022	3
Women’s Open Circle.....	4
The Birthday Box.....	4
Daylight Savings Begins	4
Coffee Hours	5
Bible Quiz	5
Play School Update - March 2022	6
Little Delaware Youth Ensemble Winter Concert	7
Calendar	8
UNITED MINISTRY HISTORY.....	10
Activities and Participants	10
PIPE ORGAN RECITAL.....	13
Lily Order Form	14
Birthdays	15
Word and Worship.....	15

