

# The Word

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A square graphic with a background of purple fabric, possibly silk, with visible folds and highlights. The word "Lent" is written in a large, white, cursive script font across the center.

Lent

*Create in me  
a clean heart,  
O God, and  
renew a right  
spirit within me.*

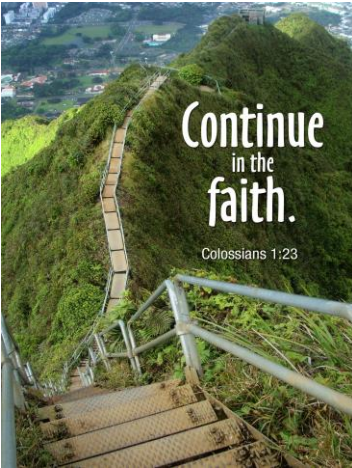
PSALM 51:10, ESV

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## Ministers Musings



Halfway down the stairs is a stair where I sit  
And there isn't any other stair quite like it.  
It isn't at the bottom, and it isn't at the top  
So this is the stair where I always stop.  
Halfway up the stairs isn't up and isn't down  
It isn't in the nursery, it isn't in the town.  
And all kinds of funny thoughts run 'round my head.  
It isn't really anywhere; it's somewhere else instead.  
*A.A. Milne, When We Were Very Young*

I'm here and I'm not here. The bishop has informed that I'll be serving on Long Island come July. Yet I'm still here in Delhi, in the midst of almost spring, a place where I like to be. March will be a wonderful month at The United Ministry of Delhi. We'll welcome new members, baptize a couple of cute kids and their mom, begin Lent together on Ash Wednesday, serve hot cocoa to the town at the parade, and share boxes of food with our neighbors. That's in addition to our regular ministries of regular worship with great music, Kids' Club, Bible study, the Bill Cash Memorial Food Pantry, Play School, Casual Café, and Men's Coffee on Tuesdays. There will be meetings with thoughtful discussion and reports on how we're making progress on long-term projects and administration.

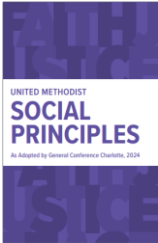
The work of sharing the gospel goes on, and will go on. You will be part of the visible work of the church, and you will witness to God's love in ways that we won't know the half of. This is the messy, varied, creative, and ongoing work of the Holy Spirit, entwined with our work and love. The Spirit blows where it will, Jesus says, and we follow with faith. I thank God for the work of the Spirit among us here in Delhi, now and in the months and years to come.

Pastor Cathy

## Announcements



The church will offer coffee and hot chocolate on the Square during and after the St. Patrick's Parade on March 22. The more people we have, the more friends we can smile at and serve. Let Carol Greene know that you can be there to help.



The Thursday morning **Book Study** will spend a few weeks looking at the Revised Social Principles of the United Methodist Church. If you'd like to join us, let Pastor Cathy know and we'll make sure there's enough coffee for you. And get you a copy of the Social Principles. We meet Thursday mornings at 10:30 in the Harder Room.



## Highlights of February Parish Council

Parish Council began with folks sharing some of their current joys and concerns and then Pastor Cathy leading us in prayer.

The topic of the month was the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. Chelsea Frisbee has agreed to help with the financial campaign and the marketing of information once plans are in place. Both Ron Frisbee and Glen Reynolds have both volunteered to be on the committee as well. On Sunday the 23<sup>rd</sup> a meeting will be held during coffee hour to brainstorm ideas for what we want the celebrations to look like. Some of the thoughts that have been expressed at Council have included highlighting the Historical aspects of the church and the building and working with the Historical Association on a program that might include tours of the Court House square including the Luce Center (connecting with the new owner). In addition, Lisa Tessier's name was mentioned to host architectural tours. Also suggested was an organ concert using outside people. Key to all of this will be the publicity around whatever events we decide on. Also suggested was recording interviews with people telling their versions of the merger when it happened 50 years ago.

Eloise reported that there had been a Playschool Board meeting last week. She reported that they will be getting a new student after the break. They have a list of potentially 22 students for next year. Fundraisers include March 7<sup>th</sup> which will be movie night and a bake sale which will be held on March 22<sup>nd</sup> during the St. Patrick's Day parade.

The council approved the minutes from our January 20<sup>th</sup> council meeting and the minutes from the Annual meeting on January 19<sup>th</sup>. We agreed to approve the February treasurer's report at our next meeting.

Stephanie reported that the Finance committee met on February 4<sup>th</sup>. Since there were three payroll periods in January a draw on investments was needed to support the budget. Carol gathered a bunch of data on pledged giving, investment draws etc. over the last 10 years and Fran volunteered to put this into graphs for helpful viewing and planning. The finance committee worked on a short-term financial plan for 2025-2026 and approved it being sent to council for final approval. At council the plan was presented in written form and a motion for acceptance was made and approved by Council. This will be critical and helpful to the success of our next grant application to O'Connor. It was decided that the financial part of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration would be called the Campaign for the Future.

Trustees met on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Gideon will meet with a representative from the Fire Alarm company to discuss updating the system and the costs. The bell tower clock has stopped, and the part needed to repair it will cost \$700. Trustees suggested taking it out of the money received from the bequest of Ann Smith. They are also working on replacing an old toilet in the parsonage and getting prices to replace the old carpet in the master bedroom. Sidewalk maintenance seems to be non-stop. Trustees initiated a \$15,000 draw from the Money Market Investments. Our investments had gained \$10,000 for the year as of early February which was encouraging. Trustees had their annual elections, Gideon Frisbee is chairman, Jeff Ackerly, Vice-Chair, Ruth Vredenburg, Secretary and Peg Baldwin is Treasurer.

Barb Jones reported that SPR met in January. They welcomed their newest member Katie Palm. A newsletter article will be done welcoming our new sexton, Kendra. Their next meeting will be held on March 20<sup>th</sup>. They will be working on Sexual Harassment Training for staff (required by state) and getting background checks completed.

Pastor Cathy shared that Kids Club was chaotic but going well and that book study continues, as well as Coffee with Pastor. Cathy has started a class at Drew University. There is the potential of 4 new members joining the church. Pastor Cathy made a motion accept Hope and Taso Pantilieris, and Delaney and Meredith McCann as new members to join United Ministry. It was approved by council. Statistical reports were completed for both denominations. She hosted a luncheon for the Presbytery Pastors on January 30<sup>th</sup>. The next fifth Sunday gathering of the local Presbyterians will be on June 29<sup>th</sup> in Walton. Pastor Cathy has been elected to be on the Nominations Committee for the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery. Cathy will be away the Sunday after Easter, April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Edie Campbell submitted a Mission report with some interesting statistics about our Food Pantry and Giveaway program. In 2024 we received \$18,861 in donations for the Food Pantry. \$9775 was spent to stock the pantry and \$9,906 was spent to support the community food giveaways. A total of \$19,681 was spent on food ministry in 2024. Another food giveaway is planned for March.

During our Witness discussion it was suggested that we once again give out hot chocolate during the St. Patrick's Day parade. Ruth V. and Carol agreed to help out

We continue to have new requests for building usage which the council welcomes and approved. One was for a Girl Scouts/ Daisy Group and the other was from a few local women (including Chelsea Frisbee) who would like to provide Resilience/Civics Training on Saturdays during March and April, to a private group of people in our community.

If you have questions at any time, please feel free to talk with myself or other council members.

~Carol Greene

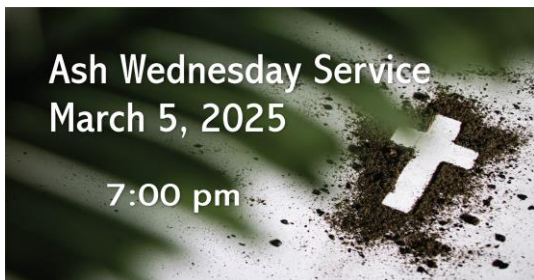
## Women's Open Circle

Women's Open Circle will meet Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Harder Room. Bring your own lunch, beverages and dessert will be provided.



## Daylight Savings Begins

Turn clocks ahead 1 hour before bed on Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>! Daylight Savings time begins at 2 am on Sunday March 9<sup>th</sup>.



## Ash Wednesday Service

Join us as we begin our Lenten Journey with an Ash Wednesday service, 7:00 pm, Wednesday, March 5.

The service will include imposition of Ashes.

## Lenten Devotional



*lift up your voice*  
SINGING THROUGH LENT AND EASTER

## Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5.

Copies of the Lenten devotional *Lift Up Your Voice* and a lyric booklet with links to digital lyrics and a Spotify playlist are available on the table outside Pastors Office. The devotional is also available digitally on our website: [umdelhi.org/connect/adult-formation/](http://umdelhi.org/connect/adult-formation/) Digital copies will also be emailed by request, email [office@umdelhi.org](mailto:office@umdelhi.org).

## Volunteer Opportunity

# Volunteers Needed!

St.  
Patrick's  
Parade



March 22 - we'll be handing out  
hot chocolate & coffee during the parade

Let Carol Green know if you can help!

## Bible Quiz

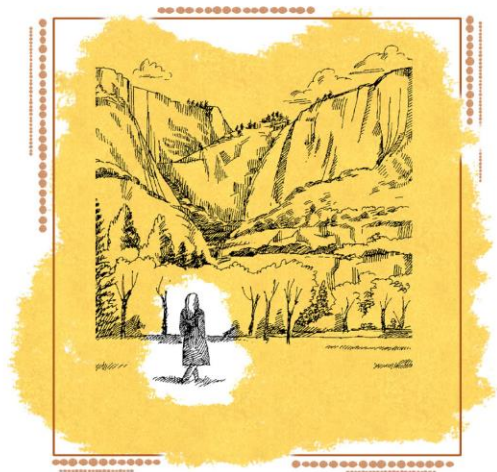


## Bible Quiz



Complete this sentence which introduces a well-known Bible story:  
“The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of \_\_\_\_\_.”

- A. flowers
- B. sheep
- C. rocks
- D. bones



Answer: D (See Ezekiel 37:1, NIV.)

## Play School Bake Sale

PLAY SCHOOL INVITES YOU TO  
JOIN US FOR OUR FIFTH ANNUAL  
ST. PATRICK'S PARADE

# Bake Sale

SATURDAY, MARCH 22  
FROM 10 AM - 2 PM  
AT 96 MAIN STREET IN DELHI  
OUTFRONT MAIN STREET CARDS & GIFTS

ALL DONATIONS DIRECTLY BENEFIT THE PLAY SCHOOL PROGRAM



FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
CONNECT WITH US AT  
(607) 746 2191 EXT 206  
OR [PLAYSCHOOLUMOD.WIXSITE.COM/HOME](https://www.playschoolumod.wixsite.com/home)





## Play School Movie Night

PLAY SCHOOL INVITES YOU TO...

# MOVIE NIGHT

### FILM

DISNEY'S FROZEN  
1 HR 42 MIN

### SHOWTIME

FRIDAY, MARCH 7  
6:30 PM DOORS OPEN  
7 PM TRAILERS ROLL

### LOCATION

THE UNITED MINISTRY OF DELHI  
MCINTOSH HALL

### ADMISSION

BY DONATION\*  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
ALL CHILDREN SHOULD BE  
ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT  
\*ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE  
PLAY SCHOOL PROGRAM

### REFRESHMENTS

POPCORN, LEMONADE AND  
WATER WILL BE AVAILABLE  
FOR NO ADDITIONAL CHARGE

### MORE INFO

(607) 746-2191 EXT 206  
PLAYSCHOOL.UMOD  
@GMAIL.COM  
PLAYSCHOOLUMOD.  
WIXSITE.COM/HOME



BRING YOUR OWN  
PILLOWS AND BLANKETS  
AND GET COMFORTABLE!



## Stewardship Note: Faith Giving

**Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>** will be our first Faith Giving Sunday of this year. Special envelopes will be available and collected during worship. If you are unable to attend on that Sunday, you can still contribute before or after that date, but be sure to clearly mark "Faith Giving" with your contribution, or save for the next date (Last Sunday in June)!



*God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. (2 Corinthians 9:8)*



As we begin the journey of Lent,  
may the ashes remind us  
of our  
**MORTALITY**  
and the hope we have  
in the  
**RESURRECTION**



## Lenten Banner

**L**ent is the most solemn and penitent of the seasons. It is a time for soul searching, study, disciplined sacrifice and fasting; a time to focus on the events, experiences and suffering of our Lord's final earthly week, so that we may be cleansed and ready to share with Christ in His death and resurrection.

Although this season is filled with sorrow and suffering and culminates in the crucifixion of our Lord, transcending all is the Lord's total forgiveness and complete absolution to the repentant heart.

John 1:29 "Behold the lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."

### **Symbolism:**

White circles (nimbus) represents holiness.

Figure kneeling represents Jesus praying in the Garden of Gethsemane; symbolizes our need to search our souls, to watch and to pray.

Grapes and wheat represent Christ's blood shed and body broken on the cross for us; commemorates the Last Supper; symbolizes our need to fast and deny self during this season.



Sacrificial lamb represents the innocent Christ who died for us; symbolizes our need to sacrifice for others.

Shrouded Calvary cross with the three steps symbolize love, hope, and faith represent the crucifixion; symbolizes the supreme sacrifice – that of self.

Pitcher, basin, and towel represent Christ washing the feet of the disciples and His last commandment “. . . Love one another . . .”; symbolizes our need for humility and service.

Dove with olive branch represents forgiveness and Christ’s words upon the cross, “Father, forgive them for they know not what they do”; symbolizes the Lord’s total forgiveness and complete absolution of sin to the contrite heart.

Palms quilted into the border commemorates Palm Sunday when Jesus revealed Himself as the Messiah; symbolizes our recognition of Christ as our Lord and Savior.

Nails quilted into the border represents the crucifixion of Christ and His suffering upon the cross; symbolizes Christ’s cruel sacrifice to assure our salvation.

**Symbolic colors:**

Purple = penitence Violet = sorrow

White = purity and holiness Black = sin and death

Green = growth; life giving Golden brown = earthly things

Ecu = linen color of the Last Supper

Blue = royalty and service of Christ on earth

Dedicated to the glory of God in loving memory of Blanche M. Clark.

Designed by Patsy R. Morris

Coordinated by Ruth Crouch and Marilyn Guy

Rendered by Barbara Davidson, Ethel Hall, Billie Sturdevant, Ilene DeSilva, Fran Fleming, Marjorie Trelease, and Glenna Whitenight.

Art form: quilt

# sweet soil



This snack's layers mimic properties of our planet's crust.



### What you need:

- 1 cup rolled oats
- ½ cup nut butter (divided)
- ½ cup chocolate chips
- Microwave-safe bowl
- Silicone mini baking cups

### What you do:

1. Combine the oats and ⅓ cup of the nut butter. Mix until oats stick together.
2. Place 2 teaspoons of oat mixture in each baking cup. Press with a spoon. Freeze for 10 minutes.
3. Spread remaining nut butter atop the cups. Freeze for 10 more minutes.
4. Microwave the chocolate chips 30 seconds. Stir and keep heating for 30-second intervals until melted.
5. Spread melted chocolate atop the cups. Freeze until chocolate is firm.
6. Remove from the molds and enjoy! Refrigerate leftovers in an airtight container.



# PUZZLE



## FROM WORD TO WORLD

Words are important! God spoke and created all things.  
What does the psalmist declare about creation?

Directions: Using the word clues, unscramble the letters to complete Psalm 102:25, NIV.

A preposition	NI	---
An article	HTE	---
Genesis means this	NINBGEIGN	-----
A second-person pronoun	OUY	---
Past tense of to lay	IDAL	---
An article	HET	---
A plural noun meaning base	SODTAINFONU	-----
A preposition showing possession	FO	---
An article	TEH	---
A concrete noun meaning world	HRTEA	-----



Psalm 102:25, NIV

# MARCH

*Birthdays*

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



## Coffee Hour Hosts & Flowers for the Sanctuary



Have you signed up to host Coffee Hour yet? Coffee, tea, lemonade, and paper goods are supplied.

Cookies are optional. Sign up on the sheet on the Bulletin Board or call the church office to pick your date.

Would you like to commemorate a loved one or special event in your life?

Garden and wild flowers are always welcome! If you are uncomfortable creating the arrangement, call the office and we can make the arrangement for you.



### **Coffee Hour**

- Mar 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- Mar 9 *Girl Scout Troop 61045*
- Mar 16 *Susan Frisbee*
- Mar 23 \_\_\_\_\_
- Mar 30 *Cathy & Rick*

### **Flowers**

- Mar 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- Mar 9 \_\_\_\_\_
- Mar 16 \_\_\_\_\_
- Mar 23 *Tom Pandick*
- Mar 30 \_\_\_\_\_

Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board outside the office.

## Word and Worship

### Sunday, March 2

Transfiguration Sunday

Exodus 34: 29-35; Psalm 99

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36

### Sunday, March 16

Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18, Psalm 27

Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35

### Wednesday, March 5

Ash Wednesday

Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 51:1-17

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew  
6:1-6, 16-21

### Sunday, March 23

Third Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8

1 Corinthians 10:1-13, Luke 13:1-9

### Sunday, March 9

First Sunday in Lent

Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2,  
9-16

Romans 10:8b-13, Luke 4:1-13

### Sunday, March 30

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32

2 Corinthians 5:16-21, Luke 15:1-3,  
11b-32

## Lectors - March

Mar 2 *Ruth Kazmierski*

Mar 9 *Fred Onasch*

Mar 16 *Ann Peet*

Mar 23 *Evelyn Jacksto*

Mar 30 *Rick Edwards*

## Acolytes - March

Mar 2 *Wyatt Frisbee*

Mar 5 *Virginia Mills*

Mar 9 *Vredenburg & Virginia Mills*

Mar 16 *Wyatt Frisbee*

Mar 23 *Virginia Mills*

Mar 30 *Madison Vredenburg*

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