

Richland Center United Methodist Church
A Community of Faith
3rd Sunday in Lent: March 3, 2024



****Please wear a name tag. You will find them on the round table in the Narthex area. Thank you.****

Please silence or quiet your cell phone so we can worship and celebrate God together.

ORDER OF WORSHIP
**This mark invited those who are able to please stand*
PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***OPENING HYMN**
“God of Grace and God of Glory” 577

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**
Pastor: We live in a time where too many fists are clenched.
A time of anger that threatens.
A time of greed that is grasping.
A time of worry and fear that tense and tighten.

And yet, our hearts know, this is not the way the God of Love has called us to live.
People: Loving Creator, we ask You to help us to let go of whatever we cling to that is not You. To open our hands as we open our hearts to You. To join together as one in the reassuring presence of Your Holy Spirit.

Pastor: Abba God, our hands are empty.
We acknowledge our powerlessness. We are not in control. We are but humble players in the great, unfolding story of Your unfathomable love.

People: Holy One, we ask You to pour out Your grace to heal us, forgive us, and liberate us. For that is the way You call us to live. Help us to open our hands, our hearts, our minds, and our doors in Your name to all who need us.

Pastor: Let us extend our open hands in blessing.
As we have been blessed, so we bless one another.
We hold no weapons and make no threats.
We seek peace with all and we make peace for all.
It is better for us to give than to receive.

People: Make us instruments of Your peace as we surrender our lives to Your Purpose. Fill us and use us. Let our hands be ready, willing, and worthy to be Your hands. To do Your work wherever You guide us to go.

All: In Christ we pray. Amen

MINI-MESSAGE -- For Children of All Ages

HYMN *“Lord of All Hopefulness” 2197*

WORSHIP IN THE WORD
Scripture Reading: John 2:13-22 (NIV)
Scripture Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (NIV)
Sermon: “God’s Foolishness”

***HYMN** *“One Bread, One Body” 620*

WORSHIP IN HOLY COMMUNION
The United Methodist Church celebrates an open communion. All who wish to receive the gift of the sacrament are welcome to participate.

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE UMH p. 7
Response to the Word -- Affirmation of Faith
Prayer
Invitation to the Lord’s Table
Confession and Pardon
The Peace
Offering
***Doxology**
The Great Thanksgiving
The Lord’s Prayer
Receiving the Bread and Cup
Unison Prayer

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**
“Lord I Want to Be a Christian” 402

***BENEDICT**

Hymn Leaders: Connie Frye, Rosanne Knowler,
Kathy Schwinefus
Pianist: Jennifer Hall
Scripture Reader: Bonnie Richardson

Prayer: Lord, thank you for all of the spiritual blessings I enjoy at no cost to myself. May I be even more grateful as I stand beneath the shadow of the cross to receive them. Amen

This Week's Events:

- 03 Worship Service: 9:30 a.m. – with Communion**
Sunday school: 9:45 a.m.
- 04 PEO: 5:00 p.m.
- 05 Women's Bible Study: 10:00 a.m. – Library
Missions mtg: 4:30 p.m. – Library
- 06 Dance Class: 4:00 p.m.
- 07 Seeker's Bible Study: 10:00 a.m. - Library

Upcoming Events:

- 10 Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:45 a.m.
UMCOR Sunday
- 11 Trustees Mtg: 4:00 p.m. – Library
- 12 Women's Bible Study: 10:00 a.m. – Library
- 13 Dance Class: 4:00 p.m.
- 14 Seeker's Bible Study: 10:00 a.m. – Library
- 15 Irish Dance Recital: 4:00 p.m. – Potato Bar
5:00 p.m. – Recital
6:00 p.m. – Ceili Dancing

March Birthdays				March Anniversaries	
Tate Perkins	3/1	Lucy Joyce	3/8	Avery & Carissa Hatfield	3/19
Rachel Kaszubski	3/3	Michelle Woodman	3/8		
Deanna Gochenaur	3/4	Novali Ludwig	3/9		
Annabeth Sprecher	3/4	Dan Tracy	3/18		
Danielle Worthington	3/5	Jerry Bower	3/27		
Amanda Vitale	3/5	Jocelyn Storer	3/31		
Martin Rohn	3/7	Emilia Tracy	3/31		



TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR HOSPITALITY
Host

Many thanks to Anita Bunge for
hosting coffee hour today

Richland Center United Methodist Church

Pastor: Rachel K. Olson
Pastor's Cell Phone: 608-373-4027
Pastor's Email: rkolson123@gmail.com

Church Office
Hours: Monday-Thursday
12:00 – 4:00 p.m...
UMC Office: 608-647-3203
Email: trinityumc@mwt.net
Website: www.umchurchrc.org &

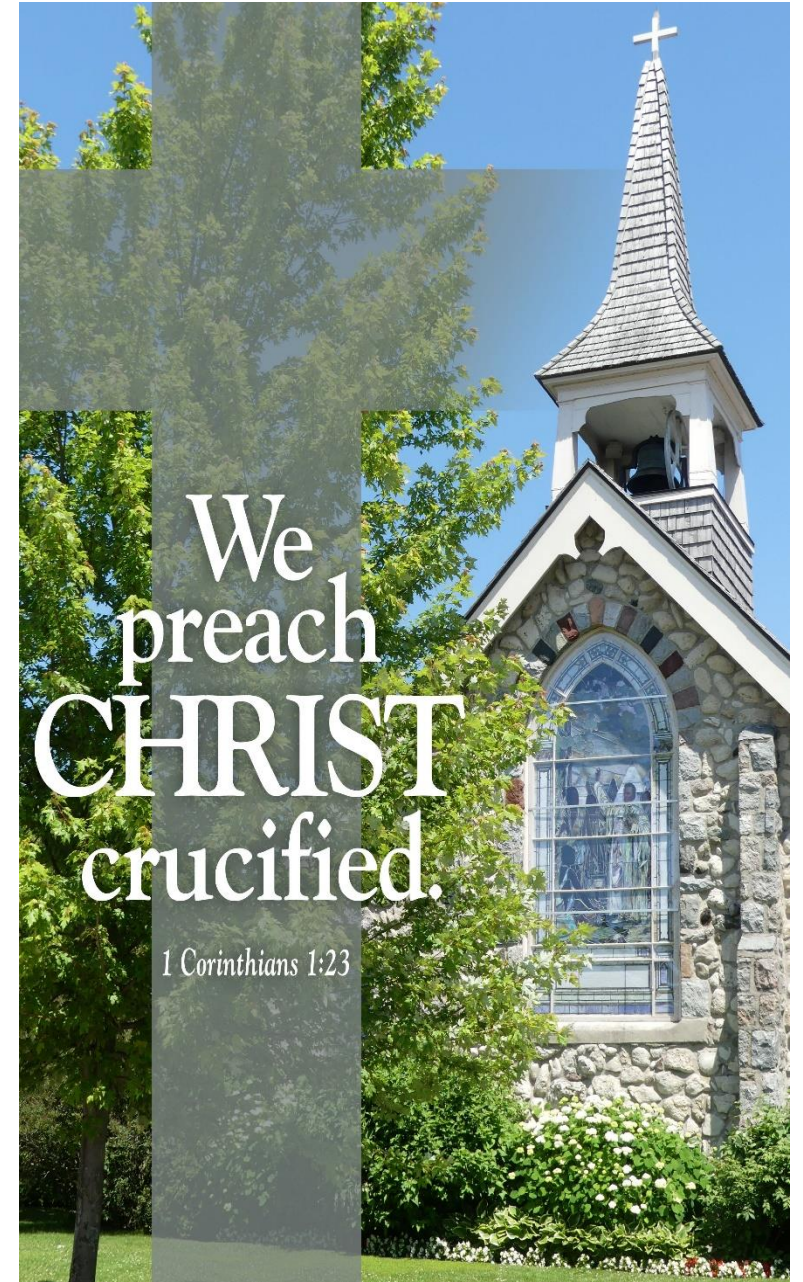
Administrative Assistant: Joan Wheeler
Treasurer/Financial Secretary: Monica Earnisse
Custodian: Bill Twining



Daylight Saving Time begins March 10th. So please make sure to turn your clocks ahead one hour on March 9th before you go to bed. We don't want you to miss anything on Sunday.

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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



UMCOR

United Methodists celebrate UMCOR Sunday on March 10th, Advance #1015. Please consider donating to UMCOR and help share God's love to communities everywhere.

As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to respond with extravagant grace. Through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) we are able to make a difference in the lives of communities and individuals whose lives have been upset by storms, wars, fires, displacement and climate change. This offering understates UMCOR's "cost of doing business," allowing UMCOR to keep the promise that 100% of any gift to a specific UMCOR project will go towards that project and not administrative cost.

UMCOR doesn't just respond to the emergency for the short term. Working with local organizations, churches in the community and United Methodist volunteers, UMCOR builds relationships and helps communities rebuild, in the years following a disaster.

UMCOR is also the Mission Focus for the month of March.

IRISH DANCE RECITAL AND POTATO BAR



Date: Saturday, March 16th

Place: RC Church Fellowship Hall

Time: Meal at 4:00 p.m.

Recital at 5:00 p.m.

Join in the fun and learn a dance afterwards!

Cost: Free will offering with proceeds benefitting the Irish Dancers and the Richland Center UMC Camp Fund

* Reservations not necessary, but appreciated! Here are several options:

1. Sign-up on the attendance sheet located in the narthex
2. Call the church office at 647-3203
3. Email trinityumc@mwt.net

This delicious hot **Potato Bar** to include great toppings to choose from, like butter, sour cream, chili, onions, and broccoli!!

