

Memorial United Methodist Church

March 10, 2019
First Sunday in Lent

Gathering and Centering our hearts for worship

Welcoming and Announcements

Call to Worship - Responsive

Let all God's people come— God says, "I will teach you the way you should go."

So we will listen and follow God's way.

Lift up your eyes, people of God!

We look to the hills, we gaze at the horizon-where is our help?

Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

We will lift up our eyes, and follow God's way.

Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For the Lord is our God, and we are God's people.

Listen to God's voice—the Lord is a great God, above all others.

We will listen and follow God's way.

Opening Prayer

Guide us today, O God, into a season of examination.

Show us our ancestors' ways: journeying, even wandering, boldly; remembering deliberately who they were and who we are. Guide us inward to the Word felt in our hearts, and outward to the Word heard on the lips of others. Grant us a season of depth and courage, we pray. Amen.

◆ Hymn "He is Lord" sing 3x 177

Sharing of Joys / Concerns / Testimonies

Prayer for our concerns

Reading of the Psalm

◆ Hymn "It Is Well with My Soul" 377

◆ Scripture Reading

Please stand for the reading of the Scripture

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

◆ Doxology 95
WE STAND TO PRAISE GOD

Children's Moment

Special Music

Prayer of Confession

Our confession, O God, is that we believe. We believe in the power and presence of your goodness made flesh. In the face of big evils and little falsehoods, may your Word make its way from our hearts to our lips. May we confess you, as Jesus did in the wilderness. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

The Message

◆ Hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" 384

◆ Benediction

Postlude

◆ Please stand as you are able

The altar is always open. You may come to the altar to pray anytime.

**INTO WHATEVER JOURNEY LIES BEFORE US, LEAD ON,
HOLY SPIRIT; LEAD ON.**

Welcome to

Memorial United Methodist Church
509 Market St., Spencer, WV 25276
304-927-4427 Church Office 304-519-2016 Parsonage
www.spencermemorialumc.org

Joys:

Living testimonies to the saving grace of God

Concerns:

Betty Rader

Mary Kendall

Shelia Nichols

Andy Cheek

Leonard May

Jennifer Gandee-Barker

Holly Smith

Ramona May

Unspoken Prayers of the People

The Unchurched of our Community

Those affected by the recent natural disasters

Families suffering the loss of loved ones

Frances Lowe

Clara Wyatt

Jenny Lewis

Dee Cheek

Gloria Longo

Elva May

To add a concern to the Prayer list - please complete a Prayer card and place it in the Offering Plate.

This Week's Activities and Announcements

Invite a friend.

Sunday School - Job A Man of Enduring Faith

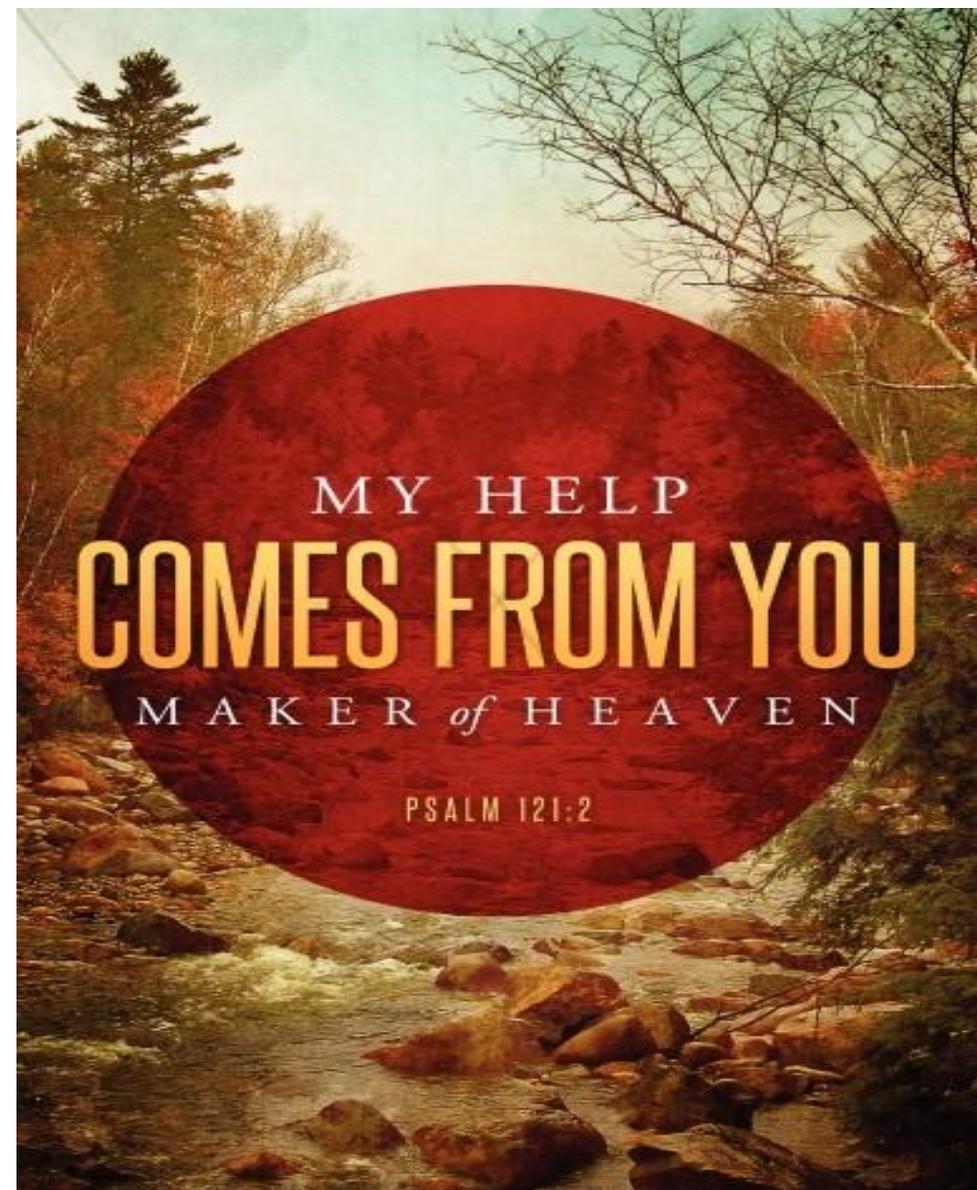
Tues. - All committees meeting 6:00PM

Wed. - unload BackPack order at 2:00

Thurs. 9:00AM - Packing BackPacks for schools

Today- Daylight Savings Time begins -

After Worship today we will have a covered dish lunch and a showing of the movie "The Young Messiah".



Memorial United Methodist Church

509 Market Street

Spencer, WV 25276

304-927-4427

God's word is not too hard, nor is it far away. Just listen: it is very near to you today. Find it on your lips and in your heart.

MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00 Worship	4	5	6 9 AM - Ministerial Assoc. meeting Ash Wednesday Service 7:00PM St. John's UMC	7 9:00AM Packing BackPacks	8	9 Daylight Savings Time Begins 
10 Daylight Savings Time Begins - set dials forward 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00 Worship Covered dish lunch and movie after Worship	11	12 All Committees Meeting 6:00PM	13 2:00 PM - Unload BackPack Order from Food Bank	14 9:00AM Packing BackPacks	15	16
17 St. Patrick's Day 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00 Worship	18	19	20 Spring begins	21 9:00AM Packing BackPacks	22	23
24 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00 Worship	25	26	27	28 9:00AM Packing BackPacks	29	30
31 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00 Worship						

CHECK CALENDAR EACH WEEK FOR UPDATES

PICK A THURSDAY AND BECOME A PART OF THE BACKPACK PROGRAM. HELP PACK THE 560 BAGS DELIVERED EACH WEEK TO SCHOOL CHILDREN IN ROANE COUNTY. **BACKPACKING IS A HANDS ON MINISTRY.**

40 Days of Lent: Find your own spiritual path

During Ash Wednesday services on the first day of Lent, many United Methodist pastors will invite their congregations “to observe a holy Lent: by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word”. While you may be aware of this season leading up to Easter, you may wonder how you might “observe a holy Lent.”

There is no one prescribed way. Instead, we are each encouraged to find our own method of confronting our sinfulness, remembering our mortality, and giving thanks for the gift of salvation we receive through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Fasting

One of the more common practices is to give something up for Lent. Some abstain from chocolate, social media, shopping, or something else through the season. This is a religious practice known as fasting. We fast to move ourselves away from the distraction of those things, and back toward God.

Another way to move your life toward God, is to focus on devotional practices like Bible study and prayer during the season.

Bible reading

You may not know where to begin when reading the Bible. The Upper Room Daily Devotional Guide and Our Daily Bread will help guide you in this pursuit. Each day they provide a scripture passage and wonderfully thought-provoking and spirit-enriching material to read and think about.

Prayer

In the busyness of our everyday lives, prayer can sometimes get squeezed out. Lent is a wonderful time to intentionally work toward finding more time in your life for prayer. You can experiment with different ways to pray during the season, or really delve into a new-to-you way of praying. Enriching your prayer life is a great way to spend Lent.

Service

Another way to observe a holy Lent is to take on a new way of serving. Throughout the forty days of the season you can adopt a new habit of volunteering in the community, making special financial gifts to service organizations, singing in the choir, or participating in a small group.

Rest

An important practice with which many of us struggle is the spiritual discipline of rest or Sabbath. We don't have to rest on Saturday, the traditional Sabbath day, or even Sunday. You can instead find moments during an ordinary day to be still in God's presence. You might choose to spend a few minutes during lunch with a desktop meditation, listen to sermons on your commute, or read a poem that feeds your spirit. Each can be a great way of enriching your Lent.

Learning

You may also use Lent as a time to learn about the seasons of Lent and Easter, and some of the practices of the Christian church.

Common symbols like the cross carry a great deal of meaning. A less traditional symbol like an Easter Totem Pole from Alaska may also be fun to know more about.

Learning about services specific to the season can enhance your worship. You may want to know more about the ashes used on Ash Wednesday, a Maundy Thursday service you're considering attending, or the Tenebrae service your congregation is planning for Good Friday.

You may also choose to learn more about baptism and communion, the sacraments of the church. Each has a connection to Lent and Easter.

Lent Quiz: What does a Tenebrae service consist of?

- A drama about the 7 last words of Jesus
- A reenactment of the Last Supper
- Extinguishing of candles
- The receiving of ashes