



The Wellspring

SAVOY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 2025



Ash Wednesday Service

Lent is a 40-day season (not including Sundays) marked by repentance, fasting, reflection, and ultimately celebration. The period represents Christ's time of temptation in the wilderness, where he fasted and where Satan tempted him.

As we begin this season you are invited to join us this Wednesday, March 4 at 12:00pm for a brief worship service to focus on Christ's life, ministry, sacrifice, and resurrection.

Annual Pancake Breakfast

Once again the Mission Team will be serving their Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, March 22 from 8-11am at the church. Proceeds will go toward our mission projects.

There are many ways you can volunteer. Check out the sign-ups sheets in the church entryway.

Be sure to invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us for some good food and fellowship!



Pancake Breakfast

Saturday
March 22
8-11 am



Easter Baskets

Plans are underway by the Mission Team for putting together Easter Meals again this year for those needing food assistance.

Last year we provided meals for 60 families. Our goal this year is 100 families. If you know of anyone who would benefit from this please submit their names to the church office by March 15.

The Easter Meals will be packed on Friday, April 11 from 5-7pm. Individuals may pick up the food on Saturday, April 12 from 9am - 12:00pm.

Questions?? Contact Crystal Dillavou, coordinator



FOOD PANTRY

On Feb 4 we served 39 families of 49 adults + 24 children. If you know of families who may be food insecure, please let the office know. We can help! We are blessed to be able to help others!

If you have too many non-perishable items at home you can bring them to the food pantry cart in the hallway. We will be sure to get them to our neighbors. If you would like us to shop, please note "food pantry" on your donation. This month we are in need of cereal, pasta sauce and canned fruit.

Thank you for your willingness to serve our community!

STAFF/PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS (S/PPRC)

We continue to discussed applicants for the Director of Music Ministry for the church. After the meeting in January the committee received an application for this position. Chair Bruce has been in contact with this applicant.

The Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee currently has 5 members; however, the Methodist Book of Discipline recommends that SPPRC committees have 5-10 active members. We would welcome those who are interested in serving on this committee and getting us closer to upper end of our target membership.

The committee would also like to invite anyone from the church or any committee to come an SPRC meeting to discuss any issues you might have with the church. We are here to help. SPRC meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

We continue to plow through the Hebrews study on Right Now Media by Josh Duffy. We read the chapter in Hebrews that coincides with the video and cover a few questions about what we have learned.

Adult Sunday School meets the 1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays of each month at 10:45am. We look forward to seeing you!

FELLOWSHIP TIME

The Fellowship Team would like to thank everyone for serving our congregation for Fellowship. We couldn't do this each Sunday without our tremendous volunteers. The varieties of goodies is tremendous. We have good bakers in our church. Thank you.



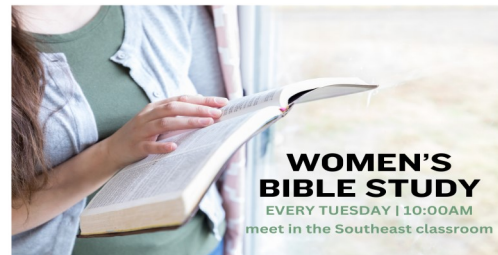
We hope you or your group will be able to find a time in your schedule to serve, check the sign-up sheet at Fellowship time. If you have questions don't hesitate to contact the church office or someone on the team.

Thank you once again for volunteering to serve our congregation. You are the best!

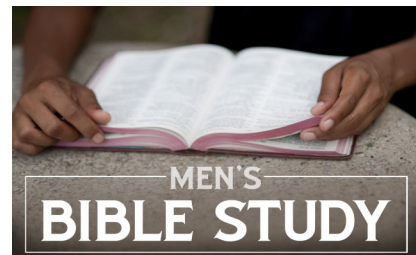


Tuesday Bible Study

Every Tuesday at 9:30 am in the Crossroads Classroom. Anyone interested is welcome and encouraged to attend!



All women are invited to this weekly Bible Study. Contact person is JoAnn Warnes.

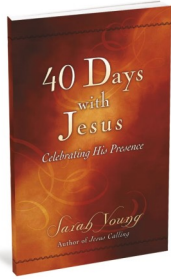


Wednesdays at 7:30 am at the Original Pancake House.



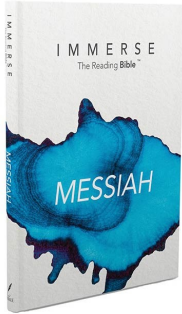
Thursday mornings at 9:00. Contact Cindy Cook with questions 217-841-0420.





As we enter this sacred season of Lent, I warmly invite you to embark on this journey together through several meaningful ways:

- Attend the Ash Wednesday service at noon on March 5 to begin this spiritual journey.
- Pick up a copy of the Lenten devotional, "40 Days with Jesus: Celebrating His Presence," by Sarah Young, available in the foyer.
- Consider joining a small group. Alternatively, you can join the New Testament reading group, which will meet on Wednesdays during Lent to read "The Immerse: The Messiah" together. Sign up in the foyer.
- Commit to the Lenten teaching series "The Outlaws: The Fruit of the Holy Spirit" (Galatians 5:22-23).



MISSION TEAM

The war is over!! Women won again!! Thank you for supporting our Easter Basket project. Our goal this year is 100 baskets. The \$ 1,315 raised will help to provide food for families in need.



A special offering will be taken on Sunday March 30 for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief). Gifts given to this ministry play a vital role in enhancing the church's global humanitarian response. These funds cover UMCOR's administrative costs, ensuring that 100% of donations given to UMCOR throughout the year can be directed to on-the-ground crises/disaster relief and recovery efforts.

Please make your check payable to Savoy UMC and write "UMCOR" on the memo line.



I would like to extend my gratitude and thanks to everyone for the love, prayers, cards, food, and phone calls I received following my arm injury.

Love, Elsie Bray



United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith will meet on Wednesday, March 12 at 9 am. Hostesses will be the officers. Please bring your calendars as we will be passing the sign-up sheet for hostesses. All ladies are welcome. We'd love to have you join us around the tables.



COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND DATES

- * S/PPRC - First Tuesday of the month at 6:00pm
- * Trustees - First Wednesday of the month at 5:30pm
- * Worship Team - Second Sunday of the month at 10:45am.
- * Stewardship/Finance - Second Thursday of the month at 6pm
- * Ad Council - Third Thursday of the month at 6pm
- * Prayer Team - First and Third Wednesdays of the month at 4pm
- * Mission Team - Tues prior to Ad Council mtg at 5:45pm



Savoy UMC Family,

Isaac and I want to extend our heartfelt thanks for supporting us in the One Winter Night challenge, hosted by CU at Home at the Venu on February 7-8. The goal of this event was to raise \$135,000 to help at least 27 people out of homelessness this year.

Isaac's words encapsulated our night: "It was very cold and heartbreaking to know people live out in the cold." It was only one night for us, but it served as a poignant reminder of God's message in Deuteronomy 15:11 (NCV): "There will always be poor people in the land, so I command you to give freely to your neighbors and to the poor and needy in your land."

We arrived at the Venu around 5:30 pm on February 7th, where Riley greeted us warmly and helped us secure a spot and set up our boxes for the night. Later, I took Isaac to his school dance at Jefferson Middle School, returning to the site afterward. Throughout the evening, we received warm support from Crystal Dillavou, Mark Akers, John Hancock, and a big hug from Aleta.

The event included tables and resources of local ministries, food, guest speakers, and worship with music, fostering a sense of community and compassion. When a speaker asked if anyone had experienced homelessness, about two-thirds in the crowd raised their hands. This ministry is deeply personal to many, and it was heartwarming to see they have found a home and a loving family and are now reaching out to those in need.



Despite the cold night, the wind chill was milder than in previous years. A local news crew initially used our box for their background, but eventually other participants and tents were selected for their interviews. Aside from our box, we had a small fire pit, and a few neighbor campers came by to share the warmth.

Ian, a former Marine who completed several tours in Afghanistan and now lives and works in town, joined us by the fire. During our casual conversation, he shared (in a gentle manner) that "last year, we were told not to bring fire, but it feels warm and good to have one." I smiled and shared that I had a fire extinguisher nearby to show off that I'm a responsible person. And in a good gesture exchange, he revealed that he was a... "Fire Marshal!" I had read the One Winter Night Challenge instructions, which prohibited starting a fire, but I only discovered this rule a week after enjoying a warm meal and a cup of tea



over the fire that night. Do you see a pattern of my clumsiness here? It's like driving a car before getting a license, and speeding in front of a police officer! Thank God, Ian was kind enough not to lock me up that night.

Anyhow, I was able to rest somewhat comfortably in our insulated box, although noisy campers nearby kept me awake all night. Maybe the chill of the night activated their dry humor—they were laughing all night. If you need an energizer bunny, try keeping it out in the cold all night and see if it gets activated! Humor aside, did I show up at church with a swollen face and red eyes on Sunday morning, February 9th? Now you know why.



Your support was invaluable; many of you guided us in finding the right materials and taught us ways to camp out. Special thanks to Larry Kreuger for connecting us with the wonderful folks at Slumberland Furniture, who generously provided large boxes for our shelter. A few came by to examine how we set up the boxes together and were amazed. We may have more elaborate box campers next year.

And we are grateful to God for those who donated online or through the church, prayed, or continue to minister in various ways. We have raised over \$1,500 and counting - that's adding monies given directly to CU at Home online giving portal and gifts given through our church. Praise God.

I'm once again reminded of Jesus' words of Great Compassion in Matthew 25:40 (NIV):

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Jesus receives and feels your kindness. And you will be rewarded. We pray for a day when there will be no more homelessness among us; and no more tears, no more hunger, or loneliness. And we can all feast together in our Father's house, sharing the warmth of His love.

Your brothers in Christ, Isaac and Jungil Rhee

P.S. Have I shared how much the Rhee family is grateful to be sheltered in your parsonage? We are now even more grateful.



**CHURCH CALENDAR - MARCH****SATURDAY, MAR 1**

7:30am Journey Men
9:00am Quilters

SUNDAY, MAR 2

9:30am Worship
10:45am Sunday School

MONDAY, MAR 3

10:00am Parkinson's Group

TUESDAY, MAR 4

9:30am Tues AM Bible Study
10:00am Women's Bible Study
2:30pm Food Pantry Set Up
3:30-5pm Food Pantry Distribution
6:00pm S/PPRC
7:00pm Al-Anon

WEDNESDAY, MAR 5**ASH WEDNESDAY**

7:30am Men's Bible Study (Original Pancake House)
12:00pm ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
4:00pm Prayer Team
5:30pm Trustees Mtg
6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MAR 6

9:00am Chick Chat
7:00pm Scouts

FRIDAY, MAR 7**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

9:00am Cleaning Crew

SATURDAY, MAR 8**TURN YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD****SUNDAY, MAR 9**

9:30am Worship
10:45am Worship Team Mtg

MONDAY, MAR 10

10:00am Parkinson's Group
7:00pm Troop 101 Mtg

TUESDAY, MAR 11

9:30am Tues AM Bible Study
10:00am Women's Bible Study
7:00pm Al-Anon

WEDNESDAY, MAR 12

7:30am Men's Bible Study (Original Pancake House)
9:00am United Women in Faith
6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MAR 13

9:00am Chick Chat
6:00pm Stewardship/Finance Mtg
6:00pm Troop 2119
7:00pm Scouts

FRIDAY, MAR 14

9:00am Cleaning Crew

SATURDAY, MAR 15

7:30am Journey Men
9:00am Quilters

SUNDAY, MAR 16

9:30am Worship
10:45am Sunday School

MONDAY, MAR 17

10:00am Parkinson's Group

TUESDAY, MAR 18

9:30am Tues AM Bible Study
10:00am Women's Bible Study
5:45pm Mission Team Mtg
7:00pm Al-Anon

WEDNESDAY, MAR 19

7:30am Men's Bible Study (Original Pancake House)
4:00pm Prayer Team
6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MAR 20

9:00am Chick Chat
6:00pm Ad Council Mtg
7:00pm Scouts

FRIDAY, MAR 21

9:00am Cleaning Crew

SATURDAY, MAR 22

8:00-11:00 am **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

SUNDAY, MAR 23

9:30am Worship
10:45am Sunday School

MONDAY, MAR 24**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

10:00am Parkinson's Group

TUESDAY, MAR 25

9:30am Tues AM Bible Study
10:00am Women's Bible Study
7:00pm Al-Anon

WEDNESDAY, MAR 26

7:30am Men's Bible Study (Original Pancake House)
6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MAR 27

9:00am Chick Chat
7:00pm Scouts

FRIDAY, MAR 28

9:00am Cleaning Crew

SUNDAY, MAR 30**UMCOR / ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

9:30am Worship
10:45am Sunday School