

THE PILLAR

*Stay connected with
your church family!*

March 2019



BACK FROM REBELLION

He said: "Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me to this very day. Ezekiel 2:3

Rebellion. All of us have rebelled in small and possibly large ways. Merriam-Webster defines rebel as, "opposing or taking arms against a government or ruler." Some rebellion is God-breathed. For example, most of us would likely agree that The Boston Tea Party or The Revolutionary War were just. Here, the fledgling colonies took a stand against a ruler they saw as tyrannical king. Sometimes rebellion is hidden, like Harriet Tubman's work with the Underground Railroad (to help runaway slaves find safe passage to the north). Other times rebellion is in the light like the work of Martin Luther King, Jr. to call attention to the civil rights of African Americans.

Other times, rebellion is self-centered, corruptive, and even evil. We've all probably stepped into this territory in our lives. We may have rebelled against rules at home without seeing the bigger picture of how those rules (like a curfew) could better us personally or the family as a whole. Beyond this, we've rebelled against God. We have many confessions in our hymnal that offer confession and pardon for both individual and corporate rebellion against God.

Wednesday, March 6 is Ash Wednesday where we begin forty days of lent. Lent is a forty-day journey leading up to our great and glorious celebration of Jesus' resurrection. Thus, the goal of Lent is to lead us back from rebellion to new life in Christ. The focus is on repentance or turning back from rebellion against God. The Israelites, God's chosen people, had been in rebellion against God for idolatry, immorality, and injustice against the most vulnerable. When God called Ezekiel to become the Lord's prophet, God used the word rebellious (or a similar derivative) to describe the people eight times in the ten verses of Ezekiel 2! Ezekiel's job was to call them back from rebellion.

During our 2019 Lenten season, we will journey with Ezekiel regarding his calling and paint a picture of what it would like upon coming back from rebellion, especially with the promised Messiah. Here is our Lenten series:

Back from Rebellion

3/10/2019 – ***With an Appetite***, Ezekiel 2:8-3:3

3/17/2019 – ***Sour Grapes***, Ezekiel 18:1-4, 14-17

3/24/2019 – ***The Watchman***, Ezekiel 33:1-11

3/31/2018 – ***Shepherds, Sheep, and Goats! Oh Maaah!*** Ezekiel 34:10-15, 17, 29-31

4/07/2019 – ***Life in the Valley***, Ezekiel 37:1-14

Let Us Journey Through Lent Together!



Pastor Eric

LENT 2019

@ SALINA FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY MORNINGS
WORSHIP
8:25AM & 11AM

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
WORSHIP & DEVOTION
6:00–6:15PM

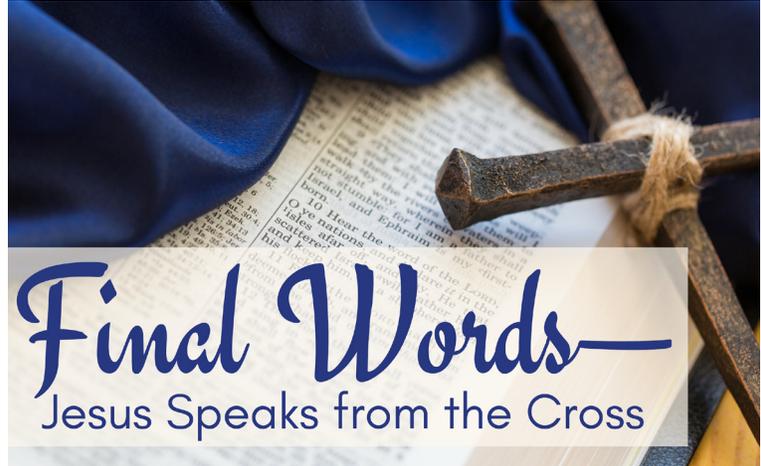
BACK FROM REBELLION

A Lenten Series from Ezekiel

- 3/10/2019 With an Appetite
Ezekiel 2:8-3:3
- 3/17/2019 Sour Grapes
Ezekiel 18:1-4, 14-17
- 3/24/2019 The Watchman
Ezekiel 33:1-11
- 3/31/2019 Shepherds, Sheep, & Goats! Oh Maaah!
Ezekiel 34:10-15, 17, 29-31
- 4/07/2019 Life in the Valley
Ezekiel 37:1-14

Join us Sunday mornings in worship as we explore the story of Ezekiel and journey through the season of Lent together.

“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.” (Ezekiel 36:26)



Following our Wednesday night suppers this Lenten season we will host a brief time of worship & devotion in Fellowship Hall and reflect on Jesus' Final Words. ***First Kids, Jr. High Youth, Adult Bible Study groups, and other regular activities will begin at 6:20.*** All are encouraged to join us.

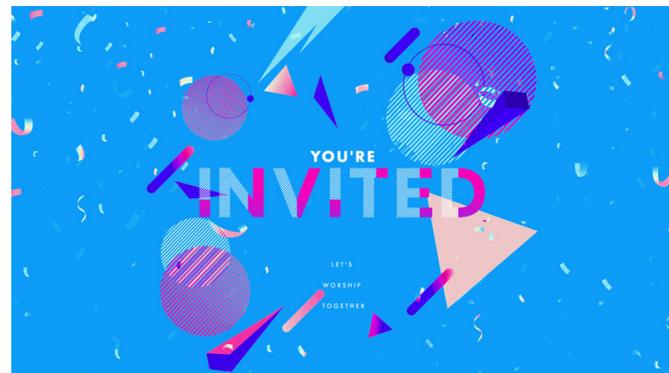
WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDIES FOR ADULTS

Seven-Mile Miracle Bible study with Pastor Eric Rook. In this seven-session study we will unpack the drama, power, and deep meaning of Jesus' final hours before his Crucifixion.

The Red Letter Group with Aaron Miller will resume on Wednesday nights beginning March 13. We will begin exploring the book of James together. Young adults, college students, and the young at heart are encouraged to join us.

FIRST KIDS ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS! “YOU'RE INVITED: A 5-WEEK SERIES ON WORSHIP”

On Wednesday nights, during the month of March, First Kids will participate in You're Invited, a 5 part series on worship provided through the Grow Curriculum. When some people hear the word “worship,” they think of church buildings, or hymns, or special rituals. To some people, worship sounds pretty boring. But that's not at all how God talks about worship! In the pages of Scripture, we discover that worship is so much bigger than what happens at church — and it's definitely not boring. Worship is a party! And it's a party we're all invited to attend. In this series, kids will be invited to worship God both at church and at home as they learn that we can worship God through prayer, we can worship God by living for Him, we can worship God even during hard times, we can worship God out loud, and we're all invited to Jesus' party.



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" (from the United Methodist Book of Worship). 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 reorient ourselves away from the distraction of those things, and back toward God.

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

BIBLE READING

Many do not know where to begin when reading the Bible. The Upper Room Daily Devotional Guide (a free resource available on the welcome kiosks in our Sanctuary) can 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 desk-top 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.

A UMC.org feature by Joe Iovino. For full article visit <http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/40-days-of-lent-find-your-own-spiritual-path>

WHAT ARE @FIRSTYOUTH LEARNING?

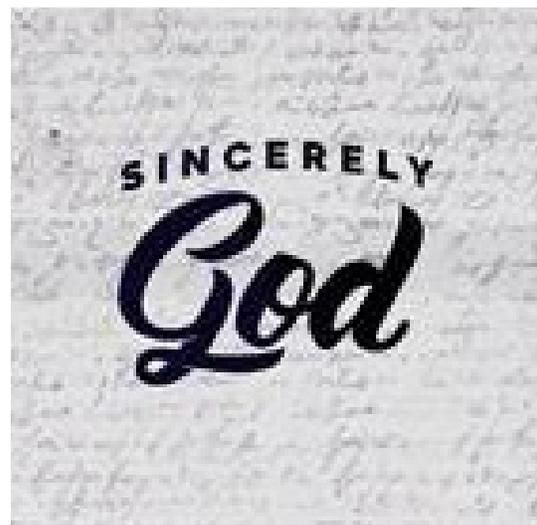
COMING IN MARCH: "SINCERELY GOD"—A SERIES ON THE BIBLE

The Bible. We all know reading it is important (or at least that's what we've been told), but if we're being honest, we probably don't give it the time or attention we know we should. Sometimes we avoid Scripture because it seems boring or irrelevant. Other times we avoid it because it's too time-consuming, inconvenient, or maybe even convicting. So how do we change that? In this series, we'll encourage students to both see and engage with the Bible in a new way as we discover that the Bible is a love letter, a guide, an invitation, and something that's meant to be lived (not just read).

JOIN US:

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 6–7:30PM (MIDDLE SCHOOL 6-8TH GRADE)

SUNDAY NIGHTS 6–7:30PM (HIGH SCHOOL 9-12TH GRADE)



March 2019 Calendar

Salina First United Methodist Church

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

3

8:25AM - Worship
 9:40AM - Sunday School Hour
 11:00AM - Worship
 5:00PM - Yoga
6:00PM - High School Youth Fellowship

4

5:30PM - Church Council Meeting
 5:30PM - SPRC Meeting
 6:00PM - Faith Not Food

5

9:00AM - Sewing Concerns
 1:00PM - Women's Bible Study

10

8:25AM - Worship
 9:40AM - Sunday School Hour
 11:00AM - Worship
5:00PM - SHINE (4th & 5th Graders)
 5:00PM - Yoga
6:00PM - High School Youth Fellowship

11

5:15PM - Finance Meeting
 6:00PM - Faith Not Food
6:30PM - Trustee Meeting

12

9:00AM - Sewing Concerns
 1:00PM - Women's Bible Study

17

8:25AM - Worship
 9:40AM - Sunday School Hour
 11:00AM - Worship
 5:00PM - Yoga
6:00PM - High School Youth Fellowship

18

6:00PM - Faith Not Food
Adult Discipleship Team Meetings
 5:00PM - Share
 5:30PM - Worship

19

9:00AM - Sewing Concerns
 1:30PM - Friendship Connection
 6:00PM - Adult Discipleship Journey

24

8:25AM - Worship
 9:40AM - Sunday School Hour
 11:00AM - Worship
 5:00PM - Yoga
6:00PM - High School Youth Fellowship

25

5:30PM - Scholarship Meeting
 6:00PM - Faith Not Food

26

9:00AM - Sewing Concerns
 1:00PM - Women's Bible Study

31

8:25AM - Worship
 9:40AM - Sunday School Hour
 11:00AM - Worship
 5:00PM - Yoga
6:00PM - High School Youth Fellowship



Upcoming Confirmation Events:
 Retreat, March 1 & 2
 Classes, March 17 & 24, 9:40–10:45a.m.

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1

2

8:00AM - UMM (Methodist Men's Group @ McDonald's)

6

1:00PM - Prayer Group
5:00PM - Adult Handbells
5:30PM - Pancake Supper
6:15PM - Ash Wednesday Service

7

12:00PM - UMW General Meeting
6:00PM - Yoga

8

6:00PM - Crafty Friends

9

8:00AM - UMM (Methodist Men's Group @ McDonald's)
12:00 PM - Regional Conference Gathering

13

1:00PM - Prayer Group
5:00PM - Adult Handbells
5:30PM - Midweek Dinner
6:00PM - Lenten Worship & Devotion followed by Wednesday Night activities: First Kids, MS Youth, Small Groups, Rehearsals, etc.

14

6:00PM - Yoga

15

16

8:00AM - UMM (Methodist Men's Group @ McDonald's)

20

1:00PM - Prayer Group
5:00PM - Adult Handbells
5:30PM - Midweek Dinner
6:00PM - Lenten Worship & Devotion followed by Wednesday Night activities: First Kids, MS Youth, Small Groups, Rehearsals, etc.

21

6:00PM - Yoga

22

6:00PM - Ladies Night Out

23

8:00AM - UMM (Methodist Men's Group @ McDonald's)

27

1:00PM - Prayer Group
5:00PM - Adult Handbells
5:30PM - Midweek Dinner
6:00PM - Lenten Worship & Devotion followed by Wednesday Night activities: First Kids, MS Youth, Small Groups, Rehearsals, etc.

28

6:00PM - Yoga

29

30

8:00AM - UMM (Methodist Men's Group @ McDonald's)

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL (K-5TH GRADE)

Every week

9:40-10:40AM

Check in at Room 300.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Every week

9:40-10:40AM

Check in at the Youth Room (1st floor).

Scott's Scribbles

Who has had a lasting impact in your life? Who do you credit with helping you get to where you are today?

Maybe it was a teacher, a parent, an older sibling, a coach, a neighbor, a manager, or an extended family member.

For Antong Lucky, it was a person in his church who believed in his potential to make a difference. "You have a voice," Omar Jahwar said. "If you come to me, I can't make you wealthy, but I can make you count."

That's the power of a mentor.

The Impact of Mentoring

If you ask someone about their success, you're likely to hear about an influential mentor. Whether it's professional, personal, or spiritual, mentoring is often a catalyst for growth and accomplishment. Regardless of the context, mentors offer steady support, hope, wise guidance, experience, and critical encouragement.

"Show me a successful individual and I'll show you someone who had real positive influences in his or her life. I don't care what you do for a living – if you do it well I'm sure there was someone cheering you on or showing the way. A mentor." – Denzel Washington

Particularly for youth, a healthy mentoring relationship can be critical to achieving spiritual, academic and personal goals.

Why You Should Be a Mentor

If those aren't reasons enough to considering mentoring, mentors also benefit from investing in others. Increased self-esteem, well-being, fulfillment, and accomplishment are common positive outcomes for mentors. Consider these five benefits of mentoring others.

Help someone realize their potential. We all have unique talents and gifts. Activating the potential in someone by celebrating their talents empowers them to improve their own life, achieve their goals, and help others.

Give back to your community. The most impactful way to improve your community is to spend time investing in it. Mentoring youth in your church & community is a powerful way to invest in the next generation.

Learn more about yourself. Meaningful relationships are a two-way street. Learn more about your strengths, weaknesses, knowledge, experience, and beliefs by sharing them with someone else.

Change someone's life. An intentional relationship has the power to alter a person's life – particularly youth – for the better. You may be the only stable, positive impact in a youth's life. The ripple effect is tremendous.

Become a better leader. Investing in the life of someone else challenges your perspective, sharpens your interpersonal skills, and exposes you to different decision-making approaches. Mentoring gives you the opportunity to learn by doing.

Get Involved

Our Confirmation students each are assigned a mentor to guide them and create another powerful, personal spiritual friendship at First UMC. Each of our youth benefit from having seasoned in their faith adults in their lives. Adults who get to know them personally and share in the young person's hopes and dreams. Research tells us that a young person who has at least 5 adult relationships at their church is more likely to continue in their spiritual journey after high school.

Think back to that question – *who has helped you get to where you are today?* Who spoke into your spiritual life? They may have not been deep theologians, but cared enough to be part of enriching YOUR life. One of the most effective ways to give back to your community is not necessarily money – **it's time.** Consider how you can invest in the future of a young person in your church community. If you're interested in volunteering or connecting with a young person in our youth ministry connect with Scott Jagodzinske, Director of Youth Discipleship and discover your connection to speaking life into a young person.



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

We invite all women of Salina First UMC to become a part of United Methodist Women, an organization that will soon celebrate 150 years of serving women, youth, and children around the world. If you would like to learn more about UMW, call the church office at 785.825.0228, or email rhonda@salinafirst.com.

UMW SAVE THE DATES:

Thursday, March 7, 2019 10:45 UMW Executive Board, 12:00 Luncheon and General Meeting. The program will be presented by Kayla Tague-Herde from Salina Grace.

METour: registration due April 1, 2019 with \$5 deposit. Tour June 1–11. Contact Rhonda Bird for further information.

March 30, 2019, 8:30–3:30: Salina-Hutchinson UMW Districts Annual UMW Spiritual Retreat at Trinity United Methodist Church, Salina KS. Judith Robl presenting, \$10 registration fee. Contact Circle leader or Barbara Houdek for further information.

May 3–5, 2019: Great Plains Conference UMW Spiritual Retreat, Camp Comeca and Retreat Center, Cozad, NE. Billie Blair presenting. Contact Circle leader or Barbara Houdek for further information.

July 1, 2019: Nomination Deadline for the Eunice H. Harrington Award of Leadership, Service & Advocacy. Contact Circle leader or Barbara Houdek for further information.

LADIES' NIGHT OUT!

Friday, March 22, 2019
from 6 PM - 10 PM

Get together for a night filled with:
Worship and Praise
"Mom's Night Out" (The Movie)
Games and Snacks
Fun, Fellowship, and Laughter

**First United Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall**

Bring an item for the Blessing Box and a snack to share!

Contact the office if you require childcare.

FIRST IN MISSION

- Through January's Second Mile Giving, Salina First UMC contributed \$340 to the Salina Rescue Mission.
- Salina First UMC contributed the equivalent of 3,264 cans of soup to the Souper Bowl of Caring.



UMCOR Sunday is observed on March 31. Accordingly, our Second Mile Giving opportunity in March will go to support UMCOR.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is the humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church. Its work can be categorized into three major areas: humanitarian relief/disaster response, sustainable development, and global health. Their work is done in the spirit of Jesus Christ, preserving the dignity of persons without regard to religion, race, nationality, or gender.

Above and beyond contributions made by UMCs all over the world empower UMCOR to respond immediately to disasters. *Please note: UMCOR does not receive United Methodist World Service or apportionment funds, so without special offerings such as this, UMCOR would not exist.*

**Thank You Salina First UMC
For Serving Meals in February**



Her only meal today...
could be from you.





March Birthdays & Anniversaries



3/1 Jesse May (B-day)
 3/2 Carol Moddelmog, Glen Stroer (B-days)
 3/3 Matthew Martin (B-day)
 3/5 Janet Kych, Michelle Heuszel, Rick Langley,
 Dan Okeson (B-days)
 3/6 Audrey Jagodzinske, Susan Reiff (B-days)
 3/7 Chris Helm (B-day)
 3/8 Shelia Austin, Emily Jones (B-days)
 3/9 Teresa & Tom Drane, Art & Bev Petty (Anniv.)
 3/10 Melinda Collette, Chatherine Dunlap (B-days)
 3/11 Brenda Geist, Ryan Kolzow (B-days)
 3/12 Larry Dunlap, Dallas Taddiken (B-days)
 3/13 Daniel Jones, Jay Langley, (B-days)
 3/14 Sherry Martin (B-day), Jack Morris II & Lori Brax (Anniv.)
 3/15 Katie Moddelmog (B-day), Angela & Tim Fairbands,
 Steve & Pam Kraus (Anniv.)
 3/16 Darby Miller, Derek Pistora, Dylan Pistora (B-days)

3/17 Aaron Anders, Lynda Matlack (B-days)
 3/18 Myrna Hernderson, David Litchman (B-days), Rick & Janet
 Fisher (Anniv.)
 3/19 Jeff Hart, Marshall Woodbury (B-days)
 3/20 Richard Brown, Paul Mugler (B-days), Robert & Marilyn
 Long (Anniv.)
 3/21 Leon Jacobs (B-day), Steve & Vicki Robinson (Anniv.)
 3/23 Rick Hammon, Richard McCall (B-days)
 3/24 Rick Fisher, Gregg Gordan, Kay Jarvis, Aurora May, Marilyn
 Switzer (B-days), Lisa & Eric Sankey (Anniv.)
 3/25 Oliva Martin, Chris Moddelmog, Daren Storer (B-days)
 3/26 Jayson Kepple, Sally Maxwell, Gary Thompson (B-days)
 3/27 Carol Harrison, Sandra Kinkelarr (B-Days), Richard & Songie
 McCall (Anniv.)
 3/29 Alina Bohanan, Daniel Botz, David Delker, Amanda
 Swolensky (B-days)
 3/31 Lori Brax (B-day)

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