



Dear Church Family,

The word Lent comes from an old English word that means “lengthen” and was used to talk about the lengthening of days as springtime began. As we begin this Lenten journey toward Easter, the dark nights become shorter and the lengthening days will be filled with more sunshine and growth. God gives us this season to consider how we too can grow – in our relationships with one another, in our relationship with the church, and in our relationship with Christ.

This Lent we’ll be looking to the wisdom of poet Mary Oliver for inspiration as we read the stories of Jesus’ life and his journey to resurrection. Our guiding phrases come from Mary Oliver’s poem “Sometimes,” in which she offers us “*Instructions for Living a Life: Pay attention. Be astonished. Tell about it.*” What a simple and beautiful framework for Christianity! Here are a few save the dates for Lent and Easter where we’ll be delving into more poetry:

Tuesday, March 2 nd	Ash Wednesday service at noon
Sundays at 10:00am	Worship services
Thursday, April 14 th	Maundy Thursday soup supper at 5:30pm, service at 6:00pm
Friday, April 15 th	Good Friday service at noon
Sunday, April 17 th	Easter Sunday Worship

Through these 40 days, how might God be calling you to pay attention to things in a new way? What will astonish you? How will you tell about your experience? The stories of Jesus’ life that we will read together during this month show us how the disciples answered these same questions and invite us to think of our own answers.

To celebrate the power of sharing our experiences, throughout Lent we will have several opportunities to share testimony – to share your true story of how God has impacted your life. If you’d like to tell your story in writing, in person on a Sunday morning, or even via video, let me know and we’ll make arrangements. Your story matters and deserves to be heard. There are people who will experience God in a new way because of your story, the way you tell it, and that’s something no pastor or church can ever do just the way you would do it. My prayer for you is that nothing would keep you from telling your story!

I look forward to seeing you on Ash Wednesday as we begin our reflections on the poetry of Lent. Even if you can’t come to the service in person that day, you can catch the recording on our Facebook page later. All special services will be livestreamed and available over the phone at the same number that our regular Sunday services are. May God bless you in this season of anticipation as we look toward the cross.

-Pastor Violet

In February, eleven of us participated in the presentation by Whitney Mulrooney on Palliative Care. If you would like a copy of the handout, please see Joella.

Come join us for the program
 “Love, Justice and Service: Answering the Call”

Meeting Date: **March 8, 2022**
Meeting Time: **1 P.M.**
Meeting Place: **Brooke Road UMC**



Kim Fahlbeck will present Call To Prayer and Self-Denial Program. This year's offering will support vital and vibrant ministries of deaconesses and home missionaries. The vocations include social work, education, health care, advocacy, immigration reform, anti-poverty initiatives, antiracism efforts, firefighting, legal justice and others.

Join us Sunday, March 20th during 10:00am worship when we will celebrate United Methodist Women Sunday.

Lent Book Study

Along with the Northern Illinois Conference, we will be reading *Kneeling with Giants: Learning to Pray with History's Best Teachers* by Gary Neal Hansen. Copies of the book are available for \$15 from the church office. There are two options to participate:

The Prairie North District will meet four times on Zoom to discuss the book on Mondays 3/7, 3/28, 4/4, and 4/18 from 1pm-2:30pm. You can register at umcnic.org/Discipleship/NICBookClub

AND/OR

In person at the church on those same Mondays 3/7, 3/28, 4/4, and 4/18 from 6pm to 7:30pm in the parlor.

Mask Update

In keeping with the guidance from the state of Illinois, beginning March 1st masks will no longer be required in the church, but we encourage you to wear them as you feel comfortable.

Monthly Finance Update

In an effort to inform the congregation, we will print in the monthly newsletter the following information:

January income:	\$21,406.27
January expenses:	\$10,041.89

This information is available to anyone by contacting Finance Chair, Judy Parks or Treasurer, Sandy McCallum.



The lilies you order may be taken home following Easter Sunday Worship.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Lilies are \$11.50 each

Total number of lilies: _____ Total Cost: _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

***Please enclose payment with this form and return to church office
(1404 Brooke Road, Rockford, IL 61109) by March 27, 2022.
and be sure to mark your check and/or
envelope indicating it is for Easter Lilies.***

March Birthdays and Anniversaries

1st	Jim Puls	13th	Jim Clendening	8th	Jim & Bev Clendening
3rd	Charlene Taylor	25th	Terri Pomeroy		
9th	Joella Warner	27th	Don Faerber		
12th	Sharon Albee	30th	Phyllis Stafseth		
		31st	Marites Kiel		

Our Military

Matt Cowan, Matt Crabtree, Scott Dickson,
Thomas Helser, Will Hoyum, Ian Long, Joshua Mattson,
Jonathan Modler, Jerry Nettles, Stacy Huser,
Christine Tornow, Tommy Turnure, Ryan & Kate (Vowles) Levack

Family and Friends

Erma Albee
Dave Bargren
Boots Baxter
Chris Beebe
Richard Coppoletti
Addilynn D'Angelo
Hazel Dyke

Emerge Church
Debbie Hintzsche
Pastor Violet, Kyle, Lincoln
and Imogene Johnicker
John Pippel
Marge Rose
Ron Ross

David Satek
Family of Robert Shaver
Vivian Schwab
Phyllis Stafseth
Charlene Taylor
Children of Jordan Thomas
Tom & Cynthia Zolk
Maxine Zolk

Do You Want to Fast this Lent?

Fast from hurting words and say kind words
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude
Fast from anger and be filled with patience
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope
Fast from worries and have trust in God
Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity
Fast from pressures and be prayerful
Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy
Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others
Fast from grudges and be reconciled
Fast from words and be silent so you can listen



Get your free copy of
The Upper Room today
(in narthex).
Thanks to Brooke Road's
United Methodist Women
for providing this daily devotional.

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<u>1</u> 7:00pm AA	<u>2</u> Noon Ash Wednesday Worship 7:00pm AA	<u>3</u> 1:00pm Worship Committee 7:00pm AA	<u>4</u> 7:00pm AA	<u>5</u> 7:00pm AA
<u>6</u> 10:00am Worship Noon Swahili Worship 2:00pm Emerge Worship 2:00pm GS 0176	<u>7</u> 7:00pm AA	<u>8</u> 1:00pm UMW 5:30pm Finance 6:30pm Trustees 7:00pm AA	<u>9</u> 7:00pm AA	<u>10</u> 7:00pm AA	<u>11</u> 7:00pm AA	<u>12</u> 9:00am SPRC 7:00pm AA
<u>13</u> 10:00am Worship Noon Swahili Worship 2:00pm Emerge Worship 2:00pm GS 0176	<u>14</u> 7:00pm AA	<u>15</u> 6:00pm Council 7:00pm AA	<u>16</u> 7:00pm AA	<u>17</u> 2:00pm Library bus 7:00pm AA	<u>18</u> 7:00pm AA	<u>19</u> 7:00pm AA
<u>20</u> 10:00am Worship Noon Swahili Worship 2:00pm Emerge Worship 2:00pm GS 0176	<u>21</u> 7:00pm AA	<u>22</u> 7:00pm AA	<u>23</u> 7:00pm AA	<u>24</u> 7:00pm AA	<u>25</u> 7:00pm AA	<u>26</u> 7:00pm AA
<u>27</u> 10:00am Worship Noon Swahili Worship 2:00pm Emerge Worship 2:00pm GS 0176	<u>28</u> 7:00pm AA	<u>29</u> 7:00pm AA	<u>30</u> 7:00pm AA	<u>31</u>		

Our Mission at The Brooke is, . . .

to transform lives
through faith, love, and service.

Our Vision for The Brooke is, . . .

to be a transforming congregation
of believers to serve the community,
renew lives, and build faith.

BROOKE ROAD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1404 BROOKE ROAD

ROCKFORD, IL 61109

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



*For God so loved
the world that he
gave his one and
only Son....*

JOHN 3:16, NIV

Sunday Worship Services at 10:00am

In person

OR

Facebook Live
[facebook.com/thebrookerockford](https://www.facebook.com/thebrookerockford)

OR

call 1-312-626-6799
and when prompted
enter code 810-0983-5011

Nursery

Available for newborn - 4 years

Pastor Violet

Phone 847-651-4857
Email violet@the-brooke.org
Address 4949 Radnor Drive
Rockford, IL 61109

Church Office

Phone 815-398-8914
Email brookeroadumc@outlook.com
Website the-brooke.org
Address 1404 Brooke Road
Rockford, IL 61109
Hours M - Th ~ 9:00am - 3:30pm

Social Media Links

[facebook.com/TheBrookeRockford](https://www.facebook.com/TheBrookeRockford)
[instagram.com/BrookeRoadUMC](https://www.instagram.com/BrookeRoadUMC)
twitter.com/BrookeRoadUMC