

THE ECHO... MARCH 2023

The church newsletter of Rossville United Methodist Church - Rossville, IN



**FROM THE
PASTOR**

The amount of ink spilled over the past few years highlighting the divisions evident seemingly at all levels of life and society has become tiresome. And yet, we seem to eagerly soak up articles, social media posts, books, podcasts, programs, and even movies whose goals appear to want to keep the divisions flaring. However, when one thinks back through history, it becomes apparent that none of this is new. Division, strife, and disagreement have existed it seems since the days of Cain and Abel.

Each generation is convinced that things have “never been as bad as they are now.” And we harken back to how it seemed people got a long better and had more respect for those with opposing viewpoints “back in the day” then they do now.

When Jesus was on this earth, he looked out over the crowds gathered on the day we refer to as Palm Sunday and wept. And he cried out, “if only you knew the things that make for peace.” He saw a people who were like a bunch of busy bees trying to make a go of it in the world but never succeeding. They knew nothing of peace. They lived in a land of oppression and hoped for a Messiah who would overthrow the Roman government and restore the land to the Jewish people. Jesus spent much of his ministry confronting these kinds of attitudes, teaching people where true peace comes from.

This Lent we are looking at some examples of how Jesus waged peace throughout Holy Week.

We begin with the first day of Holy Week where we realize that Jesus used his triumphal entry to subtly declare that he was not the Hammer of God. Instead, he was the Lamb of God and he calls his followers to embrace the way of this “lamb” who would sacrifice his life for us.

As we move throughout the season, we discover that after Jesus cleansed the temple, the money changers and animal sellers went out while the blind and the lame came in and were healed. Everything belongs to God, even those things we think belong to “Caesar”. We will consider if we have chosen to follow the rabble-rouser Jesus for peace, or are we more comfortable with the status quo instead? Lent often leads to a reevaluation of where we are in our relationship with Christ and one of the areas includes a comparison with Jesus’ disciples. At the start, they left everything to follow Jesus. But by the end of the day on Holy Thursday, one of them leaves everything behind to stop following Jesus. What would we have done? When we come towards the end of the Lenten Season, we will discover that the peace Christ brings to our soul because of the cross brings forgiveness that has the ability to create a future at a time when it seemed like no future was possible. (Reiterating our verse of the year at Rossville: “See, I am doing a new thing.: Isaiah 43:19) And finally, on the day of the resurrection as Easter arrives, we will wrap it all up by realizing that God’s great cleanup of a world of sin, violence, and injustice has begun.

I hope you will join together with us throughout this most holy season to grow, to learn, to allow our understanding of Christ to be stretched and deepened, and to realize that no matter what divisions are apparent in the world, in our communities, in our families, or even in our own life, that the One who came to bring peace to all of these is standing there as he did at Jerusalem so long ago and offering us the way that leads to peace.

In Christ’s Love, *Pastor Bob Raschka*

Disaffiliation Discernment Process Events

Monday March 6th Discernment Prayer Meeting #2 7:00 pm



Monday March 20th Town Hall Meeting at 7pm with Rev. Scott Pattison and Rev. Jack Hartman
One will explain the positives of joining the Global United Methodist Church, and the other will explain the positives of remaining in the United Methodist Church. A straw poll will be taken at the end of this meeting.



BLESSED BITES
@Rossville UMC
FORMALLY Comfort Kitchen

Join us the 2nd Thursday each month for food, fellowship and the Cutler Band.

Next Café is March 9th, 5:30-7pm. This month we will be serving Tater Tot Casserole.

This is a free event offered every month and open to the public.

LADIES DAY OUT March 10th



On Feb 10th eight ladies went to Applebee's and enjoyed the food and fellowship. The next outing will be Friday, March 10th at Culvers. All ladies are invited to join.

Meet at the church parking lot to carpool promptly at 11am.

For Questions Contact Jane Emens (765-376-3176) or Connie Hinesley (765-379-2234).

If any lady would be willing to take a turn driving the group please see Jane Emens.

Wednesday Fellowship at Mary's is back!

Join us Wednesdays at 6:30 pm starting March 15th through May 3rd. Everyone is welcome at the home of Mary Gray 304 E. Main St for this time of growing in our relationship with God and with each other.

Each week we pray, share a meal together, sing, and share our hearts. Our first gathering meal will be furnished by Mary Gray. A clip board will be passed that night if you would like to sign up with a buddy to cook for one of the fellowship nights.



RUMC 2023 Chili Cook-Off Champ is Jeff Miller

Miles Green is our Runner-Up.

Thank you to everyone who made this event possible. We raised \$475 to send our youth to camp. If you have a child in your life talk to them about church camp. We have scholarships available thanks to your generosity. For questions about camp see

Brandy Marlow or check out Impact2818.org





Rossville United Methodist Church

110 W. Main St. Rossville, Indiana

(765)379-2981

rossvilleum@gmail.com

Every Tuesday, February 28th – March 21st

6pm-7:30pm

**Join us as the Adventure Club team takes you through the
Adventures in Acts. Each Tuesday there will be a**

Bible story, music, crafts and light meal.

Adventure Club is free and open to any child

Pre-K (potty trained) through 5th grade.

Check in for the Club will open at 5:45 each Tuesday.



Bible Lesson

Music

Crafts

Food

Rossville United Methodist Church

110 W. Main St. P.O. Box 568
 Rossville, IN. 46065
 (765) 379-2981
 Adult Sunday School: 9:00 am
 Worship & Jr. Church: 10:30 am

Email: rossvilleum@gmail.com
 Website: rossinumc.com
 Pastor: Rev. Bob Raschka
 Office Manager: Brandy Marlow

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 (765) 379-2982
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 Rossville, IN 46065



Janice Leazenby March 6th

Nancy Disinger March 17th

Dan Cooper March 24th

Christian Shireman March 27th



Prayer requests for the church can be submitted to the church office. Pastor Bob or Brandy will start the phone tree system as soon as possible after receiving a request.

March Sermon Themes

- March 5th "A Whip?" John 2: 14-22
- March 12th "Traps and Truth" Mark 12: 13-17
- March 19th "O the Humanity" Mark 14:1-11
- March 26th "Ripped Apart" John 13:31-38



Stewardship

<u>Date</u>	<u>In Person Att.</u>	<u>Online</u>	<u>Regular Offering</u>	<u>Missions Offering</u>
Jan 29 th	36	66	\$864	\$42
Feb 5 th	51	53	\$1,459	\$61
Feb 12 th	48	61	\$1,532	\$36

Reminder: Regular offering needed each week to meet the budget is \$2,740.29 Through the first seven weeks of 2023, we averaged \$2,380.14. Remember God's call to tithe.



March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>1</p> <p>Ladies Bible Study 10am @ Living Stone</p> <p>Jesus Night 7pm @ LSC</p>	2	<p>3</p> <p>Religious Education 1-3pm</p>	4
<p>5 Communion</p> <p>Sunday School 9 am</p> <p>Worship and Jr. Church 10:30 am</p> <p>Prayer Group 5pm</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Prayer discernment Session 7pm</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Adventure Club 6-7:30pm</p> 	<p>8</p> <p>Ladies Bible Study 10am @ Living Stone</p> <p>Jesus Night 7pm @ LSC</p>	<p>9</p>  <p>Blessed Bites %:30-7pm</p>	<p>10</p>  <p>Ladies Day Out Meet at church parking lot 11am</p> <p>Religious Education 1-3pm</p>	11
<p>12 Sunday School 9am</p> <p>Worship and Jr. Church 10:30 am</p> <p>Milner's Service 3pm</p> <p>Bible Study 4pm</p> <p>Prayer Group 5pm</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Administrative Council 7pm</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Adventure Club 6-7:30pm</p> 	<p>15 Ladies Bible Study 10am @ Living Stone</p> <p>6:30pm Mary's Fellowship</p>  <p>FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>Jesus Night 7pm @ LSC</p>	16	<p>17</p> <p>Religious Education 1-3pm</p>	18
<p>19 Sunday School 9am</p> <p>Worship and Jr. Church 10:30 am</p> <p>Bible Study 4pm</p> <p>Prayer Group 5pm</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Town Hall 7pm</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Adventure Club 6-7:30pm</p> 	<p>22 Ladies Bible Study 10am @ Living Stone</p> <p>6:30pm Mary's Fellowship</p>  <p>FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>Jesus Night 7pm @ LSC</p>	23	24	25
<p>26 Sunday School 9am</p> <p>Worship and Jr. Church 10:30 am</p> <p>Bible Study 4pm</p> <p>Prayer Group 5pm</p>	27	<p>28</p> <p>Staff Parish Relations Committee 6pm</p>	<p>29 Ladies Bible Study 10am @ Living Stone</p> <p>6:30pm Mary's Fellowship</p>  <p>FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>Jesus Night 7pm @ LSC</p>			