

Weekly Updates for March 5, 2024



UNITED CHURCH
OF FAYETTEVILLE

www.theucf.org

315.637.3186

Office@theucf.org



Why is March 8th *International Women's Day*?

On March 8, in 1908, women workers in the needle trades marched through New York City's Lower East Side to protest child labor, sweatshop working conditions, and demand women's suffrage. Beginning in 1910, March 8 became annually observed as International Women's Day.

A Letter "according to" our Transitional Pastor...



Grace and peace to you, brothers and sisters in Christ.

As we continue our journey through Lent, I want to thank you all for your warm welcome and hospitality. I appreciate your patience as I begin to match faces and names, as well as your willingness to remind me. In conversation with the Change Team and Board, we have intentionally set this season aside for building relationships. Please continue to tell me your stories and respond to our adult education, worship or social media questions so that I can continue to get to know you in different ways. I've received some very fun responses to the question of what metaphor best describes your spiritual journey, as well as some lovely psalm poems.

As I listen to your stories and join with you in worship, meetings and fellowship, I am continually struck by your faithfulness and compassion toward one another and our neighbors. I am also struck by your courage in acknowledging that the church and world are changing.

I believe that God is giving our church an opportunity. Unlike many congregations, UCF seems pretty clear about past mission and ministry and the current challenges. What faithful work! Many congregations ignore God's incarnate message - communicated through our experiences as members, our neighbors' understanding of our love, and a clear-eyed understanding of our resources (people, building, finances, traditions). Thank you for taking these first steps trusting in God's love.

As I continue to learn about each of you individually and corporately, I am eager to join with you in discerning God's call for our next year and the future.

Blessings, Beth

March 2024 - *In Our House

- *Saturday, March 9 –7:30 PM - Steeple Coffee House – “The Bobcats”
- *Sunday, March 10 – 10:00 AM – Worship with The Rev. Beth DuBois – Fellowship to follow **Sunday School with Betsy N. and Sandy M on the 10th also! (All children and grands welcome!)**
- *Wednesday, March 13 – 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM - Women’s Zoom Bible Study **with Rev. Beth Du Bois** (Contact Gail S. for the link.)
- *Sunday, March 17 – 10:00 AM – Worship with The Rev. Beth DuBois – Fellowship to follow
- *Wednesday, March 20 – 2:00 PM -3:00 PM – Women’s Zoom Bible Study **with Rev. Beth Du Bois** (Contact Gail S. at gmarieps8@gmail.com for the link.)
- *Saturday, March 23 – 7:30 PM – Steeple Coffee House – “Victor Light”
- *Palm Sunday, March 24 – 10:00 AM - Worship with The Rev. Rev. Beth DuBois – Fellowship to follow
- *Maundy Thursday, March 28 – 7:00 PM - Worship with the Lord’s Supper
- *Good Friday, March 29 – Service to be available on Live Stream noon on at www.theucf.org
- *Saturday, March 30 – 7:30 PM – Steeple Coffee House – “The Atta Boys”
- *Easter Sunday, March 31 – 10:00 AM – The Festival of the Resurrection Worship with organ, brass and choir!

*In Our House *Sunday School – March 10th



The next "edition" of our once-a-month Sunday School will be this Sunday, **March 10th**. We will be looking at the parable of The Good Samaritan. We would also like to tangibly be Good Neighbors ourselves and bring some nonperishable food items up and place them in our food barrel.

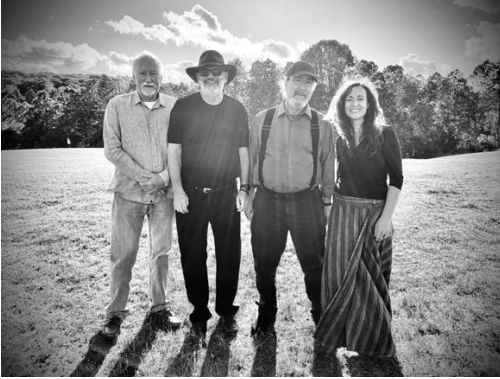
With that in mind, we invite all children attending to bring a food item. (If some adults would like to bring some food items down to our classroom across from the choir room, we will be sure they get delivered). Thank you, for your support, food, prayer and otherwise. Betsy N and Sandy M

*Did you know that on our UCF website...

1. You can go to www.theucf.org and find these Updates/newsletters from previous weeks in case you want to check something?
2. You can go to www.theucf.org and find Google Calendars with happenings and a page of all the Steeple Coffee House concerts through April?
3. You can keep the www.theucf.org in your bookmarks and just quickly click on it to check our what’s happening at UCF! If you need help, please feel free to call upon Board members and Communications Committee folks!
4. You can also connect to Facebook, Instagram and Youtube on social media to see what’s happening at UCF! Just go to www.theucf.org and click one at the top! Rev. Beth also posts on the UCF Facebook page as does Andrea L! Keep “Liking us!”

*Steeple Coffee House Event – March 9th – The Bobcats

Please let **Kathy Z** @ 315-440-1826 or Kez1938@gmail.com know if you can help and/or bake for this March 9th event. Thank you!



The BobCats Band (some know us as IdeliBlue) is playing at Steeple Coffee House, United Church of Fayetteville, Saturday, March 9th, 7:30 till 9:30. We will be playing original music, tasty covers from Irving Berlin to Bob Dylan and much in between... including an interlude trio of piano, violin & guitar. We are Bob Elfenbein, Jenny OHara, David Goldman, Mark Hipolito, Michael Callaghan. Hope to see you!

*In Our World -

Consider how you
can help during Lent!



*Needs continue each month. **Please remember the F-M Food Pantry with non-perishable items like:** regular size cans of tuna, beets, pork and beans, fruit, chicken, beef stew, broth and tomato paste. or bars of soap, feminine hygiene products and toilet paper.

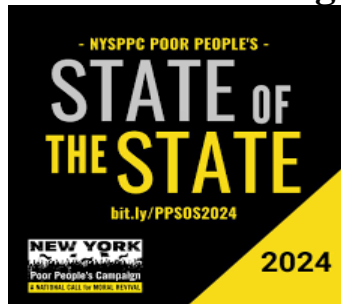
*March Offerings

Palm Sunday



*As designated by our Outreach Committee and approved by our UCF Board the first March offering is - ***One Great Hour of Sharing:** Each Lent, both the American Baptists and the Presbyterians join with other denominations in supporting ministries which address hunger, disaster relief, displaced persons and ongoing development needs. We hope that you will give generously on **Palm Sunday**, when we collect this offering. To find out more, see: <https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/oghs/> and <http://abc-oghs.org>.

****Easter Offering**



**NB - The UCF Outreach Committee will match donations up to \$500 for for the Easter Offering from the UCF "Mission Fund"!

*Our **Easter Offering is the 2nd**: Our holiday offerings support international, national and local missions. **This Easter, we are dedicating our offering to the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival (PPC)**. We will split our offering between the National PPC and the State PPC. A continuation of Dr. Martin Luther King's march on Washington for Jobs and Justice, the PPC is organized in over 40 states and works to address the issues of systemic racism, systemic poverty, militarism, ecological devastation and nationalism by lifting up the voices of those directly impacted, urging them to organize and influence policies so that their needs can be met. To find out more, see: <https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org> and <https://linktr.ee/nysppc>.

Haiti Email – Thank you & prayer request!



*A Thank you from our friends at FEED in Paulette, Haiti, for a recently completed 3-day Mobile Medical Clinic...translated here for you...

My dear friends,

You had to be there to believe it! The 2024 Medical Clinic came at a time when people had so many health problems! We are tired, but we completed the mobile clinic with much love! We treated 384 people: children, young people and the elderly. Some even came to Paulette from neighboring towns,, but we could not serve them all as we did not have enough medicine. We thank all the churches and people who raised funds to make this come true this year.

Please continue to pray for us and for Haiti as we pray for you! The situation—especially in and near the capital – is dire! The gangs continue their violence! There is a State of Emergency!

Eliphine and Serge, FEED



We receive photos and receipts from Haiti weekly via email for projects we support for our Haiti Education Mission (HEM). (Photos from the Mobile Medical Clinic in February)



*Study Opportunities



Thanks to Donna C. for her leadership in February!

Lent is a good time to take the opportunity to **continue to study** scripture, widen your horizons with an online course or zoom into a discussion.

1. Check these out and remember too our UCF March zoom **Women's Bible study with Rev Beth Du Bois** March 13 & 20 at 2pm. (Contact Gail S for the link.)
2. **Centering Prayer.** You can find more information on centering prayer through the Spiritual Renewal Center or on the web at: <https://www.contemplativeoutreach.org>.
3. **Scripture Reading:** More information on Lectio Divina, the practice of reading scripture taught in the Jesuit tradition, can also be found through classes at the Renewal Center, at the Contemplative Outreach website or: <https://www.contemplative.org>

F-M Musical



*Support Aubrey J-P in F-M's musical, "Big Fish". See details at <https://www.fmschools.org/tickets-on-sale-now-for-f-m-high-schools-musical-big-fish/> March 8 & 9 and March 15 & 16.

Life Lessons from The Musical Big Fish:

- In life, the most important thing to know, is where you are going.
- Change The Way You See Things And The Things You See, Will Change.
- Treat Every Person With Kindness.

Big Fish The Musical offers students, teachers, and parents numerous insights into family relationships, truth and illusion, and what is important in life. It is uplifting, bittersweet, and comical, reflecting the experiences of our own lives. There are many lessons to be learned from *Big Fish, The Musical*.



*A Note about our Brown Bag Lunch Bunch

*The initial Brown Bag Lunch Bunch had eleven participants-some bringing lunch and others having that second cup of coffee while continuing conversations! Entirely too many smiles, too much laughter, and some worthwhile exchanging of ideas. Think about joining us the first Sunday of each month following fellowship. No agenda, just fun fellowship. We hope to see you on **Sunday, April 7th**, after Fellowship!

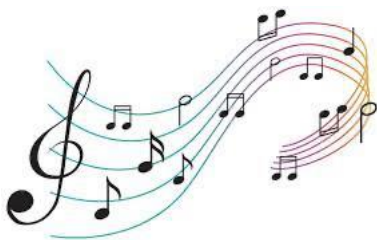
Love,
Your Membership Committee.

*Reminders

1. *Donations for Easter flowers and our music ministry are due on Sunday, March 17th. Look for flyers on the tables entering the sanctuary.
2. *Consider remembering our Homebound with a card this month. Look for lists on the tables entering the sanctuary.

***In addition to our two Steeple Coffee House acts (April 13 & 27th), please mark your calendars for two other Outreach Concerts in April...**

*Sunday, April 7th, 3:00pm, Concert for Haiti at Pebble Hill Presbyterian Church



*Mark your calendars for a special free-will concert to support our Haiti Education Mission. Performing will be Onondaga Community College present and retired music professors: **Rob Bridge, marimba, Kevin Moore, piano, Selma Moore, flute, Dave Rudari, vocals, and, Chair of the Haiti Education Mission (HEM), Tim Schmidt, guitar.** They will perform a wide variety of music including flute and guitar duets from Italy and Brazil, a solo guitar piece from Haiti, classical piano, opera, musical theater, and, popular music arranged for marimba.

Pebble Hill is located at 5299 Jamesville Road in Dewitt, NY and is Accessible. A reception will follow.

*Sunday, April 28, 3:00pm, Syracuse University Brass Ensemble Pops Concert at UCF

To enjoy variety of music and raise funds for "**Rise Above Poverty**", a Syracuse-based organization, to help alleviate the economic issues of homelessness in Central New York! (Look for more info in the coming issues of your Weekly Updates!)