

THE BREEZE



WE IMPLORE YOU
ON CHRIST'S BEHALF:

Be
RECONCILED
to God.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:20, NIV

Our Church's Vision:

*To become a growing, difference-making, enthusiastic,
and faith-filled Christian community.*

Our Church's Mission:

Reach with Christ People Where They Are.

The Gospel Imperatives:

*Growing in Love of God and Neighbor
Reaching New People
Healing a Broken World*

Our Guiding Principle:

*Do all the good we can, by all the means we can,
in all the ways we can, in all the places we can,
at all the times we can, to all the people we can,
as long as ever we can.*

Check us out:

**Church Website with official multi-month
church calendar: www.MotleyUMC.net**

On Facebook: www.facebook.com/motleyumc



Do Some Good Every Day

The Motley United Methodist Church

Worship Service via Zoom Meeting & in-person

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March Message from Pastor Greg

Good March Disciples,

Lent is one of those seasons. There are some people who view it as a somber or even a silent season. Then there are others who view it as a time to repent. A time for taking the time and making a list of personal sins and asking for forgiveness. Maybe you are looking to leave behind certain behaviors and setting some new priorities. What I am saying is this: that the season of Lent gives each one of us plenty of time to contemplate.

One of my favorite authors is Thomas Merton, he was known for writing around the topic of contemplation. Here is how he describes what contemplation is about. *“Contemplation is the highest expression of man’s intellectual and spiritual life...It is spiritual wonder. It is spontaneous awe at the sacredness of life, of being. It is a vivid realization of the fact that life and being in us proceed from an invisible, transcendent and infinitely abundant source. Contemplation is, above all, awareness of the reality of that source”*

So let me ask you a question to help you all begin our Lenten journey together.

What tool do you use to get you into a contemplation mindset? If you are like me, music is probably one of the best tools. You see music can change your focus, it can change your attitude, and having the right type can play with your emotions. That is why this Lenten season, during our Wednesday night worship, we will be looking into Psalms, which are songs and poems within themselves. When read, they can bring about emotions, they can change your hearts and minds. So please consider joining us for worship starting March 5th at 6 pm. And don’t forget that there will also be a light soup and bread supper starting at 5:15.

As I end, I hope you all are enjoying the spring-like weather. I am sure winter isn’t over yet, but let’s enjoy it while we can.

God Bless,
Pastor Greg Leslie

EXTENDED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 2 - Sunday Worship Celebration w/Holy Communion
at 10 am; First Sunday Potluck
- March 3 - Monday Morning Bible Study at 10 am;
Circle of Friends, 1 pm
- March 4 – ***Shrove Tuesday / Mardi Gras***
- March 5 – Game Day, 1 pm; Soup & Bread Supper, 5:15 pm;
Ash Wednesday Lenten Service, 6 pm
- March 9 – Daylight Savings Time begins;
Sunday Worship Celebration, 10 am
- March 10 – Monday Morning Bible Study at 10 am
- March 12 – Soup & Bread Supper, 5:15 pm; Lenten Service, 6 pm
- March 16 – Sunday Worship Celebration, 10 am
- March 17 – ***St Patrick's Day***; Monday Morning Bible Study
at 10 am
- March 19 – Game Day, 1 pm; Church Council, 4:00 pm;
Soup & Bread Supper, 5:15 pm; Lenten Service, 6 pm
- March 22 – **Arla Allen Celebration of Life**: 10 am visitation,
11 am service
- March 23 – Sunday Worship Celebration, 10 am
- March 24 – Monday Morning Bible Study at 10 am
- March 26 – Soup & Bread Supper, 5:15 pm; Lenten Service, 6 pm
- March 29 – Pancake Breakfast at 9 am
- March 30 – Sunday Worship Celebration, 10 am; Fifth Sunday
Noisy Offering
- March 31 – Monday Morning Bible Study at 10 am
- April 2 – Game Day, 1 pm; Soup & Bread Supper, 5:15 pm;
Lenten Service, 6 pm
- April 6 – Sunday Worship Celebration w/Holy Communion
at 10 am; First Sunday Potluck
- April 7 – Monday Morning Bible Study at 10 am;
Circle of Friends, 1 pm
- April 9 – Soup & Bread Supper, 5:15 pm; Lenten Service, 6 pm
- April 13 – ***Palm Sunday*** Worship Celebration, 10 am
- April 14 – Monday Morning Bible Study at 10 am
- April 16 – Game Day, 1-3 pm; Church Council Meeting, 4:00 pm
- April 17 – Holy Thursday Worship Service: 7 pm
- April 18 – Good Friday Worship Service, 7 pm
- April 20 – ***Easter Sunday*** Worship Celebration, 10 am

Church in-person or on Zoom.

Sunday morning worship at MotleyUMC is at 10 am and can be attended in person at MotleyUMC or via Zoom.

On March 2, we will celebrate worship with the Holy Communion. Please have bread and juice ready if worshipping with us via Zoom on **March 2**.

Where: In person at MotleyUMC and on Zoom.

When: 10 am

MotleyUMC <https://zoom.us/j/973954278>

Meeting ID: **973 954 278** Password: *(Contact Church)*

Monday Morning Study

Monday Morning Bible Study via Zoom

Time: Every week on Monday at 10:00 AM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86826858534>

Meeting ID: **868 2685 8534**

Password: *(Contact Liz)*

Church Council Meeting

Wednesday, March 19, at 4 pm. The MotleyUMC Church Council meeting is an open meeting where input from church members and friends is welcomed. I do record a transcript using Zoom, so you can attend via Zoom in addition to in person at MotleyUMC.


Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2183526466>

Meeting ID: 218 352 6466 Password: *(Contact Church)*

Other Events:

Bone Builders is meeting on Tuesday & Friday Mornings, 10 am
TOPS is meeting on Tuesday nights at 6:30 pm.

Ash Wednesday worship on March 5th in-person and on Zoom



We begin our journey in ashes; there will be the imposition of ashes for those who are attending in person. We will be gathering on Wednesday nights either in person at MotleyUMC or via Zoom at 6 pm during Lent for worship.

MotleyUMC Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87321351104>

Meeting ID: **873 2135 1104** Password: *(Contact Church)*

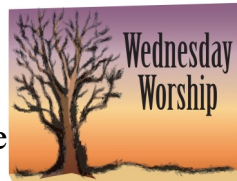
On Wednesday nights during Lent, we will meet for a light soup and bread meal at 5:15 pm followed by a Lenten Service at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary or via Zoom led by Pastor Greg.



Schedule for Wednesdays in Lent

5:15 pm Light Soup & Bread Meal

6:00 pm Gather for the Lenten Service



Wednesday, **March 5, Ash Wednesday**
Soup and Bread served by Sherry Frisk.

Wednesday, **March 12**

Soup and Bread served by Circle of Friends.

Wednesday, **March 19**

Soup and Bread served by Shirley Watson & Fran Kokett.

Wednesday, **March 26**

Soup and Bread served by Gayle Quinn & Linda Townsend.

Wednesday, **April 2**

Soup and Bread served by Larry & Jackie Dumpprope .

Wednesday, **April 9**

Soup and Bread served by Jomyla Choate & the Sandbergs.



COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

SATURDAY

March 29, 2025

9—10:30 AM



Community Breakfasts are at MotleyUMC on the **last Saturday of each month**. The next one is on March 29th, from 9-10:30 am. There is no charge, this is an opportunity for members of the community to come together and share a meal.

There will be a donation basket to support the Motley Area Food Shelf.

Motley United Methodist Church

847 3RD Ave S in Motley



We will have a Potluck on Sunday, March 2nd, after the church service. Bring a dish to share if you can; stay and enjoy the food either way!



Game Days Like having fun? Game On!!!!!!

First, Third, & Fifth Wednesday of each month

From 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

In March on March 5 and 19.

Cards, Dice, Board Games, Dominos

EVERYONE IS WELCOME- No Charge

Refreshments will be served

Bring your own favorite game, and we will play with you!



Upper Room Devotional

The March/April Upper Room Devotional is available in the church fellowship hall in both normal & Large Print editions. Stop in on Sunday morning or during the week when open to pick one up.

Haiti Partnership Update

There are five Sundays in March, so it is time to begin gathering up all your loose change to donate on Sunday, March 30, to the Haiti Partnership Noisy Offering. If you are unable to worship with us on the 30th, a glass jar will be on the oval table in the fellowship space, so anytime you are at church you can deposit your contribution in it. The Partnership also welcomes currency and checks payable to the Haiti Partnership.

The Minnesota Annual Conference has gifted the Partnership with additional funds for healthcare-related projects. The Partnership met on February 23 to review funding possibilities for requested needs in the communities of Sobier and Yvon.

Following some discussion the team decided to expand the Goat Project which covers the expense of the monthly nurse clinics, food for those in need, and the upcoming June mobile medical/dental clinics. Your Noisy Offering contribution will insure that all of the projects mentioned are properly funded. You do make a difference in the lives of our friends in Haiti!



EASTER FLOWERS

Motley United Methodist Church will celebrate with flowers to grace our worship space for Easter. To order a Lily from Williams Floral through the church, please return this completed form with payment to the church office by Wednesday, April 9, by 7:00 pm. Williams Floral also has other flowers that you can order directly to be delivered to the church with our order. If bringing your own flower, please bring it to church service on Sunday, April 13, or on Saturday, April 19, by 1 pm. Please make check payable to Motley UMC.

Payment required prior to placing order.

- Easter Lily \$25.00
- Begonia \$25.00
- Cyclamen \$25.00
- Kalanchoe \$25.00
- Providing/ordering my own flower

They all come with a decorative foil, but if anyone wants to add a bow it will be an additional \$2 per bow. We can't pick colors of the begonias, cyclamen, & kalanchoes, but colors usually include; yellow, orange, purple, pink, & white.

Given by _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Thought for the Day

"May the strength of God pilot us, may the wisdom of God instruct us, may the hand of God protect us, may the word of God direct us."
--Saint Patrick.

Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign

The Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign is in its 44th year of bringing organizations, businesses, faith communities, and individuals to help keep 300 food shelves statewide stocked throughout the year. Minnesota FoodShare has distributed over \$18 million to March Campaign participating food shelves via the Minnesota FoodShare FoodFund. 100% of donations received by Minnesota FoodShare during the March Campaign go into the FoodFund.

The Motley Food Shelf this past year has seen a 20% increase in clientele. We served 1,052 families, 3,197 individuals, and gave out 89,171 pounds of food. We are now receiving deliveries from Second Harvest twice a month.

The food shelf continues to be fully staffed by volunteers, each playing a part in keeping the food shelf running smoothly.

During the March Campaign, we also do Pack the Pews. We share this information with our local churches. The items that we ask for are the things we go out and buy in the community; they are not items we can get through Second Harvest.

Thank you for supporting your local food shelves,
Sherry Frisk, Director



*Enjoy Pi Day on
March 14th!*

Cooking/Baking

Garlic Powder/Garlic Salt
Minced Onion
Lemon Pepper
Cake Mixes & Frosting
Muffin Mixes
Brownie Mixes
Brown Sugar
Taco Seasoning
BBQ Sauce



Pack the Pews

Hygiene Items

Children's toothpaste
Toothbrushes
Liquid Hand Soap
Body Wash
Band Aids
Maxi Pads
Tampons
Panti Liners

Pack the Pews is a great way to come together as a faith organization during the Motley Area Food Shelf's Annual March Campaign and collect food for those facing food insecurity. This year, we have created a Needs List of our most needed items for your convenience. This also helps to meet the needs of those needing our services.

Always Needed Items:

Soups, oatmeal, canned fruit,
canned vegetables, canned meat,
granola bars, cereals, juice, sugar,
spaghetti sauce, noodles,
**Healthy options are highly
recommended.*

**Motley Area
Food Shelf**
697 3rd Ave S
Motley, MN 56466
(218) 352-6344
Hours: TH: 9am-12pm
3rd TH: 5-7pm

Email: sherrymillerfrisk@gmail.com

Our Mission:

The Motley Area Food Shelf is a non-profit whose goal is to serve people in need with dignity and respect to all.

The Motley Area Food Shelf serves the Motley area. We provide 205 individuals/80-90 families with a 5-7 day supply of food each month.

**Monetary donations allow us to purchase food at a discounted rate through our food bank.*

Thank you for your support!

MIDWEST

disaster relief • education



MISSION

health • micro business

SENDING HOPE AND EMPOWERMENT AROUND THE WORLD AND AROUND THE CORNER

February 21, 2025

Right People, Right Donation, Right Time

This week, we experienced a beautiful God moment. God put the right people and donations in the right place at the right time.

Recently, a trailer was donated to Midwest Mission from a church that no longer needed it. The trailer was filled with tools and ladders and shelving. Once it arrived on campus, Brad Walton, Director of Operations, took a quick look, but wasn't able to immediately unload it, and put the items away for future shipping.

New Lenox UMC from New Lenox, Illinois served at Midwest Mission this week. Ray Trent has served with

New Lenox for many years, and has been a great supporter of Midwest Mission. Every time he comes to campus, he brings a trailer load of supplies he has collected with him. (Thank you, Ray!)

This time, as he began unloading the trailer, he asked Brad if it was alright to keep the few tools he had collected on the trailer. He had another organization — Cookson Hills.

Cookson Hills Ministry Center works to alleviate poverty in Native American communities in Oklahoma. They work in three of the poorest counties in the state. According to their website, "Poverty is systemic and all of the effects of



poverty can be seen here in this area — domestic violence, addiction, incest, gambling, child neglect, hunger, lack of transportation and spiritual depravity. 38% of our children go to bed hungry, and 38% of our elderly go to bed hungry.”

Cookson Hills had a trailer full of tools that they would take along with them to help do repairs in the community. Unfortunately, the trailer was broken into and *all* of the tools were stolen.

So, Ray was planning to take the tools he had collected to Cookson Hills in the next few weeks.

After he shared the story, Brad had an idea. He told Ray that he hadn't unloaded the donated trailer full of tools, and if Ray was willing to unload it, he could pack up the tools he thought Cookson Hills would need, and add it to his own trailer!

After several hours of unloading and sorting, taking down shelves and brackets, the job was finished. Ray was astounded by the amount of tools. Brad took a look at the supplies, and decided Ray could take everything but the generator, as it's something that gets requested quite often.

Ray's trailer was loaded up with all of the tools, and he reached out to Cookson Hills' director to tell her the good news.

The New Lenox team went back to the Lodge that night and prayed about the opportunity.

The next morning, Ray profusely thanked Brad Walton and Chantel Corrie, Midwest Mission's Executive Director. He told them Cookson Hills' director said now the only thing they need is a generator!

Upon hearing this, Brad told him he should go ahead and take the generator, too. Ray all but jumped for joy.

He will be taking the trailer over to Cookson Hills in the next few weeks, and we look forward to hearing about the impact of the tools in the community.

Thank you, God, for working in only the way You can — the right donations, the right people, and the right timing

Prayers to Lift Up

Lord, we pray that you would preserve us as we do your good work. We pray that you would bless the supplies that are being sent out to those who need them and that it would genuinely change lives!

“Your righteousness is like the highest mountains, your justice like the great deep. You, Lord, preserve both people and animals.” - Psalms 36:6

An Irish Wish for St. Patrick’s Day



May you always have
A sunbeam to warm you,
Good luck to charm you,
And a sheltering angel
So nothing can harm you,
Laughter to cheer you,
Faithful friends near you,
And whenever you pray,
Heaven to hear you.



May your joys
Be deep and many,
May your heart
be light and glad,
May you have the best
St. Patrick's Day
That you have ever had.



Swimming. Campfires. Archery. Crafts. Horseback riding.

[Registration for summer camp](#) opened on January 16, and those are just a few of the activities that await Camp Minnesota campers this summer.

Register by April 30th to receive the **Early Bird** Camp Store Credit of \$25 to be used during the time at camp.

With the **Bring-A-Friend Incentive**, for each new camper you bring to camp you can earn a discount of \$25 off the price of your camp.

The Minnesota Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church believes that every child should have a Christian camping experience, and no camper will be turned away due to a personal lack of funds. We have scholarship funds available to campers who need them most, based on personal and family needs. Before registering, check with your local church and the [Camp Minnesota Campership Information](#).

May good luck
be with you
wherever you go,
and your blessings
outnumber the
Shamrocks that grow.
An Irish Blessing

***Keep your fears to yourself,
but share your courage with
others.***

— Robert Louis Stevenson

MOTLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

February 19, 2025, 4 pm

Present: Gayle Quinn, Linda Townsend, Cindy Spilman, Jeremy Reeck, Pastor Greg, Liz Curren, Chris Rosvold, Jomyla Choate

Pastor Greg opened the meeting with a prayer at 4:03 pm.

Liz moved, and Jeremy seconded to accept the January 22nd meeting minutes. Carried.

Finance Report: ending January 31, 2025

The balance in the bank has been around \$50,000, so I have not asked the Trustees about an advance from the Trust Funds. If we withdraw 4%, it would be approximately \$12,470, and 5% would be \$15,588. We spent more this January than we collected (\$16,220 collected and \$19,220 spent). I feel we will be having more of that with people feeling the “pinch” of increased cost for regular purchasing. Also, we may have extra expenses like cleaning and repairs. I recommend that we withdraw 4% now and see how it goes. I gave Sherry Frisk a \$1,000 prepaid VISA for Al Yoder. It was from the Christmas Offering. Someone also put a Taco Bell gift card in the collection plate at Christmas.

Respectfully, Linda Townsend, Treasure

Jeremy will talk to Robin, and they will email the recommendation to make the annual trust fund withdrawal. The report was accepted by unanimous consent.

Trustees: Jeremy talked to Steve at the bank about the mortgage renewal; that won't happen until September, and hopefully, rates will move in a more favorable direction by then. Jeremy also met with Tony about the lights; the plan is to replace the lights in the sanctuary and put in new switches so that we have more consistency with the lights and reliable switches. The work should take about a day and should happen fairly soon. The report was accepted by unanimous consent.

SPRC: Liz and Sherry met with the new cleaning lady (Whitney Messer), who is from New York Mills. She was referred to us by the Staples superintendent of schools. She will be cleaning at the church on Thursday afternoons since she has a morning appointment in Staples, so she will already be in the area. She toured the building; the plan is that she will be doing the majority of the cleaning, excluding the offices, with the congregation continuing to do light cleaning and emptying garbage. The first project is to clean all the wood in the sanctuary to deal with the allergy issues that we have been having. Sherry will be putting information in the Breeze about the plan.

Haiti Partnership: March is a five-Sunday month, so we will be putting out the jar and collecting a fifth Sunday noisy offering. Jomyla will be putting information in the Breeze.

Memorial Committee: The new Lent and Easter banners are here. There will be some more new banners being purchased. There will also be some new reserved pew markers ordered for a memorial.

Pastor's Report: Arla Allen's funeral will be held on March 22; there will not be a funeral director, so the church will be more involved in that process. Visitation at 10 am and service at 11 am.

Ash Wednesday is coming up on March 5 with a service at 6 pm and a light soup & bread meal at 5:15 pm. Thank you to everyone who signed up to host the meals. We will be looking at Psalms during our Lenten services this year.

Greg did finish up his mandated training for the conference for this year.

Old Business: Statistical tables are being filled out and will be submitted by the end of the month.

Jodi Reeck has agreed to co-chair the chicken dinner, so we are definitely planning to go ahead with the dinner on April 23. Also, Russ has agreed to chair the all-church garage sale on May 2 & 3.

We are still looking for people to support the purchase of a new swing set, we are expecting to spend \$2500+ for that installation this spring.

New Business: FYI: AA is no longer meeting at MotleyUMC on Monday nights due to a lack of participation. There is a poster out front listing other meetings that are occurring in the area.

The next council meeting is on March 19 at 4 pm.
The meeting adjourned at 4:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Chris Rosvold

[A New Cleaning Service](#)

It was brought to our attention that cleaning the church was getting to be too much for our church members. We have an older congregation, plus in today's world, most of the younger members now work outside the home.

It was discussed at our January Council Meeting. Some calls were made, asked for recommendations from others, and we now have a cleaning service. Liz and Sherry met with her, walked through the church, asked questions, and she started on Thursday, February 20th. (Hope you notice how clean and shiny the wood floor looked at the front of the church.) For now, she will come in twice a month on Thursday afternoons.

Because we have a cleaning service, it does not mean you don't clean up after you have used the kitchen or wipe off the table in the fellowship hall after using them. We will continue to clean up after ourselves.

Having a cleaning service may put a bit of strain on our budget. If you wish to make a donation, please mark for cleaning services on your check or envelope.

If you have any questions, please talk to Liz or Sherry.

May good luck be
always your friend
Through life in
all you do,
And may trouble
be always
A stranger to you.

Irish Blessing

MARCH

Forward, March
And welcome Spring
When bunnies bounce
And birds all sing!
When March winds blow
The winter away,
They get the world
ready for
April and May



Community Garden

With the arrival of the Spring seed catalogs, it's never too early to think about having a garden!

The Motley Food Shelf has 8 garden plots and 6 raised garden beds for the community to use.

We furnish the water and have a garden hose available for your use. Cages are not allowed in the raised garden beds. We ask that you keep your garden plots and raised beds weeded and, at the end of the season, clean up your space. If interested, please stop by the food shelf on a Thursday morning from 9 – Noon or contact Sherry at 218-352-6137.

Serving You in March

March 2: Liturgist: VeRonica Sandberg

Greeters/Ushers: Fred Huebner & Robin Kramer

Coffee Time: **Potluck**

March 9: Liturgist: Pastor Greg

Greeters/Ushers: Mick & Donna Farber

Coffee Time: Shirley, Vicki, & Terri

March 16: Liturgist: Liz Curren

Greeters/Ushers: John & Shirley Watson

Coffee Time:

March 23: Liturgist: Greg Townsend

Greeters/Ushers: Greg & Linda Townsend

Coffee Time: Becky S & Kerry S

March 30: Liturgist: Paula Johnson

Greeters/Ushers: Bernice Thomson & Paula Johnson

Coffee Time:

Arla Allen Celebration of Life

A Celebration of Life for Arla Allen is scheduled for Saturday, March 22, at 11 am at Motley UMC with visitation at 10 am. The service will also be able to be watched via Zoom.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2183526466>

Meeting ID: 218 352 6466 Password: *(Contact Church)*

Thank you to everyone for the sympathy cards and the kind words. It meant so much. Love, Florence



MARCH

Birthdays & Anniversaries

March Birthdays

1 - Marinell Philipp
2 - Nancy Carlson
5 - Loren Morey
6 - Julie Hoffman
11 - Linda Townsend
11 - Robin Kramer
15 - Elizabeth Ciesluk
16 - Tana Mae Fuller
17 - Steve Johnson

March Birthdays (Continued)

18 - Dillan Eischeid
19 - Nathan Spilman
19 - Larry Dumpprope
21 - Don Strain
21 - Jacob Reeck
22- Mick Farber
23- Paula Johnson

March Anniversaries

11 - Larry & Jackie Dumpprope

You are encouraged to read and meditate on these scriptures each week as an act of personal devotion. Such a practice promises to pay rich dividends in your spiritual journey and prepare your heart for a more fruitful worship experience.

The appointed Scripture lessons for:

March 2: Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99 (UMH 819);
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)

Ash Wednesday, March 5: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17 (UMH 785); 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

March 9: Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 92:1-2, 9-16 (810);
Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

March 16: Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27 (UMH 758);
Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35

March 23: Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8 (UMH 788);
1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

March 30: Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32 (UMH 766);
2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Liturgical Colors: March 2: White; March 5-April 13: Purple