

On Wednesday, March 1, 2017 3:54 PM, Program Coordinator
<ProgramCoordinator@columbusfumc.com> wrote:

First UMC / Email Blast

Lenten Journey Begins! The Lenten season consists of 40 days (not counting Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday. During the season of Lent, it is a time for Christians to remember the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ and the need we have to renew our faith. From the UM Book of Worship: "I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church 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." There will be an ecumenical **Ash Wednesday Service tonight at 7 PM at St. Luke's United Church of Christ** – all are welcome & invited to attend.

This weekend in worship, we will begin our Lenten sermon series downtown, "Go...." For the next several weeks, we will be hearing Gospel passages where Jesus said, "Go" to heal, to inspire, to bless and to send forth! Let's "Go..." and do likewise in Jesus' name!

Check out the *NEW* Bulletin Format! In worship this weekend, our new bulletin style will make its debut featuring a perforated "tear off" sheet to make signing up for activities and events more simple!

Grow through Sunday School classes for all ages! Many of our adult classes are using Lenten resources! Check them out! *Also you are invited to sign-up for one of our many Lenten Bible studies.*

Ignite, alternative praise gathering, will be wrapping up Rev. Seong's sermon series "Rebuild" on the Book of Nehemiah. Ignite your faith @ 6 PM at our Outreach Center! Watch for the next series that will begin on March 12.

Lenten Lunches / Lenten Lunches are starting up **Wednesday, March 8**, at First United Methodist Church in Fellowship Hall at 12:05 to 1 PM for five weeks. There will be a meal served after each worship service. The cost is \$5.00 a person. Each week there will be a different speaker, and Rev. Cindi Stewart will be speaking on March 22nd and Rev. Seong Lee will be speaking April 5th. The theme this year is "Praying our Story." If you would like to help with the meal on March 22nd or April 5th please call the office or Patti Luebbe @ (402) 564-4310.

The Finance Committee Invites You to Enjoy PANCAKES! First UMC paid its district & conference Mission Shares **in full** for 2016. This church's tradition is to celebrate with a Pancake Feed. Enjoy pancakes for breakfast / brunch and/or lunch on **Sunday, March 12 from 9 AM to 1 PM in Fellowship Hall**. And THANK YOU for investing in the mission & ministry of First UMC.

Welcome, Crisis Navigators! The Executive Team of the Outreach Center Operations Team wants to announce a new partnership & welcome **Crisis Navigators** to our Outreach Center. Crisis Navigators is a crisis phone service for substance abuse and mental health issues. The phone is answered 24/7 by professionals who can listen and direct you to the best organization or person to meet your need. This service is available to everyone in Platte, Colfax, Boone and Nance counties. Crisis Navigators had an office in the Rainbow Center for many years, and will now be in the office located in the east entrance of our Outreach Center. This is a wonderful partnership with Linda Ottis and the Crisis Navigators – stop by and say “hello” & “welcome” when you get a chance!

CALENDAR:

March 1 ~ 5:30 PM UMW Executive Team (Lib); 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service @ St. Luke's UCC (youth will need to be picked up at 8 PM at St. Luke's tonight)

March 2 ~ 11:30 Cup of Grace @OC (WR)

March 4 ~ 6:00 PM Worship

March 5 ~ 3:30 PM Family Lent Live “Cross Encounter” @ OC (CmR) for all ages – bring a special family cross to share its story; **4:00 PM “He Chose the Nails” Lenten Bible Study @ OC (MR)**

March 7 ~ 8:30 AM VBS Meeting (CR)

March 8 ~ 12:05 PM Lenten Lunches (FH) - \$5 for soup lunch!

YOUTH & CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

Wednesday night meals are needed. Every week 40+ people have supper in the Youth Underground at the Outreach Center. You may sign up to provide all of the meal or just a portion of it. Please check out the binder in the chapel parlor to sign up to help or talk to Sarah Borgman. Monetary donations for the meals are also accepted.

Spring Break Camp- Do you know of a child who needs something to do over spring break? Look no further First UMC is having a Spring Break Camp for ages Kindergarten to Sixth Grade. It starts March 14th and goes till March 17th from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm at our Outreach Center. There will be fun, Educational Activities studying math, reading, science, drama, cooking, and art, along with a field trip. **Make sure and bring a sack lunch.** Cost is \$10.00 per person. You can register at the church office or with Sarah Borgman at sarah.borgman@columbusfumc.com. **Empty Pringle cans are needed for a Camp Spring Break craft along with any helpers/leaders.**

Youth Ice Skating – The youth are going ice skating on March 13th in Omaha. This is for grades 7-12, it is \$8.00 per person. Bring some extra money for food. If you would like more information contact Sarah Borgman at sarah.borgman@columbusfumc.com

Cup of Grace:

Cup of Grace is meeting again & inviting friends to join them - 100 Days 10 Actions! On Saturday, January 21, over 5 million women worldwide, over 1 million in Washington, D.C. and thousands in Nebraska marched, spoke out and made their voices heard. But it doesn't end there; it is not the time to hang up the marching shoes, it's time to get friends, family and community together and make history. Every 10 days we will share our concerns and take action on issues we all care about. Women are invited to join together Thursday mornings at 11:45. The Cup of Grace @ the United Methodist Outreach Center (3602 16th Street). Share this with your friends. For more information go to www.womensmarch.com or call Marilyn Zehring 402-564-0756.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION:

Are you part of a community club and/or service organization that would like more information about our Outreach Center? We have had numerous groups

and organizations that have scheduled visits and/or tours to see what's happening at our Outreach Center. To schedule a tour, contact the Church Office, Rev. Seong Lee, Sarah Borgman and/or Marilyn Zehring.

Church Yard Signs. Church Yard signs are available to be used when your groups are out working in the community representing the church. These signs are available in the church office. Please make sure you return them to the church office within 1 week of accomplishing the event.

Great Plains United Methodist Communications Office. To receive messages from Bishop Saenz and to stay up to date on news happenings around the Great Plains United Methodist Conference, please sign up for the weekly GP connect email newsletter at <http://gp-email.brtaapp.com/subscribe>, or send an email to rdelisi@greatplainsumc.org. Follow the conference on Facebook so you see videos and receive information as it becomes available, as well as get to know people from around the conference. Like the conference's Facebook page by going to <https://www.facebook.com/GreatPlainsUMC>.

Community Connection!

Prairie Rivers District Advanced Lay Servant Training – Lay Servent Ministries include teaching, leading, guiding, and reaching out to others to demonstrate and proclaim the love of God in Jesus Christ. Leading worship course- this course focuses on the ministry of the Lay Servant who either regularly or occasionally leads a group or congregation in worship. Participants Book is *Worshiping with United Methodist A Guide for Pastors and Church Leaders*. Order your own books through Cokesbury.com or UpperRoom.org, you must have your books in order to attend the class. Located at Sutton Federated Church (407 N Saunders, Sutton, NE) on **March 24th** from 6:00pm to 9:00pm and **March 25th** from 9:00am to 5:00 pm. Cost is \$10.00 payable upon arrival. Includes snacks and Saturday lunch, \$5.00 payable to Great Plains UMC-Prairie Rivers District (mail with your registration) register by March 17th. If you have any questions, please contact Jeanie Leeper at 308-894-5275, email is leeps4christ@gmail.com.

Prairie Rivers District – Churchmen from across the district will gather at the Blue Hill UMC on **Monday, March 20** at 6:30 pm for dinner, singing, fellowship and an informative program. Keith Berns is an Owner/Operator of Green Cover Seed Farm near Bladen, and will be our evening featured speaker. Keith's

presentation will compare the task we have in rebuilding our nation's soils to Nehemiah's epic project of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem as chronicled in the book of Nehemiah. Call or email for reservations by Sunday, March 12 to Danie Mohlman, at bhbladenumc@gtmc.net or call 402-756-2091 (leave voicemail with your name & phone number, church name & number coming). Cost is \$8.00 per person, pay on arrival.

Thrive Cancer Rehabilitation Care – Columbus Community Hospital's Thrive Cancer Rehabilitation Care is here to help cancer survivors physically and emotionally heal from the side effects of treatment so they can recover more quickly and more completely than they would otherwise. A complimentary one-on-one consultation is provided in order to guide your survivorship care plan help you achieve your goals and recover the things that cancer and its treatment may have taken away. To set up an appointment or for more information, please call Rehabilitation Services at 402-562-3333.

2017 Great Plains UM Cowboy Trail Bike Ride or Walk – 16th annual ride or walk for the mission project, and sponsored by the Great Plains UMM. Donations will be given to Upper Room Prayer Line, Society of St. Andrew, Stop Hunger Now, Imagine No Malaria, disaster response, camping ministry, jail ministry, youth ministry, and scholarships for Christian service. On **May 27**, Bike or walk from Norfolk to Tilden Nebraska. Breakfast and check in at Norfolk is at 7:00 A.M. Will start walking/ ridding at 8:00 A.M. Breakfast and Lunch will be provided. Registration for biking family is \$25.00 which includes on t-shirt; additional t-shirts are \$15.00 each. There is no registration cost for walkers. T-shirts are 15.00 each. To ensure getting a t-shirt please register by May 17th. Rest stops with snacks will be at Battle Creek and Meadow Grove. Enjoy the fresh air, good exercise, tasty food and good fellowship.