



**Church Staff**

Arkansas Area Bishop, Rev. Gary Mueller  
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*Please join us for*  
**Sunday School • 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.**  
Classes for Adults, Youth, & Children  
**Fellowship Time • 10:30 a.m.**  
in the Sanctuary Lobby  
**Worship in the Sanctuary • 11:00 a.m.**

# The Informer

## Geyer Springs United Methodist Church

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Lent: A time to intentionally seek God

Lent is the 40 days, excluding Sundays, leading up to Easter. It begins with Ash Wednesday and we are in the midst of it right now. It is a time to prepare and seek God. We draw the model from the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness fasting before beginning his public ministry. It is a time that early Christians would use to prepare for Easter, and new believer would spend preparing for their baptism. The Arkansas Conference of the UMC is spending the time this year talking about spiritual revival and the need for us to prepare ourselves spiritually and to renew our commitments to God.

Are you tired of being busy all the time or running all the time, but not really living life with direction, purpose or passion? It can be easy to get caught up in the drama of life: classes, relationships, family, and work. Our lives are filled with so many things that can become distractions, taking us away from living a life with Christ. People try to fill the emptiness inside with mindless TV, meaningless chatter, stimulants, alcohol, too many activities or other irrelevant stuff. We run away from life and from God. Lent is a great time to "repent". A special time we stop and think about the need to return to God and re-focus our lives to be more in line with Jesus. Christians have traditionally done three things during Lent to help with this process. I invite you to do any or all of them. And it is not too late to start, begin where you are, and when you can.

**FASTING:** Some people have been known to go without food for days, The small group that the Wesley brothers were a part of in college fasted on Wednesdays and Fridays. But that's not the only way to fast. You can fast by cutting out something that distract you from God. Some Christians use the whole 40 days to fast from candy, tv, soft drinks, cigarettes or meat as a way to purify their bodies and lives. I have heard a lot of people talk about giving up something for Lent, I encourage you to think about it in this term, not just as a habit but as a way of bringing you closer to God and to intentionally work to be closer to God. You might skip one meal a day and use that time to pray instead. Or you can give up some activity like worry or reality tv to spend time outside enjoying God's creation.

**SERVICE:** Some Christians take something on for Christ during Lent. You can collect food for the needy, volunteer once a week to tutor children, or work for reform and justice in your community. You can commit to help a different stranger, co-worker or friend every day of Lent. Serving others is one way we serve God. St Luke is collecting supplies for Methodist Family Health, and there are many worthy projects.

**PRAYER:** Christians also use Lent as a time of intentional prayer. You can pray while you walk, create music or art as a prayer to God, or savor a time of quiet listening. All can be ways of becoming more in tune with God. Prayer is a great habit to develop during Lent. You can say little one sentence prayers throughout the day, use written prayers or just talk to God in a conversation.

God be with you and draw you closer to God, though Jesus with the aid of the Holy Spirit this Lent.

Peace be with you

Rev. Jeremy Pressgrove



Mar 02 Karen Nutt  
 Mar 05 Jacob Rodgers  
 Mar 06 Sarah Kline  
 Mar 08 Marlee Hoggard  
 Mar 09 David Pool  
 Mar 14 Ruby Faye O'Donnell  
 Mar 17 Alivia Sahlin  
 Mar 22 Leah Kline  
 Mar 25 Kelsey Harris  
 Mar 29 Ruby Prescott



### Prayer Concerns

Please continue to let us know of your prayer, joys, and concerns:  
 Rev. Jeremy Pressgrove,  
 501-733-3981 or email  
[pastorjeremy@geyersspringsumc.org](mailto:pastorjeremy@geyersspringsumc.org)

### Grief:

### Rehab & Nursing Centers

Loran & Marinelle Page - Fox-Ridge Chenal

Hugh Adcock	Don Ridgeway
Lanye Adcock	Mary Ridgeway
John Bencick	Victoria Ross
Vivian Bencick	Lilly Smith
Gussie Bridges	Dana Stout
Marie Brown	Rodney Swaty
Sherry Cardell	Charles Turley
Michelle Watson	Elaine Watson
Copeland	Hazel Wilson
Mildred Chenault	Barbara Wood
Daniel Dean	Becky Shelton
Rose Kelly	Young
Tom Kelly	Ruby Hogg
Hildegard May	
Linda McCown	
Fay O'Donnel	
Linda Pressgrove	

### Wednesday Night Fellowship Wednesday Evenings at 5:30 pm

Adults: \$3 Children: \$1 Any of the host groups welcomes your help.

<b>Mar 2</b>	<b>Blackwell</b>
<b>Mar 9</b>	<b>Wesley</b>
<b>Mar 16</b>	<b>UMM</b>
<b>Mar 23</b>	<b>Meyers</b>
<b>Mar 30</b>	<b>UMW</b>



The Food Pantry continues to feed the hungry in our neighborhood. This would not be possible without the generous support of our congregation. Donations to the Food Pantry may be given directly to Terri Hammond or to the office with a designation "Food Pantry" on your envelope.

## Many Thanks

Many thanks to my friends at Geyer Springs UMC for the food, cards, and calls during the loss of my daughter. I love you all.

Mildred Chenault

## OUTREACH

WE made almost \$700 for "Souper" Bowl Sunday for the Food Pantry. Thank you for your generosity. Thanks to all who continue to volunteer: picking up food, unloading food, packing up boxes to give, recycling, always generously giving. Thanks to the Wesley Kids for their help every Wed . before food pantry.

This is a special ministry that our church provides.

## Stewardship

Please pray for our church in this new year as we continue to ask God what He has in mind for us as we lose members but still have the same financial responsibilities. Pray that God will open our hearts to listen to Him as we pray. Pray that we will work together in love and with His Grace helping us as we strive to be good stewards.

## ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The College of Letters, Arts and Sciences at UALR is sponsoring a clothing drive to help students who are trying to get a job and don't have appropriate clothing to wear at interviews. Students are 21 - 60 years of age. There is a box in the hall marked Trojan Clothing drive. Please donate any clothing you were going to give away to this cause for the next 4 weeks.

# March 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 - 9:30 AM Sunday School - 10:30 AM Fellowship time - 11:00 AM Worship - 2:00 PM Zocalo Food Pantry	29	1 - 9:00 AM Vote	2 KAREN NUTT - 5:30 PM WNF	3 - 9:00 AM Food Pantry 9 – NOON - 6:00 PM 4–H Meeting	4	5 JACOB RODGERS
6 SARAH KLINE - 9:30 AM Sunday School - 10:30 AM Fellowship time - 11:00 AM Worship	7	8 MARLEE HOGGARD	9 DAVID POOL - 5:30 PM WNF	10 - 1:00 PM Game Day 1:00 – 3:00	11	12
13 Daylight Saving Time Begins - 9:30 AM Sunday School - 10:30 AM Fellowship time - 11:00 AM Worship	14 RUBY FAYE O'DONNELL	15	16 - 5:30 PM WNF	17 St Patrick's Day ALIVIA SAHLIN - 9:00 AM Food Pantry - 4:00 PM Newsletter Article Deadline	18	19
20 - 9:30 AM Sunday School - 10:30 AM Fellowship time - 11:00 AM Worship	21	22 LEAH KLINE ERIC SIMMS - 6:30 PM 4–H meeting	23 - 5:30 PM WNF	24 - 1:00 PM Game Day 1:00 – 3:00	25	26 MIKE HOWELL
27 Easter - 9:30 AM Sunday School - 10:30 AM Fellowship time - 11:00 AM Worship	28	29 RUBY PRESCOTT	30 - 5:30 PM WNF	31	1 April Fools Day - 10:00 AM	2