

March 2021

# Chimes Newsletter

## Chino Valley United Methodist Church

*Our Mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world*

*Our Vision—Chino Valley United Methodist Church is a vibrant, Christ-Centered Church and a beacon of hope through our witness, service, and prayer.*

### **Holy Week**

#### ***The Journey of Faith Toward the Miracle of Easter***

March 28	Palm Sunday	9:00 am
		11:00 am
April 1	Holy Thursday	6:00 pm
April 2	Good Friday	12:00 noon
April 4	Easter—Sunrise	6:30 am
	Easter—Combined	10:00 am

### **Up-to-Date Office News**

Our church members are very important to us and we take seriously your safety and health.

Pastor Bob and staff keep a close eye on our local virus statistics.

While the office is officially closed, phone messages and emails are checked daily.



### **Sunday Worship Services**

9:00 am Celebration

10:00 am Online

11:00 am Traditional

### **Adult Study**

10:00 am Monday  
Adult Study



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***As we pray for each other,  
our families and friends,  
we will persevere.***

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### **A Word from Pastor Bob**

It's been a year! Can you believe it! Basically it has been a year since the pandemic really hit. And boy did it hit hard. Many churches and businesses had to stop doing what they normally do to protect the populace from themselves. We knew too little and fortunately we have learned a lot. Unfortunately it is not over yet.

So let's just talk about Chino Valley United Methodist Church. Our Bishop wisely asked churches to stop meeting in person. To shut the doors to daily office activities; to stop Bible studies and the ultimate insult to United Methodists, No Pot-Lucks!

I arrived to a church appointment where church offices were closed and had moved into the growing pains of Zoom meetings and online worship. It was a time to hunker down and wait it out.

So... can you believe it? Here we are a year later. I really don't give too much thought as wondering if March is going to "Come in like a lion and go out like a lamb". I'm not too worried about the "Ides of March." In fact a large part of my "mourning" has turned to "joy!" Through much perseverance CVUMC's leadership has developed a great online worship for those who have the necessity to stay at home for awhile.

We are also thankful for our online worships reaching into that mysterious virtual community that is out there. Our Monday adult study has come back. We have been participating in a once a month Sunday evening worship. We are cancelling this service as of now as we have a lot to do during Lent and Easter.

The decline in positive numbers for the coronavirus is giving us hope as we continue to add elements to our worship. We are still wearing face coverings, social distancing, sanitizing not only hands but everything else we can and using the prepackaged communion kits. Many of our congregation are getting their first and even second Covid shots! All of this has really brought us reliance on our faith and great hope for the months and years to come. Even though my pastoral work has been something different than what I am used to doing, the time is coming when that will get back to a somewhat normalcy. As we pray for each other, our families and friends, we will persevere. The race is on. Let us run this race with patience and perseverance.

In Christ, Pastor Bob

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# Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

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## Notes from the Lay Leader

March features Women’s History Month, March 5 World Day of Prayer, March 14 UMCOR Sunday and Daylight Savings Time, March 17 St. Patrick’s Day, March 20 First Day of Spring and March 27 the beginning of Passover.

Lent, a season of 40 days, begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. This year the drive-in Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes was a success for our church members and community. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *leneten*, which means "spring." The season of Lent is a preparing for the celebration of **Easter**.

During these penitential days, the community journeys alongside Jesus' temptation in the wilderness, the beginnings of his public ministry and the calling forth of disciples. We once again highlight his triumphal entry into Jerusalem to the upper room....to the garden....to the Cross....and then alas to the tomb. All this reflection and study is laying the groundwork for celebrating once again our Easter Joy and resurrection life.

Holy Week begins with the celebration of **Palm / Passion Sunday** to celebrate Jesus the King's triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the days that lead up to the Passion of Jesus commemorated on Friday of Holy Week. Jesus' crucifixion is commemorated on Good Friday, and at the beginning of the next week the joyful celebration of Easter Sunday recalls the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

On **Maundy Thursday**, Christians commemorate the supper Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion, when Jesus washed the disciples' feet and instituted the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The ancient practice of stripping the Lord's table and sanctuary following communion is a vivid and dramatic way of showing the desolation and abandonment of the long night in Gethsemane and what followed. This begins Holy Triduum or 3 Great Days; Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil celebrated on Saturday evening.

On **Good Friday**, Christians around the world hear the proclamation of the full Passion of Christ. The focus is the suffering and sacrifice that Jesus willingly took upon himself in order that all may have new life.

As we journey down God's paths together during Lent, let us look

for and discover the countless ways in which we become more faithful in our prayer life, in our discipleship, in our faith-filled belief and our actions in Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit who brings New Life to all.

As stated in last month’s Chimes, we cannot stress enough that **because of and thanks to all of you**, we are fortunate to be able to worship in the church. You have taken seriously our protocol of social distancing and face coverings which have literally prevented us from a total shut down as other churches and businesses have had to do. The more responsible we are the sooner we can fellowship. Have a blessed, safe, and healthy March. *Sandy Jones*



## **Ideas for Lent**

Lent is a time for reflection. It is also a time many individuals seek ways to deepen their spiritual relationships, to observe a self-examination and repentance by prayer, fasting and self-denial and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word. Here are some creative ways you might "observe a Holy Lent."

**Online Fast:** Unplug from cell phones, email and social media for a day, a week, or other time, giving more time to read or pray during the "fast." Engage by different means, perhaps a handwritten note, thank you card, or letter for children or spouse.

**Bible Reading:** Many do not know where to begin when reading the Bible. The Upper Room will help guide you in this pursuit. Each day they provide a scripture passage and wonderful thought-provoking and spirit-enriching material to read and think about.

**Gracious Giving and Service:** Take on a new way of serving. Throughout the 40 days you can adopt a new habit of volunteering in the church, the community, or making special financial gifts to service organizations.



### **Chalice and Cross**

The chalice with a cross rising from it symbolizes Christ's obedient suffering, even unto death. The cross is called a "passion cross," with pointed ends that represent suffering. We remember that in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus begged his Father that the "cup" of suffering be taken from him. But ultimately, he prayed, "Not as I will, but as you will" (Matthew 26:39, NIV).

## **March Scriptures & Messages**

<u><b>March 7</b></u>	<u><b>March 14</b></u>	<u><b>March 21</b></u>	<u><b>March 28</b></u>
Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 Exodus 20:1-17 John 2:13-22	Psalm 107 Ephesians 2:1-10 Numbers 21:4-9 John 3:14-21	Psalm 51 Hebrews 5:5-10 Jeremiah 31:31-34 John 17:20-33	Matthew 21:1-11 Mark 11:1-11 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Isaiah 50:4-9 Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Mark 14:1-15:47 Mark 15:1-39
<u>Message</u> Blessed Are The Persecuted The Lord's Prayer	<u>Message</u> Be Merciful and Do Not Judge	<u>Message</u> Healing of the Centurions Servant	<u>Message</u> Palm Sunday

### **March Events**

March	Women's History Month
March 5	World Day of Prayer
March 14	UMCOR Sunday

## **March Birthdays and Anniversaries**

### **BIRTHDAYS**

March 4—Marlys Benny  
 March 5—Kerry Phippen  
 March 6—Irene Rampley  
 March 9—Deryl Jevons  
 March 12—Stephanie Botel  
 March 26—Edith Rieck  
 March 27—Steven Taken  
 March 29—George Stoecker

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

March 5—Jimmie & Mim Houts  
 March 20—Eric & Athena Davis

## 2021

### January

Sock/Slipper  
Collection  
**215 pairs**

### February

Chino Valley  
New Horizons  
Assisted Living  
**Many practical  
and fun items**

### March

UMCOR  
Disaster  
Relief—Texas

### April

Chino Valley  
Animal Shelter

### May

UMCOR  
Administrative

### June

TBD

## Missions

**January Update:** 215 pairs of socks were donated to the Salvation Army Deep Freeze Program and Veterans. Thank you to Joyce Wise as our liaison with the Salvation Army.

**February Update:** Many useful items were donated to residents that brightened their day.

Our **March Love Offering** will support **UMCOR Disaster Relief - Texas**. UMCOR is working with Conference Disaster Relief Coordinators, providing immediate funding for long-term support to the mid-February winter storm damage in Texas which led to winter weather alerts for 170 million people. The state has been hit hard, resulting in power blackouts, loss of heat and broken pipes. As the snow and ice melts, flooding will be a significant problem. The same storm system created tornadoes in the Carolinas, destroying homes.

Please make your March Love Offering gift to **UMCOR U.S. Disaster Response - Texas.**

100% of this money goes toward the people in need.

## 2021

### July

TBD

### August

TBD

### September

TBD

### October

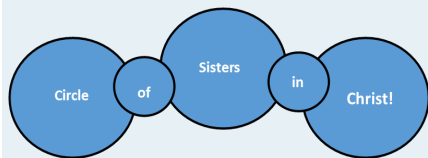
TBD

### November

TBD

### December

TBD



The Circle of Sisters is anxiously awaiting warmer weather to gather and be together.

So maybe in a couple of months we can again meet, social distanced at Memory Park with a cup of coffee or cocoa sharing stories, laughing, and praying together.

## **Finance**

Your generosity in gifts of time, ability and money makes it possible for our church to continue our mission.

Several options for financial donations are available for your convenience:

### **Donate by Mail**

Chino Valley United Methodist  
735 E Road 1 South  
Chino Valley, AZ 86323

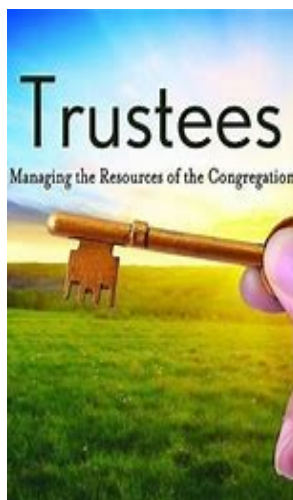
### **Bill Pay**

Many banks offer a “*Bill Pay*” option. Check with your banks to see if they offer this customer service. If they do, the bank will send your gift directly to the church.

### **Online**

Contributions can automatically be debited online from your checking or savings account. When travel or other circumstances prevent you from attending worship, this program will allow your financial gifts to continue uninterrupted.

For more information, contact Ray Benny, Finance Chair



We are looking for someone to chair our Trustees Board. Someone to provide their experience, knowledge and expertise to oversee the care, use, upkeep, and maintenance of church property. Two subsidiary committees fall within the Trustees Committee — Memorials and Endowment.

## Be informed...



### **God's Church—Your Church**

It takes some doing to keep the church in tip top shape.

It is not only from a financial standpoint, but cleaning, grounds maintenance, IT, music, etc. are all essential parts to our success.

Whatever you desire to share with your church is valuable and appreciated.

### **Did You Know?**

In January this year we started work on our technology project and are well on our way to expanding our outreach and ministry. And YES, phone, internet and wi-fi are functional! ***A reminder—we have only one phone line, so if you get a busy signal leave a message.***

#### **Technology Project Update**

- ⇒Trench excavation, rock and fill completed—thanks to Mr. Dig.
- ⇒Sparklight brought cable line to the church property and installed equipment
- ⇒Trustees laid pipe and pulled the cable from Road 1 South to the church building
- ⇒Onyx Audio Video is working on the inside of the building to include live streaming equipment and projector and screen
- ⇒Mighty IT is working on computer and software upgrades
- ⇒The fire and security alarm systems required updating. A reputable local contractor, B&W Fire Security Systems was hired to update and monitor the system for us.

### **Sanctuary and Church Floral Displays**

As much as we love the opportunity to showcase various fresh flowers and living plants in our church, there are many of us who have a strong allergic reaction to these beauties.

Terry Colucci and the Worship Team does a tremendous job of displaying and decorating. So with creativity in the works and unless otherwise noted, no fresh flowers or living plants. For Easter –no fresh lilies. Contact Terry with questions.





In our thoughts and prayers this month:

Our church & church family, Pastor Bob, and our youth.

President Biden, our country and its leaders, our military men & women.

Chino Valley Police Department, Chino Valley Fire Department and all first responders.

Hospital personnel and nursing homes.

Home bound and Care Home residents: Alma Holt, Bob Reese, Beth Vandenberg, Jack & Janis Heller, Jessica Benny, Janet Bailey, Barbara Starnes-Friesen. Church members: Pastor Mike Keffer, Terry Braner, Deedee McHenry-Soir, Ilona Dean, Ernie Sanchez, Dan Flanagan, John Magarrell, Mim Houts, the family of Mim Houts on the loss of Jim.

Friends & family of members: Merle Houston, Chris Everidge, Alice Herod, Caitlin, Michael Ledbetter, Ernie.

If you would like a name added or deleted from the prayer list, call the church office.

***Spiritual comfort is important.***

***Prayer requests, joys and concerns can be added to our knee mail at***

***[cvumckneemail@gmail.com](mailto:cvumckneemail@gmail.com)***



***And remember***

***God Loves You...***

***...and So Do I!***

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Chino Valley, AZ 86323  
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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

Return Service Requested