



# Eagle Grove and Goldfield United Methodist Churches

Love God, Love Others, Change the World

“Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World”

421 West Broadway Street

P.O. Box 101 ~ Eagle Grove, IA 50533

121 W Chestnut Street

P.O. Box 214 ~ Goldfield, IA 50542-0214

Pastor Alaire Willits ~ alairew@gmail.com ~ 712-212-5333

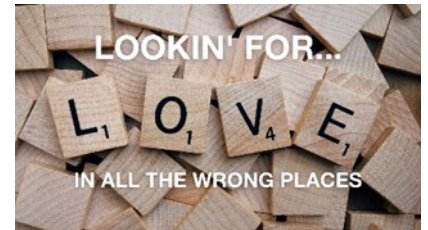
## February/March 2023

The Christian scriptures offer many images of where love, grace, forgiveness, righteousness, and healing can REALLY be found. And it is not in the “usual” places.

Isn't it as true of us today as it was of the scriptural authors? Don't we often look for wholeness and happiness in places that offer only temporary “good feelings” and satisfaction?

Lent is a wonderfully reflective time to reassess where we are searching for meaning and purpose. We'll move through stories of Jesus to find out who offers the “real deal.” Scrabble letters will help us explore and contemplate. Sometimes I feel like I have all the pieces I need – just can't get them together to make sense! Anyone else experience that? I have the letters, just can't get the words I need.

So what's planned to help us UN-SCRAMBLE, and spell out and find the LOVE we're searching for? Regular Sunday worship at 9:30am in Eagle Grove and 11am in Goldfield are an excellent place to begin. Special Lenten season services are also planned.



**A**<sub>1</sub> **Ash Wednesday** February 22. Chicken Noodle Soup Supper @ 5-6pm @ EGUMC

Worship with imposition of ashes @6pm in the Eagle Grove sanctuary.

**L**<sub>1</sub> **Lenten Lunch** each **Thursday** at noon. Different churches host and provide both lunch and a devotion. Everyone is invited. Specific in this newsletter

**C**<sub>3</sub> **Coins in Lent** can be a simple way to pause and appreciate what we have, and pause in prayer as we help others. A Giving Calendar is in this newsletter. Extra hard copies at each church.

**S**<sub>1</sub> **Study** online. A virtual group meets each **Monday**. Info inside – contact Melody Amonson on Facebook to get connected.

**P**<sub>3</sub> **Prayer** always important! Come and join with others on the World Day of Prayer, Friday, March 3, 9:30am @ Goldfield UMC. Learn about The Lotus Project, a local shelter for women, children and families.

**J**<sub>4</sub> **Journaling** is a practice many have found helpful in Lent, or any season. A weekly-entry journal will be available in each church for anyone who'd like to try it.

**G**<sub>2</sub> **Grief** and loss can turn our world upside down anytime of the year. We know it's a process. Many are discovering spending just a little intentional time can matter. A candlelight and quiet service in the Eagle Grove sanctuary as we begin to move into spring and new life will during Holy Week.

Just as in Scrabble, pick your letters – only you know what you're choosing. Did you notice **C, P, J and G** have higher value? They may be more valuable to you as well. **HOLY WEEK** will give us all more options, including worship on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday...stay tuned! ——Pastor Alaire

All Kids in Kndg-gr 8 are invited to join in the learning and fun on Wednesdays, from 2pm - 5pm. Invite friends to come and check it out!

2/15 - break day (no school the rest of the week!)

2/22 – meet 2pm-5pm.

Families invited to join for Chicken Noodle Soup Supper@5pm,  
and Ash Wednesday service following@6pm.

3/1, 3/8, 3/15 – meet 2pm – 5pm

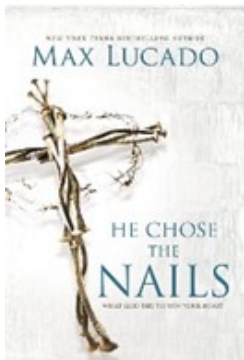
3/22 – no school day, so no afterschool

3/29 – meet 2pm-5pm

Thirty+ kids are coming each week. We are in need of one or two additional adults to be in the classrooms - lessons are planned; you'd just assist as requested. We would also appreciate fresh fruit - oranges, clementines, apples, etc, to use as one of the snacks (they have 2!). You can bring Feb 22 or to worship on Feb 26 or in March.

Confirmation class is meeting, 5:15-7pm, following the same schedule. They will be leading our Ash Wednesday Service on February 22. The following weekend, Friday – Sunday, they will be joining other youth in a Confirmation Retreat at a renovated barn outside Ft Dodge. This will be a time for lots of learning about Methodism, and meeting other youth from Ft Dodge, Denison and several other churches in central Iowa.

For your prayers: our confirmands – Azlyn Amonson, Myka Anderson, Addie Pamperin Taytum Edwards and Isaac Sadler and their mentors – Kay Calligan, Alana Alt, Dirk Helmick, Stacy Osborn and Colton Poncin.



Online Lenten study beginning February 20, He Chose the Nails by Max Lucado. Melody Amonson is the facilitator. The group gathers virtually Monday mornings to discuss the reading. You can be as sharing or silent as you are comfortable. No previous knowledge is necessary, just a desire to learn and grow in your faith! We are all on the journey. Having companions can be great!

Contact Melody via Facebook for specifics.

The tradition of gathering at noon each Thursday in Lent at one of the churches for a light lunch and a brief devotion will continue this year.

The host/location rotates;

1/23 - Eagle Grove Evangelical Lutheran

3/2 - Grace E Free Church

3/9 - Eagle Grove UMC

3/16 - Sacred Heart

3/23...TBA

3/30 - UCC will serve/site TBA

Invite a neighbor to come with you. We'll keep you posted as the month goes on.





Please join in the local World Day of Prayer on March 3, at 9:30 am, gathering at the Goldfield United Methodist Church.

The speaker for the morning will be from The Lotus Project, an emergency shelter for women, children and all family units. Their “safe” shelter is in Vincent.

Come, learn how you can have an impact right here in our area. Everyone is invited; other churches are receiving invitations!

A free will offering will be received for Lotus and their work.

**Methodist Men will meet Saturday,  
February 18th and Saturday, March 18  
@ 7am at Family Table**

**Dial a Devotion for February and March 2023**

February 7—Maggie Wirght  
February 14—Sharon Seibert  
February 21—Melody Amonson  
February 28—Sharon Seibert

March 7—Kurt Knudsen  
March 14—Joe Stein  
March 21—Marilyn Sill  
March 28—Paul Wilde

**Eagle Grove UMC  
egumc@goldfieldaccess.net  
515-448-4701**

**Goldfield UMC  
goldumc@goldfieldaccess.net  
515-825-3754**