

Pine Chips Newsletter

March 2025



Pine Island United Methodist Church
200 North Main, PO Box 8, Pine Island, MN 55963
www.piumc.org – (507) 356-4553



Facebook.com/piumc

From Pastor Tony

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday which is March 5 this year. Lent gives us “an excuse” to either begin a new discipline or habit which will draw us closer to God or leave behind a bad habit or observe a fast from something that distances us from God or from others.

The choice is up to you as to how you will observe Lent this year.

On Ash Wednesday, the traditional practice of the Church is to confront our own mortality within the context of the community of faith. “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” Perhaps knowing that our earthly lives will someday come to an end helps us to focus on what is important.

George Kinder is a financial planner who is known for asking the “Big Three Questions.” Please take a moment and consider these as we prepare to enter the season of Lent...

1. “Assume you've got all the money you need. Maybe you're not Warren Buffett, but you'll never have to worry about money again.
 - What would you do with it?
 - How would you live?
2. “You go to the doctor, who discovers you have a rare illness. He says you're going to feel perfectly fine for the next five years, but then the illness will prove fatal. It will come suddenly, causing no suffering.
 - Now that you know your life will be over in five years, how will you live it?
 - What will you do?”
3. “You go to the doctor. You feel perfectly healthy. Again, the doctor explains you have a serious illness. But this time the doctor says, ‘You have only 24 hours to live.’
 - What did you miss?
 - Who did you not get to be?
 - What did you not get to do?”

As you consider your answers to these questions, how might you live your life differently during these 40 days of Lent?

I encourage you to take a look at the special opportunities we will have for you during Lent – Sunday Worship, Lenten Soup Dinners, Bible studies, and our usual small groups.

As we make plans to the most out of the rest of our lives,
May God Bless Us!

A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read 'Tony'.



HOW MIGHT
YOU LIVE YOUR
LIFE
DIFFERENTLY
DURING THESE
40 DAYS OF
LENT?

Lent Begins March 5

Ash Wednesday is March 5 this year. Ash Wednesday marks the 40-day season of preparation called "Lent." Some of you will notice there are more than 40 days between February 22 (Ash Wednesday) and April 9 (the date of Easter this year.) The quick answer is that Sundays during Lent don't count as traditional fasting days.

Ash Wednesday

Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.



We will have an Ash Wednesday service on March 5 at 7:00 pm.

Starting March 12!

LENT
Lenten Bible Study
In the Basement Fellowship Hall
Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

Lenten Bible Study Begins Wednesday, March 12 at 7:00pm

Many have expressed interest in being a part of Bible Study. We will have a five-session Bible Study in Lent focusing on the last week of Jesus' life which culminates with his resurrection on Easter. This study will be in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 pm following a soup dinner.

Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers

One of our traditions is to gather with our friends and meet new friends at soup dinners during Lent. We are continuing that tradition this year. You can come just for our 6:00 pm dinner and social time if you wish (without needing to stay for the Bible Study.)

There will be a clipboard with a signup sheet in the Sanctuary where you can sign up to provide soup or a hotdish (cook's choice). Or you can sign up to just bring a dessert or help clean up – an important role, too!



Make plans to join us for worship, fellowship, and study Wednesdays in Lent.



You are invited to our
Second Wednesday
Monthly Potluck

Wednesday, March 12
Starting at 6:00 pm



200 N Main St
Pine Island

Piumc.org

Devotional Worship at The Homestead in March

Pastors from the area take turns leading the weekly devotional worship times at The Homestead in Rochester where some of our church members reside.

Pastor Tony will be leading the service Tuesday, March 4 at 3:00 pm in the Building A Chapel.



This is a great "excuse" for you to visit your friends who you have been meaning to call on - and join us for a time of singing and devotion.

*In case you didn't know, The Homestead is part of the ministry of the **Volunteers of America National Services**. The VOA's mission is to be "a movement organized to reach and uplift people and bring them to the knowledge and active service of God" – and has its roots the **Salvation Army** of the late 1800's in America. The Salvation Army has its roots in the **Methodist Church** in England in the mid 1800's. So, we are kind of like second cousins!*

Do You Know About Our YouTube Channel?

Pine Island United Methodist has had a YouTube channel since 2011. Our videos on this website have had 7,400 views!

This is a great option to see our worship services, if you have a TV or computer which is connected to YouTube online.

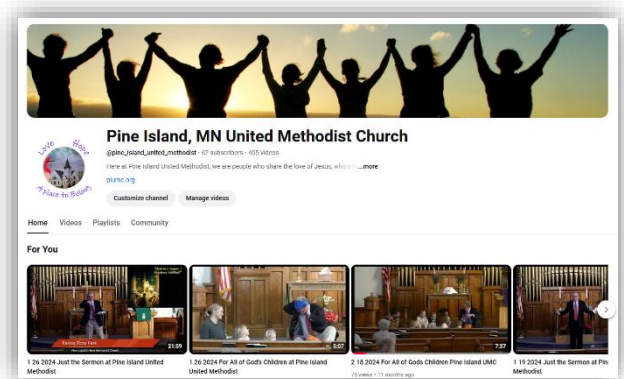
We upload three versions of our worship service each Sunday afternoon:

- **the full worship service**
- **the "For All of God's Children" children's message**
- **and "Just the Sermon"**

If you are one of our 62 subscribers, our videos are delivered to your YouTube account so you can easily find them as soon as they are uploaded.

Want to see some of these videos? Check out our You Tube Channel! [@pine island united methodist](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPD3A_aL0nxax6f4ZH3SE5Q) or https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPD3A_aL0nxax6f4ZH3SE5Q

And don't forget to [subscribe](#)



Understanding the United Methodist Appointment Process

Even though Pastor Tony will not be retiring until the summer of 2026 (*next* year!), it is good for all of us to again familiarize ourselves with the “Appointment Process.” The United Methodist Church does not use a “call system” like other denominations where a congregation interviews and selects a new pastor. Instead, our bishops “appoint” pastors to serve congregations and the communities the congregation serves.



The appointment process works through a variety of consultations: between the superintendent and the pastor in annual one-on-ones meetings, between the superintendent and the church through SPRC (Staff/Parish Relations Committee) visits and profiling meetings, and between the pastor and the church at regular SPRC meetings.

At a retreat each January, the cabinet meets to create an overview of which churches are open through retirements or other transitions, which pastors need a move, and which pastors are entering the conference. Superintendents present a snapshot of each open church, sharing information about its top missional goals and pastoral needs as well as its demographic information, average worship attendance, and apportionment payment history.



Bishop Lanette Plambeck and Rev. Woojae Im, superintendent for the Prairie Winds District, visit at an Appointive Cabinet meeting.

For each open church, the cabinet prayerfully generates a list of names to consider. Retreats and cabinet meetings are enfolded in prayer, and each appointment decision is prayed for in its own process.

Once the cabinet votes on an appointment of a pastor, the Superintendent will contact the Pastor to inform the intention to appoint them to a new charge. The Superintendent shares information about the church and why the bishop and cabinet believe that pastor is the best fit for this new appointment. The pastor is given a few days to pray, have more conversations with the Superintendent, and consult with their spouse or other support persons. Once the pastor accepts the new appointment, an introductory meeting is set up and the Superintendent, the new pastor, and the SPRC meet to determine if they can affirm the intention of the bishop to make this appointment.

To find out addition information, you can read the article [“Understanding the clergy appointment process”](https://www.minnesotaumc.org/newsdetail/understanding-the-clergy-appointment-process-18927806) found at <https://www.minnesotaumc.org/newsdetail/understanding-the-clergy-appointment-process-18927806>

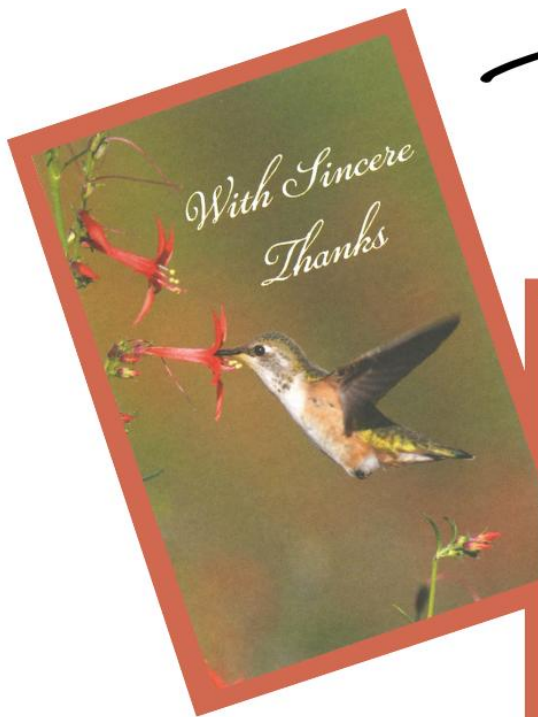
Do You Miss Some News from Church?

To help all of us stay connected, we send out a weekly email on **Wednesday** with the four or five things about Pine Island UMC you will want to know about. On **Friday**, our weekend edition is sent out to help us prepare for worship.

Please subscribe to these Midweek News updates. You can find the link at the bottom of the page at www.piumc.org. (Click the Midweek News link and then click "subscribe" at the top of the current issue.)



If you don't have email, we mail paper copies of the issues each week to those who request them (along with the weekly bulletin and sermon.) If you would like to get these paper mailings, please call the church office at (507) 356-4553.



Thank You

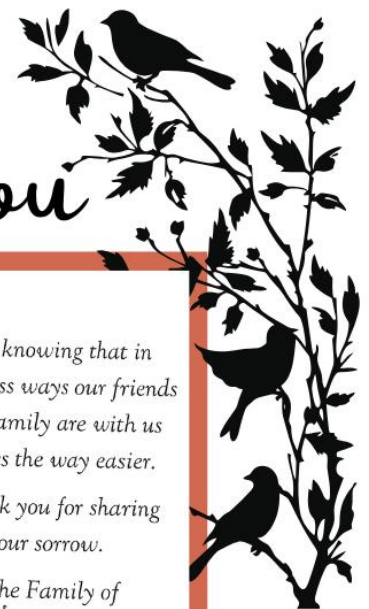
Thank you for the wonderful lunch you all helped with for my mom's funeral. I now it was short notice and appreciate all you do.

Sally

Just knowing that in countless ways our friends and family are with us makes the way easier.

Thank you for sharing our sorrow.

The Family of
Robert Lee
Hickey

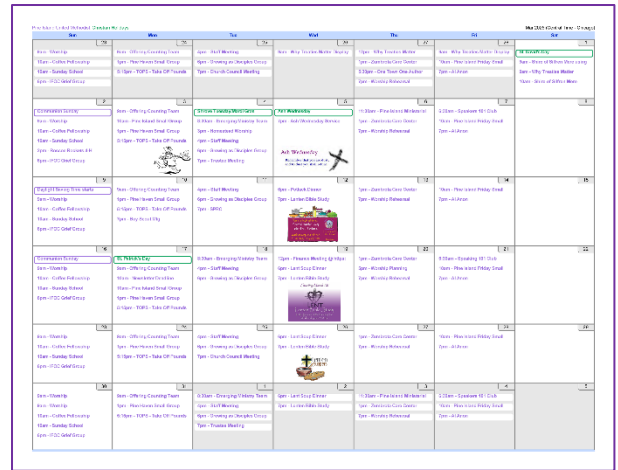


What is Happening in March?

Lent is a special time of the church year with additional opportunities for growth and fellowship!

Did you know we update our church calendar a couple times a week? There is a printed copy of the calendar on the bulletin board next to the Church Office.

To see the most recent version of the calendar, go to <https://piumc.org/calendar/>



Once you visit the online calendar, you can click an event on the calendar for more details, or Zoom sign in information, or the street address. You also have the option to add it to your own personal e-calendar.

[Links to the online calendar](#) are also in the weekly emails that come from our church.

Join a Pine Island UMC Small Group!

In small groups, people connect with one another and make deeper friendships in our congregation. Along the way, these groups will help us grow in our faith in Jesus Christ and encourage us to live more faithfully as Christians.

Almost every day of the week, we have a small group that meets as a part of Pine Island United Methodist Church! Please call the church office for small group locations. Here's a list of our Small Groups:

- **Sunday Coffee Fellowships** – in the Sanctuary starting at 10:00 am
- **Monday Coffee Fellowship** Group in Pine Island – 1st and 3rd Mondays at 10:00 am
- **Pine Haven** Coffee Fellowship Group – Mondays at 1:00 pm
- **“Growing in Faith”** Group – Tuesdays at 6: 00 pm at church
- **Zumbrota Care Center** Group – Thursdays at 1:00 pm
- **Friday Coffee Fellowship** Group – Fridays at 10:00 am in Pine Island



We are preparing to add another group for more people to find a place where everyone knows your name and cares about you and your faith in Jesus! If you are interested in being part of a new or existing group, please let us know!

Contact the Church Office at (507) 356-4553.

In addition to offering Love and Hope, **we are also a Place to Belong!**

Area Church Dinners...

Shrove Tuesday
PANCAKE SUPPER & BAKE SALE



March 4, 2025
 4:30 pm through 7:00 pm

At GRACE METHODIST CHURCH
 801 5th AVE NW, KASSON
One Block West of the Kasson Pool

PANCAKES, SAUSAGE, EGGS
COFFEE AND MILK

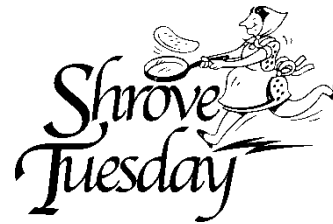
Adults \$10.00, Ages 5-10 \$5.00
 Children 4 & under FREE






Did you know that “Shrove Tuesday” is the traditional Methodist equivalent of “Mardi Gras” or “Fat Tuesday”?

Shrove Tuesday is a night to use up the oil or fat in the house in preparation for Lent... **by making pancakes!** And having pancake races and pancake fun!



Church of St. Michael, Pine Island

Lenten Fish Fry

Serving from 4:30-7:00 PM each Friday of Lent
March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4 & 11

****Both baked & fried fish will be offered!*** Take out Available!*
Prices: Adults \$15.00, Children 5-12 \$6.00, Family maximum \$45.00



Hosted by: The Church of St. Michael Men's Club
Church of St. Michael 451 5th Street SW, Pine Island, MN 55963 Tel: 507-356-4280

Church of St. Paul, Zumbrota




**St. Patrick's
 Ham Dinner**
& SILENT AUCTION
at Zumbrota VFW

25 East 1st Street, Zumbrota, MN 55992
Sunday, March 16, 2025
Serving from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM
Available for Dine-In & Take Out

Prices:
Adults -- \$16.00
Children 6-12--\$6.00
Under 6 -- free








HAPPY
birthday

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| March 1 - Duane Alberts | March 20 - Tricia Karppi |
| March 1 - Alyssa Lawrence | March 21 - Joshua Hielscher |
| March 2 - Alan Knutson | March 21 - Rick Ormsby |
| March 2 - Duane McGowan | March 24 - Stuart McGowan |
| March 5 - Cheryl Finnegan | March 25 - Dana Fogerty |
| March 6 - Cher Knutson | March 25 - Brent Sather |
| March 9 - Ruby Needham | March 25 - Al Trelstad |
| March 9 - Hannah Nelson | March 28 - Don Heller |
| March 12 - Dawn Rohl | March 28 - Scott Richter |
| March 14 - Jeremy Imhof | March 28 - Barb Vang |
| March 19 - Carl Imhof | March 31 - Rae Ann Blumers |
| March 19 - Haley Nelson | |








*Happy
Anniversary*

- March 15- Aaron & Lindsay Meyer
March 15- Dawn & Bruce Rohl
March 19- Don & Betsy Heller
March 23- Jeff & Cheryl Simpson

MARCH

Mar 2025 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>23</p> <p>9am - Worship</p> <p>10am - Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>10am - Sunday School</p> <p>6pm - IFOC Grief Group</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9am - Offering Counting Team</p> <p>1pm - Pine Haven Small Group</p> <p>5:15pm - TOPS - Take Off Pounds</p>	<p>25</p> <p>4pm - Staff Meeting</p> <p>6pm - Growing as Disciples Group</p> <p>7pm - Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9am - Why Treaties Matter Display</p>	<p>27</p> <p>12pm - Why Treaties Matter</p> <p>1pm - Zumbrotta Care Center</p> <p>5:30pm - One Town One Author</p> <p>7pm - Worship Rehearsal</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9am - Why Treaties Matter Display</p> <p>10am - Pine Island Friday Small</p> <p>7pm - AI Anon</p>	<p>1</p> <p>St David's Day</p> <p>9am - Shire of Silfren Mere using</p> <p>9am - Why Treaties Matter</p> <p>10am - Shire of Silfren Mere</p>
<p>2</p> <p>Communion Sunday</p> <p>9am - Worship</p> <p>10am - Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>10am - Sunday School</p> <p>2pm - Roscoe Rockets 4-H</p> <p>6pm - IFOC Grief Group</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9am - Offering Counting Team</p> <p>10am - Pine Island Small Group</p> <p>1pm - Pine Haven Small Group</p> <p>5:15pm - TOPS - Take Off Pounds</p> 	<p>4</p> <p>Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras</p> <p>8:30am - Emerging Ministry Team</p> <p>3pm - Homestead Worship</p> <p>4pm - Staff Meeting</p> <p>6pm - Growing as Disciples Group</p> <p>7pm - Trustee Meeting</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Ash Wednesday</p> <p>7pm - Ash Wednesday Service</p> <p>Ash Wednesday Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>11:30am - Pine Island Ministerial</p> <p>1pm - Zumbrotta Care Center</p> <p>7pm - Worship Rehearsal</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:30am - Speakers 101 Club</p> <p>10am - Pine Island Friday Small</p> <p>7pm - AI Anon</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Daylight Saving Time starts</p> <p>9am - Worship</p> <p>10am - Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>10am - Sunday School</p> <p>6pm - IFOC Grief Group</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9am - Offering Counting Team</p> <p>1pm - Pine Haven Small Group</p> <p>5:15pm - TOPS - Take Off Pounds</p> <p>7pm - Boy Scout Mtg</p>	<p>11</p> <p>4pm - Staff Meeting</p> <p>6pm - Growing as Disciples Group</p> <p>7pm - SPRC</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6pm - Potluck Dinner</p> <p>7pm - Lenten Bible Study</p> 	<p>13</p> <p>1pm - Zumbrotta Care Center</p> <p>7pm - Worship Rehearsal</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10am - Pine Island Friday Small</p> <p>7pm - AI Anon</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Communion Sunday</p> <p>9am - Worship</p> <p>10am - Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>10am - Sunday School</p> <p>6pm - IFOC Grief Group</p>	<p>17</p> <p>St Patrick's Day</p> <p>9am - Offering Counting Team</p> <p>10am - Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>10am - Pine Island Small Group</p> <p>1pm - Pine Haven Small Group</p> <p>5:15pm - TOPS - Take Off Pounds</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:30am - Emerging Ministry Team</p> <p>4pm - Staff Meeting</p> <p>6pm - Growing as Disciples Group</p>	<p>19</p> <p>12pm - Finance Meeting @ https:</p> <p>6pm - Lent Soup Dinner</p> <p>7pm - Lenten Bible Study</p> 	<p>20</p> <p>1pm - Zumbrotta Care Center</p> <p>5pm - Worship Planning</p> <p>7pm - Worship Rehearsal</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:30am - Speaking 101 Club</p> <p>10am - Pine Island Friday Small</p> <p>7pm - AI Anon</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p> <p>9am - Worship</p> <p>10am - Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>10am - Sunday School</p> <p>6pm - IFOC Grief Group</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9am - Offering Counting Team</p> <p>1pm - Pine Haven Small Group</p> <p>5:15pm - TOPS - Take Off Pounds</p>	<p>25</p> <p>4pm - Staff Meeting</p> <p>6pm - Growing as Disciples Group</p> <p>7pm - Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6pm - Lent Soup Dinner</p> <p>7pm - Lenten Bible Study</p> 	<p>27</p> <p>1pm - Zumbrotta Care Center</p> <p>7pm - Worship Rehearsal</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10am - Pine Island Friday Small</p> <p>7pm - AI Anon</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>9am - Worship</p> <p>9am - Worship</p> <p>10am - Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>10am - Sunday School</p> <p>6pm - IFOC Grief Group</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9am - Offering Counting Team</p> <p>1pm - Pine Haven Small Group</p> <p>5:15pm - TOPS - Take Off Pounds</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8:30am - Emerging Ministry Team</p> <p>4pm - Staff Meeting</p> <p>6pm - Growing as Disciples Group</p> <p>7pm - Trustee Meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6pm - Lent Soup Dinner</p> <p>7pm - Lenten Bible Study</p>	<p>3</p> <p>11:30am - Pine Island Ministerial</p> <p>1pm - Zumbrotta Care Center</p> <p>7pm - Worship Rehearsal</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:30am - Speakers 101 Club</p> <p>10am - Pine Island Friday Small</p> <p>7pm - AI Anon</p>	<p>5</p>



MARCH

Worship Services

Inside - Online

- 9:00am Inside Sanctuary
- 9:00am Live Feed on Facebook
- 10:00am Coffee Fellowship
- 10:00am Sunday School

Join us online at

[https:// www.facebook.com/PIUMC](https://www.facebook.com/PIUMC)

Our recorded videos are at

<https://piumc.org>



Ash Wednesday Service

March 5, 2025, 7:00 pm

(507) 356-4553

PIUMC.ORG

Facebook.com/PIUMC

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P.O. Box 8
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