

The Grapevine

March 2025

March Events



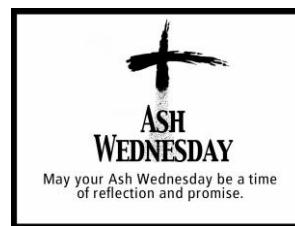
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Romeo United Methodist Church

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The GRAPEVINE is published monthly. The intention is to communicate and promote the entire program of the **Romeo United Methodist Church** to members and friends. Your articles, comments and suggestions are welcome. The editor reserves the right to edit content and space as required.

Linda Eastman, Editor
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Ash Wednesday
Wednesday, March 5



Game Afternoon
Saturday, March 8



Daylight Savings
Time Begins
Sunday, March 9



1st Day of Spring
March 20



1st Lenten Fish Fry
Friday, March 28

Pastor's Paragraphs

²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

--Matthew 11:28-30

According to Merriam-Webster the definition of 'Weary' is:

1. exhausted in strength, endurance, vigor, or freshness
2. expressing or characteristic of weariness
3. having one's patience, tolerance, or pleasure exhausted

I'm not going to lie, that seems like a pretty apt description of my state of being coming out of the month of February. I don't know if it was the cold temperatures, the seemingly daily snowfall, or the illnesses running amok, but February took its toll on me. It has left me feeling exhausted of strength, endurance, vigor, and freshness.

Yet even as I was feeling tired and drained I received a message. A good friend from my previous church informed me of his Dad's unexpected passing. He then said that his Mom would like for me to be involved in the funeral, she would like for me to do the message and eulogy. It was of course an honor to be asked, it is always an honor to be entrusted to do such sacred work such as celebrating and remembering a loved one. But as I got the details my head spun a little bit. I was already feeling that weariness I spoke of above, and the illness that had gained a foothold in our house wasn't slowing down any. I truly found myself wondering how I was going to put together a message that would honor the one we were celebrating and speak to the hope we have of resurrection through Jesus Christ.

I continued to carry those doubts and fears until the very day of the memorial service. It wasn't until I had put the car in park in the lot of the church that I asked God to step in. I didn't think I had the strength to be what the family needed and I asked God to take control.

Several hours later I was sitting at a table at the restaurant where they were holding the meal. I felt a hand on my back and turned to see the widow of the man we were gathered to celebrate. With tears in her eyes she told me, thank you, she told me how much she had appreciated the service and that it was a wonderful way to pay tribute to the legacy her husband created and had now left behind.

I cannot tell you the specific words that were said, I cannot begin to take credit for anything that happened in the church during that service. But I do understand what it means to turn to our Lord when we are weary and carrying heavy burdens. I KNOW beyond a shadow of a doubt that in those moments, when we ask, the Holy Spirit shows up to provide just what we need.

If you are having those weary feelings know that you are not alone. Know also that Jesus Christ's offer is just as fresh today as it was all those years before. I leave you with a reminder, with a word of encouragement from Paul's letter to the Galatian church: "So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up." (Galatians 6:9)

God Bless,
Pastor Devin

MARCH VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

2nd Pam Couture and Linda Knight
 9th Anna Bonanni and Diane Hodgkin
 16th Beth Sova and Linda Zimmerman
 23rd MaryAnne DeForest and Stella Wheeler
 30th Joyce and Barry Benham



GREETERS



2nd Gayle Beitel
 9th Guy and Julie Jones-Lau
 16th Phil and Louchrisa Schwan
 23rd Sandy Edwards
 30th Stella Wheeler and MaryAnne DeForest

USHERS SCHEDULE

2nd Guy and Julie Jones-Lau
 9th Brian and Andrew Rosso
 16th Janet Bauer and Kathy Smith
 23rd Phil and Louchrisa Schwan
 30th Craig and Judy Engwall



COUNTING ASSISTANT

2nd Linda Eastman
 9th Cheryl Bittner
 16th Phil Schwan
 23rd Nita Glover
 30th Pat Zimmerman



VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Seasonal Flowers	Mary Jo Hosler	586-337-2692
College Ministry	TBD	
Fellowship Hour	Becky Laseke	586-337-1361
Greeters	Gayle Beitel	248-981-3653
Nursery	TBD	
Sound Board	Dave Beskin	586-872-3797
Ushers	Craig Engwall	586-504-6655
Communion	Janet Bauer	586-752-6166

SOUND BOARD

2nd Lamb Family
 9th Rosso Family
 16th Laurie Bennett
 23rd Everett Smith
 30th Eric Gooch



Weekly Meetings

	First Sunday of each month	
Communion Sunday	Sunday 10:00 a.m.	Sanctuary
Worship On-Line or In-Person	Sunday 11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Hall
Fellowship Time	Sunday 2:00 p.m.	Youth Room
Youth Group Meeting	Tuesday 1:00 p.m.	
Kitting and Crochet Group	Tuesday 5:15 p.m.	Fellowship Hall
His Table Community Meal	Wednesday 10:00 a.m.	
Santa's Workshop	1 st Wednesday 12:30 p.m.	
UMW Reading Group		

COMMUNION STEWARDS



March 2nd

Laurie Bennett and Janet Bauer

RUMC March 2025 Calendar

Sun	2 nd	Communion Sunday Youth Group	2:00 p.m.
Tue	4 th	Hooks and Needles Group	1:00 p.m.
Wed	5 th	Ash Wednesday Santa's Workshop Women of Faith Reading Group	10:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.
Sat	8 th	Game Afternoon	3:00 p.m.
Sun	9 th	Daylight Savings Time Begins Youth Group	2:00 p.m.
Tue	11 th	Hooks and Needles Group	1:00 p.m.
Wed	12 ^h	Santa's Workshop	10:00 a.m.
Thur	13 th	Finance Committee Meeting Church Council Meeting	5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
Tue	18 th	Hooks and Needles Group	1:00 p.m.
Wed	19 th	Santa's Workshop	10:00 a.m.
Thur	20 th	First Day of Spring United Methodist Men Group	7:00 p.m.
Sun	23 rd	Youth Group	2:00 p.m.
Tue	25 th	Hooks and Needles Group	1:00 p.m.
Wed	26 th	Santa's Workshop	10:00 a.m.
Fri	28 th	Fish Fry #1	



Mark your calendars! Our annual Lenten fish fries will take place on March 28th, April 4th, and April 11th. Check out the sign-up sheet in fellowship hall and be a part of raising funds for our youth while we welcome and serve our community and have fun working together!



We will hold our Ash Wednesday service at 7 o'clock on March 5th. Come and be reminded of our need to repent and to receive your ashes.

UWF GENERAL MEETING

Ladies and friends of RUMC:

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 15, 2025, in fellowship hall for our general meeting.

A buffet will be offered after which a program will be presented by David Pryce, President of the Board of Directors of Starkweather Arts Center. Mr. Pryce will talk about the history and future of the art center.

Following the program, there will be a short business meeting.

We look forward to having you with us.



Wishing you a life of joy. May your love story never have an end.

Laurie and Chris Bennett, March 21 - 37 years



Game Afternoon

Saturday, March 8

3:00 - 5:00



Join us for a time of game or card playing.

We'll have some games to play (or bring a favorite of yours), or just sit around and enjoy each other's company.

Bring a snack if you would like to.



1 st	Debbie Hagelstein
2 nd	Cindy Schaffer
6 th	Mike Senkowski
	Stephanie Perrin
11 th	Sandra Gooch
12 th	Tom Callow
13 th	Heidi Clark
	Eddie Zaiglin
14 th	Patricia Moore
	Don Wilber
16 th	Nita Glover
20 th	Dennis Lentz
21 st	Casey Smith
30 th	Marilyn Bracy
	Dale Teller

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REQUESTS TO BE LIFTED UP IN PRAYER

Larry Back

Sue Rhoads-Sidote

Piera Allegrina

Steve Domke

Chelsea (Beskin)

Connie's brother

Angie – passed

Schaffer's family member – passed

Zaiglain's neighbor - passed

YAHA Presidents Day Party



A small group of YAHA's (Young at Heart Adults) braved the cold weather on Presidents Day (February 17) to attend a brunch and participate in some Presidents activities. The hostesses: Sandy Edwards, Sue Rhoads, Ellen Dennis, and Gayle Beitel provided a delicious brunch of macaroni and cheese, various breakfast casseroles and quiches, muffins, fruit, and yogurt. Our presidential knowledge was tested and Linda Eastman knew the most about our Presidents. A good time was had by all. Hope to see more of you at the next event.

FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you enjoy a cup of coffee and a snack on Sunday morning, fellowship needs your help. Some of our volunteers work monthly to provide coffee and snacks after service. Your assistance is crucial in order for fellowship to continue weekly. If each member or family took a turn volunteering, we would fill the schedule for the rest of the year. Snacks, water and coffee are provided by the church, or you can bring additional treats if you wish.

Several Sundays are open for the rest of the year. If you can serve this ministry, please contact Becky Laseke at 586-337-1361.

TENATIVE FAMILY MINISTRY EVENTS FOR 2025

Game Days – 2nd Saturday 3-5

March 8, Saturday 3:00-5:00	Game Day
April 12, Saturday 3:00-5:00	Game Day
May 4, Sunday 1:00-3:00	Bowling
May 10, Saturday 3:00-5:00	Game Day
June 8, Sunday 2:00	Mini Golf
June 14, Saturday 3:00-5:00	Game Day
July 12, Saturday 3:00-5:00	Game Day
July	Simpson Park Meetings
July	Pizza and camp meeting together
August 9, Saturday 3:00-5:00	Game Day
September 13, Saturday 3:00-5:00	Game Day
September 14, Sunday	Apple Picking
October 4, Saturday 5:00-7:00	Hayride and bonfire
October 11, Saturday 3:00-5:00	Game Day
November 8, Saturday 3:00-5:00	Game Day
December 13, Saturday 3:00-5:00	Game Day
December 20, Saturday	Living Nativity
December 25, Thursday 12:00	Christmas Dinner
December 31, Wednesday 7:00-9:00	New Year's Eve Game Night



Financial Snapshot of the Operating Fund as of 1/31/25

	<u>Actual</u>
Income	\$27,583
Expenses	<u>\$32,524</u>
Deficit	(\$4,941)

2024 Apportionments unpaid as of 1/31/25: **\$0**

Romeo UMC needs your Financial Support!

The RUMC tagline has long been “Looking up, Reaching Out, Caring Within”. Those three simple phrases embody the Spirit that lives in our church so well. We look up to God and offer our worship and praise. We reach out to our community and beyond through service and mission. We care within through our prayers and support of one another. However, caring within also has to consider the needs we have within our church and its budget. That is what the Operating fund of the Church is used for. The tithes and offerings given weekly go to the operating fund and cover the day-to-day operations and bills of the church. The Finance Committee meets monthly and keeps an eye on the income and expenses. If you have any questions, you can contact Pastor Devin or Tom Callow, Finance Chair

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Thank you for your continued support of RUMC.



March Needs:

Canned Beets	Spaghetios
	Vegetable Soup
Canned Peas	Ritz Crackers
	Tomato Soup
Canned Spinach	Canned Kidney Beans
	Tuna Helper
Saltine Crackers	Pancake Mix
	Coffee / Tea
Toilet Paper	Paper Towel
	Kleenex
Women's Deodorant	

Just a friendly reminder that we can only accept foods that haven't expired and they must have the expiration date printed on them (otherwise they have to be discarded).

Please no glass bottles or jars.

We appreciate any non-perishable food items and toiletries that you can donate. THANK YOU!

Please bring your donations to Samaritan House, 62324 Van Dyke (between 28 & 29 Mile Roads) in Washington Twp. on Tuesday and Wednesday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. or Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. You can contact Samaritan House at (586) 336-9956.

