

The Grapevine

April 2025

April 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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Fish Fry
Friday, April 4 & 11



Palm Sunday
Sunday, April 13



Game Afternoon
Saturday, April 12



Easter
Sunday, April 20



Good Friday
Friday, April 18

Pastor's Paragraphs

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord,"

--John 20:18

Easter morning. The stone rolled away. An empty tomb. In chapter 20 of John's Gospel we witness the dawning of the greatest surprise in human history. Mary Magdalene, arriving at the tomb in the early morning darkness, expected to find death. Instead, she found... emptiness. Not the emptiness of despair, but the startling, breathtaking emptiness that signaled something utterly new had broken into the world.

The Easter story isn't just about a historical event; it's about a personal encounter. Mary Magdalene doesn't just *see* an empty tomb; she *meets* the risen Lord. Jesus calls her by name, "Mary," and in that moment, everything changes. This intimate encounter is a reminder that the resurrection is not a distant doctrine, but a living reality that touches our lives.

Mary's initial reaction is understandable confusion. She runs to tell Peter and the "other disciple" (likely John), who race to the tomb. They see the linen cloths lying there, a silent testament to the impossible. John, the scripture tells us, "saw and believed" (John 20:8). While they didn't yet fully grasp the implications, a seed of hope had been planted.

But it's Mary's experience that truly resonates with the heart of Easter. She remains at the tomb, weeping. And it's in her weeping, her vulnerability, that she encounters the risen Christ. At first, she mistakes him for the gardener. Perhaps her eyes were blurred with tears, or perhaps the glory of the resurrected Lord was simply beyond her comprehension.

Then, Jesus speaks her name. "Mary." That single word, spoken with the familiar tenderness of her beloved Rabbi, breaks through the fog of grief. Recognition dawns, and she cries out, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher).

This moment is pivotal. It's not just about seeing; it's about knowing. It's about a personal, intimate encounter with the living Christ. Jesus then gives Mary a crucial commission: "...go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" (John 20:17). Mary, the first witness to the resurrection, becomes the first apostle, sent to proclaim the good news.

Mary's story is our story. We too may come to the "tomb" of our lives – places of loss, disappointment, or fear – expecting only emptiness. But Easter reminds us that even in the darkest places, hope can dawn. The risen Christ meets us where we are, calls us by name, and invites us into a new life of joy and purpose. Let us, like Mary, run to share the Good News: He is risen indeed!

Thankful to be running with each and every one of you as we proclaim the Good News together,

Pastor Devin

APRIL VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE



6th Linda Eastman and Gayle Beitel
 13th Cheryl & Don Bittner and Deanna & Kate Sparks
 20th Easter Breakfast
 27th Jim and Shara Lindsay

GREETERS



6th Becky Laseke
 13th Guy and Julie Jones-Lau
 20th Judy Howard
 27th Joyce and Barry Benham

USHERS SCHEDULE



6th Phil and Louchrisa Schwan
 13th Craig and Judy Engwall
 20th Janet Bauer and Linda Eastman
 27th Guy and Julie Jones-Lau

COUNTING ASSISTANT

6th Jen Ricketts
 13th Linda Eastman
 20th Cheryl Bittner
 27th Phil Schwan



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

6th Lamb Family
 13th Rosso Family
 20th Laurie Bennett
 27th Everett Smith



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



April 20th

Phil and Louchrisa Schwan
 Kathy Smith

RUMC April 2025 Calendar

Tue	1 st	Hooks and Needles Group	1:00 p.m.
Wed	2 nd	Santa's Workshop Women of Faith Reading Group	10:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.
Fri	4 th	Fish Fry #2	4:30 p.m.
Sun	6 th	Youth Group	2:00 p.m.
Tue	8 th	Hooks and Needles Group	1:00 p.m.
Wed	9 th	Santa's Workshop	10:00 a.m.
Thur	10 th	Finance Committee Meeting Church Council Meeting	5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
Fri	11 th	Fish Fry #3	4:30 p.m.
Sat	12 th	Game Afternoon	3:00 p.m.
Sun	13 th	Palm Sunday Youth Group	2:00 p.m.
Mon	14 th	Rock, Paper, Scissors	1:00 p.m.
Tue	15 th	Hooks and Needles Group	1:00 p.m.
Wed	16 th	Santa's Workshop	10:00 a.m.
Thur	17 th	United Methodist Men Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Fri	18 th	Good Friday Cross Walk	4:30 p.m.
Thur	20 th	Easter Communion Sunday	
Tue	22 nd	Hooks and Needles Group	1:00 p.m.
Wed	23 rd	Santa's Workshop	10:00 a.m.
Tue	29 th	Hooks and Needles Group	1:00 p.m.
Wed	30 th	Santa's Workshop	10:00 a.m.

Easter Candy

As we prepare for our upcoming Easter celebrations, we are excited to announce our annual Odyssey Easter Egg Hunt! In order to make this event a success, we are kindly asking for donations of individually wrapped candy that will fit inside Easter eggs. If you are able to donate candy, please drop off your donations in the box outside the church office labeled "Odyssey Easter egg hunt candy donations" Thank you, Beth Sová



REQUESTS TO BE LIFTED UP IN PRAYER

Larry Back, his brother and sister-in-law Irene

Sue Rhoads-Sidote

Steve and Nancy Domke

Chelsea (Beskin)

Dori Hill

Mary Ann DeForest

All those affected by the recent storms

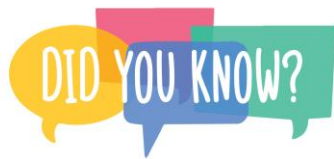
EASTER BREAKFAST

Remember to sign up for the Easter pot luck breakfast after our service on Sunday, April 20. Choose to share your favorite dish from the following categories:

breakfast casseroles
breads or pastries
fruit

If your dish requires baking, please be aware that it should be baked at home. We will only be able to warm items.

Sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board by the kitchen.



Did you know...There is a new opportunity and designated space to work on the projects you have been ignoring. The second Monday of each month join Rock, Paper, Scissors Scrapbook and more! Bring your project, pictures, craft, and supplies. Some extra scappy supplies are available. It is available from 1 – 5 p.m., so come and go at your leisure. March was the first month and 12 people came! Some were scrapbooking, doing watercolor painting, needle work and a few were chatting it up. The next “work” day is April 14. All are welcome!

Game Afternoon

Saturday, April 12

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.

April Birthdays

1 st	Scott Hodgin James Lindsay
3 rd	Craig Engwall
4 th	Genevieve Khoury
5 th	Zachary Raccosta
7 th	Leif Clark Andrew Rosso
10 th	Austin Faris Gary Kimery Vickie Posey
11 th	Bobbie Lentz Mary Senkowski
12 th	Brittany Smith
14 th	Bonnie Dunstan
15 th	Cyrus Adams Ellen Dennis
16 th	Stella Wheeler
25 th	Christina Muir-Murphy
26 th	Julia Raccosta

pageborders.org

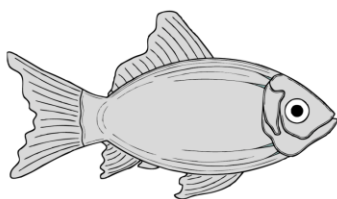
Youth Group Mission Trip

If you missed it in your email the plans are in place for this year's Mission Trip. We will be going to Lake Louise to be a part of the Boyne Country Service Project. We will depart on July 6 and return on July 11. There is a form to complete to reserve your spot and make the deposit. It should be in your email or if you need it sent again let Pastor Devin know.

Do you know of any affordable housing?

Debby Sawdey would like to move back to the Romeo area where she is more at home. If anyone knows of an apartment for rent, please contact her directly. She can pay around \$500 a month.

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL



FISH FRY FRIDAYS

ROMEO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
280 N. MAIN ST.

DINE-IN OR CARRY-OUT | 3 WEEKS IN 2025

Mar 28 Apr 4 Apr 11

4:30-7 PM

CALL-IN ORDERS FOR PICKUP
AT 586-752-9132 UNTIL 6:30

FRESH FISH DELIVERED WEEKLY!

FRIED OR BAKED COD, BAKED POTATO OR
FRENCH FRIES, ROLL, COLESLAW, & DESSERT

ADULTS: \$20 | KIDS 10 & UNDER: \$10

TENATIVE FAMILY MINISTRY EVENTS FOR 2025

Game Days – 2nd Saturday 3-5

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

3rd Annual
Romeo Area Churches

CROSSWALK & GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

Friday, April 18th, 2025

Walk begins at 4:30 at Harvest Fellowship
(299 East Gates St.)

Service begins at 6:30 at Simpson Park Camp
(70199 Campground Rd.)

All are welcome
to join for a
time of worship,
reflection, song,
fellowship, and
prayer

Sponsoring Churches:
Real Life Christian, Stoney Church, Impact, Orchard Ridge Church,
St John Lutheran, Woodside Bible Church, Harvest Fellowship,
Romeo United Methodist, Second Baptist, Simpson Park Camp

More information and route at: www.romeoumc.com/crosswalk



Financial Snapshot of the Operating Fund as of 2/28/25

	<u>Actual</u>
Income	\$56,545
Expenses	<u>\$61,688</u>
Deficit	(\$5,143)

2024 Apportionments unpaid as of 2/28/25:
\$2,192

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.



April Needs:

Canned Beets	Cereal
Canned Peas	Cheez-It Crackers
Tomato Soup	Egg Noodles
Canned Spinach	Canned Kidney Beans
Hamburger Helper	Mustard
Sloppy Joe Sauce	

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.



Your church family at RUMC would like to celebrate your anniversary with you. Please let the office know what the date of your anniversary is so Shelley can add it to the database.

Family (and single) Bowling

**Sunday, May 4, 2025, 1-3 pm
Summit Entertainment Center
66600 Van Dyke, Washington**

\$15

Includes:

2 hours of bowling

Shoes

Pizza Buffet

Pop

(Pizza Buffet – no bowling \$10.00)

Please sign up by April 27th. Payment needs to be collected before bowling. We need to pay in one lump sum, not individually.



Come join in an afternoon of family fun.

FIRST GATHERING OF THE

You are invited to join us at:



Tuesday, April 8th

7-8 PM -- 201 N. Main St.

No Artificial Intelligence involved,
just a chance for conversation, and
supporting one another.

Questions?
Message or Call
Pastor Devin
734-707-1792



Confirmation Class

All students in Grades 6 and up are welcome to join Pastor Devin for this year's confirmation class. The planned class days are April 27, May 4, May 18, May 25 (skipping the 11th for Mother's Day). We will meet from 12:30 to 1:45 as this will allow all who wish to participate to come, and those who want to stay for Youth Group starting at 2. For those students who then wish to take the vows of membership and become members we will do so during worship on Sunday June 8. If you have questions or plan to participate let Pastor Devin know.

TURNING POINT MONTHLY REQUEST



April
May
June
July
August
September
October
November
December

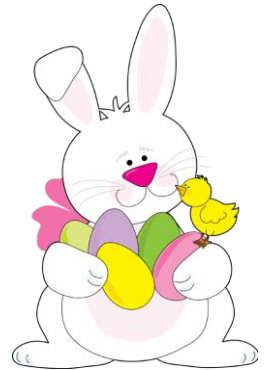
Paper plates – dinner size
Plastic utensils
Diapers – all sizes
Paper towels
Napkins
Feminine products
30 gallon trash bags
Paper plates – dinner size
Plastic utensils

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH 2025 CALENDAR

April 26	UWF East Winds District Prayer Breakfast Columbiaville United Methodist Church
May 13	His Table
June 3	UWF Board Meeting
June 7	UWF General Meeting – Fellowship Hall
June 13	Garage Sale - RUMC
June 14	Strawberry Social - RUMC
June 23	Blood Drive – RUMC
July 8	His Table – RUMC
August 9	MOM2MOM Sale – RUMC
September 9	UWF Board Meeting
September 13	UWF General Meeting – Fellowship Hall
September 15	Blood Drive – Fellowship Hall
September 26	Pasta Dinner – Fellowship Hall
October 25	UWF East Winds District Annual Meeting
October 28	His Table – Fellowship Hall
November 22	18 th Annual Christmas Craft Show and Rummage Sale
December 1	Blood Drive – Fellowship Hall
December 5	Advent Tea – Fellowship Hall

****Note –**

1. Birthday lunches are the second Thursday of every month at 12:00 at Four Corners. Please consider joining us.
2. Santa's Workshop is held every Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. until noon. Please consider joining us.



East Winds District United Women in Faith Event

Please consider joining UWF for a prayer breakfast and spiritual growth program. Rev. Carol J. Freeland, pastor of West Vienna and Otisville United Methodist Churches, will present "Just Do It...Pray That Is" on Saturday, April 26, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the Columbiaville United Methodist Church.

Those interested in attending will meet in our church parking lot to carpool.

For more information, please check the bulletin board near the kitchen.