

Dear Church family,

If I were to ask you about the greatest threat or enemy of the Christian faith in our modern day, what would it be? Something related to diminishing morals, declining church attendance, lack of prayer in school, or something else? Interestingly, the late Dallas Willard, well-known Christian author and philosopher is known for saying that *"Hurry is the greatest enemy of spiritual life in our day. You must ruthlessly eliminate hurry from your life."* One could argue that there are certainly other concerns, but with the exponential growth of technology and options of filling one's time with all sorts of media, it can be harder than ever to leave enough room for God to be at the center of our lives.

Through the month of March, our adult Sunday school as well as preaching series will be based on the book *"The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry"* by John Mark Comer. The Dallas Willard quote mentioned above is a large part of the inspiration for this work. Given that the bulk of Lent falls over the month of March, this series fits well with the Lenten season. Think about Jesus' forty days in the wilderness, and how that experience ties in with four practices described by Comer in his book: silence and solitude, sabbath, simplicity, and slowing.

With our Protestant-American dream minded lives, we might think that the ministry of Jesus began with a brainstorm session, or vigorous workouts or other forms of intense preparatory work. But along with Comer, I would argue that we must be ok with being by ourselves to discover God's presence (**silence and solitude**); rest and make space for him (**sabbath**); unclutter and simplify so we have more than slight margins of time and space for Jesus (**simplicity**); and literally learn to move at a pace where we move in and with the Holy Spirit rather than outrun him (**slowing**). My hope is that our series will help all of us learn to cultivate new space for God in the midst of a terribly busy world.

One last note regarding the book itself. I have already shared in February about the book so those who want to read along can join in. Please remember that you DO NOT need to purchase the book if you do not want to read it! Anyone will be able to journey along in Sunday school and worship without reading the book. However, for those who choose to read along, it would be beneficial for you to read the first two parts of the book (through pg 115) before the series begins. We will focus on "part three" in the four weeks of our series, in which Comer dives into the four practices noted above, which also means you will want to read the first practice, "silence and solitude" before Sunday, March 5.

One of the primary scriptures this book is based on is **Matthew 11:28-30**. They are familiar words, but my hope and prayer is that as you begin your Lenten journey, whether through worship, this study, or some other spiritual practice you endeavor into, your wilderness journey would leave you carrying the burden of Jesus rather than that of the world:

*'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 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. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'*

May your Lenten journey be blessed by the emerging presence of Christ in your life!

- Michael (and Aaron)

LENT  
 Pray + Fast + Give

### IF: Women's Gathering 2023

*For women from Clen-Moore & friends!*

**Friday & Saturday**  
**March 3rd—4th**  
*In the Welcome Center*

**March 3rd**  
 7:00—10:30 PM (Gather at 6:45 PM)

**March 4th**  
 10:00 AM—5:00 PM (Gather at 9:30 AM)  
 Will include breaks & time for lunch  
 to come and go as needed.

### Mission Spotlight!

#### MARCH—ARISE

ARISE (Formerly The Crisis Shelter of Lawrence County) is a community based organization that responds to victims of violence and abuse. The caring people from ARISE are involved in the lives of these victims and others who are at risk offering remedies, helpful solutions, counseling, education, long term care and support, among many other forms of prevention, care, and support.

ARISE continues to expand their vision and grow their networking around the county and beyond. Many lives have been positively impacted and healing of brokenness has come to individuals, families, and our community through their work.

There are a host of staff and volunteers who are involved in the many facets of the good work that ARISE does. Please pray for them, especially the people who they are impacting day in and day out. There is a great need in Lawrence County for the work they do.

In response to the needs of ARISE, our Mission and Evangelism Committee felt the Lord leading us to host a Christmas drive for Clen-Moore Church from which we were able to collect a large number of items to donate to their mission. Glory to God! However, these needs continue to exist. Please pray about your involvement and support in meeting the needs which are listed on their website in the June 2022 newsletter. Their website is: [ariselc.org](http://ariselc.org).



#### March 11th—March 18th

Please pray for Tina Nesbitt and the Mission Team as they carry out the work that God has called them to do with our brothers and sisters in Sabaneta de Yasica.

### Youth Page



**C.2G.S.**— We will conclude our reading and study of Ephesians while beginning a new Bible Study called, "Abide." This study will help us to discover what the Bible says about abiding in Christ and how this reality changes us and strengthens us each and every day. There will be a 30 day devotional that goes along with this study specifically for students.

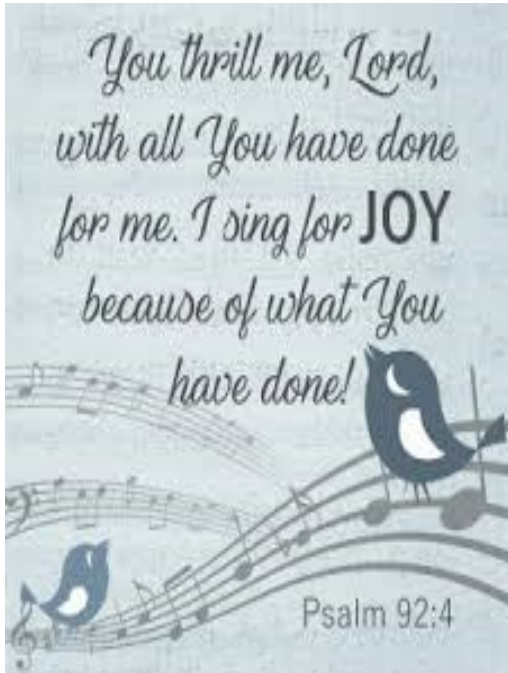
**FlipSide**— Our events are going to be weather dependent, hoping to try to getting some snow tubing in and a mission service day. Youth and families, keep watching your emails for updates.

MESSENGER DEADLINE FOR APRIL IS MARCH 17th.

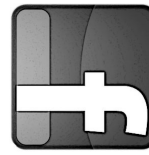
# DAILY BIBLE READINGS

## MARCH, 2023

1. Luke 5.17-39
2. Luke 6.1-26
3. Luke 6.27-49
4. Luke 7.1-17
5. Luke 7.18-35
6. Luke 7.35-50
7. Luke 8.1-25
8. Luke 8.26-56
9. Luke 9.1-17
10. Luke 9.18-45
11. Luke 9.46-62
12. Hosea 8.1-14
13. Hosea 9.1-17
14. Hosea 10.1-15
15. Hosea 11.1-11
16. Hosea 11.12-12.14
17. Hosea 13.1-16
18. Hosea 14.1-9
19. Luke 10.1-24
20. Luke 10.25-42
21. Luke 11.1-28
22. Luke 11.29-54
23. Luke 12.1-34
24. Luke 12.35-59
25. Luke 13.1-35
26. Luke 14.1-35
27. Luke 15.1-32
28. Luke 16.1-31
29. Luke 17.1-17
30. Luke 18.1-30
31. Luke 19.32-43



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## Easter

Easter flower orders are due no later than **Sunday, March 19th**. We do not have a cost as of yet, but you may choose from a Lily, Hyacinth or Tulip.

Order forms will be available in the office and will be included in upcoming bulletins with reminders in the weekly email announcements. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the office at 724.654.6657.

Your patience is greatly appreciated...



We are pleased to host Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, who offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings.

Lifeline will be on site on **Thursday, March 2, 2023** at Clen-Moore Presbyterian Church to conduct these valuable screenings from 9:00am to 2:00pm.

A package of four screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered:

- Carotid Artery Screening (Plaque)**
- Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening**
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA)**
- Atrial Fibrillation**

These 4 vital screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Register by calling toll free **1-888-653-6441**, text the word "**circle**" to **216-279-1607** or online at **LLSA.SOCIAL/HC**

## Health Ministry

"We are all thinking about Lent this month, so perhaps this beautiful passage from Isaiah 58:9-11 will help us to focus our prayers on others' needs, as well as our own:

Then you will call and the Lord will answer;  
 You will cry for help, and he will say, 'Here I am.'  
 If you remove the yoke from your midst,  
 The pointing of the finger and speaking wickedness,  
 And if you offer yourself to the hungry  
 And satisfy the need of the afflicted,  
 Then your light will rise in the darkness.  
 And your gloom will become the midday,  
 And the Lord will continually guide you.  
 And satisfy your desire in the scorched places  
 And give strength to your bones;  
 And you will be like a watered garden.  
 And a spring of water whose waters do not fail.'

May the Lord show us how we may be His servants to those in our midst who need us."

**A Health Ministry Deacons will be meeting on:  
 Sunday, March 26th after worship.**



Happy  
**St. Patrick's**  
 Day



### Generous Gestures

- Compliment someone who does a good job.
- Bake cookies for a neighbor.
- Volunteer to help with a church dinner.
- Take a bag of dog food to the Humane Society.
- Pay for the person behind you in the drive thru line.