Happy Birthday!

Mar-19 Kayla Minor Mar-20 Katie Lockhart Todd Naab Mar-20 Mar-20 Drew Keppy Mar-21 Joan Biltgen Mar-21 Raegan Moses Mar-23 **Ed Novotny** Mar-24 Sue Hacker

Prayers of Concern and Thanksgiving

If you have someone to place on this list or would like our prayer chain to pray for them, please contact the church office at (630) 466-4501 or via email at sugargroveumc@sbcglobal.net.

Lisa, a friend of Cassie Adams, who has brain cancer.

Landon Kurtz, Julie Wilson's great nephew, who has muscular dystrophy.

Christine Roberson (Irland) who is at home on hospice

Betty Enoch who has fallen recently.

Joe Wolf who is at Marionjoy rehabilitation hospital.

Michael Mayer who is recovering from surgery.

Military

Cody Chrastka – Air Force (Friend of Jonathon Rogers)

Drake Dineff – Marines (cousin of Brian Schiber)

Andy Fellela – Army (friend of McCannon family)

Laura Guzick – Air Force (lifted by Rogers family)

Steve Holy – Army (nephew of Dave Hacker)

Austin Kintz – Air Force (lifted by Brian Schiber)

Sugar Grove United Methodist Church

176 Main St., Sugar Grove, IL 60554 (630) 466-4501 www.sugargroveumc.net



March 19, 2023

10:00 a.m. Hybrid Worship Service



Our Purpose: To build inclusive fellowship that nurtures loving relationships between community and Christ.

Welcome to Sugar Grove United Methodist Church!

We hope that you know that wherever you have been on your spiritual journey and whatever your faith background might be, you are welcome, and we are glad to worship together.

Prelude J

Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

arr. Harold DeCou

Greeting & Announcements

Pastor Tammy Scott

+Call to Worship*

We wonder why things happen the way they do.

We come looking for answers and deeper understanding.

Illuminate us, Lord. Teach us.

Be near to us God--comfort us, love us.

+Opening Prayer*

Why, Lord?

Is there a pattern, a plan, a purpose to the pain of the world? While our minds seek answers, our hearts seek comfort.

Gentle God, we are hurting; hold us close. Amen.

+Opening Hymn

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

UMH #57

+Passing of the Peace

One: May the Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

I invite you to pass the peace of Christ with your neighbors, for each time we connect with one another, peace grows.

A Time for All God's Children

Song

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

FWS #2146

Prayer of Confession*

Merciful God, we confess that there are moments in our lives when, like those in exile, we cannot bear to lift up songs of praise. In our times of pain and suffering, unable to see anything but darkness, all we can do is weep. Forgive us, O Lord, when we fail to sense your comforting presence. Help us to remember that we are to know you as Emmanuel, God with us, for you share in our weeping and light the way to new life, even as we walk in the shadow of death. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

All pray in silence

Words of Assurance*

Do not be afraid, says the Lord. For God's light shines forth no matter how deep the depths of our darkness. Take heart, for wherever you are, Christ is with you! Amen.

Scripture Psalm 137:1-6 OT Page 576

John 11:23-25 NT Page 105

Sermon Pastor Tammy Scott

Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People?

Affirmation of Faith The Apostles Creed UMH #882

Special Music Let Us Pray for Peace Choir

Joys & Concerns

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer UMH #895

Offering Invitation

Today we have been reminded that our relationship with God is not transactional. Even when we do all the good we can, bad things can and do happen. So, we are not asked to give today as a way of bargaining with God or buying blessings. We are asked to give as a way for us to participate in God's compassion for the world. May our gifts meet those who are hurting with a sign of holy help.

Offertory Living for Jesus arr. Philip Keveren

+Doxology

+Prayer of Dedication*

God who weeps with us, receive our gifts today. Bless them and bless us to go deep into the wounds of your hurting world without judgment and without explanation. Bless us to go into your world with compassion, carrying each other's crosses until the sun rises, bringing us the warmth of new life and light once again. Amen.

+Closing Hymn I Love Thy Kingdom Lord UMH #540

+Sending Forth

+Congregational Response Let Us Pray for Peace (see insert)

+Postlude

+ Please stand for those who are able

* Liturgies provided by Breakthrough Worship from The United Methodists of Greater New Jersey







Please sign up if you are willing to bring finger food refreshments for the Fellowship time after onversation Sunday school and worship. Items may be homemade or purchased (for example: breads, muffins, coffeecake, cookies, donuts, bagels) and a fruit of your choice.



CHICAGOLAND

March Mission of the Month Welcome Kits for World Relief

Twin Comforters **Twin Sheets** Standard Size Pillows Kitchen Trash Cans

Tea Kettles **Bath Towel Sets** Tool Kits Postage Stamps Diapers: size 4, 5, and 6

Sugar, salt, pepper, flour, lentils, chickpeas, cooking oil, coffee, and tea.

Join us for Easter Breakfast

Sunday April 9th 9-10am

Pancakes, juice, & coffee will be provided! Please bring a dish to share! (breakfast casserole, sweet breads, fruit, etc.)

Upcoming Calendar

Sun Mar 19	9:00 am – 9:45 am 10:00 am – 11:00 am 11:00 am – 11:45 am	Sunday School Hybrid Worship Service Choir Practice
Mon Mar 20 Thu Mar 23	8:30 am – 12:30 pm 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Church Office Open Prayer Meeting (zoom) Church Office Open
Sun Mar 26	8:30 am – 12:30 pm 9:00 am – 9:45 am 10:00 am – 11:00 am 11:00 am – 11:45 am	Sunday School Hybrid Worship Service Choir Practice